

North Byron Parklands Cultural Events Site

Social Impact Assessment Addendum

July 2018

Prepared for:



North Byron Parklands
126 Tweed Valley Way
Yelgun NSW 2483

Prepared by:

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The twelve years of continuous consultation has provided North Byron Parklands with a robust understanding of the tangible and intangible concerns and aspirations of its immediate neighbours, local communities proximate to the site and the broader community. Based on this body of social impact knowledge, North Byron Parklands' proposal has been carefully refined to strike a balance between the impacts and the benefits that the proposed cultural event site brings to Byron Shire and the Northern Rivers Region.

Parklands seeks consent to permanently undertake outdoor events for up to 20 event days per year, comprising:

- 2 large events per year (i.e. Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival) over a maximum of 5 event days each, catering for up to 35,000 patrons per event day;
- 3 medium event days per year (for other music concerts or cultural events), catering for up to 25,000 patrons per event day;
- 5 small community event days, catering for up to 5,000 patrons per event day; and
- 2 minor community event days, catering for up to 1,500 patrons per event day.

Further, approval is sought, subject to meeting key performance indicators, for the progressive growth of one event - Splendour in the Grass to 42,500 patrons and then 50,000 patrons.

Sarah George Social Impact Consulting prepared the Social Impact Assessment for the North Byron Parklands cultural events site. That assessment was published in December 2017. The SIA was based on detailed community and stakeholder consultation.

The Environmental Impact Statement and its associated Social Impact Assessment for the North Byron Parklands proposal was placed on exhibition from December 2017 to February 2018. Submissions made to the Department of Planning and Environment totalled 7,198. Of the 7,130 general public submissions 98% were in support. The general public of Byron Shire made 603 submissions with 81% in support, 347 submissions were made from the Tweed LGA with 95% in support.

After exhibition, the Department of Planning and Environment recommended that further social research be carried out. North Byron Parklands commissioned additional Social Impact Assessment work entailing:

- Gathering more information about predicted impacts that might be experienced by neighbouring residents and local communities;
- Work to better examine intangible social impacts such as, wellbeing, cultural values, community identity/character and way of life considerations; and
- Looking at accommodation in the region.

The Department has published Social Impact Assessment Guidelines for State Significant Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industry Development. No guidelines have been produced by the Department in relation to cultural events type

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activities. Nevertheless, the mining Departmental Guidelines have been used to guide the preparation of this Social Impact Assessment Addendum.

The further Social Impact Assessment research completed was undertaken at the neighbouring and local community scale involving five workshops held on 21 and 22 April with local residents in their respective community halls. The meetings took place at Ocean Shores, South Golden Beach, Brunswick Heads, and Crabbes Creek, with Parklands' closest neighbours attending a workshop in Yelgun at its Jones Road office.

The workshops were practical sessions where participants were invited to articulate their community's unique values and characteristics and discuss the positive and negative social impacts they have experienced, or expect to experience with the continued operation of events at North Byron Parklands.

The outcome of the additional community consultation identified a similar mix of feedback both in support of, and in opposition to the project. No new or additional social impacts, over and above those identified and addressed in the SIA were identified.

North Byron Parklands' promoters- Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival Byron, have considerable experience in event management and have amassed a robust understanding of the concerns and aspirations of the local community. In addition, the process of continuous community consultation since 2006 has led to the development of a comprehensive range of best practice impact mitigation and management measures. Those measures are implemented via a sophisticated management system which is reactive to change, provides for corrective action and continuously monitors social impact indices. Further, new mitigation measures have been identified by the Social Impact Assessment conducted for the purposes of Development Application SSD 8169. These new mitigation measures proposed enhancements, provide for both "fine scale" and broad management proposals.

The fine scale proposals involve improving arrangements for school buses and spreading patron visitation across a wider catchment of local communities. The broader management proposals promote comprehensive fiscal proposals, including some \$420,000 in Section 94A contributions and annual contributions under a VPA in the order of \$120,000 per annum. North Byron Parklands will press for these contributions to be expended wholly within the local community.

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1. INTRODUCTION

This section briefly describes the development proposal and places the Social Impact Assessment Addendum into the context of the project generally and the comprehensive Social Impact Assessment completed by Sarah George. Further, this section looks at the feedback provided by the Department of Planning & Environment and lists the team responsible for the preparation of the SIA Addendum.

1.1 NORTH BYRON PARKLANDS PROPOSAL

The North Byron Parklands (Parklands) proposal seeks consent to permanently undertake outdoor events for up to 20 event days per year, comprising:

- 2 large events per year (ie. Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival) over a maximum of 5 event days each, catering for up to 35,000 patrons per event day;
- 3 medium event days per year (for other music concerts or cultural events), catering for up to 25,000 patrons per event day;
- 5 small community event days, catering for up to 5,000 patrons per event day; and
- 2 minor community event days, catering for up to 1,500 patrons per event day.

Further, approval is sought for the progressive growth of one of the large events - Splendour in the Grass to 42,500 patrons and then 50,000 patrons a day, subject to meeting key performance indicators (KPIs).

The proposal also involves:

- temporary camping associated with outdoor events, with capacity for up to 30,000 campers a day (for certain events);
- development of a conference centre and associated accommodation (as per the approved concept plan), with capacity for up to 180 attendees and accommodation for up to 120 guests a day;
- continued use of existing site infrastructure and facilities;
- development of additional site infrastructure and facilities, including:
 - an administration building and golden view bar;
 - event area facilities and works, including:
 - o amphitheatre regrading works;
 - o drainage improvements;
 - o potable water infrastructure;
 - o sewerage infrastructure and amenities;
 - o security fencing;
 - on-site and off-site road and transport facilities and works; and
- continued habitat restoration and vegetation management works.

The proposal has a capital investment value of \$42 million and is estimated to generate up to approximately 561 full-time equivalent jobs in the Byron Shire.

1.2 THE SIA

Sarah George Social Impact Consulting prepared the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) for the North Byron Parklands cultural events site. That assessment was published in December 2017. The SIA was based on detailed community and stakeholder consultation, and included:

- review of the site and the history of Parklands;

- review of the trial events and the current Parklands environmental and social management systems and strategies;
- analysis of the demographic, social, tourism and political profile of the area;
- review of the proposal and the locations likely to be affected;
- review of the community and stakeholder consultation undertaken for the SIA and EIS;
- detailed social impact assessment, including consideration of social impacts, community and amenity issues, traffic and transport, site and other issues, and public interest benefits; and
- impact mitigation planning, including mitigation measures, contingency plans, monitoring and response, ongoing consultation, and review.

The major outcome of the SIA consultation and analysis process was a significant “dialling back” of the development proposal from that envisaged with the request for SEARs.

1.3 EIS EXHIBITION

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the North Byron Parklands proposal was placed on exhibition from December 2017 – 16 February 2018. A tabulation of “local submissions” made to the exhibition is set out in **Table 1.1** below. The table lists the submission’s “locality” and the nature of the submission (i.e supporting, against or comment).

TABLE 1.1 EIS SUBMISSIONS FROM NEARBY AREAS

Area	Support for application	Opposition	TOTAL
Direct neighbours	13	9	22
Within 3km of site	65	31	99 (including three that commented)
Within 5km of site	155	73	235 (including 7 submissions with comments)
Within 10km of site	281	97	389 (including 11 submissions with comment)

Submissions made to the Department of Planning and Environment (DPE) totalled 7,198, with 7,130 general public submissions (98% in support), of which 603 submissions came from the Byron LGA (81% in support); and 347 were from persons in the Tweed LGA (95% in support).

1.4 DEPARTMENTAL FEEDBACK

On the 28 February 2018, the Department of Planning & Environment wrote to North Byron Parklands, providing comment in relation to various aspects. One of those aspects was associated with Social Impact Assessment. Prior to the preparation of this Addendum, representatives of Parklands’ Planning team had the benefit of meeting with Mr. Richard Parsons of the Department to obtain first-hand commentary in relation to the departmental observations. Based on this feedback, Parklands commissioned further SIA work entailing:

- Gathering more information about the impacts that would be experienced by the neighbouring residents and the local communities;
- Work to better examine intangible social impacts looking at wellbeing, cultural values, community identity/character and way of life considerations; and
- Looking at accommodation in the region.

1.5 SOCIAL ASSESSMENT TEAM

This report has been prepared by Ms Sarah George together with Ms Claire Atkins, the Community Advocate for North Byron Parklands, Mr Neil Johnson, the Community Manager for North Byron Parklands and Mr Stephen Connelly town planner. Brief details in relation to the experience of each of the team is as follows.

Ms. Sarah George

Sarah George is a Social Planning Consultant with more than 12 years' experience in the preparation of Social Impact Assessments for Development Applications in the private, public and government sectors. Prior to this she also worked as a teacher and counsellor in Mental Health, Alcohol and Drugs, Youth Work and Community Services. She also has considerable experience in Town Planning and holds a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology/Sociology).

Ms. Claire Atkins

Claire Atkins has more than 20 years' experience working on community arts projects and international cultural events. She has seen first-hand how the arts enliven communities and give powerful expression to their celebrations of place. She holds a Bachelor of Art Education from the UNSW College of Fine Arts.

Claire's family has lived and farmed the valley surrounding North Byron Parklands since the mid 1800s. She has worked with Parklands as its Community Advocate since 2014. In this capacity, Claire meets with local residents, community groups and business owners to listen to their concerns and aspirations, and to discuss the benefits and negative impacts the development has on the local community.

She works together with Parklands' General Manager and Community Manager, Planners, Stakeholders and the Events in developing strategies to maximise the benefits of the development for the region, and mitigate potential and actual negative impacts on the local community.

Mr. Neil Johnson

Neil Johnson has worked in the Australian music industry for more than 30 years, and played a formative role in Sydney's independent music scene throughout the 1980's and 1990's.

He moved to the Northern Rivers with his young family in 2000. Since 2013, Neil has worked with Parklands as its Community Manager, and has worked in this capacity for Splendour in the Grass for more than a decade.

As Community Manager, Neil works closely with Parklands' immediate residents and business owners listening and responding to concerns in the lead up to events, during events and at bump-out. He also oversees the distribution of community letters and flyers before any event and distributes resident only vehicle passes to immediate neighbours. Neil also works closely with Parklands' Community Advocate and Community Hotline Operators and responds to community matters received through the community hotline.

Mr. Stephen Connelly

Steve Connelly is a practicing town planner with 40 years' experience. He has lived and worked in the Northern Rivers region since 1980. In addition to his planning qualifications, Steve has a Master's Degree in Environmental and Business Management. He has also completed specialist training in Social Impact Assessment and completed over 20 SIA assessments for a range of projects, including the first SIA report for the North Byron Parklands Site in July 2010.

1.6 SIA IS PART OF AN INTEGRATED APPROACH

With respect to North Byron Parklands the principles of the Social Impact Assessment have not been "an addition" at the end of the project research but rather, they have been a key element which has been integrated into all facets of the development and use of North Byron Parklands. Accordingly, this Social

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Impact Assessment Addendum and the earlier Social Impact Assessment (Sarah George Consulting, December 2017) must be read in conjunction with the overall application material including:

- The Environmental Impact Statement; and
- The North Byron Parklands Environmental Health and Safety Manual.

2. THE APPROACH TO FURTHER SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This section of the SIA addendum outlines the small area assessments completed for the purposes of this SIA Addendum and the guidelines followed to form that assessment. This section also reviews the continuous community consultation that has occurred in relation to the Parklands project.

2.1 SMALL AREA ASSESSMENTS

To comprehensively address the matters raised in the Department's request for further information, the locality in which Parklands is situated has been broken into discreet localities. Those localities are illustrated in **Plan 2.1**. Social impacts have been considered in each locality in terms of how events detract from or enhance a residents:

- way of life;
- sense of community;
- access to and use of infrastructure and services;
- culture;
- health and wellbeing;
- surroundings;
- personal and property rights;
- decision making systems; and
- fears and aspirations.

Residents were asked to identify the range of negative and positive impacts the events at Parklands have had on the unique assets and values of their separate locality, and to predict negative and positive impacts of the events on those unique values and assets if events were to continue at Parklands. The testimony of affected stakeholders has been drawn together from:

- the most recent community workshop sessions;
- public submissions; and
- private interviews / emails the Community Manager and Community Advocate have received from affected residents.

For each area we have, using the framework in the Parklands EHSMM, carried out a Risk Assessment for each locality.

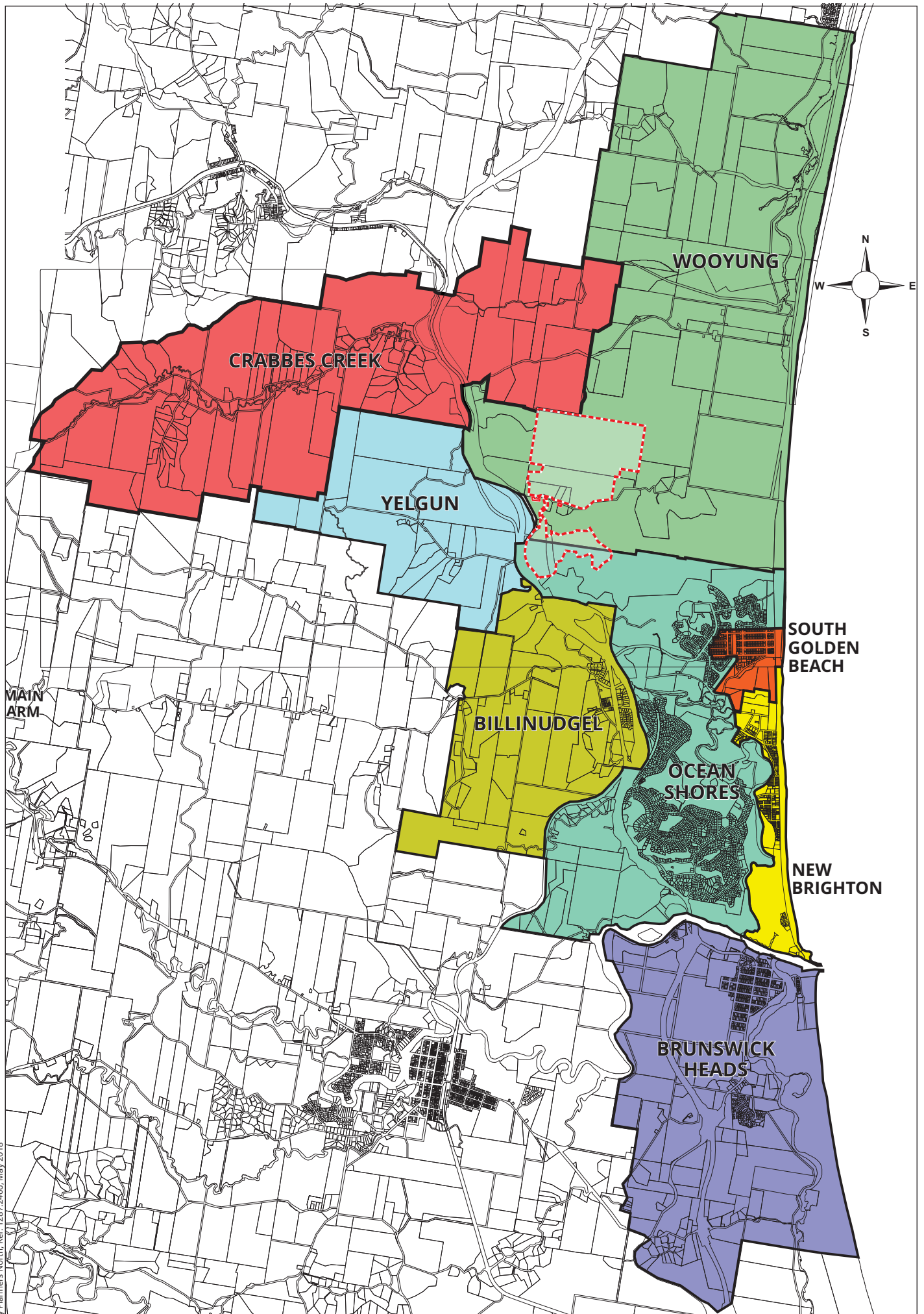
2.2 SOCIAL IMPACT GUIDELINES

The Department has published SIA Guidelines for State Significant Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industry Development. No guidelines have been produced by the Department in relation to cultural events type activities. Nevertheless, the mining Departmental Guidelines have been used to guide the preparation of this SIA Addendum.

2.3 CONSULTATION

2.3.1 PRE-PART 3A APPLICATION

The Parklands site was purchased in 2006. Prior to purchase, consultation occurred with some immediate neighbours, the local environmental groups, Byron Shire Council and key government agencies.



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After acquisition, intensive and continuous community consultation occurred between 2006 and 2009, including:

- Liaison with Byron Shire Council senior staff and Councillors prior to purchase of the site as an events site;
- Meetings with adjoining and nearby neighbours (including meetings prior to the purchase of the site);
- Meetings with relevant government agencies such as National Parks and Wildlife Service;
- Discussions with the National Parks and Wildlife Advisory Committee including attendance at their meeting in August 2007;
- Contacting over twenty-five regional environmental and community groups to discuss the proposed plans including inviting members to attend a guided site tour;
- Attending the meetings of local community groups including Ocean Shores Community Association, Conservation of North Ocean Shores (CONOS), Brunswick Valley Sports Association, Brunswick Heads Chamber of Commerce, Brunswick Heads Chamber Executive & Business Tourism Group and Brunswick Heads Progress Association to discuss specific questions, concerns and opportunities;
- Attending a meeting of 25 local residents at the Ocean Shores Country Club (26 September 2007);
- The provision of site tours (over 350 stakeholders including interested residents, environment and community group representatives have toured the site prior to 2010, hundreds more were invited);
- Facilitating an onsite Environmental Forum on 22 September 2007. Over 20 local and regional environmental groups and relevant government agencies were invited;
- Attending a public meeting hosted at Byron Council Chambers as an information exchange forum. North Byron Parklands outlined its proposal to develop a cultural arts and music events site. Over 120 community members attended this forum;
- Provision of a North Byron Parklands website to provide information to the community including an email enquiries link to allow the community to contact directly with their queries and concerns. Over the period April 2007 to April 2010 the website has received over 15,896 unique "hits";
- Providing advertisements and notices in the local newspapers inviting interested parties to various information sessions and workshops;
- Undertaking on site Community Open Days and tree planting days, including those in June and November 2007. The June 2007 event included site tours, a barbecue, face painting, kids performances and live local music;
- Providing information for print, TV and radio media. Responding to interview requests from: NBN News, ABC North Coast, Bay FM, The Byron Shire Echo, The Gold Coast Bulletin, The Byron Shire News, The Tweed Sun, The Tweed Daily News and The Northern Star;
- Researching the indigenous significance of the property and engaging in discussions with local aboriginal people with regards to the ongoing protection of important sites;
- Commissioning of a telephone survey of residents to gauge community attitudes to cultural and arts events in Byron Shire; and
- Liaison on numerous occasions with various councillors, Council staff such as planners, ecologists, engineers and environmental health officers. In addition, a number of site visits have been attended by councillors and Council officers.

2.3.2 PART 3A ASSESSMENT, EXHIBITION AND ENGAGEMENT

The Part 3A application was advertised from 7 October 2010 until 19 November 2010. The exhibition occurred at the Sydney office of the Department, Byron Shire Council, Byron Bay Library and Ocean

Shores shopping centre. In relation to that exhibition a total of 5,540 submissions from the public were received. Of these, 87% of submissions were in support.

Exhibition and consultation including submissions from Byron Shire, OEH, Office of Water, RTA, Trade Investment and Regional Infrastructure, RFS, Primary Industries, Northern Rivers Catchment Management Authority and NSW police force. The Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) held public meetings in Byron Bay and at Ocean Shores. On its assessment of the expert reports, its site inspection and the testimony of over 100 people who spoke at the public meetings, the PAC concluded that the site was suitable for outdoor events and that large outdoor events should be able to be carried out without significant impacts on the community if effective environmental management plans were implemented. The PAC adopted a precautionary approach approving a trial rather than a permanent facility.

2.3.3 CONSULTATION POST TRIAL APPROVAL

After the trial approval was granted, Parklands established a website to facilitate ongoing community dialogue and to publish key documentation in relation to monitoring reports and the like.

To date, ten events have been conducted at the Parklands site. In relation to each event, Parklands' Community Manager begins a consultation process four week before the event, for the entire event duration and for two weeks after the event. This involves intimate dealings with persons not simply residing in nearby properties but also with persons who live or work in the locality. This contact has been extremely valuable in being able to provide testimony in relation to the different characteristics affecting different parts of the community and localities.

In addition to the consultation associated with the completion of events, four Modification applications have been processed in relation to Parklands.

Modification Application No. 3 sought to amend noise limits, provide for small community events and adjust certain administrative conditions. Modification No. 3 was publicly exhibited in June 2015 and the Department received a total of 1473 submissions including: seven submissions from government agencies, eight from community groups and 1,458 individual submissions. Of the individual submissions, 96% were in support. The PAC consulted with Tweed and Byron Shire Councils and conducted a public meeting on 23 and 24 February 2016. Based on its assessment of the expert reports, its inspection of the site and locality, and the testimony of 51 speakers who presented at the public meetings, the PAC members unanimously approved Mod No. 3.

Mod No. 4 sought to extend the term of the trial. That modification was exhibited during March and April 2017. A total of 634 submissions were received, of which 80% were in support. The PAC met with Byron Shire Council and Tweed Shire Council and conducted a public meeting on 29 August 2017. Based on its assessment of the expert reports, inspection of the subject site and locality and consideration of the testimony of 34 persons, the PAC members unanimously approved the extension to the term of the trial.

2.3.4 EIS/SIA CONSULTATION

A range of consultation mechanisms were used to inform the Social Impact Assessment, including:

- three community meetings at Parklands on 12 and 16 February and 19 August, 2017
- notices in local newspapers requesting input/feedback;
- letterbox drop to 3,500 residents and businesses in the surrounding area;
- letters to identified special interest groups, and direct consultation with some groups;
- calls to the Community Hotline; and
- the SEARs application, including agency input.

2.3.5 ADDITIONAL CONSULTATION

In response to the Department's request for better Social Impact Assessment information at the neighbouring and local community scale, five workshops were held on 21 and 22 April with local

residents in their respective community halls. The meetings took place at Ocean Shores, South Golden Beach, Brunswick Heads, and Crabbes Creek, with Parklands' closest neighbours attending a workshop in Yelgun at its Jones Road office.

The workshops were practical sessions where participants were invited to articulate their community's unique values and characteristics and discuss the positive and negative social impacts they have experienced, or expect to experience with the continued operation of events at North Byron Parklands.

The workshops were advertised over two weeks using a range of promotional methods, including:

- Advertisements and editorial in two local papers over two weeks;
- Local radio and social media announcements;
- 400 x posters and flyers distributed on community notice boards, in local cafes and public spaces;
- Emails to a mailing list of 80 residents who attended previous community meetings;
- Emails to Parklands' nearest neighbours on Jones Rd, Hulls Rd, Wooyung Rd, Tweed Valley Way and Yelgun Rd; and
- Emails and public and private social media invitations to members of the North Byron Business Chamber, South Golden Beach Community Association, Ocean Shores Community Association, Brunswick Heads Community Association, Crabbes Creek Community Hall, and the Regulatory Working Group's three Community Representatives.

Overall, the attendance at the five sessions was 55 people (including attendance of three residents who attended two sessions over the weekend.)

Two residents from Ocean Shores requested to film the session at Ocean Shores. However, the residents present did not give their permission to be filmed. The residents who requested to film the workshop did not take part in the meeting.

Before the commencement of the workshop for Parklands' closest neighbours, a resident from Wooyung Rd notified the Community Advocate and Manager that a household on Jones Rd had not received an invitation to the workshop. The Community Manager phoned the resident immediately and apologised if they did not receive an email invitation. He assured them that it was a public workshop. The residents declined the invitation. The General Manager invited the residents to take part in a private interview with the Community Manager and Community Advocate at a mutually convenient time however they declined the offer.

In each two-hour workshop, residents were guided through practical group activities and were asked to identify the positive assets and values of their unique town/community. Residents in all sessions strongly identified with the quiet and relaxed lifestyle of their village, and valued the strongly shared sense of community and belonging in each village.

Appendix A contains questionnaire material utilised for consultation workshoping purposes. Copies of "butcher's paper" notations made at each meeting are contained at **Appendix B**.

2.4 RISK ASSESSMENT

Parklands has created a sustainable world-class cultural events venue within an ecologically enhanced site. To manage the site and land use, Parklands has developed its Environmental, Health and Safety Management Manual (EHSMM) for the assessment of all risks, (environmental, social and economic), as well as planning and implementation, so as to continuously improve performance across a range of important measures.

Parklands' EHSMM is based on the following international and national systems:

- AS/NZS ISO 14001 - Environmental Management Systems;
- AS 4804 - Occupational, Health and Safety Management Systems;
- AS/NZS ISO 31000:2009 - Risk Management Principles and Guidelines;

- AS 3745:2010 – Planning for Emergencies in Facilities; and
- AS/NZS ISO 20121 - Sustainable Event Management System.

The EHSMM is the primary mechanism for monitoring and measuring the environmental, health and safety performance of specific capacity events held at Parklands.

EH&S Management Manual Structure

Parklands' EHSMM sets out the organisation's guiding policies, objectives and targets for the management of identified significant environmental, social, health and safety risks across events conducted at the site. The EHSMM is a living document that is constantly revised and updated based on a range of inputs including audits, assessments, monitoring and stakeholder feedback.

The EHSMM provides the overarching framework for operating events in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. It sets Standards across a range of important environmental and safety aspects which document an in-depth range of event management requirements and controls to mitigate potential impacts.

The system also incorporates an auditing and monitoring function, which is designed to measure the suitability of the system and standards to manage environmental and safety aspects. Findings from the auditing and monitoring mechanisms provide the basis for periodic management review of the entire EHSMM.

Parklands' EH&S Policy has a high level organisational commitment to “protect and conserve environmental values across the site while providing a safe and health work environment for its employees, contractors, licensees and audience members”. To compliment the above organisational commitment specific EH&S audit objectives have been developed based on:

- Identified significant EH&S risks;
- Event based risk assessments;
- Past EH&S incidents and near-misses;
- Previous EH&S audit findings;
- Feedback from interested stakeholders (internal and external); and
- Ongoing environmental studies.

The EH&S Audit Program objectives are to:

1. Develop and implement a systematic EH&S audit process that identifies potential or actual non-compliance;
2. Identify areas for improvement in EH&S policies, procedures, work practices and technologies;
3. Report Parklands' EH&S compliance status to the management team as required;
4. Adequately communicate potential or actual EH&S non-conformances to relevant staff and contractors for action and close out; and
5. Provide assurance to senior management of Parklands' ongoing ability to comply with all relevant EH&S requirements.

EH&S Audit Overview

To achieve the EH&S Audit Program objectives, compliance audits are undertaken. Each of these audits has a specific function to play in determining EH&S compliance levels across the organisation and a description for each is given below, in addition to the proposed audit outcomes. Audits are carried out by suitably qualified Parklands staff. External contractors may be used from time to time to provide an additional level of rigour to the audit process.

Indication of Risks

The EHSMM document NBP EHS 003 provides for the identification of significant EH&S risks.

The purpose of this procedure is to identify and assess the environmental, health and safety risks of Parklands activities, products and services over which the organisation exerts some control or influence.

A risk assessment model is used to determine the significance of identified potential impacts. This risk assessment allows Parklands to determine the probability and relative scale of the potential EH&S impact associated with event activities, products and services so that these can be appropriately managed through Parkland's EH&S Management Manual.

References

NBP EHS 001	EH&S Management Manual
NBP EHS 004	Register of Significant EH&S Risks
AS/NZS 4360:2004	Risk Management
AS/NZS 4804	Occupational, Health and Safety Management Systems
AS/NZS ISO 20121	Sustainable Event Management System
AS/NZS ISO 14001:2004	Environmental Management Systems
HB 203:2004	Environmental Risk Management – Principles and Processes

Risk Evaluation Criteria

Activity	Consequence				
	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
Safety	Near miss reported	First aid treatment	Medical treatment required	Extensive injuries	Death
Traffic	Queuing within NBP car park	Extensive Queuing within NBSP car park	Minimal queuing on Tweed Valley Way	Major Queuing on Tweed Valley Way	Queuing on Pacific highway
Pedestrians	Pedestrians using walkway to festival and camp site	Moderate pedestrian traffic	- Extensive pedestrian traffic interacting with internal roads - Some pedestrians on Tweed Valley Way	- Extensive pedestrian traffic affecting most internal roads - Extensive pedestrians on Tweed Valley Way	- Extensive pedestrian traffic affecting all service vehicle movements - Pedestrians on pacific highway
Fauna	Near miss reported	Fauna requiring relocation	Fauna requiring veterinarian attention	Endangered fauna requiring veterinarian attention	Death of endangered species
Fire	False alarm report of fire	Person disposing of	Small localised fire controlled	Extensive camp fire or peat fire	Out of control bushfire or peat fire

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Activity	Consequence				
	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
		cigarette into bushland	and extinguished		
Regulatory – including consent conditions	Minor breaches by individual staff or contractors	No fine – warning issued to event operator	Fine but no disruption to event	Fine and disruption and/or closure of part of the event	Event closed
Sewerage & water	Temporary reduction in water storage capacities and/or sewerage storage	Temporarily water supply loss and/or delay in sewerage pump out (i.e. less than 15 minutes)	Water supply loss and/or delay in sewerage pump out (i.e. between 15 minutes and 2 hours)	Prolonged water supply loss and/or delay in sewerage pump out to large parts of the site	Complete water supply loss and/or permanent delay in sewerage pump across the site
Litter	Litter within the site	Litter on Tweed Valley Way	Litter at shire wide bus stops	Litter across commercial centres attributable to event patrons (i.e. Brunswick, etc.)	Significant amounts of litter across multiple residential areas attributable to event patrons
Noise	On-site noise complaint	Off-site noise complaints where monitoring determined emissions had exceeded approved noise criteria	An off-site noise complaint where monitoring deemed emissions to be unacceptable	Multiple off-site noise complaints where monitoring deemed emissions to be unacceptable	Multiple off-site noise complaints where monitoring deemed emissions to be unacceptable and parts or all of event closed down
Public Transport	Some shuttle buses running behind schedule	All shuttle buses running behind schedule	Some shuttle buses cancelled or limited use of shuttles resulting in more vehicle traffic	Reduced use of shuttles resulting in larger increases in vehicle traffic and parking	No shuttle bus services running resulting in traffic gridlock onsite & vehicles queuing onto Tweed Valley Way
Illegal camping	Unauthorised camper found on NBP land	Unauthorised campers	An illegal camper identified in	Multiple illegal campers identified at	Multiple illegal campers identified in

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Activity	Consequence				
	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
		found on NBP land	close proximity to the venue	close proximity to the venue	the Billinudgel Nature Reserve
Flooding	Light rainfall event resulting in no stormwater runoff	Moderate rainfall event resulting in some stormwater ponding	Heavy rainfall event resulting in a wet and muddy venue	Intense rainfall event resulting in shallow sheet water across parts of the venue	Intense rainfall event resulting in flooding of large areas of the venue

Risk Assessment Matrix

	Consequence				
Likelihood	Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Extreme
Almost certain	M	M	H	H	H
Likely	L	M	M	H	H
Possible	I	L	M	H	H
Unlikely	I	I	L	M	H
Rare	I	I	L	M	H

Insignificant	Low	Medium	High
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The purpose of the register is to list all significant environmental, health and safety risks arising from Parklands activities, products and services over which the organisation exerts some control or influence.

A risk assessment model is used to determine the significance of identified potential impacts. This risk assessment allows Parklands to determine the probability and relative scale of the potential EH&S impact associated with our activities, products and services so that these can be appropriately managed through EHSMM.

26 EH&S risks were reviewed. The risk assessment process was then applied to all EH&S risks to determine the level of risk that they pose. Significant risks were identified in relation to 14 activities. Below is a tabulation of those key activities, setting out potential impacts as well control strategies.

#	Activity:
1	Safely hosting an event
Incident/Event:	
Situation leading to the possible or actual serious harm of staff, contractors, patrons or volunteers	

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Potential Impact:		
Serious injury or death		
Current Control Strategies:		
• Safety management plan • Staff and contractor induction • Site rules • OH&S officers during bump-in, event and bump-out periods • Medical management plan • First Aid team • Event Emergency Evacuation Plan • Bushfire evacuation plan • Flood evacuation plan • Security officers • Emergency services • Emergency helicopter landing pad		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Possible	Major	HIGH

#	Activity:	
2	Transport and traffic management to and from an event	
Incident/Event:		
Excessive queuing of vehicles		
Potential Impact:		
Traffic spilling onto Pacific Highway		
Current Control Strategies:		
• Traffic management plan • Approved Traffic Control plan • Traffic controllers • Signage • Vehicle messaging signs (VMS) • Physical barriers • On-site queuing capabilities • Provision of public transport • Demand management strategies for parking and public transport services		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Possible	Major	HIGH

#	Activity:	
3	Terrorism incident during an event	
Incident/Event:		
Vehicle attack, improvised explosive device, etc		
Potential Impact:		
Serious injury and/or death		
Current Control Strategies:		
- Internal and external security services - Event communication centre - NSW Police presence - Counter-terrorism incident simulation exercises - Event emergency evacuation plans - Physical barrier placement program - Stop show procedures - Medical management plan - Communication systems with patrons (public address systems, mobile phone application, video screens, loud hailer, signage)		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Unlikely	Extreme	HIGH

#	Activity:
4	Fauna protection and management
Incident/Event:	
Event activities negatively impacting on particular fauna	
Potential Impact:	
Injury and/or death	
Current Control Strategies:	
- Fauna monitoring program - Human exclusion fencing	

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- Fauna response capability - NPWS support and involvement - Traffic control of site and surrounding roads to reduce speeds - Staff and contractor inductions		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Rare	Major	MEDIUM

#	Activity:	
5	Water supply systems	
Incident/Event:		
Interruption and/or loss of potable water to event		
Potential Impact:		
Hygiene and sanitation		
Current Control Strategies:		
- Water management plan - Water testing regime - Significant storage capabilities - Licensed and experienced contractors - Contractor inductions - Partial water reticulation system		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Unlikely	Major	MEDIUM

#	Activity:
6	Waste water management
Incident/Event:	
Loss of waste water to the environment	
Potential Impact:	
Human health and/or environmental impacts	

Current Control Strategies:		
- Approved Liquid Trade Waste Service Agreement with council - Onsite greywater treatment system - Significant storage capabilities - Licensed and experienced contractors - Extensive composting toilet systems greatly reducing need for transfer of wastewater offsite - Contractor inductions - Emergency spill kit located on site		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Unlikely	Major	MEDIUM

#	Activity:	
7	Activities involving potential ignition sources	
Incident/Event:		
Accidental or deliberate lighting of a fire		
Potential Impact:		
Significant bushfire with threat to personal safety		
Current Control Strategies:		
• Bushfire Management Plan • Bushfire Emergency Evacuation Plan • Asset protection zones • Rural Fire Brigade presence • Significant on-site emergency water supplies • Camp marshals equipped with fire extinguishers • Fire extinguishers located in all temporary structures • Periodic fire incident simulation with relevant stakeholders		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Rare	Extreme	HIGH

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#	Activity:	
8	Illegal camping, illegal parking and littering	
Incident/Event:		
Audience members camping, parking or littering in unauthorised areas outside of the event area		
Potential Impact:		
Community concerns and organisational reputation		
Current Control Strategies:		
• Offsite response strategy • Communication of camping requirements and accommodation options to audience members; • Reporting of unauthorised camping through hotline and dedicated offsite response team; • Dedicated litter response team • Parklands Community Manager patrols within a 3km radius of the venue during events • Security patrols immediately outside event area • NPWS ranger patrols in nature reserve • Council ranger patrols throughout various precincts		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Likely	Moderate	MEDIUM

#	Activity:
9	Generation of noise emissions
Incident/Event:	
Elevated sound levels at stage(s) resulting in excessive noise emissions	
Potential Impact:	
Sensitive receivers being negatively impacted by noise emissions that exceed the approved noise criteria	
Current Control Strategies:	
- Noise management plan - Acoustic monitoring program - Continuous noise monitoring of stages	

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- Noise attenuation measures for all main stages (audited by acoustic engineers) - Noise control Coordination centre co-located with the Community Hotline - Attended noise monitoring of external receptors by qualified acoustic engineers - Community Hotline - Clearly defined operating times for stages and music from bars, cafes and dance floors		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Possible	Major	HIGH

#	Activity:	
10	Emergency evacuation	
Incident/Event:		
Partial or complete evacuation of the venue		
Potential Impact:		
Loss of life and/or property		
Current Control Strategies:		
• Event emergency evacuation plan • Evacuation plans covering bushfire (Bushfire Emergency Evacuation Plan) • Evacuation plans covering flooding (Flood Evacuation Plan) • Event specific evacuation plans covering structural fires, structural collapse, bomb threat, outbreak of disease, etc. • Implementation of the Event Communication Centre (ECC) • Emergency services presence during events (E.g. NSW Police and RFS) • Event internal and external security services		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Rare	Extreme	HIGH

#	Activity:
11	First aid
Incident/Event:	
Lack of resources and planning for serious first aid requirements	
Potential Impact:	

Loss of life and/or injury to persons		
Current Control Strategies:		
• Medical management plan • Dedicated helicopter pad • Contract experienced health care providers • Consultation with relevant hospitals, ambulance service and health department prior to event • Implementation of the Event Communication Centre (ECC) during events • Access routes for ambulances • Emergency services support		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Possible	Major	HIGH

#	Activity:	
12	Onsite camping	
Incident/Event:		
Lack of camp management		
Potential Impact:		
Fire, flood and loss of water supply or sewerage services		
Current Control Strategies:		
• Camping management plan • Camp marshals equip with fire extinguishers and trained with such • Bushfire Emergency Evacuation Plan • Flood Risk Management Plan • Dedicated camping coordinators • Evacuation assembly points • Implementation of the Emergency Management Centre • Security services		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Unlikely	Major	MEDIUM

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#	Activity:	
13	Flooding of the site	
Incident/Event:		
Unseasonal heavy rainfall event resulting in parts or all of the site being flooded		
Potential Impact:		
Flooding of car park and event site		
Current Control Strategies:		
- Two weather monitoring stations with telemetry connections to Parkland office - Significant rainfall event forecasting system - Flood Risk Management Plan - Flood Evacuation Plan - SES warning service - Bureau of Meteorology flood and rainfall event forecasting services - Systematic monitoring of the rainfall and stream data, by venue and event management - Elevated evacuation assembly points		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Possible	Major	HIGH

#	Activity:
14	Erection of temporary structures
Incident/Event:	
Temporary structure collapse	
Potential Impact:	
Loss of life and/or injury	
Current Control Strategies:	
• Certification by principal certifying authority • Positioned on level stable surface • Sufficiently weighted at all times • Must meet BCA flammability requirements • Comply with the Building Code of Australia where relevant	

• Erection of temporary structures only during daylight hours		
Likelihood:	Consequence:	Risk Ranking:
Rare	Major	MEDIUM

The assessment structure adopted in the Parklands EHSMM has been utilised in the assessment of specific social impact concerns raised for the individual localities identified in this SIA Addendum. The key impacts have been examined on a risk assessment and ranking basis. This assessment examines likelihood, extent, duration, severity and sensitivity of the impacts. Based on these metrics, a score in relation to the “level of concern” applicable to each of the significant locality-specific impacts has been postulated.

