

# Community Futures Task Force 2007 - 2008

## **Community Futures Task Force** Annual Report 2007 - 2008



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2007 -

The Community Futures Task Force Annual Report 2007–2008

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# 1. CHAIR'S INTRODUCTION

As Chair of the Community Futures Task Force, I am pleased to present this report for the year 2007-2008 as an account of the work of the Task Force and its member agencies. Please note that the financial statements of these agencies are reported separately in their Annual Reports.

On 7 July 2006, the former Premier, The Honourable Peter Beattie, established the Task Force as an independent body to address the social and economic impacts of two proposed dams – the Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong dams – on their surrounding communities.

The Task Force comprises mayors of the three shires affected by the proposed dams, the heads of 11 Queensland Government departments and agencies, and the Chief Executive Officer of Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd.

Following the local government elections on 15 March 2008, I welcomed Councillor Ron Dyne, Mayor of the Gympie Regional Council as a new member; and Councillors John Brent and Bob Abbot in their new roles as Mayors of the Scenic Rim Regional Council and Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

I wish to acknowledge the valuable contributions of outgoing Task Force members, Councillor Mick Venardos, Mayor of the former Cooloola Shire Council; Councillor Joe Natoli, Mayor of the former Maroochy Shire Council; and Councillor Joy Drescher, Mayor of the former Beaudesert Shire Council.

Our regular Task Force meetings provide an opportunity to examine and discuss issues facing the affected communities and to develop coordinated responses.

More than two years after the announcement of the proposed dams many residents have shown a willingness to work together with government agencies to build a positive future; this notwithstanding an ongoing level of uncertainty, pending the Federal Government's consideration of the Environmental Impact Statements for both proposed dams. Some residents continue to be opposed to the construction of the dams.

During the past year, and while support for individuals facing difficulties remained the priority, the efforts of the Task Force shifted towards further developing the social and economic infrastructure of the affected communities in accordance with their desires, and as a reflection of their increased readiness to plan for the future.

Notably, the percentage of contacts from community members seeking support for community activities, as a percentage of total support requests at the Kandanga One Stop Shop, rose from 10% in 2006-2007 to 66% in 2007-2008.

For the coming months, and until its conclusion in June 2009, the Task Force will continue to provide immediate support and assistance to the affected communities, working with them to develop stronger economic and social futures.



**Major General Peter Arnison AC, CVO (Ret'd)**  
**Chair**  
**Community Futures Task Force**

# 2. ABOUT THE COMMUNITY FUTURES TASK FORCE

2007 -

## 2.1 Purpose

The Community Futures Task Force (the Task Force) was established in July 2006, as an independent body to work with those communities affected by the state government's proposals to build the Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong dams.

## 2.2 Terms of Reference

1. Address the immediate effects that the decision to build the dams has had on affected communities, and develop strategies in relation to:
  - o the impact on health and wider social issues
  - o property resumptions
  - o the impact on business and industry continuity
  - o the prospects for regional industry adjustment.
2. Develop strategies to maximise the longer term opportunities presented by the proposed dam developments, to enable the communities to position themselves for a better future by:
  - o identifying the social, economic and land use impacts of the proposals on individuals, businesses, community social infrastructure and the broader communities
  - o developing short-term and long-term action plans to assess and manage the social, economic and land use implications of the proposals on individuals, businesses, community social infrastructure and the broader communities.
3. Engage the community in the Community Futures Task Force work program and provide regular community information by way of the One Stop Shop, visits, the newsletter, the website and the 1800 number.
4. Provide linkages between individuals, communities, businesses, local governments, the federal government, and the state government to address issues and impacts as appropriate.

## 2.3 Membership

The Task Force maintains a leadership and coordination role and ensures the activities of member agencies are achieved in a timely and effective manner.

Major General Peter Arnison acts as an independent Chair of the Task Force and is appointed to chair the Task Force until 31 July 2009.

