

## **STAFF REPORT**

**TO:** Chair & Members, Corporate Services Committee  
**FROM:** Murray Staite  
**DATE:** 4 November 2008  
**SUBJECT:** **Corporate Services Manager's Report**

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### **Treasury**

Council's debt at 31 October 2008 stands at \$78.3 million with \$3.6 million raised this financial year. As you will be aware through the media, interest rates are declining although credit is contracting. Council's average interest rate now stands at 7.3% (last month 7.4%) and over the next few months we expect to see this decline further.

### **Disaster Funds**

You will recall at the Engineering Services meeting on 16 October 2008 that it was recommended that funds be used from the current disaster funds to offset additional works as a result of severe weather events. The balance of the funds stand at:

Rivers -	\$1,588,865
General Disaster -	\$612,956

With the low balance in the general disaster fund I am of the view that staff need to bring forward for your consideration various options before considering the recommendation from Engineering Services. As this is the last Corporate Services Committee meeting for this calendar year I propose to bring this report to you in the new year.

### **District Revaluation**

After discussion and recommendation by this Committee, Quotable Value have agreed to the following dates for the district revaluation:

5 January 2009 – notices posted  
13 February 2009 – last day for objection

Mr Brendon Bodyer from Quotable Value will attend the full Council meeting on 11 December 2008 to brief Councillors on the revaluation.

## **Insurance**

Valerie and myself have met with Richard Preston of Jardine Lloyd Thompson Ltd and reviewed Council's insurance cover. Only minor changes have been made and the premium for the year is within budget.

## **Health and Safety**

Council's management team reviewed the proposed new Health and Safety System at its last meeting and agreed to the rollout plan that was presented. This system provides a strong foundation for Council to manage its obligations under the Health and Safety in Employment Act and is a first step towards receiving primary level accreditation.

## **Acknowledgement**

On behalf of Corporate Services staff, I wish to thank elected representatives for their support during the 2008 calendar year. The Corporate Services Department and Council at large, has completed a significant workload during this period.

We wish you and your families a happy and healthy Christmas/New Year holiday period and look forward to working with you through the 2009 calendar year.

Murray Staite  
Corporate Services Manager