

ITEM NO: 5

SUBJECT: AFFIXING THE COMMON SEAL OF THE COUNCIL ON THE 2009-2010  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES FUNDING AGREEMENT

FILE NO: 09/112261

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**Management Plan Link**

*Principal Activity:* Looking After People

*Service:* Environmental Management

*Project:* This report does not relate to a Management Plan project

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**Recommendation:**

*That the Common Seal of the Council be affixed to the 2009-2010 Service Agreement between the Department of Community Services and the Council being for the provision of funding totalling \$44,500 to support community service delivery in the City of Blue Mountains.*

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**Report by Group Manager, Community and Corporate****Reason for report**

The reason for this report is to obtain approval for the Common Seal of the Council to be affixed to 2009-2010 Service Agreement between the Department of Community Services (DoCS) and the Council. In this Service Agreement, the Department of Community Services has agreed to provide funding totalling \$44,500 to Blue Mountains City Council to subsidise the following positions and program within the Council:

- Social Planner: Sustainable Community: \$13,133;
- Children's Services Development Officer: \$13,134;
- Youth Services Development Officer: \$13,135; and
- Blackheath Vacation Care Program: \$5,098

The Council Common Seal is required to be affixed to the Service Agreement to enable the release of funding specified above in 2009/2010.

**Background**

DoCS has been contributing towards the funding of these positions and the Blackheath Vacation Care for a number of years. It should be noted that the grant funding received is only a partial contribution towards overall costs of the positions and the vacation care program. The funding is provided to support the Council in delivering needed community services to residents. Over the last three years, the amount of funding provided by DoCs for each of these areas has increased by 3.2% each year (with \$43,077 being received in 2007-2008).

It should be noted that while the auspice for the Blackheath Vacation Care is in the process of being transferred from the Council to the Blackheath Area Neighbourhood Centre, this will not take effect until September 2009. The Council will be responsible for implementing the July school holiday vacation care program in Blackheath. DoCS funding received will support implementation of this program. Any remaining unspent grant funding (following transfer of the auspice to Blackheath Neighbourhood Centre), will be returned to DoCs.

**Sustainability Assessment (Triple Bottom Line Reporting):**

<b>Effects</b>	<b>Positive</b>	<b>Negative</b>
Environmental	Nil	Nil
Social	Grant funding provided supports the provision of needed social services within the City and the building of social capital. The positions subsidised support implementation of service planning and a range of community development, children and youth service projects / programs.	Nil
Economic	Grant funding supports sustainability of the council and the local economy through financial subsidisation of three positions and of the Blackheath Vacation Care program.	Nil

**Financial implications for the Council**

There are no adverse financial implications. Grant funding received will contribute favourably to the balancing of Council's annual budget.

**Legal and risk management issues for the Council**

There are no adverse legal or risk management issues.

**External consultation**

The Council has had consultations with the DoCS Community Program Officer for the Blue Mountains Area.

**Conclusion**

It is recommended that the Common Seal of the Council of the City of Blue Mountains be affixed to the 2009-2010 Service Agreement between the Council and the Department of Community Services.

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