The Task Force includes:

- representatives of the three regional councils affected by the proposed dams
  - Gympie Regional Council
  - Sunshine Coast Regional Council
  - Scenic Rim Regional Council
- heads of 11 Queensland Government agencies
  - Director-General, Department of Infrastructure and Planning
  - Director-General, Department of Communities
  - Director-General, Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation
  - Director-General, Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry
  - Director-General, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries
  - Director-General, Department of Natural Resources and Water
  - Director-General, Department of Main Roads
  - Director-General, Department of Public Works
  - Director-General, Department of Education, Training and the Arts
  - Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Queensland
  - Executive Director, Department of Infrastructure and Planning (Southern Region Division, Planning Group)
- the Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd (project proponent).

Members are listed at **Appendix A**.

## 2.4 Community Futures Task Force Unit

The work of the Task Force is supported by a small team, the Community Futures Task Force Unit (Task Force Unit). The Task Force Unit comprises 9.6 full-time equivalent officers, managed by an Executive Director.

The costs associated with the Task Force Unit are met from the operating budget of the Department of Infrastructure and Planning. However, to preserve the independence of the Task Force Unit, its operations are overseen by the Task Force Chair and it is not recognised in the department's organisational structure.

The role of the Task Force Unit is to:

- undertake individual and community consultation
- produce and distribute information on behalf of the Task Force for community members
- support community and economic development initiatives
- assist in the coordination of cross government responses and projects
- administer the Task Force's Community Futures Fund
- provide secretariat services for the Task Force meetings.

The work of the Task Force Unit will continue until mid 2009.

# 3. ADDRESSING IMMEDIATE EFFECTS

2007 -

Although during 2007-2008, member agency efforts moved towards strengthening the affected communities and helping to plan for the future; addressing the immediate concerns of individuals through case management, and the provision of information, remained a high priority of the Community Futures Task Force.

## 3.1 Information and Referral

The supply of up-to-date, accurate information to affected individuals and communities via Community Futures Task Force member agencies continued during 2007-2008.

The Task Force Unit continued to provide regular newsletters; offer a 1800 number (1800 133 258) for individuals to speak with an officer of the unit; and maintain a website ([www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au](http://www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au)) about member agency activities, services and projects.

In the 2007-2008 year, the Department of Communities maintained a full-time presence in the Mary Valley through the Kandanga One Stop Shop (KOSS). In addition to providing a base for Department of Communities and Lifeline staff; the KOSS also assisted community members with accessing information from other state government departments; and offered a venue for Mary Valley residents to meet with officers from other Task Force member agencies. These agencies included the Task Force Unit; the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry; and the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries.

The relative decline in demand for support to address immediate concerns is reflected in KOSS's records. During 2007-2008, they had 1,505 community contacts in relation to the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam – 34% for referrals/information, and 66% for community development/projects. Of the 1,877 community contacts recorded for 2006-2007, 90% were for referrals/information, and 10% were for community development/projects.



The Kandanga One Stop Shop

## 3.2 Counselling Services

During 2007-2008, there was a slight increase in the number of counselling sessions conducted by Lifeline counsellors based at the KOSS to 598, from 570 in 2006-2007. While there was less demand for support from individuals with property affected by the proposed dam, Lifeline has indicated an increasing demand for financial counselling from the broader community.

Information, referral and counselling services are offered to the community affected by the proposed Wyaralong Dam through the Fassifern Community Centre, Boonah. Over the year, 43 community contacts in relation to the proposed Wyaralong Dam were received through this service.

There have been no requests for counselling from residents affected by the proposed Wyaralong Dam since early 2007.

## 3.3 Business Support

### 3.3.1 Business Assistance

The Queensland Government's Business Adjustment Scheme was established in November 2006 to assist eligible businesses that have experienced negative impacts due to the proposed Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong dams.

The scheme is administered by the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority (QRAA) on behalf of the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries; and the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry.

Between 1 July 2007 and 30 June 2008, 18 applications for assistance were received through the scheme, and a total of \$647,643 (excluding GST) in funding was approved to successful applicants. This represents a significant reduction from the \$1,289,825 (excluding GST) in funding that was approved in 2006-2007.

The number of applications received by fund type during the 2007-2008 fiscal year (and a comparison with 2006-2007 figures) follows:

Fund type	Applications received 2006-2007	Applications received 2007-2008
Business Advice	24	7
Business Restructure	13	8
Business Exit	7	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>18</b>

There have been no applications received from businesses based in the region of the proposed Wyaralong Dam.

