

## ENTRY FORM

### A.R. BLUETT MEMORIAL AWARD - 2007/2008 SUBMISSION

#### 1. COUNCIL DETAILS

<b>Council Name</b>  KIAMA MUNICIPAL COUNCIL your council, your community	
<b>Council Address:</b>	<b>11 Manning Street, Kiama</b>
<b>Membership Category</b>	<b>LGA</b>
<b>Contact Person:</b>	<b>Michael Forsyth</b>
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<b>Mayor:</b>	<b>Councillor Sandra McCarthy</b>
<b>General Manager:</b>	<b>Michael Forsyth</b>

#### 2. Brief Statistics for 2007/2008

<b>Total Population – Council Area:</b> (Source: ABS – Regional Population Growth Table)	<b>20,0095</b>
<b>Population – Urban</b>	<b>17,547</b>
<b>Population – Rural</b>	<b>2,548</b>
<b>Council Area (sq km):</b>	<b>259 sq km</b>
<b>No. of Staff:</b> (Full time equivalent staff at the end of the reporting period)	<b>250</b>
<b>Date of most recent organisation structure review</b> (Sec 333 LG Act)	

## Executive Summary

In 07/08 Kiama Council achieved a great deal through the implementation of a wide range of innovative and integrated initiatives designed to create a healthy, cohesive community and a vibrant economy - all within the terms of a sustainable environment. Significant capital works projects improved public amenity as well as contributing to environmental sustainability, which Council also addressed strategically.

From the construction of new community buildings, to the launch of the Municipality's first Cultural Plan, the year's considerable progress was underpinned by Council's commitment to consultation and partnerships with the community and other agencies.

As an area of outstanding coastal and rural beauty located 90 minutes from Sydney, Kiama is at the pointy end of the 'seachange' phenomena. 38.7% of the population is aged 50 and over and 24.1% is aged 60 or over; well above the state average of 18.5%. Public health and community service provision pose significant challenges.

Achievements in these fields were recognised at national and international levels. Kiama was selected to host the first Healthy Cities National Forum in May '08, resulting in an expenses-paid invitation to the Mayor to present Kiama's Health Plan at the *Healthy Cities for a Sustainable Future Conference* in Singapore in June 08.

Programs to encourage people to take responsibility for their own health through physical and social activity and initiatives towards Council's strategic goal of sustainable agricultural production were acknowledged as part of Kiama's invitation to become a full member of the WHO International Healthy Cities Alliance – the first in NSW.

Council owns and operates Blue Haven a three-tiered retirement village at no cost to ratepayers. In July 07, Stage 5 of Blue Haven was completed at a cost of \$36.5 million offering 88 self care units. It has been so popular that within a year 80 % of units have been sold. Council also planned and designed an extension of the aged care facility (following the Federal Government's allocation of an additional 52 low care bed licences) to increase the aged care facility to 134 beds – 52 of which will be high care.

Foreshore improvements extended from the \$1.5million Manning Street upgrade to include recreational infrastructure such as the *Heritage Walk* and a new 37metre jetty, whilst underground a 280,000 litre capacity stormwater reuse system was installed at Black Beach.

The Draft Kiama LEP 2007 was approved for consultation with government agencies and the Department of Planning. Preparation of the draft plan responded to extensive community, professional and councillor consultation, which included the first Community Panel process used by a Council in Australia in the review of a LEP.

Council was particularly proactive about supporting local business with our economic development officer delivering initiatives to develop relationships and resources to encourage home businesses, agribusinesses, and the traditional tourism.

Tantamount to Kiama's town hall, consensus on how to develop the Showground Pavilion required thorough and inclusive consultation with the community and, in particular, the very diverse user groups. 07/08 saw the plans finalised and funding applications secured to enable construction of the 5.5million project to commence in February 08.

The Jamberoo community welcomed the completion of the \$800,000 redevelopment of the School of Arts, which now also provides a preschool.

Council took both a regional and internal approach to sustainability. In conjunction with neighbouring councils, Kiama introduced a long term program 'The Sustainability Roadmap' to embed considerations of sustainability in every facet of council operations.

Communications and customer service went 'state of the art' with a major upgrade of telecommunications infrastructure installed to improve customer service with the installation of a Call Centre and the simultaneous redesign of the website.

In line with good governance Council implemented an internal audit plan and Business Continuity Plan for the organisation.

