



Meeting of the Environment and Services Committee

Date: Wednesday 15 November 2017

Time: 11.00am

Venue: Council Chamber
Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
NAPIER

Agenda

ITEM	SUBJECT	PAGE
1.	Welcome/Notices/Apologies	
2.	Conflict of Interest Declarations	
3.	Confirmation of Minutes of the Environment and Services Committee meeting held on 13 September 2017	
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Information or Performance Monitoring

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HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE****Wednesday 15 November 2017****SUBJECT: FOLLOW-UPS FROM PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENT & SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETINGS****Reason for Report**

1. **Attachment 1** lists items raised at previous meetings that require follow-ups. All items indicate who is responsible for each, when it is expected to be completed and a brief status comment. Once the items have been completed and reported to the Committee they will be removed from the list.

Decision Making Process

2. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Environment and Services Committee receives and notes the report ***Follow-up Items from Previous Environment & Services Committee Meetings.***

Authored by:

Judy Buttery
GOVERNANCE ADMINISTRATION
ASSISTANT

Approved by:

Liz Lambert
GROUP MANAGER
EXTERNAL RELATIONS

Attachment/s

[1](#) Follow-ups from Previous Meetings

Follow-ups from Previous Environment & Services Committee Meetings**27 September 2017 Regional Council meeting**

	Agenda item	Follow-up item	Responsible	Status/Comment
1.	Recommendations from the Environment & Services Committee	TANK process and science updates	Iain Maxwell J Palmer	Regular updates to be provided through the RPC

13 September 2017

	Agenda item	Follow-up item	Responsible	Status/Comment
2.	Item 6 – Future Management of Water Takes on the Heretaunga Plains	Further information of long term solutions to meet water demands	Iain Maxwell J Palmer	To be provided through the TANK process

HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE

Wednesday 15 November 2017

Subject: CALL FOR ITEMS OF BUSINESS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Reason for Report

1. Standing order 9.12 states:

"A meeting may deal with an item of business that is not on the agenda where the meeting resolves to deal with that item and the Chairperson provides the following information during the public part of the meeting:

- (a) *the reason the item is not on the agenda; and*
- (b) *the reason why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.*

Items not on the agenda may be brought before the meeting through a report from either the Chief Executive or the Chairperson.

Please note that nothing in this standing order removes the requirement to meet the provisions of Part 6, LGA 2002 with regard to consultation and decision making."

2. In addition, standing order 9.13 allows "A meeting may discuss an item that is not on the agenda only if it is a minor matter relating to the general business of the meeting and the Chairperson explains at the beginning of the public part of the meeting that the item will be discussed. However, the meeting may not make a resolution, decision or recommendation about the item, except to refer it to a subsequent meeting for further discussion."

Recommendations

1. That the Environment and Services Committee accepts the following "Items of Business Not on the Agenda" for discussion as Item 12.

- 1.1. ***Urgent*** items of Business (*supported by tabled CE or Chairpersons's report*)

	Item Name	Reason not on Agenda	Reason discussion cannot be delayed
1.			
2.			

- 1.2. ***Minor*** items for discussion ***only***

Item	Topic	Councillor / Staff
1.		
2.		
3.		

**Leeanne Hooper
GOVERNANCE & CORPORATE
ADMINISTRATION MANAGER**

**Liz Lambert
GROUP MANAGER
EXTERNAL RELATIONS**

HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE****Wednesday 15 November 2017****Subject: REGIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT PLAN PROPOSAL****Reason for Report**

1. To provide an early draft of the Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) for the Committee's consideration and, subject to changes agreed at the meeting and completion of cost benefit/cost allocation section recommend to Council that the proposed RPMP is adopted for public consultation.

Background

2. The Hawkes Bay Regional Pest Management Strategy 2013 (now Regional Pest Management Plan) is currently under review, with the planned release of the Proposal (attached) in February 2018, for formal public consultation. The Regional Pest Management Strategy is the main statutory document implementing the Biosecurity Act 1993 in the region; providing a framework for the management of plant, animal and horticultural pests in Hawke's Bay.
3. The development of this Proposed RPMP commenced with a fit for purpose review of the current Regional Pest Management Strategy, undertaken in 2016. Internal workshops were held, followed by meetings with key stakeholders including DOC, horticultural sector, neighbouring Regional Councils, Federated Farmers and contractors.
4. A Biosecurity Working Party (BWP) was formed, consisting of three appointed Councillors, being Fenton Wilson, Rex Graham and Tom Belford, and three appointed members of the Regional Planning Committee, being Karauna Brown, Apiata Tapine and Nicky Kirikiri. The BWP has the following functions:
 - 4.1. Responsible for considering and recommending to staff advice on the Regional Pest Management Plan review process and key issues;
 - 4.2. To consider reports on the Regional Pest Management Plan and to give guidance on recommended approach and to review and give guidance on the discussion document;
 - 4.3. To review and give guidance on the proposal and to provide guidance on the alignment of the Regional Pest Management Plan and the objectives of the Hawke's Bay Biodiversity Strategy;
 - 4.4. To undertake the duties of the Hearings process.
5. A discussion document was released 12 June to 7 July 2017 for public consultation. To encourage public input, the document focused on key pests and had several mechanisms for providing feedback, including via phone, email, letter, hard copy submission form or the online submission form. A total of 98 submissions were received. The release of the discussion document was advertised via the HBRC web and Facebook page, a YouTube video, an article in HBRC's 'Our Place' newsletter, an article in the Hawke's Bay Today, along with 4,500 letters being sent to stakeholders and an email sent to key stakeholders, including DOC, Federated Farmers, OSPRI, TBFree Committee, Horticultural sector, Forestry sector, MPI, Fish & Game, Forest & Bird, HB Marine group, QEII and HBRC contractors. A range of feedback was received from this consultation process, which was used to help guide the development of the RPMP Proposal.

6. The consultation process has resulted in key changes to the Regional Pest Management Plan, which this paper outlines. This RPMP Proposal will be publicly notified for public submissions to confirm community expectations and policy directions to be incorporated into the final plan in February 2018.
7. As the programmes set out in the proposed plan have financial implications, the budget for implementing the plan will need to be confirmed through the Long-term Plan process.
8. The budget required to support the key changes included within the proposed plan is:
 - 8.1. \$145,000 in contractor budget and one FTE for the possum control area, pest plant, marine biosecurity and feral goat management programmes;
 - 8.2. \$400,000 in contractor budget for wide-scale predator control.
9. As the final level of funding available to implement the plan will not be known until the Long-term Plan has been adopted, the proposed plan may be subject to change as a result of receipt of public submissions and the amount of funding that is allocated to the proposed plan through the Long-term Plan process.

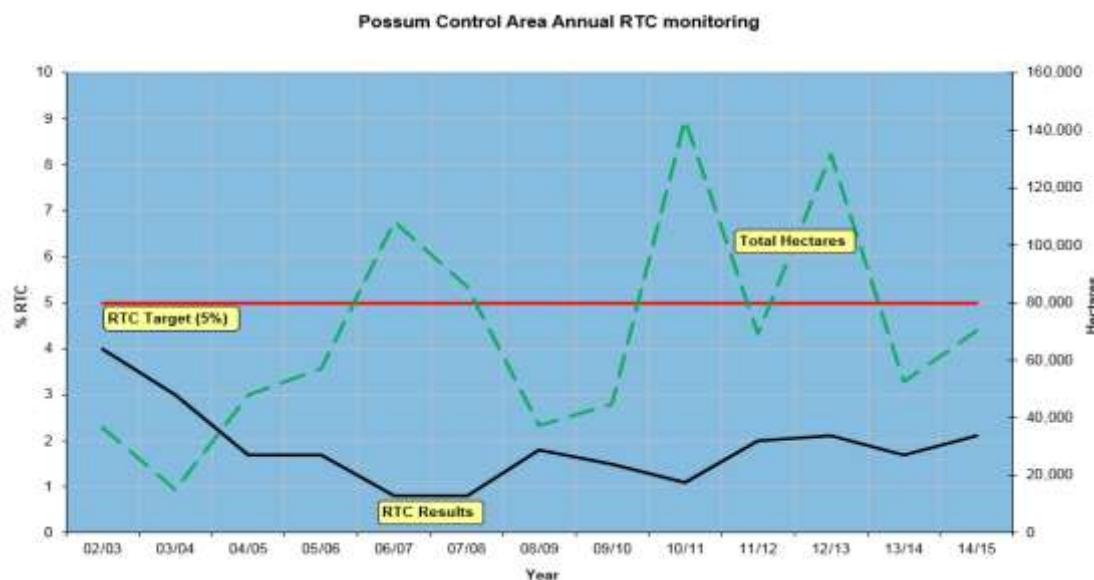
Comment

Key changes to the Regional Pest Management Plan

Possum Control Programme

Background

10. Hawkes Bay Regional Council (HBRC) has been controlling possums through its Possum Control Area (PCA) programme since 2000. This is a flag ship biosecurity programme with over \$15m invested directly by Council in the initial knockdown and maintenance of low possums numbers to date. There has been a very high level of support for the PCA programme, and a strong belief by most land occupiers within the programme that it is providing value for money for Biosecurity ratepayers. The programme has grown to just over 700,000ha, with 71 PCAs, and is achieving its target of <5% residual trap catch (RTC).
11. Through HBRC's PCA monitoring programme, a trend is emerging where the RTC index is rising annually. As shown in the below graph, the current average RTC result is now back to 2004-05 levels.



12. This gradual increase of the RTC also reflects the increasing number of properties that are undergoing educational monitors. This is of concern to HBRC staff as only 10% of the overall PCA programme is monitored annually, resulting in some properties going unmonitored for 10 years or more.

13. In 2016 central government launched PFNZ2050 with the goal of eradicating predators (possums, rats and mustelid's) from our nation by 2050. Reducing the RTC rate by 1% every 10 years aligns with this national objective and reflects Hawke's Bay commitment to becoming predator free by 2050.

Proposed changes

14. Reduce possum monitoring requirement (RTC) from 5% to 4%. This will assist in reducing the complacency amongst some land occupiers who are not undertaking regular possum control. It also sends a clear message of the regional and national objective of achieving predator free status by 2050. It is also proposed that there is a significant increase in the amount of monitoring undertaken within this programme.

Wide Scale Predator Control

Background

15. Hawkes Bay Regional Council have been exploring large-scale predator control through the Poutiri Ao ō Tāne and Cape to City projects. Cape to City is progressing well and is nationally recognized as a leading ecological restoration project. Using the Cape to City template, a mechanism will be added to the RPMP to allow the transition of Possum Control Areas to Predator Control areas including the eradication of possums on farmland, should the community wish to do so.
16. RPMPs are basically a tool under the Biosecurity Act 1993. As such they have a range of powers and are required to go through a detailed public engagement and consultation process. They are reviewed every 10 years (although by choice longer timeframes can be set) and with community agreement allow binding rules backed by compliance action to be placed on landowners. Current Possum Control programmes in New Zealand managed by Councils are one example of how the BSA operates at large scales with many of these programmes having been in place for 15-20 years. When a significant majority of the land area of farmers agree to participate in long term 'maintenance' control of possums it becomes binding on all landowners in that area and is locked in as a statutory requirement under the BSA. Usually Councils fund the initial control of possums and maintenance control is then underpinned by a rule in the RPMP requiring possum numbers to be kept at or below a Residual Trap Catch percentage by landowners. Council monitors this, advises farmers on best practise, maintains contractor capacity (some farmers choose to do their own control and some use a contractor) and where necessary carries out enforcement. Farmers are responsible for funding their own long term maintenance control.
17. Locking in pest programmes long term under the BSA involves having clear rules so that the community can understand the benefits and commit to the long term support of a pest control programme. Many current RPMP rules for pests have definable technical thresholds that are linked to outcomes. An example of this would be the national trap catch protocol for possums. In some cases the RPMP rule itself also makes allowance for an agreed management plan to support the delivery of the outcomes sought by the rules.
18. One current challenge with farmland predator control is that we do not have (as we do for possums) clear simple measures at a property or operational scale of predator control thresholds that are linked to outcomes. Additionally, while our initial work in Cape to City suggests that input costs in the range of \$3-4/ha for long term maintenance of predator pests on farmland may be realistic with wireless trap monitoring, this still needs significant work to finalise the actual long term cost per hectare.
19. Assuming that we can fund initial predator control and have ongoing costs of maintenance at a level sustainable by a regional community, this RPMP mechanism could be used to underpin long term large scale predator control on farmland in New Zealand.

20. Integrating large scale predator control (feral cats and mustelids) into PCA programmes provides a key platform for delivering additional economic and environmental outcomes to land owners. This coupled with appropriately targeted intensive high biodiversity value site protection, as guided by the Ecosystem Prioritisation Model, would provide the greatest likelihood of significant long term integrated biodiversity recovery and primary production benefits across the Hawkes Bay region.
21. Likely RPMP rule structure for a predator control area
22. Because we are early in the understanding of the technical requirements for an RPMP predator control rule, any proposed rules need to strike a close balance between:
 - 22.1. Being flexible enough to allow for technical change in the management context over the ten year RPMP duration, and
 - 22.2. Providing sufficient clarity on the rule that the community understand the benefits and costs of the proposed long term maintenance control they may commit to.

Proposed changes

23. Inclusion of mechanism to allow:
 - 23.1. the transition of Possum Control Areas to Predator Control areas; and
 - 23.2. for the eradication of possums on farmland.

Feral Goats

Background

24. Feral goats are currently declared a pest under the Site Specific Control section of Hawkes Bay RPMS. Site-specific goat Co-ordinated Management Areas (CMA) have been established to manage feral goat impacts on biodiversity and economic damage. These areas only cover a very small portion of the region. Goats are a contentious issue as they are viewed as a pest and a resource, depending on the landowner's perspective, prevailing climate, and environment and economic value of the goats at the time. A Good Neighbour Rule is a potential mechanism for managing localised feral goat impacts, such as on high biodiversity sites or riparian plantings. It will enable HBRC to bring both parties to the table to develop feral goat management plans, agreed between neighbours. The intention of the rule is to create a regulatory backstop, with a management plan as the main pathway to deliver the goat management. Effective control of feral goats in Hawke's Bay hill country is very difficult and it is important that any potential regulatory intervention is practical.

Proposed changes

25. Inclusion of a Good Neighbour Rule, with the aim of managing the impact of feral goats on high biodiversity sites and the likely significant increase in investment regionally in plantings.

