

Report 16.53
Date 17 February 2016
File CCAB-8-416

Committee Council
Author Nigel Corry, General Manager, Environment Management
Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management

Report on the Environment Committee meeting, 17 February 2016

1. Purpose

To inform Council of the Environment Committee meeting of 17 February 2016.

2. Reports

2.1 Regional Pest Management Strategy Review

The Committee was advised that a review of the Regional Pest Management Strategy (RPMS) had commenced. While the current RPMS has a twenty year life period from 2002 to 2022, changes to the Biosecurity Act, and the recent development of a National Policy Direction, mean that parts of the RPMS no longer meet the statutory requirements of the Act.

The Committee was advised of the review process. Once reviewed, the RPMS will become the Regional Pest Management Plan, in accordance with the Act.

2.2 General Managers' report to the Environment Committee

The Committee was updated on the activities of the Catchment Management and Environment Management Groups relevant to the Committee.

The Committee discussed the scope of the forthcoming workshop on the use of chemicals to control pest plants and recommended that the Regional Medical Officer of Health be approached to provide a public health perspective to the workshop on the health impacts of chemical residues.

The Committee noted that work on the Hutt River City Centre Project is continuing. At this time, approximately ten landowners have indicated that they wish to enter negotiations with GWRC for the purchase of their properties.

The Great Outdoors Summer Events programme continues to be well received by participants. Surveys show that approximately 30% of programme users are new to the GWRC park or area at which the programme activity is undertaken.

The Committee noted the significant work being undertaken in the Korokoro Valley to reinstate tracks and infrastructure following last year's flood event. It is expected that this work will be completed by the end of March 2016.

2.3 Report of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting of 26 November 2015

The Committee received a report informing it of matters occurring of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting of 26 November 2015.

2.4 Report on Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga River Floodplain Management Plan Subcommittee meeting 15 December 2015

The Committee received a report informing it of matters occurring at Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga River Floodplain Management Plan Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) meeting of 15 December 2015.

3. Communication

No external communication is required.

4. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

4.1 Engagement

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

5. Recommendations

That the Council:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

Nigel Corry
General Manager
Environment Management

Report prepared by:

Wayne O'Donnell
General Manager
Catchment Management

Report approved by:

Cr Donaldson
Chair, Environment
Committee