3. LOCALITY BASED ASSESSMENT

This section describes SIA work completed at six discreet local communities.

3.1 YELGUN AND WOORYUNG LOCALITIES

The two communities of Yelgun and Wooyung are home to some of Parklands' nearest neighbours.

Yelgun is a small valley located in the far north of the Byron Shire characterised by crop farming and rural residential land. On the night of the 2016 Census, Yelgun had a population of 103 people with a median age of 47 years.

Wooyung is a coastal locality in the south of the Tweed Shire and north of Byron Shire characterised by a mix of crop and cattle farming and rural residential land. It is located at the northern end of the Billinudgel Nature Reserve and the southern end of Wooyung Nature Reserve.

Wooyung Beach itself is located towards the northern end of a 14.4km near continuous stretch of sand that extends from Black Rock Reef in the north to the Brunswick River in the south. It is an unpatrolled beach dominated by rips with variable beach breaks backed by low vegetated dunes. It is considered 'moderately hazardous' by Surf Lifesaving Australia, and is generally uncrowded throughout the year. Wooyung has a camping/holiday park.

On the night of the 2016 Census, Wooyung had a population of 118 people with a median age of 54 years.

3.1.1 WAY OF LIFE

How people live, work and play

Families

In 2016 of the families in Yelgun, 37.0% were couple families with children, 44.4% were couple families without children and 18.5% were one parent families. Of all households, 62.5% were family households, 30.0% were single person households and 7.5% were group households.

In Wooyung, 32.0% were couple families with children, 48.0% were couple families without children and 20.0% were one parent families. Of all households, 48.2% were family households, 42.9% were single person households and 8.9% were group households.

The Yelgun and Wooyung communities are mostly characterised by family groups who value the peace and rural character of their locality. Being the closest residents to the venue they are impacted by events in unique ways. Residents have a range of feelings about the importance of the events and how they impact their families and way of life in general. Residents experience the impacts differently.

(Residents living along Hulls Road in Crabbes Creek who were present at the community workshop on Sunday 22 April are also included in this section. These residents are situated in an elevated location close to the northern boundary of the venue and historically have been impacted by noise from the events.)

Community Testimony

"...It has had a large social impact on family life and will be intensified with permanency. It causes real stress. This has been our home for 30 years. I'm a Jones Rd resident. I approach the development and the festivals



Yelgun locality



Wooyung locality

with a positive attitude but I still feel stressed. It feels strange to think I might have to live like that with more festivals. The festivals support us with the option to relocate during the festivals, but I don't want to leave, if I could find someone I could trust to look after my home, maybe I would, but I couldn't leave my home, it doesn't feel safe for me to do that..."

"...Trespassing has been the biggest impact on our family..."(Tweed Valley Way resident)

*"...Parklands have not resolved their requirement to mitigate our home against festival noise as required by the 2012 Project Approval, nor have they resolved the insidious impacts the festivals are having on our health & safety...Key Issues * strategic context * traffic and access * social Impacts * bushfire Impacts * flooding and Incident management * noise & vibration * waste * amenity * soil & water 6. Permanent Approval..." (Jones Rd resident)*

"...I feel that local residents are being asked to make unreasonable sacrifices to our way of life for the sake of economic greed on the part of NBP.....Our friends and family are also impacted for this as it makes it inconvenient and unpleasant to visit us during festival periods..."

"... I am a local resident living in close proximity to the site and we have always been treated with respect and courtesy. I don't feel that any of the events impact me or my family and neighbours negatively, in fact I feel they bring the opposite..."

"...Our home is two kilometres away and sometimes when the events have been held our windows shake and the noise reverberates through our house but we have given up complaining as Parklands always told us it complied.. It takes away the peace and quiet enjoyment of my home and should not be allowed. "

"... we have never had any complaints about noise, the festivals are only short and we live with daily highway noise, that is always louder then (sic) the festivals. Aside from traffic issues in the first year, we are not inconvenienced (sic) at all and are truly compensated with the offer of free tickets to the events. We would like to wish Parklands good luck with the proposal to stay..."

"...Noise pollution is an ongoing issue, with parklands operating at levels far above the levels set by the NSW Industrial Noise Policy. NBP insistence that they cannot keep to the accepted policy levels shows they are in the wrong location to operate music festivals..."

"...I fully support this application. I live within 1km of the site and have never had any issues with the noise, or traffic I see the care taken by the organisation, and the lengths taken to support, protect and enhance the environment, which is over and above what would be reasonably expected..."

"We experience family pressure over tickets. More family and friends not being able to get tickets and wanting them!..." (Tweed Valley Way resident)

"...Parklands has justified their proposed high noise limits by saying that they did not receive many complaints at recent festivals but we just gave up complaining as they never turned it down even when we did complain. To allow so many more events will greatly increase the noise impacts - what we can put up with once a year is very different to what we can put up with 10 times a year..." (Wooyung Rd resident)

"...Our family farm adjoins North Byron Parklands and I support their application for the permanent use of the North Byron Parklands as a cultural events site for up to 50,000 patrons..."

"...We have witnessed very little anti-social behaviour and while there was a little littering it was promptly removed by North Byron Parklands employees...There was initially non-patrons attempting to access events through our property but steps have been put in place to control this..."

Access to Housing

In 2016 in Yelgun, 89.5% of private dwellings were occupied and 10.5% were unoccupied. Of occupied private dwellings, 82.4% were separate houses, 8.8% were flat or apartments and 8.8% were other dwellings.

Of occupied private dwellings in Yelgun, 23.1% were owned outright, 28.2% were owned with a mortgage and 35.9% were rented. Median weekly rent was \$210, and median monthly mortgage repayments were \$1200.

In 2016 in Wooyung, 81.0% of private dwellings were occupied and 19.0% were unoccupied. Of occupied private dwellings, 74.5% were separate houses and 25.5% were other dwellings.

Of occupied private dwellings in Wooyung, 46.0% were owned outright, 20.0% were owned with a mortgage and 26.0% were rented. Median weekly rent was \$383, and median monthly mortgage repayments were \$1630.

Residents in Yelgun and Wooyung did not identify event impacts on their access to housing availability or affordability.

Employment

In 2016, there were 43 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in Yelgun. Of these 25.6% were employed full time, 60.5% were employed part-time and 14.0% were unemployed.

The only responses for occupation in Yelgun were Managers 21.1%, Technicians and Trades Workers 21.1%, Professionals 18.4%, Labourers 15.8%, Community and Personal Service Workers 7.9%, Clerical and Administrative Workers 7.9% and Sales Workers 7.9%. The only responses for industry of employment were Supermarket and Grocery Stores 16.7%, Accommodation 16.7% and Other Residential Care Services 16.7%.

The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over in Yelgun was \$480. 29.4% of households had a weekly household income of less than \$650 and 0.0% of households had a weekly income of more than \$3000.

There were 46 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in Wooyung. Of these 28.3% were employed full time, 60.9% were employed part-time and 10.9% were unemployed.

The most common occupations in Wooyung included Managers 20.8%, Sales Workers 18.8%, Technicians and Trades Workers 12.5%, Community and Personal Service Workers 12.5%, and Clerical and Administrative Workers 12.5%. Of the employed people in Wooyung, 21.1% worked in Other Fruit and Tree Nut Growing. Other major industries of employment included Beef Cattle Farming (Specialised) 15.8%, Car Retailing 15.8%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 15.8% and Accommodation 15.8%.

The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over in Wooyung was \$457. 54.5% of households had a weekly household income of less than \$650 and 0.0% of households had a weekly income of more than \$3000.

Residents who were generally supportive of the project commented that the events brought jobs and economic benefits to their immediate and wider community. However, one resident provided comments which doubted the rigour of Parklands' Economic Impact Report and claimed that major festivals negatively impacted on the livelihood of pubs and clubs throughout the Australia. The resident also commented that significant overseas investment in the festivals means that a proportion of event profits are now enjoyed overseas and bring no benefit to the Australian economy.

Residents living on Wooyung and Hulls Roads who attended the community workshops noted particular disruption the events brought to their internet service and the significant disruptions and frustration this caused in their place of employment.

Community Testimony

"...The jobs that are created and the money that is injected into the local communities are of great benefit. Most people that come to Byron Shire only ever visit Byron Bay and by creating a festival site out of Byron, more businesses and people benefit from this. We have never had an issue with Parklands...."

"...We operate the Beach Holiday Park in Wooyung, during the festivals we can't access emails that are vital for managing our guests and bookings. We can't operate any card transactions and this impacts on guests paying for their accommodation and anything they buy in our store. We can't get broadband to our work because of the existing infrastructure in Wooyung. Our business operates successfully at other times of the year except festival time...Mobile reception is also poor. Landline is not impacted. But in an emergency, if we did have to

evacuate the park we would not be able to send emergency texts to our visitors...” (Wooyung Rd residents accommodation providers)

“...The economic benefits that flow through to the local businesses in Yelgun, Billinudgel, Brunswick Heads and Ocean Shores are immeasurably (sic) large. It is imperative for the community and the local economy that this project be approved. It assists in creating seasonal work opportunities for local youth amongst many other benefits...”

“...We both work from home. I'm an illustrator and I need to send large image files by email to my clients. While the festival is on the speed is impacted. It has improved but I usually have to go to a friend's home in Crabbes Creek to work. I have no problems at other times of the year....The impact on internet also impacts the work I do in coordinating the weekly Farmers' Markets. Mobile coverage is also patchy at festival time...” (Hulls Rd residents)

“...Now every time one of these festivals is held, another pub or club in regional Australia closes its doors. So when Live Nation and NBP claim to be bringing \$13 million into Byron Shire, they neglect to mention that the same amount leaves other shires and municipalities. This figure comes from a report which NBP commissioned and paid for. The real figure could be much less. So while festival attendees may spend up to \$1K each, much of this is pocketed by Live Nation and repatriated to America, leaving Australia poorer by the same amount. They pay no tax in Australia...NBP commissioned an 'Economic Impact Report' which purports to show that the events are an economic success. The Report is extremely biased...”

“...The events held at North Byron Parklands bring a welcome boost to employment and the general economy to the Northern area of the Byron Shire, the Southern part of the Tweed and, beyond. I personally know a lot of youth who are getting paid work from the festivals; which, given the high level of youth unemployment is fantastic! Some youth in the area are now travelling to other events, with the skills they have learnt from Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival. They now have a chance...”

“...We have a building business and depend on internet for emails and invoicing with our clients. The internet and mobile coverage goes down. We're concerned with capacity increases and frequent of events this will become worse...” (Hulls Rd residents)

“...The operations of 1 business - NBP - and the international conglomerate who uses their land, should not be given precedence over the many small businesses (mostly farms) that operate out of Yelgun. They are not high traffic operations but many rely on getting livestock, produce and workers in and out of the valley. They are the type of businesses that keep this community going year round...”

“...It is difficult to get full time employment in this region. Many of us have several jobs in order to support the family. NBP plays a very important part for me to be able to put food on the table and pay the rent. I support totally. Events held at North Byron Parklands have employed my services for each event for the last 5 years. The wages from these events are a big part of my yearly income. Living in the Byron Shire, many residents have many different jobs throughout the year in order to survive. Splendour and Falls are essential to me be able to support my family...”

Mobility

In 2016 in Yelgun, 31.0% of occupied private dwellings had one registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, 26.2% had two registered motor vehicles and 35.7% had three or more registered motor vehicles. On the day of the Census, the only responses for methods of travel to work for employed people were Car, as driver 75.6% and Worked at home 13.3%

In Wooyung, 30.0% of occupied private dwellings had one registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, 44.0% had two registered motor vehicles and 16.0% had three or more registered motor vehicles. On the day of the Census, the most common methods of travel to work for employed people were: Car, as driver 47.8%, Worked at home 23.9% and Car, as passenger 6.5%. Other common responses were Truck 6.5% and Walked only 6.5%. On the day, 0.0% of employed people used public transport (train, bus, ferry, tram/light rail) as at least one of their methods of travel to work and 65.1% used car (either as driver or as passenger)

Residents in Yelgun and Wooyung experience the impacts events have on their ability to get around in unique ways. Some residents expressed the impacts they experienced were acute, while other neighbours reported significant improvements in traffic control and expressed disruption was minimal.

A number of residents living on Jones and Yelgun Roads, expressed the disruption caused by the checkpoints at the entrance of their road during events. While some residents commented that the inconvenience was manageable, a number of residents also stated that it had also been a source of stress.

Residents living on Tweed Valley Way expressed they had experienced significant improvement in traffic control, while others felt little improvement and that their movements were seriously impacted.

Residents on Wooyung Rd also experienced traffic issues more or less acutely, with one resident stating they had not been bothered by traffic, while other residents experienced difficulties getting children to and from school, and other appointments.

Community Testimony

"...Traffic congestion... makes it harder to get around, also puts pressure on communications and pressure on the network..."

"...Traffic...I'm surprised it's not as much of an issue for me..." (Tweed Valley Way resident)

"...A combination of this checkpoint and the extremely large volume of traffic on our only access road (Tweed Valley Way) makes it awkward and inconvenient to go about our daily business including going out to work, running businesses, going to the shops, getting to and from school. During SITG there is no safe place for us to meet our regular school bus on Tweed Valley Way, which requires us to battle through the traffic to collect children directly from school..."

"...Noticeable improvements in traffic control..." (all residents present at community workshop in Jones Road)

"... living in a neighbouring valley the impact on traffic has been improving steadily each year... for the falls event this year the traffic was affected so minimally I hardly noticed... the sound impact from the event has been reduced a lot in my area as well... I commend the management of both major events but I believe the credit lies with the north Byron parklands in their attempts to ease any major impact on the local community... I hope the site remains open for many years to come..."

"...I fully support this application. I live within 1km of the site and have never had any issues with the noise, or traffic I see the care taken by the organisation, and the lengths taken to support, protect and enhance the environment, which is over and above what would be reasonably expected..."

"...Buses and trucks through gate A is a "disaster" and is "not on". This will increase bus and truck traffic along our road and will create delays..." (Jones Rd resident)

"...While originally I was concerned about traffic control, I believed that they would learn by experience and this certainly was the case..."

"...NBP have improved their security and traffic management which were our main concerns. I certainly support the current events and other smaller events in their proposal but am not sure of increasing the capacity to 50000..."

"...To date it is always the bump in and bump out patron arrival days that create problems with traffic for me when I am trying to get my four children from Wooyung to Mullumbimby for school and sporting commitments. The two events held per year to date have often occurred during school holidays whensport and School commitments are lowest but this will change if the proposal is approved..."

"...I am a close neighbor of NBP and have lived in this area most of my life. My husband and I have not been bothered by the music or occasional disruption to traffic..."

"...With 10's of thousands of people in our normally very small community it becomes hard to function normally on a day to day basis. This could be difficulty finding parking in town to go to work, getting in to shops for everyday supplies..."

“...When the festivals are on, the traffic around the site on arrival and leaving days makes it very hard for me to visit doctors in Mullumbimby. If you allow more festivals at this site this will be a lot worse...” (Wooyung Rd resident)

Recreation

Some residents expressed that the festivals had become an important part of their family's recreation time and said they were proud to have the festivals so close to their home.

During the 2017/18 Falls Festival 392 complimentary tickets were distributed to Yelgun and Wooyung residents. This year, local residents accounted for 11.9% of Splendour's ticket sales for a 35,000 patron event. Some residents also said they looked forward to having greater community access and increased opportunities for recreational activities at the venue.

Other residents stated the festivals negatively impacted on their leisure time, commenting that event operations and road closures made it difficult to spend time with their friends and family or attend regular recreational sporting commitments.

Some residents who experienced internet disruptions that impacted on their ability to work, also commented that this impacted their ability to access internet services for recreation. Disruption to mobile phone services also impacted on some residents ability to contact their friends and family.

Community Testimony

“...I believe North Byron Parklands is an asset to our community across the board and know the pride it brings to the young folk in our area to have world class festivals on our doorstep...” (Tweed Valley Rd resident)

“...I like the buzz of the festival...” (Hulls Rd residents)

“...Impacts on telecommunications not only impacts on our business but impacts on communications with friends and family. We can't use internet for regular recreation like Netflix. There's a ripple effect of loss of communication through the villages...” (Hulls Rd and Jones Rd residents)

“... always the bump in and bump out patron arrival days that create problems with traffic for me when I am trying to get my four children from Wooyung to Mullumbimby for school and sporting commitments...”

“... I like having good music and good things for our children to come to, this is a music loving area...” (Hulls Rd residents)

“...Our friends and family are also impacted for this as it makes it inconvenient and unpleasant to visit us during festival periods...”

“... it becomes very difficult to get calls and texts through, limiting our communications both business and personal...”

“...I see this facility as an asset to our community and look forward to it being available for fundraising events and school activities in years to come...” (Tweed Valley Rd resident)

“The volume of traffic on our normally quiet access roads plus checkpoint to try and slow the number of illegal campers into our road (only partially successfully) makes it very time consuming and frustrating to simply go in and out of our valley ...It also restricts our social life for these periods as it is awkward and inconvenient for friends and relatives to visit us during festival periods...”

“...I am happy for the festival site to go ahead as planned. I think it is a great event for the local community and nation at large...”

3.1.2 COMMUNITY

Its composition, cohesion, character, how it functions and sense of place.

In 2016, the median age of people living in Yelgun was 47 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 13.7% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 18.6% of the population.

The only responses for occupation were Managers 21.1%, Technicians and Trades Workers 21.1%, Professionals 18.4%, Labourers 15.8%, Community and Personal Service Workers 7.9%, Clerical and

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Administrative Workers 7.9% and Sales Workers 7.9%. The only responses for industry of employment were Supermarket and Grocery Stores 16.7%, Accommodation 16.7% and Other Residential Care Services 16.7%.

25.5% of people were attending an educational institution. Of these, 31.0% were in primary school, 17.2% in secondary school and 24.1% in a tertiary or technical institution.

85.4% of people were born in Australia. The only other responses for country of birth were New Zealand 3.1% and Spain 3.1%.

In 2016, the median age of people living in Wooyung was 54 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 6.1% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 26.3% of the population.

The most common occupations included Managers 20.8%, Sales Workers 18.8%, Technicians and Trades Workers 12.5%, Community and Personal Service Workers 12.5%, and Clerical and Administrative Workers 12.5%. Of the employed people, 21.1% worked in Other Fruit and Tree Nut Growing. Other major industries of employment included Beef Cattle Farming (Specialised) 15.8%, Car Retailing 15.8%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 15.8% and Accommodation 15.8%.

23.5% of people were attending an educational institution. Of these, 12.5% were in primary school, 37.5% in secondary school and 25.0% in a tertiary or technical institution.

74.8% of people were born in Australia. The only other responses for country of birth were New Zealand 3.5%, England 2.6% and United States of America 2.6%.

Yelgun and Wooyung residents enjoy their peaceful and rural surrounds and value the close relationships they have forged with their neighbours, but equally value the privacy that living on the land brings.

They feel particularly privileged to live on rural land close to the uncrowded beaches, and have a deep respect for their natural environment, its flora and fauna, and their close proximity to local creeks and nature reserves, including Marshalls Creek and the Jones Road wildlife corridor.

Residents also enjoy their local shops, with locally grown produce, and also enjoy the proximity to other services and amenities in more developed centres and towns.

Residents experience the impact of events on their community in different ways.

Some residents felt that Parklands was a responsive neighbour and a valued addition to the community. Residents attending the community workshops also commented that the consultations were positive experiences and had brought neighbours closer together. These residents welcomed more consultation.

One family expressed the strained relations they had with the events and Parklands and that this impacted on community cohesion. One Jones Road resident also commented that they had been categorised unfairly by other residents for voicing their concerns about the events, and that this had caused division in the community. While others provided comment about the disruptions events bring, and how they feared the long term impacts this could have on the nature and character of their community.

Community Testimony

"...I believe North Byron Parklands is an asset to our community across the board and know the pride it brings to the young folk in our area to have world class festivals on our doorstep. I believe, that having witnessed the manner in which festivals are handled to date, that they will be well equipped to manage the size of events requested in their application. I see this facility as an asset to our community and look forward to it being available for fundraising events and school activities in years to come..."

"...Any increase to the number of patrons or events on the site will exacerbate problems. I implore you to consider the local residents and communities and not allow this development to change the nature of our local community..."

"....The behaviour of patrons is good...they're really lovely" (Wooyung Holiday Park)

"...The community consults have brought us together..."

"...Because of strained relations between the Holiday Beach Caravan Park and the events, the festival bus stop at the Holiday Beach Caravan park is not advertised on the Splendour or Falls website. It's a major stop on the route. This is a communication and safety issue for patrons..."

"...I am happy for the festival site to go ahead as planned. I think it is a great event for the local community and nation at large..."

"...As long time residents of Yelgun (my husband grew up farming in the valley), we think that North Byron Parklands are a great addition to our local area...We have never had an issue with Parklands. They donate to local schools, including our children's school, to community groups and various others....we have never had any complaints about noise, the festivals are only short and we live with daily highway noise, that is always louder then (sic) the festivals..."

"...I have been employed by North Byron Parklands as community manager since the first event in 2013. In my capacity of community manager I have been responsible to liaise with the immediate neighbours and wider community, responding to concerns of traffic, litter and illegal camping, as well as being available to listen and pass on residents concerns to the event organisers. In that time I have experienced a shift in community attitudes toward events held at Parklands. The general air is of a far more positive one than from the first event. I have been personally congratulated on many occasions for the efforts that the event teams have made to solve any issues that have occurred..."

"...The north Byron Parklands site has been a welcome addition to our local community over the years they have really improved their operations and management... I commend the management of both major events but I believe the credit lies with the north Byron parklands in their attempts to ease any major impact on the local community..."

"...It is imperative for the community and the local economy that this project be approved. It assists in creating seasonal work opportunities for local youth amongst many other benefits..."

3.1.3 ACCESS TO & USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES & FACILITIES

Residents have experienced impacts on their access to and use of local amenities to varying degrees. Some residents expressed Parklands' good management of offsite impacts like traffic and litter. Other residents expressed their frustration regarding access to their homes caused by check-points on their private roads, and more general traffic disruptions in accessing places of work, school, and other services and/or recreation during the events and also during event bump-in and bump-out.

One Jones Road resident also spoke strongly about the increased disruption that proposed movements of buses and trucks through Gate A would bring to Jones Rd residents.

Some residents also noted their access to internet and mobile phone reception was negatively impacted, while other residents felt their internet and phone services were not impacted during events.

Some residents also looked forward to having greater access to the venue and a more diverse range of events with permanent approval. Other residents felt that the events generally put an added strain on existing amenities and infrastructure. Byron Shire currently receives approximately 2 million visitors per year.

Community Testimony

"...With the current 2 festivals our access is already impacted. There has been a security checkpoint at the end of our road with car passes given to residents...A combination of this checkpoint and the extremely large volume of traffic on our only access road (Tweed Valley Way) makes it awkward and inconvenient to go about our daily business including going out to work, running businesses, going to the shops, getting to and from school. During SITG there is no safe place for us to meet our regular school bus on Tweed Valley Way, which requires us to battle through the traffic to collect children directly from school..."

"I'm surprised it's not as much of an issue for me." (Tweed Valley Way resident speaking about traffic)

"...Such a huge number of people in a normally sparsely populated area puts a big strain on our telecommunications. As the local mobile towers struggle to keep up with the high volume of calls, texts and

mobile data it becomes very difficult to get calls and texts through, limiting our communications both business and personal..."

"... I am a local resident living in close proximity to the site... I don't feel that any of the events impact me or my family and neighbours negatively, in fact I feel they bring the opposite..."

"...With 10's of thousands of people in our normally very small community it becomes hard to function normally on a day to day basis. This could be difficulty finding parking in town to go to work, getting in to shops for every day supplies, accessing the library, post office or centrelink. While extra police and emergency services are brought in for the event there is still a large overflow of patrons into the surrounding townships which then puts a strain on our local police force and emergency services..."

"...living in a neighbouring valley the impact on traffic has been improving steadily each year... for the Falls event this year the traffic was affected so minimally I hardly noticed..."

"...There is also extra wear and tear on our roads and public amenities, putting a large strain on council resources in a shire with an already very low ratepayer to visitor ratio..."

"...When the festivals are on I cannot access my internet and my mobile reception goes in and out. When the festivals are on for four or five days in a row this is a big impact on my amenity..."

"...I see this facility as an asset to our community and look forward to it being available for fundraising events and school activities in years to come"

3.1.4 CULTURE

In 2016, 85.4% of people in Yelgun were born in Australia. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 14.0% of the population. The only other responses for country of birth were New Zealand 3.1% and Spain 3.1%

97.0% of people only spoke English at home. There were no other responses for language spoken at home. 69.4% of people had both parents born in Australia and 11.1% of people had both parents born overseas. The most common ancestries were Australian 36.1%, English 27.8%, Scottish 8.3%, Dutch 5.6% and Irish 4.9%

The most common responses for religion were No Religion, so described 43.2%, Not stated 11.6%, Presbyterian and Reformed 9.5%, Christian, nfd 8.4% and Anglican 6.3%. Christianity was the largest religious group reported overall (46.1%).

In 2016, 74.8% of people in Wooyung were born in Australia. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 0.0% of the population. The only other responses for country of birth were New Zealand 3.5%, England 2.6% and United States of America 2.6%.

88.9% of people only spoke English at home. There were no other responses for language spoken at home. 57.9% of people had both parents born in Australia and 18.4% of people had both parents born overseas. The most common ancestries were English 30.6%, Australian 28.1%, Irish 11.2%, Scottish 7.5% and German 5.0%

The most common responses for religion were No Religion, so described 44.1%, Anglican 17.6%, Catholic 16.7%, Not stated 14.7% and Judaism 3.9%.

Residents in Yelgun and Wooyung did not identify negative impacts on cultural values or beliefs as they relate to any specific cultural or religious practice.

Some residents noted positive cultural and social impacts of the events in that they enjoyed their vibrancy and the opportunity for cultural enrichment for themselves and their children. Other residents looked forward to other types of cultural events at Parklands that would promote more culturally diverse celebrations including celebrations that were more inclusive of Aboriginal culture.

Conversely, one resident provided comment that major festivals like those held at Parklands have the potential to adversely impact audience access to more diverse music and cultural experiences.

Community Testimony

"...I like the buzz of the festival..."

"...I like having good music and good things for our children to come to, this is a music loving area..."

"... This is the background to the rise of massive, industrial-scale entertainment festivals like those operated by Live Nation and North Byron Parklands (NBP). They are not driven by the musicians or audience, but by the big music promoters. The dominant corporations are in the process of globalising and mechanising the music industry, which ultimately leads to less choice for audiences, and less work for musicians...."

"...I am happy for the festival site to go ahead as planned. I think it is a great event for the local community and nation at large..."

"...I have experienced a shift in community attitudes...The general comment I get is that the events are vital to the local economy in the Northern area of the Byron Shire as well as being culturally significant to our Youth..."

"...What about other kinds of festivals?...could we have 'Tree planting festivals?..."

"...there's an opportunity to increase the involvement of the traditional land owners- how can the events be more inclusive of Indigenous culture?..."

"...there's an opportunity for greater community access to the land...create a feeling of community ownership... walking and bike trails for families, picnics, picnic events, other youth activities, outdoor cinema, pop up galleries..."

3.1.5 HEALTH & WELLBEING

Yelgun and Wooyung neighbours experience the impacts of events on their health and wellbeing differently.

Some neighbours experience heightened feelings of stress due to noise, influx of visitors and changed traffic conditions. One resident living on Jones Road commented that she tried to view the events with optimism, but noted that the disruptions have been a significant source of stress. Other neighbours commented that they were not bothered by the disruptions in the same way, or commented that operations had significantly improved and they no longer experienced the same level of concern.

Some residents noted that they felt sufficiently compensated for disruptions they experienced, while one resident provided comment that acoustic mitigation works had not been carried out in their home, and impacts on their health and safety had not been resolved. One resident also provided comment about her concerns for patron health and safety.

Other residents spoke generally about the events being a good thing for their community and spoke about feelings of pride that young residents experienced because of the festivals. Other residents also spoke of the social, cultural and economic benefits of the events, which also enhance feelings of wellbeing.

Community Testimony

"...It has had a large social impact on family life and will be intensified with permanency. It causes real stress. This has been our home for 30 years. I'm a Jones Rd resident. I approach the development and the festivals with a positive attitude but I still feel stressed. It feels strange to think I might have to live like that with more festivals. The festivals support us with the option to relocate during the festivals, but I don't want to leave, if I could find someone I could trust to look after my home, maybe I would, but I couldn't leave my home, it doesn't feel safe for me to do that..."

"...There was initially non-patrons attempting to access events through our property but steps have been put in place to control this. Effective security is in place and works very well. I congratulate NBPL on the success of SITG and FFB festivals which I believe are two of the most successful festivals in Australia - for this to be ongoing, this application should be granted..."

"...we object to the proposal for a permanent events site (SSD) because of the impact it has on neighbours' health and safety, the surrounding environment and the community at large..."

"...Aside from traffic issues in the first year, we are not inconvenienced (sic) at all and are truly compensated with the offer of free tickets to the events. We would like to wish Parklands good luck with the proposal to stay..."

"...Parklands have not resolved their requirement to mitigate our home against festival noise as required by the 2012 Project Approval, nor have they resolved the insidious impacts the festivals are having on our health & safety..."

"... I am a local resident living in close proximity to the site and we have always been treated with respect and courtesy..."

"...When I am coming home at night the young people walking home along the roads create a big safety risk as they are often in groups and walking in the middle of the road. Similarly when the patrons are waiting on the side of the road for the buses, they are often waiting for a long time and drinking while they are waiting so they start creating an unsafe situation...This site is encouraging drinking and drug taking in our children and should not be given permanent approval..."

"...I believe North Byron Parklands is an asset to our community across the board and know the pride it brings to the young folk in our area to have world class festivals on our doorstep..."

3.1.6 SURROUNDINGS

All residents identified feelings of connection to and respect for the beauty of their immediate surroundings and natural environment. Some residents experience the negative impacts of events on the natural surroundings more acutely than others.

Residents noted generally that there was an increase in litter on the roads, highways and beaches around the events and also instances of illegal camping and litter near the emergency access areas at Wooyung Beach.

One resident spoke particularly about the cumulative negative environmental impacts that decades of development had on immediate natural surroundings, and that Parklands events were actively compounding those negative impacts. Other residents spoke highly of the Parklands good environmental management, and felt the project had brought about significant improvements to the land.

Community Testimony

"...We're already experiencing impacts in the environment because of decades of developments, and parklands has also contributed to this, but we have no idea how an increase in event days and capacity will impact on the environment."

"... I am the owner of an adjoining property to North Byron Parklands. I appreciate being a neighbour to property holders that value their land, treating it with the respect it deserves..."

"...cumulative impacts of subtle additions to the environment - including insecticides, even having thousands of people using sunscreen - all subtle stuff - but over time and in huge numbers impacts..."

"...there's illegal camping and rubbish near the emergency access areas at Wooyung Beach...More rubbish on our beaches, roads and driveways..."

"...There have been noticeable improvements in litter response..."

"...I am a keen birdwatcher and animal lover and have noticed the local fauna have continued on with their lives unaffected by the noise. We once had wallabies in this area but they were decimated by wild or domesticated dogs more than a decade ago unfortunately..."

"...hard compacted surfaces need aerating to improve run off..."

"...Their efforts to do the best by our environment is a delight to witness - very few landowners could undertake the depth of work carried out with regards to both flora and fauna and it is ongoing. I believe that this proposal simply allows North Byron Parklands to continue on as they have in the past, but in a more viable manner and I have no doubt that this is what this application is about. If this property was completely rural, as mine is, it would probably have a more detrimental influence on fauna and flora..."

“...Contamination of waterways with human waste - toilets and portals in a flood prone area - impacts on flora, fauna and people...”

“...The tree plantings involve patrons and local kids - where else could something like that happen on that scale?...The plantings are great for the environment and becomes part of their education...”

“...What water treatment measures exist - we would welcome an information session...”

“...I see the care taken by the organisation, and the lengths taken to support, protect and enhance the environment, which is over and above what would be reasonably expected...”

“...The NBP site is in one of the last remaining wildlife corridors from the ocean to the mountains in this area. There are several pockets of forest in and around the site that are home to a large variety of native wildlife. The noise pollution that these animals have to deal with is very disruptive to their feeding, sleeping and movement. There is also a large amount of pollution coming from the site into these areas. The acres and acres of discarded camping gear and general detritus may be cleaned up after each festival but the many thousands of smaller bits of rubbish that blow into the surrounding bushland and millions of pieces of microplastic (eg glitter) cannot be cleaned up by a few work teams and will stay in our environment and wash out to sea for decades to come...”

“...The trial has still caused problems with illegal camping and pollution...”

“...Before NBP and Live Nation came along, the land was productive agricultural land producing cattle and sugar. The owners were continually investing; they were paying more tax than Live Nation does, and paid rural rates, just like NBP does. By contrast, these festivals are bad neighbours. They are not appropriate development outside of an industrial area, and the developers deliberately understate the problems of noise, traffic, litter, anti-social behaviour, and the strain on local infrastructure...”

3.1.7 PERSONAL & PROPERTY RIGHTS

A number of Yelgun and Wooyung residents expressed that the events had impacted on their personal and property rights.

One resident living on Tweed Valley Way expressed that incidents of trespass had been a negative consequence of events, however the resident also felt that additional security had now addressed the problem, other residents in Yelgun Rd felt that the management of illegal camping in Yelgun Rd had become 'lax' recently.

One resident in Jones Rd expressed that while they had not experienced any incidence of trespass on their property, they had concerns and did not feel they could relocate during the festivals because of the potential for trespass.

While a number of residents commented that disruptions to their internet service had impacted on their ability to work effectively, these residents also stated that while not ideal, they had found alternative ways to manage the problem and did not say that disruptions meant a loss in income.

Community Testimony

“...There was initially non-patrons attempting to access events through our property but steps have been put in place to control this. Effective security is in place and works very well. I congratulate NBPL on the success of SITG and FFB festivals which I believe are two of the most successful festivals in Australia - for this to be ongoing, this application should be granted...”

“...There has been a security checkpoint at the end of our road with car passes given to residents, this has been somewhat successful in slowing down the number of festival goers coming into our road but has not completely stopped the illegal campers and has become more lax during recent festivals...”

“... approach the development and the festivals with a positive attitude but I still feel stressed. It feels strange to think I might have to live like that with more festivals. The festivals support us with the option to relocate during the festivals, but I don't want to leave, if I could find someone I could trust to look after my home, maybe I would, but I couldn't leave my home, it doesn't feel safe for me to do that...”

"...We operate the Beach Holiday Park in Wooyung, during the festivals we can't access emails that are vital for managing our guests and bookings. We can't operate any card transactions and this impacts on guests paying for their accommodation and anything they buy in our store. We can't get broadband to our work because of the existing infrastructure in Wooyung. Our business operates successfully at other times of the year except festival time...Mobile reception is also poor. Landline is not impacted. But in an emergency, if we did have to evacuate the park we would not be able to send emergency texts to our visitors..." (Wooyung Rd residents accommodation providers)

"...We both work from home. I'm an illustrator and I need to send large image files by email to my clients. While the festival is on the speed is impacted. It has improved but I usually have to go to a friend's home in Crabbes Creek to work. I have no problems at other times of the year....The impact on internet also impacts the work I do in coordinating the weekly Farmers' Markets. Mobile coverage is also patchy at festival time..." (Hulls Rd residents)

"...We have a building business and depend on internet for emails and invoicing with our clients. The internet and mobile coverage goes down. We're concerned with capacity increases and frequent of events this will become worse..." (Hulls Rd residents)

3.1.8 DECISION MAKING SYSTEMS

Residents had varying feelings about the impact of events on decision making systems.

Many residents felt that they had a very good relationship with Parklands and the events, and felt staff had made themselves available to listen and respond to concerns and incidents. Residents present at the workshop noted that community consultation had been a positive experience and they welcomed further discussion.