The needs of businesses located in the inundation area of the proposed dams are addressed through land purchasing activities undertaken by Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd (QWI).

### 3.3.2 Worker Assistance

The Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry used its Worker Assistance Program to provide access to training, job preparation, relocation and wage subsidy assistance for eligible workers who lost their jobs as a result of the government's decision to build the Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong dams.

As at 30 June 2008, service providers received \$3,494 for training and job preparation for nine applicants under the Worker Assistance Program. This includes one application during 2007-2008. All applicants have been from the Mary Valley area.

## 3.4 Farm Business Support

During 2007-2008, the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries provided business advice and support to 40 farm businesses in the Mary Valley and surrounds; and developed a Client Service Charter, qualifying what a client should expect of the department in relation to business advice and support services.

There continues to be no contact from producers in the Wyaralong region.

# 4. MAXIMISING LONG TERM OPPORTUNITIES

2007 -

As previously mentioned, information and services sought by the affected communities from Community Futures Task Force member agencies during 2007-2008, differed in emphasis from the previous year.

For example, the KOSS experienced a four-fold increase in requests for support for community development activities and other social and economic development projects.

Also, the Community Futures Task Force Unit worked with government agencies to progress several infrastructure projects expected to benefit the shires most affected by the dam proposals, those covered by the Gympie Regional Council (Traveston Crossing) and the Scenic Rim Regional Council (Wyaralong).

## 4.1 Community Development Activities

During 2007-2008, Task Force member agencies supported a range of community development activities, particularly in the Mary Valley.

Member agencies assisted local festivals and events; helped strengthen existing and new community groups; supported individual and group skill development; and assessed the need for improved community services and infrastructure. These activities were aimed at improving the vitality and resilience of the community.

Projects included the Mary Valley Community Transport Needs Analysis; Oral History Project; and recreational and artistic activities for local youth.

### *Support for school children*

Mary Valley schools are community hubs as well as educational centres for the local children. The Task Force met regularly with school principals and guidance officers to understand the issues schools are facing, as the demography of the Mary Valley continues to change. Funding was provided through the Task Force, for staff and parents to participate in professional development activities, such as learning non-violent communication strategies. Fifty-five parents and school staff members

from the Mary Valley undertook this course. Other activities included welcome functions at schools for new families; performing arts workshops; and a variety of individual curriculum initiatives.

The Task Force supported an application by Kandanga State School and Mary Valley State College to the federal government for a chaplaincy service. The principals report that the chaplain is very successful in providing support for the schools' children and their families, including those directly affected by the proposed dam and those new to the area. The chaplain works closely with other support staff, such as the schools' guidance officers, Lifeline and Department of Communities staff in the Kandanga One Stop Shop.

In 2008, Kandanga Creek State School with an enrolment of 12 students, was reduced from two teachers, to one teacher. Kandanga State School and Mary Valley State College maintained their 2007 staffing allocations.

Supporting school children and the schools of the Mary Valley continues to be a priority for the Task Force, which is privileged to have regular communication with the principals, other staff members, and representatives of P&Cs from local schools.

### 4.1.1 Community Futures Fund

The Community Futures Task Force established the Community Futures Fund (the Fund) in March 2007 to support community activities in the areas affected by the proposed Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong dams. The Fund assists community groups – including service clubs, sporting and charitable organisations – to continue providing services, and alleviates concerns about the ongoing viability of these groups.

Cash grants of up to \$5,000 are provided for eligible projects. Funding decisions are made by an assessment committee comprising senior representatives from the Community Futures Task Force Unit; the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry; and the Department of Communities.

In June 2008, the Fund guidelines were extended to include minor capital expenditure, repairs and maintenance items.

Since the beginning of the Fund to 30 June 2008, 61 grants were approved at a total of \$200,504. Projects supported by the Fund include:

- Mary Valley Children's Christmas Party (attended by over 50 families from the Mary Valley)
- Mary Valley State College Trivia Night (attended by about 200 Mary Valley residents)
- Mary Valley Show Society Ball (attended by about 200 Mary Valley residents)
- Mary Valley Rattler 10th Anniversary Celebrations (attended by 150 Mary Valley residents and over 200 visitors)
- Mary Valley Heritage Rail Annual Race the Rattler.

