



# ETHERIDGE SHIRE COUNCIL

St George Street, Georgetown QLD 4871, Australia

Phone: (07) 4062 1233 Fax: (07) 4062 1285 Email: [info@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@etheridge.qld.gov.au)

[www.etheridge.qld.gov.au](http://www.etheridge.qld.gov.au)

ABN 576 652 388 57

Address all correspondence to:  
The Chief Executive Officer

PO Box 12

GEORGETOWN QLD 4871

Our ref: DocID42388/0510/JE,je  
Your ref: GT.10.02

When telephoning or calling  
Please ask for: Jo Evans  
Phone: (07) 4062 1485

21 May 2010

Sub 45

The Research Director  
Economic Development Committee  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Email: [edc@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:edc@parliament.qld.gov.au)



Dear Ms Bates,

**RE: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE – ISSUES PAPER NO.3**

I refer to your letter dated 15 April 2010 in reference to the Queensland rural and regional grey nomad tourism.

Please find attached Council's submission.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further please contact Jo Evans, TerrEstrial Centre Manager on 4062 1485 or [jo.evans@etheridge.qld.gov.au](mailto:jo.evans@etheridge.qld.gov.au).

Yours Sincerely

Jo Evans  
TERRESTRIAL CENTRE MANAGER

Enc. 1 (Submission)

## Issues for comment:

### 1. **What economic contribution do grey nomads make to rural and regional areas of Queensland?**

Grey nomads make up a large majority of the visitors who visit our area every year and are an important part of in our economy. They contribute a much needed stimulus to the businesses and service providers in small towns.

### 2. **Are the available statistics on grey nomads in Queensland useful, current and accessible?**

While statistics are available and useful they can be quite hard to find.

### 3. **What are the public infrastructure requirements of grey nomads including health services, waste disposal sites and signage?**

- Health: Well maintained clinics and hospitals with access to pharmacies as older people do not carry an adequate supplies of medication, thinking that all towns have a pharmacy. More advertising to make Grey Nomads aware of this situation is need.
- Waste disposal sites: feedback from grey nomads is that waste disposal sites are slowly catching up with the need, but in some areas they are along way apart also they would like to see better access to litter bins.
- Signage: signage for attractions/services in some areas could be improved greatly.

### 4. **Is the current infrastructure for grey nomads in Queensland adequate? What additional infrastructure is required?**

More free camping sites in areas that have long distances between towns are needed to assist the traveller as many people just pull up at the side of the road. Also not all Grey Nomads can afford to stay in Caravan Parks every night. These should ultimately not be place in small towns where established Caravan Parks already exist. The supply of potable water, at a designate place in towns were possible. As the cost of water is becoming more expensive maybe Local Councils could be given a subsidy to provide this service.

### 5. **What are the major issues relating to the regulation of Queensland's camping and caravan parks?**

Lack of uniform regulations and licensing throughout the state.

### 6. **What is the best method of marketing Queensland's rural and regional communities to grey nomad tourists?**

National advertising campaigns, easy to access websites, shire brochures and well informed Visitor Information Centres as the travelling public now expect to be given information on a wider area.

### 7. **How successful have existing programs been in utilising the skills of grey nomads in rural and regional Queensland?**

I am not aware of any of these programs taking place in our community, but any program that enhances the education and skills of young people in rural, regional and indigenous communities is worth pursuing.

### 8. **What can the government do to encourage grey nomads to use their skills by undertaking work in rural and regional areas?**

Offer rent assistance and a tax break, spend more money to make Grey Nomads aware that they have skills to offer.