Residents at the Holiday Park in Wooyung commented that they experienced strained relations between themselves, the events and Parklands. They commented that they did not feel listened to and felt reluctant to lodge complaints on the community hotline during events or at other times because they felt their complaints were not taken seriously.

Other residents provided comments concerning the project's determination. These residents felt that Byron Shire Council should be the project's determining authority as local council would better understand the range of impacts the community experienced. They also feared that local concerns would be glossed over by the Department of Planning & Environment given the number of supportive submissions that would be received from festival goers living in other parts of Australia. One resident also provided comment saying that Parklands had received preferential planning treatment.

Community Testimony

"...The fact that we're here altogether discussing this is a good thing... The community consults have brought us together...I have great faith in the General Manager and how things are managed..." (Tweed Valley Way resident)

"...We have good relationships with Parklands. Good communications on all aspects - has been good for Jones Rd residents that were present..."

"...We should organise some more tours for neighbours and an information session with Mat (General Manager) especially on our questions requiring environmental expertise..." (all residents at the workshop felt this)

"...The original approval for the 5 year trial specified that after that period control would revert to Byron Shire Council. I feel that BSC has a much better chance of understanding the needs of our community and what our local resources can cope with so decisions on further festival numbers, capacity and developments should revert to Council as originally agreed..."

"...NBP and SITG have called out to their customers to submit in favour of this proposal ...as a resident of the area immediately surrounding the site in question I would hope that my concerns of direct impact on our lives will be weighted accordingly and given greater consideration than those only worried about missing out on a party..."

“...NBP has received preferential treatment regarding planning, liquor licenses, noise, lack of regulatory supervision, environmental breaches, traffic, etc...”

3.1.9 FEARS & ASPIRATIONS

Yelgun and Wooyung residents predicted a range of negative and positive impacts with the continuation of events at Parklands. The majority of residents who provided feedback who were generally supportive of the project hoped that the events would bring economic and social benefits to the community. Other residents hoped for greater access to the venue with a more diverse calendar of cultural events.

Some residents also expressed they feared the negative impacts experienced now with regard to traffic, access, noise, illegal camping, and communications would be compounded by more event days and increases in patron capacity. They also expressed concerns about the predicted negative impacts on emergency services, public infrastructure with proposed increases in visitor numbers and event frequency.

Some residents held strong fears for the flora and fauna on the site and adjacent nature reserves. Some residents also spoke about the predicted impacts climate change would have on events into the future. These residents spoke about the increased likelihood and frequency of extreme weather events, and how this further compounded safety issues for patrons and the wider community in the event of evacuation caused by flood or fire.

Residents also held fears about public health with regard to the proposed management of wastewater and sewage.

Residents also held real fears over Live Nation's involvement with the events and wanted more clarity around this into the future.

Community Testimony

Greater access and choice of cultural events

“...Opportunity for greater community access to the land - create a feeling of community ownership - walking and bike trails for families, picnics, picnic events, other youth activities, outdoor cinema, pop up galleries.....What about other kinds of festivals? Tree planting festivals?...”

“...Opportunity to increase the involvement of the traditional land owners- how can events be more inclusive of Indigenous culture?...”

Increase in economic opportunity

“...The economic benefits that flow through to the local businesses in Yelgun, Billinudgel, Brunswick Heads and Ocean Shores are immeasurably (sic) large. It is imperative for the community and the local economy that this project be approved. It assists in creating seasonal work opportunities for local youth amongst many other benefits...”

Live Nation

“...We feel uncertain and are fearful of Live Nation's involvement in the events, how it will impact on events, the event's intensity, and the future of events...”

“...We want clarity and better communication about Live Nation's involvement with Secret Sounds...What kind of events will they influence?...Fear of the unknown...”

Natural Environment

“...The predicted cumulative environmental impacts in this UNESCO site is catastrophic...”

“...Contamination of waterways with human waste - toilets and portals in a flood prone area - impacts on flora, fauna and people...”

“... With climate change we can anticipate more incidents of extreme weather, thus increasing the risk...”

Public safety

"...With regards to flood and fire. There is an increased risk to the safety of our community and event patrons during a natural disaster because emergency services will be stretched. Human resources and emergency response issue..."

"...We have lived in Wooyung for 50 years and when it floods the road floods and stays closed for two to three days at a time. I have seen the festival site underwater many times and it is not an acceptable risk to place so many young people at risk in a place it is very difficult to evacuate. If you have to evacuate 35,000 people from the site in an emergency where will you put them? ..."

"...Our other concern is if a medical emergency occurred say an outbreak of diarrhea affecting only a small number of people say 100 (which is very small) if you have 50,000 people at an event. Our local area does not have the resources to attend to these people Ambulances would be utilized instead of local people and taken to an overstretched Tweed Heads Hospital or Byron Hospital..."

"...With an increase in the number of concerts there will be a much higher chance of a severe weather event occurring while a concert is happening . We believe that there are inadequate safety measures in place to evacuate 50,000 people and have not been convinced that they have the ability to evacuate patrons if an event occurred..."

Access to services and impacts on infrastructure

"...Some neighbours I know go away for the festival period pulling their children out of school. Increased festivals means more missed school and will impact on our local children's educations..."

"...The communications problem also leads to the question of what would happen in an emergency situation. In our own personal emergency we would struggle to get a call through and to get help in. In a larger emergency situation we would likely be forgotten or blocked from evacuation by the extreme volume of patrons trying to exit the NBP site..."

"...Our concern is the increase in the traffic movements on Tweed Valley Way which will impact our life...With the new plan we could as many as five months a year affecting the traffic on Tweed Valley Way and the Coast Road. The road is not designed for the amount of traffic that is predicted to be coming to our events. Even though coming and going of campers is not encouraged as stated it would only mean that more buses would be required..."

"...There is no justification for increasing above 35,000 people on site, any increase is going to have further major impacts on traffic and is not sustainable on our local roads..."

"...The use of Wooyung Rd as an official patron arrival and exit route. This has not been trialled. Wooyung road has a 14 tonne limit and is not suitable for use by coaches, waste removal trucks, water trucks etc that do not comply with this limit. It is also a very winding and dangerous road and if it is used as an arrival gate it will encourage patrons to park or be dropped off at this gate or walk along this road to enter at this gate, which has always been opposed by the Roads and Maritime Authority..."



3.1.10 Risk Assessment

Having regard to the social research carried out for the Wooyung and Yelgun localities a risk assessment has been completed. The risk assessment has been completed with respect to the key considerations highlighted by the consultation. That assessment is summarised in **Table 3.1**.

TABLE 3.1 RISK ASSESSMENT TABLE – WOYUNG AND YELGUN LOCALITIES

	likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity	level of concern
Analysis of negative impacts on Way of Life						
Mobility	2	2	2	2	2	10
Trespass	2	2	2	2	2	11
Recreation	2	2	2	2	2	11
Noise	2	2	2	2	2	10
Analysis of negative impacts on community						
Changes to community make-up and sense of belonging	2	2	2	2	2	10
Analysis of negative impacts on access to Infrastructure and services						
Internet and telecommunications service as relates to disruptions to place of employment	2	2	2	2	2	12
Internet and telecommunications service as relates to disruptions to recreation	2	2	2	2	2	12
Access to services as relates to disruptions to mobility	2	2	2	2	2	11
Analysis of negative impacts as relates to culture						
Mega Festivals' impact on access to more diverse cultural experiences	2	2	2	2	2	10
Analysis of negative impacts on Health and Wellbeing						
Stress	2	2	2	2	2	12
Sleep disruption	2	2	2	2	2	12
Illness caused by festival goers e.g 'Festival flu'	2	2	2	2	2	11
Analysis of negative impacts on Surroundings						
Litter	2	2	2	2	2	13
Immediate environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve	2	NA	2	2	2	10
Cumulative environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve	2	NA	2	2	2	10
Illegal camping	2	2	2	2	2	12
Analysis of negative impacts on Personal & Property rights						
Trespass	2	2	2	2	2	11

Legend

likelihood	
1 rare	
2 unlikely	
3 possible	
4 likely	
5 almost certain	

extent	
1 single property	
2 multiple properties	
3 a large part of the neighbourhood	
4 the whole neighbourhood	

duration	
1 rarely	
2 occasionally	
3 the whole time of an event	

severity	
1 insignificant	
2 minor	
3 moderate	
4 major	

sensitivity	
1 minor	
2 moderate	
3 major	
4 extreme	

level of concern
score range 0 - 20

3.2 CRABBES CREEK LOCALITY

Crabbes Creek is a rural settlement located in the Tweed Valley, and is situated approximately four kilometres from North Byron Parklands. On the night of the 2016 Census there were 290 people residing in Crabbes Creek. The median age of residents was 48 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 14.2% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 16% of the population.

The settlement's public amenities include a community hall, a public school, and a general store.

*Crabbes Creek locality*

3.2.1 WAY OF LIFE

How people live, work and play

Families

In 2016, of the families in Crabbes Creek, 45.3% were couple families with children, 33.3% were couple families without children and 14.7% were one parent families. Of all households, 67.0% were family households, 29.1% were single person households and 3.9% were group households.

The Crabbes Creek community is largely characterised by family groups who value the peace and rural character of their village. Crabbes Creek residents have varied feelings about the importance of the events and how they impact their families and their village. Residents express their experience of the impacts of events in their town differently.

Community testimony

“...Incidents of private parties increase...they’re disruptive...”

“...Proximity to the festivals...I don’t have to drive to Byron to take the kids to the festivals, that’s a positive for me and my kids...”

“...Sleep disturbance caused by festival noise when the wind comes from the east...”

“...I think the North Byron Parklands has been great for the area...They improved the site each year .. we live close and they have always been more then (sic) helpful with any of our concerns...”

Access to housing

In 2016, 84.3% of private dwellings in Crabbes Creek were occupied and 15.7% were unoccupied. Of occupied private dwellings 93.8% were separate houses and 6.2% were other dwellings.

Median weekly rental payments were \$368, with median monthly mortgage repayments \$1,417.

During the recent community consultation workshops, two Crabbes Creek residents held fears regarding the increase in homes being let on Airbnb in the region. Some residents felt that Parklands’ events contributed to the rise. They held fears for the erosion of the community fabric as a consequence. Access to affordable housing and long term rental accommodation is a shire wide concern. The Byron Shire currently receives two million visitors annually.

Independent monitoring website ‘*Inside Airbnb*’ reported that Airbnb listings in the Byron Shire have increased by more than 300 in the past year to 1,794. *Inside Airbnb* said of those listings, 1,204 are for entire homes and 582 are for private rooms.

Head of Public Policy for Airbnb, stated that the majority of properties listed on their website in Australia were single rooms, or the primary residence of someone going away for a holiday.

Community Testimony

“The increase in festival days and capacity could see more permanent rentals become short term holiday rentals. This impacts on the community fabric and the socio economic mix of our community. Impacts social cohesion...”

Mobility

On the day of the 2016 Census, 18.3% of occupied private dwellings had one registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, 45.2% had two registered motor vehicles and 29.8% had three or more registered motor vehicles.

The most common methods of travel to work for employed people were: Car, as driver 77.6%, Worked at home 8.8% and Car, as passenger 4.0%. Other common responses were Walked only 3.2% and Other 2.4%. On the day, 0.0% of employed people used public transport in Crabbes Creek.

Crabbes Creek residents felt the impacts of events on their ability to get around in different ways.

Community testimony

"...I live in Crabbes Creek, and work in Billinudgel. During bump-in and bump-out it's hard to get to work with increased traffic movements - have to change working routines to fit in with the traffic..."

"...Our property is located 1km north west of north Byron parklands tweed valley way. Traffic, transport and sound was controlled superbly and will only get better with permanent residency..."

"...I can't visit Brunswick Heads or South Golden Beach because of the traffic and the influx of visitors in those towns too - the traffic impacts on my recreation time and relations with friends..."

"I have lived in Crabbes Creek for over 11 years and I have seen the traffic effects from the site's use. While I support the use of the site for cultural events I do think traffic issues need to be solved..."

Employment

In 2016, there were 149 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in Crabbes Creek. Of these 43.6% were employed full time, 39.6% were employed part-time and 8.1% were unemployed.

The most common occupations included Professionals 21.0%, Managers 17.4%, Technicians and Trades Workers 15.2%, Community and Personal Service Workers 13.0%, and Labourers 11.6%.

11.5% worked in Primary Education. Other major industries of employment included Hospitals 9.0%, Other Fruit and Tree Nut Growing 5.1%, Building and Other Industrial Cleaning Services 5.1% and Local Government Administration 5.1%.

Economic stimulus and employment opportunity as a direct result of the festivals was the most important issue for the majority of Crabbes Creek residents who provided feedback.

Community testimony

"...This venue of critical infrastructure is a much needed employment and financial gain...It will also create opportunities for the creation of small eco friendly businesses to flourish in an area that lacks in job opportunities and transport..."

"...I think that the festivals held at north Byron park lands (sic) is a necessary event to the area because- Customers for small business (cafe,pubs,food shops, taxis, buses, Uber, restaurants, bottle shops, cloths shops) Work for locals (at the festival, local businesses will hire for busy weeknd or week days)

"...The festival grounds have become both an Icon for the Byron Shire as well as a godsend for local businesses including venues, accommodation, supermarkets, general stores hardware and everything in between. During the slow months, festivals such as Splendour in the grass and other potential events are what small local businesses need. A little boost to get them through the rough months where bills can seem UN-payable and customers can't be found..."

"...This site has been fantastic for businesses in surrounding towns which in turn has has produced more jobs for local people..."

"...we live close.. it's been good for local businesses and they employed a lot of local people..."

3.2.2 COMMUNITY**Its composition, cohesion, character, how it functions and sense of place.**

The median age of people in Crabbes Creek in 2016 was 48 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 14.2% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 16% of the population.

The most common occupations included Professionals 21.0%, Managers 17.4%, Technicians and Trades Workers 15.2%, Community and Personal Service Workers 13.0%, and Labourers 11.6%.

32.8% of people were attending an educational institution. Of these, 19.6% were in primary school, 25.0% in secondary school and 12.0% in a tertiary or technical institution.

76.8% of people were born in Australia. The only other responses for country of birth were Germany 3.5%, England 2.5%, New Zealand 1.1% and Greece 1.1%.

Crabbes Creek residents enjoy the village atmosphere and camaraderie that comes with living in a small community. The general store and community hall are important places for locals to gather. The historic community hall is managed by an active committee of residents and is available for hire throughout the year. Residents and neighbouring communities gather in the hall each Friday night for Pop-Up restaurant events serving a changing weekly menu of international cuisine. There are also regular hall meetings, senior's group morning teas, and an annual community cricket grudge match between the "Valley" and the "Village". The Crabbes Creek Public School enjoys an active school community.

Residents experience the impacts of the events on the community differently.

During the recent community consultation workshops one Crabbes Creek resident shared that the events were important forms of recreation for her children and their friends, although they themselves did not attend the events. One resident felt she was too old to attend the events, but was interested in the craft tents and non-music aspects of Falls and Splendour in the Grass, and felt tempted to attend. Another resident said that during events the traffic prevented him from visiting his friends in other communities. This resident also felt that the cultural values of the event patrons were not a match for the village and might change the character of the community. While other residents shared ways the events supported their community's existing celebrations, and felt this could be built upon for the community's benefit. This year, local residents accounted for 11.9% of Splendour's ticket sales for a 35,000 patron event.

Community testimony

"...I can't visit Brunswick Heads or South Golden Beach because of the traffic and the influx of visitors in those towns too - the traffic impacts on my recreation time and relations with friends..."

"...I think the North Byron Parklands has been great for the area..."

"...the culture has changed..."

"...the events provide financial assistance for our NYE celebrations in Crabbes Creek..."

"...The site should also have a few free events to benefit the community and provide financial support for variety of community events..."

"...Takes people off the streets and public areas on New Years (drinking on the streets and around houses.)..."

"...The events offer diverse cultural experiences and enrichment activities..."

3.2.3 ACCESS TO & USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES & FACILITIES

Residents in Crabbes Creek experienced impacts on their access to and use of local amenities to varying degrees. Some residents expressed Parklands' good management of offsite impacts like traffic, while others expressed their frustration regarding access to their places of work and recreation caused by traffic disruptions during the events and during bump-in and bump-out.

Some residents also noted diminished availability of stock at Ocean Shores supermarket as a negative impact caused by the influx of visitors, however they also noted that this was poor planning on Coles' behalf and not the fault of Parklands or events. However, residents also noted negative impacts on garbage services in other villages, noting that public bins filled more quickly during the events in Billinudgel, Ocean Shores, and South Golden Beach. Some residents also commented that their access to internet was negatively impacted, while other residents with access to NBN were not impacted during events.

Some residents acknowledged the financial contributions the events have directed toward community projects, other residents still felt that patron impact on infrastructure, facilities and surroundings in the wider community is so great that Parklands and the events should make greater contributions to help council maintain public amenities and employ other compensatory measures. The Byron Shire currently receives more than 2 million visitors annually.

Community testimony

"I live in Crabbes Creek, and work in Billinudgel. During bump-in and bump-out it's hard to get to work with increased traffic movements...I have to change working routines to fit in with the traffic..."

"...Our property is located 1km north west of north Byron parklands tweed valley way .Traffic, transport and sound was controlled superbly..."

"...I can't visit Brunswick Heads or South Golden Beach because of the traffic and the influx of visitors in those towns too ...it impacts on my recreation time and relations with friends..."

"...As a close resident of the site I can say the organisers have been extremely diligent in replying to any queries we may have and worked hard in improving and minimising the impact and effect of the festivals on our day to day lives..."

"...Environmental impacts of light spill and noise...these impacts on fauna are negative impacts..."

"...The festival may bring mess to the parks lands (sic) but it is cleaned as quick as possible, In my opinion I think the festival has only just begun with the good and help it will bring to our area with a permanent status then can do so much more..."

"...There are no free tickets for residents... we receive no compensation for the disruption or inconvenience we experience...Parklands should pay for the potholes to be filled...the increase in traffic intensifies existing road problems..."

"...we live close and they have always been more then (sic) helpful with any of our concerns..."

"... While I support the use of the site for cultural events I do think traffic issues need to be solved. There needs to be a thru-lane going toward Murwillumbah to allow for through traffic and a lane for queuing traffic to enter the site or an overpass into the site..."

3.2.4 CULTURE

In 2016, 76.8% of people in Crabbes Creek were born in Australia. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 0.0% of the population.

The only other responses for country of birth were Germany 3.5%, England 2.5%, New Zealand 1.1% and Greece 1.1%.

76.5% of people only spoke English at home. The only other responses for language spoken at home were German 3.0%, Spanish 1.0%, Italian 1.0% and Macedonian 1.0%.

61.7% of people had both parents born in Australia and 15.2% of people had both parents born overseas. The most common ancestries were English 30.8%, Australian 29.0%, Irish 11.9%, Scottish 8.2% and German 4.5%.

The most common responses for religion were No Religion, so described 43.3%, Catholic 17.4%, Not stated 16.4%, Anglican 9.9% and Presbyterian and Reformed 3.4%.

Residents in Crabbes Creek did not identify negative impacts on cultural values or beliefs as they relate to any specific cultural or religious practice.

However, two residents who provided feedback, felt that event patrons did not share their locality's values and were not a cultural fit for their local area. While other residents identified that the events created an occasion for their children and friends to come together and stay especially for the events. While others felt the events were an opportunity for cultural enrichment. Some residents also encouraged greater community access to Parklands so the wider community could enjoy events.

Community testimony

"...The venue itself is so impressive now and has improved each event - I can only imagine that with approval to become a permanent venue it will become even better, more positive for our area and exciting..."

"...the 'culture has changed' - it doesn't align with my village..."

“...the events offer a diverse cultural experience and enrichment activities...”

“...the site should also have a few free events to benefit the community and provide financial support for variety of community events...”

3.2.5 HEALTH & WELLBEING

Crabbes Creek residents did not identify actual or potential negative and positive impacts of the events on their physical and mental health.

Two residents noted sleep disturbance under certain meteorological conditions caused by festival music, and disturbances from private parties. While sleep disturbance itself is not an illness, it can contribute to general feelings of irritability and poor wellbeing.

Community Testimony

“...Sleep disturbance from festival noise when the wind comes from the east...”

“...private parties increase...they're disruptive...”

3.2.6 SURROUNDINGS

Residents identify strongly with the village atmosphere of their locality and the significance of their natural surroundings. Residents have experienced negative impacts of the events on their immediate surroundings and to the natural environment to a greater or lesser extent. Many residents commended the proponents for their care of their immediate environment and the improvements they have brought to the local surroundings.

Community testimony

“...Finally closure on what will be one of Australia's premium eco-friendly entertainment venues...Our property is located 1km north west of north Byron parklands tweed valley way (sic)...overpopulated permanent residencies have created more permanent carnage transport pollution and environmental problems than north Byron parklands ever will...”

“...Environmental impacts of light spill and noise...these impacts on fauna are negative impacts...”

“...I think the festivals held at north Byron park lands (sic) is a necessary event to the area because...Takes people off the streets and public areas on New Years...It's a controlled event...the festival has only just begun with the good and help it will bring to our area...”

“...As a close resident of the site I can say the organisers...have worked hard in improving and minimising the impact and effect of the festivals...I can only imagine that with approval to become a permanent venue it will become even better...”

“I think the North Byron Parklands has been great for the area...They have improved the site each year...we live close and they have always been more than helpful with any of our concerns...”

“...While I support the use of the site for cultural events I do think traffic issues need to be solved...”

3.2.7 PERSONAL & PROPERTY RIGHTS

Residents in Crabbes Creek did not express impacts either positive or negative on their personal or property rights.

3.2.8 DECISION MAKING SYSTEMS

One resident expressed his frustration and mistrust of the approvals process of Parklands' Development Application and felt that the State Government's role as the project's determining authority signified an erosion of democratic rights and trust in the government.

Community Testimony

“...That the consent authority has been transferred to the state government constitutes an erosion of democracy and lack of trust in government. State government does not account for its poor governance in relation to monitoring and approving the project. The proponent gleefully thinks that he will get everything he wants from the government and the local communities are sidelined and suffer...”

3.2.9 FEARS & ASPIRATIONS

The Crabbes Creek community expressed a range of predicted impacts of the events. The majority of residents who provided feedback who felt generally supportive of the project, predicted the events would bring mainly economic and social benefits to their town.

Some residents also expressed the negative impacts that they experience now with particular regard to traffic, would be compounded by an increase in event days and patron capacity. They also expressed concerns about the predicted negative impacts of the events on emergency services, public infrastructure and the natural environment more widely.

Residents also felt that Parklands and the events have an opportunity to make a greater contribution to support the community in protecting and enhancing its cultural and public assets. A number of residents recognised the financial contributions that the events donate to Crabbes Creek and the wider community, however some also suggested voluntary council contributions would help maintain public amenities in the area more widely.

Community Testimony

Increase in economic opportunity

“...Job and work experience opportunities for young people interested in careers in events...”

“... The villages and hinterland can be enjoyed by visitors. If managed well this can be great for our area's economy... If villages have a plan the impacts can be managed...”

“... The potential for LOCAL employment exists with the conference centre...potential for diverse employment in eco management and project management - these are skilled jobs”

Potential for other opportunity

“...I think the festival has only just begun with the good and help it will bring to our area with a permanent status then can do so much more...”

“...The venue itself is so impressive now and has improved each event - I can only imagine that with approval to become a permanent (sic) venue it will become even better, more positive for our area and exciting...”

“...Above and beyond compensating the community for the impost and impacts of events - Parklands can become a proactive and responsible community member...Parklands can add to the community's existing values..”

“...Parklands and the events can contribute to enhancing the Byron 'brand' rather than exploiting it...”

“...I'd love to see a train go from Murwillumbah to Byron - importantly stopping at Yelgun for the festivals - relieve traffic congestion!...”

“...Encourage bus travel by giving free bus transport to ticket holders...”

Natural Environment

“... Will amplify the negative impacts on flora and fauna...”

Public safety

“... How can that many people be evacuated in an emergency of fire or flood? We don't have the emergency resources to manage it...”

“...We can expect risks to increase as we experience extreme weather with climate change over the next 10-20 years...”

*Access to services and impacts on infrastructure**“...Impacts on policing resources...”**“...Permanent Approval should not be granted, as it cannot be foreseen what the future holds in terms of severe weather events and impacts on local infrastructure which is clearly insufficient to cope...”**“...Compounded impacts on our roads, amenities and all the services that council controls...”**“...Permanent approval will lead to an explosion of onsite development which cannot be matched by necessary and corresponding external development...”**“...traffic solutions are going to be needed if the size of the events is allowed to be 50000 patrons. That is a lot of traffic....The site should also have a few free events to benefit the community and provide financial support for variety of community events...”**“...Increases will mean more traffic impacts for me in Crabbes Creek and surrounds - it impacts on how I get around...”**“...Northern gate to Wooyung Rd - cause traffic congestion and flow on effects in other villages in the north like Pottsville...”**“...We need public transport to help manage traffic congestion...”***3.2.10 RISK ASSESSMENT**

Having regard to the social research carried out for the Crabbes Creek locality a risk assessment has been completed. The risk assessment has been completed with respect to the key considerations highlighted by the consultation. That assessment is summarised in **Table 3.2**.

TABLE 3.2 RISK ASSESSMENT TABLE – CRABBES CREEK LOCALITY

	likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity	level of concern
Analysis of negative impacts on Way of Life						
Mobility						12
Noise						11
Recreation						11
Access to housing						10
Analysis of negative impacts on community						
Changes to community make-up and sense of belonging						10
Analysis of negative impacts on access to Infrastructure and services						
Access to services as relates to disruptions to mobility						12
Analysis of negative impacts as relates to culture						
Cultural values of visitors do not align with my village						11
Analysis of negative impacts on Health and Wellbeing						
Sleep disruption						11
Analysis of negative impacts on Surroundings						
Litter						12
Immediate environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve		NA				10
Cumulative environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve		NA				10
Illegal camping						12
Analysis of negative impacts on Personal & Property rights						
None stated						

Legend

likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity
1 rare	1 single property	1 rarely	1 insignificant	1 minor
2 unlikely	2 multiple properties	2 occasionally	2 minor	2 moderate
3 possible	3 a large part of the neighbourhood	3 the whole time of an event	3 moderate	3 major
4 likely	4 the whole neighbourhood		4 major	4 extreme
5 almost certain				

level of concern
score range 0 - 20

3.3 SOUTH GOLDEN BEACH LOCALITY

South Golden Beach is a coastal village situated three kilometres south of North Byron Parklands. On the night of the 2016 Census there were 809 people residing in South Golden Beach. The median age of residents was 40 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 21.5% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 8.4% of the population.

The town's public amenities include a community hall, a playground, skate-park and toilet block. There is one general store.

The beach itself is located at the southern end of a 14.4km continuous stretch of sand from Black Rock Reef in the north to the Brunswick River in the south. It is an unpatrolled beach dominated by rips with variable beach breaks backed by low vegetated dunes. It is considered 'moderately hazardous' by Surf Lifesaving Australia, and is generally uncrowded throughout the year.



South Golden Beach locality

3.3.1 WAY OF LIFE

How people live, work and play

Families

In 2016, of all households in South Golden Beach, 69.1% were family households, 22.6% were single person households and 8.3% were group households. Of the families, 42.3% were couple families with children, 30.8% were couple families without children and 26.9% were one parent families.

The South Golden Beach community is largely characterised by family groups who enjoy the relaxed lifestyle that living in a beach side community affords. South Golden Beach residents have varied feelings about the importance of the events and how they impact their families and neighbours. Close neighbours express their experience of the impacts of events in their town differently.

Community testimony

"Of utmost importance to me is the safety of my children, my family and my neighbours. I have not witnessed any antisocial behaviour during any of the festival periods including drug use, violence, crime of any kind or dangerous driving. During festival times I enjoy the visitors to our community who are in good spirits and respectful."

"...the enormity of effects to our village and surrounding towns, villages are unbelievable."

"...The years we have been in our house for Splendour or Falls Festival at Christmas time, we have seen little to no issue with noise from the festival. Probably dependent on which way the wind is blowing we may get some low level music from the festivals, but this is less than the level we might experience from anyone in South Golden beach hosting a party, or one of our neighbours playing some music. If we close a window or a door it would be unlikely to cause any issue..."

"...there has been minimal impact to the local residents in the area, the organisers have done an excellent job of listening to community misgivings and responding to them in a positive manner."

"The onslaught of visitors during festivals has negative impacts on our village. Festival-goers sleep in their vehicles on our streets, help themselves to household water, and use front yards as toilets. They leave their vehicles parked on our streets while they take buses to the festivals, then return in the early hours, drunk and disorderly, to disturb residents who are trying to sleep..."

"I am part owner of a small family business which operates in South Golden Beach...At no time during either festival did we have any negative experience with festival goers. At all times they have been polite and considerate patrons."

"I have a young family and moved into this area of the Byron shire because it WASN'T Byron Bay and was quiet and a small community. That community gets ruined as we are invaded with tens of thousands of party goers every few months..."

Access to housing

In 2016, 79.7% of private dwellings in South Golden Beach were occupied and 20.3% were unoccupied. Of occupied private dwellings, the average household size was 2.5 people.

Of occupied private dwellings, 25.4% were owned outright, 36.4% were owned with a mortgage and 35.4% were rented. Of occupied private dwellings, 92.3% were separate houses, 3.5% were semi-detached, 3.1% were flats or apartments and 1.0% were other dwellings.

Median weekly rental payments were \$388, with median monthly mortgage repayments \$1,775. Compared to 2011 where median weekly rent was \$380, and monthly mortgage repayments were \$1,733.

Access to affordable housing and long term rental accommodation is a concern across the Byron shire throughout the year. A number of South Golden Beach residents expressed concern over the increase in homes rented in South Golden Beach on Airbnb. Some residents felt that the festivals had contributed to this, and they fear the erosion of the community fabric as a consequence.

Independent monitoring website 'Inside Airbnb' reported that Airbnb listings in the Byron Shire have increased by more than 300 in the past year to 1,794. Inside Airbnb said of those listings, 1,204 are for entire homes and 582 are for private rooms. Head of Public Policy for Airbnb, stated that the majority of properties listed on their website in Australia were single rooms, or the primary residence of someone going away for a holiday.

Community testimony

"We are already completely over-run with tourists...lack of affordable rentals for local workers (Airbnb, holiday lets, all very profitable for the investor and totally destructive of the local community) ."

"...rentals transferred to airbnb thereby making it hard for local people to find accommodation at that time..."

"...ABB rentals have taken over our village and surrounds..."

Housing Affordability

Some residents also felt that the festivals directly contributed to the increase in the town's property prices, making property unaffordable for young families.

Median house prices have increased in South Golden Beach with a compound annual growth rate of 14.2% over the last five years. While access to cultural events may increase the desirability of the area, local estate agents reported the increase represented a trend across the Byron Shire. They stated that every suburb across the region now has a median house price above NSW as a whole, making the Byron Shire one of the most desirable but least affordable places to live in the state. However, local estate agents do not attribute the growth to festivals but to lack of housing and land supply, and more home buyers choosing to settle in suburbs on the outer edges of the shire. Agents also attributed the growth to an increase in "cashed up" buyers from Sydney and Melbourne in the Byron property market., but stated that these buyers are looking to make permanent homes rather than investment properties.

Community Testimony

"Housing prices have risen dramatically, long-term rentals are extremely scarce, and young families cannot afford to live here. The festivals are contributing directly to these negative changes...."

"Our area is pretty well locked up...The supply side of the equation has been restricted for decades.' First National Byron Bay

"Byron itself has become out of a lot of people's league, so they're saying, 'Where can I go that's still in my league,' ...This part of the Shire is no longer the hidden little secret.' Raine and Horne Ocean Shores

"...for these buyers the shire still represents relatively good value and a much better lifestyle...they're self-employed, they can work from home... so they have more choice about where to live. But Byron Bay is now out of many people's reach. 'So they're saying "okay, where's the next suburb to take off?" and they're buying there instead." Elders Real Estate, Bangalow

Mobility

In 2016, 36.3% of occupied private dwellings in South Golden Beach had one registered motor vehicle at their address, 45.1% had two registered motor vehicles and 12.2% had three or more registered motor vehicles. On the day of the Census, the most common methods of travel to work for employed people were: Car as driver or passenger 69.0%, Worked at home 11.2%. Walked only 1.4%. On the day, 0.0% of employed people used public transport to work. The figures represent a 5% combined reduction in travel by car, bike, or public transport since 2011.

South Golden Beach residents have varied experiences with regard to the level of disruption the events impose on their day to day lives particularly in how they get around. The impacts are experienced differently by neighbours.

Community Testimony

"...Just getting to and from work becomes a mission during these times..."

"...I think that North Byron Parklands has had a completely positive effect on the local community and we would love for it to be permanent..."

"...We feel trapped in our house and unwilling to venture into the chaotic locality that it becomes..."

"...I feel privileged to have a world class cultural event site so close to my home..."

Employment

There were 390 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in South Golden Beach. Of these 36.4% were employed full time, 49.7% were employed part-time and 7.4% were unemployed. Of the employed people in South Golden Beach, 5.2% worked in Accommodation. Other major industries of employment included Other Social Assistance Services 5.2%, Primary Education 4.8%, Secondary Education 4.8% and Cafes and Restaurants 3.7%.

The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over was \$606 compared to \$497 in 2011. 26.2% of households had a weekly household income of less than \$650 and 6.7% of households had a weekly income of more than \$3000.

South Golden Beach residents generally credit the festivals for creating economic opportunity for residents and local businesses. However, some residents also felt that economic benefits are overstated, while others report the events disrupt their working conditions, particularly residents who work from home and rely on good mobile coverage and internet to conduct their business.

Community Testimony

"...We are open 7 days a week...In reality, it is the extra income brought in during festival times that makes the business profitable and therefore allows us to continually offer such a high service to locals on a continuing basis. We hope that Parklands is successful in its bid for a permanent cultural festival site..."

"...Telecommunications fall over completely during festivals. No mobile signal and internet dies. I work from home several days a week. This impacts on my livelihood..."

"...For the last 2 years we have rented our 5 bedroom house out to the organisation from Melbourne who look after all the social media for Splendour in the Grass. They have been courteous guests and have brought 10-12 of their staff, and used our home as a company retreat and bonding session. Our 14 seat kitchen table is wired up to look like the Apple offices in Silicone Valley for 5 days so they can continue their work, and they also hired local yoga teachers to come to our house daily, as well as a local driver to run them around in their mini bus.

They have always been respectful of our neighbourhood, and we welcome them back should they wish to use our house for their yearly company retreat again..."

"My partner runs a small local building company and relies on being able to be contacted via his mobile phone. Year after year we struggle with signal and simply sending text messages is a nightmare."

"...I work from home in Data and Analytics and to date have had no disruption to my ability to work using either phone or internet during festival periods. We are also avid Netflix, iTunes and Foxtel watchers, again without issue..."

"...The chamber considers it would be a major economic loss to the region if the festivals were to cease or be further restricted...The extra revenue generated by the festivals is significant, and the potential loss of that income is of great concern to businesses...business support for Parklands is widespread. Here's some comments from business owners;

** The last festival was the best one ever. I didn't have any problems.*

** The festivals provide the much needed cream on the cake for businesses, they are a game changer.*

** I couldn't bear to think of losing festival business.*

"...Managing a business in a regional community is complex. In an economic environment where disposable income is guarded, some businesses already struggle to survive. So many businesses can't afford to publicly take sides and potentially lose customers..."

Recreation

South Golden Beach itself is a one kilometre stretch of unpatrolled open surf beach with an off-leash dog exercise area. The beach is an important place for residents to play and meet daily. Residents use the beach for personal exercise, dog walking, and recreational water activities such as surfing, kite surfing, swimming, fishing, and boating.

The South Golden Community Hall offers regular activities in movement and spirituality. There is also a regular table tennis group, playgroup, and alcoholics support group. The hall is available for private parties and community cultural events throughout the year. South Golden Beach Corner Store, the New Brighton Farmers Markets, local cafes, restaurants, pubs and clubs in Ocean Shores and Billinudgel are important meeting places for residents.

Young families enjoy the children's playground, skatepark and BBQ facilities adjacent the community hall. Families also participate in organised sporting activities at nearby sporting fields located in New Brighton and Ocean Shores.

Residents expressed that arts festivals and cultural events are also an important aspect of their play. Some residents felt that the festivals were a good cultural fit for their community, and that they contributed to the overall cultural and creative health of their community. In 2018, local residents accounted for 11.9% of Splendour's ticket sales for a 35,000 patron event. Some residents also felt that more events at Parklands would enhance their access to recreational activities. While one resident stated the festivals negatively impacted on leisure time with their family in particular.

Community testimony

"...Our family is proud to be a part of a community that supports the arts and music. We welcome the inspiration to our children that comes with having these world-class artists perform just down the road..."

"...Our family no longer can visit over the Xmas New Year period as the holiday rentals are all taken up with festival goers..."

"...I have attended both Falls...and Splendour in The Grass with my husband and two small children aged 1 year and 2 years old. I support Parklands as a permanent festival site because I believe access to music, arts and culture is a vital building block for healthy communities. Exposure to music and art can act as a source of confidence, self-expression and inspiration, particularly for young adults..."

"...We are not opposed to festivals per se. But we are opposed to such a massive imposition on our locality..."

"...As an older person, I look forward to smaller diverse events occurring at the venue, aimed at all ages of the population..."

"...there's not much to do here if you're under 18 and don't surf or skate... I think Parklands should be allowed to have more events for all ages...it would be great if there could be even more smaller events through the year, like outdoor cinema - events where tickets don't cost as much as the big festivals."