A complete list of approved projects is at **Appendix B**.

## 4.2 Economic Futures

The Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry (DTRDI); and the Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPIF) are jointly undertaking an Economic Futures Project to address the immediate impacts of the proposed dams' announcement on farm and non-farm businesses, and to maximise medium to long-term economic development opportunities within the affected communities.

Tourism Queensland, through projects focusing on the Mary Valley and the Scenic Rim, are also making an important contribution to the economic futures of the affected communities.

### 4.2.1 Primary Industry Futures

DPIF is seeking to identify opportunities to develop food and fibre businesses in the communities surrounding the proposed dams, and to maximise the benefits these opportunities present.

DPIF is developing the *Mary Catchment Agricultural Resource Guide* – combining information on land suitability and water security, with information to assist potential investors in their decision making.

The department also analysed impacts on the dairy industry from developments in South East Queensland (SEQ), including the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam. The analysis outlines trends within the industry and implications for the supply of fresh milk for SEQ. A report – to be released to industry representatives in the second half of 2008, and made available at [www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au](http://www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au) – will be used to:

- develop awareness among industry members of issues that may impact their competitiveness
- inform industry and government agencies about the impact of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam on the dairy industry
- highlight future scenarios.

Other activities that DPIF pursued in 2007-2008 to expand existing farm businesses and encourage the development of new agricultural industries in the Mary Valley and surrounds include:

- scoping the production of Rural Enterprise Business Advice booklets
- investigating opportunities to develop farm-based tourism businesses in the Mary Valley
- commencing an agribusiness audit in the Mary Valley catchment
- providing assistance in developing a trial native timber plantation in the vicinity of the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam
- exploring opportunities to grow local industries including ginger, honey and pecans.

### 4.2.2 Business Development

During 2007-2008, member agencies focused their business development activities on helping local businesses secure a better future.

DTRDI attracted 171 attendees to 10 business development workshops in the Mary Valley and Gympie

region; held over 280 one-on-one meetings with business operators (within the Gympie, and Sunshine Coast regional council areas); launched a Mentoring for Growth program in Gympie; and helped involve over 180 local businesses in a Business Retention and Expansion project in the Mary Valley.

The department worked with Queensland Water Infrastructure (QWI) to implement the Local Industry Policy. DTRDI provided assistance to local businesses to complete Business Capability Statements registering their interest in supplying goods and services to the proposed dam project. The department's focus was on encouraging and supporting the registration of businesses in the broad vicinity of the proposed dam, including the Gympie, Wide Bay Burnett, and Sunshine Coast regions.

Although demand for assistance from businesses in the vicinity of the proposed Wyaralong Dam remains very low, four state government agencies are supporting the regional economy through the Scenic Rim Regional Council's Boonah and District Futures Project. DTRDI, DPIF, the Department of Infrastructure and Planning, and the Department of Natural Resources and Water, have each contributed \$50,000 to the project. Although not a project of the Community Futures Task Force, member agencies are provided with regular updates.

Through this project the Boonah and District Enterprise Board (BDEB) was formed; the Boonah Chamber of Commerce re-established; and an extensive survey of Boonah businesses was undertaken – from which recommendations will be provided to the BDEB and the Scenic Rim Regional Council.

### 4.2.3 Tourism Development

Over 2007-2008, Tourism Queensland continued to identify tourism product and development opportunities in the Mary Valley and Scenic Rim; and to implement marketing and training initiatives for the two regions.

A Mary Valley Tourism Product Audit was conducted, and from these findings a draft Mary Valley Tourism Action Plan was developed. This is expected to be released in late 2008.

The Queensland Tourism Industry Council (QTIC) surveyed Mary Valley tourism operators and related businesses to identify skills needs and training gaps. The Mary Valley Tourism Skills Survey was finalised in May 2008. Tourism Queensland will work with QTIC and DTRDI in the second half of 2008 to develop and implement a training program for the Mary Valley.

Tourism Queensland coordinated a full-page colour feature for the Mary Valley which appeared in *The Sunday Mail* on 11 May 2008. Tourism operators were invited to participate in the feature at a discounted cost – six tourism operators participated.