## **Capital works and Infrastructure**

Council continued its commitment to meeting the needs of an aging population with the construction of **Stage 5 of Blue Haven**. At a cost of \$36.5 million, this was Council's largest project in the reporting period. Council's commitment to Stage 5 of Blue Haven, completed in July 07, was rewarded when sales of the 88 independent living units reached 80% in May 08.

07/08 was an outstanding year for the provision of major community buildings and streetscape beautification. **Jamberoo School of Arts** was redeveloped and extended to incorporate a preschool. This project engaged all user groups and was constructed with the assistance of the Wollongong Employment and Training Centre (work for the dole). The new building, which now also features an attractive modern steel-design memorial arch for plaques that were previously wall mounts, was celebrated by the community with a weekend-long calendar of opening events.

Essentially Kiama's town hall, the **Kiama Showground Pavilion** and grounds enjoy a spectacular headland location and are steeped in tradition as the site of 126 Kiama shows. Originally constructed in 1969, the pavilion was in dire need of an upgrade. Assisted by the architect, representatives from the very diverse array of user groups including the Jazz Club, football codes, Youth Centre, Cultural Board and Show Society formed a design committee. With outstanding cooperation, plans to redevelop the pavilion into a multi-function community centre were finalised and a DA submitted. Council secured \$1million in Federal funding and construction started in February 2008. The project is valued at \$5.5 million.

The **upgrade of Manning Street** was a \$1.5million program of road works, repaving, landscaping, reconfiguration of parking, bollards, traffic calming devices and heritage features to create a 'heritage precinct'. Council successfully undertook to complete the majority of works between April and October 2007 to minimise disruption to trade during the holiday season on this high use business strip.

In addition to the transformation brought about by the paving, road works and gardens, **appreciation of the area's heritage** was enhanced with the laying of two large bronze plaques in front of the Old Council Chambers and the town's first bank to tell their respective tales. Tracking down a specialist to restore the WWII mountain gun presented to Council by the Captain of the HMS Kiama located in Manning Street was an achievement in itself. It is also planned to return the obelisk to its original location in front of Kiama's heritage post office at the base of Manning Street.

Manning Street runs down to the harbour where the first of nine interpretive signs installed by Council commences a '**Heritage Walk**' around Kiama's famous blowhole point. The signs highlight the role basalt played in the area's early development.

Along the heritage walk anglers and walkers can take the opportunity to enjoy another of Council's major projects - a **new 37 metre jetty** at Kiama Harbour's boat ramp. Again, community consultation was the starting point and construction started and finished between March and June 08 to minimise disruption at the harbour's high-traffic boat ramp.

### Cultural & Heritage

In December 2008, Kiama launched its **first Cultural Plan 2007-2012**. The plan identifies five goals: Create vibrant cultural connections and opportunities; Celebrate Kiama's culture; Enhance our built environment; Honour our heritage and Build a healthy cultural economy. The aim of the plan is to ensure that cultural and social considerations are incorporated into Council's plans, policies and corporate Governance.

In 07/08 a number of outstanding cultural projects/events were assisted through the eighth round of the Cultural Grants program. The inaugural **Busker's Song Writing Competition** brought entertainment and business to local venues. It provided a platform for young and older performers, with entries requiring five heats. Following the event's success, organisers have again applied to Council's Grants Program for assistance to run the event this year.

A DVD recording of a **re-enactment of the speech made by Henry Parkes** in Kiama in 1868 in which he said that he had in his possession and could produce evidence of the plans for the assassination of the Duke of Edinburgh. Multiple copies have been made available for purchase.

Council provided \$2,000 towards the **Kiama FarmAid Concert** for drought relief held in Hindmarsh Park. This raised over \$10,000 in December 07. The funds were distributed to rural farmers through the Wollongong Office of the Salvation Army.

As part of the Coastal Walking Track project from Kiama to Gerringong, Council restored the **Bush Bank Steam Mill** - a stone construction built in 1856 – currently a focal point of a short walk – it will soon add interest to a walking track of state significance.

## **Economic and Social Development**

### **Economic Development**

Kiama has a high proportion of prosperous and highly skilled professional residents. Retail is the main generator of employment, and throughout 07/08 Kiama Council implemented a number of innovative initiatives to promote economic diversity.

