Media Release



Banana Shire Council

12 April 2018

GHD RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT FOR GIBIHI ROAD KIANGA

Council has received a recommendations report from GHD, the third party consulting engineers Council engaged to carry out an independent assessment of the damage to Gibihi Road. The report assessed the potential for alternative alignments for Gibihi Road where it has been affected by a significant geotechnical failure triggered by a blast at the Anglo American Dawson Mine at Moura.

The report concluded that, based on the requirements of the Department of Transport and Main Roads' *Geotechnical Design Standard*, no alternative route can be located within the current Gibihi Road reserve with an adequate factor of safety for a public road. This is a complex issue and listed below are the summarised findings from the report:

- The plotted safety exclusion zone for a factor of safety of 1.5 associated with the block shift failure extends some 250 metres south from the failure and is located within private property under the mining lease.
- The excavation of the southern pit excavation some 85m below the Gibihi Road formation pushes the safety exclusion zone just to the south of Gibihi Road formation.
- Planned future mining activity to the west of the current southern pit excavation has the potential to influence any possible alternative routes in the Gibihi Road corridor.
- The overlapping of the safety exclusion zones of the block shift failure and the mining operations precludes the construction of an alternate alignment for Gibihi Road.

Council has uploaded a copy of the report to their website for community perusal.

As advised at the recent community update, Council is in regular contact with Anglo American in regards to finalising a long-term solution in the event that Gibihi Road was not able to be reinstated. Council will now conduct meetings with the company over the next two weeks to finalise a long-term replacement road plan and solution based on the geotechnical assessments and community feedback.

Until the permanent solution is completed the interim traffic management and road condition monitoring and improvements that have been put in place on the alternative routes will continue.

If you have any queries in regards to this recommendations report please do not hesitate to contact Council on (07) 4992 9500 or <u>enquiries@banana.qld.gov.au</u>.

Councillor Neville Ferrier Mayor, Banana Shire Council

MEDIA NOTE: For further information or media comment, contact Mayor Neville Ferrier, on (07) 4992 9500 or 0448 011 814.