"...I think it's absolutely incredible that we have the opportunity to have music events...in our own backyard. The Byron Shire is built on the surfing and music culture, which at its roots promotes happiness, enjoyment and just a good way of making the most of life. I have spent my life so far, since I was old enough, going to gigs and festivals..."

"...Art, culture and entertainment are a huge part of any community and bring together a variety of people from different backgrounds and diversity. It is events like these that benefit the local and wider community and enhance culture in our societies today..."

3.3.2 COMMUNITY

Its composition, cohesion, character, how it functions and sense of place.

The median age of people in South Golden Beach in 2016 was 40 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 21.5% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 8.4% of the population. 69.1% were family households, 22.6% were single person households and 8.3% were group households.

The most common occupations included Professionals 27.6%, Technicians and Trades Workers 17.4%, Sales Workers 12.0%, Community and Personal Service Workers 11.7%, and Labourers 10.8%. In the year before the Census 22.4% of people did voluntary work through an organisation or a group.

33.6% of people were attending an educational institution. Of these, 31.2% were in primary school, 18.1% in secondary school and 12.7% in a tertiary or technical institution.

74.0% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were England 4.6%, New Zealand 3.5%, South Africa 1.4%, Germany 1.3% and Netherlands 1.1%.

South Golden Beach is predominantly made up of young families, with almost 62% of the population under the age of 44. Residents value the town's quiet village atmosphere while appreciating the relative proximity to major centres and towns including the Gold Coast, Mullumbimby and Brunswick Heads.

Resident groups including the South Golden Beach Hall committee and Community Association are actively involved in the process of ensuring the good operation, maintenance and beautification of its community assets, including; the construction of playgrounds, its community hall, bus shelters, public roads, paths and drainage. Residents have a strong sense of place and community pride.

In addition to the range of experiences residents shared about the tangible impacts of events, residents also commented that they experience impacts on their community's more intangible attributes such as: community values, character, sense of place and social cohesion. Some residents felt that the audience the events attract do not share the same community values, while others welcomed the youthful vibrancy visitors brought to the town at festival time. Some residents felt the events had divided the community.

Community testimony

"...I like the greater awareness it (the events) creates about my area - I can share where I live with a wider community"

"... we are still trying to stop the destruction of our community by North Byron Parklands which has already fractured our small community with the 35,000+ people attending the current two festivals..."

"It's a quiet place, with a bit of excitement!"

"Patrons show a lack of respect for our values - they don't share our community values..."

"It feels like there's a division in the community...There's a feeling between locals VS blow-ins...there's a disconnect... young people VS older people... people are being categorized... your values VS mine"

"They disrespect our community facilities"

"Having this location become a permanent place for festivals as well as smaller artistic and cultural events would be beneficial in supporting the arts, as well as building community connections..."

3.3.3 ACCESS TO & USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES & FACILITIES

Residents in South Golden Beach value the semi-isolation of their village while enjoying the close proximity and amenities of major centres and towns. Historically, South Golden Beach has felt overlooked by council regarding maintenance of its roads, drainage, and playing fields. The Community Association are proud of the work they do in ensuring council provides and maintains adequate services and amenities for the community.

Residents experience the impacts of the events on their access to and use of local amenities in South Golden Beach and the nearby towns to varying degrees. Other residents both young and old, also noted the poor access they had to cultural events and welcomed a greater variety of events and increased access to events at Parklands.

While some residents welcome the annual financial contributions the events direct toward community projects, some residents felt that patron impact on infrastructure, facilities and surroundings was so pronounced that the events should make greater contributions to help council maintain and augment public amenities and services. The Byron Shire currently receives more than 2 million visitors annually.

Community testimony

"...At Falls 2017/18, I went to the public toilet (in South Golden Beach), it was evening about 6.30pm, there was just crap everywhere. The patrons are abusing the place..."

"...the support from the Parklands staff has been excellent. We have been provided with relevant and helpful information, signage and extra bins. The Parklands representative visits us regularly before, during and after the festival and any issues we raised (although very minor) were immediately acted upon by Parklands staff..."

"... It has a negative impact on our infrastructure - our sewage, water, WiFi, communications, our roads..."

"...My friends and I want more things to go to, there's not much to do here if you're under 18 and don't surf or skate. Public transport is useless here so it's hard to get to anything good. I think Parklands should be allowed to have more events for all ages..."

"...As an older person, I look forward to smaller diverse events occurring at the venue, aimed at all ages of the population..."

"...There should be \$25/event ticket go to council for infrastructure..."

"As a home-owning resident close to the site, residing in South Golden Beach, I love the tourism it brings to the area and believe the local businesses benefit"

"...the tar weight of traffic and all the buses, our road network can't support it..."

"...Parklands should become a permanent home for music, arts and cultural events as the impact on the local environment is minimal, yet positive for the local community..."

"...There needs to be a greater "buy in" from the developer to improve our assets and restore residents opinion..."

"...I have only ever had positive experiences from people visiting the area going to events. I hope the site remains open in the future as I see it brings many positives to our area including jobs..."

"...I appreciate that Parklands does contribute to community development and infrastructure through paying rates, through the need to pay a \$94 contribution, and in the provision of community grants raised through a \$1 levy on each ticket sale. However, in view of the additional pressure the visitors put on the infrastructure, waste collection and open spaces in the north of the shire, I suggest that greater effort and contributions be made by Parklands..."

"... A 'Bed Tax' is needed to offset damage caused by increase in capacity..."

3.3.4 CULTURE

In 2016, 74.0% of people in South Golden Beach were born in Australia. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 1.2% of the population.

The most common countries of birth were England 4.6%, New Zealand 3.5%, South Africa 1.4%, Germany 1.3% and Netherlands 1.1%.

85.1% of people only spoke English at home. Other languages spoken at home included Auslan 1.0%, German 0.9%, Italian 0.7%, Dutch 0.5% and Swedish 0.4%.

49.8% of people had both parents born in Australia and 20.0% of people had both parents born overseas. The most common ancestries were English 28.2%, Australian 25.4%, Irish 12.3%, Scottish 7.9% and German 6.0%.

The most common responses for religion were No Religion, so described 58.2%, Not stated 16.5%, Catholic 7.3%, Buddhism 4.6% and Anglican 4.4%.

Residents in South Golden Beach did not identify negative impacts in relation to any specific cultural or religious practices. However, some residents commented that event patrons did not share their values and were not a 'cultural fit' for their town. Other residents noted that the events created an occasion for their families and friends to travel and come together. While others articulated deeply held beliefs about the importance of the events for the creative and cultural health of their town and communities in general.

Residents also valued aspects of their built environment including their community hall and playground. Residents have experienced negative impacts of the events on their significant cultural spaces to a greater or lesser extent.

Community Testimony

"...they show a lack of respect for our values - they don't share our community values..."

"...They 'pre-load' and drink as much as possible before getting on the festival buses..."

"...The festivals bring my family together. My sister and her family all travel up for it, it's a time for family reunion..."

"...Art, culture and entertainment are a huge part of any community and bring together a variety of people from different backgrounds and diversity. It is events like these that benefit the local and wider community and enhance culture..."

"...I believe access to music, arts and culture is a vital building block for healthy communities..."

"...The North Byron Parklands should become a permanent home for music, arts and cultural events as the impact on the local environment is minimal, yet positive for the local community..."

"...A State Significant Site... REALLY? What is significant to our beautiful state about this festival venue or 'cultural event' site where hundreds of thousands of festival patrons take drugs and sprinkle glitter onto our beautiful land..."

"...Our family is proud to be a part of a community that supports the arts and music. We welcome the inspiration to our children that comes with having these world-class artists perform just down the road..."

3.3.5 HEALTH & WELLBEING

South Golden Beach residents identified actual and potential impacts on their physical and mental health.

While no resident expressed that the events had made them physically unwell they spoke anecdotally about instances of 'festival flu' due to the influx of festival patrons in the area especially during the winter months when Splendour in the Grass is scheduled.

Residents also noted instances of stress and sleep disturbance caused by traffic, festival music, and traffic noise from festival buses late at night. While sleep disturbance itself is not an illness, it can be a

contributing factor to general feelings of irritability and poor wellbeing. Neighbours experienced these impacts to varying degrees.

Other residents spoke about the positive feelings they experienced during the festivals, while others noted the importance of cultural events and the role they play in supporting good mental health outcomes particularly in regional communities.

Community Testimony

"... I have endured Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival being in my backyard for the past 5 years...I have slept with ear plugs in when the festivals are in town and the wind is blowing the wrong way..."

"...I have never been bothered by noise from the site and have only ever had positive experiences from people visiting the area going to events..."

"...Please help us gain this positive experience on a permanent basis..."

"...Stress... to our communities is palpable (sic) Trying to navigate all these problems that are forced on us..."

"...The appreciation of cultural products is key in ensuring regional communities are healthy and thriving...the latest National Arts Participation Survey revealed that 67% of young people identify the arts in "helping us deal with stress, anxiety, and depression"...a parliamentary enquiry made important conclusions regarding the benefits of access to the arts for health, noting that Australia is presently at the forefront in this field..."

"...And when the festival goers leave at last, great numbers of us come down with what local doctors call "festival flu"..."

"...Exposure to music and art can act as a source of confidence, self-expression and inspiration, particularly for young adults..."

"...Recurring issues include noise, traffic, impacts on the environment, impacts on local infrastructure (roads, water, sewer systems) and impacts on residential amenity and health..."

"...The Byron Shire is built of the surfing and music culture, which at its roots promotes happiness, enjoyment and just a good way of making the most of life...Some of my most enjoyable memories have been at music festivals surrounded by my friends and people just enjoying life...They provide so much enjoyment for so many people, both locally and around Australia..."

3.3.6 SURROUNDINGS

In addition to their built environment, residents identified strongly with their natural surroundings and their feelings of connection to and respect for the beauty of their natural environment. Residents have experienced negative impacts of the events on their natural environment and immediate surroundings to a greater or lesser extent.

Community Testimony

"...There is illegal camping...rubbish dumping... fires in the sand dunes...and dunes are trampled..."

"...I have lived in South Golden Beach for 13 years, so I have lived here both with and without Parklands. As an Ultra Runner I train 60-100kms each week during training, mostly on the trails of Wooyung Nature Reserve and the beach in front of Parklands. While I thought it could be a likely outcome of the festivals I have never witnessed any illegal camping, nor any real increase in the amount of beach goers between Wooyung and South Golden beach, nor in the dunes or bushland behind them..."

"They're intoxicated and littering through the streets...There's urinating and defecating in the streets..."

"...I have not witnessed any antisocial behaviour during any of the festival periods including drug use, violence, crime of any kind or dangerous driving..."

"...We chose to live here due to the peaceful rural coastal village environment. We discovered that we were living in the locality of a unique, diverse and significantly important natural environment that includes over 50 threatened species...These lifestyle and environment qualities have been heavily impacted by the imposition of the festivals during the 5year trial period plus its extension..."

"Impact on wildlife... on our wildlife corridors...the wildlife are stressed and they have no voice..."

"...My residence also backs onto what they call the Capricornia canal/ Marshall's Creek which is part of the Brunswick River system. Being an avid paddleboarder I have witnessed two major fish kills that happened after rains when we first lived here. I have not witnessed one since Parklands bought the site they are on, and can only assume something used previously in the farming of the site was washing into the catchment to cause the fish kills prior..."

3.3.7 PERSONAL & PROPERTY RIGHTS

Some South Golden Beach residents provided general feedback about the impacts of events on their property and personal rights. Neighbours commented that they experience the impacts differently.

Community Testimony

"...We have illegal camping everywhere in front of homes, across driveways, etc..."

"...Over the past few years there has been minimal impact to the local residents in the area, the organisers have done an excellent job of listening to community misgivings and responding to them in a positive manner..."

"...Festival-goers...help themselves to household water, and use front yards as toilets..."

I have lived here at South Golden Beach for the whole time since the event site opened....have only ever had positive experiences from people visiting the area going to events."

"...When drunk or drugged festival goers make their way into our village to continue partying, we get antisocial behaviour, disrespect for residents, and damage to property..."

With regard to the events' impact on economic livelihood, some South Golden Beach residents stated that the events had been positive for the economy. Some residents also expressed that their livelihood would be negatively impacted if the events did not continue at Parklands.

Conversely, some residents (whose businesses rely on internet) noted disruptions to their working conditions because of the increased number of users on the network during events.

Some residents also stated that the economic benefits are experienced by a small section of the business community only, (particularly in hospitality) and that economic benefits are overstated. Some residents called for an independent analysis of the events' economic benefits.

Community Testimony

"...My husband is a full time employee of North Byron Parklands and I have a public relations business...I have been looking after the PR for Splendour in the Grass since 2011...North Byron Parklands and the two events that it currently hosts contribute to the annual income of many local families including my own - from trades people to artists, caterers, site crew, bar staff, photographers, production managers, cleaners, publicists (like myself) and many others... While North Byron Parklands and the festivals may not provide year round work, for many local businesses like my own the income that it does provide is essential to their annual turnover. The possible loss of this income is a huge concern to my family and to many other local people..."

"...My partner runs a small local building company and relies on being able to be contacted via his mobile phone. Year after year we struggle with signal and simply sending text messages is a nightmare. This is with just 35,000 patrons. What is going to happen when there are 50,000 patrons taking up more of the signal?..."

"...I am part owner of a small family business...We are open 7 days a week, all year round... The Parklands representative visits us regularly before, during and after the festival and any issues we raised (although very minor) were immediately acted upon by Parklands staff. In reality, it is the extra income brought in during festival times the makes the business profitable and therefore allows us to continually offer such a high service to locals on a continuing basis. We hope that Parklands is successful in its bid for a permanent cultural festival site..."

(the issue the business owner referred to involved a patron parking their car at the front of their shop while they attended a festival event. It was felt this could prevent other shop patrons from accessing their business. The situation was addressed)

"...I see the economic benefits that Splendour and Falls brings to our local store in South Golden Beach. The shop does its best business during the festivals..."

"...Telecommunications fall over completely during festivals. No mobile signal and internet dies. I work from home several days a week. This impacts on my livelihood..."

"...As an ex-business owner in South Golden Beach the festivals are a great boost to business at a time when you wonder where the next cheque is coming from. This is a shared feeling by other business owners too..."

"...Economically it provides vital short and long term employment opportunities for the local community and it is a major boost for tourism..."

"...Families make additional income through Airbnb or similar platforms. The festivals bring opportunity to make an income. Responsible management of this can bring positive results..."

"...The festivals and events held by the site bring people from far and wide into our community, boosting the economy of local businesses..."

3.3.8 DECISION MAKING SYSTEMS

Some residents expressed a sense of powerlessness with the project's approvals process. Some residents commented that Byron Shire Council should be the project's determining authority and rejected the notion of the due process for State Significant Developments.

Some residents also expressed their mistrust of the Department of Planning's role during the trial period. Other residents discredited the value of Parklands' community consultations and the Community Hotline's effectiveness as a grievance mechanism during events.

Community testimony

"...Parklands applied to become a 'state significant site' thus avoiding any chance for the council or locals to have any control. ...If the state approves the application it will leave Parklands to oversee it's (sic) own operations and local councils and residents will have no say, this is most unfair."

"...Only the Sydney-based NSW environment department oversee whether the organisers follow the rules. They are rarely seen here..."

"...Parklands broke the consent conditions of it's (sic) 'trial period' almost 100 times, as has been documented by concerned locals, and yet DOP appears not appear to have accurate records of this and has only issued a few small fines."

"...The Community Hotline is impossible to get through on and complain..."

"...I think there's a lack of community consultation. This is not community consultation..."

"...It's really good talking like this. I think this consultation process is a positive impact..."

"...Residents should have more recognition than the festival goers or people and companies that make financial gains from this venture...This should be under council control with input by residents."

"...Council should be governing body, (consent authority) as they are here and can be onsite within minutes, whereas the DOPE is in Sydney and on one festival date are on holidays..."

"...State Government have moved to overrule locally democratically elected council representatives to grant a private corporation to bring over 100,000 additional party goers to a pristine coastal rainforest, beaches and wildlife..."

"...We are devastated that the government has allowed these festivals to continue to date despite the festivals breaking their conditions of consent many times..."

"...Although I am inclined to think the state government only cares about money and has no concern for the environment or the people whose lives are being trashed by this travesty of justice I am submitting this with a prayer that the voices of the people will be heard..."

3.3.9 FEARS & ASPIRATIONS

The South Golden Beach community are divided about the predicted impacts of the events. Many of the residents who indicated they were supportive of the project predicted that events would bring about cultural, social and economic benefits for the community. Residents who were generally unsupportive of the events feared the negative impacts experienced now would be further compounded by an increase in event days and patron capacity. Their fears related to increases in traffic disruption, anti-social behaviour, noise, disruption to services and degradation of infrastructure and the natural environment.

Some residents also expressed concern about the safety of event patrons, emergency service personnel and the wider community in the event of an emergency requiring evacuation. There is also considerable fear and uncertainty around Live Nation's involvement with Parklands and its events into the future.

Residents also felt that Parklands and the events have an opportunity to make a greater contribution to support the community in protecting and enhancing its cultural and public assets. A number of residents recognised the financial contributions that the events made however some also suggested voluntary council contributions would help maintain and improve public amenities in South Golden Beach and the Byron Shire more widely.

Community Testimony

Cultural and social benefits

"... Our family is proud to be a part of a community that supports the arts and music. We welcome the inspiration to our children that comes with having these world-class artists perform just down the road. That said, I have some concerns about the increased capacity to 50,000 patrons for SITG, and I hope that care is taken to ensure that any capacity-related issues are identified before growth is approved..."

"...Having this location become a permanent place for festivals like Splendour as well as being open to smaller artistic and cultural events would be beneficial in supporting the arts, as well as building community connections and cultural awareness..."

"...Great community and cultural events site that boasts beautiful surrounds. Stimulates the local economy..."

Increase in economic opportunity

"...I support the SSD application. The festivals result in a large increase in visitors to the north of Byron Shire which is great for business but it does put a strain on the already limited and aging infrastructure in the area..."

"...Great community and cultural events site that boasts beautiful surrounds. Stimulates the local economy..."

Live Nation

"... It was problematic enough when owned solely by NBP but now it is part of an US conglomerate, I am even more concerned that our peaceful residential community's values and needs won't be heard..."

"...It is 51% owned by an American company. Millions of Australian dollars leaving the country..."

Public safety

"...If there was a fire the loss of life would be catastrophic..."

"...Terrorism considering the numbers NBP wish to allow on this site would be a catastrophe, placing not only punters at risk but our LAC and other agencies, plus community...We only have so many access roads that we can use to transit either north or south and if one becomes blocked as happens when festivals are on, this could become life threatening..."

Access to services and impacts on infrastructure

"...Much unpredictability remains. We can't be sure what mess or disaster might develop because of the festival. One of these will inevitably be the loss of wildlife in the nature reserve adjacent to the site, which the state spent millions to protect! If granted approval under Section 94 Parklands will only contribute \$420,000 to local council...."

“...I appreciate that Parklands does contribute to community development and infrastructure through paying rates, through the need to pay a \$94 contribution, and in the provision of community grants raised through a \$1 levy on each ticket sale. However, in view of the additional pressure the visitors put on the infrastructure, waste collection and open spaces in the north of the shire, I suggest that greater effort and contributions be made by Parklands...”

“...Year after year we struggle with signal and simply sending text messages is a nightmare. This is with just 35,000 patrons. What is going to happen when there are 50,000 patrons taking up more of the signal?...”

“...The Byron Shire sees millions of tourists a year as it is, our roads can not cope at the moment, let alone with hundreds of thousands more during festival times. If there are 50,000 patrons at a festival on one day and then a new lot in the next there could be possible 80,000 people in the area at any one time...”

3.3.10 Risk Assessment

Having regard to the social research carried out for the South Golden Beach locality a risk assessment has been completed. The risk assessment has been completed with respect to the key considerations highlighted by the consultation. That assessment is summarised in **Table 3.3**.

TABLE 3.3 RISK ASSESSMENT TABLE – SOUTH GOLDEN BEACH

	likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity	level of concern
Analysis of negative impacts on Way of Life						
Anti-social behaviour	2	2	2	2	4	13
Access to housing	2	2	2	2	2	13
Housing Affordability	2	2	2	2	2	12
Noise	2	2	2	2	2	12
Recreation	2	2	2	2	2	10
Mobility	2	2	2	2	2	11
Analysis of negative impacts on community						
Changes to community cohesion	2	2	2	2	2	10
Changes to community sense of belonging	2	2	2	2	2	9
Changes to community character	2	2	2	2	2	8
Analysis of negative impacts on access to Infrastructure and services						
Disruptions in accessing public amenities	2	2	2	2	2	12
Disruptions in accessing telecommunications and other services	2	2	2	2	2	12
Disruptions to or strain on amenities and services	2	2	2	2	2	12
Analysis of negative impacts as relates to culture						
The values of visitors do not align with the cultural values of my village	2	2	2	2	2	13
Analysis of negative impacts on Health and Wellbeing						
Illness caused by festival goers e.g 'Festival flu'	2	2	2	2	2	11
Sleep disruption	2	2	2	2	2	10
Stress	2	2	2	2	2	9
Analysis of negative impacts on Surroundings						
Illegal camping	2	2	2	2	2	13
Impacts on services and public infrastructure including, roads, sewer, communications	2	2	2	2	2	12
Litter	2	2	2	2	2	13
Noise	2	2	2	2	2	12
Immediate environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve	2	2	2	2	2	10
Cumulative environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve	2	2	2	2	2	10
Analysis of negative impacts on Personal & Property rights						
Trespass	2	2	2	2	2	10

Legend

likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity
1 rare	1 single property	1 rarely	1 insignificant	1 minor
2 unlikely	2 multiple properties	2 occasionally	2 minor	2 moderate
3 possible	3 a large part of the neighbourhood	3 the whole time of an event	3 moderate	3 major
4 likely	4 the whole neighbourhood		4 major	4 extreme
5 almost certain				

level of concern
score range 0 - 20

3.4 BILLINUDGEL LOCALITY

Billinudgel is a local centre for business with a village atmosphere and is located 5.6 kilometres south west of North Byron Parklands. On Census night in 2016, there were 218 people in Billinudgel. The median age was 47 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 18.1% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 14.3% of the population.

The former railway town includes a busy industrial estate and places of residence. Its historic main street is the gateway to the farming district of The Pocket, and includes a general store, post office, the Billinudgel Hotel, various local businesses and the Billinudgel/Ocean Shores Volunteer RFS station.

The Pacific Motorway passes through the town's eastern side and partly forms a boundary with its neighbour suburb Ocean Shores.



Billinudgel locality

3.4.1 WAY OF LIFE

How people live, work and play

Families

In 2016 of the families in Billinudgel 41.8% were couple families with children, 40.0% were couple families without children and 18.2% were one parent families. Of all households, 64.6% were family households, 28.0% were single person households and 7.3% were group households

The Billinudgel community is largely characterised by family groups who value the peace of the surrounding farmland and rural character of their village. Billinudgel's residents experience the importance and impact of the events in different ways.

Community testimony

"The noise coming from the existing festivals is extremely disruptive and negatively impacts the residents of our area. The amplified music can be heard across the valley, even at our house 12km away, more of this noise is unthinkable..."

"...My name is Colin Ludlow and I am a local farmer, right next door to the festivals...The organisers do an amazing job keeping the roads smooth, noise down and I have never had a word of disturbance from any festivals goes..."

"...Recurring issues include noise, traffic, impacts on the environment, impacts on local infrastructure (roads, water, sewer systems) and impacts on residential amenity and health..."

"...NBP have been able to manage the two large festivals on site at current capacity limits with limited inconvenience to the general community. However, I have key concerns regarding the proposal to expand the patron numbers and festival days as outlined in the SSD application..."

"...I fully support the Byron North Parklands. They have created a low impact environment for artists and the community to share for the benefit of all..."

"...These festivals damage the local environment, the local culture, and the economy...."

Access to housing

In 2016, 90.8% of private dwellings were occupied and 9.2% were unoccupied. Of occupied private dwellings in Billinudgel, 78.5% were separate houses, 3.8% were semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses etc, 12.7% were flat or apartments and 5.1% were other dwellings. Median weekly rent was \$287 and median monthly mortgage repayments were \$1, 907.

Access to affordable housing and particularly long term rentals is a concern for Byron Shire residents. One Billinudgel resident identified the potential risk an increase in event days and patron capacity could have on the socio-economic diversity of the town if more permanent rentals became short-term holiday accommodation to suit increased demand. At the same time the resident supported the application's proposal for a conference centre, and for small and minor event days.

Community Testimony

"...The increase in festival days and capacity could see more permanent rentals become short term holiday rentals. This impacts on the community fabric and the socio economic mix of our community..."

Mobility

In 2016, 40.3% of occupied private dwellings had one registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, 35.1% had two registered motor vehicles and 20.8% had three or more registered motor vehicles.

On the day of the Census, the only responses for methods of travel to work for employed people were Car, as driver 61.9%, Worked at home 17.9%, Car, as passenger 3.6% and Walked only 3.6%.

Billinudgel residents have varied experiences with regard to the level of disruption the events impose on their day to day lives particularly in how they get around. The impacts are experienced differently by neighbours.

Community Testimony

"...I live near the festival site...We are affected by the traffic. We do not object to the site. But, the present crowd number of around 30,000 seems the limit the site and organisers can handle..."

"...with alternative routes via Billinudgel or Ocean Shores, residents can completely avoid the Yelgun exit if they are concerned about traffic congestion. However, I have travelled to Splendour and Falls' recent Festivals on several occasions and had no traffic trouble at all, and no longer feel the need to avoid the Yelgun exit..."

"...The people walking along public roads and parking illegally ... A lot of these people are very drunk and wander onto near the site is a worry to we local residents, as it is a serious safety concern..."

"...NBP have been able to manage the two large festivals on site at current capacity limits with limited inconvenience to the general community..."

"...I live in Crabbes Creek, and work in Billinudgel. During bump-in and bump-out it's hard to get to work with increased traffic movements - I have to change working routines to fit in with the traffic..."

Employment

There were 99 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in Billinudgel. Of these 43.4% were employed full time, 47.5% were employed part-time and 5.1% were unemployed.

The most common occupations included Labourers 18.3%, Technicians and Trades Workers 17.2%, Community and Personal Service Workers 17.2%, Professionals 16.1%, and Managers 11.8%.

Of the employed people, 7.3% worked in Pubs, Taverns and Bars. Other major industries of employment included Rock Lobster and Crab Potting 5.5%, Painting and Decorating Services 5.5%, Landscape Construction Services 5.5% and Other Specialised Food Retailing 5.5%. The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over in Billinudgel was \$588. 34.4% of households had a weekly household income of less than \$650 and 10.9% of households had a weekly income of more than \$3000.

Some residents expressed that the festivals created employment and economic opportunity for residents and local businesses. However, some residents also felt the economic benefits of the events had been overstated. One resident reported the events had impacted negatively on one local business owners long term business plans, while others spoke anecdotally about the disruptions the events placed on mobile and internet services making it difficult for some businesses. One Billinudgel resident present at the community workshop said she did not experience internet disruptions. Some Billinudgel

residents and business owners also felt there was an opportunity for jobs growth but emphasised the need for local employment.

Community Testimony

“...These music festivals not only boost our local economy but help local business owners...”

“...Economic Impact assessment -...This report is woefully inadequate as it does not provide strong evidence to support its claims...”

“...The Business Chamber sees Parklands as a vital contributor to North Byron tourism. The extra revenue generated by the festivals is significant, and the potential loss of that income is of great concern to businesses...Additionally the bus route (festival buses) should extend to Billinudgel village so the Billinudgel pub, Post Office and General Store can share in boost to local business.

“...Splendour's 2015 grant of \$2500 benefited us by enabling us to professionally build an internal ceiling with ventilation and heat control in our dated, old fashioned industrial unit shelter. This provided us with a much cleaner, hygienic and healthier environment to work within. As many of our volunteers are elderly (in their 60's and 70's) this has achieved improved working conditions for them and much less stressful and hygienic accommodation for the animals in our care...”

“...I acknowledge that the festival will bring extra tourism to the Byron Shire...we are a hot spot for both Australian and international tourists. Our economy does benefit from this...However, our community and environment are already struggling with the vast number of visitors...”

“...given the lack of reception, local businesses have been unable to operate eftpos facilities during festival time...”

“...The potential for LOCAL employment exists with the conference centre...there's a potential for diverse employment in eco management and project management - these are skilled jobs..”

“...The hotel where I work shelved plans for a \$12m renovation because of these festivals. They no longer hire people like they used to. It's an environmental and economic disaster...”

“...There are no local shops within the vicinity and most money is spent on site. There are no wages earned by the local community, the young people who are employed by the festival and vendors are largely paid in tickets. Given the lack of proper remuneration for work, the boasting of extra jobs in the local community is highly misleading in an area with already high youth unemployment...”

Recreation

Billinudgel residents who spoke about the positive impacts of the events recognised their value as cultural and social enrichment activities for the community in general and young people in particular. Residents did not state that events negatively impacted their leisure time or access to other recreational activities or facilities in particular. This year, local residents accounted for 11.9% of Splendour's ticket sales for a 35,000 patron event.

Community testimony

“...They have created a low impact environment for artists and the community to share for the benefit of all...”

“...In my opinion these festivals are essential for our community and our young generation having a holiday in one of the most beautiful parts of the country...”

“...Events offer a diverse cultural experience and enrichment activities...”

3.4.2 COMMUNITY

Its composition, cohesion, character, how it functions and sense of place.

In 2016, the median age of people in Billinudgel was 47 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 18.1% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 14.3% of the population. 41.8% were couple families with children, 40.0% were couple families without children and 18.2% were one parent families.

The most common occupations in Billinudgel included Labourers 18.3%, Technicians and Trades Workers 17.2%, Community and Personal Service Workers 17.2%, Professionals 16.1%, and Managers 11.8%.

36.3% of people were attending an educational institution. Of these, 18.1% were in primary school, 23.6% in secondary school and 18.1% in a tertiary or technical institution.

67.9% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were England 7.1%, New Zealand 4.2%, Scotland 1.4%, France 1.4% and Germany 1.4%.

Billinudgel residents feel the events' negative and positive impacts on their community's character and composition to a greater and lesser degree. However most residents describe the negative impacts of events as disruptions rather than as long term impacts on the community's character and composition.

Community Testimony

"...I fully support the Byron North Parklands. They have created a low impact environment for artists and the community..."

"...These festivals damage the local environment, the local culture, and the economy..."

"...NBP have been able to manage the two large festivals on site at current capacity limits with limited inconvenience to the general community..."

"...there are purpose built existing venues in the Byron Bay commercial area that have the capacity to provide these services. If the developers genuinely believed that these festivals have sufficient value to add to the community there are possibilities that do not require the disruption to the farming and rural areas of north Byron Shire..."

3.4.3 ACCESS TO & USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES & FACILITIES

Traditionally, communities in the north of Byron Shire, including Billinudgel, have felt overlooked by council regarding the upkeep and maintenance of its roads, drainage, and public buildings.

Residents experience the impacts of the events on their access to and use of local amenities in nearby towns to varying degrees.

While some residents welcome the annual financial contributions the events give to community initiatives, residents also felt that patron impact on the services and infrastructure is to such an extent that Parklands should make a greater financial contribution to help council maintain public amenities. The Byron Shire currently receives more than 2 million visitors annually.

Community Testimony

"...The Byron Shire does not need more tourists ..we are unable to cope with the current load .Our Council lacks the resources to maintain our infrastructure which is in a parlous state...Very little, proportional to Parklands (sic) profits, is paid in rates etc by Parklands to BSC..."

"...The phone services are insufficient and the residents are left with no mobile or data coverage for the duration of the festival. This is particularly problematic in an area that is already an identified black spot for phone coverage...Attempts were made to address this at Falls Festival 2017, however the addition of an extra phone tower did not provide any sufficient phone coverage and locals still had no reception for the time of the festival"

"...We do not have the infrastructure to support the current number of festival attendees, or additional visitors to the area..."

3.4.4 CULTURE

In 2016, 67.9% of people in Billinudgel were born in Australia. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 6.0% of the population.

The most common countries of birth were England 7.1%, New Zealand 4.2%, Scotland 1.4%, France 1.4% and Germany 1.4%. 82.6% of people only spoke English at home. The only other responses for language spoken at home were Italian 1.8%, French 1.4%, Spanish 1.4% and Maori (New Zealand) 1.4%.

47.9% of people had both parents born in Australia and 26.5% of people had both parents born overseas. Most common ancestries were English 27.6%, Australian 26.5%, Scottish 11.3%, Irish 8.8% and Italian 4.2%.

The most common responses for religion in were No Religion, so described 44.1%, Not stated 17.5%, Catholic 16.1%, Anglican 8.1% and Christian, nfd 4.7%.

Residents in Billinudgel did not identify negative or positive impacts of the events as they relate to the disruption or enhancement of their specific religious or cultural practices.

Some residents identified the events provided important opportunities for inclusive social enrichment and creative expression for artists.

The environmental group Conservation of North Ocean Shores provided comment and assert that Indigenous cultural values are at risk if Parklands is approved as a permanent venue for cultural events.

Community Testimony

"...In my opinion these festivals are essential for our community and our young generation having a holiday in one of the most beautiful parts of the country..."

"...They have created a low impact environment for artists and the community to share for the benefit of all..."

"...Events offer a diverse cultural experience - enrichment activities..."

"...Conservation of North Ocean Shores was established in 1992. The group's main objective has been to protect the natural and cultural values of the lowland coastal ecological communities in the north of Byron Shire. CONOS was instrumental in the establishment of the Marshalls Creek & Billinudgel Nature Reserves. There are over 50 Threatened Species recorded for the Billinudgel Nature Reserve and surrounding lands. Additionally, there are several Ecological Endangered Communities, a regionally significant wildlife corridor and a precinct rich in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage. The SSD application for a permanent festival site, with roads and permanent infrastructure catering for 35,000-50,000 patrons now places all this at risk..."

3.4.5 HEALTH & WELLBEING

While residents did not speak about impacts on health positively or negatively in particular, one resident spoke about the general incidence of 'festival flu' as an impact of the events.

Some residents spoke generally about the positive and inclusive nature of the events, while others spoke about the events only in terms of the disruption they caused in terms of noise and traffic. In this, the events have potential to make some members of the community people feel good and increase feelings of wellbeing, at the same as making others feel irritable and detract from their feelings of general wellbeing.

Other residents stated their concerns for the potential negative impacts of the events with regard to the public safety of pedestrians on local roads, while others questioned Parklands' proposed plans for waste management in particular and its potential impact on public health.

Community Testimony

"...Problems have arisen repeatedly throughout the trial, many unpredictable, e.g., the on-site traffic nightmares at Splendour 2016, recurring outbreaks of "festival flu"..."

"...Recurring issues include noise, traffic, impacts on the environment, impacts on local infrastructure (roads, water, sewer systems) and impacts on residential amenity and health..."

"...The people walking along public roads and parking illegally (The day parking is often full). A lot of these people are very drunk and wander onto near the site is a worry to we local residents, as it is a serious safety concern..."

“...Personally my biggest concern if (sic) flooding...People could get hurt in all the barb wire fences (cow paddocks) (sic) or worse drown! A 1000 gallon water tank was swept onto the fence of Wooyung rd. during this flood. Peoples equipment and belongings would have been rendered dysfunctional and spread over a huge area. What about all the sewage if it floods during a festival?”

“...Sewage is to be buried or sprayed on the Parklands site, which straddles two water catchments. Both tactics carry risks of contamination of ground water and surface water that will affect nearby residential areas and the Nature Reserve...”

...Also, no provision is made for dealing with inorganic matter in the waste stream, e.g., sanitary products, plastics, etc., or for treating chemicals that become part of the waste stream, e.g., prescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs, and other unmetabolised chemicals. And it's not clear if UV light or chlorine will be used to disinfect the waste and if the process will be fully effective...”

“...Fire risks continue to be great, especially since the festivals have numerous bonfires and are located in a fire-prone area...”

3.4.6 SURROUNDINGS

Billinudgel is a local centre for business with a village atmosphere. The former railway town includes a busy industrial estate and places of residence. Its historic main street is the gateway to the farming district of The Pocket. The Pacific Motorway passes through the town's eastern side and partly forms a boundary with its neighbour suburb Ocean Shores.

Billinudgel's residents experience the impacts and hold fears for the potential impacts of events in their immediate surroundings and the Billinudgel Nature Reserve to a greater or lesser extent. Most residents identified feelings of connection to and respect for the beauty of their natural environment.

Residents have expressed the negative impact of events on their natural environment to a greater or lesser extent. Members of the environmental group Conservation of North Ocean Shores identify strongly with the environmental and cultural assets of the venue and surrounds. The group has campaigned strongly against the project and assert the project adversely impacts the ecological values and Aboriginal heritage of the venue and its adjacent Billinudgel Nature Reserve.

Community Testimony

“...Approval of this proposal will permanently change the nature of this ecologically-significant area--for the worse...”

“...Conservation of North Ocean Shores was established in 1992. The group's main objective has been to protect the natural and cultural values of the lowland coastal ecological communities in the north of Byron Shire. CONOS was instrumental in the establishment of the Marshalls Creek & Billinudgel Nature Reserves. There are over 50 Threatened Species recorded for the Billinudgel Nature Reserve and surrounding lands. Additionally, there are several Ecological Endangered Communities, a regionally significant wildlife corridor and a precinct rich in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage. The SSD application for a permanent festival site, with roads and permanent infrastructure catering for 35,000-50,000 patrons now places all this at risk...”

“... It is very difficult to find a space which offers such natural beauty. I believe the owners/organisers of the events held there are very respectful of the natural elements surrounding and including the site. Yes it may impact on local fauna, but the impacts are minimized and well managed. I haven't seen another site like it that is so complimentary to the native flora and fauna...”