Chilean Needle grass

Background

26. Chilean needle grass (CNG) is a pest plant which poses a significant threat to the sustainability of farming in Hawke's Bay. CNG is a very cryptic plant, which is hard to ID, seeds twice a year, is hard to kill without non-target impacts, has restrictions on aerial spraying, has potential erosion issues post control and is spread by many vectors e.g. stock, people, machinery. Current measures have significantly slowed but have failed to prevent the risk of this pest plant spreading to other locations. A discussion with key stakeholders around further options to limit CNG spread was held. Increasing the surveillance programme during the flowering season and tightening pathway restrictions were considered the best tools for preventing the further spread of CNG. A fine balance is required for pathway management as this will have direct implications for individual landowner property rights.

Proposed changes

27. Increased surveillance programme during the flowering season to speed up detections of new sites and greater emphasis on pathway management, particularly making of hay.

Privet

Background

28. Privet is currently listed as total control – service delivery with the aim of preventing significant adverse effects of privet on human health. Recent research suggests that although privet fragrance can be a minor irritant, privet pollen and scent should not be considered as a significant allergen. Most people who are experiencing symptoms during the privet flowering season are reacting to the more allergenic pollens like grasses, weeds (mainly English plantain) or trees such as birch and olive. There are currently no programmes targeting these more allergenic pollen producing species in Hawke's Bay. It was considered more appropriate to undertake a more targeted approach with this programme than removing it from the Plan, as a small percentage of the community do suffer from privet allergies. These restrictions will allow these resources to be targeted towards genuine privet allergy sufferers, not privet removal based on nuisance factors. Council will still undertake privet removal at no cost to the land occupier but the removal or maintenance of privet hedges to prevent flowering will be the responsibility of the land occupier. Land occupiers will be eligible for the pest plant subsidy scheme.

Proposed changes

29. Addition of restrictions which require a doctor's certificate/positive blood test prior to action being taken and privet must be within 50m of complainant's residence or place of work.

Marine Biosecurity

Background

30. Marine pests have the potential to adversely affect our aquaculture and fishing industries, threaten human health and displace our native marine plants and animals. Marine pests are very difficult to control once established, with high costs, rapid dispersal of very large numbers of juveniles, and a lack of safe, effective control technologies. Prevention is the best tool.
31. In 2015, 351 non-indigenous species were identified in New Zealand's coastal waters, of which more than half (187) had established a breeding population in our marine environment.
32. Currently there are only two known marine pests in Hawke's Bay, Asian kelp and Australian tubeworm. If council acts now, Hawke's Bay has an opportunity to work to prevent the establishment of new marine pests through managing the main vector pathway, this being boat hulls, entering Hawke's Bay waters. Risk pathway management can, at a relatively low cost, reduce the risk of marine pests. This is because, compared with other regions, Hawke's Bay have a rugged coastline and limited number of ports/marinas.
33. Declaring Mediterranean fanworm and clubbed tunicate as pests and adding a level of foul rule for hulls to the RPMP will give Biosecurity staff the power to require a fouled hull to be removed from the water and cleaned immediately. Many marinas are moving to adopt the Craft Risk Management Standards which require hulls to be cleaned and antifouled regularly. Adding a level of foul rule to the RPMP would align with this standard but also give council a mechanism to respond immediately.

34. Marine biosecurity is a new and complex area of biosecurity management. Collective national coordination is important to successful marine biosecurity and Council has a role to play on behalf of the community in this area alongside other regional authorities, industry and central government. HBRC has formed a close relationship with key players in the marine space, including MPI, Napier City Council, Napier Sailing Club, Harbourmaster, and the Napier Port. All have expressed a strong willingness to assist in preventing further marine pests establishing in Hawke's Bay.

Proposed changes

35. Inclusion of Mediterranean fanworm and clubbed tunicate as Exclusion pests and a level of foul rule for hulls (Craft Risk Management Standards).

Exclusion pests

Background

36. The pests listed below are not known to be present in the Hawke's Bay region. Preventing their establishment is considered to be of benefit to the region. These pests have the potential to establish in Hawke's Bay and may cause adverse effects on production/economic wellbeing and environmental values. These pests can displace other species, impacting pasture and native species. The impact to production or native ecosystems warrant the prevention of their establishment in the region. Declaring these species as pests under the Exclusion programme gives Biosecurity staff powers under the Biosecurity Act to respond to reports or vector pathways.

Proposed changes

37. Inclusion of the following pests in the Exclusion programme:

- 37.1. Alligator weed
- 37.2. Marshwort
- 37.3. Sabella
- 37.4. Senegal tea
- 37.5. Spartina
- 37.6. Styela
- 37.7. Wallaby
- 37.8. Yellow bristle grass.

Section of Proposal to complete

38. Low level cost benefit analysis for boundary control pest plants, horticultural pests and good neighbour rules and cost allocation process

Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan Timeline

39. A timeline of the proposed RPMP review is outlined below. Council is required to notify the Proposal by March 2018, in order to ensure that the current strategy does not expire on that date. If the current strategy were to expire, council would lose its enforcement powers under the Biosecurity Act until such time as a replacement plan became operative.

Date	Committee	Task/Decision
November 2017	Environment & Services Committee	Consider an early draft of the Proposed RPMP and recommend adoption to Council subject to any changes agreed at the meeting
January 2018	Council	Council adopts Proposed RPMP for public notification and consultation, including any changes agreed at the meeting

Date	Committee	Task/Decision
February 2018		Proposed RPMP publicly notified
February 2018	Regional Planning Committee and Maori Committee	Update on RPMP process and release of proposal
March 2018		Submissions close
April 2018	Hearings Committee	Public submissions considered by Council Hearings Committee and Hearings Committee agree recommendations to Council.
May 2018	Council	Revised RPMP adopted by Council.
June 2018		Advice on Council decision provided to all submitters who then have 15 days to refer to the Environment Court.

Decision Making Process

40. Council is required to make every decision in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). Staff have assessed the requirements in relation to this item and have concluded:
- 40.1. The decision does not significantly alter the service provision or affect a strategic asset.
 - 40.2. The use of the special consultative procedure is prescribed by legislation.
 - 40.1. The persons affected by this decision are all persons with an interest in the management of pests for the protection of primary production or biodiversity values or any person with a pest listed in the Proposed RPMP on their property.
 - 40.2. The decision is not inconsistent with an existing policy or plan.
 - 40.3. Given the nature and significance of the issue to be considered and decided, and also the persons likely to be affected by, or have an interest in the decisions made, Council can exercise its discretion and make a decision without consulting directly with the community or others having an interest in the decision.

Recommendations

1. That the Environment and Services Committee
 - 1.1. receives and notes the “Regional Pest Management Plan Proposal” staff report
 - 1.2. approves the proposal to revoke and replace the Hawke’s Bay Regional Pest Management Strategy 2013
 - 1.3. agrees that the amendments made to finalise the Regional Pest Management Plan prior to Council’s adoption will include:
 - 1.3.1. completion of the cost benefit analysis and cost allocation process to comply with s 100D(5) and s 70 of the Biosecurity Act 1993
 - 1.3.2. completion of the cost benefit analysis and cost allocation process to satisfy that the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan meets the requirements of s 71 of the Biosecurity Act 1993.
2. The Environment and Services Committee recommends that Council, at its meeting on 31 January 2018:
 - 2.1. Adopts the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan, inclusive of amendments agreed at the 15 November Environment and Services Committee meeting, for public consultation.

Authored by:

**Mark Mitchell
PRINCIPAL BIOSECURITY OFFICER**

**Campbell Leckie
MANAGER LAND SERVICES**

Approved by:

**Graeme Hansen
GROUP MANAGER
ASSET MANAGEMENT**

Attachment/s

-  1 Proposed Hawke's Bay Regional Pest Management Plan
2018-2038

Under Separate
Cover

HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE****Wednesday 15 November 2017****Subject: NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARDS FOR PLANTATION FORESTRY****Reason for Report**

1. New regulations for the Plantation Forestry sector come into effect on 1 May 2018. The National Environment Standards for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) are regulations made under the Resource Management Act and prevail over the Regional Resource Management Plan.
2. Hawke's Bay Regional Council has a comparatively permissive approach to the management of forestry activities as compared to other regional councils. As a result of the NES-PF, a significant number of forestry activities will now be subject to resource consents and other requirements.
3. Our current resourcing is not scaled to take on the requirements for these new regulations. Staff are seeking increased resourcing in the medium-term through the Long Term Plan (LTP) process. In the meantime, there is crucial preparatory work that needs to be done to equip HBRC and our forestry stakeholders ahead of the May 2018 date.
4. There are significant economic, environmental, and reputational risks if the short or medium term resourcing of the roll-out of these new regulations is not done properly.
5. The purpose of this paper is to provide background to Council on the NES-PF and to outline the resourcing requirements for 2017/18 and beyond. This paper provides councilors with:
 - 5.1. an overview of the NES-PF regulations
 - 5.2. an indication of the impacts of these regulations on the region and HBRC
 - 5.3. an outline of resources required in addition to the LTP resources being sought
 - 5.4. key risks.

The National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry

6. The National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) is a new set of regulations that manage the environmental risks and effects of plantation forestry operations and ensure consistency of district and regional council rules.
7. The NES-PF covers eight core plantation forestry activities that have potential environmental effects:
 - 7.1. Afforestation
 - 7.2. Pruning and thinning to waste
 - 7.3. Earthworks
 - 7.4. River crossings
 - 7.5. Forestry quarrying for road material (within a plantation forest or for operation of a forest on adjacent land)
 - 7.6. Harvesting
 - 7.7. Mechanical land preparation
 - 7.8. Replanting.

8. The NES-PF requires forest owners and managers to engage with authorities on a regular basis to notify them of these activities and, according to risk, to gain resource consent for them. Requirements in the NES-PF are intended to drive positive environmental gains. It will ensure that all operators are conducting activities in ways that meet industry best practice.
9. Regional councils across the country are required to implement these new rules by 1 May 2018. This necessitates review and alignment of regional plans and coastal plans with the NES-PF, establishment of consent review and compliance processes, and increased engagement and communication between the forestry sector and regional councils.
10. **Attachment 1** provides some visual aids from the Ministry for Primary Industries about these new regulations. **Attachment 2** provides a copy of the new regulations.

Impacts on HBRC and Forestry operations

11. Forestry operators will soon be required to notify council of their intentions, submit detailed management plans (if requested), and gain resource consent for a range of forest activities, among other things. Based on initial conversations with the sector, this may start as early as March 2018. HBRC must be ready to process notifications and consent applications and prepare stakeholders for their new compliance requirements.
12. Implementing these requirements requires increased activity across the organisation including (but not limited to) from the land management, consents, compliance, and strategic development teams. **Attachment 3** provides a more detailed description of potential roles across the organisation. **Attachment 4** shows a draft process diagram for regional council activities.
13. Teams across HBRC do not currently have the required resources to ensure the Industry and the Council are adequately prepared for the NES-PF coming into effect. For example, there are few processes in place to manage the communication, implementation, data and GIS systems, or compliance requirements for the new NES-PF regulations.

Resources required

14. There is a need for a range of resourcing allocations across HBRC and its functions to implement the NES-PF.
15. Short term resourcing (2017/18) is presented for Council information today. Medium and long term resourcing requires a decision by Council as part of the LTP process.
16. It is assumed that the more time and resources are provided upfront (i.e. 1 Jan 2018- 1 July 2019) the greater upskilling of potential new resources and assurance of efficient processes there will be. This will reduce resource requirements in the medium and long term.
17. HBRC staff have estimated that a total of 3-4 FTEs will be required in the consents and compliance teams to prepare for the NES-PF between 1 Jan 2018 and 1 May 2018. Of these, three FTEs can be allocated through existing allocations and budgets as a result of parental leave and secondments. The principal focus of these duties will be in developing appropriate resource consent templates and preparing guidance for applicants and staff.
18. Additional 1 Jan 2018 to 1 May 2018 FTE estimates for other teams (such as the Land Management and Client Services teams) will be provided to Council during the Committee Meeting.
19. For the purpose of the Long Term Plan, the most significant additional resources will be required in the area of Compliance Monitoring. However, there will also be additional resourcing needs for consents and land management teams. There will be a specific need for technical support to assess consent applications and provide advice to stakeholders. An assumption has been made that the flexibility provided by the parental leave and the secondments is no longer available and that full financial provision needs

to be made for increased staff. The total number of staff estimated for this function is 4 additional FTEs.

Key risks

20. Without resourcing now there will likely be a misinformed and substandard industry response. This will:
 - 20.1. require increased HBRC resources to ensure industry compliance with the new regulations
 - 20.2. result in negative environmental effects
 - 20.3. negatively impact HBRC's and the forest industry's reputation, and
 - 20.4. limit the economic activities of the forestry sector.
21. There will be a need to resource the implementation of the NES-PF within the LTP as well. Adequate resourcing is critical for enabling Council to meet its statutory obligation to implement the National Environment Standard for Plantation Forestry
22. The roll out of NES-PF is occurring at the same time as Farm Environmental Management Plans (FEMPs) becoming legally required by those in the Tukituki catchment. This places significant additional pressure on the consents, compliance, data management, and land management teams to process both Farm Environmental Management Plans and Forestry Management Plans associated with the NES-PF. Without additional resourcing, neither regulatory requirement will be met adequately.
23. The new regulations act as a regulatory barrier to the establishment of plantation forestry on highly erodible land. Implementation of, and compliance with, these new regulations partially determines what the right tree, in the right place, at the right time could be. Aligning these new regulations with the management of fresh water quality and climate change mitigation and/or adaptation activities is paramount.
24. It is also important to recognize that LTP resourcing requests to date have been made with an incomplete picture of workload, and that understanding of resourcing is evolving with understanding of what the NES-PF means for each group. A conservative approach to LTP planning steps will be advisable regarding this resourcing.

Decision Making Process

25. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Environment and Services Committee

1. Receives and notes the “National Environment Standards for Plantation Forestry” staff report and attachments.
2. Notes that for the balance of the 2017-18 year resourcing for National Environment Standards for Plantation Forestry implementation will be managed within current budgets.
3. Notes that additional resources for National Environment Standards for Plantation Forestry implementation will be incorporated as part of the development of the 2018-28 Long-Term Plan.

Authored by:

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Approved by:

**Iain Maxwell
GROUP MANAGER
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Attachment/s

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|----------------------|
| <u>1</u> | Visual Aids from Ministry for Primary Industries | Under Separate Cover |
| <u>2</u> | NES-PF Regulations | Under Separate Cover |
| <u>3</u> | HBRC Roles and Responsibilities | |
| <u>4</u> | Draft Process Diagram | |

NES-PF Roles and Responsibilities Across HBRC

Land Management

1. It is essential that Land Management Team involvement with the forestry industry be focused on the core activities of building industry networks, raising awareness, building capacity and capability, proactive engagement activities and providing targeted technical support to this process.
2. At present, this team has been leading the engagement on the NES-PF but cannot do to the work of others to fully implement it. Further efforts by this team without additional resourcing will be at the expense of the proactive tasks which are essential to effective implementation.

