

## Hahei Ratepayers Association

17 March 2016

Thames Coromandel District Council  
Mercury Bay Service Centre  
10 Monk Street, Whitianga 3510

Attention: Allan Tiplady, Mercury Bay Area Manager  
Copy: Paul Kelly, Chair Mercury Bay Community Board.

Subject: Kaos Kayaks, Hahei

Dear Sir

At the Hahei Beach Rate Payers Association committee meeting on the 13-03-2016, a number of committee members reported that a new firm in Hahei, Kaos Kayaks, appeared to be operating without the appropriate approvals from TCDC and it could potentially cause harm to our community.

For your information, Kaos Kayaks is a small operation, located in Pa Road, Hahei, that rents kayaks, paddle boards and other recreational beach items. They started operating in 2015 and appear to growing quite rapidly. Kayaks are collected from the property on Pa Rd, although it appears that sometimes they are delivered to Hahei Beach or elsewhere such as the Wigmore Stream.

Our concerns are as follows –

1. **Beach Concession** – there is already one Kayak concession let for Hahei Beach and the maximum number of concession is limited to four. We would like to know if Kaos Kayaks has obtained one of the four concession. If not, then they should not be delivering or collecting kayaks from Hahei Beach.
2. **Wigmore Stream** – we often see their clients taking their hired kayaks to Wigmore Stream, immediately adjacent to the Wastewater Treatment plant discharge. As we all know, Wigmore Stream is not suitable for bathing and we think there should be restrictions on kayaks in the stream.
3. **Health and Safety** – Any firm that hires kayaks in Hahei should make sure clients are properly briefed on the risks and provided with support should anything go wrong. We know the existing concessionaire operates an appropriate health and safety programme. We are not convinced that Kaos Kayaks has a similar programme. For instance, we understand some of their customers had to be rescued from Cathedral Cove.

While we normally support business initiatives in Hahei, we are concerned that this operation could impair the safe, peaceful reputation of Hahei.

Could you please investigate this operation and let us know if it has all the relevant approvals from TCDC. If not, please take the appropriate action.

Thank you.

Yours faithfully

John North

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John North', written in a cursive style.

Deputy Chairman of Hahei Ratepayers  
Beach Ratepayers

Bill Stead

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Stead', written in a cursive style.

Chairman of Hahei Beach Ratepayers  
Association