

17 December 2008

Council works with Straddie community

Redland City Council has developed a range of communication materials to help promote “caring for Straddie” messages over the holiday period, following discussions with key North Stradbroke Island (NSI) groups and local police.

Council convened a round-table forum in July 2008 to review holiday house letting and the NSI Voluntary Code of Practice, which was attended by local residents, police, business representatives and letting agents and key community groups and representatives.

Issues identified included overcrowding, excess rubbish, excess noise, anti-social behaviour and dog attacks on local wildlife.

A “community messages” template for letting agents and brochures for holidaymakers are both being distributed in December.

Messages covered include responsible dog ownership, road rules and parking information, environmental and waste disposal reminders, as well as general holidaymakers information on enjoying your holiday while respecting the amenity enjoyed by local residents.

Also being distributed is a fridge magnet for residents with details on the best way to report excessive noise and behavioural incidents to the police.

Redland City Mayor Melva Hobson said Council wanted to support the local community by ensuring busy times were still positive experiences for everyone.

“The community gave Council some constructive ideas on how to distribute information, and we have worked with key representatives to put them in place,” Mayor Hobson said.

“The majority of tourists who come to the Island do so wanting to immerse themselves in the local atmosphere and respect and enjoy the natural beauty, but unfortunately there has been some exceptions to this in recent years,” Mayor Hobson said.

“Council will maintain a presence on the island to enforce local laws as necessary, but hopefully we can avoid some problems by giving people information on responsibly making the most of their stay.”

Redland City Council is committed to supporting the Straddie community and continuing to work with key authorities, including Queensland Police, and local groups into the future.