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**Report 02.538**

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Report to Environment Committee  
From Councillor Irvine Yardley

**Update on Wellington Regional Environment Agency (WREA)**

**1. Purpose**

To inform the Committee about the WREA meeting held on 2 August 2002 at the Upper Hutt City Council office.

**2. Discussion**

This report provides a summary of the issues discussed at this meeting.

Ket Bradshaw and Dana Peterson of the Ministry for the Environment (MFE) gave a presentation on the Waste Strategy. Ket said that the Ministry had received positive feedback from the waste workshops it had held around the country and she reiterated the importance of local authority involvement to the implementation of the Strategy. Ket also indicated that the Ministry would like to see regional councils take a greater role in co-ordinating waste management. There was some discussion about the role of the Council in waste issues in this Region. Some regional councils have chosen to play a part, but the Ministry acknowledged that not all regional councils saw that they had any responsibility for waste (Taranaki, Waikato and Auckland Regional Councils have chosen to take a role in waste management). There was also some discussion about the Ministry's proposal to take the waste component of the 'Big Clean Up' nation wide to all Councils in the near future.

The disposal of used tyres to landfill was again discussed. The Ministry is currently working on guidelines for the disposal of tyres and commended WREA on its initiative in promoting a recycling plant.

Shaun Lewis reported on Enviromart. Good progress is continuing to be made and he advised that an ad campaign with AdPlus is about to be launched promoting Enviromart. Shaun will also be contacting all territorial authorities and the Council to talk about Enviromart. It is proposed that Shaun will visit the Committee to talk about Enviromat's successes in due course. The Enviromart contract is up for renewal in

September and a sub-committee has been established to make a recommendation to WREA on the performance and terms of renewal.

A financial report was presented to WREA and accepted by the Committee.

3. **Recommendations**

*It is recommended that the Committee:*

(1) *receives the report; and*

(2) *notes the contents.*

Report prepared by:

Cr IRVINE YARDLEY  
Deputy Chair, Environment Committee