Consents

3. There is an urgent need for clear processes to be developed by the Consents team regarding how incoming consents, notifications, and plans will be reviewed and assessed. This is so the Land Management team can accurately transmit to industry the requirements they will face in their submissions/applications. It will also provide clarity in these processes as well as our overall approach to risk management, determining the quality of the transition and the likelihood of a successful implementation of the NES-PF.

Compliance

4. Assessing the compliance of forestry operators with their permitted/consented activity conditions will be required starting May 1st 2018. This assessment will likely be based on a risk-assessment framework, yet to be developed. In addition, processes for addressing non-compliance with permitted or consented activities will need to be established.

Strategic Development

5. Under the NES-PF, regional plan and coastal plan rules cannot duplicate or conflict with the rules within the NES-PF. As such, a review of these rules and alignment of the plans with the NES is required. This is expected to have occurred prior to the 1st May 2018 when the NES-PF is enacted.

Client Services

6. Under the new rules, there is an ability for Councils to charge for monitoring of permitted activities. Managing this charging will require support from Client Services.

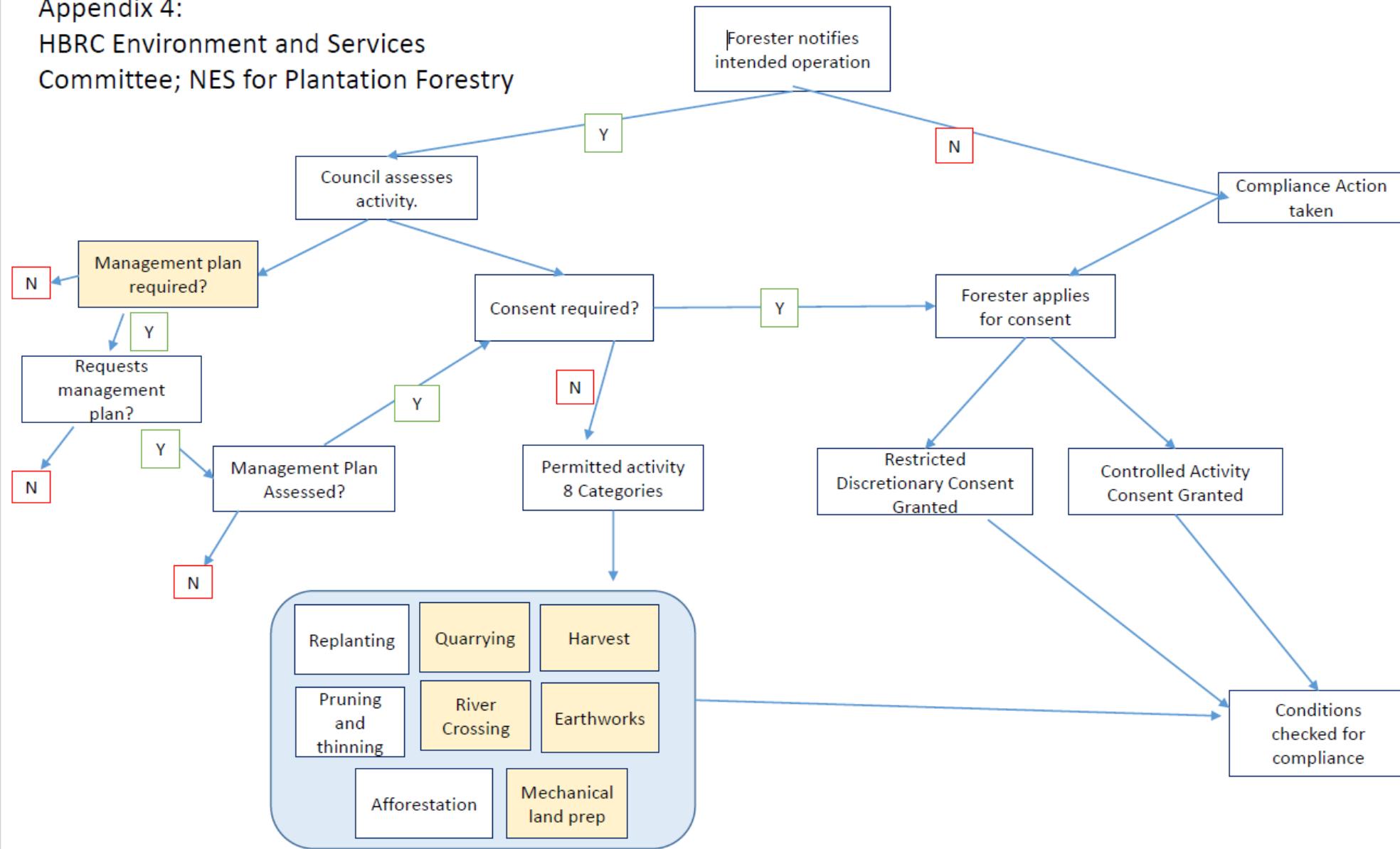
Administration and data management

7. The NES PF requires forestry operators to provide notices in advance of a number of activities, including harvesting, afforestation, and installation of stream crossings, earthworks and quarrying works. Harvest plans, quarry plans, sediment control plans and stream flow calculations can then be requested by the Council. As a result, a data capture system is required. This might take the form of an online portal. A user-friendly method of lodging notices and plans (including provision of spatial data) would support this aspect of the regulations and make compliance auditing more practicable. This would however require initial ICT resourcing and support. Administrative and data management and analysis support will also be required on an ongoing basis.

Project and other Management

8. A time-bound project plan and coordinated approach across teams is required. In addition, development of a risk based approach to consents and compliance requirements is needed. Assistance is also required for the consents and compliance teams to create process plans for implementation. Lastly, Land Management needs support to develop a communications plan for industry and wider region.

Appendix 4:
HBRC Environment and Services Committee; NES for Plantation Forestry



HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE****Wednesday 15 November 2017****Subject: REVIEW OF HBRC ROLE IN CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND MITIGATION****Reason for Report**

1. This information paper provides the Committee with an overview of an externally commissioned report that suggests potential Climate Change adaptation and mitigation content for HBRC's Long Term Plan.

Background

2. The Council's current 2015-25 Long Term Plan includes a Level of Service Statement that "HBRC will help the community prepare for the future and increase community resilience to climate change." One of several performance measures included in the Plan for this is to "Complete a report on the contribution that Council activities make towards climate change adaption and mitigation, and number of sectors that Council supports to promote or influence reductions in carbon emissions and climate change adaptation."
3. In addition to overseeing the production of this report, the 2015-25 Long Term Plan required Council staff to "Proactively seek initiatives through which HBRC is able to influence or promote a reduction in regional carbon emissions." Staff sought to build this action into HBRC's contribution to the 2016 Matariki Regional Economic Development Strategy with Action 5.5 of the Strategy's Action Plan to "Support natural resource users to identify and proactively manage business risks and opportunities arising from a changing climate." This action is HBRC led but is supported by the Ministry for Primary Industries.
4. Earlier this year, the Council commissioned an external advisor (Ekos) to produce the report envisaged in the current Long Term Plan and provide advice on climate change mitigation and adaptation activities to include in the 2018-28 Long Term Plan. This advice has informed several business cases being prepared for the Council to consider in the development of the new Long Term Plan. The Council will hold a workshop on 11 December 2018 to discuss this report further.
5. The external report provides an overview of the science and challenges of climate change adaptation and mitigation, outlines HBRC's current activities in this space and suggests potential future solutions. The executive summary from the report is attached for the Committee to review.
6. The report is designed to prompt discussions as to the role of HBRC and offers the opportunity to create a set of objectives for implementing solutions. There will also need to be significant additional work to flesh out implementation requirements as well as community and stakeholder engagement as part of the finalisation of the 2018-28 Long Term.
7. The solutions in the report focus on the development of different policy tools that could encourage the region's transition to a low-emissions economy and increase its resilience to climate change. The report preferences the establishment of market-linked or market-like tools to attract diverse sources of funding for programmes.
8. One such programme could be an Indigenous Forest Carbon Programme that would provide water quality, biodiversity, emissions reduction, soils management, and climate resilience benefits across the region. This would be in addition to a number of HBRC's current activities that have significant climate change mitigation or adaptation relevance.
9. Bringing this and other potential programmes to fruition will likely take time and increased resourcing within HBRC.

10. HBRC staff will continue to work with Ekos and other external experts to further develop these ideas for Council consideration.

Decision Making Process

11. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Environment and Services Committee receives and notes the “Review of HBRC Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation” staff report and provides staff with direction on areas for further exploration in the development of the Long Term Plan.

Authored by:

**Madeline Hall
SENIOR LAND MANAGEMENT ADVISOR**

Approved by:

**James Palmer
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

Attachment/s

HB Climate Resilience Report - Executive Summary.

DRAFT

HAWKE'S BAY CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROGRAMME



INVESTING IN NATURE

A framework for the climate change component of the Hawke's Bay Long-Term Plan

8 November 2017

*To be finalised 15 November 2017



HAWKE'S BAY CLIMATE RESILIENCE PROGRAMME. A framework for the climate change component of the Hawke's Bay Long-Term Plan.

By Sean Weaver

Executive Director



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15 November 2017

Citation for this report:

Weaver, S.A. 2017. Hawke's Bay Climate Resilience Programme. A framework for the climate change component of the Hawke's Bay Regional Long Term Plan. Consulting report to the Hawke's Bay Regional Council. Ekos Consulting Reports 2017/008. Takaka, New Zealand.

ABOUT EKOS

A social enterprise focusing on environmental financing, carbon neutrality and carbon offsetting services, indigenous forest carbon, and sustainable land management solutions.

1.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



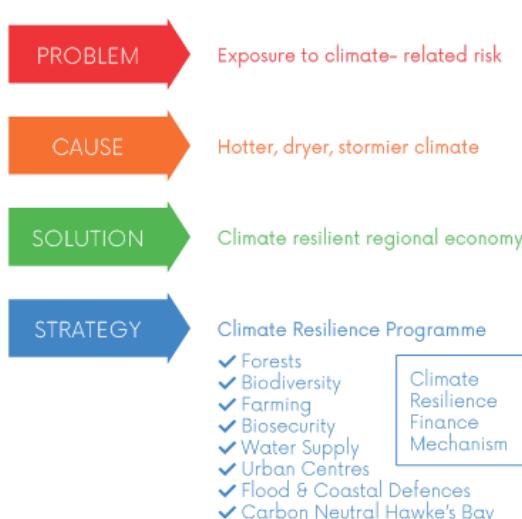
Attachment 1

Item 8

1.

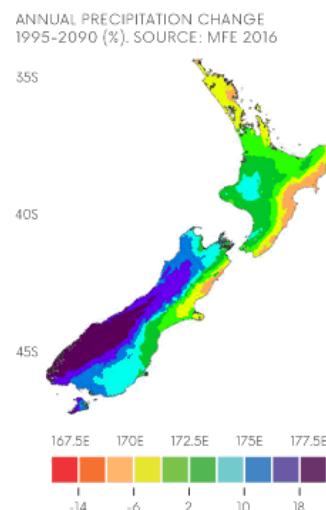
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Hawke's Bay faces a range of climate change challenges relevant to its Long-Term Plan time horizon, with actions needing to be completed, or initiated by 2028. On the front line are Hawke's Bay farmers, who stand to suffer greater exposure to drought risk, and whose wellbeing and livelihoods are threatened by a warmer, dryer, and stormier future climate. The task is to reduce exposure to climate-related risk by bringing the region together under a common purpose: climate resilience. Coastal communities also stand to suffer from rising sea levels, storm surges and infrastructure limitations.



Climate projections show a warmer, stormier and dryer climate in coming decades, with more intense extreme weather events expected, including droughts and flooding, sea level rise and storm surges. In their aggregate, these climate change impacts present a significant threat to current and future human wellbeing.

This report applies an "ecological infrastructure" lens to the challenge of climate change in Hawke's Bay, and focuses predominantly on climate change adaptation and resilience. Regional ecological infrastructure includes soils, forested catchments and stream banks, waterways, aquifers, wetlands, biodiversity, and coastlines. This ecological infrastructure delivers beneficial ecosystem services in the form of agricultural, horticultural, and forestry production, water quality, flood mitigation, drought mitigation, recreation, and cultural heritage. Without adequate investments in ecological and



engineering infrastructure sufficient to cope with projected climate change risks, human wellbeing in the Hawke's Bay region will decline.

The emphasis on climate resilience in this report arises from recognition that a community-wide response to a collective threat has greater motivating force than shaming people for their greenhouse gas emissions. Greenhouse gas emissions will reduce significantly under implementation of the framework presented here including in the agricultural sectors. But the underlying strategy focuses on incentivising change, community-building and reducing collective risk to a region economically dependent on the alignment of good soil and good water supply. What do the risks include? - A changing global and local climate, changing global carbon pricing, changing global energy pricing, and changing global markets.



WHAT'S IN THIS REPORT?



- Global trends
- National trends
- Local trends

- Higher temperatures
- Drought risk
- Cyclone risk
- Flood risk
- Sea level rise
- Carbon, energy pricing & markets

Climate change solutions delivered by HBRC so far:

- Facilities management
- Air quality
- Transport
- Sustainable farming
- Monitoring & planning tools
- Reforestation
- Biodiversity & biosecurity
- Flood and coastal protection

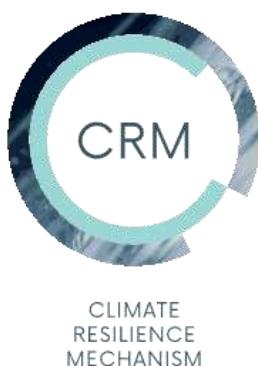
Proposed solutions:

- Conduct a climate resilience assessment of the region to future-proof the Hawke's Bay economy and communities
- Strengthen policy and funding options to deliver climate resilience in forests, urban centres, farming, biodiversity, biosecurity, rivers, water supplies, flood and coastal defences
- Complement the delivery of current efforts through existing and new funding channels including market-based and market-linked financing options - here called the Climate Resilience Mechanism
- Utilise a range of policy tools to implement programmes, such as an Indigenous Forest Carbon Programme, that drives resilience at scale.



SOLUTION FOUNDATIONS: CLIMATE FINANCE

If your dream can't be financed, it remains a dream. Big dreams need big finance, and big finance at the scale sufficient to address Hawke's Bay's climate resilience challenges is beyond the capacity of the public purse. For example, the finance required to reforest all erosion-prone lands in Hawke's Bay between 2018 and 2030 has 8 zeros. Globally the situation is similar. A study by the World Bank estimates that the cost of adapting to a 2°C warmer world by 2050 comes with a price tag of US\$70–100 billion per year. Similarly, a study by the United Nations Foundation concluded that avoiding 2°C global warming will require over US\$2 trillion in low carbon investment. For this reason, this report recommends a public-private financing model designed to deliver the greatest gains at least cost, using market-based and market-linked mechanisms to complement grant and fund instruments.



