## 8.2. DOUGLAS MARKETS STALL HOLDERS REQUEST REVIEW OF FEES DURING OFF/WET SEASON

REPORT AUTHOR(S):	Joanne Jacobson, Manager Governance
<b>GENERAL MANAGER:</b>	Darryl Crees, General Manager Corporate Services
DEPARTMENT:	Governance

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolves to receive the petition and notes that the request will be considered when developing the fees and charges for the 2016-17 financial period.

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

A petition has been received by the Chief Executive Officer from the stall holders of the Port Douglas Markets requesting a reduction to the market fees during the off/wet season.

#### BACKGROUND

The fees for stall holders at the Port Douglas Market currently range from \$12.40 to \$55.85 per week (depending on the size and configuration of the stall).

#### COMMENT

A benchmarking exercise has been undertaken of other local markets to determine if these markets have a fee structure which varies with the seasons and it has been established that they do not have a fee structure between low and high seasons.

### PROPOSAL

That this request will be considered by Council during deliberations of the 2016-17 annual budget which includes the formulation of the fees and charges for the financial year.

## FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Based on the 2015-16 projected income, a reduction of fees from November to March would result in the following reduction in income:

- 10% reduction fees equates to \$7,400 foregone
- 15% reduction fees equates to \$11,000 foregone
- 20% reduction fees equates to \$14,700 foregone

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

## SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

**Economic:** The development of diverse income streams will support the long term sustainability of Council.

#### Environmental: Nil

Social: Community Markets provide important opportunities for local business and are a great way to tap in to thriving networks which help to build a more resilient and sustainable community.

**CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE** 

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

## Theme 1 - Celebrating Our Communities

1.2.4 - Network, advocate and partner with stakeholders to achieve positive outcomes.

## Theme 2 - Building a Sustainable Economic Base

2.2.4 - Promote and support - 'Buy Local'.

## COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council can play a number of different roles in certain circumstances and it is important to be clear about which role is appropriate for a specific purpose or circumstance. The implementation of actions will be a collective effort and Council's involvement will vary from information only through to full responsibility for delivery.

The following areas outline where Council has a clear responsibility to act:

**Regulator** – Meeting the responsibilities associated with regulating activities through legislation or local law.

## CONSULTATION

Internal: Financial team review.

**External:** Benchmarking of other local markets.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** 

Performed by petition organiser.

### **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1 - Petition

CHIRF PARTITIONER! MARS LESKIE SHORTEN, IA BOW ST. MUSSMAN, 6. 4873. ĠÏÁ∱ÁGJH OEccae&@ ^} oÂÈÈÈ PH; 40482799.

As stall holders we struggle to make our stall holder rent during the off/wet season and would greatly appreciate a review to reduce our rent during this time. We treat this as a year round business and struggle during this time to meet our rent requirements due to the weather and lack of tourists and would greatly appreciate a review on this matter.

We, the undersigned, are concerned citizens and stall holders who urge the Douglas Shire Council to act now to reduce our rent during the off/wet season.

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## 9.1. AGENDA ITEM 9 - CLOSED SESSION

9.1 Prejudicial Matter S275 (1) (H) Local Government Regulation 2012 - Audit Committee Meeting 29 April 2016