“...My husband and I have lived in this area all of our lives ...and live at the [REDACTED] purely for the peace and quiet. This area is farmland in a rural community...This is an unsustainable and unnecessary development that will negatively impact the lives of people living in our rural communities...”

“...I am a local farmer, right next door to festivals...The organisers do an amazing job keeping the roads smooth, noise down and I have never had a word of disturbance from any festivals goers...”

3.4.7 PERSONAL & PROPERTY RIGHTS

Residents in Billinudgel did not express impacts either positive or negative on their personal or property rights.

3.4.8 DECISION MAKING SYSTEMS

Some residents have expressed they feel powerless in the Development Application's decision making process. Some residents expressed that Byron Shire council should be the project's determining authority and rejected the notion of due process required for State Significant Developments. Residents felt local issues were being determined by a level of government who do not have local interests at heart.

Some residents also question the level of rigour and scrutiny under which Parklands performance has been assessed by the Department of Planning so far. Some residents also discredited the value of Parklands' and the DP&E's community consultations and were not convinced their concerns were heard or valued.

Community Testimony

"...Byron Council, in consultation with local residents and business owners, should be determining the shire's destiny--not the state government..."

"...With big international business now involved, the stakeholders are on a full out pressurising mission to get maximum use of the site to make max profit. Hence the devious move to take the control of the site from our local Council to State Govt bureaucrats who really have no idea of what goes on locally, who are out of touch with community. As community member I have no faith in this process..."

"...The Department has not been overseeing the ecological monitoring with enough rigour to ensure that an effective program has been designed and implemented. No compliance actions have been taken in the face of numerous breaches of the conditions associated with ecological monitoring..."

"...This is big business getting the nod from their mates in government to plunder the regional economy on terms not available to anyone else..."

"...And why does PAC, DPE favour the arguments of festival punters (often doing pro format submissions) who live outside the Shire who have no idea of the bigger picture impacts on our local community?..."

"...I have written numerous submissions on the Parklands site, spoken at PAC at least once, attended the others. Visited the site as an environmental rep way back in the early days cc 2007? And I went to the latest Community consultation at Ocean Shores, a disappointing and inadequate process generally. No idea if this is even being read by anyone. Generally we in the community are not listened too. (sic) Basically I have no faith in the democratic system/ process that is supposed to support community and work for the common good..."

3.4.9 FEARS & ASPIRATIONS

While some residents were supportive of the project and predicted the events would bring about cultural, social and economic benefits for the community, some residents also feared the negative impacts they experience presently would be compounded by the proposed increase in event days and patron capacity. They feared in general an increase in traffic congestion, anti-social behaviour, noise, and further disruption to services and the degradation of public infrastructure and the natural environment.

Residents also had safety concerns and predicted that increases in patron capacity would negatively impact available policing and other emergency service resources. There was also some uncertainty around Live Nation's involvement with Parklands and its events into the future.

Residents also felt that Parklands and the events have an opportunity to be good neighbours and also commit to making a greater financial contribution to help protect and enhance the community's existing cultural and public assets. One resident also hoped that if any capacity increases were approved that this would be managed incrementally as per previous events. Other residents also hoped that practical strategies to ease traffic congestion would be implemented.

Community Testimony

Increase in economic opportunity

"...The potential for LOCAL employment exists with the conference centre..."

"...there's potential for diverse employment in eco management and project management - these are skilled jobs..."

"...The villages and hinterland can be enjoyed by visitors. If managed well this can be great for our area's economy..."

Other Opportunity

"Parklands has an opportunity to add to the community's existing values and contribute to enhancing the 'Byron brand' rather than exploiting it..."

"...Above and beyond compensating the community for the impost and impacts of events, Parklands can become a proactive and responsible community member..."

Live Nation

"...The two major festivals staged on the site are 51% owned by Live Nation, an American entertainment conglomerate... an entity that is not answerable to elected officials or local residents..."

Natural Environment

"...The proposal, if approved, will destroy the environmental qualities that we as a community have the responsibility to protect for future generations..."

"...Approval of the proposed event days and capacity increases will amplify the negative impacts on flora and fauna..."

"...What about the impact on water resources?..."

"It will have impacts on policing resources...How can that many people be evacuated in an emergency of fire or flood? We don't have the emergency resources to manage it...and we can expect these risks to increase as we experience extreme weather with climate change over the next 10-20 years..."

Public safety

How can that many people be evacuated in an emergency of fire or flood? We don't have the emergency resources to manage it...and we can expect these risks to increase as we experience extreme weather with climate change over the next 10-20 years..."

"... Although I am opposed to an increase in patron numbers, if this is granted, the incremental increases need to be adjusted...If an increase in patron numbers is considered at all, experience shows that 2,500 per year is an appropriate number..."

Access to services and impacts on infrastructure

"...opening the northern gate to Wooyung Rd will cause traffic congestion and flow on effects in other villages in the north like Pottsville..."

"...Encourage bus travel by giving free bus transport to ticket holders..."

"...I'd love to see a train go from Murwillumbah to Byron, stopping at Yelgun for the festivals to relieve traffic congestion..."

"It will have impacts on policing resources...How can that many people be evacuated in an emergency of fire or flood? We don't have the emergency resources to manage it...and we can expect these risks to increase as we experience extreme weather with climate change over the next 10-20 years..."

"...NBP is required to make Section 94 contributions, but this is a one-off contribution and does not reflect the ongoing stress on the community and its infrastructure (such as roads, amenities). I understand NBP is in talks currently with council about a potential per-ticket levy to go to council. This is a good start, however, I would like to see a commitment to this prior to consent being considered..."

3.4.10 Risk Assessment

Having regard to the social research carried out for the Billinudgel locality a risk assessment has been completed. The risk assessment has been completed with respect to the key considerations highlighted by the consultation. That assessment is summarised in **Table 3.4**.

TABLE 3.4 RISK ASSESSMENT TABLE – BILLINUDGEL

	likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity	level of concern
Analysis of negative impacts on Way of Life						
Mobility						12
Noise						11
Access to housing						9
Employment						8
Analysis of negative impacts on community						
Damaging to local culture, economy and environment						9
Analysis of negative impacts on access to Infrastructure and services						
Disruption to eftpos transactions						13
Disruptions to mobile phone reception						12
Analysis of negative impacts as relates to culture						
Disturbance of Indigenous heritage sites at the venue		NA				6
Analysis of negative impacts on Health and Wellbeing						
Illness caused by festival goers e.g 'Festival flu'						11
Health impacts of poor onsite waste water management						10
Impacts on community safety with a natural disaster during an event						10
Analysis of negative impacts on Surroundings						
Immediate environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve		NA				10
Cumulative environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve		NA				10
Analysis of negative impacts on Personal & Property rights						
None stated						

Legend

likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity
1 rare	1 single property	1 rarely	1 insignificant	1 minor
2 unlikely	2 multiple properties	2 occasionally	2 minor	2 moderate
3 possible	3 a large part of the neighbourhood	3 the whole time of an event	3 moderate	3 major
4 likely	4 the whole neighbourhood		4 major	4 extreme
5 almost certain				

level of concern
score range 0 - 20

3.5 OCEAN SHORES AND NEW BRIGHTON LOCALITIES

Ocean Shores and New Brighton are a coastal settlement located on the edge of the Brunswick River catchment, and is situated approximately five kilometres south of North Byron Parklands. The terrain is mostly elevated with ocean views. The Capricornia Canal runs through North Ocean Shores and connects with Yelgun Creek. North Ocean Shores lies adjacent Billinudgel Nature Reserve.

At the 2016 Census, Ocean Shores/ New Brighton had a population of 4,300. The median age of residents was 45. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 16.8% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 18.0% of the population.

New Brighton was first surveyed as a settlement in 1908.

Ocean Shores was developed in 1969. Ocean Shores Shopping Village includes a supermarket, Country Target department store, Ocean Shores Tavern, Medical Centre and other small business. There is a popular golf course and Country Club nearby. Ocean Shores Public School and Ocean Shores PreSchool are located in North Ocean Shores.

3.5.1 WAY OF LIFE

How people live, work and play

Families

In 2016, of all households, 64.4% were family households, 29.0% were single person households and 6.5% were group households. Of the families, 35.3% were couple families with children, 39.7% were couple families without children and 23.9% were one parent families.

The Ocean Shores/ New Brighton community is largely characterised by family groups who value the coastal and estuarine environment. Ocean Shores residents have varied feelings about the importance of the events and how they impact their households and neighbourhood. Close neighbours express their experience of the impacts of events in their town differently.

Community testimony

"...The noise to date has been unacceptable..."

"... I have no objections to the proposals. Any problems related to noise or traffic during events seem to have been addressed..."

"...I'm next to a festival bus stop on Goondooloo...the kids congregate in my street near the bus stop, they're loud and my letterbox was stolen...they swim in the river with glitter...kids are partying and disrupt the peace...this is already happening, if capacity increases that's scary to me..."

"...The Falls Festival at this site gets everyone together, it's a good time and it's really good for the community..."

"...Anti social behaviour increases during festivals. The amount of rubbish on our footpaths, beaches and waterways increases... For us, when the wind is from the north, the noise from the festival can be objectionable..."

"...our family of five attend both these events and our home is totally full of other family and friends who stay with us to attend the two events. We love the beautiful site and we look forward to more cultural and community events being held here..."

Mobility

In 2016, 39.4% of occupied private dwellings had one registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, 40.0% had two registered motor vehicles and 14.1% had three or more registered motor vehicles.

On the day of the Census, the most common methods of travel to work for employed people were: Car, as driver 66.2%, Worked at home 9.9% and Car, as passenger 3.6%. Other common responses were Truck 1.5% and Walked only 1.2%. On the day, 0.8% of employed people used public transport (train, bus, ferry, tram/light rail) as at least one of their methods of travel to work and 70.1% used car.

Residents have varied experiences with regard to the level of disruption the events impose on their day to day lives particularly in how they get around Ocean Shores and surrounding villages in Byron Shire. The impacts are experienced differently by neighbours.



Ocean Shores locality



New Brighton locality

Community Testimony

“...traffic... it makes the roads busier...”

“...Since the Festivals have been located out of the Byron CBD it has had a lot less impact on the traffic congestion in and out of Byron Bay...”

“...During the last festival, I spend (sic) 55 mins in bumper to bumper traffic trying to get a car park for an appointment in Brunswick Heads...”

“... the traffic and shopping is manageable I'm not experiencing them as negative impacts...”

“...The current festivals already create extra load and stress on our infrastructure from the increased number of cars, trucks, camper vans ... etc. ... traffic jams! ... here!!...”

“I personally do not attend the events, but am yet to be negatively impacted by them when they are held. Traffic, noise and environmental impact is managed tremendously well for an event of this size...”

“... I have no objections to the proposals. Any problems related to noise or traffic during events seem to have been addressed...”

“...Firstly, once again the local community will be severely impacted by noise, traffic , and general disruption...”

Access to housing

In 2016, 89.9% of private dwellings in Ocean Shores/ New Brighton were occupied and 10.1% were unoccupied. Of occupied private dwellings, 86.5% were separate houses, 6.5% were semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses etc, 5.6% were flat or apartments and 0.4% were other dwellings. Weekly median rent was \$400 and median monthly mortgage repayments were \$1,570.

Residents in Ocean Shores/ New Brighton who provided comments did not identify event impacts in relation to housing availability or affordability.

Employment

In the week before Census night in Ocean Shores/ New Brighton, 1,976 people reported being in the labour force. Of these 42.1% were employed full time, 44.2% were employed part-time and 7.5% were unemployed.

The most common occupations in Ocean Shores/ New Brighton included Professionals 23.0%, Technicians and Trades Workers 16.5%, Community and Personal Service Workers 13.4%, Clerical and Administrative Workers 10.9%, and Labourers 10.7%. Of the employed people, 3.6% worked in Other Social Assistance Services. Other major industries of employment included Cafes and Restaurants 3.3%, Hospitals (except Psychiatric Hospitals) 3.3%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 3.1% and Accommodation 2.5%.

The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over was \$568. 26.2% of households had a weekly household income of less than \$650 and 5.5% of households had a weekly income of more than \$3000.

Some Ocean Shores/ New Brighton residents and business owners commented that events created employment opportunity for them personally, their businesses and staff. Other residents spoke more generally about perceived economic benefits and jobs creation of the events. However, some residents felt the economic benefits of the events were overstated and called for an independent analysis of the economic impacts.

Community Testimony

“...I've been a coach driver for 25 years and delivered patrons to many cultural and music venues right across Australia, and I can say without a doubt that North Byron Parklands now has one of the best management plans for security, traffic, transport and infrastructure of all the festivals I've worked with. They continually try to improve services and support for their patrons and local communities, and they provide many jobs and associated jobs like mine, that assist many families through School Holidays and Christmas...”

"...It is without hesitation that the Ocean Shores Tavern formally support the submission for North Byron Parklands to become a permanent site for festivals and other tourism & entertainment, and local community events. As part of the North Byron Shire business community, we have very much welcomed the increase in visitation, and therefore business, to our area. While the festivals themselves attract this increase, in addition what is noticeable has been the onflow of guests in holiday periods, perhaps having realised the beauty and ease of holidaying in this neck of the woods...North Byron Parklands has had a significant and positive impact on our business, and will be thrilled for this to continue..."

"...The chamber represents business members from South Golden Beach, New Brighton, North Ocean Shores, Ocean Shores, Yelgun and Billinudgel; the closest suburbs to North Byron Parklands. At our recent AGM, Business Chamber members voted unanimously in support of the North Byron Parklands proposed activities... The Business Chamber sees Parklands as a vital contributor to North Byron tourism. The extra revenue generated by the festivals is significant, and the potential loss of that income is of great concern to businesses..."

"... but the profile of most of the patrons that attend mega music festivals is youngish and aside from expenditure they make at the festival site they naturally don't spend as much in our general business precincts as visitors of a more mature or family profile...The economic benefits report, appendix W in the proposal, was generated by a Parklands paid consultant. Experts in assessing economic costs and benefits have described the report as incomplete, inaccurate and misleading..."

"...We also appreciate the employment they have created for so many local families with business experiencing very busy times..."

"...The north Byron Parklands project brings welcome employment opportunities and financial boosts to local businesses in the north of BYRON Shire..."

"...The festivals bring a much needed boost to the economy, and they give an opportunity for local people to work in new and interesting job roles, alongside international artists and performers..."

"...I also think it would be very beneficial to the local economy to allow the Parklands to be used for some smaller events throughout the year..."

"...Festivals in the middle of the year at the parklands, which is the slowest time of year for businesses bring a substantial amount of profit to the shire..."

3.5.2 COMMUNITY

Its composition, cohesion, character, how it functions and sense of place.

In 2016, the median age of people in Ocean Shores/ New Brighton was 45 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 16.8% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 18.0% of the population.

64.4% were family households, 29.0% were single person households and 6.5% were group households. Of the families, 35.3% were couple families with children, 39.7% were couple families without children and 23.9% were one parent families.

The most common occupations in Ocean Shores/ New Brighton included Professionals 23.0%, Technicians and Trades Workers 16.5%, Community and Personal Service Workers 13.4%, Clerical and Administrative Workers 10.9%, and Labourers 10.7%.

29.5% of people were attending an educational institution. Of these, 24.3% were in primary school, 20.3% in secondary school and 13.3% in a tertiary or technical institution.

73.7% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were England 4.8%, New Zealand 2.1%, Germany 1.2%, United States of America 0.8% and Israel 0.7%.

Ocean Shores/ New Brighton residents feel the events' negative and positive impacts on their community's character and composition to a greater or lesser degree. While some residents, schools and community groups commented on the particular and unique ways that Parklands and its events support community initiatives and add to social cohesion and sense of place, other residents commented that

events were generally disruptive and feared events could change the nature of the town. One resident also commented that differing opinions about the project was a cause of division in the community.

Community testimony

"...Brings everyone together..."

"...As principal of Ocean Shores Public School I have been very involved with the establishment of a close partnership with the North Byron Parklands. The organisation has been extremely supportive of the school both in providing \$25,000 to support our music programs, the involvement of students in significant tree planting and environmental programs and in the establishment of an excellent cross country course on the site that has been used for local, district and regional carnivals. The team has had considerable contact with students and endeavours to make a real commitment to our local community..."

"...This is a peaceful place and it has impacted on our social cohesion, it's dividing the community...We probably have similar values, but the experiences/impacts divide the community..."

"...Shores United soccer club are the largest not for profit sporting organisation in the north of the shire. We field teams and players from age 5 to 58 with over 160 registered players. We are not supported by council and survive only through the tireless work of volunteers. Byron Parklands have unselfishly contributed cash donations to our club on two prior occasions and this support has been instrumental in ensuring our survival... Many young people including almost our entire club attend these music festivals..."

"...Do not want to see this area becoming a second Byron bay with the delays in traffic ..overcrowded .. people walking streets late at night causing problems.. and noise.. increased partying in residential areas ...not being able to park in the area...noise increased..."

"...North Byron Parklands were the first organisation to support Waterlily Playscape when donating \$15, 000. This enabled launching the Waterlily project by sponsoring community consultations and professional design plans for the park, and set a great example for other local organisations to express their support. Nowadays, Waterlily Playscape is a vibrant community space and Splendour played a pivotal role in realising this vision. North Byron Parklands proved their actual and persistent commitment to local community projects..."

"...This is a family holiday venue and as such visitors are welcome, but the overcrowding, and the total lack of awareness and consideration of many of the visitors who flock here during festival time is unacceptable...As well as road traffic, there were people milling about - many of them with vacant eyes, or unable to stand straight, stumbling about in front of traffic..."

"Our Tidy Town Team has worked alongside the North Byron Parkland crews who have worked very hard to enhance, protect and re-forest this degraded farmland, and restore it to a beautiful. natural pristine space for cultural and community events....Without Splendour's support, we would not have all the tools we need for regular Landcare work in our local Reserves. Without the right tools, our voluntary job becomes a lot harder. In fact, their donations to many community groups each year often makes the difference to whether some sports or community groups survive and grow. NBP is one of very few event managers who financially support their local community from their profits..."

"...I object to the impact that 50,000 + people will have on our communities (sic) ... regarding traffic, noise, safety , diminished amenity of our small communities, increase of drug and alcohol intoxicated people in our communities and our roads, impacts on our environment , our fauna and population..."

"...As a licenced venue in the area, we can report zero negative behaviour during festival times..."

"...We would like events that attracted a different demographic. They would care more for our space - we don't feel impacted negatively by them..."

"...Most of the town's 6000 residents are in favour of this cultural events site because it gives back to the people something of what was originally promised. Permanency to Parklands means employment, training, small business opportunities, music, culture and fun! OSCA has supported this since 2008..." (Ocean Shores Community Association)

"...If successful, the proposed venue has the potential to attract patrons who may not behave in ways that are responsible or on keeping with the ethos of the surrounding community. Already during festivals we see people

sleeping on the beach between Wooyung and South Golden Beach, fires on the beach, an increase in litter on the beach and anti-social behaviour in our streets and nature reserves. This past summer there were also instances of predatory behaviour on the beach, which were reported to the police..."

"...after experiencing the trial events, I am satisfied that the proposal is, overall, positive for the local community. The positive outcomes such as jobs, boosting local business, cultural enrichment, education for young people and environmental restoration outweigh the short term impacts. The organisation has shown it is capable of avoiding or managing these short term impacts with its responsive management..."

"...Both Festivals held at Byron Parklands have supported our community since being established in Yelgun. They have provided tickets for fundraising for local Nippers and schools..."

"...The events also give and opportunity for local young people to interact with a wider group of people..."

"...I live in nearby Ocean Shores and find the owners are very respectful to our town and the events are very welcome by the vast majority of locals..."

"...Students at Ocean Shores Public School have benefited from the North Byron Parklands Community Grants Scheme. This year will be the fifth consecutive year that the school has received \$5000 for implementation of a music education program for our junior classes. The funding has allowed our school to engage a professional music teacher to come into the class and teach students, enabling access to a higher level of music expertise than would normally be able to be provided by a class teacher. A particular advantage of the grant provided to our school by Parklands was the security of funding over an extended period....Single year grants are of great benefits for built projects, however implementing programs, providing equitable access to learning opportunities for multiple classes over a number of years, requires ongoing commitments. It is rare for community grants to offer such security, and I can confirm that the students, parents and teachers at OSPs are grateful for the opportunities and outcomes provided by the grant. As the closest school to the North Byron Parklands site, we hope to be able to take advantage of the Community Grants Scheme again in the future..."

3.5.3 ACCESS TO & USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES & FACILITIES

Communities in Byron Shire's northern suburbs, including Ocean Shores/ New Brighton, have often felt overlooked by local council regarding the upkeep and maintenance of their roads, drainage, and public buildings.

The Byron Shire currently receives more than 2 million visitors annually, and many residents describe the considerable strain this places on public infrastructure. Some residents felt that the events compound the problem. Others felt that patron impact on services and infrastructure was pronounced and that Parklands' contributions to council are not adequate to offset event impacts on ailing public amenities.

Some residents commented that the events significantly disrupt their access to some services, while other residents felt that their access to services were not impacted. Some residents planned their travel around potential disruptions, and others felt that traffic and pedestrian disruptions were a consequence of the shires growth and popularity in general.

Some residents also commented that Parklands is an underutilised resource. These residents felt that Parklands was a significant community asset and spoke about ways to increase community access.

Community testimony

"...The current festivals already create extra load and stress on our infrastructure from the increased number of cars, trucks, camper vans ... etc. ... traffic jams! ... here!! ... at Shara Boulevard and Brunswick Valley Way (during recent Splendour and Falls festivals)..."

"... the traffic and shopping is manageable I'm not experiencing them as negative impacts..."

"...Ocean Shores is the largest residential town in the Byron Shire. It has no high school, university outreach TAFE, public or community health facilities or services, usable public space, town centre, government offices or services, minimal footpaths, cultural centre, art gallery as promised etc. ...Parklands give us back something of what is lost. Please make it permanent and stop the activists at last..."

"...I personally do not attend the larger events...I strongly believe that Parklands is currently under utilised as a cultural precinct for the northern rivers region and look forward to seeing the scope of the site extended to include more small and medium-sized events..."

"...During the last festival, I spend (sic) 55 mins in bumper to bumper traffic trying to get a car park for an appointment in Brunswick Heads..."

"...sorry, I totally forgot, its not 2005 anymore the area is booming with business. I always wait for coffee, I always have to try find a park its become the normal and thats fine, because I know the area is growing...I believe they have nothing to do with the festival but the growth of the area. and just so I am clear growth of the area is not a bad thing, and I believe it should be encouraged, as it is a wonderful place to live..."

"...makes the shops busier...sometimes I leave the area, or I prepare and do shopping before the events...it can be harder to park at the shops..but for the record I support the festivals 100%"

"...We were inundated during the last Falls Fest and Brunz was overrun with people to the point where residents could not get a parking place or get into a restaurant. Why should we have to deal with such a huge amount of people twice a year, and more festivals during the year? We live here year round and the pressure on our little villages is way too much as far as infrastructure..."

"...Parklands will pay \$420,000 in Section 94 contributions. That will be their contribution to bringing this massive development to the north of the shire--a tiny fraction of the profits that each festival takes in and not nearly enough to counteract the wear and tear on the north of the shire..."

3.5.4 CULTURE

In 2016, 73.7% of people in Ocean Shores/ New Brighton were born in Australia. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 2.9% of the population.

The most common countries of birth were England 4.8%, New Zealand 2.1%, Germany 1.2%, United States of America 0.8% and Israel 0.7%. 84.9% of people only spoke English at home. Other languages spoken at home included German 1.2%, Hebrew 0.8%, French 0.5%, Spanish 0.4% and Portuguese 0.4%.

55.6% of people had both parents born in Australia and 19.7% of people had both parents born overseas. The most common ancestries were English 28.8%, Australian 26.4%, Irish 11.2%, Scottish 7.2% and German 3.9%.

The most common responses for religion in were No Religion, so described 46.1%, Not stated 14.1%, Catholic 13.9%, Anglican 11.5% and Buddhism 2.6%.

Ocean Shores/ New Brighton residents did not identify negative or positive impacts of the events in relation to the disruption or enhancement of their specific religious or cultural practices. However residents identified that the events provided audiences with ready access to experience contemporary cultural products, and provided local artists with meaningful opportunities for cultural and creative expression. This year, residents accounted for 11.9% of Splendour's ticket sales for a 35,000 patron event.

Members of the Ocean Shores Community Association also spoke about the importance of commemorating the cultural heritage of early European settlers of Ocean Shores and also the suburb's approaching 50 year anniversary. The community association welcomed Parklands to be part of the town's celebrations. These residents also acknowledged the funding Parklands provides the community association to help protect a collection of mid 19th century cultural artefacts owned by the area's first European settlers in secure storage.

Community testimony

"...I have managed a small arts and music stage at Splendour In The Grass since 2005 and have employed hundreds of local artists and crew in that time. To many of these local artists, Splendour has become a paramount opportunity to feature their art on a national platform... These local artists, produce music, art and performances that reflect the visionary society that all of us here are attempting to create. There is no greater joy than seeing these young people realise their creative potential amongst a receptive audience..."

"... A thriving music, entertainment, arts scenes brings vitality to our area for the locals and a reason for visitors to come..."

"...Arts and music are an important part of the social capital of this area. Both of the current festivals on this property give opportunity to local artists, visual, musical and performance..."

"...I think that we need a solid home base for the arts in the Byron Shire and the North Byron Parklands will provide this for the shire..."

"...Any support for Community celebrations and activities is a much needed and valid sustainable practice that will support youth employment and a viable service and tourist industry, all the while increasing our cultural value. It is my sincere hope that North Byron Parklands will be granted permanency and be able to continue to host its larger events and an increased number of small events and therefore make a further contribution to our broad cultural life..."

"...The Arts can help disenfranchised youth..."

"...The best 2019 50th Birthday gift to the town is a permanent flourishing cultural events site within Ocean Shores' boundaries. OSCA has supported this since 2008..."

"...We have a rich European history too...1849 marks the European settlement of the area...Ocean Shores village was established 29/3/69... Parklands could help Ocean Shores celebrate its 50 years anniversary!"

"...it's great to have it so close to home!..."

"...I believe it's a fantastic event and venue that brings work , culture and people to our area. I support this festival and would like to see more festivals on this site..."

HEALTH & WELLBEING

While Ocean Shores/ New Brighton residents did not speak about event impacts on health positively or negatively with particular examples, some residents commented generally about 'festival flu' as a negative impact of the events.

Some residents spoke generally about the positive nature and joy associated with the events, whereas others spoke about the events only in terms of disruptions they caused in terms of noise and traffic. In this, the events have potential to make some members of the community people feel good and increase feelings of wellbeing, at the same as making others feel irritable and detract from their feelings of general wellbeing.

Other residents stated their concerns about potential negative impacts of the events with regard to public health and safety in the event of an emergency, while others questioned Parklands' proposed plans for waste water management in particular and its potential impact on public health.

Community testimony

"...Problems have arisen repeatedly throughout the trial, many unpredictable, e.g., the on-site traffic nightmares at Splendour 2016, recurring outbreaks of "festival flu"..."

"...Issues such as sewerage overload threatening human hygiene with Festival flu, traffic congestion, fire risk from fireworks, noise disturbance of the surrounding area affecting both wildlife and the community..."

"...The proposed sewage management raises many concerns. Sewage is to be buried or sprayed on the Parklands site, which straddles two water catchments. Both tactics carry risks of contamination of ground water and surface water that will affect nearby residential areas and the Nature Reserve..."

"...Besides the destruction of local habitat, the site is near to residential areas, and the noise (to be allowed until midnight) is clearly going to adversely affect both our health and property values..."

"...It's fun!...I rent out a room in my house to festival goers and the kids are so joyful! There's a culture of kindness, I really notice that they really look out for one another...everyone should go out and have a look at it. It's so well organised..."

“...The police say it will take up to 10 hours to get people out... You need to listen to the police, fire brigade and the people this concerns and not the land owners who only think of the money they make and not for the safety of the people...”

SURROUNDINGS

Residents experience the impacts of events on their immediate surroundings differently. Residents who identified negative impacts on surroundings expressed them in terms of noise, litter, illegal camping, anti-social behaviour and increased traffic. Other residents commended the events on their presence in the community in managing traffic, noise and other offsite incidents. In addition, community groups including Waterlily Playscape thanked Parklands and events for supporting local initiatives by providing funding to improve community playgrounds in Ocean Shores.

Residents also identified feelings of connection to and respect for the beauty of their natural environment. Residents have expressed the negative and positive impacts of events on the natural environment to a greater or lesser extent.

Members of the environmental group *Conservation of North Ocean Shores* identify strongly with the environmental and cultural assets of the venue and surrounds. The group has campaigned strongly against the project and assert that the project has had adverse impacts on ecological values and Aboriginal heritage at the venue and its adjacent Billinudgel Nature Reserve. Other community groups including Ocean Shores Tidy Towns and Ocean Shores Public School commended Parklands and events on preserving the natural environment and their impressive ecological programs.

While some residents expressed confidence in the environmental management and monitoring, other residents doubted the rigour and worth of ecological monitoring carried out to date.

Community Testimony

“...Already during festivals we see people sleeping on the beach between Wooyung and South Golden Beach, fires on the beach, an increase in litter on the beach and anti-social behaviour in our streets and nature reserves. This past summer there were also instances of predatory behaviour on the beach, which were reported to the police...”

“...I walk on South Golden and New Brighton beaches on a daily basis and have never noticed any negative impact. There is probably an extra 30 people on the beach tops, which is to be expected during holidays whether there are festivals or not...”

“...As a local resident, after experiencing the trial events, I am satisfied that the proposal is, overall, positive for the local community....The organisation has shown it is capable of avoiding or managing these short term impacts with its responsive management...”

“...Twice a year we have to put up with major increased traffic, Noise from the events, Noise from increased traffic, litter and vandalism just to mention a few things...”

“...As a North Ocean Shores resident, who lives within 4 km of Parklands, I was personally affected by traffic during the first couple of festivals...However, those teething issues have since been alleviated, and I no longer experience any traffic issues. Traffic on the highway is increased on the opening and closing days of the festival. Outside of those days traffic is as quiet as usual...”

“...I have no objections to the proposals. Any problems related to noise or traffic during events seem to have been addressed...”

“...I am concerned about the noise levels for myself, for other residents, for the nature of this region, and for the wildlife and eco systems that contribute to the special nature of this region...”

“...NBP do a great job of managing this huge 660 acre site, including their dedication to their environmental initiatives and programs within this site...”

“...North Byron Parklands were the first organisation to support Waterlily Playscape when donating \$15,000. This enabled launching the Waterlily project by sponsoring community consultations and professional design

plans for the park...Nowadays, Waterlily Playscape is a vibrant community space and Splendour played a pivotal role in realising this vision..."

"...Common sense tells us that if local residents' windows rattle, one kilometre away due to festival noise, as ours do, then wildlife will of course be distressed... it is damaging to our surrounding environment..."

"...the organisers have addressed environmental concerns re waste, sanitation, looking after the environment of the site when it is not being used for the events. I support this purpose built site for large & small music events. It is more positive for the environment & the surrounding community with organisers working within guidelines & continually resolving any problems arising..."

"...Conservation of North Ocean Shores was established in 1992. The group's main objective has been to protect the natural and cultural values of the lowland coastal ecological communities in the north of Byron Shire. CONOS was instrumental in the establishment of the Marshalls Creek & Billinudgel Nature Reserves. There are over 50 Threatened Species recorded for the Billinudgel Nature Reserve and surrounding lands. Additionally, there are several Ecological Endangered Communities, a regionally significant wildlife corridor and a precinct rich in Aboriginal Cultural Heritage. The SSD application for a permanent festival site, with roads and permanent infrastructure catering for 35,000-50,000 patrons now places all this at risk..."

"...Our Tidy Town Team has worked alongside the North Byron Parkland crews who have worked very hard to enhance, protect and re-afforest this degraded farmland, and restore it to a beautiful, natural pristine space for cultural and community events...Our Team applauds them for their care of their environment and their recycling and waste management practices that teach young people how to protect and restore their natural environment..."

"... Billinudgel Nature Reserve and Marshalls Ridge Wildlife Corridor are North Byron Shires most state significant assets. With species extinction in Australia reaching the globally highest rate, self monitoring and self-reporting by consultants paid by the proponent are clearly inadequate. Monitoring and reporting of the findings MUST be independent..."

3.5.5 PERSONAL & PROPERTY RIGHTS

Ocean Shores/New Brighton residents did not identify negative impacts of events on their personal rights. However, one resident spoke specifically about impacts on her property rights and described an incident where her letterbox was stolen during one festival. She described that her home is close to a bus stop in Ocean Shores that picks up and sets down festival patrons. While the resident did not provide detail about actually seeing festival patrons remove her letterbox, she assumes this was the case.

One resident identified the potential for negative impacts on resident personal or property rights and provided information that non-patrons had used fire trails near his home as an access route to enter festivals without a ticket.

Community testimony

"...I'm next to a festival bus stop on Goondooloo, and my letterbox was stolen..."

"...I am a Flinders Way resident which backs onto bushland that can be accessed to the north byron parklands site through maintained Fire trails. More frequently festival goers are attempting to access the site for free by entering the bushland from Flinders way, parking their cars on the footpath, urinating and leaving rubbish and disturbing residents when they return...There is not enough signage or security at this access point and is a growing problem and with more numbers proposed this needs to be addressed for sake of respect of the residents, fire safety, sanitary concerns and illegal camping..."

3.5.6 DECISION MAKING SYSTEMS

Some residents have expressed their general disappointment around decision making processes. Some residents have felt powerless in the process and expressed that local issues should be determined by local government. These residents rejected the notion of the due process required for State Significant Developments.

Some residents also questioned the level of scrutiny under which Parklands' performance has been assessed by the Department of Planning so far.

Other residents described that Parklands and the events have worked hard to manage event impacts and they felt involved in consultation and that concerns have been listened to.

Community Testimony

"...This site should not be controlled by the NSW Department of Planning. Oversight for all things associated the North Byron Parklands must reside locally with the Byron Shire Council. North Byron Parklands should be controlled by Byron Shire Council..."

"...We congratulate the owners and there (sic) team for the outstanding job they have done one developing and managing this large area, they have listen to community and worked hard to improve traffic noise and community amenity..."

"... I strongly believe that our Local Council must control what goes on in our community. They represent us, the residents, and as such will be responsible to the community for what goes on at Parklands..."

"...I support the continued presence of Byron Parkland at their present site. This organisation acts in a responsible manner towards local residents at all times..."

"...Only the Sydney-based NSW environment department oversee whether the organisers follow the rules. They are rarely seen here and as mentioned above its left to the organisers to abide to and they clearly have little respect for following and upholding these rules...The festivals have a history of breaking the rules and only receiving minor fines..."

"... I wish to acknowledge the manner in which the team at North Byron Parklands have conducted themselves since the sites development. They have been an absolute pleasure to deal with. They have always made themselves available for community consultation, chamber of commerce meetings, and even popping into the pub post festival for face to face feedback..."

"...Sending this to a State bureaucracy will certainly streamline operations for the organizers but will be a severe act of disempowering our community in the form of our Shire Councils, interested bodies and us the residents..."

3.5.7 FEARS & ASPIRATIONS

Some residents were supportive of the project and predicted the events would bring about cultural, social and economic benefits for the community. In addition, some of these residents commented that they hoped Parklands might be more readily accessible to the public as an open recreation space or be available for more small community events throughout the year.

Other residents who were generally supportive of events also expressed concerns around capacity increases for Splendour in the Grass, and hoped increases would be managed well. Other residents also hoped that Parklands would continue to support the community with its Community Grants Scheme. Some residents also felt Parklands could make greater contributions to Byron Shire Council to help maintain public spaces and community amenities.

Residents who were generally unsupportive of the events feared the negative impacts they experienced presently would be compounded by proposed event days and capacity increases. Their fears related to an increase in traffic congestion, anti-social behaviour and noise, disruption to services and the degradation of public infrastructure and the natural environment.

There was also some uncertainty around Live Nation's involvement with Parklands and its events into the future.

These residents also felt that Parklands and the events should make a greater financial contribution to help protect and enhance the community's existing public assets and infrastructure. While other residents did not trust the proponent's application and felt that the proposed number of festival days and patron numbers would seek to increase patron capacity in the future.

Community Testimony*Greater community access*

"...My key submission is in support of allowing North Byron Parklands to become a permanent Cultural Events Site and further to express that the proposed limit of 5x days of Community Events (up to 5000 patrons) and 2x Minor Community Events, should be greatly extended to provide a venue for many more Community and Minor Community Events each year...Regarding the number of Community and Minor Community Events in the current proposal, please consider increasing the number of days these can occur. Several years ago, our local primary school at Ocean Shores, proposed holding its annual Cross Country running event at the Parklands, rather than having to run on concrete and across several roads to complete the event within Ocean Shores itself. Surely in the north of the Shire, low impact activities of this kind should be carried out in a safe and suitable environment and I believe the Parklands site, meets this criterion. With a range of healthy and sporting pursuits and its culturally rich and creative community, Byron Shire deserves to have a suitable venue for Minor Community Events and it is my belief that a limit of 2x Days of such events, is clearly not enough. Currently there is no suitable venue for Community Events of up to 5000 people, without the need for Development Approvals and costly infrastructure. ..."

"...Imagine living near Centennial Park and not be able to use it; this is the case for North Byron community members...Aside from Parklands, North Byron has very little open green space for outdoor use, such as picnics, BBQs or nature walks. I propose and support that DPE & Parklands consider opening a section of Parklands for public use year round, with toilets, picnic tables, bins and BBQs and shaded areas, suitable for general public to use. Additionally, cleared nature walks would provide the community with a great space to exercise and commune with the environment, which improves health and wellbeing..."