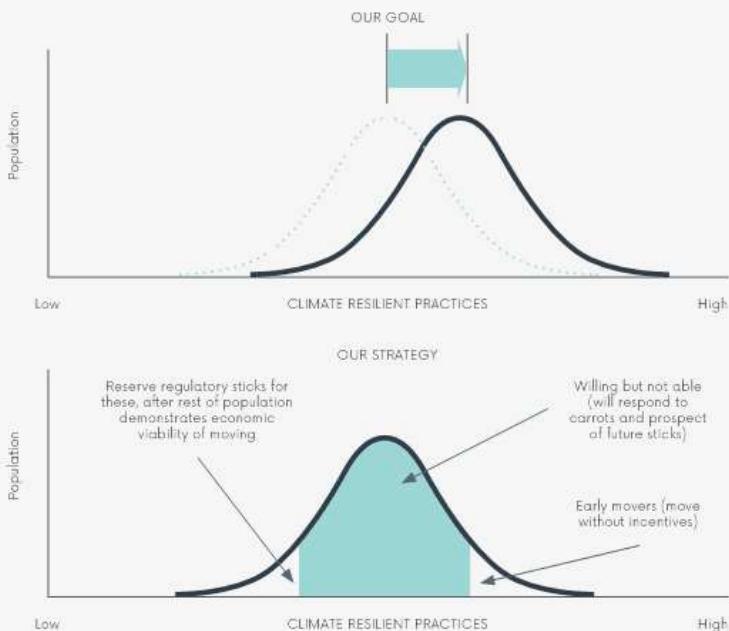
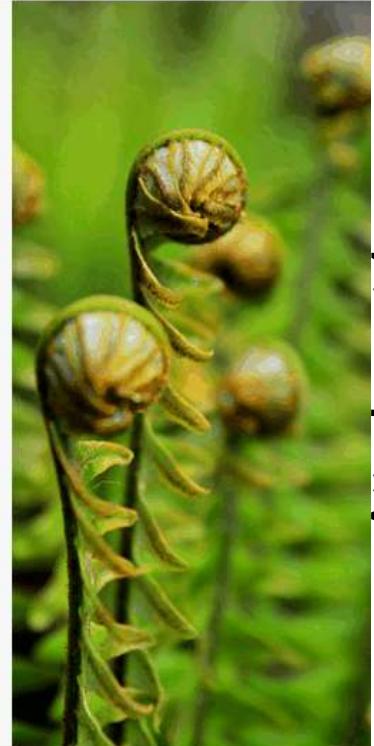
The "engine room" for innovative solutions presented in this report is the 'Climate Resilience Mechanism' - an integrated financing mechanism designed to deliver a series of climate resilience outcomes at scale¹. The Climate Resilience Mechanism (CRM) encompasses 21st century financing modalities in a world-leading package, that will put HBRC on the national and international stage as a leader in climate resilient policy and planning.

The CRM is an ambitious yet realistic

financing framework, designed to enable a high level of ambition to translate into high resilience impact at scale.

The emphasis of the CRM is on positive solutions that can be delivered at least cost. This delivery is channelled through a series of public-private-partnerships, designed to significantly amplify the impact of any ratepayer spending. These financing models integrate with strategic deployment of regulation (stick) designed to stimulate voluntary uptake and early action in response to incentives (carrots).

¹If a climate resilience action does not need to be scaled up, then it does not need significant financing. If the action does not have any barriers to uptake then it does not need financing either. But as soon as one aspires to make something become mainstream, and if doing so requires overcoming barriers, then finance will be needed. Even if the barrier is not a financial barrier, one still needs to financially resource its overcoming (e.g. education, consultation, training, capacity building).



The policy and financing model of the Climate Resilience Mechanism (CRM) includes an integrated set of financing modalities and programmes as follows:

- Climate Enterprise Start Up Fund
- Climate Enterprise Loans
- Climate Enterprise Investment Readiness Programme
- ClimateSmart Programme
- Climate Collateral
- Climate Impact Investment
- Climate Resilience Exchange
- Indigenous Forest Carbon Programme
- Carbon Neutrality Programme
- Climate Cents
- Climathon Hawke's Bay
- Carbon-Biodiversity Market

The purpose of the Climate Resilience Mechanism is to facilitate the delivery (at scale) of Climate Resilient:

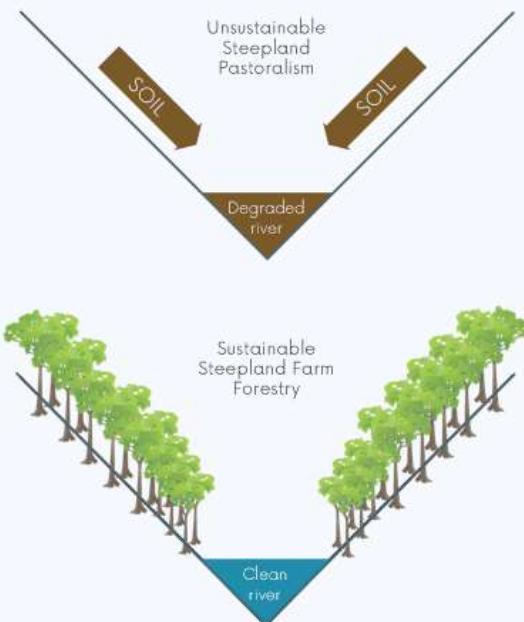
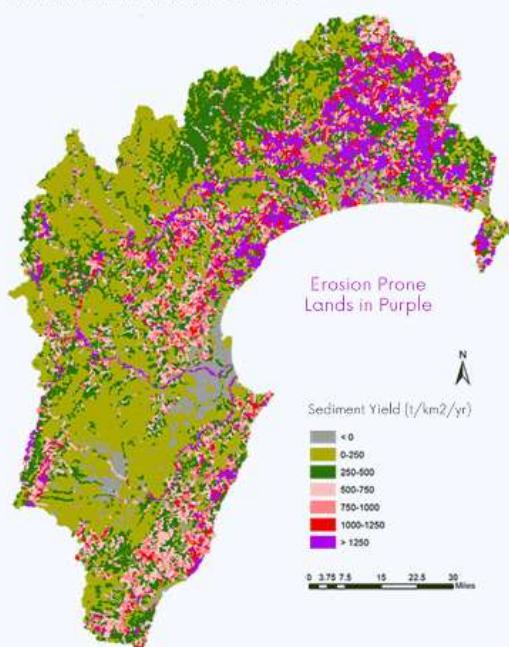
- Farming
- Forests
- Biodiversity
- Biosecurity
- Rivers
- Urban communities
- Water supply
- Flood and coastal defences

A few examples from this list of modalities are presented below.

EXAMPLE 1: INDIGENOUS FOREST CARBON PROGRAMME

Hawke's Bay has approximately 200,000 hectares of erosion-prone land that is seriously vulnerable to climate change, is currently degrading the region's rivers, and urgently needs afforestation. An indigenous forest carbon programme can be developed to establish diverse forest cover at scale.

HAWKE'S BAY SEDIMENT YIELD



Carbon farming presents a significant opportunity to drive afforestation at scale. Because of the steepness, remoteness, and sensitivity of these erosion-prone lands, the majority of such afforestation needs to comprise permanent forest with no intent (or permission) to harvest.

Economic production on these lands can change from beef/lamb production to carbon/honey, with the latter likely matching the former on a net return basis.



The Indigenous Forest Carbon Programme (IFCP) is a proposed regional social enterprise programme designed to:

1. Coordinate and support large scale adoption of carbon farming projects on private, erosion-prone land, and generate economies of scale.
2. Aggregate carbon credits from participating farmers and negotiate single point, large volume sales to large scale carbon buyers.
3. Command investment at a scale sufficient to deliver an erosion-control and water quality solution at scale.
4. Maximise environmental outcomes rather than commercial profit.



While planting indigenous species may seem ideal from a biodiversity point of view, indigenous forest growth rates are very slow. Accordingly, a large-scale afforestation programme at the scale needed, would unlikely be economically viable with indigenous-only plantings.

The most economically viable method of carbon farming on these lands is indigenous afforestation under a nursery crop of suitable (e.g. non-wilding), widely spaced exotic hardwoods, capable of rapidly creating a favourable

micro-environment for natural indigenous regeneration. This delivers approximately triple the annual carbon revenue of indigenous-only forest, with preliminary investment analysis showing it to be economically viable at the scale needed. Such an approach would also enable indigenous-only plantings for a proportion of the total - particularly where high biodiversity values are targeted at specific sites.



An ambitious planting regime that recruits 10,000 hectares of land annually into the programme (rising to 20,000 ha p.a. in 2024) would deliver 200,000 ha of afforestation by 2030. This would require a substantial long-term investment [amount to be delivered in the final version of this report on 15 November 2017]. A more moderate (yet still viable) scenario would arise from a programme that recruited land at a lower annual rate.

If HBRC is serious about solving the erosion problem in Hawke's Bay hill country, it will need to:

- Carrot: Invest in an ambitious carbon farming programme (and win co-financing investment from external partners).
- Stick: Send a signal that in future (e.g. in 10 years' time) it will regulate to preclude pastoralism as a permitted activity on the most erosion-prone lands in the region.

Without the "stick", the rate of voluntary uptake in an ambitious regional carbon farming incentive programme will be low, and this will very likely result in the failure of the programme to deliver the scale of change needed in order to solve the erosion problem.

EXAMPLE 2: URBAN RESILIENCE

The HBRC Heatsmart programme is a great example of innovative financing for resilience. The funding model that takes advantage of bulk-purchased debt finance by HBRC, and disbursed at a low cost of capital to homeowners, and cost-recovered through rates is ideally suited to other climate resilience measures in existing homes.



The Heatsmart programme could be upgraded to include other resilience technologies including rain water harvesting, solar hot water, photovoltaic electricity.



To have sufficient capacity in the national grid for mainstreaming electric cars in coming years, the country will need to reduce existing grid-connected electricity demand where possible. One of the most efficient ways to reduce electricity demand is to avoid using electricity to heat water. As such, scaling up solar hot water uptake for households and new builds has high strategic value in a climate resilient, low carbon economy.



Climate projections of a warmer and drier Hawke's Bay will put further pressure on water resources. Making household rainwater collection the "new normal" will increase the water-independence of urban households, and enable greater water efficiency across the (growing) population.



EXAMPLE 3: CARBON NEUTRALITY



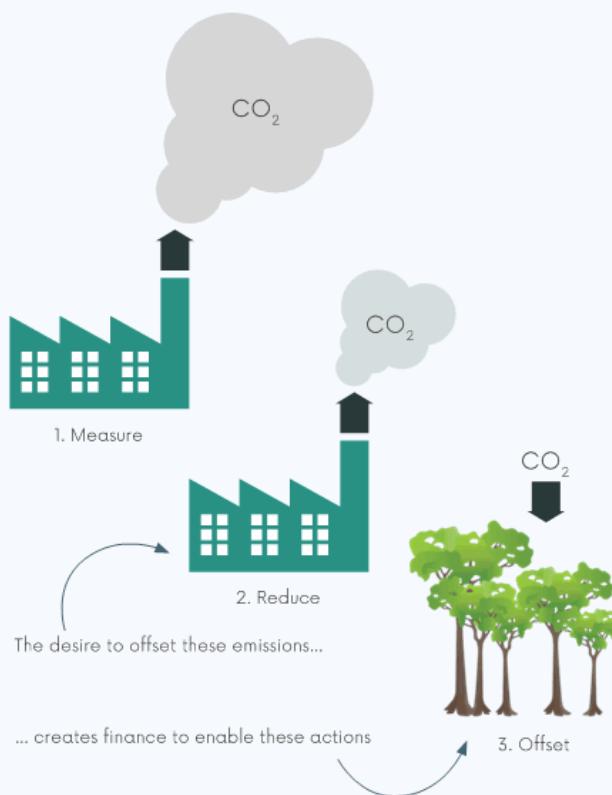
The drive towards a low carbon economy could also be delivered through a carbon neutrality programme for Hawke's Bay. The regional scale carbon balance is the net result of all emissions and removals (sequestration). Some preliminary analysis of regional carbon balance was undertaken by Landcare Research in 2007 under the Carbon Neutral Hawke's Bay project. This involved a top-down assessment of emissions and removals resulting in an estimated net balance of 2.5 million tCO₂e annually. This accounted for 1.75 million tCO₂e removals (sequestration) into the regions plantation and indigenous forests¹.

Rekindling the Carbon Neutral Hawke's Bay concept is recommended in this report, with an emphasis on a combined top-down and bottom-up approach to the task of neutrality. The top-down element involves regional-scale carbon accounting updates using more recent data. The bottom-up element involves a business-by-business carbon neutrality programme (also available to individuals and community organisations). HBRC could form the corner stone of a Hawke's Bay carbon neutrality programme by going carbon neutral with its Dalton St business operations.

Preliminary carbon footprint calculations for Dalton St business operations reveal a 2016 CO₂ emissions footprint of approximately 460 tCO₂e. This results from significant emission reductions from energy efficiency investments in recent years.

Offsetting these emissions by purchasing indigenous forest carbon offsets would enable HBRC 2016 business operations to become carbon neutral at a cost of approximately \$10,000, whilst supporting local indigenous reforestation carbon projects (e.g. sourcing carbon credits from the Indigenous Forest Carbon Programme).

Should HBRC decide to show even stronger leadership, it could offset 120% of its CO₂ footprint and be a carbon negative council (perhaps a world first) at a cost of approximately \$12,000.

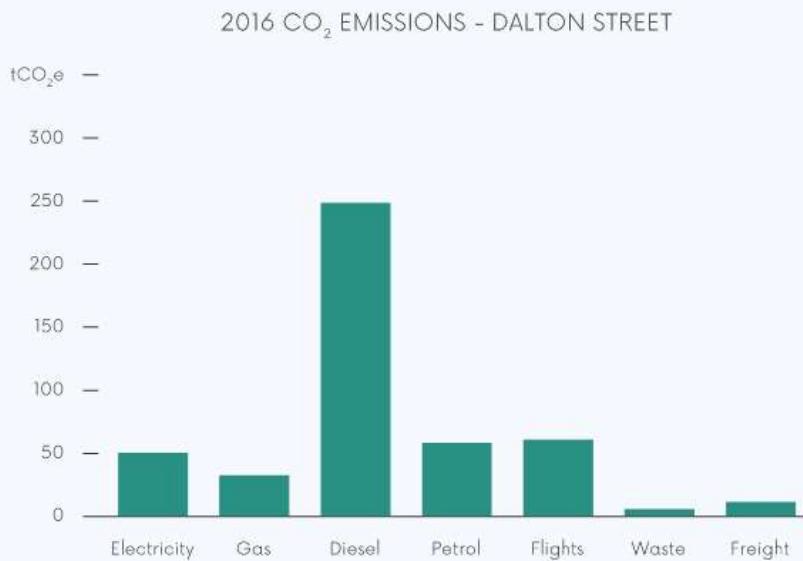


¹This 2007 analysis did not account for agricultural soil carbon, but there may be scope for exploring the latter in a renewed regional carbon accounting exercise.

