



PRICE \$1.10 inc GST RY

# OSTER grand mps

Inside today

## Advice on suitable landfill site

CONSULTANTS have advised Armidale Dumaresq Council that a 270 hectare site on Mining Vale Road, 12kms east of Armidale would be the most suitable for its new land fill site.

A recommendation to negotiate the purchase of the land from the owners of the property 'Ballantrae' will be put to tonight's council meeting.

With the current waste management site on Long Swamp Road due to close within two years, general manager Shane Burns said there is some urgency to make a decision.

The Environmental Protection Agency has already given notice that a closure plan for the current site and a strategy for a replacement is now required.

Council's consultants from the Department of Public Works and Services assessed a shortlist of nine possible locations from 50 which have been considered since the search for a new waste management site began in 1996.

Considerations such as topography, geology and geo-hydrology were included in the criteria

**MORE, Page 3**

## FROM, Page 1

analysis and the sites ranked in order of suitability. The Mining Vale Road site came out 10 per cent ahead of the other contenders.

The consultants also assessed alternate technologies, based mainly on composting putrescibles and investigations, to include these in the new facility will continue.

"Council has been investigating possible locations for almost six years, has commissioned a number of reports, inspected facilities in other council areas and considered many alternatives," Mr Burns said.

"We have held two workshops this year, one in April and one this month when the reports from the consultants were discussed in detail.

"We've simply run out of time and councillors are aware that a decision must be made soon to make sure there is sufficient time to prepare an environmental impact statement (EIS) and a risk management plan, prior to the development of the site."

The recommendation to council is that if the results of the EIS for the Mining Vale Road are unsatisfactory, the next most suitable site would be investigated.

## Alarm activated

AT 3.30am on Friday an intruder alarm was activated at a motorcycle sales outlet in Drew St. Security and police attended and found that a concrete block was thrown through a window and entry was gained by an unknown person.

Inquiries are still continuing in relation to two male suspects.

## Vandals target gates

BETWEEN 11pm and 11.30pm on Wednesday unknown vandals smashed the front gates to a home in McIntosh Cr.