"...The site would be ideal for recreational bike riders as it is free of public traffic...A program to assist public health via cycle tracks within the site will be well received and enormously beneficial to many people of all ages in the local community..."

"...Parklands landscape is very picturesque and would be an ideal location to hold outdoor weddings, with the Conference Centre able to host the wedding celebrations. Wedding business is lucrative for the shire, but there is very limited venues in North Byron. If Parklands can have weddings on site, it would open up new business for celebrants, photographers, caterers, musicians, wedding hire and provide a valuable service to the community and further improve the economic impact..."

"...It would be ideal if Parklands could have approval to host camping, outside of their own festival events, so that their venue could support other community events..."

Live Nation

"...Live Nation will not be accountable to Council and the local community. The two major festivals staged on the site are 51% owned by Live Nation, an American entertainment conglomerate. Permanent approval of this proposal will put profits generated at Parklands into the hands of that conglomerate, an entity that is not answerable to elected officials or local residents..."

Natural Environment

"...Approval of this proposal will permanently change the nature of this ecologically-significant area--for the worse..."

Access to services and impacts on infrastructure

"...I am for additional events, I do however think traffic/site amangemrnt (sic) needs to be given more consideration and a commitment to continue investing in local community organizations would be good..."

"...Two five day festivals of 50,000, at that site, would push our infrastructure and our community to breaking point, let alone adding in the extra planned events..."

“...If an increase in numbers of attendees and an increase in days during which events are held the community will be further inconvenienced. The level of sound and traffic will obviously increase...”

“...The roads in the Shire, already well below acceptable, will be further degraded by the heavy traffic brought to the area...”

“...ensure local traffic flows, especially at the intersection of Tweed valley way and Shara Boulevard...ensure that cleaning up the local environment of any detritus is carried out...ensure that the notorious internet/telecommunication black spot issues are not worsened by the crowd use of these resources...Maintain support for local community & school organisations. This has been positive thus far...Ensure constructive engagement with a local consultative group, that does involve listening and a serious response to issues...Suggestion: Please consider incorporating cycle infrastructure into the concept plans. The site would be ideal for recreational bike riders as it is free of public traffic...A program to assist public health via cycle tracks within the site will be well received and enormously beneficial to many people of all ages in the local community...”

Greater financial contributions

“...I strongly recommend that all festival attendees pay a minimum of \$5.00 per day levy to be provided directly to Byron Shire Council to address the extra stress put on our community, infrastructure ...etc. The levy is a very small percentage of a festival ticket, but collectively, could significantly address the expenses currently being borne by the community...”

“... Hopefully, the NIMBY's don't win on this one. Of course, we expect appropriate resources put into the various aspects of the festival to ensure residents are not unnecessarily impacted - eg security, waste management, traffic management, etc etc etc...”

Future modifications

“...Their stated aim of 50,000 attendees per day has to be seen as only the beginning. In early discussions one of the Parklands organisers was heard to say they intended to match Glastonbury Festival, which has 200,000 attendees..”

3.5.8 RISK ASSESSMENT

Having regard to the social research carried out for the Ocean Shores and New Brighton localities a risk assessment has been completed. The risk assessment has been completed with respect to the key considerations highlighted by the consultation. That assessment is summarised in **Table 3.5**.



TABLE 3.5 RISK ASSESSMENT TABLE – OCEAN SHORES – NEW BRIGHTON

	likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity	level of concern
Analysis of negative impacts on Way of Life						
Mobility						12
Anti-social behaviour						10
Noise						10
Analysis of negative impacts on community						
Changes to community cohesion						8
Changes to community character						8
Analysis of negative impacts on access to Infrastructure and services						
Disruptions in accessing public amenities						11
Disruptions to amenities and services						11
Disruptions in accessing telecommunications and other services						9
Damaging impacts on services and public infrastructure including, roads and sewer						9
Analysis of negative impacts as relates to culture						
None stated						
Analysis of negative impacts on Health and Wellbeing						
Illness caused by festival goers e.g 'Festival flu'						11
Health impacts of poor onsite waste water management						10
Impacts on community safety with a natural disaster during an event						10
Analysis of negative impacts on Surroundings						
Illegal camping						13
Litter						13
Immediate environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve		NA				10
Cumulative environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve		NA				10
Analysis of negative impacts on Personal & Property rights						
Theft						9
Trespass on bushland adjacent homes		NA				8

likelihood	
1 rare	
2 unlikely	
3 possible	
4 likely	
5 almost certain	

extent	
1 single property	
2 multiple properties	
3 a large part of the neighbourhood	
4 the whole neighbourhood	

duration	
1 rarely	
2 occasionally	
3 the whole time of an event	

severity	
1 insignificant	
2 minor	
3 moderate	
4 major	

sensitivity	
1 minor	
2 moderate	
3 major	
4 extreme	

level of concern
score range 0 - 20

3.6 BRUNSWICK HEADS LOCALITY

Brunswick Heads is a coastal village situated at the mouth of the Brunswick River located 10 kilometres south of North Byron Parklands.

The north bank of the river has a protected rainforest and its southern bank provides a harbour and small marina for fishing boats and small craft. Torakina Beach is situated within the town's breakwater at the northern end of a patrolled surf beach. The town's main beach sweeps to the south-east toward Byron Bay where it terminates after 10.5km at the mouth of Belongil Creek.

Brunswick Heads has a village atmosphere and the town includes a mix of cafes, restaurants, specialty shops, an historic pub, a range of tourist accommodation, as well as community facilities and services including: a public library,



Brunswick Heads locality

community centre, memorial hall, large playgrounds and picnic areas, Police Station, Fire Station, and Brunswick Heads Public School.

The town has an active Community Association, Visitor's Centre, Chambers of Commerce, Surf Life Saving Club and a range of special interest groups. Brunswick Heads is a popular tourist town with monthly markets, and annual community festivals.

At the 2016 Census there were 1,559 people residing in Brunswick Heads. The median age of people was 49 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 13.5% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 23.8% of the population.

3.6.1 WAY OF LIFE

How people live, work and play

Families

In Brunswick Heads of all households, 54.7% were family households, 39.3% were single person households and 5.9% were group households. Of the families in Brunswick Heads 28.4% were couple families with children, 39.6% were couple families without children and 29.9% were one parent families.

Brunswick Heads mostly consists of family households who value the town's family-friendly village atmosphere. Residents experience event impacts on their families and community in different ways.

Community testimony

"...the demographic the festivals attract do not align with our town's family friendly mission..."

"...Festivals are the only time we as a family truly (sic) spend quality time together and I'm talking sisters, brothers and cousins..."

"...there's vomit in the public toilets, and my grandchildren can't use the facilities..."

"...Great festival, it gets everyone together..."

"...buses go late into the night and disrupt our sleep..."

"...we find our town inundated with festival goers during the festivals, who leave rubbish, park anywhere they like, drink in the streets and clog-up our cafes and facilities..."

"...This summer 2017/2018 I was involved as co-ordinator of a project called 'Taking Care of Brunswick Heads during the Falls Festival'...During the festival we had three groups of volunteers cleaning up the town from Saturday to Tuesday starting at 7.30am and finishing at 4.30pm. They reported less rubbish at the start than last year and very little rubbish during the festival period. The placement of the bins, the example and work of the volunteer litter collectors and the participation of the whole community (residents, visitors and patrons) kept the town in my opinion and others 'cleaner than normal'..."

"...patrons vomit, defecate, urinate and litter...they're noisy and aggressive..."

"...Overall, Hotel Brunswick has been very impressed with the organisation that has been demonstrated by Falls Festival and Splendour In The Grass over their tenure at North Byron Parklands. The Hotel has found that festival goers, as a whole, are an incredibly respectful, friendly and easy going crowd... In addition, we have been incredibly impressed with the organisers commitment to investing in the township of Brunswick Heads throughout the duration of each festival. This is demonstrated by providing budgets that see teams of local people collecting rubbish, offering assistance and directions to visitors to the town and keeping amenities clean and usable..."

"...sick and tired of gridlocked roads, crowded streets, illegal camping with the stench of urine and human faeces (which lingers longer than the conclusion date of the festivals) as well as a massive increase of crime during the festival dates. North Byron Parklands has done nothing to assist our town in solving the above mentioned problems apart from throwing a few donations to our well meaning clubs & charities in their pathetic attempts to buy influence in the area..."

"...The Brunswick Heads Visitor Centre (VC) has partnered with the Falls & Arts Festival for the last 3 years. Falls Festival is held during the town's busiest time of the year and any impacts of the festival on the town that are identified by the community are addressed through a variety of strategies implemented during the "Taking Care of Brunswick During Falls"...Improvements and refinements to the strategies have been made each year following feedback by the project team and the community....Arrangements were made with Byron Shire Council (BSC) to provide extra rubbish bins, extra rubbish pick ups, extra toilet cleans and after hours contact details. Information pamphlets were produced by the VC and distributed to patrons on the bus.... a team of 11 volunteers welcomed and dispersed festival patrons who arrived by bus, surveyed people about their experience in town and kept an eye out for anything that may have potentially disturbed the harmony of the town. Volunteers also patrolled all illegal camping spots as well as collecting rubbish from around the business district, along Tweed Street from the IGA to Caltex, all the parks and along South Bank Road. Out of funding provided by the Falls Festival we arranged with BSC 3 additional general and 5 additional recycling bins plus 2 empties per day. As a result...the town was cleaner than normal. We engaged a cleaner to clean the toilets 3 hours per day as well as liaised with the BSC cleaning contractor resulting in quick clearing of toilet blockages and regular cleaning of the toilets throughout the days of the festival. There were no long queues at the toilets...The volunteers surveyed 31 visitors and locals to record responses from people about how they were finding the town during the Falls Festival. Average ratings for Cleanliness (7.6), Attractiveness (7.8), Tidiness (8), Friendliness (8.2) and Family Appropriateness (8.5)..."

"...I have had people camped in my driveway, rubbish dumpted (sic) up and down the street, loud and out of it people keeping us up at night..."

"...Brunswick Heads has a homeless population of about 150 people out of a permanent population of 1737. We have people sleeping in their vans, cars or in local parks and the bush all year. The number of people sleeping in vehicles increases in summer...I received no confirmed reports this year of anyone sleeping in a vehicle trashing the town or creating disturbing noises..."

Access to housing

In 2016, 85.2% of private dwellings were occupied and 14.8% were unoccupied in Brunswick Heads. Of occupied private dwellings, 55.3% were separate houses, 9.6% were semi-detached, row or terrace houses, townhouses etc, 22.5% were flat or apartments and 10.9% were other dwellings.

Of occupied private dwellings 36.2% were owned outright, 15.6% were owned with a mortgage and 42.6% were rented. In 2016, median weekly rent was \$310 and median monthly mortgage repayment was \$1,733.

Brunswick Heads residents did not identify positive or negative impacts of the events with regard to access to housing or housing affordability. One resident noted that homes used as AirBnB accommodation should be charged water tariffs. One resident commented on the homeless population in Brunswick Heads with regards to comments about patrons camping on the beach or in their cars during events.

Community Testimony

"... I believe it would be a good idea to charge Air BNBS, a higher water tariffs and encourage water consumption advice in all holiday rentals..."

"...Brunswick Heads has a homeless population of about 150 people out of a permanent population of 1737. We have people sleeping in their vans, cars or in local parks and the bush all year. The number of people sleeping in vehicles increases in summer...I received no confirmed reports this year of anyone sleeping in a vehicle trashing the town or creating disturbing noises..."

Mobility

In Brunswick Heads in 2016, 42.9% of occupied private dwellings had one registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, 31.8% had two registered motor vehicles and 11.5% had three or more registered motor vehicles.

On the day of the Census, the most common methods of travel to work for employed people were: Car, as driver 60.6%, Worked at home 9.0% and Walked only 6.7%. Other common responses were Car, as

passenger 3.6% and Bicycle 2.8%. On the day, 1.5% of employed people used public transport (train, bus, ferry, tram/light rail) as at least one of their methods of travel to work.

Residents have varied experiences with regard to the level of disruption the events impose on their day to day lives particularly in how they get around Brunswick Heads and surrounding villages in Byron Shire. The impacts are experienced differently by residents.

Brunswick Heads is a popular town for tourists and as such some residents in neighbouring villages commented that they regularly experience challenges with parking and getting about in Brunswick Heads throughout the year, while Brunswick Heads residents taking part in the community workshops said they valued the “low traffic density” of their town and spoke about significant traffic congestion and pedestrian impacts during event times. Some residents commented they were “housebound” because of increased traffic and pedestrians at event times. One resident also spoke about parking issues caused by the events.

One resident provided comment about visitors parked in their driveway which impacted on their ability to go about their business.

Community Testimony

“...I have been involved in fighting this development from the initial stages when I resided in Yelgun...We as residents, am sick and tired of gridlocked roads, crowded streets...”

“...Residents are “house-bound”..”

“...there's a park and ride situation going on where people going to the festival park their cars in Bruns because of the demand on the outbound Byron buses at the end of the night. They take a bus to Bruns because the line is shorter and then drive back to Byron...”

“...During the first festival (Falls) in 2015...there was a large influx of cars from festival patrons adding to the large numbers of cars from locals and visitors creating a large problem with parking. In response, the Brunswick Heads Chamber of Commerce approached the Falls Music & Arts Festival to discuss finding solutions to parking and other possible negative impacts on the town. Out of this discussion the idea of the 'Taking Care of Brunswick Heads during the Falls Festival' project was formed...”

“...I have had people camped in my driveway, rubbish dumed (sic) up and down the street, loud and out of it people keeping us up at night...”

“...A local resident from Booyan Street reported people sleeping in the laneway behind his home, and one day someone parked their van in front of his rear gate and went for a surf. He was unable to get his car out until the driver of van returned from his surf. No other incidents were reported....”

“...i think that festivals and those that attend dont (sic) really bring much to the locals. There are traffic problems, rubbish problems, noise problems and turn our area into a party town...”

“...The car parks were a premium as the timing of the Falls Festival coincides with the busy summer holiday period when the town's holiday accommodation is fully booked and the town attracts locals and visitors to the town for day trips...”

“.. it is actually turning locals off visiting their normal shops, due to the congestion on roads and chaos with cues and long waiting periods in cafes and local shopping centres...”

“... From Saturday 30 December 2017 to Tuesday 2 January 2018, 3,886 festival patrons arrived and 3,994 festival patrons departed Brunswick Heads in 193 buses.... fewer people and more buses than last year. Patrons were well behaved arriving and departing. On arrival they quickly cleared the bus zone and surrounding areas. Many headed to the bakery, others down the laneway and others down Fingal Street or Mullumbimby Street or headed to the health food store, IGA or BSW. Departing patrons waited on Park Street in the area corded off by water barriers. Only once did we have more than one bus load of patrons waiting to leave. There was no queuing on the footpaths outside the shops Oh My Goddess or Vintage Interior Pieces....”

“...The congestion of traffic also expands beyond the central part, it becomes a nightmare for Ocean Shores and other areas North of Ocean Shores also...”

Employment

There were 671 people who reported being in the labour force in the week before Census night in Brunswick Heads. Of these 41.3% were employed full time, 45.6% were employed part-time and 8.0% were unemployed.

The most common occupations in Brunswick Heads included Professionals 18.4%, Technicians and Trades Workers 16.0%, Managers 13.8%, Community and Personal Service Workers 13.6%, and Labourers 12.4%. Of the employed people in Brunswick Heads (Urban Centres and Localities), 5.4% worked in Accommodation. Other major industries of employment included Cafes and Restaurants 4.6%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 4.3%, Other Social Assistance Services 3.5% and Local Government Administration 3.0%.

The median weekly personal income for people aged 15 years and over in Brunswick Heads was \$535. 35.7% of households had a weekly household income of less than \$650 and 4.3% of households had a weekly income of more than \$3000.

Brunswick Heads residents and business owners commented that events created additional business and employment opportunities for themselves, their families and staff. Other residents spoke more generally about perceived economic benefits and job creation caused by events. However, some residents and business owners articulated that not all businesses in Brunswick Heads benefited from events. One business owner in particular provided comment that her business suffered because festival buses near her shop obscured her shop's visibility.

Residents also commented that they felt the events prevented the town's regular short-term, non-festival holiday makers from visiting the town, which in turn impacted on local business who rely on this type of custom. Other residents also noted the economic benefits of the events were overstated and that there was no independent analysis of the economic benefits.

Residents who provided comment at the community workshop felt that the majority of consumer spend "goes through the festival gates". Residents also commented that the proportion of profits going to overseas investors 'Live Nation' was also a negative impact on economic benefits generally.

Community Testimony

"...All the volunteers did a great job and they all expressed enjoyment and satisfaction in during their job. They all received encouraging feedback from local residents, business operators and visitors. Below is a sample of the feedback..."

Local resident: 'It's as if there is no festival on.'

Local cafe owner: 'Did not see anyone with hangover this year. Everyone well behaved.'

Local business owner: Everyone well behaved. He did so well he jokingly said he thought about retiring. Very happy.

Local business owner who is at work until 12.30am each evening/morning: No problems with alcohol or violence. Falls Festival patrons polite; okay to wait in queues; no queuing for buses; buses at night – no issues, come home and go to bed. Will take a Falls crowd over normal weekend crowd - well behaved and money to spend.

When I speak with the cafe owners they tell me the summer holidays including the festival patrons provides them with the income to help survive the rest of the year which has lower patronage. They all say they can handle more festival patrons. The festival patrons seem to come to town for food and to swim in the river or at the beach...." (Co-ordinator Taking Care of Brunswick During falls)

"...My shop is located right near the bus stop where the patrons get on and off for the venue and there is a constant flow of fumes and pollution from the engines waiting long periods between each bus...There is no visibility (sic) to my shop either because of the regular fesitival (sic) buses stationed outside blocking the view of my signage and people generally avoid this area because of the amount of people around. Imagine if these numbers increase? I would have to close my shop due to safety issues and the loss of business during this time.

These festivals do not generate an income for all of our local town, the majority is generated for themselves and the rich business people that own them..." (Vintage Interior Pieces)

"...Overall, Hotel Brunswick has been very impressed with the organisation that has been demonstrated by Falls Festival and Splendour In The Grass over their tenure at North Byron Parklands. Firstly, I would like to note that the two festivals have very differing affects on the trade that takes place at our business operation through the duration of each festival. The Hotel experiences its quietest weekend of the year over the Splendour Festival, while Falls Festival provides some of the busiest trade we experience throughout the year. The Hotel has found that festival goes, as a whole, are an incredibly respectful, friendly and easy going crowd..." (Hotel Brunswick)

"...there's no independent cost benefit analysis on the alleged benefits to the community..."

"...Social and economic inclusion via popular culture provides enrichment for local youth and also provides employment opportunities for citizens of the Byron Shire and beyond..."

"...My partner who is a Chef, was under a huge amount of stress and strain trying to keep up with the amount of people in town. Hospitality is a hard sweaty job at the best of times so it is very difficult to find, let alone employ staff that are trained and can cope in these peak times..."

"...Our area needs these events and we need somewhere to host them otherwise they will go to other areas and they will benefit from them like we do now!!!..."

"...even though I have a business here,the only day that I see a huge increase in profits,is the last day,when the traffic is gridlocked and people hang around, rather than sit in standstill traffic..."

"...My support for this application comes as a partner, sister and friend of people employed at this site through Splendour in the Grass and Falls Festival, but also as local resident and a marketing and events specialist with over 25 years experience. I feel it important to also understand that I am very precious about the local environment, the maintenance of it and the personal benefits I gain from living in such a beautiful natural environment..."

"...money has taken priority over ecology and wellbeing..."

"...I support the application because it brings music and cultural opportunities to the region along with beneficial economic impact..."

"...The two major festivals staged on the site are 51% owned by Live Nation, an American entertainment conglomerate. Permanent approval of this proposal will put profits generated at Parklands into the hands of that conglomerate..."

"...From Saturday 30 December 2017 to Tuesday 2 January 2018, 3,886 festival patrons arrived and 3,994 festival patrons departed Brunswick Heads in 193 buses...Patrons were well behaved arriving and departing. On arrival they quickly cleared the bus zone and surrounding areas. Many headed to the bakery, others down the laneway and others down Fingal Street or Mullumbimbi Street or headed to the health food store, IGA or BSW... There was no queuing on the footpaths outside the shops Oh My Goddess or Vintage Interior Pieces. The Nippers breakfast received little support from patrons and was not as successful as last year..."(Visitors Centre)

"...there is very little money left to spend locally as the festival tickets,plus camping,plus onsite costs exhaust (sic) a lot of the festival goers finances..."

Recreation

Some residents in Brunswick Heads said the events were an important element of their play, and valued the events as culturally and socially enriching activities. This year, local residents accounted for 11.9% of Splendour's ticket sales for a 35,000 patron event. Conversely, other residents did not identify with the events' value in terms of recreation, and asserted that events negatively impacted on their ability to access regular sources of recreation, for example, going to a favourite coffee shop.

Other residents noted the potential for negative impacts on visitor holiday experience, saying that congestion caused by the events changed the feeling of the town. These residents feared that their town's target tourist audience and long standing holiday makers would rethink visiting their town. Residents did not identify negative or positive impacts on any organised forms of recreation.

Community Testimony

"...I have been to all these events at this venue and it is the perfect spot for these type of events. Our area needs these events and we need somewhere to host them otherwise they will go to other areas and they will benefit from them like we do now!!!!..."

"...Long standing holiday makers are also saying they will be reconsidering re-visiting the area if this congestion and party town atmosphere continues..."

"...I support the application because it brings music and cultural opportunities to the region...I have attended every Splendour in the Grass since it moved to North Byron Parklands"

"...we are not Byron Bay, this is the whole reason people visit our town is to getaway from the stress of overpopulated towns and cities, to enjoy a stroll down the beach, and not to fight to get around people in carparks, or have to wait an hour for food..."

"...Great festival, it gets everyone together..."

"...Opportunity for employment, opportunity for growth, opportunity to provide entertainment, opportunity to provide and support diversity, (sic) opportunity to make people happy and from where I stand, in this day and age it is hard to find anything but positives in that..."

"...Local coffee shops are taken over..."

3.6.2 COMMUNITY**Its composition, cohesion, character, how it functions and sense of place.**

In 2016, the median age of people in Brunswick Heads was 49 years. Children aged 0 - 14 years made up 13.5% of the population and people aged 65 years and over made up 23.8% of the population.

28.4% were couple families with children, 39.6% were couple families without children and 29.9% were one parent families.

The most common occupations included Professionals 18.4%, Technicians and Trades Workers 16.0%, Managers 13.8%, Community and Personal Service Workers 13.6%, and Labourers 12.4%.

5.4% worked in Accommodation. Other major industries of employment included Cafes and Restaurants 4.6%, Supermarket and Grocery Stores 4.3%, Other Social Assistance Services 3.5% and Local Government Administration 3.0%.

30.5% of people were attending an educational institution. Of these, 19.7% were in primary school, 21.8% in secondary school and 18.8% in a tertiary or technical institution.

73.6% of people were born in Australia. The most common countries of birth were England 4.4%, New Zealand 2.6%, Israel 0.8%, Germany 0.7% and United States of America 0.7%.

Brunswick Heads residents feel the events' negative and positive impacts on their community's character, composition and how it functions to a greater or lesser degree. A number of residents and community groups commented on the ways that Parklands and its events have supported community initiatives and made particular mention that event and Parklands' staff had worked with community groups to enhance social cohesion and help preserve the sense of place. Other residents commented that events were generally disruptive and feared the type and number of visitors the events attracted were not a cultural fit for their town. These residents feared the character of their village would change. These residents did not feel that Parklands or event staff listened to resident concerns.

Community testimony

"...we find our town inundated with festival goers during the festivals, who leave rubbish, park anywhere they like, drink in the streets and clog-up our cafes and facilities..."

"...In my experience the Falls Music & Arts Festival staff and North Byron Parklands staff that I worked with have all been very supportive and quick to respond to any measure designed to keep the amenity of Brunswick Heads during the Falls Festival. I walked around the town four times a day during the Falls Festival and felt

there was plenty of space for everyone with people spread out comfortably in our parks, rivers and beaches and our cafes, shops and hotel. The town's open spaces were clean as well as rubbish bins emptied and toilets regularly cleaned. This year the energetic feel of the town was the very harmonious with locals, visitors and festival patrons all enjoying the delights that Brunswick Heads has to offer..."

"...We have to deal with the drunken behaviour and vandalism, people parking in our driveway, camping illegally and drink driving..."

"...The Hotel has found that festival goes, as a whole, are an incredibly respectful, friendly and easy going crowd...we have been incredibly impressed with the organisers commitment to investing in the township of Brunswick Heads throughout the duration of each festival. This is demonstrated by providing budgets that see teams of local people collecting rubbish, offering assistance and directions to visitors to the town and keeping amenities clean and usable..."

"...Brunswick Heads is a very small town, less than 1800 residents and whilst it certainly receives a lot of visitors each year, the type of visitors that are attracted to the area are coming for its family friendly, laid back fishing village ambience. Not only will it affect the town of Brunswick Heads but all the other smaller towns surrounding the festival site... Unfortunately these large festival venues and events are a complete contradiction in terms of what Brunswick Heads and what this area represents to its locals and visitors..."

"...Brunswick Valley Landcare Inc (BVL) has been the recipient of funds from the Nth Byron Parklands Community Grants Programme... the Community Programme has assisted BVL's ability to support the wider Byron Shire community in natural resource management, education and on-ground projects within the Shire. BVL is also involved with Nth Byron Parklands in environmental awareness and learning programmes aimed at schools in the local region..."

"...North Byron Parklands has done nothing to assist our town in solving the above mentioned problems apart from throwing a few donations to our well meaning clubs & charities in their pathetic attempts to buy influence in the area. Their ongoing contempt for the problems that their actions cause to the residents of the area shows no bounds or concern..."

"...I have witnessed first hand, the care and attention that the organisers and those who manage the site and the events, take to protect the physical environment, and also the safety of the patrons both on-site and as they move away from the site..."

"...we are not a back-packers' town!..."

3.6.3 ACCESS TO & USE OF INFRASTRUCTURE, SERVICES & FACILITIES

The Byron Shire currently receives more than 2 million visitors annually, and many residents describe the considerable strain this places on their access to services and public infrastructure. Some residents felt that the events seriously compounded the problem.

Residents commented that the events significantly disrupt their ability to access some services, while others commented that impacts on services and amenities were well managed. Other residents noted that the events gave them important access to cultural events they would otherwise miss out on.

One resident from Brunswick Heads commented that they objected to proposed roadworks to allow buses and service vehicles to enter Festival Gate A on Jones Rd in Yelgun. While it can only be assumed that these proposed works would not directly impact this residents ability to access services or infrastructure, it's assumed they are sensitive to the ways that this change might impact residents who live on Jones Rd.

Community Testimony

"...patrons trash our toilets...Bruns can't cope with them coming in..."

"...In my experience the Falls Music & Arts Festival staff and North Byron Parklands staff that I worked with have all been very supportive and quick to respond to any measure designed to keep the amenity of Brunswick Heads during the Falls Festival..."

"...Locals in need of emergency care are forced to queue for hours waiting for assistance...Failure to address Pacific Highway gridlock and inability to access Byron hospital and Byron town as a result of megafestivals..."

"...impacts on sewage..."

"The Brunswick Heads Visitor Centre partnered again with The Falls Music & Arts Festival in 2017/2018 for the Taking Care of Brunswick during Falls" Project, to enable us to mitigate some of the possible negative effects of the festival on the amenity of our town... We engaged a cleaner to clean the toilets 3 hours per day as well as liaised with the BSC cleaning contractor resulting in quick clearing of toilet blockages and regular cleaning of the toilets throughout the days of the festival. There were no long queues at the toilets..."

"can't cope, we're too small, only a small community"

"...31 people were surveyed during the Falls Festival from Saturday 30 December 2017 to Tuesday 2 January 2018. 12 were from Brunswick Heads, 8 from Byron Shire, 1 was a NSW resident visitor, 4 were interstate visitors, 1 was from overseas and 5 were Falls Festival patrons. Average ratings for Cleanliness (7.6), Attractiveness (7.8), Tidiness (8), Friendliness (8.2) and Family Appropriateness (8.5). Of the 31 people only 8 gave a rating under 7 and interestingly 4 out of the 4 people surveyed on Tuesday 2 January gave a rating under 7. Tuesday was overcast and had a thunderstorm in the afternoon..."

"...council's role is to look after local services and respond to local problems - like litter and illegal camping, this needs a systemic approach to enhance and sustain the community..."

"... I have witnessed first hand, the care and attention that the organisers and those who manage the site and the events, take to protect the physical environment, and also the safety of the patrons both on-site and as they move away from the site. It is with this hands on experience that has convinced me that there is, and can continue to be balance between 'sustainable growth and development' and the protection of our environment and local community assets..."

"...The number of visitors to the proposed events is not in keeping with current infrastructure capabilities..."

"...The town is heaving at these events and we just dont (sic) have the infrastructure to cope with anymore patrons. These events are getting far too big in comparison to the town and this is a deadly mix..."

"...we have been incredibly impressed with the organisers commitment to investing in the township of Brunswick Heads throughout the duration of each festival. This is demonstrated by providing budgets that see teams of local people collecting rubbish, offering assistance and directions to visitors to the town and keeping amenities clean and usable..."

"...Gate A on Jones Road, Yelgun...the existing intersection at gate A will undergo minor roadworks in order to accommodate the regrading and consequent realignment of the existing service vehicle road to be more suitable for buses....WE OBJECT OUT RIGHT TO THE GATE A ON JONES RD, BEING USED FOR SERVICE VEHICLES AND BUS ENTRY..."

".... I have attended every Splendour in the Grass since it moved to North Byron Parklands... I did not attend Splendour in the Grass when it moved to QLD as the travel was too far and the area was not of as much importance to me..."

3.6.4 CULTURE

In 2016, 73.6% of people were born in Australia. Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people made up 2.6% of the population.

The most common countries of birth were England 4.4%, New Zealand 2.6%, Israel 0.8%, Germany 0.7% and United States of America 0.7%. 86.5% of people only spoke English at home. Other languages spoken at home included Japanese 0.8%, Cantonese 0.5%, Hebrew 0.5%, French 0.4% and German 0.3%.

60.3% of people had both parents born in Australia and 18.3% of people had both parents born overseas. The most common ancestries were English 28.8%, Australian 26.5%, Irish 10.0%, Scottish 8.6% and German 3.7%.

The most common responses for religion were No Religion, so described 39.9%, Catholic 17.0%, Not stated 13.3%, Anglican 12.8% and Uniting Church 4.9%. In Brunswick Heads Christianity was the largest religious group reported overall (48.1%).

Brunswick Heads residents did not identify negative or positive impacts in relation to the disruption or enhancement of their specific religious or cultural practices. However some residents identified that the events provided audiences with important access to contemporary cultural products, and provided local artists with meaningful opportunities for cultural and creative expression that promoted social change.

Residents who were unsupportive of events did not identify with the cultural value of the events, rather they asserted that the events attracted a visitor demographic to their village that might alter the family friendly culture of their town. Other residents commented that the festivals were important in supporting family values and culture saying the events brought everyone together.

Community Testimony

"...I support the application because it brings music and cultural opportunities to the region...I have attended every Splendour in the Grass since it moved to North Byron Parklands...I did not attend Splendour in the Grass when it moved to QLD as the travel was too far and the area was not of as much importance to me..."

"... the demographic the festivals attract do not align with our town's family friendly mission..."

"...Festivals are the only time we as a family truly (sic) spend quality time together and I'm talking sisters, brothers and cousins. Some of my fondest memories are attending festivals (sic) just like those run by North Byron Parklands..."

"...the demographic is hedonistic and does not respect our space and our natural environment....and does not support our local culture..."

"...Social and economic inclusion via popular culture provides enrichment for local youth..."

"...Great festival, it gets everyone together..."

"...the chance for creative expression to be showcased to a wide demographic of people is necessary for positive social change..."

3.6.5 HEALTH & WELLBEING

Some residents spoke generally about negative and positive impacts the events had on residents health and sense of wellbeing.

Some residents spoke about feelings of stress associated with the increased visitor numbers in town associated with events. Other residents said their sleep was disturbed by festival buses and patrons having parties in town.

Some residents also provided comment that events were positive experiences and promoted feelings of happiness that enhanced wellbeing.

One resident also spoke specifically about an incident where she became sick after swimming in the Brunswick River with festival patrons, while other residents spoke generally about health issues and risks associated with the influx of visitors in town.

One resident commented that venue plans promoted drinking and drug culture that would add to existing drug and alcohol problems in the area. One resident commented that bus fumes outside her shop and festival patrons lining up for buses also had potential negative health and safety consequences.

Some residents stated their concerns about potential negative impacts of the events with regard to public health and safety in the event of emergency at the venue.

Community Testimony

"...During Falls - the number of people that were in the river impacted on my health - increase of germs..."

"...Influx of people creates a massive increase in health incidents..."

"...buses go late into the night and disrupt our sleep...buses pollute..."

"...My partner who is a Chef, was under a huge amount of stress and strain trying to keep up with the amount of people in town. Hospitality is a hard sweaty job at the best of times so it is very difficult to find, let alone employ staff that are trained and can cope in these peak times..."

"...I have had people camped in my driveway, rubbish dumed (sic) up and down the street, loud and out of it people keeping us up at night..."

"...at the heart of the application and the applicants comes an authentic desire to provide opportunity. Opportunity for employment, opportunity for growth, opportunity to provide entertainment, opportunity to provide and support diversity, (sic) opportunity to make people happy..."

"...If they spend 42 million on the existing site creating more buildings and a huge bar/ drinking area it is just going to dramatically increase the rapidly growing drug and alcohol problem in the area..."

"...chance for creative expression to be showcased to a wide demographic of people is necessary for positive social change..."

"...My shop is located right near the bus stop where the patrons get on and off for the venue and there is a constant flow of fumes and pollution from the engines waiting long periods between each bus...There is only a very small footpath where the existing bus stop is and the venue organizers have had to push the line up of patrons onto the road, potentially (sic) causing a hazard to occur..."

"...Fire risks continue to be great, especially since the festivals have numerous bonfires and are located in a fire-prone area..."

"...Given the police designation of a potential terrorist threat and the problems inherent in any evacuation, the Lorne stampede created a precedent which should be examined..."

3.6.6 SURROUNDINGS

Brunswick Heads residents experience the impacts of events on their immediate surroundings differently.

Residents identified negative impacts on their immediate surroundings in general terms of noise, litter, illegal camping, anti-social behaviour and increased traffic. These residents did not acknowledge the effectiveness of impact mitigation strategies in the town.

Other residents commended Parklands and the events for their investment and support in managing off-site impacts including, traffic, noise and litter in Brunswick Heads. These residents, business owners and community groups also identified that patron behaviour in the town was generally very good.

Residents also identified feelings of connection to and respect for the beauty of their natural environment. Residents expressed the negative and positive impacts of events on their natural environment to greater and lesser extent.

Some residents and community groups identified strongly with the ecological values of the venue itself and the impacts on the surroundings of Parklands' nearest neighbours. Australian Animals NSW Inc provide comment and feared adverse impacts on the venue's flora and fauna, particularly a significant koala population. While other community groups including Brunswick Valley Landcare (BVL) commented on its partnership with Parklands and the community programmes they conducted with local schools at the venue and in the wider community.

Some residents expressed confidence in Parklands' environmental management, and other residents questioned the adequacy of proposed ecological assessment or the value and rigour of assessment carried out to date.

Community Testimony

"...We have to deal with the drunken behaviour and vandalism, people parking in our driveway, camping illegally and drink driving. Please also consider the immediate neighbours on the boundary of this site that

have spent countless hours trying to protect this nature reserve and professional and educated research of the negative impacts these events have on the environment..."

"... I have witnessed first hand, the care and attention that the organisers and those who manage the site and the events, take to protect the physical environment, and also the safety of the patrons both on-site and as they move away from the site. It is with this hands on experience that has convinced me that there is, and can continue to be balance between 'sustainable growth and development' and the protection of our environment and local community assets...."

"...never seen the beach so busy and covered in rubbish...population and noise impacts on local fauna in our reserves - we notice the numbers in our wildlife reduce...there's illegal camping..."

"...Volunteers were engaged to help out in Brunswick Heads during the Falls Festival (Saturday 30 Dec 2017 - Wednesday 3rd January 2018)...They were required to do four shifts sometime between 7.30am and 4.30pm in exchange for a free three day Falls Festival pass. Those doing a three hour shift patrolled the town and the parks, helped visitors with information and directions, picked up litter with special long tongs, surveyed people about their experience in town and kept an eye out for anything that may have potentially disturbed the harmony of the town....The town's open spaces were clean as well as rubbish bins emptied and toilets regularly cleaned. This year the energetic feel of the town was the very harmonious with locals, visitors and festival patrons..."

"...There are traffic problems ,rubbish problems, noise problems and turn our area into a party town...There is a lot of rubbish in and around (sic) Brunswick Heads, even though (sic) they do get volunteers and others to pick up rubbish..."

"...we have been incredibly impressed with the organisers commitment to investing in the township of Brunswick Heads throughout the duration of each festival. This is demonstrated by providing budgets that see teams of local people collecting rubbish, offering assistance and directions to visitors to the town and keeping amenities clean and usable..."

"Citing the Koala Report by Biolink, 22 koalas have been sighted at NBP. This is a significant number of animals given that koalas from Tweed Heads to Brunswick River has been designated Endangered by the NSW Scientific Committee....Can the DOPE or OEH provide any scientific research which demonstrates that massive numbers of people, loud noise for days on end, lights, disturbance to habitats, interference with communication between koalas provides environmentally supportive measures for the survival of an endangered koala population ?..."

