

DAINTREE FERRY REVENUE GENERAL POLICY

Intent

The intent of this policy is to establish clear and precise practice regarding the contribution and application of funds for the Daintree Ferry operations.

Scope

The revenue obtained from ferry operations will be used to fund operational costs and ongoing capital works associated with the provision of ferry services on the Daintree River.

PROVISIONS

Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to:

- ensure that the income generated from ferry operations is sufficient to fund whole of life cycle costs to sustain the required level of service;
- establish an internally constrained reserve to allow accumulation of sufficient funds to cover future capital works expenditure and unforeseen events.

Costs of Providing the Ferry Service

Operational, maintenance, renewal and upgrade costs are incurred to provide and sustain a ferry service to the required level of service. These include but are not limited to:

- all commitments and obligations detailed in the Ferry Services Contract;
- capital works specifically relating to the functional operation of the Daintree River Ferry Service (e.g. traffic management, construction and maintenance of flood moorings);
- repairs, maintenance and capital works (renewals and upgrades) to the western precinct, ferry approaches and queuing areas, the ticket booths, signage and access ramps on both sides of the river;
- expenditure related to progress of initiatives detailed in the Daintree Gateway Master Plan;
- repairs, maintenance and upkeep to the Caretaker's residence;
- provision of public facilities immediately adjacent to and on both sides of the river; and
- annual dredging programs (including licences, disposal of spoil) to remove sand build ups, debris and other material which could prohibit the operation of the ferry.

Whilst operational costs are relatively constant over an annual cycle, maintenance, renewal, upgrade and capital costs will generally vary on a yearly basis.

Management of the Reserve

Revenue derived from the Daintree Ferry operations that is surplus to annual operating expenditure shall be constrained for the purposes of funding whole of life costs required to sustain this essential service. The maximum level of funds constrained in this reserve will be four million dollars. At the end of each financial year the required transfers, to and from, the reserve will be made. Cash representing this reserve will be held in Council's operating bank account or authorised investments.

Related Policies and Plans

Some significant and related documents include:

- Ferry Services Contract
- Risk Assessment Report – Daintree Ferry Precinct - March 2017
- Daintree Gateway Master Plan
- Dredging Contract
- Reserves General Policy
- Council Fees and Charges

This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.

Manager responsible for review

General Manager Corporate
Services

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 15/04/2009
COMMENCEMENT DATE: 01/07/2009
REVIEW DATE: 26/04/2017
DUE FOR REVISION: 30/06/2021