



MACKSVILLE-SCOTTS HEAD SURF LIFE SAVING CLUB INC.

President: Andrew Moran
Secretary: Michael Coulter
Treasurer: Chris Bell



21 October 2017

Mr Michael Coulter
General Manager
Nambucca Shire Council
michael.coulter@nambucca.nsw.gov.au

Dear Michael

Request for a Week Day Life Guard in the September and Easter School Holidays

I refer to our recent discussions concerning the risks associated with an unpatrolled beach at Scotts Head during the week days of the September and Easter school holidays. As you know the Club provides a voluntary patrol on weekends during these holiday periods but not during the week days.

During the recent September/October school holidays we saw very large week day and week end crowds at Scotts Head main beach. There were also some particular weather and sea conditions which resulted in rips with a number of rescues being undertaken during the weekend voluntary patrols and other rescues undertaken mid-week by people who just happened to be on the scene. I am sure that similar crowds will occur in the 2018 Easter school holidays.

The Club has made previous representations in relation to the need for a Life Guard during these school holidays and also extending the Life Guard hours during the Christmas school holidays to align with the weekend voluntary patrol hours.

The Club does understand the Council's financial constraints and by way of suggestion would propose that in the first instance priority be given to at least having a Life Guard employed week days during the September and Easter school holidays at the Shire's two most populous beaches being Scotts Head and Nambucca Heads. I estimate the cost of this initiative would be in the vicinity of \$14,000.

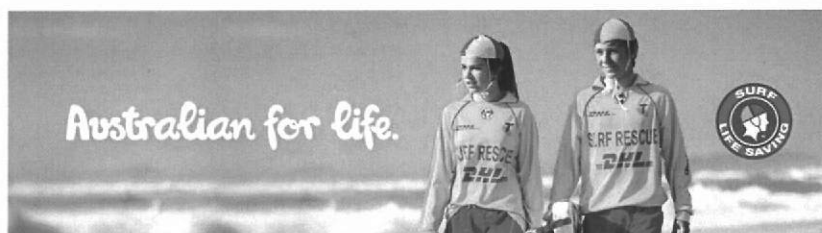
This recommendation is consistent with the advice the Council has received over many years from the Australian Lifeguard Service and is consistent with the approach of other councils on the mid north coast.

I can say with some authority that the risk of a drowning at Scotts Head main beach mid-week during these school holiday periods is unacceptably high and I would respectfully suggest that your staff charged with the responsibility for assessing and managing such risks carefully consider this proposal. I would also be pleased if this proposal could be referred to the elected Council for their consideration.

Yours in Surf Lifesaving



Jim Brazel
Club Captain



PO Box 148 Macksville NSW 2447 / Ph 0427 264 155/ Email admin@macksvillescottsheadslsc.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/mshslsc / Web www.macksvillescottsheadslsc.com

ABN: 31 637 315 870 / Incorporation Number: Y0826324