

COMMUNITY FUTURES TASK FORCE

Issue 1 **Traveston Crossing Dam** 27 July 2006



Queensland
Government

Community Futures Task Force Hotline: 1800 133 258

Message from Peter Arnison



This is the first edition of what will be a regular newsletter which seeks to provide a source of reliable information to assist people in the region affected by the Government's decision to build the Traveston Crossing Dam.

Included in this newsletter is detail of my role as the Task Force Chairman, the Task Force membership, as well as

the matters the Queensland Government has asked us to address, including the terms of reference and proposed forward initiatives.

All members of the Task Force will be available to listen to the issues, needs and inquiries of people in the Mary

River Valley and the wider region affected by the decision to build the dam. Communication will be through visits, the Kandanga One Stop Shop, regular newsletters, the Task Force hotline (1800 133 258) and the Task Force's website (www.communityfutures.qld.gov.au).

I visited Cooloola Shire and the Mary River Valley on Thursday 13 July and gained a much better understanding of the complex set of issues resulting from the decision. I intend to visit again on Friday 28 July.

I look forward to meeting you over the forthcoming months.

Please do not hesitate to make me and fellow Task Force members aware of your issues and concerns.

**Major General Peter Arnison, AC, CVO (Retd)
Chairman, Community Futures Task Force**

Chairman's first visit to Cooloola and the Mary Valley, Thursday 13 July

Task Force head Major General Peter Arnison met with the Cooloola Shire Council, Member for Gympie Elisa Roberts, members of the Mary Valley Action Group and visited the State Government's "one stop" shop at Kandanga.

During the visit he conducted discussions with a number of community members to understand their needs and issues as a result of the Government's decision to construct the dam.

These matters were raised at the first meeting of the Task Force in Brisbane the following week and resulted in a number of specific recommendations being made to the Queensland Government.

The first recommendation related to the Government's WaterWise Rebate Scheme. The Government accepted the Task Force's recommendation and extended the Home WaterWise Rebate Scheme to all Cooloola Shire residents. Residents can obtain the full details of the scheme and further information by calling the free

Water Hotline on 1800 243 585 or by visiting the web site at www.nrm.qld.gov.au/water.

The second recommendation related to the provision of legal and financial advice to small business affected by the decision. Following this recommendation officers from the local State Development Centre and the Kandanga One Stop Shop are available to meet with businesses to discuss and, as appropriate, make referrals to business legal and financial advisors. Contact numbers include the Kandanga One Stop Shop, 5488 4929, and the business assistance hotline, 1300 363 711.

The Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) is working with local primary producers who will be affected by the dam. The Department is identifying and seeking to resolve issues facing affected primary producers. It provides a free service to help primary producers address financial issues. Primary producers requiring any assistance should call the DPI&F Business Centre on 132 523. The Department will also undertake face-to-face meetings with individuals as required.

This *Community Futures Task Force Newsletter* is produced by the Community Futures Task Force to keep residents informed about the Traveston Crossing Dam project. Please pass it on to your family and friends. If you would like anything included in future editions, please contact us at: communityfutures@qld.gov.au

Task Force terms of reference

1. Address the immediate effects of the decision to build the dams on the affected communities and develop strategies and approaches in relation to:
 - The impact on health and wider social issues;
 - Property resumptions;
 - The impact on business and industry continuity;
 - The prospects for regional industry adjustment.
2. Develop strategies to maximise the medium to longer term opportunities presented by the proposed dam developments to enable the communities to position themselves for a better future by:
 - identifying the social, economic and land use impacts of the development on individuals, businesses, community social infrastructure and the broader communities; and
 - developing short-term and long-term action plans to assess and manage social, economic and land use implications of the developments 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 web site 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.

Members of the Task Force

The new Task Force will be led by General Arnison and include the Coordinator General and Director-General of the Department of Premier and Cabinet as well as the Director-Generals of State Development, Trade and Innovation; Employment and Training; Natural Resources, Mines and Water; Main Roads; Primary Industries & Fisheries; Public Works; Communities; and Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation.

At a local level the Task Force includes the Member for Gympie, Ms Elisa Roberts MP, the Mayor of Cooloola Mr Mick Vernados and the Mayor of Boonah, Mr John Brent.

Contact the Task Force

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One Stop Shop

The Queensland Government has established a one-stop shop at Kandanga to provide:

- Personal and individual support for community members who are in the proposed dam area site;
- Technical information relating to the dam proposal;
- Referral assistance for individuals to access other government services including legal advice, small business advice and details of other relevant government programs and services

Community members can access these services by contacting the Coordinator at the centre –either in person or over the phone on 5488 4929. A counsellor will also be on site from 9.30am to 4.00pm.

The range and type of services will be regularly reviewed to ensure they meet the needs of the community. Regular updates will be available through the one-stop shop.

To further assist community members, details of services available in the local area are listed below.

Essential numbers

One Stop Shop – 5488 4929
Dam information – 1800 243 585
Business Assistance Hotline - 1300 363 711
Centrelink – 13 1021
Cooloola Youth Service - 5482 6188
Counselling Services
 Lifeline – 13 11 44
 Langmont Advantage – 1300 667 791
 Kids Helpline – 1800 55 1800
Department of Communities – 1800 440 074
DPI Call Centre - 132523
Employment & Training Enquiries – 5470 8846
Farm Financial Counselling – 5480 4431
Dept. of Housing (Bundaberg) - 4131 5970
Dept. of Housing (Maryborough) – 4121 1918
Dept. of Housing (Gympie) – 5482 7623
Land acquisition Fund – 1800 243 585
State Development Centres- (SDC)
 SDC Caboolture– 54312540
 SDC Maryborough - 41211780
 SDC Sunshine Coast - 5437 1300