

The Council of the  
**SHIRE OF BREWARRINA**



All communications to be addressed to the General Manager  
SHIRE OFFICE  
57 Bathurst Street  
BREWARRINA NSW 2839  
PO Box 125  
BREWARRINA NSW 2839  
Telephone: (02) 6830 5100  
Fax: (02) 6839 2100  
Email: breshire@brewarrina.nsw.gov.au

8<sup>th</sup> February 2016

Agriculture and Environment Committee  
Enquiry in Barrier Fences in Queensland  
Parliament House  
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Chairperson,

Brewarrina Shire Council thank you for the opportunity to make a submission in regards to the Enquiry in Barrier Fences in Queensland. Below is a resolution that was sent to the following members of parliament and other concerned groups by Brewarrina Shire Council on the 6<sup>th</sup> of October 2016.

Below is the following resolution in relation to this letter.

**“RESOLVED on MOTION by Councillor Loughnan seconded by Councillor O’Connor that Council write;**

***Pointing out the impacts that Wild dogs are creating asking that the dog fence be maintained in Qld and if unmaintainable that the NSW portion be extended Eastward along the NSW / QLD boarder to contain the dogs.***

***Niall Blair covering copy to Minister Barnaby Joyce, Mark Coulton Federal Member for Parkes, Kevin Humphries NSW State Member for Barwon, Andrew Bell (Western Lands Commissioner) and Tom Hynes ( LLS)”***

On Thursday the 20<sup>th</sup> of August Brewarrina Shire Council convened and hosted a Wild Dog Forum in conjunction with Bourke, Walgett and the Balonne Shire from Queensland also attended.

The Wild Dog issue has been raised by Brewarrina Shire council with an increasing number of sightings and damage being caused in the north of the Brewarrina Shire with the dogs migrating down from Queensland in recent years.

Mayor Stewart from Balonne and Clt Rod Avery gave a presentation which showed the numbers of attacks in the Balonne shire by wild dogs and the increasing regularity of

attacks. This raised further concerns as to how effective the present plans in place now are to eradicate or stop the wild dogs both in Queensland and now with increasing attacks and sightings in New South Wales.

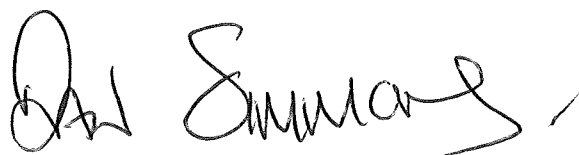
It was noted by Mayor Stewart that a collaborative and united front involving a whole of government approach must be looked at so this issue can be confronted and beaten before it becomes worse for Balonne and the Outback Shires of Bourke, Brewarrina and Walgett. If the dog fence in QLD is not being maintained to a reasonable level then NSW need to look now at a permanent structure along the QLD border to stop further migration south of the Wild Dogs.

Blackall and Barcaldine areas in Queensland in the 1980s and 1990s would have easily carried over 50% sheep or more on their enterprises. From discussions the sheep numbers in those areas now would be less than 10% of that period with pastoralists having to go to cattle production as the wild dogs have had too big an impact to stay with sheep production.

This is the main concern that the Outback Shires of Bourke, Brewarrina, Walgett and the Balonne Shire in Queensland have in regards to increasing numbers of wild dogs. If increased money is not spent on baiting, trapping and exclusion fencing including a fence along the border then the land holders in our shires will be in the same situation in 5, 10 or 20 years and will only be able to graze cattle due to the increasing number of wild dog attacks on sheep and goats.

This is a matter that needs to be dealt with swiftly with a whole of government approach. Brewarrina Shire Council as part of the Outback Shires alliance would like to hear your thoughts as to how the Queensland government is approaching this issue and solutions that have and are occurring in the future.

Kind Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dan Simmons', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Dan Simmons  
General Manager