Council initiated a series of ***business seminars, workshops and presentations***, targeting small and home based businesses. This provided businesses with the opportunity to learn valuable skills locally at a time and place more convenient than the bigger cities. They were also an opportunity to network with other local businesses and to establish business to business networks thus increasing their referral power. All of these seminars and workshops have been in conjunction with the Department of State and Regional Development and The Illawarra Area Consultative Committee- Small Business Field advisers program.

In May 2008, Kiama Council secured ***the 2009 Local Government and Shires Tourism Conference*** against 10 applicants. This conference provides council with an opportunity to work collaboratively with the Business and Tourism community to provide a first class conference that will firmly establish Kiama as a conference and events destination. The Kiama Showground Pavilion is in the process of a major upgrade and will be the venue for the conference and will showcase a facility that will be capable of hosting a variety of major events, including weddings.

Council launched the ***inaugural South Coast Sport, Health and Leisure Expo*** (fun run and sports honour roll). This will be held on the October long weekend, however, the concept has been an instant success running on the front cover of both local papers and resulting in interest from the Dragons and corporate sponsorship in the first week. Sport, Health and leisure are huge drivers of our community and economy and this expo provides the vehicle for promotion of local businesses and sporting groups alike.

***The Promote Kiama Business information Kit*** was developed as part of the Promote Kiama Campaign. The brochure and accompanying information sheets have been developed to attract investment from: Professional Services; Home-based business; Retail; Agribusiness; Eco and Rural Tourism and Residential relocations. The brochures will be distributed at trade fairs and exhibitions and to interested developers. The project was a collaborative effort between Council, Kiama and District Chamber of commerce and Kiama Tourism.

In conjunction with Wollongong University, Shellharbour City Council and the Department of State and Regional Development, Kiama participated in the ***Economic***

**Gardening Program**, which involved twenty local businesses in a 'business bootcamp' and a number of workshops to help provide local business entrepreneurs with skills to grow their business. This project has been a resounding success with many jobs created regionally and the workshops providing businesses with the opportunity to gain a one-on-one consultation with business mentors, to assist with the day-to-day issues facing new and developing businesses.

### **Social Development**

Initiatives implemented in 07/08 to achieve Council's strategic goal which states that the community will have an enhanced quality of life and that it will have promoted access, equity and social justice included:

An **Integrated Reporting Working Group** was formed to achieve a greater level of interaction across departments with particular regard to the development of Plans such as The Management Plan, Social Plan, Health Plan, Economic Development Plan...

Council is currently in the final stages of the 2004-2009 Social Plan and the working group has been established in anticipation of the Department of Local Government's issuing of a framework for integrated reporting.

After each ABS Census, Council prepares a **Community Profile** to assist with social planning. Kiama Council was the first in the region to provide this information as a formatted demographic profile package (prepared by consultants *iID Informed Decisions*) available to the public on Council's website. Other councils in the region have since followed suit providing the public with a regionally uniform format that is easy to understand. Council ran a campaign to promote the availability and potential uses of this information to local businesses and individuals. The campaign included free seminars.

Kiama's demographics spike in the 12-24 age range and the 50years and over age range.

In April 08, Council ran a full week of activities to celebrate both **Seniors Week and Youth Week**. Taking advantage of the close dates to encourage intergenerational relations, a mobile phone workshop was conducted for seniors who received one-on-one tuition from local youths who volunteered. The event was a great success with 30 seniors attending.

The Kiama LGA does not have a very large indigenous population, however, in May 2008, following the national apology, **Kiama's 8<sup>th</sup> Reconciliation Walk and Flag Raising Ceremony** was one of the most celebrated (and televised) in the region. Indigenous representatives from the region (Wadi Wadi and Coomaditchie) were in attendance to celebrate with the walk and indigenous entertainment. The focus on Kiama's event was historical, commencing with the Mayor's 2001 apology on behalf of Council and the community in accordance with the adoption of Council's Cultural Diversity Policy *that acknowledges ...the forced removal of children.*

The Youth Centre continued work on an interactive **computer game about risk taking behaviour entitled Quens-a-conces**. 12 talented young people have volunteered hundreds of hours to creating computer generated scenes and scenarios about alcohol, bullying, drugs, drink driving and sexual health. The South Eastern Sydney Illawarra Area Health Service was so impressed by a demonstration of the game's progress that they committed \$20,000 to enable it to be completed and made available to the public.