Attachment 1**Item 8**

By engaging in regional leadership at the micro-economic scale, HBRC has the opportunity to help show other public service entities, the private sector and individuals how accessible carbon neutrality really is. A key to stimulating demand in local carbon neutrality efforts, includes

deploying a demand-side engagement model with low transaction costs², and to develop local indigenous forest carbon projects that potential carbon buyers want to support.

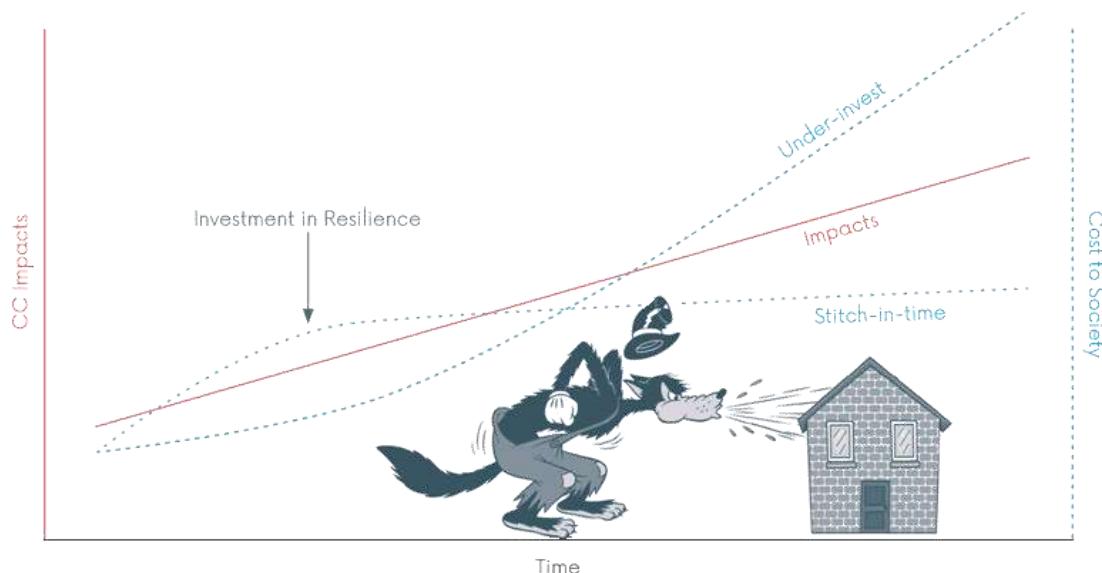


²Ekos (a charity) has developed and refined a low-cost customer engagement model for carbon neutrality, that caused it to win the 2016 Sustainable Business Network national award for Restorative Innovation.

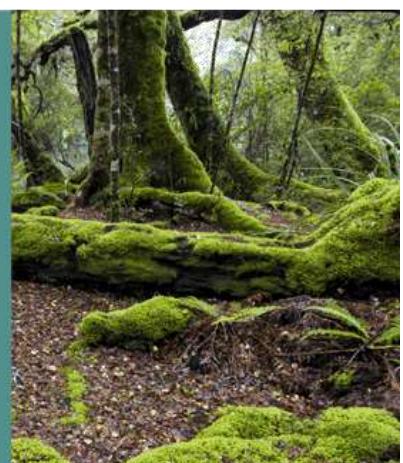


WHICH LITTLE PIG?

Ultimately, the task of delivering climate resilience to Hawke's Bay is a conservative and prudent public and private investment in the region's future. By investing wisely, the return on investment will be realised in the short-term as well as long-term. In the short-term, the regional economy will be stimulated into new areas of growth, whilst preparing early-century foundations for mid-century prosperity and wellbeing.



How to deliver this as a Council? HBRC cannot be expected to do it all. But it can play a pivotal leadership role in a series of public-private partnerships to deliver an ambitious programme of action. HBRC can also continue with, upgrade, coordinate, and make more visible its existing activities (including investment and regulation) to stimulate a "whole of community" and "community building" response to the challenge of regional climate resilience.



HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE****Wednesday 15 November 2017****Subject: HOTSPOT/FRESHWATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS UPDATE****Reason for Report**

1. To provide an update on progress on the Freshwater Improvement/Hotspots environmental projects.

FIF/Hotspot funded projects**FIF: Lake Tūtira (Te Waiū oTūtira – The Milk of Tūtira), HBRC partnership with Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust**

2. We are working through Stage 2 of the Freshwater Improvement Fund (FIF) funding process with the Ministry for the Environment. This involves completing a work programme and a detailed annual plan for the first year. When the Ministry is satisfied with the detail we will progress to signing the Deed of Funding, they tell us this will be no earlier than early-to-mid January 2018. No project work can commence before the Deed is signed.
3. Our plan, as part of our original application in May 2017, was to install an air curtain into Lake Waikōpiro in the first year of the project. This was to be our test case before installing one into Tūtira, on a much larger scale. We were advised that the aerator should be installed during the winter months before the lake increases in temperature, causing stratification which will not allow the oxygen mixing process to be effective. Therefore in August 2017 we saw an opportunity to install the air curtain before the end of September. We seized this opportunity, rather than waiting another year, in the hope that it would have a positive impact on the lake and the community. If this works, we will be able to replicate this in Tūtira sooner (winter 2018) than originally planned, thus getting us closer to our project purpose: *“to restore the mauri of Lakes Tūtira and Waikōpiro, making a place that families can happily return to, and where children can swim”*.
4. The results to date have been very encouraging. Waikōpiro Lake is now well mixed and oxygen in the bottom water is increasing. We need to watch the trout population closely, because the entire lake may reach temperatures that become problematic for trout. The ceratium bloom (not toxin producing) that had occurred before the air curtain was installed has not abated. The real test of the ability of the air curtain to keep the lake well mixed will be during hot summer spells. Comparing dynamics in Waikōpiro with Tūtira this summer will be a good test of whether keeping these lakes well mixed will help prevent algal blooms. We should therefore have a better understanding on performance in April/May 2018, and at this time have confidence in proceeding (or not) with an installation in Tūtira.
5. Unfortunately, as the air curtain installation project started before signing the Deed MfE will not include this in the FIF fund and we need to remove this cost of our project budget.
6. MfE will ‘consider’ payment for the air curtain through *Tūtira Mai Nga Iwi* project funds (another HBRC and MTT Tūtira collaboration project, funded through the Te Mana o Te Wai fund, provided by MfE). As long as this is agreed to by iwi and hapū and signed off by the Governance Group, to include the installation of the air curtain as part of the ‘short term priorities’ identified in Year 1. Due to existing project commitments, it is unlikely that this project can cover all air curtain expenses, but it will be able to cover most. We are working on this now with Maungaharuru-Tangitū Trust.

FIF: Whakaki Lake (Sunshine, wetlands and bees will revitalise the taonga of Whakaki)

7. We are working through Stage 2 of the funding process with the Ministry for the Environment. This involves completing a work programme and a detailed annual plan for the first year. When the Ministry is satisfied with the detail we will progress to signing the Deed of Funding, they tell us this will be no earlier than early-to-mid January 2018. No project work can commence before the Deed is signed.
8. There have been tensions in the community due to the recent flooding of the lake onto neighboring land. To maintain lake levels and avoid flooding our engineers are designing and costing a weir solution. The weir would increase the lake level at which the sea closes the opening. For a weir to be useful for protection against low lake levels, it needs to retain enough water in the lake to provide insurance against extended periods without significant rainfall. This was not in the original plan for this FIF project. MfE recognize this as an urgent priority for everyone involved. MfE will allow us to deviate from our original plan to include the weir, although no more funding can be allocated to this project.
9. Project Manager, Nicolas Caviale-Delzescaux, has been working extensively to adjust the five year plan to cater for the expense of the weir, without eliminating any of the original objectives of our plan.
10. Currently we are in the process of securing the land for the recirculating wetland. It is the most challenging milestone at this stage. Discussions have already taken place with the Trust members of the land of interest. Support from Richard Brooking (Whakaki Lake Trust Chair) and Nui McKay (Nga Whenua Rahui) have been critical to the success of these discussions. The trustees of the specific block are interested and a meeting this month should finalise this. If we can't secure the land to build the recirculating wetland we won't be able to effectively remove the sediment from the lake bed, therefore one of the main projects' objective wouldn't be met and the algae blooms might continue.
11. MPI has been running workshops with the community to establish a long term vision for the catchment. These have been well attended and supported by the community with good outcomes and engagement. The highlight was that the community is excited about the school renovation as an education training hub for the tamariki.
12. Manuka planting will be established early November as a trial for the Manuka for honey project. The Rahui channel fencing project has been approved by land owner and will be completed 2019.
13. Although there are strong interrelationships between Whakaki hapu and Iwitea hapu, there is conflict between existing land management approaches taken at the west and eastern ends of the lake. Representatives from both marae are on the governing and project groups to help mitigate and manage any potential or perceived conflicts of interest that arise here. The same conflicts may exist within the catchment group and will be mitigated in a similar fashion, and by commitment to an MOU that will help with this.

Hot Spot only Funded

14. The environmental 'Hot Spot' funding of \$1m is to accelerate action on six hot spots during 2017-18. Initially this was equally divided across the identified hot spots for the year, with the exception of our FIF commitment of \$200,000 for Tūtira and \$200,000 for Whakaki. This was changed after further assessment of existing work programmes and what was beneficial to the areas and would provide rate payers the best bang for their buck.

Ahuriri	Tukituki	Karamu	Marine	Tūtira (FIF)	Whakaki (FIF)
\$200,000	\$100,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$200,000 - for 4 years	\$200,000 – for 5 years

Hot Spot: Lake Whatuma & Tukituki Catchment

15. The Makirikiri restoration project (just outside of Takapau) offers great potential as a demonstration site for riparian management, for engaging the local community and aligning regional water quality objectives with wider mana whenua values. It provides a good conduit to build relationships with mana whenua which is a good step towards collaboration as required under PC6.
16. We have completed the first round of weed control including the removal of over-mature willow trees and other weed infestations. Site visits have occurred since the weed removal to plan the fencing, further weed control, planting and path design. With the removal of the willows the stream has moved slightly so in order to complete the path, gabion baskets will need to be placed at two of the river bends. The site has been mapped using a drone and these images are being used as the basis for the planting plan. Stony dry areas, steep risky areas, and areas of good soil are being marked up.
17. From here plant numbers and people hours can be established. These will be discussed with the marae and then taken back to the community including the primary school and kura to round up volunteers.
18. The remaining hot spot funding will be spent on the establishment of a wetland. There are currently two possible sites for this to occur. One is focused on P/sediment retention and can probably be completed with the remaining budget. The other is potentially a nitrate removal wetland and may be a staged project. We are in the process of working with Council scientists to assess current nitrate levels before making a decision. Once started either of these options will be straight forward, because they are both flat and can be planted by contractors.
19. As an extension of these projects we will be completing additional work at Whatuma, to be completed this financial year.

Hot Spot: Te Whanganui-ā-Orotu (Ahuriri Estuary)

20. We are working with Mana Ahuriri Trust, Napier City Council, Hastings District Council, Department of Conservation, other landowners and businesses in this area to clean up water entering the estuary, remove pests and restore the environment to good health.
21. Ficopomatus removal: To restore water flow between the upper and lower estuary, we (in partnership with Mana Ahuriri Trust) will remove colonies of an invasive marine tubeworm. Starting on Monday 13 November, diggers will be used to remove the worm from areas between the Taipo Stream confluence and the Upper Ahuriri Estuary. Due to tides, we only have a four hour window each day to work in the estuary, therefore we expect this to continue through to the end of week.
22. Land Action Plan: Our Science team are currently gathering data, through point analysis, and characterising the Ahuriri catchment. The outcome will be a list of actions that are required to achieve the largest benefits for sediment and nutrient mitigation within the catchment. An advisor will visit landowners in the catchment and determine areas for farm scale improvement. This will be presented to Council early 2018.
23. Catchment Works: Works on both private and public land to reduce sediment and nutrient input into the catchment waterways and ultimately, the estuary.
24. Integrated Catchment Management Plan: Working with relevant stakeholders this plan is to identify the significant issues for Te Muriwai O Te Whanga, establish a common vision, outline tasks and actions clearly identified for each contributor. Currently the scope of works for this to be successful is being defined.
25. Catchment Hydrology: Further research information is required to better define the water budget, movement and export in this complex and largely managed catchment. For example what are the contaminant pathways? How much healthy freshwater does the estuary need to function? The plan for this is under development.

Hot Spot: Te Karamu

26. After further onsite investigations at Brookvale we were able to reduce the area of planting. This enabled us to support and progress other priority areas within the Karamu catchment.
27. Brookvale Wetland, Mangateretere Stream: Here we propose protection and enhancement of the stream to exclude stock and improve water quality, habitat and biodiversity. This will include: weed control, arboriculture, fencing and riparian planting and showing best practise land management. We will be engaging the community, through involvement of local schools and community meetings. We have met with landowners of the section above Brookvale Road, and they are supportive of our enhancement plans. Site preparation has started. We are currently organising a meeting with adjacent neighbours, to relay our plans and listen to feedback. Planting has been scheduled for Saturday, 16 June 2018.
28. Old Ngaruroro (Karamu-Clive) River: Work has started between Whakatu Railway Bridge and Karamu-Raupare confluence. We have completed weed control of old man's beard and silver poplar. Over the following months we will be fencing for stock exclusion. Revegetation planting will start in June.
29. Hineteomoa Spring & Awanui Stream: Paki Paki. For this culturally significant site, which is visible as southern entrance to Heretaunga Plains. We are in discussions with landowners to detail plans for enhancement planting and exclude stock from the waterway.
30. Bridge Pa, Karewarewa-Paritua Stream: Stock exclusion on the Karewarewa-Paritua Stream, above Mangaroa Mare and some specimen tree planting. The land owner is keen to progress with a plan for stock exclusion, bridge repair, fencing and tree tidying. The details of this plan are currently being developed.
31. Kahuranaki Stream, Kahuranaki (Te Hauke) Marae: We are working with representatives from the marae. Our plan involves weed control, enhancement planting on tributary to Lake Poukawa and connection to biodiversity priority areas.