A tourism product audit of the Scenic Rim was also undertaken. Industry stakeholder consultation to inform a Scenic Rim Tourism Action Plan will occur in the second half of 2008.

QTIC completed a Skills and Training Audit of Scenic Rim tourism businesses in May 2008. A training program for the Scenic Rim will be implemented in late 2008, which will focus on the skill needs and training gaps identified through the Audit.

The Scenic Rim was a key feature in the South East Queensland Country Summer marketing campaign (early December 2007 to the end of February 2008). The campaign included press and online activity.

In June 2008, a photo shoot was completed to capture key tourism images of the Scenic Rim. The images are expected to be available for promotional use in the second half of 2008. Tourism Queensland also supported production and distribution of a Scenic Rim Regional Tourism Brochure, in partnership with the Scenic Rim Regional Council.

## 4.3 Land Use and Infrastructure Planning

During 2007-2008, the Department of Infrastructure and Planning continued preparation of a Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study (Planning Study) for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam. Most of the area included in the Planning Study falls within the Gympie Regional Council region, but also includes part of the Sunshine Coast Regional Council area.

The Planning Study will produce a long-term land use plan and infrastructure program for the Traveston Crossing region. This includes investigating the impacts of the proposed dam on existing land uses and settlement patterns, and identifying options for future land uses and infrastructure.

The draft Planning Study will be released for public consultation following federal government consideration of the Traveston Crossing Dam Environmental Impact Statement. A minimum 30-day public consultation period will follow, during which the community will be able to make submissions on the draft Planning Study.

The outcomes of the final Planning Study will not be legally binding – they will simply assist the Gympie Regional Council and the Sunshine Coast Regional Council in undertaking future statutory planning in their sections of the Planning Study Area. Therefore, consultation with these councils will be an important component of further work on the draft Planning Study.

Answers to Frequently Asked Questions on the Planning Study are available at [www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au](http://www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au). A 1800 number (1800 021 818) is in operation to respond to individual enquires.

The Department of Infrastructure and Planning is also seeking to identify the direct and indirect impacts of the proposed Wyaralong Dam on existing land uses, settlement patterns and infrastructure; and identify ways to maximise opportunities within the context of the

SEQ Regional Plan. Future strategies may include the introduction of rural precinct plans and amendments to local government planning schemes.

Also under consideration, are the economic and recreational opportunities that may arise from land use and infrastructure developments in the Wyaralong area. This work will inform the land use and infrastructure planning activities of the Boonah District Futures Plan and the review of the SEQ Regional Plan.

# 5. ENGAGING THE COMMUNITY

2007 -

The Community Futures Task Force provides a range of options to support information flow and cooperation between members of Task Force agencies and members of the affected communities. These include the Kandanga One Stop Shop, newsletters, a website and 1800 numbers.

Throughout the year, the Task Force Chair and officers of member agencies made regular visits to the affected regions to meet with community members, community organisations, business leaders and regional councils.

The Community Futures Task Force Unit undertakes individual and community consultation, both face-to-face and via a dedicated 1800 number.

The Department of Communities, through the Kandanga One Stop Shop, works with Mary Valley residents and organisations on community-based projects; and Gympie Regional Council staff and councillors on project initiatives.

The Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry held over 280 one-on-one meetings with business operators in the affected communities; and worked with QWI, Australian Industry Engineering Manufacturing Network, Construction Skills Queensland, and local TAFE college staff to present 12 Business Capability and Capacity Development Awareness Raising Forums (with 307 attendees) during 2007-2008.

DPIF worked with rural industry groups in the Mary Valley and surrounds, most notably Mary Valley dairy farmers, to improve farming practices and production opportunities.

As the community development projects of member agencies gained momentum during 2007-2008, the opportunities for community input increased. The Mary Valley Business Expansion and Retention (MV BEAR) project; the Mary Valley and Scenic Rim Tourism Skills Audits; and the Concept Master Plan and Feasibility Study for the Imbil Recreation Area are examples of projects that encouraged community input and participation. Community engagement in 2008-2009 is expected to be a key feature on many projects initiated in 2007-2008 (see 7.1 Priorities for 2008-2009).