"...Brunswick Valley Landcare Inc (BVL) has been the recipient of funds from the Nth Byron Parklands Community Grants Programme. At a time when sourcing funds is challenging, the Community Programme has assisted BVL's ability to support the wider Byron Shire community in natural resource management, education and on-ground projects within the Shire. BVL is also involved with Nth Byron Parklands in environmental awareness and learning programmes aimed at schools in the local region..."

"...No independent monitoring of koalas has been undertaken, only by consultants paid for by NBP who cannot be described as independent... Koala surveys to be undertaken every two years is unacceptable for a species which is listed as endangered...."

3.6.7 PERSONAL & PROPERTY RIGHTS

Brunswick Heads residents did not identify negative impacts of events on their personal rights.

However, residents did claim that property rights had been negatively impacted. One resident commented that her trees were "trashed" on New Years Eve, while another resident said more generally that bikes had been stolen in the town, and others claimed that crime and retail theft generally increased during the festivals.

Community testimony

"...We as residents, am (sic) sick and tired of gridlocked roads...as well as a massive increase of crime during the festival dates..."

"...theft in retail..."

“...stolen bicycles...”

“...trashing of trees...”

“...Sometime on New Year's Eve two sapling trees on the nature strip outside a home on Mullumbimbi Street were deliberately damaged by person(s) unknown. The trees were broken off at the base and looked liked (sic) they had been deliberately kicked. The trees were planted six months ago and at the time cost \$135 and \$35. Taking Care of Brunswick Heads co-ordinator spoke with the residents on Tuesday 2 January and took photographs of the damage...”

3.6.8 DECISION MAKING SYSTEMS

Some residents expressed their disappointment in the decision making systems in determining Parklands' State Significant Development. Some residents expressed a sense of powerlessness about the process, and felt local issues were being unfairly determined by State government. These residents rejected the notion of the due process required for State Significant Developments and asserted that the local council should be the project's determining authority.

Other residents felt that there was a low level of community awareness about the project approval process generally and that greater clarity was needed around information sharing between Parklands and the community. Some residents also questioned the level of scrutiny under which Parklands' trial performance has been assessed by the Department of Planning so far.

Other residents felt that Parklands and event staff did not listen or respond to community concerns. Others felt that the lack of community consultation would increase with permanent approval. While other residents felt that Parklands and the events worked hard to manage event impacts and generally felt involved and listened to.

Community Testimony

“...I was and still am convinced that this whole process stinks of corruption and should be referred to ICAC...”

“...Overall, Hotel Brunswick has been very impressed with the organisation that has been demonstrated by Falls Festival and Splendour In The Grass over their tenure at North Byron Parklands...”

“...The owners have lied through their teeth since the planning stages. I am gob smacked why the government planning department prostitutes themselves to a group of gargantuan gluttons of greed whose massive profits are nothing more than blood money...”

“...I have worked on many events over my career and can absolutely vouch for the fact that the current events held at The North Byron Parklands are managed with a level of professionalism, respect, care and responsibility that is rarely seen in the industry...”

“...the community has no say...Parklands answer to the state, and the certifying authority doesn't wield a big enough stick!...”

“...This year the energetic feel of the town was the most harmonious since the commencement of the Falls Festival at the North Byron Parkland site. This is a credit to all who have worked on the project in the past...as well as the involvement and cooperation of local residents, business operators, project volunteers, local, state, interstate and overseas visitors, festival patrons, Falls Festival staff, North Byron Parklands staff, Byron Shire Council staff, Brunswick Heads Visitor Centre staff and volunteers and engaged toilet cleaning contractors...”

“...Once there is permanent approval we fear an increase in lack of consultation, as Parklands will only be answerable to the State...”

“...This summer 2017/2018 I was involved as co-ordinator of a project called 'Taking Care of Brunswick Heads during the Falls Festival'...This project is a partnership between the Brunswick Heads Visitor Centre and the Falls Music & Arts Festival....Community liaison was undertaken before, during and after this year's Falls Festival to gain feedback, suggestions and support during the duration of the Falls Festival. Establishing relationships with the various stakeholders involved is a very important and vital function of the project to facilitate a harmonious experience for all involved...”

"...Their ongoing contempt for the problems that their actions cause to the residents of the area shows no bounds or concern..."

"... any impacts of the festival on the town that are identified by the community are addressed through a variety of strategies implemented during the "Taking Care of Brunswick During Falls" Project. Improvements and refinements to the strategies have been made each year following feedback by the project team and the community..."

"...Department of Planning & Environment (DOPE) reports are biased and continue to support the proponent whilst ignoring community concerns. Departmental planners are demonstrably incapable of objective assessment of the development...Bias has been consistently demonstrated throughout the five year trial period..."

"...Loss of our democratic rights...approvals are taken away from Council..."

"...Having the state of NSW control the festival site is not consistent with the existing PACapproved Concept Plan. After the trial period is over, Byron Council is supposed to grant any further approvals for holding festivals at the site. Rather than prepare for this, North Byron Parklands requested that the NSW state government extend their trial period and have now applied to become a State Significant Development. These moves have allowed them to avoid Byron Council control..."

3.6.9 FEARS & ASPIRATIONS

Some residents provided comment and indicated their support for the project and predicted the events would bring about cultural, social and economic benefits for the community, and they hoped Parklands would become a permanent cultural event site.

Residents who were generally unsupportive of the events feared negative impacts they experienced during the events presently would be compounded by more event days and proposed increases in patron capacity. Their fears related to an increase in traffic and pedestrian congestion, increases in anti-social behaviour and noise, further disruption to services and the degradation of public infrastructure and the natural environment.

There was also some uncertainty around Live Nation's involvement with Parklands and its events into the future. Residents feared that "McFestivals" would take over smaller, grassroots cultural events. Some residents also commented they did not trust Parklands and that the proponent would seek increases on festival days and patron numbers in future modifications.

Other residents had concerns about the ability to evacuate the venue in the instance of natural disaster or terrorist attack.

Community Testimony

Good management

"...The North Byron Parklands are managed with a level of professionalism, respect, care and responsibility that is rarely seen in the industry. This is what gives me absolute confidence that the same ethos will be carried through to any additional events and increased capacities..."

Positive social change

"...a chance for creative expression to be showcased to a wide demographic of people is necessary for positive social change..."

Increase in economic opportunity

"...Opportunity for employment, opportunity for growth, opportunity to provide entertainment, opportunity to provide and support diversity, opportunity to make people happy and from where I stand, in this day and age it is hard to find anything but positives in that..."

Live Nation

"...Live Nation will not be accountable to Council and the local community. The two major festivals staged on the site are 51% owned by Live Nation, an American entertainment conglomerate. Permanent approval of this

proposal will put profits generated at Parklands into the hands of that conglomerate, an entity that is not answerable to elected officials or local residents..."

Natural Environment

"...Approval of this proposal will permanently change the nature of this ecologically significant site. Once the ecosystems and wildlife corridor are compromised with further continuous degradation from chemical contaminants from 50,000 attendees per day using sunscreen lotions, insecticide, insect repellent, cooking contaminants, motor vehicle and generator particulate matter and rubbish seeping into the air, waterways and soil, loud noise and massive vehicle and people movement on the site, the ecological values will be slowly diminished and destroyed..."

"...Because of the proposed increase in the number of event days and the number of festival attendees we are concerned that the impacts on threatened species, populations and communities may also increase and consequently we regard it as essential that the ongoing ecological monitoring and the continued habitat restoration and vegetation management is undertaken as proposed..."

"...I also am concerned about the water use during the festivals. How much water do they have onsite? And where does it come from? Rocky Creek?..."

"...At no stage, according to NBP records, has an event of this size been staged at North Byron Parklands, so no possible estimates can be made of the impacts on koalas and other threatened and endangered wildlife..."

"...An extremely conservative analysis of patrons and staff numbers based on 36,000 with all arrivals coming from Sydney demonstrates 23,000 tonnes of carbon emissions. One festival therefore emits a quarter of Byron's estimated annual emissions Lack of any information on extent of insurance coverage..."

"...seriously deficient in terms of any protection of koalas. AFA makes the following points: There has been no attempt to address the cumulative long term impacts to the koala population on the NBP site... If the DOPE allows this massive increase in festivals and patron numbers, koalas which are designated as endangered under the Biodiversity Conservation Act will be placed at risk..."

Public safety

"...Byron Bay is already getting national and international coverage for the violence and drug and alcohol related crimes, if this permit goes ahead it will just increase and spread the problem further into our area..."

"... The environment, which encompasses not only the flora and fauna of the area but its human inhabitants and their social welfare, will be compromised..."

"... I also have always been incredibly concerned (sic) with the possibility of a bushfire or a fire on this site..."

"...Our Byron/Tweed Police are understaffed already and the demands will only increase trying to negate these issues..."

Access to services and impacts on infrastructure

"...The long-term issues and variable outcomes are unknown because of the size of this proposed development and consequently is of major concern to the local community..."

Future modifications

"...As we do not know the nature of the festivals or events to be held, beside the events Splendour in the Grass and Falls, once a permanent approval is granted modifications could possibly be obtained thereafter... NBP will be able to get ongoing modifications 2 (sic) to increase the numbers of days and the daily attendance still further. Their stated aim of 50,000 attendees per day has to be seen as only the beginning..."

3.6.10 Risk Assessment

Having regard to the social research carried out for the Brunswick Heads locality a risk assessment has been completed. The risk assessment has been completed with respect to the key considerations highlighted by the consultation. That assessment is summarised in **Table 3.6**.

TABLE 3.6 RISK ASSESSMENT TABLE – BRUNSWICK HEADS

	likelihood	extent	duration	severity	sensitivity	level of concern
Analysis of negative impacts on Way of Life						
Mobility	2	2	2	2	4	14
Anti-social behaviour	2	2	2	2	4	10
Employment	2	2	2	2	4	10
Recreation	2	2	2	2	4	10
Noise	2	2	2	2	4	10
Analysis of negative impacts on community						
Changes to community character	2	2	2	2	4	11
Analysis of negative impacts on access to Infrastructure and services						
Disruptions or strain on public amenities and services	2	2	2	2	4	14
Disruptions in accessing public amenities	2	2	2	2	4	9
Analysis of negative impacts as relates to culture						
The values of visitors do not align with the cultural values of my village	2	2	2	2	4	10
Analysis of negative impacts on Health and Wellbeing						
Illness caused by festival goers e.g 'Festival flu'	2	2	2	2	4	11
Pollution from buses	2	2	2	2	4	9
Stress	2	2	2	2	4	8
Sleep disruption	2	2	2	2	4	8
Analysis of negative impacts on Surroundings						
Litter	2	2	2	2	4	13
Immediate environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve	2	NA	2	2	4	11
Cumulative environmental impacts on flora and fauna at the venue and surrounding reserve	2	NA	2	2	4	11
Illegal camping	2	2	2	2	4	12
Noise	2	2	2	2	4	10
Analysis of negative impacts on Personal & Property rights						
Damage to property	2	2	2	2	4	11

Legend**likelihood**

1	rare
2	unlikely
3	possible
4	likely
5	almost certain

extent

1	single property
2	multiple properties
3	a large part of the neighbourhood
4	the whole neighbourhood

duration

1	rarely
2	occasionally
3	the whole time of an event

severity

1	insignificant
2	minor
3	moderate
4	major

sensitivity

1	minor
2	moderate
3	major
4	extreme

level of concern
score range 0 - 20

4. REGIONAL ACCOMMODATION

This section explores the availability of accommodation in the region surrounding North Byron Parklands.

A wide range and variety of visitor accommodation is available in Byron Shire generally, as well as Ballina Shire to the south, and Tweed Shire to the north, as well as the southern part of the Gold Coast. This accommodation is available to Parklands' event patrons who choose not to camp onsite.

The SSD application seeks approval for a maximum of 30,000 camping patrons. Splendour In The Grass (SITG) has a maximum existing camper population of about 20,000 patrons, although alternative layouts may allow an increase in campers for this event.

For a range of reasons, some patrons choose not to stay on site and will stay in accommodation within a one hour drive time from the Parklands site. Approximately 12% of patrons are "locals" who generally do not camp at the event.

Tables 4.1 and 4.2 show the demand and supply for offsite accommodation in relation to the SITG event.

Tourism data indicates that the general accommodation types utilised by domestic visitors to Byron LGA are caravan parks or commercial camping grounds (13%); with friends or relatives (39%); rented houses, apartments or units (10%); hotels, resorts, motels and motor inns (25%); or other options. **Table 4.1** calculates the required rooms to service offsite accommodation demand in relation to the maximum possible SITG event. **Table 4.2** examines available rooms (or sites) in a one-hour maximum drive time from the event site. This table illustrates available supply with regard to occupancy rates for July. As illustrated by **Table 4.2**, sufficient accommodation exists within reasonable drive time of the site to satisfy the offsite accommodation demands of a maximum scale SITG event.

TABLE 4.1 MAXIMUM SPLENDOUR IN THE GRASS SCENARIO

Description	Patron Numbers
Patrons	50,000
Less locals who do not camp	5,000
Less campers on site	20,000
Patrons requiring off site accommodation	25,000
Rooms required to service offsite accommodation demands	16,667

TABLE 4.2 AVAILABLE ACCOMMODATION WITHIN 1 HOUR'S DRIVE FROM THE SITE

Usual Split of Accommodation	% split	Demand ¹	Supply ²
Caravan parks	13	2,167	2,300 ³
Friends and relatives	39	6,500	11,500 ⁴
Rented homes	10	1,667	5,700 ⁵
Hotel, motel accommodation	25	4,167	5,100 ⁶
Other	13	2,167	3,000 ⁷
TOTAL	100	16,667	27,600

FFB occurs at a time of year when tourist accommodation in the region is generally in high demand. However, FFB has a significantly higher capacity for patron camping. As illustrated in **Table 4.3** below, rooms required to service offsite accommodation demands are only in the order of only about 1,000. Thus, even though FFB occurs during the period of Christmas and New Year high accommodation occupancy rates, the low level of demand can be readily satisfied.

TABLE 4.3 MAXIMUM FALLS FESTIVAL BYRON SCENARIO

Description	Patron Numbers
Patrons	35,000
Less locals who do not camp	3,500
Less campers on site	30,000
Patrons requiring off site accommodation	1,500
Rooms required to service offsite accommodation demands	1,000

5. MITIGATION MEASURES

This section of the SIA Addendum brings together the existing mitigation measures and also specifies additional mitigation measures proposed as a consequence of the SIA work completed.

5.1 EXISTING MEASURES

5.1.1 CONCISE SUMMARY OF MEASURES

Set out below are the existing or EIS proposed measures to mitigate social and physical impacts.

Social and Economic Mitigation and Management

- update and subsequently implement the Event Management Plan, to manage events and associated social issues. The plan would include (amongst other things):
 - OH&S Management Plan;
 - Event Emergency Evacuation Plan;
 - Medical Plan;
 - Camping Management Plan (for applicable events); and
 - Temporary Structures Plan;
- prepare and subsequently implement a Community Engagement Plan, to manage community stakeholder engagement and response;
- maintain the RWG, including community representatives, to oversee and advise on the performance of the events. The minutes of RWG meetings would continue to be published on Parklands' website;
- provide detailed security, medical, police and emergency service personnel during events (in accordance with the Event Management Plan), which would be funded by Parklands on a pay-for-service basis as required;
- maintain the Community Hotline for managing and responding to complaints and enquiries;
- maintain the Litter Response Team for all medium and large events;
- continue to employ an environmental representative, community advocate and a community manager before, during and after each large and medium event;
- continue to prepare annual Performance Reports, and to publish the reports on Parklands' website;
- continue notifying and keeping the community and relevant authorities up to date about each event;
- continue to provide support for immediate neighbours, such as provision of complimentary tickets to applicable events; and
- maintain the Parklands Community Grants Fund, to provide funding and in-kind support to community organisations and services.

Soil and Water Mitigation and Management

- update and subsequently implement the Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, to manage erosion and sedimentation risks during construction works;
- implement the Surface Water Management Plan, to manage surface water flows and quality;
- implement the Acid Sulfate Soils Management Plan, to manage acid sulfate soil risks during construction works;
- implement the Wastewater Management Plan, to manage wastewater collection, treatment and discharge on site;
- implement the Flood Risk Management Plan, to manage flood and flood-related evacuation risks;

- construct one half of the perimeter loop road in the south-eastern car park above the 1 in 100 year ARI flood level;
- minimise disturbance within the riparian area of Billinudgel Creek and Yelgun Creek as far as practicable (ie. limited to existing infrastructure crossings/roads and environmental restoration works);
- maintain the minimum 30 metre (and up to 80 metre) buffer to the SEPP 14 wetland and pre-existing vegetation in the south-eastern area of the site;
- continue regeneration of native vegetation adjacent to the SEPP 14 wetland; and
- restrict on-site effluent disposal to identified areas to the north of Jones Road. The management plans and monitoring programs would be updated in consultation with the applicable authorities and the RWG.

Noise Mitigation and Management

- manage the noise emissions from the project to comply with the conditioned noise limits at all times, for all receivers apart from those with negotiated noise agreements;
- update and subsequently implement the Noise Management Plan, to minimise and manage noise impacts associated with the project. The plan would include a range of noise mitigation and management measures, including:
 - at-source acoustic attenuation measures;
 - speaker array controls;
 - adaptive noise management via the Noise Control Coordination Centre (NCCC);
 - noise complaint monitoring and response via the Community Hotline;
 - noise impact reporting; and
- implement the Acoustic Monitoring Program, that includes amongst other things:
 - continuous unattended monitoring before, during and after all medium and large events;
 - attended monitoring at sensitive receiver locations for all medium and large events, and/or in response to calls to the Community Hotline;
- implementation of the NCCC for all medium and large events, which includes:
 - real-time monitoring of noise levels for all stages;
 - monitoring of local meteorological conditions; and
 - liaison between the NCCC, Community Hotline personnel, stage managers and production personnel.

Visual Mitigation and Management

- continue implementation of the habitat restoration and revegetation works under the Ecological Structure Plan, with revegetation to focus (in part) on screening views from sensitive receiver locations to the event areas;
- paint the proposed reservoir and other associated infrastructure in forest tones to blend in with surrounding vegetation, and minimise vegetation clearing around the infrastructure;
- manage external lighting in accordance with AS4282 (INT) 1997 – Control of Obtrusive Effects of Outdoor Lighting;
- manage external lighting to minimise direct lighting of surrounding bushland areas as far as practicable and within public safety constraints; and
- consult closely with surrounding landowners in relation to outdoor events on site.

Air Quality Mitigation and Management

- update and subsequently implement the:
 - Construction Environmental Management Plan, including measures to minimise dust emissions during construction works;
 - Event Management Plan, including measures to minimise dust and air emissions during events, including continued use of water carts;
 - Wastewater Management Plan, including measures to ensure the appropriate management of wastewater and minimise generation of odours; and
 - Waste Management Plan, including measures to ensure the appropriate management of solid waste; and
- implement measures to minimise GHG emissions, including:
 - minimising traffic (especially single occupant car travel) as far as practicable (see Section 6.9);
 - continuing on-site tree planting and vegetation management programs (see Section 6.7); and
 - continuing to encourage GHG offsetting options for events.

Ecological Mitigation and Management

- update and subsequently implement the:
 - Flora and Fauna Management Plan, to manage direct and indirect impacts on biodiversity;
 - habitat restoration program in accordance with the updated Ecological Structure Plan, which would complete and/or maintain:
 - 5.9 hectares of habitat connecting forest blocks north of Jones Road and improving the Marshalls Ridge wildlife corridor; and
 - 12.9 hectares of habitat with constructed wetlands in the southern car park providing a buffer to the Billinudgel Nature Reserve and the SEPP 14 wetlands;
 - Flora and Fauna Monitoring Program, including the EIM surveys, to monitor incremental and cumulative impacts of events on biodiversity;
- implement the updated Koala Plan of Management;
- undertake further targeted surveys for the Eastern Grass Owl prior to construction of the south-eastern car park, and undertake incremental slashing of this area to allow any animals to escape;
- undertake pre-clearance surveys in the proposed road widening area associated with the conference centre development;
- design and construct the permanent security fence in a manner that allows fauna movement, including hinged panels (every 5 or 6 panels), and a 100mm gap at the bottom of the fence; and
- Implement the proposed monitoring program based on the recommendations of the biodiversity assessment.

Heritage Mitigation and Management

- Implement the:
 - Construction Environmental Management Plan, including measures to minimise and manage potential impacts on heritage sites during construction works; and
 - Event Management Plan, including measures to minimise and manage potential impacts on heritage sites during events.

Measures provide for in the plans would include:

- protection of Aboriginal sites in proximity to the disturbance areas with human exclusion fencing during events, with appropriate security inspection/monitoring;
- any signage referring to Aboriginal sites to be minimised, and undertaken only with the agreement of Aboriginal stakeholders;
- appropriate training and induction of personnel; and
- procedures for managing the discovery of any previously unidentified Aboriginal sites/objects.

Traffic Mitigation and Management

- implement the Transport Management Plan, which would address all events on the site – from minor community events (ie. up to 1,500 patrons) to large events (ie. up to 50,000 patrons) – as well as the operation of the conference centre, general site operations between events, and construction works (including the need for Roads Act approvals for external road works);
- implement the Traffic Monitoring Program, which would include provisions for monitoring of all large events; and
- implement the Traffic Control Plans, which would be prepared for each specific event, for all events from small community events to large events.

The plans would include detailed traffic and transport-related information and mitigation measures, including:

- traffic generation;
- access, internal circulation and parking;
- on-site and off-site speed limits;
- parking restrictions;
- coming and going restrictions, particularly between 12pm and 5pm during large events;
- directional signage;
- traffic diversion, including promoting use of the Cudgera Creek and Brunswick heads Interchanges;
- demand management, including transport incentives consistent with the existing measures and investigation of additional measures;
- bus services and facilities;
- off-site traffic control, including on Jones Road and access gates, and the Link Road roundabouts for large events;
- on-site traffic control;
- monitoring of key roads and intersections, including the Yelgun Interchange;
- monitoring of mode share;
- consideration of traffic KPIs;
- communications and notifications, including for patrons, authorities, local residents and the general public; and
- contingency plans, such as roundabout metering of the Yelgun Interchange during large events, or restrictions on camper departure rates.
- minimum LoS of C to be maintained at the Yelgun Interchange;
- minimum LoS of D to be maintained along Tweed Valley Way in general across the day, with a maximum LoS of E for no more than 4 hours a day;
- queue lengths on the link road between Tweed Valley Way and the Yelgun Interchange to be limited to a maximum of 60 metres;

- queue lengths on the northbound off-ramp to be limited to a maximum of 210 metres (from the give way yield line);
- on-site queuing is not to extend onto Tweed Valley Way or the Pacific Motorway; and
- no appreciable impact on through traffic travel times on the Pacific Motorway.

Infrastructure Mitigation and Management

- update and subsequently implement the:
 - Potable Water Management Plan, to manage and monitor potable water supply;
 - Wastewater Management Plan, to manage the onsite sewage management system; and
 - Waste Management Plan, to manage waste generation (other than sewage waste) associated with the proposal; and
- implement the proposed infrastructure and services upgrades.

Hazards Mitigation and Management

- update and subsequently implement the:
 - Event Management Plan, to manage events and associated hazards and risks. The plan would include (amongst other things):
 - Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) Management Plan;
 - Event Emergency Evacuation Plan;
 - Medical Plan;
 - Camping Management Plan (for applicable events); and
 - Temporary Structures Plan;
- implement the Bushfire Management Plan and Bushfire Emergency Evacuation Plan, to manage bushfire hazards and risks; and
- implement the Flood Risk Management Plan and Flood Evacuation Plan, to manage flood related hazards and risks;
 - maintain asset protection zones (APZs) of at least 10 metres to unmanaged bushland on site;
 - ensure dangerous goods and hazardous substances storage and handling on site is undertaken in accordance with the Dangerous Goods Code and AS 1940-2004: The storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids;
 - continue to monitor hazards and risks through the RWG, which includes representatives from the RFS, SES and NSW Police;
 - continue to undertake hazards and incident simulations and exercises, in collaboration with emergency services authorities; and
 - provide detailed security, medical, police and emergency service personnel during events (in accordance with the Event Management Plan), which would be funded by Parklands on a pay-for-service basis as required.

5.1.2 EFFECTIVENESS OF EXISTING MEASURES

The existing mitigation measures will continue to be applied during future events to minimise impacts. Further, adaptive (corrective action) measures will be employed together with the new measures specified in Section 5.2. The adaptive management technique adopted by North Byron Parklands since the outset (via the North Byron Parklands EHSM) has been very effective. A simple metric that illustrates this effectiveness is the complaints to the *Community Hotline*.

Existing mitigation measures, and their efficacy have been detailed in the SIA (Chapters 3, 6, 7 & 8) and in this Addendum (Chapter 5). The existing mitigation measures that have been adopted for, and applied to events at Parklands, including acoustic measures, traffic management and compensation for immediate neighbours (in the form of financial and other arrangements) have been amended and adapted year on year in responding to community feedback and operational experience. The responsiveness of the Parklands team to complaints and issues that arise, ensures that mitigation and management measures are adapted to address and ameliorate any issues that arise. These same adaptive practices will ensure the effective management of events on the site with the increase in patron numbers.

Key to the efficacy of mitigation and management practices, as detailed in the SIA, has been the consistent communication between Parklands and its Community Manager and Community Advocate who regularly meet to consult with the immediate neighbours, and respond to issues raised by other community members before, during and after events. The most direct method of communication between the community and Parklands is via the *Community Hotline*. In addition to Parklands' community representatives, and the operation of the *Community Hotline*, feedback from the community is directed towards the community representatives who volunteer on the RWG, who also put forward community views and experiences.

Performance reports prepared after each event at Parklands throughout the trial period demonstrate the effectiveness of established management practices to address known impacts and the responsive and adaptive mitigation measures implemented to address and ameliorate issues that arise. The efficacy of these measures is most clearly illustrated in the number of calls/complaints made to the *Community Hotline* throughout the trial period.

Table 5.1 below sets out the calls logged to the Hotline for the different events completed to date and also identifies the key issues raised for each event.

TABLE 5.1 NORTH BYRON PARKLANDS HOTLINE RESULTS

Event	Total calls	Issues Raised
SITG 2013	136	Traffic Noise Internet access Mobile reception Rubbish Illegal camping Illegal parking
SITG 2014	161	TV reception Noise Internet access Hotline access Mobile reception Rubbish Illegal camping Illegal parking
SITG 2015	127	Noise Internet access Rubbish

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Event	Total calls	Issues Raised
		Illegal parking Illegal camping
SITG 2016	29	Noise Internet Rubbish Illegal camping
SITG 2017	8	Noise Buses Illegal camping
Falls Fest 13/14	43	Noise Internet access Traffic
Falls Fest 14/15	48	Noise Internet Lighting Security Parking Illegal camping Fireworks Smoking
Falls Fest 15/16	10	Noise Illegal camping
Falls Fest 16/17	22	Noise Fireworks Litter

Throughout the consultation undertaken for the subject application, a very small number of community members expressed a lack of confidence in the *Community Hotline*, and its usefulness in having issues resolved. However, other community members noted the effectiveness and practicality of the *Community Hotline* in reporting issues and having them addressed.

As can be observed from **Table 5.1**, issues pertaining to noise and acoustics remain a consistent issue for events at Parklands. Community feedback throughout the trial, (and as part of the preparation of the SIA and this Addendum) indicated that while noise remains an issue for some, it is not a reported issue for many of Parklands' immediate neighbours. As noted in this Addendum (and in the SIA) it is anticipated that with permanency, additional investment in noise attenuation measures can be justified to assist in reducing noise impacts.

Details of the responsiveness and efficacy of noise attenuation measures and adherence to acoustic levels are included in the EIS, the SIA, and in Chapter 5 of this Addendum, and performance reports prepared after each event indicate that events at Parklands have consistently been operating within

permitted noise levels, with only a minor number of actual breaches of noise levels, which, once reported, were measured, and addressed as per the *Noise Management Plan*.

It is acknowledged that traffic has been an issue during some events throughout the trial. Feedback from community members received in the consultation undertaken for the preparation of the SIA, (and for this Addendum) clearly suggests that the mitigation measures and responsive adaptation of traffic management practices, have reduced traffic impacts associated with events. Community members clearly state that despite fears that traffic would be significantly affected, these fears have not been realised, and any issues have been addressed.

All but two immediate neighbours of Parklands expressed satisfaction with current compensation arrangements. Compensation for immediate neighbours is negotiated individually, and includes financial and other compensation (as well as tickets to events). Negotiations with the two neighbouring properties with whom arrangements have not been made are ongoing.

Some matters have been addressed by both work completed by Parklands and also serendipitously by others. One such example relates to impacts concerning telecommunication and internet access. To address this issue Parklands arranged for high speed cabling to be connected to the site. COWS are brought to the site for the event, which allow for patrons connected to certain telecommunication providers to obtain internet telecommunication access without depleting the availability of such accessibility in the neighbourhood. More recently, Optus has obtained permission to erect a tower at the Parklands site. The installation will further assist clients of Optus generally but also help connectivity with respect to Optus clients during events.

The additional mitigation measures proposed in Chapter 5.2 of this Addendum have been formulated in direct response to suggestions and feedback from the discrete local communities consulted, specifically in terms of amendments to reduce impacts on school buses; changes to the spread of patron visitation to local communities; and the introduction of a 'Bed Tax' to generate funds for the specific use in the North Byron area. As these measures come from specific suggestions from the discrete local communities, it can be assumed that there is general agreement with the measures.

The additional mitigation measures aim to address local community issues raised that generate impacts on daily life while events are running, and also aim to ameliorate some of the perceived issues of crowding in towns such as Brunswick Heads during peak seasons. The additional measures will also assist in providing funding to address local area issues raised by community members, and spending in the local area, determined by community members through the 'citizen jury' approach.

As has been demonstrated throughout the trial and extended trial of the use of Parklands as a cultural events site, effective mitigation measures have been put in place to address potential issues, and where necessary, these measures have been amended and adapted to address any unexpected or new issues that have arisen. Feedback from the community as part of the preparation of the SIA, and feedback from the discrete area consultation undertaken as part of the preparation of this Addendum, indicates overwhelming satisfaction with the responsiveness of Parklands in addressing issues that arise during events, as well as the efficacy of established mitigation measures. The existing and proposed additional mitigation measures will similarly be responsive, and adapted to accommodate the planned, incremental increase in patron numbers.

As illustrated by **Table 5.1**, even though the size of the events has increased at the site over time, the mitigation measures have been so effective that the complaints have been significantly reduced. This positive trend reflected in **Table 5.1** is further evidenced in feedback from the community workshops and community liaison with Parklands' neighbours, the wider community and the Community Manager and Community Advocate throughout the year.

5.2 ADDITIONAL MEASURES PROPOSED

5.2.1 S.94 CONTRIBUTIONS

The Trial approval in relation to Parklands did not attract a Section 94 Contribution because Council's Contributions Plan at the time did not permit the making of contributions in relation to "events". Since

that time, Council has amended its Contributions Plan and, pursuant to S.94A, contributions will be payable to Council as works are progressively implemented at the site. In total, contributions of \$420,000 will be made to Council, if SSD 8169 is approved.

5.2.2 IMPROVE THE SCHOOL BUS STOP ARRANGEMENTS

Small area consultation has discerned the need for improvements in relation to the management of school bus stop planning. It has become apparent that when traffic control arrangements are in place in, for example, Yelgun Road, those arrangements change the normal pattern of school bus stop management by students and families. Accordingly, it is proposed to put in place new event management protocols to ensure prioritised access for school buses over event patrons.

5.2.3 IMPROVE THE SPREAD OF PATRON VISITATION TO LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Widening facilitated visitation by patrons, particularly FFB patrons beyond Brunswick Heads during festival mornings is proposed as a new impact mitigation. The objective of this measure is to minimise the perceived “overrunning” of Brunswick Heads during the peak holiday period by FFB patrons.

Parklands has already commenced negotiations with Tweed Shire tourism organisations to widen facilitated visitation by patrons. **Appendix C** contains information in relation to negotiations which have commenced.

5.2.4 VOLUNTARY PLANNING AGREEMENT PROPOSAL

In recognition of the added “pressure” short term patronage of the North Byron Parklands site creates in terms of the general tourism population of Byron Shire, Parklands proposes to enter into a Voluntary Planning Agreement (VPA) with Council. At this time, Council is refining its protocols for VPAs arrangements of this type. It is anticipated that that refinement work will be completed shortly and in sufficient time for the appropriate conditioning of the subject application. The VPA is proposed to cover:

- a permanent arrangement with Council in the form of style of “bed tax” applicable to patrons who camp onsite daily for the events. It is anticipated that funds generated from this arrangement will be expended only in the northern part of Byron Shire and the expenditure of such funds will be guided by a “citizen jury” type approach; and
- service arrangements for assistance from Council ranger and inspection personnel.

The proponent has had a number of meetings with senior officers of Byron Shire Council. Council has indicated the strong desire to participate in a “bed tax” style VPA and have complimented Parklands for being the first accommodation provider to indicate support for the voluntary bed tax in the Shire of Byron.

5.2.5 ANTICIPATED EFFECTIVENESS OF ADDITIONAL MEASURES

To date, the measures implemented by North Byron Parklands have largely been by way of onsite management controls and initiatives. Offsite, some \$254,000 grant contributions have been made to the local community to assist in a broad range of projects. Other off-site measures have been implemented in relation to physical infrastructure such as improvement in the roundabout intersection at Tweed Valley Way and Brunswick Valley Way - taking that intersection from what would have been a single lane roundabout to a two lane roundabout. This initiative has seen a significant material improvement in relation to the utility of the trunk road system in the northern part of the Shire generally.

Based on the effectiveness of the EHSM adaptive management programs to date, we anticipate that the additional school bus stop arrangements and patron visitation spreading to a wider range of local communities will be highly successful. Further measures, by way of Section 94 Contributions and VPA contributions will greatly expand on the Community Grants Program adopted by North Byron Parklands from its very outset. The new contributions would involve some \$420,000 in Section 94A contributions and annual contributions under a VPA in the order of \$120,000 per annum. The northern part of the Byron Shire has traditionally been the “poor cousin” in terms of the implementation of civic

improvements and infrastructure. The contributions anticipated pursuant to Section 94A and the proposed VMP will go a long way to comprehensively address backlog.

6. CONCLUSIONS

This section of the report sets out conclusions resulting from historical SIA work, together with the more recent, small locality consultation.

The twelve years of continuous consultation has provided the proponent with a robust understanding of the concerns and aspirations of its immediate neighbours, local communities and broader community.

In response to observations by the Department, additional community consultation has been undertaken specifically with the local communities of Yelgun, Wooyung, South Golden Beach, Brunswick Heads, Ocean Shores and Crabbes Creek.

The outcome of additional consultation identified a similar mix of feedback both in support of, and in opposition to the project. No new or additional social impacts, over and above those identified and addressed in the SIA were identified.

As detailed in the SIA and in this Addendum, local residents expressed that they value the physical environment in which they live; the small, community nature and feel of the towns and villages; and their way of life.

In this local community consultation process Parklands has deliberately tried to gain an understanding about the “intangible” impacts of the use of the Parklands site for cultural events. Intangible impacts relate to how a proposed development makes someone feel, the emotional response they may have to a proposed development. Intangible impacts are, by their nature, more difficult to measure and analyse than tangible impacts, particularly in this instance where there are oppositional views on the real or perceived impacts, i.e. some persons identified negative impacts, and others expressing those same impacts as having positive social benefit.

There is limited research into how to best measure or define intangible impacts. The available research⁸ suggests that events can result in social benefits such as:

Community development

This can take the form of an increased community interest and cultural awareness about particular issues.

Civic Pride/ 'psychic income'

For many communities, playing host to a special event instils a sense of pride in their city or region. Residents might feel a sense of excitement about an event held locally and provides opportunities for home hosting which might provide social and cross-cultural interactions.

Event product extensions

Types of event product extensions which have occurred in areas that have hosted events include youth clinics, education training programs and philanthropic opportunities including scholarships and opportunities for youth, the elderly and the unemployed.

Our social research has concluded that intangible negative social impacts are not uniformly felt throughout the community, with some community members noting no impacts at all, and others stating that impacts they previously experienced, have been removed with changes in processes and management strategies, while others stating there are continued issues. Contrasting experiences during event times were identified in neighbouring properties, as well as residents from surrounding towns and communities.

The social benefits need to be weighed up against the reported costs to the local community of events. These costs, or the reported negative social impacts experienced by some people in relation to their way of life, wellbeing and community connectedness have typically been expressed as impacts on “amenity”, i.e., in relation to increased traffic congestion; impacts on enjoyment of the natural environment; impacts on access to local shops and restaurants during events; other impacts such as telecommunication difficulties; anti-social behaviour (vandalism, theft, property damage). The loss of community cohesion has been raised but not as strongly.

Character of the area:

Community attitude around whether events at Parklands were in keeping with the character of the area varied, with some noting that events were totally out of character with the quiet, small town, family friendly character. Others have noted that festivals and music events were entirely in character with the area that was characterised by creativity, community, surfing and music.

Some specifically noted that the small towns and villages had undergone significant change in the last ten years or more. However, they also felt that these changes were not the result of Parklands' activities, but rather that areas were no longer "what they used to be", and that was to be expected.

Community cohesion/community impacts:

Community cohesion relates to residents' sense of community and community identity. Some feedback noted that as a result of events at Parklands, the nature of accommodation in the area had changed, resulting in changes to the socio-economic and demographic makeup of the area. Specifically, these comments related to houses being rented as holiday rentals, rather than to longer term renters who would form part of the community.