Hot Spot: Marine

32. Work with Hawke's Bay Marine and Coastal Group and other stakeholders to scope a hydrodynamic model of Hawke Bay, and investigate subtidal habitats – to build understanding of our coastal habitats and the effects from land.
33. Hydrodynamic model: Working with Cawthon Institute, we are investigating where exactly in Hawke Bay we need to conduct our modelling. To do this we are currently reviewing satellite imagery, which has been recorded daily across 5 years, to identify where the reoccurring problems area are. Once this has been narrowed down, we will create a fine scale model to tell us where the issue are stemming from.
34. Collaborative study with NIWA, MPI and hapū looking at current state Wairoa Hard: A proposal has been drawn up and is currently sitting with MPI for a decision on funding. This will be a multi-year project, which, if successful, will require some funding in future years.

Decision Making Process

35. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Environment and Services Committee receives the "Hotspot/Freshwater Improvement Funding Projects Update" staff report.

Authored by:

**Antony Rewcastle
SENIOR OPEN SPACE DEVELOPMENT
OFFICER**

**Jolene Townshend
PROJECT MANAGER,
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Approved by:

**Iain Maxwell
GROUP MANAGER
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT**

Attachment/s

There are no attachments for this report.

HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE****Wednesday 15 November 2017****Subject: RESOURCE USE 2016-17 ANNUAL REPORT****Reason for Report**

1. To provide the Environment and Services Committee a report on the activities undertaken by the Resource Use Section in the 2016-17 financial year.

Background

2. The Resource Use section is responsible for the resource consent monitoring, pollution response, enforcement, navigational safety, hazardous sites and Building Act functions of the Regional Council.
3. Previously, the ability to provide a report on the specifics of the duties carried out and the performance of the community regarding environmental compliance and activity, has been restricted by the disjointed document management.
4. Through a desire to provide Councillors, Regional Council staff, and the wider community with a readily understandable overview of Resource Use activity and Community and Industry compliance, this report has been prepared by manually going through the myriad of prepared reports within the Regional Council document management system.
5. From next year, the implementation of the new document management system [IRIS] will make a report of this nature more straight forward and able to be produced in a timely manner closer to the start of the financial year.
6. With this being the first document of its kind, feedback is sought on methods to improve the quality of information within and to meet Councillors' desires to improve what they deem to be of importance to include.

Decision Making Process

7. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Environment and Services Committee receives and notes the "Resource Use 2016-17 Annual Report".

Authored by:

**Wayne Wright
MANAGER RESOURCE USE**

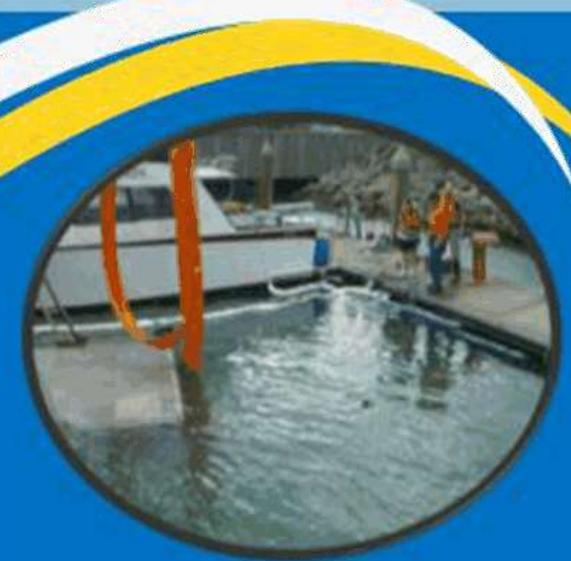
Approved by:

**Liz Lambert
GROUP MANAGER EXTERNAL
RELATIONS**

Attachment/s

[1](#) Resource Use Annual Report 2016

**RESOURCE USE ANNUAL REPORT
2016/2017**



**HAWKE'S BAY
REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**Environmental Compliance
Pollution Response
Enforcement
Navigational Safety
Hazardous Sites
Building Act**

Item 10

Attachment 1

Attachment 1

Item 10

Prepared by: Wayne Wright
Manager Resource Use

Authorised by: Liz Lambert
Group Manager External Relations

Presented to Council:

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INTRODUCTION

The Hawke's Bay Regional Council's Resource Use Annual Report has been designed to provide an overview of Resource Use activities across the region for the 2016/17 year. It does not cover all of the activities of the Resource Use team in detail.

The Resource Use team is responsible for the following areas of HBRC business:

- Resource consent monitoring
- Pollution response
- Low flow monitoring
- Enforcement
- Navigational safety
- Hazardous sites
- Building Act [dams]
- Oil spill response

Activities with similar parameters, particularly enforcement, incidents, and dairy discharge consents have been combined rather than reporting on individual conditions or circumstances.

In this report, the dairy industry is reported as a collective as the consent conditions for each farm are similar and compliance with these can be easily compared.

Other industries reported are either the only one of their type in Hawke's Bay, or differences exist between them that would make comparison of their consent conditions too difficult.

Major industrial consents, or those of special interest to Hawke's Bay, have been identified and are included in the report.

For most of the major industry reports, a table has been included to assess how well the company or industry has performed. This is displayed in the form of a traffic light system and a comparison between the current year and the preceding year [see below].

Key

Industry, Site or consent holders name	14/15	15/16	16/17
Description of any noteworthy event			
Background denotes overall results for the year shown in box			
			Year

Grading

Good to excellent: Consent holder has excellent communication with HBRC; they have contingency measures in place; reports supplied on time and compliant; minor to no exceedances with no environmental impact	
Moderate to Technical Issues: Consent holder reports late; has minor exceedances over period of time; moderate exceedances with minor environmental impact	
Significant non-compliance: Consent holder has exceedances with measurable impact on the environment; reports not supplied; negligent or intentional non-compliance	

Also considered in the grading are the completeness and quality of the results, evidence of contingency planning, prompt notification of events, completion of full and thorough investigations, maintenance of good communications with HBRC, proactive in addressing or highlighting potential issues and evidence of environmental ethics.

This report, as appropriate, is separated into three main parts, Inspection and Audit activities, Incident Response, and Enforcement.

As this is the first report of its type to HBRC, modifications are expected in time. If there is an area that you would like to see more detail on or something added to the report next year, please let us know.

**Inspection
and
Audit Activities**

AGRICULTURAL AUDITS

Dairy Inspection Overview

The compliance dairy monitoring team, consists of two experienced staff and undertakes inspections of dairy farms to ensure that there is compliance with the conditions of discharge consents. All dairy farm operations in Hawke's Bay are consented activities. Discharge consents allow farms to irrigate dairy shed effluent to land.

Dairy shed effluent is created from the cleandown of the milking shed and platform and is a combination of water and effluent. It is regarded as an excellent natural liquid fertiliser. It contains nitrogen, phosphorus, potassium, magnesium, sulphur and trace elements essential for grass growth.

However, pasture can only use so much effluent at a time. It is important to match the irrigation depth to the capability of the pasture to utilise the nutrients. Over-application of effluent can result in the following outcomes:

- Kill pasture – especially where effluent has ‘ponded’ on the soil surface;
- Pollute groundwater – by seeping too deep into the soil;
- Pollute nearby waterways – where it runs off paddocks and into streams and rivers;
- Be an ineffective use of nutrients – by seeping past the root zone before the plant can utilise it.

There are 3 outcomes following an inspection that determine a dairy farm’s performance against the conditions of their resource consent.

1. Full Compliance – means a farm complies with all conditions of its consent.
2. Non Compliance - means a farm has some noncompliance but the environmental effect does not warrant any more action than advice and education.
3. Significant Non Compliance – means a farm has some noncompliance that results in significant adverse environmental effect, requires a re-inspection and may lead to punitive measures being taken.

Council facilitates a Dairy Industry Liaison Group. This group has adopted a goal of achieving 100% full compliance across all dairy farms in Hawkes Bay. Recognising those achieving this over a long period is one way to promote reaching this goal.

Farms must achieve full compliance at all inspections; both water take consents and farm dairy effluent discharge consents are included.

Bronze certificates are awarded for 3 consecutive years of full compliance

Silver certificates are awarded for 4 consecutive years of full compliance

Gold certificates are awarded for 5 consecutive years of full compliance

The count of compliant years is reset to zero at a change in farm ownership or noncompliance.

Current Gold certificate holders are:

- ❖ Anacott Farms Limited Partnership
- ❖ Barry P M & A C –Ellingham
- ❖ Brylee Farm Limited

- ❖ Cesped Lands Limited & Riordan J J & V P
- ❖ Chrystal C J J
- ❖ Cooper Del Este Limited
- ❖ Epic Agriculture Limited -Springfield
- ❖ Flat Hill Trust
- ❖ Franklin P C
- ❖ Galloway Enterprises Limited
- ❖ Great Glen Farm Limited
- ❖ Hedley J H & J
- ❖ Incline Farm Limited
- ❖ Ingleton Farms Limited
- ❖ Knauf I J & S M
- ❖ Longrow Dairies Limited -Cloverlea
- ❖ Lyon Family Trust
- ❖ Lyons Family Partnership
- ❖ Maungatutu Station Limited
- ❖ Newman Family Trust
- ❖ Perthshire Farms Land Company Limited
- ❖ Pine Estate Limited
- ❖ Plantation Road Dairies Limited
- ❖ Seven Oaks Partnership
- ❖ Spring Valley Holdings Limited
- ❖ Te Repo Farms Limited
- ❖ Tuki Tuki Awa Limited
- ❖ Waikare Dairy Company Limited
- ❖ Watts & Son Limited

Over time, compliance rates have improved considerably. 48 dairy farms out of the 80 in Hawke's Bay have been fully compliant for a minimum of 3 years, compared to 2012 when only 28 out of 92 farms could claim that.

	2016/17	2015/16	2014/15	2013/14	2012/13
Gold	29	31	24	21	15
Silver	6	4	8	4	8
Bronze	13	9	4	9	5
Total	48	44	37	34	28

HB Dairy Award holders 2012 to 2017

Across the whole dairy industry, full compliance rates have remained constant.

	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17
Full Compliance	85%	89%	85%
Non compliance	15%	7%	12.5%
Significant non-compliance	0%	4%	2.5%

HB Dairy compliance rate percentages 2014 to 2017

Dairy Farming	14/15	15/16	16/17
Enforcement action as follows:			
16/17 – 1 infringement notice			
15/16 – 1 infringement notice			
14/15 – 0 infringement notices			

Pastoral Farming	14/15	15/16	16/17
Pastoral farming is a permitted activity and not subject to resource consent monitoring. The issue of feedlots is covered elsewhere.			

Irrigation Water Consents	14/15	15/16	16/17
There are always issues involving compliance with water take consents, purely because of the volume of water takes and the variety of operators involved. There are no significant issues but every year a number of infringement notices are issued, no matters have progressed to prosecution. In 2016/2017 there were 22 infringement notices issued for breaches of water take volumes.			

INDUSTRIAL AUDITS

Meat Industry

There is a mixture of discharge and water take consents associated with the meat industry. Premises within the Hastings and Napier City boundaries discharge into the respective trade waste systems, others have their own consents to discharge to land or water after treatment.

Progressive Meats	14/15	15/16	16/17
This company discharges into the Hastings trade waste system and only holds water take consents with HBRC. No recent pollution incidents reported.			

AFFCO Wairoa	14/15	15/16	16/17
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> In March 2017, an effluent pipe blockage resulted in a discharge to the Wairoa River. Enforcement action taken. On the 5th November 2016 there was an effluent overflow of a drain that discharged to land. Enforcement action taken. In May 2016, effluent was washed down from a yard onto land. Enforcement action taken. In April 2016, biofilter leachate was discharged onto land. Enforcement action taken. In the 2014/15 year, verification certificates and sampling data not supplied within consented timeframes. 			

Fresh Meats	14/15	15/16	16/17
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Discharge of contaminants to water from their plant in Pandora in 2017. Enforcement action taken. Exceedance of water take volume in 2015. 			

Hawke's Bay Protein	14/15	15/16	16/17
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> On the 8th February 2017, a significant odour was reported coming from the plant. Enforcement action taken. 			

2. There are ongoing issues with offensive and objectionable odour from the plant. The owner/operator has made changes in attempts to remove the problem but significant changes are required to rectify the situation. 3. In August 2015, discharged process water into the stormwater drain. Enforcement action taken. 4. In December 2014, discharge of objectionable odour. Enforcement action taken.			
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Silver Fern Farms	14/15	15/16	16/17
Operations at locations in Frasertown and Takapau. The Takapau plant has no issues and the Frasertown plant is now closed. Frasertown historically had issues with exceeding their allowable discharge from effluent ponds.			

Whakatu Wool Scours	14/15	15/16	16/17
There have been ongoing odour problems at this site that have resulted in infringement notices being issued in the past. A temporary new consent was issued last year while a decision was being made by the Commerce Commission on the merger of this company with another. The proposal involved this plant being closed and operations moved elsewhere. The merger was finally allowed but the operator is now seeking to stay at this site for a longer period than first indicated. Odour issues remain but are not as bad, but a new consent is required and that is being opposed by residents.			

Graeme Lowe Tannery	14/15	15/16	16/17
A discharge of lime & sodium sulphide to land in June 2015. Enforcement action taken.			

Cavalier Bremworth	14/15	15/16	16/17
In October 2016, discharged oil onto land at their property in Awatoto. Enforcement action taken.			

Eastland Network	14/15	15/16	16/17
The sediment discharge of October 2015, from the Waihi Dam, was a major event with severe impacts on the Waiau, Waihi and Wairoa Rivers. Enforcement action taken.			

Food processing

Bostock Group	14/15	15/16	16/17
In late 2016, exceeded the consented water take volumes at 3 of their properties. Enforcement action taken.			

Heinz Wattie's	14/15	15/16	16/17
In January 2017, one of their growing operations exceeded a volume of water take. Enforcement action taken.			

Simply Squeezed	14/15	15/16	16/17
In February 2017, they discharged blue dye from their premises into stormwater. Enforcement action taken.			

T&G Global	14/15	15/16	16/17
1. In October 2016, discharged smoke from a property in Moteo Pa Road. Enforcement action taken. 2. In May 2016, discharged apple leachate into the stormwater drain in Williams Street. Enforcement action taken.			

HORTICULTURE

Mushroom Farming

Te Mata Mushroom Company	14/15	15/16	16/17
1. Ongoing odour complaints from the composting process at the facility. Prosecution and Enforcement Order in 2015 has resulted in a new consent application that is currently being notified. 2. The Havelock North water supply contamination revealed a number of unconsented and breaches of earthwork operations. The current owners of this company do not appear to take their environmental obligations sufficiently seriously, although there has been an apparent improvement since the contamination event occurred. 3. Ponding of effluent [as a result of irrigation] has been identified and currently under consideration for enforcement action.			