To encourage responsible independence, Kiama Youth Centre negotiated a deal with the local taxi company to implement the **Safe Travel Voucher Scheme** whereby young people could obtain a taxi voucher for the reduced price of \$2.00 to travel from the local townships home. Around 200 vouchers were sold to the target group of 14-16 year olds in the reporting period. Statistics in regard to loitering and vandalism have not yet been assessed but it is anticipated that the vouchers took young people off the streets and out of risky situations. It also created good relations between the taxi company and young people.

**Formal Relationships:** Kiama became a Local Government Friend of the Red Cross, a formal Cancer Council Community Partner and signed a MOU with delegates from Hoi An Vietnam Part of the agreement states that any visits to Hoi An will be at the expense of individuals and not Council.

The Kiama/Zumalai Friendship Group (East Timor) raised funds to provide **6 scholarships for Zumalai students** to attend school in nearby Suai and to provide a solar power system for the town's birthing clinic.

Kiama Council Holiday Parks offered a **special drought relief holiday package** that offered discounted rates to drought-affected farming families. Information was sent to rural Councils and 39 packages were taken up over the holiday period.

*Other community events such as **Australia Day Breakfasts** are provided on an annual basis.*

## **Built and Natural Environment**

**Preparation of the Draft LEP** responded to extensive engagement with consultants and detailed community input garnered substantially from the first Community Panel process used by a Council in Australia in the review of a LEP. Council also conducted various rural and place-based information workshops and a series of eight Councillor Workshops to discuss issues of Rural and Biodiversity, Urban Design, Zoning and Population and Housing. Following this input The Draft Kiama LEP 2007 was approved for consultation with government agencies and the Department of Planning.

Years of Council lobbying state representatives about the need to ensure public access to 6.2 km of the state's most spectacular coastline paid off in 07/08 with the Lands Department agreeing and successfully acquiring the six privately-owned tracts of land required to enable Council to proceed to establish the ***Coastal Walking Track between Kiama and Gerringong***.

### **Environmental Initiatives**

Council implemented many programs to promote environmental awareness, behavioural and operational change to move towards sustainability.

### **Regionally**

Council responded quickly to the requirements of climate change. In the reporting period Council activated a significant shift in the understanding and implementation of sustainability through the development of the ***Illawarra Sustainability Roadmap***. Working together Kiama, Shellharbour and Wollongong Councils developed a path that will embed the consideration of sustainability into all areas of council, including decision-making, planning, reporting and operations. The tri-council project formed a multi-disciplinary Working Party involving sections of council not typically working on 'sustainability' to outline: Where we are now and Where we need to go. This will form the basis of The Action Plan to be developed in 08/09. The 'Roadmap' also outlines the processes undertaken to complete each part of the document, as a guide to other councils that may choose to follow a similar journey.

### **Locally**

Kiama is committed to the Cities for Climate Protection program administered by the International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) to pursue the five-milestone framework. In the reporting period Kiama achieved ***Milestone 3 - Develop Greenhouse Local Action Plan*** to help reduce greenhouse emissions produced by both council operations and the community's activities. The document describes the municipality's greenhouse emissions inventory, reduction goals and a step by step program of actions to achieve identified targets.

For the fifth consecutive year, Kiama was named ***Sydney Water's most frugal water users*** with each household using an average of 162,000 litres per year.

Council implemented a ***Water Saving Action Plan*** across its operations. This involved installing 8 data loggers at Council facilities to detect water leaks, along with water saving showerheads and taps in Council reserves, parks and holiday accommodation.

***Minnamurra Estuary Stabilisation Project:*** Stabilisation of a section of the Minnamurra Estuary was completed. This project involved stabilising the toe of the bank using large rocks, reshaping the bank and planting with low growing native plants. Further work in the estuary included control of storm water pollutants through the installation of enviropods, weed management, and the planting and

protection of mangroves and riparian species. This project has been supported with great enthusiasm by the community engaging the Scouts, students and local flora experts in tasks such as planting 200 saplings.

Council installed a 280,000litre capacity underground **Stormwater Harvest and Reuse System** beneath the grassed foreshore area of Black Beach. This project enables the harvesting of stormwater to irrigate Black Beach and Hindmarsh Park and to supply the toilets in the park.

