



19 December 2008 - NEWS RELEASE

Somerset Council briefs

Highlights from the Somerset Regional Council meeting on 19 December 2008 held at the new \$1.6 million Esk library included:

264 new Fernvale lots

Council has conditionally approved 264 new residential allotments in new stages at Honeywood Estate, Fernvale.

Somerset Mayor Graeme Lehmann described the continuing successful development as a "wonderful vote of confidence" in Fernvale by Honeywood's Sydney-based developer.

"In terms of proximity, Richmond in north-western Sydney is the same distance by road from the Sydney CBD as Fernvale is from the Brisbane CBD," he said.

"And the Australian Government's very welcome recent announcement on the Ipswich Motorway should really favour Fernvale and Lowood."

"We call on the Queensland Government to also recognise the need for improved State infrastructure in Fernvale and Lowood including schools, health services and roads as more and more people move to enjoy a Somerset lifestyle."

Economic stimulus projects

Council will use a \$369,000 once-off grant from the Australian Government designed to stimulate the Australian economy together with an additional \$58,000 of Esk town parks headworks funds to urgently deliver a number of projects before September 2009.

The projects are:

- an Esk fitness circuit trail along Sandy Creek in Esk including two pedestrian bridges to provide more recreational opportunities to locals and visitors to Esk (\$167,560)
- a skate park in Esk proposed for Barbour Park opposite the new Esk library (\$120,000)
- a new amenities block for Col Powell Park in Fernvale (\$100,000)
- new gym equipment for the Kilcoy Indoor Sports Centre (\$10,000) and
- an upgrade to stormwater drainage at Blunt Street in Kilcoy (\$30,000).

Road projects are not eligible under the funding rules.

For further information about this news release, please contact:

Mayor: Councillor Graeme Lehmann
Chief Executive Officer: Robert Bain

2 Redbank Street
(PO Box 117)
Esk Q 4312

Ph: 07 5424 4000 Fax: 07 5424 4099

Email: mail@somerset.qld.gov.au

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