Orchard Operations

Mr Apple	14/15	15/16	16/17
Illegal burning in May 2015. Enforcement action taken.			

Johnny Appleseed	14/15	15/16	16/17
In December 2016, a breach of water take volume at one of their orchards. Enforcement action taken.			

Wine Growing and Processing

Hawke's Bay is the second largest wine growing region in the country. Wineries and vineyards generally have two forms of consent; consents to take water and consents to discharge winery waste or treated effluent from associated buildings. Unless water take exceedances are excessive or warrant enforcement action, they will not be highlighted in this report. The wine industry does not generally pose a significant risk in the region but a number of properties reside over the Heretaunga Aquifer and require specific attention.

Redmetal	14/15	15/16	16/17
pH recorded as being too high on one sample occasion.			

Yealands	14/15	15/16	16/17
Ponding of wastewater in the effluent disposal field – remedied.			

Unison	14/15	15/16	16/17
Not treating effluent to the required level – remedied.			

Links		14/15	15/16	16/17
Effluent field is situated too close to a bore – remedied.		14/15	15/16	16/17

Craggy Range		14/15	15/16	16/17
1. Discharge volumes were exceeded in 2015. 2. Nitrogen levels were too high in one sampling run in 2015. 3. Remedied.		14/15	15/16	16/17

Silene		14/15	15/16	16/17
pH too high - remedied		14/15	15/16	16/17

Elephant Hill		14/15	15/16	16/17
No meter readings received or samples taken for a period – remedied.		14/15	15/16	16/17

TP Donovan		14/15	15/16	16/17
Suspended solids exceeded - remedied		14/15	15/16	16/17

Villa Maria		14/15	15/16	16/17
Reservoir liner needs repair/replacement – underway.		14/15	15/16	16/17

Ngatarawa		14/15	15/16	16/17
Sprinkler not rotating - remedied		14/15	15/16	16/17

Forestry

Currently, most forestry operations operate as a permitted activity. Resource consents are required for road, tracking and culvert works. While there are a number of operators within the region, PanPac are the largest and hold the largest number of resource consents, mainly associated with their plant at Whirinaki.

Pan Pac		14/15	15/16	16/17
1. Discharge of sediment into a stream while installing forestry track in 2015. 2. Ongoing issues with the colour of the discharge into Hawke Bay, while the contaminants were reduced, the change in colour was more evident, resulting in complaints. This was addressed with a new resource consent. 3. Significant publicity and public concern over the operation of the new TMT kiln that failed on a number of occasions. There was no breach of the Pan Pac resource consent and Pan Pac have ceased operating the kiln until they have fixed the problem. A multi-agency approach involving HBRC, DHB and Worksafe.		14/15	15/16	16/17

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Local Government undertake a wide range of activities that have an impact on the environment and all hold numerous resource consents for activities including storm water, municipal effluent discharge and land fill, water takes, and associated activities.

The stormwater and sewage network in all cities and towns are old and under significant stress especially during periods of heavy rainfall. This causes sewage overflows that are both an environmental and health risk. All councils are aware of this and recognise that fixing this is a major priority. The Havelock North water contamination event has raised drinking water security and infrastructure to the top of the priority list and so no quick solution is expected in the short to medium term.

Wairoa District Council	14/15	15/16	16/17
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In April 2017, WDC made alterations to their discharge pipe to the Wairoa River without obtaining a resource consent. Subsequently it failed resulting in discharge to land. Enforcement action taken. 2. In March 2017, QRS [owned by WCC] discharged sediment into the Awatere Stream while undertaking works. Enforcement action taken. 3. During heavy rainfall events, substantial stormwater enters the Wairoa sewage network, periodically causing effluent overflow. 			

Napier City Council	14/15	15/16	16/17
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On the 10th March 2017, while undertaking road maintenance, staff discharged sediment directly into the gutter that led to the Plantation Drain. Enforcement action taken. 2. A long history of failing to meet consented timeframes for the provision of sampling data, reports and records. To such a degree that dialogue has been necessary at executive level between NCC and HBRC in an effort to rectify the situation. 3. During heavy rainfall events, substantial stormwater enters the Napier sewage network, periodically causing effluent overflow with one significant controlled discharge by NCC in 2017. 			

Hastings District Council	14/15	15/16	16/17
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As a result of the investigation into the Havelock North water supply contamination event, it was established that HDC had not carried out proper maintenance of the Brookvale bores in breach of their resource consent. A prosecution was initiated but withdrawn on request of the Government Inquiry Chair and two infringement notices were issued in its stead. 2. During heavy rainfall events, substantial stormwater enters the Hastings sewage network, periodically causing effluent overflow. 			

Central Hawke's Bay District Council	14/15	15/16	16/17
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continued problems with the consents relating to the operation of their wastewater treatment plants at Waipawa and Waipukurau. A prosecution was initiated and an Enforcement Order made for an independent review and recommendations to be made to make the plants compliant. 2. Odour issues from December 2016 onwards emanating from the wastewater plant in Mt Herbert Road, resulting in substantial complaints from neighbouring residents. 			

3. During heavy rainfall events, substantial stormwater enters the various CHBDC sewage networks, periodically causing effluent overflow.			
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Hawke's Bay Regional Council	14/15	15/16	16/17
On the 11 th May 2017, contractors working on instruction of HBRC undertook burning of vegetation within the air shed in breach of the burning rules. An infringement notice was issued.			

COASTAL MARINE AREA

Hawke's Bay Seafoods	14/15	15/16	16/17
In November 2016, discharges of paint flakes and other materials from their slipway on Meeanee Quay.			

CROWN AGENCIES

Department of Conservation	14/15	15/16	16/17
DOC hold a small number of consents that relate to activities including the discharge of effluent from camps and huts, the disposal of whales in Northern HB and the removal of invasive weed from Lake Waikaremoana. There was a minor breach of consent condition this year by not supplying discharge records within consented timeframes. Now remedied.			

SMALL CONSENTED ACTIVITIES

Composting Sites

1. A small number of composting activities, the largest being Bio Rich at Awatoto and Maraekahao, Phoenix at Whakatu and Sprayfree at Bennett Road.	14/15	15/16	16/17
2. In June 2016, Sprayfree undertook illegal burning at their site that was not related to the composting process. Enforcement action was taken.			

Concrete Industry

Ian Dick Concrete Contractors	14/15	15/16	16/17
In June 2017, company was discharging truck wash water into the stormwater drains at their yard in Onekawa. Enforcement action taken.			

Private Landfill Sites

There are 6 consented private landfill sites in Hawke's Bay, with all operating well.

Phoenix Contracting – Middle Road	14/15	15/16	16/17
In 15/16, while sampling was being carried out, the full suite of contaminants was not being tested. Remedied.			

Truck Wash Inspections

Stephenson Transport - Irongate

Stephensons took over this yard in 2013 and expanded to the extent that the consent needs to be replaced to reflect the increased use and subsequent level of discharge to the land. In process of being remedied.

14/15

15/16

16/17

Tasman Harvester Contractors – Omaha Road

Sampling was not been carried out as required by their resource consent.
Remedied.

14/15

15/16

16/17

Tyre storage [Whakatu]**Retired Tyre Company & Sun Properties Ltd**

These companies are engaged in the collection and storage of end of life tyres at a property in Whakatu. There are no regional rules specifically preventing the storage of tyres but an abatement notice was served on the company last year to stop the storage on the grounds of potential fire risk [section 17 of the RMA]. The company was subsequently served an infringement notice for breach of the abatement notice. Liaison with Hastings District Council has resulted in HDC continuing the enforcement process as the storage of tyres is governed by a new bylaw. Changes have been made at the site which satisfy RC concerns regarding fire risk.

14/15

15/16

16/17

Pollution Response

The Regional Council operates a 24 hour, 7 days a week Pollution Hotline for the purpose of receiving calls from members of the public reporting pollution events and other incidents of an environmental nature. During office hours, calls are directed to Environmental Officers who attend 100% of all calls received. Outside of office hours a duty roster is operated where calls are directed to the duty Environmental Officer via a call centre.

A wide range of incidents are reported that will generally be responded to within 12 hours of receipt and dealt with appropriately. The bulk of the Council's enforcement work arises as a result of incidents or complaints reported via the hotline. Often Council will receive notice of incidents occurring even before those involved know themselves.

The Resource Use team contains several trained maritime oil spill responders that not only respond to marine spills but put that expertise towards dealing with other contaminant spills, often in liaison with other Councils and the District Health Board.

Each team vehicle holds equipment and tools to use in the event of most pollution events, supplemented by a Pollution Response van and trailer that holds larger equipment including generators, skimmers, booms and protective equipment.



Staff operating containment booms during pollution event



Sampling the Waihi river: Waihi Dam sediment discharge

Complaints & Enforcement

KEY POINTS

What happened in 2016/17?



915
complaints



60%
air related



**abatement
notices
issued**



**55 infringement notices
Issued worth
\$28,300**



5
prosecutions
resulting in
convictions

Enforcement summary

Abatement notices are formal instructions. They are a direction to either cease doing something. Take action to address an environmental effect, or to comply with consent conditions.

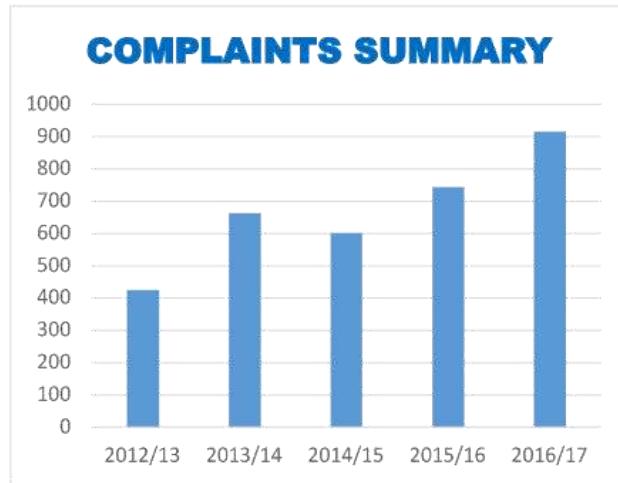
Infringement notices [fines] are issued for serious non-compliance offences that don't warrant prosecuting. The fines are set by the Government and range from \$300 to \$1000 depending on the offence type.

Prosecutions are generally reserved for the most serious of offending. This can be for offences where significant environmental effects have resulted, or where repeated, serious offending has occurred. The maximum penalties are 2 years imprisonment and up to \$300,000 fine for individuals and up to \$600,000 for corporates

From 1 July 2016 to 30 June 2017, 915 complaints were received, a 116% increase over the past 5 years. The largest majority of those related to air discharge complaints with the bulk of those related to burning.

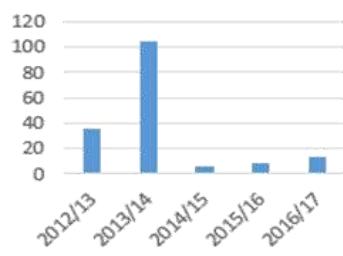
The number of abatement notices and infringement notices increased on last year with 14 and 55 issued respectively. The average amount of infringement fine is \$500 per notice.

There were 8 prosecutions initiated during the year, of which 2 were withdrawn [Hastings District Council, Abyss, and Eastland Network]. The other 4 were against Central Hawke's Bay District Council relating to their wastewater operation, Fresh Meats for a discharge from their property into the stormwater network, and 3 individuals for substantial burning of prohibited items.

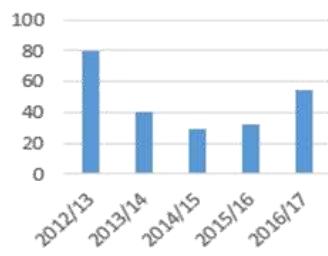


Annual statistics comparison

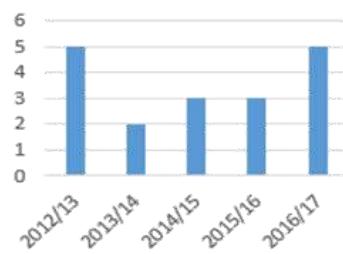
Abatement notices issued



Infringement notices issued



Prosecutions



Prosecutions where result included conviction



Area: Whakatu
Penalty: \$10,800
Nature of Offence: Burning of prohibited items.



Area: Pandora
Penalty: \$3,600
Nature of Offence: Discharge of meat processing waste to water

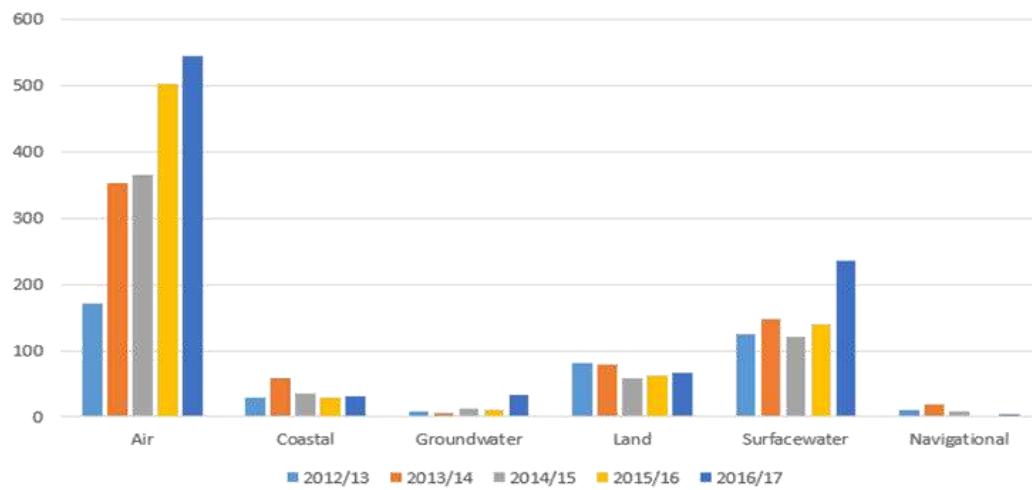


Area: Clifton
Penalty: \$5,500 & \$5,500 [2 persons]
Nature of Offence: Burning of prohibited items [a house].



Area: Central Hawke's Bay
Penalty: \$7,500 costs and an enforcement order
Nature of Offence: Discharge of contaminants to water [breach of consent]

Incidents by type



Navigational Safety

Navigational Safety in the Hawke Bay and Hawke's Bay rivers and waterbodies are overseen by the Regional Council. Council employs a full time Harbourmaster, with office at Napier Port, and a part time Harbourmaster, they operate within the Resource Use Group.

The Harbourmaster is a statutory appointment; the powers of the harbourmaster are legislated in the Maritime Transport Act 1994.

The Regional Council issues a set of Navigational Safety Bylaws that it is responsible for enforcing through the Harbourmaster's role with assistance from the wider Resource Use team. Last updated in 2012, they will be further updated in 2017.