The new tank system complements the award winning Black Beach Stormwater project completed in 2003, which saw a sand filter bed installed in nearby Hindmarsh Park to prevent polluted stormwater running into Kiama Harbour. Now the filtered water can be captured and reused.

**The Surf Beach Urban Water Quality Project** included the installation of litter baskets and a Gross Pollutant Trap to remove pollutants washed into this catchment from the surrounding roads. It also incorporated an education program about the environmental problems associated with pollutants from stormwater runoff.

**"Second Hand Saturday"** is a giant community garage sale introduced by Council in March 2008. The Gerringong/Gerroa trial event attracted a maximum 60 registered participants. Hosts, Gerringong Surf Club raised \$700 from gate takings and bbq sales and approximately 3,000 people came through the gates. Each Second Hand Saturday is timed to run prior to Council's bi-annual area clean up days as an initiative to increase recycling and reduce waste to landfill. This trial was a great success and future events are being planned.

**Changes to improve the environmental sustainability of the works depot:**

- Running the entire diesel fleet on B20 Biodiesel - as well as reducing exhaust emissions, biodiesel is a renewable energy source.
- Using *EnviroLube*, a remanufactured or refined recycled oil, which helps to further reduce the pressure on virgin crude oil stocks.
- The installation of five rainwater tanks to provide a total capacity of 38,000 litres of water.
- Introduced an incentive scheme to encourage the use of 4-cylinder diesel cars.

To capture all food waste produced by staff, Council installed two **Bokashi bins** within its central kitchen. The Bokashi Composting System is a revolutionary fermentation process that uses EM (Effective Micro-Organism) to turn kitchen waste – including animal products - into a rich soil conditioner. Council organised a deal to offer the system for purchase to residents at a special price and staff get to take home very rich fertiliser 'juice' for their gardens.

**Clean Up Australia Day:** Council targeted the Kiama Harbour for its clean up efforts. Divers volunteered their time to clean up the harbour pulling out ½ tonne of rubbish from the ocean floor. Overall, 28 sites were registered with approximately 1500 participants and a total of 1.06 tonnes of rubbish was collected.

## **Recreation, Health & Community Services**

Council is proud to serve the community through Blue Haven - one of the few council-run three-tiered retirement villages. Council operates the village at no cost to ratepayers.

**Planning and design to increase the aged care facility** to cater for 134 beds – 52 of which will be high care was also carried out (following the Federal Government's allocation of an additional 52 low care bed licences in early 07)

Kiama was one of the first Councils in NSW to develop a Public Health Plan and remains a leader in this area. Council plans for, and actively promotes, individual and community well being in conjunction with environmental sustainability to improve health gains.

Kiama's leadership was recognised in May 08 when it was selected to host the **first Healthy Cities National Forum** which brought together experts from around Australia to share ideas for 'Creating healthier, safer, more sustainable and caring communities'.

The two day event was attended by over 60 delegates and provided an opportunity to showcase the area through tours of diverse agri-businesses including a vineyard and a dairy and the Boolarng Nangami Aboriginal Studio.

The Australian representative for the International Alliance of Health Cities, Richard Hicks described Kiama as "a Healthy City in action... not just talking about it". As a result of the conference, the Mayor was invited to present Kiama's Health Plan at the *Healthy Cities for a Sustainable Future Conference* in Singapore in June 08. Kiama also became the first LGA in NSW to become **a full member of the WHO International Healthy Cities Alliance.**

**In implementing the Health Plan,** Council developed a number of 'lifestyle resources' to encourage residents to enjoy a socially and physically active lifestyle in beautiful Kiama. Like Council's integrated approach to public health planning, production of these resources was achieved through great cooperation across numerous departments including Corporate Services, Environment and Health, Parks and Reserves, Community Services with considerable community consultation.

**Walk-it Kiama** - a guide to "Great places to Walk" was developed to encourage the

use of the area's 50kms of cycleways and walkways located predominantly along the coastline. Produced as a pocket size concertina, the map includes information about points of interest, off-leash areas and recommended walks including time required and degree of difficulty. Since its launch in November 2007 it has been difficult to keep up supply.

**A Physical Activity Guide for the Over-55 Community** was produced to provide information about physical activity groups including Women With Weights Classes, Walking Groups and Tai Chi, which operate in the area.