## ***Masterplanning the Imbil Recreation Area***

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation is leading a project to determine the best recreation use for a vacant reserve adjacent to the Mary Valley Showground in Imbil. The Gympie Regional Council; Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry; and the Community Futures Task Force Unit are project partners.

The project will provide a Concept Master Plan for potential recreation activities at Imbil; investigate the local economic and community impacts of a new facility; and determine the feasibility of new activities that may attract and support regional, state or national events.

The views of the local community on the possible uses and potential impacts of new recreation facilities in Imbil has been a key factor in the project. The community was invited to participate in a potential user survey and comment on a draft concept master plan.

Following the completion of two rounds of public consultation, key stakeholders and those interested in contributing to the project could continue to do so using [imbil@dlgsr.qld.gov.au](mailto:imbil@dlgsr.qld.gov.au).

The Concept Master Plan is due for completion in September 2008.

# 6. PROVIDING LINKAGES

2008

As well as engaging directly with people in the affected communities and with community groups, the member agencies of the Community Futures Task Force work to support connections between individuals, community groups, and between the agencies themselves. These connections help strengthen the resilience of individuals, groups and businesses, and ensure that agencies cooperate in providing appropriate and timely services.

Through the Task Force, Lifeline brought people from the Mary Valley together to attend 12 community education workshops. There were 263 participants in workshops that covered topics ranging from Compassionate Communication to Embracing Change.

During 2007-2008, the Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry brought industry groups together to network and improve business skills and industry knowledge. The department targeted the advanced manufacturing, tourism, food value adding and creative industries as potential growth sectors for the Mary Valley. Support for these sectors included the coordination and delivery of Capability Seminars; an Accommodation Industry Forum (Gympie); an Agri-Food Innovators Forum, with DPIF (Gunnabul); and strategic planning to establish an Imbil Arts Cooperative (Imbil).

## ***Linking the Community Through Sharing History***

Queensland State Archives, Department of Public Works, has completed a project that provides a lasting acknowledgement of the history of the areas affected by the proposed dams, and provided community members with the skills to record and manage historically significant material.

On 20 February 2008, the Queensland State Archivist delivered 3000 copies of the booklet titled *Working the Land: Boonah and Its Northern District* to the then Mayor of the former Boonah Shire Council, Cr John Brent. The State Archivist was accompanied by the booklet's co-authors - Professor Kay Saunders and Dr Murray Johnson.

The booklet has been made available through Scenic Rim Regional Council libraries.

On 21 February 2007, the booklet *Wild Heart, Bountiful Land: An Historical Overview of the Mary River Valley* was launched in the Local History Room at Gympie Library. The booklet traces the history of the Mary Valley from early settlement.

Five thousand copies of the booklet, also authored by Professor Saunders and Dr Johnson were delivered to school and council libraries within the Gympie region. The booklet is available free to the public from council libraries.

Queensland State Archives conducted Community Archive Workshops to help local historical groups and individuals record and manage historical materials, including photographic collections.

Two workshops were held in Boonah – one in 2006-2007, and another on 19 July 2007; and two held in the Mary Valley – the first in Kandanga in 2006-2007, and the second in Imbil, on 4 August 2007. All of these courses were well attended.

Consistent with the increased trend during 2007-2008 of community members and community groups working together for a better future; some Mary Valley community leaders approached the Community Futures Task Force Unit to discuss how best to provide a unified Mary Valley voice and vision. The Unit has provided advice based on the experiences of other regional communities.

During 2007-2008, the Regional Services Forum (RSF) continued to bring together locally-based representatives of government service agencies on a monthly basis. The RSF, chaired by the Department of Communities, also draws the participation of human service agencies regardless of whether or not they are Task Force member agencies, to ensure that the affected regions are appropriately served by the Queensland Government.

New projects being undertaken by RSF members include an Aged Care Needs Analysis; establishment of a Queensland Government Agent Program; Volunteers Project; and an Oral History Project.

The departments of Primary Industries and Fisheries; and Tourism, Regional Development and Industry, co-chair the Economic Profile and Future Outlook Officers' Liaison Group on economic development projects and issues for the communities affected by the proposed Traveston Crossing and Wyaralong dams.