Boating Education is the most important function of the Harbourmaster and he achieves that in a number of different ways. Through support from Maritime New Zealand, local business and the Region's ratepayers, he runs a school safe boating programme, targeting primary and intermediate school children. It is envisaged that Hawke's Bay school children will receive 2 to 3 days of instruction in boating safety, through this programme, before they leave school. While the programme is voluntary, it is offered to all schools and uptake has been increasing over the 3 years it has been running. Further education programmes are run via private providers who we offer assistance in boating and water safety programmes at public swimming pools in Wairoa, Flaxmere and Central Hawke's Bay.

For the adult boating community, education is delivered via a network of voluntary Boating Advisors who interact with boaties in all beachfront communities and launch areas and through local and national media campaigns funded jointly with Maritime New Zealand.

The past year has seen the Harbourmaster and Resource Use staff heavily involved in the RocketLab project on the Mahia Peninsular. Our input has been surrounding the safety of watercraft and water users during the time of rocket launch. Our input into this will reduce over time as new national legislation is promulgated to address all future rocket launch operations.



RocketLab launch, Mahia 2017

Hazardous Sites

Regional councils have the role of investigating land for the purposes of identifying and monitoring contaminated land. Councils maintain a contaminated site register for this purpose.

Until the end of 2016, Council employed a full time advisor for this task as well as managing an unwanted agrichemical collection and disposal. With the retirement of that person, the agrichemical collection was contracted out to the 3R Group, in line with how other Regional Councils were operating. Council has retained the role of monitoring contaminated land and maintaining the hazardous sites register [HAIL List].

The bulk of the work involves providing information to land developers and the real estate industry, with an ability to charge for the time spent providing this service.

Building Act

Regional Councils have responsibility under the Building Act in relation to dams. The consenting of dams is contracted to the Waikato Regional Council but the monitoring remains with this Council.

Central Government introduced legislation 2 years ago in relation to dangerous and large dams but withdrew it before it came into effect. Since then, Central Government has been undecided on what form new legislation will take, initial thoughts were it would remain under the Building Act but most recently indications are it will come as part of the rewriting of the Resource Management Act. We are entirely in Central Government's hands on this but will be expected to carry out our legislative functions as quickly as Central government makes its final decision on what form the legislation will take. We have already collated data on the number and size of all large dams within the Region and expect that will be information we will be required to collate under future law.



Edwards Dam – Maraekakaho 2016

Oil Spill Response

The New Zealand Marine Oil Spill Response Strategy is overseen by Maritime New Zealand. Successful implementation of the Strategy is dependent upon effective partnerships between the maritime and oil industries, and regional and national government.

The response system is comprised of three 'Tiers', each having the ability to escalate in an integrated manner to the next, depending on the scale of the event. Each Tier is required to prepare contingency plans and a response capability appropriate to their respective levels of responsibility.

- Tier 1 – Industry
- Tier 2 – Regional Councils and Unitary Authorities
- Tier 3 – Maritime New Zealand and International Partners

In real terms, this means that at Tier 1 level, the industries involved must have response plans prepared and these are audited by the Regional Council for suitability. Should a spill occur, that industry will have the capability to deal with it in some way and report the matter to the Regional Council who will assist as and when necessary. Depending on the cause, location, or environmental effect, Regional Council involvement may include enforcement action.

Tier 2 are larger events where the Regional Council will always be involved. Examples may include a substantial oil leak from a fishing vessel or a large discharge of oil identified at sea or on the shoreline. Presently the role of Regional On-Scene Commander for Tier 2 spills sits with 3 members of the Regional Council, one of those is a member of the Resource Use team and he is also responsible for the day to day running of the project. Other members of the response team are the complete Resource Use team and many others across all parts of Council including the Works Group. On-Scene Commanders and other high level planning staff undergo national training with Maritime New Zealand and can be utilised in national emergencies like the Rena disaster, which is a Tier 3 type of emergency where Maritime New Zealand take the lead.

Council has a significant amount of oil spill response equipment and access to vessels and expertise from across the region. The equipment is housed at the Napier Port. A number of training exercises, both desk top and actual are carried out throughout the year.



Inyago sinking – Iron Pot 2016

HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE****Wednesday 15 November 2017****Subject: NOVEMBER 2017 OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES UPDATE****Reason for Report**

1. To provide an update (attached) on the activities of Council's Regulation and Operations teams to the Environment and Services Committee.

Decision Making Process

2. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Environment & Services Committee receives the "Operational Activities Update" staff report.

Authored by:

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Attachment/s

 1 Operational Activities Update for November 2017

Cross Sectional Operational Projects of Significance

Project	Timeline	Narrative update	Status
Flood Control and Drainage Schemes Asset Management Review	To be completed end of Dec 2017.	To undertake asset revaluation, Review of Asset Management Plans, Policy and 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy	Asset Revaluation completed. Asset Policy and 30 Year Strategy documents completed and will be presented to Council at Nov. workshop
Clive River Sediment	Initial analysis to be completed in July.	Analyse sediment inputs and fates using 2D modelling to answer Iwi and TANK concerns	Work completed, report written and presented to TANK.
Coastal Monitoring Report	Final Report end of July	Analyse and update coastal profiles and report findings	Completed
Westshore Re-nourishment Contract	Start 24 October end 21 November	Annual re-nourishment of selected area of Westshore Beach. Significant cost increase this year to obtain suitable fill material, not sourced from the beach.	Project proceeding well with no concerns.
Karamu Stream realignment and Hawea Park	Earthworks shaping to be substantially complete by June 2018	Realignment has proceeded in conjunction with the Whakatu Arterial Link Road (HDC). Formation of the associated Hawea Park earthworks starting in mid-November.	Bulk earthworks completed, shaping top-soil and grass yet to be carried out in readiness for working with hāpu on park design.
Karamu Stream bank repair	August to November 2017	A major bank failure (50m long by 6m high) occurred during wet weather in August endangering a house and sheds. Urgent repair required.	Earthworks nearing completion, bank grassing and planting remain.
Tangoio Marae Flood protection	Sept/ Oct	Flood level review and computer modelling of various stopbank upgrade options.	Work completed and options presented to the trust.
Regional Pest Management Plan Review	Align with LTP process	Complete a RPMP review in accordance with the National Policy direction.	Biosecurity Working Group meeting to discuss results of submission process.
Public Use of Rivers Review	Project brief developed late 2016. Aim to complete initial report by October 2017.	Investigation to review public use across HBRC owned / managed land on the Heretaunga Plains Rivers. Priorities identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cattle in waterways hot spots (grazing alternatives?) • public vehicle river berm access / inappropriate vehicle activity • ranging / patrol resource • review security gate / padlock system • rubbish dumping 	Investigation on a reach of the Ngaruroro that has been retired from grazing progressing. Is taking longer than expected to complete. Initial report now expected mid-December.

Attachment 1**Item 11**

Project	Timeline	Narrative update	Status
Tutira Regional Park Post Pine Forest Harvest Plan	Aim to complete by December 2017	Working Group established to evaluate post pine harvest re-planting options for Tutira Regional Park.	Progressing well. Has been parked for six weeks as staff work on other priorities. Staff expect to have completed by end of calendar year.
Tutira Mai Nga Iwi project	2016-2018	Maungaharuru Tangitu Trust led project to enhance the riparian margin of Lake Tutira and promote hapu leadership in freshwater management through action.	Tree felling programme nearing completion. Plant pest spraying programme underway around lake margin. Fencing of northwest margin in progress.
Waipatiki Beach Holiday Park	Ongoing	<p>HBRC is the nominated managing authority for the Waipatiki Beach Holiday Park purchased jointly by NCC, HDC and HBRC in March 2017. Management focus presently centres on addressing facility Healthy and Safety and compliance priorities identified through either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mutual agreement between local authorities pre-purchase • building assessment • need (E.coli transgression response). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building assessment completed by HDC • Priority list for repair / maintenance works on ablution block drafted • Water supply options to secure a reliable water supply being worked on with intention to have a temporary connection to the Waipaiki town supply in place by December • Builder, electrician and plumber engaged to address urgent issues.

Compliance/Resource Use Activities of Significance

Location and activity	Stage of processing	Narrative update
CHBDC – wastewater Waipawa	Guilty plea made in prosecution for E. coli exceedance:	The recommendations made for improvement will be undertaken by CHBDC and reported back to the Environment Court. Early indications from CHBDC in the media indicate that the review is showing the current system is unlikely to produce compliance with their consents to operate. CHBDC is undergoing an evaluation of what they need to do about their entire waste and stormwater systems.
CHBDC – wastewater Waipukurau	Commissioning of new Covered anaerobic pond and stormwater pond	Construction completed. Ponds commissioned but odour issues in evidence. Ongoing odour issues treated as a priority by CHBDC and they are continuing to trial and evaluate fixes. This is proving to be difficult but they are being very proactive in trying to find a solution.
Feedlots	Newly consented and monitored	Flights identified a further 23 'winter cropping' locations that could be characterised as feedlot operations. As well as the 16 properties that already had resource consents, each of the 23 properties were visited, a total of 39 properties were physically visited. Some properties were visited just by the Compliance team, some just by the Land Management team and others by both teams together. Exactly what properties received what level of visit was determined from what was seen from the air. Of the 23, previously unknown properties, 20 of those were found to be compliant with the Regional Rules. 3 were found to be non-compliant, resulting in 1 prosecution and 3 infringement fines being imposed. The outcomes of prosecution have not yet been determined. One of the identified operators is now in the process of determining whether to continue operating or not and if they decide to continue, will apply for a resource consent.

What's on the Books Update Report – Consent Appeals/ Notification/Large Processes

Updated – 6 November 2017

Consent IDs	Applicant	Location	Purpose	Lead Planner	Type	Status Update
DP160229A	The Te Mata Mushroom Company Limited	174 - 176 Brookvale Road, Havelock North	New Consent to discharge contaminants into the air from a composting and mushroom growing operation	PB	Publically Notified Air Discharge	19Jun17 On Hold pending lodgement of required HDC application, pre-xmas 12Jun17 Currently 322 Submissions received, Submissions closed 13May17 Public notification in paper + Direct Notification to approx. 800 owner/occupiers in a 800m radius of the site 26Jan17 s92 on hold awaiting further information – expect end of March 20Dec16 Application Lodged
LU170121E CL170122E LU170123E CL170124E LU170125E CL170126E	Hawke's Bay Regional Council	Ngaruroro, Tukituki and Tutaekuri River	New Consent to remove gravel and undertake other earthworks within the Ngaruroro, Tukituki and Tutaekuri rivers.	SE	Possibly Notified	Nov17 Applications being reviewed 19Oct17 2 more applications lodged, one more expected 30Mar17 Independent Processing Planner, Consultant Sven Exeter - MottMac appointed 30Mar17 1st Application Lodged
Various	Various	Ruataniwha basin	Applications to take and offset Tranche 2 Ruataniwha groundwater	PB	Possibly Notified	8 applications received in the 'queue' for the Tranche two Ruataniwha groundwater. Each on hold for various reasons at applicants request/further information

Consent IDs	Applicant	Location	Purpose	Lead Planner	Type	Status Update
CL170267O CD170262W	Pan Pac Forest Products Limited	1161 State Highway 2, Whirinaki	Replacement of consent CD960330We and CD160286W to discharge into the Coastal Marine Area	RO	Direct referral requested	End Nov17 Officers report due 1Sep17 Direct referral requested – Council agreed 22Aug17 13 submissions received 25Jul17 Publicly notified 30Jun17 Replacement application lodged
CL170304C	Hastings District Council	Clifton	New Consent to construct a limestone boulder rock rip rap	GS	Likely Notified	30Aug17 On Hold awaiting further information 8Aug17 Application Lodged
LU170336V	Bayly Trust	226 Okare Road, Wairoa	New Consent to clear 433ha of vegetation	SE	Possibly Notified	14Sep17 On Hold Information requested due October 25Aug17 Application Lodged, Consultant Sven Exeter MottMac appointed
Objections						
WP030710Tb	Mr Apple New Zealand Limited	1231 Tikokino Road, Tikokino	to take water - to irrigate and frost protect horticulture.	PB	S357 Objection to conditions	On hold at applicants request- assessing their options 18-Nov-15 - Objection Received - Objects to annual volume limit (664,869m3)
Pre applications						
	Port of Napier Limited	818 Breakwater Road, Napier	Wharf extension	RO	Pre application	Pre/draft application expected early 2018 Application lodgement expected October 2017, Likely to be publicly notified
Consent process concluded or process stopped						
CD960330Wg	Pan Pac Forest Products Limited	1161 State Highway 2, Whirinaki	Change the conditions of consent re visible discharge via the ocean outfall	RO	Withdrawn	31July17 Application withdrawn in favour of replacement process 21Nov16 application notified - one submission in opposition.

Attachment 1

Item 11

Consent IDs	Applicant	Location	Purpose	Lead Planner	Type	Status Update
WP140203T	HBRIC	Ruataniwha basin	New Consent to take and offset Tranche 2 Ruataniwha groundwater	PB	Withdrawn	19Oct17 Application withdrawn 12Sept17 On Hold - information requested due mid-October 23May14 Application Lodged
DP150206L DP150207W DP150208A	Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Lawrence Street, Otane	Replacement consent to discharge municipal sewage after treatment in the Otane oxidation pond to water	PB	Issued	13Sep-17 Conditions agreed application granted 19May-17 On Hold working on draft conditions with applicant and submitters 06Mar17 Submissions closed – 5 Submissions received 04Feb17 Applications Notified 01July15 Replacement Applications lodged
DP170266A	Whakatu Wool Scour Ltd	Whakatu	Replacement of consent to discharge contaminants into air from a wool scouring plant	PB	Withdrawn	10Oct17 Application withdrawn 20Sep17 Information extension requested being considered 23Aug17 On hold awaiting further information due September 30Jun17 Replacement application lodged
LU170271C	Bridgeman J A	7 Clifton Road, Haumoana	New Consent to construct and maintain a coastal protection structure	PB	Issued	Non notified – to be issued 24July17 On Hold Information requested due August 10July17 Application Lodged

HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL**ENVIRONMENT AND SERVICES COMMITTEE****Wednesday 15 November 2017****Subject: DISCUSSION OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA****Reason for Report**

1. This document has been prepared to assist Committee Members to note the Items of Business Not on the Agenda to be discussed as determined earlier in Agenda Item 5.

- 1.1. ***Urgent*** items of Business (*supported by tabled CE or Chairman's report*)

	Item Name	Reason not on Agenda	Reason discussion cannot be delayed
1.			
2.			

- 1.2. ***Minor*** items (*for discussion only*)

Item	Topic	Councillor / Staff
1.		
2.		
3.		