Advice from Council's Access Committee played a significant roll in the development of a **Mobility Map**, which locates parking facilities, toilet facilities, bus stops and taxi stands, Council services and medical facilities as well as colour coded grading of footpaths to indicate slope levels and sections where wheelchairs may require assistance.

Following the success of the previous year's Smoke Free Sporting Grounds Council introduced a **Smoke Free Playground policy** and installed signage at playgrounds in the municipality.

Council piloted '**Know Your Council' bus tours** to celebrate Local Government Week 2007. Limited to 25 seats, the two tours were booked out. Generating lots of community interest and suggestions, the tours will become an annual event. Council continued to offer a significant program of **community support services** including: community respite, community transport, a busy library program for all ages and the Family History Centre. The FHC was the subject of a Fairfax digital Best Breaks online travel program – visit [www.smh.com.au](http://www.smh.com.au) click on 'video' on the right of the screen then Best Breaks.

Council actively engages integrated Road Safety strategies across all areas of council and promotes partnerships with the community and agencies including Police, Health, Department of Education & Training and the RTA. In accordance with the 2005-2010 Road Safety Strategic Plan, the busy 07/08 **Road Safety Program** delivered an improved quality of life for many. It included:

YOUNG DRIVERS - workshops for supervisors of learner drivers; Log book run for learner drivers; Rotary Youth Driver Awareness program

DRINK DRIVE/WALK PREVENTION -Kiama Liquor Accord; The Summer Bus - alternative affordable transport for late night (in its 4thyr); Rock throwing awareness artwork campaign

SAFETY AROUND SCHOOLS -Schools and engineering partnership; School liaison and support

Back to school road safety challenge

FATIGUE -Support for Lions Club driver reviver sites; Stay fresh on the Princes

Highway; PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT - Road Safety Strategic Plan

VULNERABLE ROAD USERS -Cycle facilities; Pedestrian access and facilities;  
Motorcycle safety; Disabled access

MOBILITY ACCESS -Kiama provides mobility access that is well ahead of the Disability and Discrimination Act, which requires 55 per cent compliance by 2012. Kiama is 75 per cent compliant for taxi ranks and 60 per cent compliant in regard to bus routes. In May, Coordinated by Council's Road Safety Officer, representatives from local transport providers, the Ministry for Transport and Spinal-Cord Injuries Australia (in wheelchair) and Council engineers attended a half day survey tour of public transport infrastructure to outline a plan to improve mobility access. The plan will be used to seek assistance to upgrade taxi ranks and bus stops to 100% and 80% compliance respectively by 2010.

### **Corporate & Strategic Planning**

Council implemented a major upgrade of telecommunications technology and network infrastructure with a view to improve customer service and in particular to encourage customers to use Council's website more effectively.

Council saw the need to replace the dated PABX system and the need to improve network cabling and servers as an opportunity to introduce state of the art technology that would enable a more interactive communications strategy.

Replacing the dated PABX system with the new VIOP interaction communication system enabled the expansion of the Customer Service Unit to incorporate a Call Centre.

The VOIP system is interactive with the computer enabling staff members to see, and incoming callers to hear, the availability of staff who are in meetings, at lunch etc. Calls can "follow me" to another phone in the building or divert to other numbers.

Simultaneously, Council revised its website as a resource that would enable Customer Service to provide more information and convenience by directing enquiries to Council's site. Council is pleased to report that the website currently has around 2,000 hits per day.

In line with good governance and the aim of financial sustainability during the past year Council has completed a Business Continuity Plan, an Internal Audit Plan and a Draft Long Term Financial Plan.