# 7. FUTURE DIRECTIONS

2007 -

## 7.1 Priorities for 2008-2009

Regardless of the federal government's determination on the proposed dams, the Community Futures Task Force will continue to work to address the impacts on affected individuals and communities until its conclusion mid 2009.

Provision of timely and factual information to individuals and communities will remain the priority of the Task Force. Discussions between Task Force member agencies, individuals and community groups will continue to guide delivery of targeted government programs and support services to the affected communities.

There are some key medium-term projects that are expected to progress in 2008-2009. These include:

- Mary Valley Queensland Government Agent Program (QGAP)
- Mary Valley Business Retention and Expansion Project (MV BEAR)
- Mary Catchment Agricultural Resource Guide
- Native Timber Trial Planting in the Mary Valley
- Gympie Industrial Land Use Study
- Mary Valley Tourism Action Plan
- Scenic Rim Tourism Action Plan
- Expanded bushwalking and horse trekking trails for the Mary Valley and Scenic Rim
- Mentoring for Growth: Scenic Rim Tourism Industry
- Land Use and Infrastructure Planning Study for the proposed Traveston Crossing Dam
- Review of Land Use and Infrastructure Planning for Wyaralong area
- Mary Valley Aged Care Needs Analysis
- Mary Valley Transport Needs Analysis
- Additional Mary Valley School Chaplain

Work will continue to progress local infrastructure projects that the Gympie Regional Council and the Scenic Rim Regional Council have brought to the Task Force.

## 7.2 Transition Strategies

The Community Futures Task Force is due to come to an end on 30 June 2009. Task Force member agencies are considering options to ensure that the affected communities continue to receive support from government, and to be engaged in decisions that affect their futures, after the Task Force ends.

Many of the projects that are currently underway by member agencies are not expected to conclude before 30 June 2009. These projects will continue until they are finalised. The future form of some other projects will depend on whether or not the dams proceed.

The Community Futures Task Force process has highlighted the service needs of the affected communities to government, and has strengthened the linkages between government agencies and the communities. Member agencies will continue to support these linkages through regional offices well into the future.

# 8. APPENDICES

2008

## Appendix A - Members of the Community Futures Task Force

Chair	
Major General Peter Arnison AC, CVO (Ret'd)	
Members	
Cr Ron Dyne	Mayor, Gympie Regional Council
Cr Bob Abbot	Mayor, Sunshine Coast Regional Council
Cr John Brent	Mayor, Scenic Rim Regional Council
Colin Jensen	Coordinator-General, Department of Infrastructure and Planning
Lindsay Enright	Executive Director, Department of Infrastructure and Planning (Southern Region Division, Planning Group)
Linda Apelt	Director-General, Department of Communities
Michael Kinnane	Director-General, Department of Local Government, Sport and Recreation
Bob McCarthy	Director-General, Department of Tourism, Regional Development and Industry
Rob Setter	Acting/Director-General, Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries
Anthony Hayes	Chief Executive Officer, Tourism Queensland
Scott Spencer	Director-General, Department of Natural Resources and Water
Alan Tesch	Director-General, Department of Main Roads
Mal Grierson	Director-General, Department of Public Works
Rachel Hunter	Director-General, Department of Education, Training and the Arts
Graeme Newton	Chief Executive Officer, Queensland Water Infrastructure Pty Ltd
Steve Mill	Executive Director, Community Futures Task Force