Access to affordable housing and long term rental accommodation is a concern across the Byron shire throughout the year. A number of South Golden Beach residents expressed concern over the increase in homes rented in South Golden Beach on Airbnb. Some residents felt that the festivals had contributed to this, and feared the erosion of the community fabric as a consequence. It is important to note that this is a trend that has been experienced across the Byron Shire as a whole (and world travel hot spots generally) and has been an emerging trend for the last 10+ years.⁹

As noted in the testimony, some residents specifically noted the social benefits experienced by renting out a room in their house to festival goers, or renting out their entire house for the use of companies associated with events at Parklands.

Accommodation changes, and the potential impacts generated by this in terms of community makeup and characteristics are unlikely to be wholly related to the use of Parklands for events. While the presence of Parklands may, in some instances, motivate people to rent out their houses in the short term, other factors may influence this decision such as the reported increase in investment from people from other major centres within Australia, the spread out from Byron Bay to more affordable areas, and the natural trends in population change that are experienced universally as the population grows and ages.

Once again, the issue of whether events at Parklands are likely to result in significant impacts on community cohesion is difficult to determine. The testimony provided by community members is divided and it is not possible to conclude whether the changes experienced or envisaged in terms of community cohesion are directly attributable to events at Parklands, or are a side effect of the natural changes experienced by communities as they evolve and the population changes through ageing and migration.

There is no hard evidence to suggest that the subject application would generate any significant impacts in terms of community cohesion. Responses to the application's public exhibition show strong support for the proposal even from persons in the very near vicinity of the site.

Environmental impacts:

Environmental impacts have been extensively and separately addressed in reports accompanying the application. However, people's enjoyment and experience of the natural environment represents a social impact. While this issue is addressed in the submitted SIA, it is addressed here again in the context of the feedback received from the most recent community consultation.

Feedback specifically mentioned the value placed on the natural environment, including beaches, waterways and bushland. Again, the feedback was split, with many noting no noticeable detrimental impacts on the natural environment as a result of events at Parklands, while others reported significant impacts. Some residents also felt Parklands' had significantly improved the site's natural environment compared to the previous use of the site.

As discussed and detailed in the SIA, in this instance, where there are strong views both in support of, and in opposition to the application for the continued use of the Parklands site for events, identifying mitigation measures that will reduce all impacts, and appease all sections of the community is challenging. As such, judgement is required as to whether, on balance, the overall positive short and long term social impacts, outweigh the short-term, negative impacts experienced by some residents. While not 'trading away' negative impacts, it needs to be determined whether reasonable and effective mitigation measures are in place to ameliorate the real or perceived negative impacts, and continued consultation and alterations to management strategies are made to ensure continued improvement.

The key to ensuring that the experiences of residents of neighbouring residents during events are reasonable to them, is through ongoing consultation. The actions of Parklands since 2006, illustrates that it prioritises its relationships with neighbours and is committed to ensuring dialogue is ongoing.

Positive Impacts:

The positive social impacts of the permanent use of the North Byron Parklands site for cultural events have been highlighted throughout the SIA, and in this Addendum, and include:

- increased access for regional Australians to world-class, contemporary arts and culture;
- provision of a world-class, sustainable, unique event venue that will attract tourists to the area;
- benefits provided through environmental education programs during events; learning and exposure to new ideas through lectures; ongoing and potentially increased community development potential; increased sense of civic pride;
- increased access to the site for smaller community groups and events;
- investment in the site to improve infrastructure, access and amenities with the aim of further reducing off-site impacts such as noise, vibration, waste management and litter;
- economic benefits generated by patrons attending events, spending money off-site on accommodation, transport, food and beverages, and at other local shops;
- increased investment in the broader community through ticket levy fees, funding of community groups. With larger patron numbers, community grants funding will increase;
- increased employment and traineeship opportunities in an area of high unemployment; and
- environmental improvements generated by the proposed land swap with Billinudgel Nature Reserve; flora, fauna and habitat regeneration and monitoring.

The positive impacts of increasing Splendour In The Grass progressively up to 50,000 patrons include:

- satisfying the demand for quality outdoor cultural events. SITG "sells out" in only 30 minutes. The careful and progressive increase in patron numbers for the SITG festival will allow a broader range of the community to participate in this international standard event;
- because of patron demand, SITG may not be able to stay in the Byron Shire if patron numbers are capped at 35,000. A positive social outcome is anticipated in relation to the retention of SITG at the North Byron Parklands site, not just in terms of its impact on local economics but also in terms of the cultural environment of the site that is enhanced simply from hosting a world class cultural event within the Shire of Byron;
- expanding the patron participation will permit the promotor to entice a greater diversity of high profile, world class acts to the site and Australia;
- by permitting the progressive increase in patrons to 50,000, the SITG promotor will be able to continue to expand the character of the event to include further onsite educational programs; enhanced arts and crafts; expanded fine dining; increase opportunities for the appreciation of contemporary cultural products and new cultural endeavours; and provide junior-school and middle school children with specially developed cultural enrichment programs at "Little Splendour". The festival's broad augmentation activities beyond music will significantly broaden the demographic attending the North Byron Parklands site; and

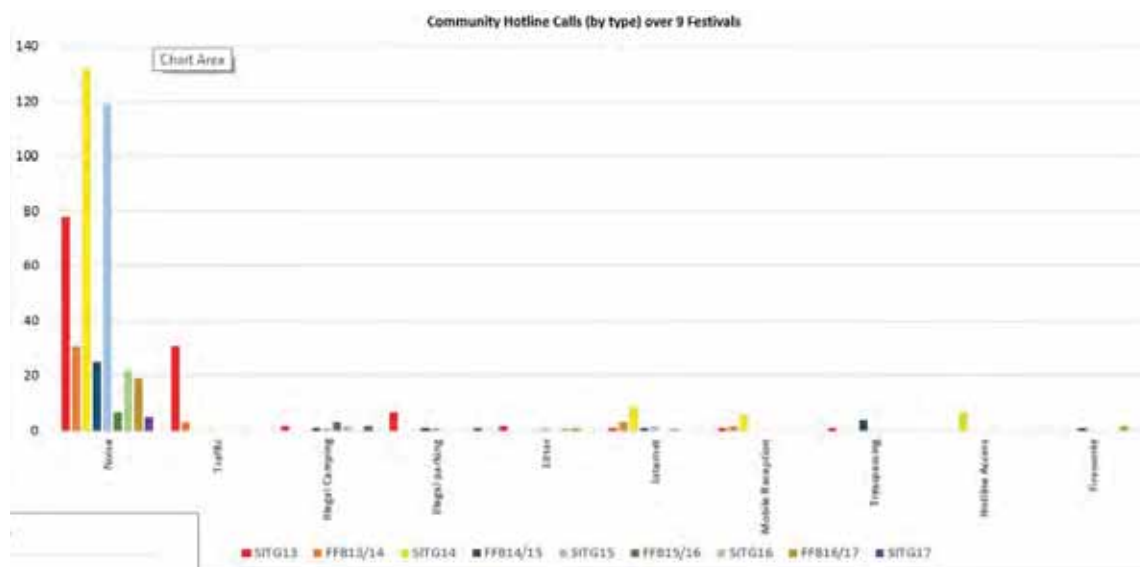
- with the increase in event size, there will be further increases in employment and training opportunities.

Observations concerning scale and impact:

Some submitters to the EIS exhibition have interpreted that an increase in the scale of the event has a direct relationship to impacts associated with the event. From the Trial undertaken to date, it is clear that “scale” and “negative social impacts” are not connected. This observation is illustrated by the statistics from the complaint hotline (see **Figure 5.1**).

As shown by **Figure 5.1**, the initial events carried out at the site had a patron population of 25,000 (SIGT) and 15,000 (FFB), and they received some 120-160 complaints. With the implementation of improved site management systems, complaints have dramatically decreased, (to only eight complaints for SITG 2017) even though the scale of the event has increased by 42%.

Figure 5.1 Complaints to the Hotline Graph



Mitigation Measures:

Parklands and its promoters SITG and FFB have considerable experience in event management and have amassed a robust understanding of local community needs. The process of continuous community consultation since 2006 has led to the development of a comprehensive range of best practice mitigation and management measures. New mitigation measures flowing from the Social Impact Assessment conducted for the purposes of SSD 8169 provide for both “fine scale” management proposals, (such as improving arrangements for school buses and spreading patron visitation to local communities more broadly), through to comprehensive fiscal proposals, including significant Section 94A contributions and potentially large annual contributions under a VPA.

The proponent has undertaken considerable liaison with the NSW Police, which has resulted in improvements for Police resourcing. From recent proponent discussions with the Force (in June 2018), it is understood that the Police anticipate that they will have sufficient resources to provide for future and larger events at the site.

Adaptive Management

The Sarah George Consulting SIA, (Chapter 8), discussed in detail ongoing community engagement and how key social impacts will be continuously monitored and managed.

The Parklands EHSM is based on the International Standard, which provides for adaptive management via a checking and corrective action program. The register of significant risk, objectives and targets required to be monitored and measured, specific EH&S Standards have been developed to manage

these issues and annual updates are provided to the venue owners. Elements of these risks and programs are also captured under the EH&S audit program – NBP EHS 006. Inspection, measurement and testing equipment is maintained. Specific information regarding monitoring and measurement of key environmental aspects, including social impact aspects are addressed in the monitoring and measurement procedure – NBP EHS 008

Final remarks:

On balance, it is concluded the permanent approval of North Byron Parklands as a cultural events site will deliver sustainable social benefits locally and to the region. The potential adverse impacts of a strictly limited and capped venue can be managed to within reasonable limits.

END NOTES

¹ Demand has been calculated on the basis of required rooms to service the additional accommodation demand utilising the mode split generally applicable in the Byron LGA.

² Calculation by PLANNERS NORTH of the supply of rooms (or sites) to meet accommodation demands.

³ Research carried out by PLANNERS NORTH of caravan parks and utilising the occupancy ratio applicable during July.

⁴ The supply of accommodation for friends and relatives is based on 15% of the overall dwelling stock within the LGAs of Tweed, Byron & Ballina.

⁵ This figure is understated as the identified supply of rented homes is based only on accommodation listed in "Airbnb". The data is sourced from the websites "Inside Airbnb" and "Airbnb DNA". The data does not include accommodation marked on other platforms.

⁶ The data from this source is based on the count of hotels and motel accommodation over 15 rooms, published Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Survey of Tourist Accommodation. This figure is understated as it does not include establishments with less than 15 rooms.

⁷ An estimate by PLANNERS NORTH of other accommodation in the form of backpackers' accommodation and the like based on a survey of accommodation of that type in the Shires of Tweed, Ballina and Byron and accounting for July occupancy rates.

⁸ Dwyer, Mellor, Mistilist & Miles, 2000 A framework for assessing 'tangible' and 'intangible' impacts of events and conventions University of Western Sydney, 2000

⁹ <https://www.domain.com.au/news/from-a-whaling-town-to-a-celebrity-hotspot-is-byron-bay-now-only-affordable-only-for-the-rich-and-famous-20180221-h0wf14/>



Demographics:

1. Which category best describes your age?

A. 17 or younger	D. 30-39
B. 18-20	E. 40-49
C. 21-29	F. 50-59
	G. 60 +

2. How many children aged 17 or younger live in your household?

A. None	D. 3
B. 1	E. 4
C. 2	F. More than 4

3. What is the highest level of schooling or highest degree you have received?

4. Which of the following best describes your employment status?

A. Full time employed
B. Part-time employed
C. Not employed looking for work
D. Not employed not looking for work
E. Retired
F. Not able to work
G. Student

Your neighbourhood:

5. What's the name of your town or village?
6. How long have you lived there?

7. How many neighbours do you know?

A. All of them
B. Most of them
C. About half of them
D. A few of them
E. None of them

8. How often do you participate in activities in your neighbourhood?

A. Extremely often
B. Very often
C. Somewhat often

- D. Not so often
- E. Not at all often

9. If you do not participate in activities in this neighbourhood, why not?

10. What types of activities would you participate in if they were available?

11. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the weakest and 5 the strongest.
How strong is the sense of community in your neighbourhood?

12. How often do you visit the public parks or other community facilities in your neighbourhood?

- A. Extremely often
- B. Very often
- C. Somewhat often
- D. Not so often
- E. Not at all often

13. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the weakest and 5 the strongest
How satisfied are you with public parks and community facilities in your neighbourhood?

14. How well are the streets in your neighbourhood maintained?

- A. Extremely well
- B. Very well
- C. Somewhat well
- D. Not so well
- E. Not at all well

15. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the weakest and 5 the strongest
Overall, how safe do you feel in your neighbourhood?

16. Overall, how clean is your neighbourhood?

- A. Extremely clean
- B. Very clean
- C. Somewhat clean
- D. Not so clean
- E. Not at all clean

17. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the weakest and 5 the strongest
How promising is the future of your neighbourhood?

18. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the weakest and 5 the strongest
How proud are you to live in your neighbourhood?
19. On a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 being the weakest and 5 the strongest
How satisfied are you with your experience living in your neighbourhood?
20. What do you like most about your neighbourhood?
21. What do you like least about your neighbourhood?
22. What changes would most improve your neighbourhood?
23. Other comments about your neighbourhood?
24. Right now, do you think there are too many events in your neighbourhood, too few events, or the right amount of neighbourhood events?
- A. Far too many
 - B. Too many
 - C. The right amount
 - D. Too few
 - E. Far too few

Thank you for completing the questionnaire!



Community Workshop : Identifying Social Impacts

This participatory workshop is part of North Byron Parklands' ongoing community consultation process. The workshop provides residents in the north of Byron shire with an opportunity to articulate the cultural values, unique characteristics and way of life in their locality.

The workshop will also ask participants to discuss the potential or actual social impacts (both negative and positive) that they have experienced or expect to experience from the continued operation of events at Parklands.

The information gathered at these sessions will form part of Parklands' response to submissions being prepared for the Department of Planning and Environment. This feedback will be also be used by Parklands and the events to better understand the range of impacts experienced in each village and the ways we can manage them.

Identifying community values and assets

Group question

What does it mean to *value* something?

Discuss this question as a group. Come to a consensus on what **value** means for this exercise.

Prompt: When you value something you consider it in high regard, you consider it as worthwhile.

1. Group exercise

Divide flip chart paper into two halves. Write “**Good Things**” on the top left and “**Values**” on the top right. Ask participants to think about the following two questions as they relate to their unique community and note them down on paper.

1. What are the good things about where you live? List 5 things that you **like** most about your community.
2. What do you **value** most in your community? What are the things that really matter to you in your community? List 5 things.

Ask the participants to share their list of 5 assets and values with the group. Note them down on the flip chart.

Group questions

- a. What do we notice about the results?
- b. Does anyone have the same values? How does that make you feel?
- c. Does anyone have different values? How does that make you feel?
- d. Does everyone share the same values and assets?
- e. Why are values and positive assets important in a community?
- f. Why is it useful to know these things?

Our values are the things that we believe are important, and generally they guide and determine our priorities, the way we live, work and play.

In a community our positive assets and values help develop a sense of place and pride, and community identity.

When circumstances, living conditions and opportunities support our values and enhance our assets, life is usually pretty good. When they don't align it can be a source of unhappiness.

What are social impacts?

Social impacts are consequences experienced by individuals and groups due to the changes associated with a project.

Social impacts can vary in nature and can be:

- positive (e.g an increase in local job opportunities) or negative (e.g an increase in certain physical health conditions);
- tangible (e.g the availability of affordable housing) or intangible (e.g social cohesion);
- directly quantifiable, or only described and assessed in qualitative terms;
- experienced differently by different groups or individuals in a community.

Identifying and predicting positive and negative impacts of the events

2. Group exercise

We each experience changes in our environment differently. Social impacts can bring about positive and negative changes for different people in the same community at the same time.

Think about the assets and values you have identified.

1. Note down the ways the events have detracted from or negatively impacted on the community assets and values you have identified.
2. Note down all the ways the events have enhanced the community assets and values you have identified.

Ask participants to share their experiences with the group. Note them down on the flip chart.

Predicted impacts

3. Group exercise

What are the predicted impacts of events in your neighbourhood?

1. Note down the ways the events might adversely impact on identified community assets and values in the future.
2. Note down the ways the events might bring further benefits to the community assets and values you have identified.

Ask the participants to share their thoughts with the group.

Note them down on the flip chart.

Identifying other influences

4. Group exercise

1. What other activities currently threaten or detract your community assets and values?
2. What other activities currently enhance your community assets and values?
3. Can you think of strategies the events and Parklands could employ that might enhance our community assets and values?

Ask the participants to share their experiences with the group. Note them down on the flip chart.

Additional exercise

Are there any other issues that participants would like to address?

Consider: As per DP&E notes ensure to address issues relating to sense of health and wellbeing, community identity and character, way of life, access to infrastructure, culture, surroundings - our built and natural environment, personal rights, decision making systems.

Collect demographic surveys.

Ocean Shores

good stuff

127

~~the other~~

location
① proximity to infrastructure

② quiet - safe to live
- no drug problems
doesn't seem to be

③ shops - convenience

④ community centre

⑤ emergency services are good → value added

① small community

② friendly

③ not as many tourists as Byron

④ walkable - accessible on foot - walking friendly

⑤ diverse community - becoming more diverse

① absence of fast food
- good nutrition - healthy kids

② Fresh air - HEALTHY

③ lifestyle -

① environment - estuary / ocean community

② vibrancy → in the land

③ 'Capital of the trees' bushland.

1000 ha of nature reserve.

④ young community affordable

⑤ great school supported by parents & staff.

• Rich history - celebrations next year

• local identities

• 7km of ocean beach

North Head to Tweed Border

Lifestyle

Environment

adverse negative impacts of events

* Makes shops busier → & ~~leave~~ ^{sometimes} leave the area.

* Makes the roads busier

* prepare and do shopping before.

* additional traffic, harder to park at shops
→ came here to escape Sydney 22 years ago

~~* FEAR of flood~~ * traffic & shopping is manageable
~~for~~ not experiencing them as negative impacts.

> letter box stolen, next to bus stop,
congregating kids & they're loud, they swim
in river with glitter - Gunduloo

> Parking congestion at shops. impacted by festivals
and other development

> Airbnb neighbours - kids partying - disruption of
peace - this is already happening if capacity
increases that's scary to me.

> peaceful place & has impacted on social cohesion
→ divided the community.

We probably have similar values but
the ^{expense} impacts divides the community.

*

positive impacts³⁰

* fun — I rent my room in home for festivals
* & the kids are joyful.

* cultural enrichment.

* Culture of kindness? / looking out for

* "I didn't see any misbehaviour, everyone should go out and have a look at it. Well organised"

* 'more work, great for economy, Billi suffers all year round but ~~the~~ the pub gets business, laundromat, etc business gets a kick"

* Creates opportunities — untapped

* fun, great for kids,

* "I saw the ECC & I feel safe" —

* "lots of police, police dogs & they're doing a good job."

* improvements in festival systems.

predicted impacts - negative

- * increased capacity → ^{major} traffic congestion
- * average visitors - 40,000/week at night (Aireport)
→ disruption of neighbourhood

(can festivals reach out to the
3 gangs of Ocean Shores?)

- * ~~lack~~ lack of care ~~by~~ visitors for our public & private
Spaces. lack of sensitivity → ~~the more~~ multiply the problem.

* essentially exacerbate the existing impacts.

* "if they all can camp out there that's great"

* We would prefer events that attract a
different demographic - they care more for our
space - we don't feel impacted negatively by
them.

* can we increase security? safety for
residents
- feel disrespected.

predicted positive¹³² impacts

* How can we enhance careers FOR LOCALS

* ~~we~~ We have HUNDREDS of local market stall holders they should have priority to maximise opportunities

* potential to increase desirability of where we live.

* establishing a cultural enclave.

* arts can help disenfranchised youth.

(* What's the percentage of LOCAL acts to international)

* possibility of train reinstated
from Byron to Gold Coast. → importance
to Yelgun.

→ Can parklands & events pay for train
like Elephants?

→ Is there possibility of camping becoming permanent?
holiday camping?

→

* Can Parklands be used as public space?

* Can " " " as wedding venue?
for photos? wedding facilities → jobs creation
→ prosperity

* other festivals - opera, jazz, other
cultural events, open air cinema.

* Can Parklands help Ocean Shores celebrate

its 50 years of O.S. 1849 Euro settlement.

29/3/89

* How can festivals & Parklands
support local business?

* Enhance ^{our} destination → ^{maintain} footpaths
→ Improve our infrastructure)
→ cycleways, bridges painted.
→ one sports field
Museum ↔ a civic & cultural centre
& cinema
→ surf club

South Golden Beach

the good stuff¹³⁵

hold close in heart

respect & preserve

priority proud of it

invest time in what is really important

* natural beauty, quiet with a bit of excitement,
bumping into neighbours on beach, swimming,
Safety, beach, ocean & creatures, Nature Reserve,
Creatures, concerned community about that environment,
the quiet, skateboard ramp for grandkids
location 'it's not Byron' or Bruns,
proximity to other towns & infrastructure,
underdeveloped not overdeveloped - low density,
familiarity with neighbours, amenities - hall, playground,
Mrs Birdy's & good that there's only one, walkable
family traffic, & bikes, → not busy, safe for kids on street
(people out and about)

~~per~~ good stuff cont.

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environment, people love living here,
they value where they live, open village,
the residents respect one another

community —

negative impacts of EVENTS on good stuff!

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Falls 17/18 → toilet block - evening - 6.30pm,
"wrap everywhere"

→ threat to our amenities and abusing the place.

- * disturbance of peace
- * lack of community values → disrespect for community facilities. HOUSING → Airbnb & permanent rentals becoming holiday homes. unoccupied houses — driving up homelessness party houses increase 95 holiday lets "9 permanent rentals"
- * intoxication, drinking as much as they can before they get on bus & littering → preloading.
- * "Urinating" & "defecating" in streets. don't talk to neighbours
- * division of community — locals VS blow ins
- * different opinions — people being categorised disconnect young people VS older people
- * lack of community consultation
- * traffic congestion * increase numbers — exacerbate problems.
- * tar weight of traffic — buses *
- * noise — buses patrons, event noise
- * Live nation — profits go ??
- * ^{negative} infrastructure → sewerage, water, wifi, comms, roads,
→ \$25 / ticket to council for infrastructure
- * greater "buy in" from the developer to improve assets & resident opinion. * BED tax is needed to offset

* helicopters because of noise.

increased capacity exacerbates this.

* hotline — impossible to get through on.
* bus delays — children
stranded

* illegal camping

* rubbish dumping

* stressed wildlife * fires in dunes.

* Wildlife corridors * impact on wildlife — no voice —
trampling on dunes.

* environment in general *

positive impacts on ¹³⁹ our good stuff?

- * family making additional income through AIRbnb — other platforms.

 - opportunity to income.

 - responsible management of can bring positive results.

- * cultural exposure.

- * families getting together — families reunions

- * ^{greater} awareness of my area — sharing my place with wider community.

- * as an ex business owner — 'great boost to business when you wonder when next cheque is coming from' → shared by other business owners.

- * the consult is positive

- * community grants — Crabbe & Cook School flooded. flood damage.

 - * tree planting

 - * Shave Gardens, Water Lily Playscape

predicted positive impacts?

How can we enhance our assets?

→ greater contribution to protect, build
enhance community assets for culture.

→ greater
BUY IN

Bed Tax

→ land swaps.

(can a local landowner
use land ~~mainly~~ to cater
for the campers?)

affordable camping in the
north

predicted negative impacts?

& how can they be mitigated, effectively
How can we manage them?

> massive impacts, profits will go elsewhere.

> that management of problems
identified and for those to be conditions.

Brunswick Heads

good stuff ¹⁴³

Quiet enjoyment, legal right.

demography of 70+ resonates with me,
environment, we are not a backpackers
town, unique, lovely town,
family friendly, low traffic density,

3 generations of family can be here and be

comfortable, ~~people~~ locally owned > not franchises
businesses.

Natural environment - flora & fauna → community respect

low density - no urban sprawl, SIMPLE PLEASURES,

good sleep at night, people's count - feel connected

we know each other, a history of local community
grass roots events, sense of community

strong community progress association, "nostalgia"

old time feel, sense of place, we don't want to be
"broken" - preserving what we have.

love the sequence return - think

negative impacts

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→ bussing patrons into town
the demographic it attracts ~~do~~ not align with our family mission^{friendly}
no independant monitoring

no independant cost benefit analysis
of the "alleged" benefits to community

> Community has no say / power → DPE

Scrutiny → Parklands
~~DPE~~ answer to state &
DPE don't wield big enough stick.

> lack of rigour around DPE scrutiny /

* Once permanent approval is granted FEAR
lack of consultation as Parklands answers to State.

* loss of Democratic Right → as approvals ~~are~~ are out of
Council jurisdiction.

* negative impacts of the events

* negative impacts of the process

* How do other communities access their services?
Especially with regard to Emergency services

* safety risks

* local ~~coffee~~ shops are ¹⁴⁵ taken over.

* "If we allow this happen we are willing victims

* preventing regular short term ~~mon~~ festival

holiday makers → this impacts on business owners
who rely on holiday makers' business.

* traffic congestion - impact on safety

* broken bottles & glass in street.

* vomit in toilets. "Grandchildren couldn't use the facilities"

* ^{"Wholesaler & retailer for 14 years"}
Retail → suffers or does not benefit &

~~has~~ "benefits go through the gates"

* Never seen the beach so busy & so covered in rubbish.

* demographic is hedonistic & does not respect our space →
our natural environment.

Population & noise ~~the~~ impacts on local fauna
in our reserves - we notice the wildlife numbers reduce

low level community awareness of process.

- > buses — go late into night — disrupt sleep
- > — pollute
- > — noisy patrons
- > — anti social. vomit, ~~into~~ defecate, urinate, litter
- > — ~~trash~~ toilets
- > amenities — trash toilets "Bruns cannot cope with them coming in"
- > beyond police capacity to manage. Impact to respond to incidents
- > impact on sewerage
- > "can't cope too small, only ~~large~~ small community"
- > prices in LGA skyrocket.
- > aggressive behaviour, theft in retail, stolen bicycles, trashing of trees.
- > During Falls — increase pop. of people in the river impacted on my health.
- > influx of people ^{massive increase} creates health incidents.
- > residents "house bound"
- > littering ~~of~~ dumping stuff

— Fungal St — St Vinnies — CAWI →
--

clothing, gum boots & litter, household items

* Illegal camping incidents.

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* Council's role is to look after local services & respond to local problems - eg. litter
- this needs a systemic approach to enhance
& sustain community.

* money has taken priority over ecology & wellbeing.

* Car parking problem → park & ride

* not supporting local culture.

* clarity of information sharing

predicted →

"predicting McFestivals will overtake
grass roots festivals"

— smaller events & their audiences ~~are~~ experiencing
"festival fatigue"

→ community

→ Bruns is coming music centric - venues like Wobbs
are having more events.

→ 10 voted against the expansion
none voted for

Crabbes Creek

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Good stuff

Village atmosphere

bio diversity Crabbes Ck.

rural amenity - nature

rural character - "know my
neighbours"

ease of access to north & south
of shire

Agrees
Billi Diverse community - backgrounds
what people are doing
- is a centre for other businesses
with a country atmosphere

Tranquil, peaceful

business Billi live Crabbes.

Kids can walk
to school!
Safety

leave our houses open
Burrington

eclectic community
& ethnic diverse

Strong sense of community

negative social ¹⁵⁰ impacts of festivals

* bump-in & bump-out — hard to get to work with increased traffic movements — change your working ~~and~~ routines to fit in with the traffic

* I can't visit Brunsbutk Heads or South Golden Beach because of traffic and influx of visitors. (Crabbes)

* experience traffic holdups during festival time. (Bumgar)

* farmers have identified trespassing on their properties

* stranded festival patrons after transport finishes.

* pedestrians on major routes and country roads where there is no designated footpath.

* increase of inexperienced drivers on country roads (demog.)

* Increased litter — public bins full up fast (more for Splendour) in Billi, SGB, O.S.

* level of stock in shops — Coles, O.S.

* Parklands should pay for potholes to be filled → Increase in traffic exacc. existing ~~and~~ road probs.

* Incidents of private parties increase — disruption, "culture has changed" — which doesn't align with my village.

* festival noise when the wind comes from east — sleep disturbance.

* impacts internet speed — in Billi, Crabbes Cr,
(residents on NBN no impact)
in ~~Billi~~ Bungbar Pocket

* no free tickets for residents — no compensation for disruption & inconvenience.

* light spill & noise impacts on environment.

* fauna impacts are negative impacts.

positive impacts of festivals

- * encourages sustainability for villages → generating repeat visitors in Burrington tourism. → Burrington want to maximise that opportunity.
- * I don't have to drive to Byron to take kids to the festival. proximity is a positive for my kids.
- * opportunities for kids interested in events.
- * local businesses benefit — hospitality but not across the board.
- * assists our NYE celebrations
- * distribution of ^{festival} funds into the community.
- * offer a ^{diverse} cultural experience — enrichment activities

predicted negative impacts

~~an increase in days & capacity~~

* losing stock permanent rentals to
S. term holiday rental → impacts on social
eco' mix of comm, cohesion, access to housing

* amplify neg. impacts on flora & fauna

* impacts on policing resources

* impacts on traffic — northern gate to Wooyong
Rd. → traffic congestion → flow on effects in other villages
Potsville

"impacts me in Crabbes Ck & surrounds & how I
get around"

* natural disaster — we don't have the resources
already — how can that be managed??

↓ fire & flood

* looking 10-20 years ahead — extreme weather
with enviro. change.
↓ storm / drought
Water availability

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- * Increase in impacts on roads, amenities,
→ services that council controls.

- * predicting positive impacts

- * Villages and hinterland can be enjoyed by visitors → if managed well it could be great for area. — economically.

Burringbar has a longterm Village plan that includes Parklands events. → it articulates inappropriate develop:

- * potential for LOCAL employment with conference centre

- * potential for diverse employment — eco management
— project management

- * ~~increase~~ Parklands becomes a proactive & responsible community member.

- * ↓ Above & beyond compensating community for the impact & impacts of events.

- * building on the value adding to the values of existing community

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* Contributing to & enhancing "Byron Brace"
rather than ^{exploiting} Exploiting.

Other issues
* "I'd love to see the train
go to ^{Murrah} ~~Butte~~ to Byron "

* public transport

free buses for ticket holders.

Closest neighbours

good stuff
 peaceful, "far from the
 madding crowd", natural enviro,
 Marshalls Ck, ^{natural habitat of the creek} genuine people,
 Simple pleasures, sense of community,
 diverse community, proximity to locations,
 locally owned shops, knowing people in our
 community, no problem parking, easy to get around
 lack of traffic, Jones Rd wildlife corridor, uncrowded
 beaches, Nature Reserve, Secret little haven,
 rural environment, locally grown products, plenty of stock
 and choice in our stores, helpful responsive community—
 look out for each other, great cafes, food & entertainment,
 grass roots & community events, "Willie's erection", sense of humour,
 quiet, clean, coastal, surf, fishing, land by the ocean,
 space—close enough to neighbours, lack of drug labs,

* When a disaster strikes - active community,
got each others' back - social support.

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HEALTH > Jones Rd > Positive attitude, | Still feel stressed, ^{Feel strange if I have to live like that with more festival}

Negative impacts of events on
~~but~~ our good stuff - on our values

* Internet access → we can't access emails
"Beach Holiday Park" Wootton Bassett
→ work from home. • can't operate the 'card' to pay for accom + goods in the kiosk

Hulls Rd

Can't get broadband
because of infrastructure

Effects customers & the business
wouldn't be able to send emergency texts etc

• mobile reception poor also.

* Hulls Rd > work from home - need to send large image files while festival is on the strength is intermittent
It has slightly improved but we do have to go friends in Crabbes OK to work.
No problems other times of year.

farmers market (texts & mobile coverage) patchy.
Coord.

* Hulls Rd > Building business - email comm/invoicing
internet & mobile coverage goes down / ~~etc~~ increase with capacity increase & frequency of events.

* Holiday Park - festival ¹⁵⁰ bus stop at the caravan park not as advertised on the Falls & SITZ website $\Rightarrow$ impacts on ~~advertis~~ ^{transport} comms for patrons & their Safety.

* Signage for bustops - ^{helps} patron safety & comms

* [New Brighton - impacts $\Rightarrow$ carparking issues
 $\Rightarrow$ Beach patrol / safety
 $\Rightarrow$ bins at sportsground full.

* Trespassing

* traffic, rubbish, family pressure over tickets - ^{family & friends} not being able to get fix.
"Surprised it's not as much an issue"

* Illegal camping $\Rightarrow$ ^{support} back up from Council on illegal camping.

* Jones Rd $\Rightarrow$ locked access $\Rightarrow$ ^{Theresa & Byron} large social impact on family life.
 $\Rightarrow$ Intensified with permanency.
 $\Rightarrow$ intensif. of trespassing
 $\Rightarrow$ don't want to live home - this is our home of 30 years.

7km habitat zone

^{demand} $\Rightarrow$ no mobile ^{comm} towers on this site.

* because of enviro impacts

"UNESCO Site ^{predicted} the environmental impact is a catastrophe"

~~migratory~~ Compound impacts of all development impacting ^{migratory} faunal numbers.

$\Rightarrow$ Impacting of hard surfaces impacting ^{great} fauna

> telecoms → not only ⁴⁶⁰ impact on business
BUT impacts on time with family & friends
& communication

* New Brighton mobile texts delayed. internet is poor in N.B anyway but increases the problem as I rely on mobile hotspot.

* → ripple effect of loss of communication thru villages.

* ease of getting around → traffic congestion leads to increase use of comms. & pressure on network.

↓ Can we have hotdesks at Parklands for immediate residents.

• Can Parklands share internet connection with impacted neighbours??

* We miss out on Netflix!! — recreation.

* Holiday Park — our permanent residents with weekenders are less likely to visit because of traffic & frequency of events.

* illegal camping — & rubbish near emergency access Wooyung Beach.

* rubbish on beach & on our roads & driveways.

trespassing * help traffic by increasing bus service.

> hard surfaces
compacted

on the site

needs aerating
improve runoff?

> Cumulative
enviro impacts —

insecticides, etc — thousands of people using
— subtle cumulative enviro impacts

> Contamination of waterways through human
waste. — toilets / portaloos in flood prone
area. → Impact fauna & flora & people.

enviro! → What water treatment measures are there?

Info session for residents around waste management

positive

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* tree plantings $\Rightarrow$ involving patrons & locals kids becomes part of education

* great faith in GM & how the plantings etc

have been managed. * good relationships with Parklands management

ORGANISE neighbour tours $\rightarrow$ & feedback session ^{info}

* Communications on all aspects has been good for Jones Rd rec. (Carmel & Gary, Rae)

* the fact that we're here altogether discussing is a good thing.

* "like the buzz of the festival, like live music & good things for our children to go to, it's a music loving area"

*

predicted positive? $\rightarrow$ alternative festivals $\rightarrow$ "tree planting" festivals. $\rightarrow$ educational events.

* involvement of Aboriginal landowners, think about ~~for~~ how can pathways, inclusiveness of Indigenous culture be part of the future of the development?

* Improvements of litter response, traffic control.

* behaviour of our patrons is good - "they're lovely" Holiday Park.

* > Aboriginal cultural festivals.
 → more Aboriginal content in existing festivals.
 → festival for Aboriginal people.

* ~~the~~ the development consults has brought us together to discuss.

⇒ greater community access to the land

- pop up gallery
- trails, bike rides
- outdoor cinema
- picnic event
- youth activities

} community ownership

⇒

predicted negative impacts with cont' of events

→ environment → we're experiencing impacts already we have no idea how the increase in capacity & event days will impact on environment.

→ We have no idea how Live Nation will impact on events and their intensity & the future of events.

Live nation → Parklands MAKE clearer communication about what their involvement is - we're fearful about what it means
 → Clarity around their involvement
 → what kind events? would they bring
fear of Unknown

→ fear of future modifications to grow the development.

→ Jones Rd → buses & trucks thru' GATE A.
 "disaster" "not on" → increase in traffic (of bus & trucks) will create ~~more~~ delays.

* flooding → human resource - SES emergency services
 → Increase risk to the safety of our community & patrons because HR are stretched.
fire → with climate change → this intensifies increase risk.

30 May 2018

Claire Atkins
Community Advocate
North Byron Parklands

Via email: claire@northbyronparklands.com

Dear Claire

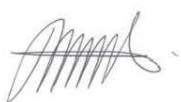
Thank you for assisting us with information about the upcoming events at North Byron Parklands, we are really excited about working with you on both events Splendour in the Grass and the Falls Festival to create experiences for visitors to the Tweed.

The Tweed region is well placed to work with you on dispersing visitation and accommodation to boost the visitor economy north of Byron. We are also really keen to develop plans for taking event patrons staying at Parklands into our rural and coastal villages for the day. We are happy to work with you to develop and manage these day tour activities into our region under a cost recovery arrangement.

We firmly believe that by partnering with Falls, Splendour and North Byron Parkland we can create a wonderful experience for visitors to encourage them to discover the Tweed and come back again and again. The proximity of North Byron Parklands to the Tweed makes it a perfect location for visitors to stay. We have excellent access and we are really happy to work in partnership with your organisations to improve the visitor offering to suit the clientele. By collaborating with you and our industry operators we can create bespoke events, activities and experiences that will have them raving about our region. This is a great opportunity to brand and market the Tweed, particularly given culture is one of the key experiences. We hope to have a long lasting relationship with you and look forward to developing new opportunities as they arise.

Thanks again for keeping us in the loop and being part of our organisation.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rose Wright", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rose Wright
CEO Destination Tweed