## List of Projects completed by 30 June 2008

Nature of Project	Date Completed	Total Cost \$000	% Council Funds (incl S94)
<b><u>Capital Works &amp; Infrastructure</u></b>			
Jamberoo School of Arts - Preschool Redevelopment	June 08	800,000	55 %
Preliminary works – Community consultation process and design of Kiama Showground Pavilion multi-function community. Inc successful application for \$1million (fed). Commenced Feb 08.	February 08	180,000 (consult and plans)	100
Construction of Stage 5 of Blue Haven (88 self care units) in 3-tier age care facility.	July 07	36.5 mil	
Manning Street CBD Upgrade	December 07	1.5mil	100
Construction of Kiama Harbour Jetty	June 08	290,000	50
Werri Beach Cycle/walkway Stage 2	June 08	145,000	60
Construction of Spring Creek Bridge pedestrian underpass	August 07	80,000	RTA
Construction of Jamberoo Skate Park	June 08	10,000	25
Urban Water Quality Project Surf Beach	June 08	69,000	50
Black Beach Stormwater Harvest scheme	June 08	220,000	Grant
Roundabout and Pedestrian Crossing, Terralong Street	September 07	80,000	100
Rebuild Rose Valley Road Bridge	September 07	15,000	100
New asphalt Belinda St and Fern Sts Gerringong	October 07	51,000	100
New asphalt Meehan Drive, Kiama Downs	December 07	40,000	100
New asphalt MR 264 Kiama to Jamberoo	December 07	220,000	75
New asphalt Cnr Jamberoo-Albion Pk	December 07	40,000	100
New footpath – Barney Street & Moona Avenue	November 07	51,000	100
Kerb & gutter Stafford St	April 08	33,000	100
Reconstruction of section of Toolijooa Rd/Federal St/Fountaindale Rd/Mr Brandon Rd	December 07	220,000	20
Coastal Walking Track- Restoration of Heritage BushBank Mill	June 08	14,000	100
<b><u>Cultural &amp; Heritage</u></b>			
Launch of Kiama Cultural Plan 2007-2012	Adopted June 07/ Launched December 08	30,000	100
Manning St Heritage plaques and Interpretive Signage - Manning St to Blowhole Point	June 08	18,000	100
Cultural Grant Program funded 8 community projects including: Kiama Busker's Song Writing Competition Re-enactment of Henry Parkes 1868 Speech.	August 07	15,000	100
Sponsored FarmAid Concert	December 07	2000	100
<b><u>Built and Natural Environment</u></b>			
Draft LEP Review submitted for Section 62 Certificate.	October 07	65,000	100
Introduced Staff Incentive Scheme for use of 4 cylinder diesel cars		N/A	

Council depot changed to refined recycled oil products	October 07	N/A	
Water Savings Actions Plan	August 07	8,000	100
Minnamurra Estuary Stabilisation Project	August 07	32,000	100
Commenced Implementation of Sustainable Kiama Program	ongoing	250,000	nil
Continued extension of Cycleways Plan	June 08	212,000	100
Clean Up Australia Day	March 08	N/A	
World Environment Day	June 08	2,000	100
Sustainability Roadmap (combined Shellharbour and Wollongong)	June 08	70,000	nil
Cities for Climate Protection Milestone 4	June 08	2,000	100
<b><u>Recreation, Health and Community Services</u></b>			
Hosted National Healthy Cities Forum	May 07	3,000	
Production of Walk-it Kiama - self guided walking map	December 07	14000	100
Produced booklet – Physical Activity Guide for the over-55 community	November 07	1000	100
Mobility Map – guide to Kiama township for wheelchair access and parking.	December 07	12000	10
Implemented Smoke Free Playgrounds	April 08	\$3,000	90
Planning and design to increase the aged care facility	August 07	10,000	100
Introduced Know Your Council Bus Tours to celebrate Local Gov Wk	August 07	\$650	100
Emergency Services Expo	November 07	3000	100
Electric Bike introduced for staff use	October 07	N/A	
<b><u>Economic and Social Development</u></b>			
Economic Gardening Program	May 08	10,000	10,000
Business Information Workshop series	March 08	15,000	1000
Secured 2009 Local Government Tourism Conference (against 10 applicants)	June 08	N/A	
Launched inaugural South Coast Sport, Health and Leisure Expo		N/A	
Drafted provisions for Short Term Holiday Rentals as part of LEP	October	N/A	
Development and production of Promote Kiama Business Information Kit	MH		
Community Profile package and promotion	October 07	30,000	100
Kiama/Zumalai Friendship funded 6 Scholarships and solar power for Zumalai clinic	October 07	7,000	50
Established formal Cancer Council Community Partnership		N/A	
Became a Local Government Friend of Red Cross		N/A	
Established friendship relationship with Hoi An City, Vietnam hosted two visits from delegates		N/A	
Conducted Youth Week events	April 08	2,000	100
Conducted Seniors Week events	April 08	2,000	100
Development of Quens-a-conces Interactive Computer Game	Ongoing	N/A	
<b><u>Corporate and Strategic Plan</u></b>			

