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2000

## **Report**

25 September

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Report to the Environment Committee  
from Jo Fagan, Policy Advisor

### **1999-00 Regional Plan Implementation Programme**

#### **1. Purpose**

To demonstrate that during the 1999-2000 year, the regional plans have been implemented according to the Regional Plan Implementation Programme.

#### **2. Background**

This is the second annual report on the implementation of the regional plans. It lists and describes the activities identified in the Regional Plan Implementation Programme that have been undertaken during the 1999-2000 financial year.

#### **3. Regional Plan Implementation Activities**

Our regional plans commit the Council to implementation of non-regulatory policies and methods to achieve objectives. These are being undertaken by staff in the Environment Division, and by staff from other divisions. Some policies and methods refer to ongoing activities that are carried out as part of the core functions of the Council. Others have specified completion dates.

All of the activities listed below are discussed in attachments 1, 2 and 3 to this report.

### **3.1 Environment Division Activities that Contribute to Regional Plan Implementation**

The following activities contribute to regional plan implementation:

- Regional co-ordination of cleanup events for Clean Up NZ Week
- Establishment and facilitation of community advisory groups for the Pauatahanui Inlet and Waiwhetu Stream
- Adopt A Stream activities with Naenae Primary School
- Trees for Survival Programme
- Coastal Structures Inventory
- Regional programme for the collection and disposal of unwanted agricultural chemicals
- Agrichemical Users Project
- Education programme for home owners about on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems
- Landfill leachate monitoring
- Munitions and military equipment dump identification and assessment
- Register of organic farmers
- Emissions Inventory
- Sustainable Land Management Action Plan
- Environmental Management System for the Resource Policy Department
- Integrated User Guide
- Pollution prevention pamphlet development and production
- Information and education about the regional plans.

### **3.2 Ongoing Environment Division Activities Contributing to Regional Plan Implementation**

The following activities carried out by the Environment Division contribute to ongoing regional plan implementation:

- Consent processing
- Environmental monitoring
- Pollution response
- Submissions on territorial authority plans and consents
- Staff involvement in appropriate industry groups
- Liaison with relevant stakeholders including iwi.

### **3.3 Activities Undertaken by Other Divisions that Contribute to Regional Plan Implementation**

The following activities undertaken by other Divisions contribute to regional plan implementation:

- Water Conservation Programme

- Assistance to the Riversdale Dune Management Group and Castlepoint Beachcare Group
- Stabilisation of erosion prone land
- Riparian Management Group
- Coastal biosecurity
- Regional Land Transport Strategy.

#### 4. **Communication**

Several activities related to regional plan implementation have resulted in positive publicity for the Council during this financial year. In particular, the Council has been able to promote regional plan implementation activities through *Elements* and *Planwell*. Specific articles have highlighted the involvement of the Council in the Business Care Programme, Pauatahanui Inlet Advisory Group, Waiwhetu Stream Working Group, and Adopt a Stream with Naenae School. Other articles have concentrated on the broader environmental management functions of the Council and the regional plans.

Local and regional newspapers have recorded the Council's involvement in Lorna Sanderman's Waiwhetu Stream cleanup, community care groups, rural field days, and a number of other community activities. The annual results of environmental monitoring programmes are also reported through media releases to public newspapers.

In addition to media publicity, plan implementation activities that involve the Council working with the community provide opportunities to promote the environmental management role of the Council. People involved have included:

- farmers (e.g. sustainability plans, property conservation plans and land improvement agreements)
- lifestylers (e.g. the Otaki Lifestyle Field Day)
- school teachers, students and parents (e.g. Adopt a Stream and Trees for Survival)
- home owners (e.g. the education programme for home owners on on-site sewage treatment and disposal systems).

#### 5. **Recommendation**

*That the report be received and its contents noted.*

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission:

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Attachments: 3