### Appendix B - Community Futures Fund: Approved Applications for 2007-2008

Organisation Name	Project Name	Purpose of Project
Mary Valley Show Society	Mary Valley Business Expansion and Retention	To help the community address business issues and opportunities
Mary Valley State College	Student Personal Skilling Project	To bring students of the Mary Valley cluster of schools together
Ridgewood Rural Fire Brigade	Bushfire BBQ	Prepare new and long term community members for the bushfire season
Kandanga Creek State School	Mary Valley Under 8's Day	To involve all Mary Valley schools and improve community spirit and participation
Kandanga Creek State School and P&C	Woppaburra - Great Keppel Island School Camp	Promote indigenous education and the reconciliation process to students
Playgroup Association of Qld	Imbil Playgroup Open Day	Promote the playgroup with an open day and break-up party
Mary Valley Show Society	Qld Country Life - Miss Showgirl Awards	Provide assistance for a dance, cocktail party and Show Ball
Mary Valley Show Society	Mary Valley Children's Christmas Party 2007	An evening of fun and enjoyment for all school children and parents
Mary Valley RSL Youth Group	Break-up Party	Assist Mary Valley youth to participate in organised activities
Cooloola Family and Community Development	Mary Valley Action Training	Training on non-violent communication and strategic questioning techniques
Friends of Kandanga	Volunteers' Christmas Lunch	Strengthen volunteer networks
Mary Valley Show Society	Drafting projects	Drafting of plans for upgrades to Show Hall and Community Art Gallery
Imbil Mary Valley Scout Group	Scout Christmas Party	To recognise youth members and parents' efforts throughout the year
Mary Valley Community Support Group	Community Directory	Contribute to print and distribution of an information directory in the Mary Valley
Mary Valley RSL Youth Group	Community Movie Night	Provide a fun night for local youth and family members
Friends of Kandanga	Community Movie Night and Sausage Sizzle	Provide a social night for local community
Mary Valley Heritage Railway Museum Association Inc. (MVHR)	Race the Rattler	To enable the success of the event and provide an opportunity for MVHR and the Mary Valley region to receive widespread publicity
Mary Valley State College P&C	Major Raffle and Trivia Night	Raise funds for fit-out of new hall including stage, lining and flooring
Friends of Kandanga	Kandanga Information Centre Workshops	Help develop skills within the community and provide centre income

# Community Futures Task Force 2008

Organisation Name	Project Name	Purpose of Project
Imbil District Amateur Swimming Club Inc.	End of season trophy presentation and BBQ	Recognise achievements and encourage new members to join
Valley Rangers Soccer Club	Provision of Sporting Equipment	Assist in purchase of new equipment for the soccer season
Mary Valley Community Support Group	Meals on Wheels and Community Support	Assist with delivery of meals, new cool boxes and excursions
Mary Valley Schools Cluster	Compassionate Communication	Communication skills training for Mary Valley students, teachers and parents
Mary Valley Schools Cluster	Welcome to 2008: meet and greet BBQ	To bring students, parents, community and teachers of Mary Valley Schools together socially
Mary Valley Schools Cluster	Graham Hyman Seminars	Inspire and motivate students, parents and teachers of Mary Valley schools
Mary Valley Schools Cluster	Science Myth Busters, Smart Moves and Anti-Bullying	Educational and personal development classes for all Mary Valley students
Mary Valley Schools Cluster	Active and Healthy Communities	To improve health, eating habits and well-being of Mary Valley children and parents
Mary Valley Schools Cluster	Performing Arts Workshops	Self-esteem and personal development for all Mary Valley school children
Mary Valley RSL Youth Group	Blue Light Disco	Assist with bus travel to Gympie
Dagun Community Group	Dagun Platform Launch	Celebration of volunteer achievement and official launch of platform renovations
Imbil Tennis Club Inc.	Monthly Tennis Coaching with BBQ	Provide monthly coaching and competitions for juniors and adults with BBQ
Friends of Kandanga	Monthly Movie Evenings	Establishment of a monthly community social event
Friends of Kandanga	Weekly Art Classes	Assist with skill development and social interactions
Mary Valley Schools Cluster	Teacher/Parent Reading Resources	Print resources to support workshops
Imbil Branch – Queensland CWA	Fashion Parade	Raise funds for equipment and craft through a fashion parade and luncheon
Friends of Kandanga	Bush Dance	Foster and build community relationships
Mary Valley Heritage Railway Museum Association Inc.	MVHR 10th Anniversary Celebrations	To promote the success of MVHR and thank volunteers and sponsors
Combined Churches of The Mary Valley	Australia's Biggest Morning Tea	Raise money for QLD Cancer Council
Mary Valley Show Society	2008 Mary Valley Annual Show	Contribution to show expenses
Mary Valley RSL Youth Group	Annual Camp	Build group rapport and dynamics
Dagun State School	Performing Arts Workshop and Community BBQ	Provide drama workshops for students and provide the community with a performance

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