Implemented a new Telecommunication system including establishment of Call Centre	October 07	150,000	100
Redesigned Council website	July 07	N/A	100
Introduced newsletter to rate notice distribution	June 08	2,500	100
Commenced investigation of Integrated Local Government Reporting Format	April 08	N/A	
Network infrastructure and cabling upgrade at Admin and Community Ctrs	March 08	15,000	100
Business Continuity Plan	April 08	N/A	
Internal Audit Plan	March 08	14,200	100

### **5. List of Projects in progress at 30 June 2008:**

Nature of Project	% Completed 30/6/08	Total Cost \$000	% Council Funds (incl S94)
Kiama Showground Pavilion Extension and Upgrade	20	5.4 million	80
Construction of Kiama Downs Skate Park	25	100,000	100
Installation of a new kitchen at Gerringong Town hall	10	50,000	100
Sustainable Kiama	10	250,000	grant
Business Treading Lightly Program			
Food and Biodiversity	5	1.5mil (3 councils 3 years)	Grant
Kiama Leisure Ctr upgrade			
Footpath construction program	5	5,000	100
Traffic Calming works Bland and Shoalhaven Sts			100
Replacement of light towers at sports complex	30	40,000	100
Werri Beach shared cycle/walkway	50	10,000	100
Road sealing program	10	750,000	60
Health Expo	10	N/A	
Tourism Conference	10	N/A	
Emergency Services Expo	5	TBC	
Draft Long Term business plan	95	16,770	100

## **6. Awards & Citations**

**1...** Rotary Pride of Workmanship Award – went to two staff members for ‘exceptional work standards’ in assisting with Emergency Services Expo.

**2...** Announcement by the Minister for Water Utilities with the release of the annual report card on local government water savings results recognised Kiama households for using the least water in the greater Sydney metropolitan area – for the 5 consecutive year.

**3...** International Alliance For Healthy Cities – full member

**4...** 2007/2008 Illawarra Business and Tourism Awards – Best Tourist and Caravan Park – Kiama Harbour Cabins

## **7. SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**

**Please supply a copy of each of the following extracts from Council's General Purpose Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2007:**

- 1. Statement of Financial Performance**
- 2. Statement of Financial Position**
- 3. Statement of Changes in Equity**
- 4. Statement of Cash Flows**
- 5. Note 6(a) – Cash Assets and Investment Securities**
- 6. Note 6(b) - Details of Movements and Utilisation of Restricted Cash Assets and Investments**
- 7. Note 13 - Statement of Performance Measurement**
- 8. Special Purpose Financial Statement – Statement of Financial Performance by Business Activities**

**In addition, please provide website link details to the report to Council on the Quarterly Review of its Management Plan and Budget (preferably 31 March 2008).**

**Webpage Link to Latest Quarterly Review: [www.kiama.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kiama.nsw.gov.au) see bottom right of home page under Public Documents drop down menu**

## **8. Executive Summary**

**Please provide a 500-word summary of the 2007/2008 reporting period, highlighting the achievements and progress made by the Council.**

**There is no need to provide photographs or profiles of the Council achievements, corporate structure, corporate goals or personnel to accompany the submission. The Trustees will access further information from the Council's website or by direct enquiry, if required.**

**Please note that the Trustees will be selecting a short list of finalists from which the Awards will be made. The Trustees intend carrying out some site inspections of short listed Council areas to assist them in their deliberations.**

## 9. Checklist

- ✓ 1. Council details and brief statistics
- ✓ 2. Brief summary of Principal Activities & Initiatives attached
- ✓ 3. Lists of Projects completed and in progress as at 30 June 2008
- ✓ 4. Awards & Citations Summary
- ✓ 5. Supplementary Financial Information
- ✓ 6. Web Link to Quarterly Management Plan & Budget Review
- ✓ 7. Executive Summary attached (500 words)

## 10. Closing Date & Enquiries

**Entries, accompanied by the entry fee of \$250.00, will close on 31 July 2008 and are to be forwarded to:**

**A.R. Bluett Memorial Trust**

**c/- Local Government & Shires Associations**

**email: [bluett@lgsa.org.au](mailto:bluett@lgsa.org.au)**

**Enquiries to: Trust Chairman, John Flannery, 02 6573 1252 or 0419 422 011**