



Report 08.524
Date 13 July 2008
File WS/08/16/01

Committee Catchment Management
Author Geoff Dick, Divisional Manager, Catchment Management

Divisional Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress and any matters that have arisen since the previous meeting held on 18 June 2008.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

The Departmental Managers' reports are attached.

4. Divisional matters

Returning from leave

It has been a busy period since my return from leave on 27 June after a quick two week trip to London on a family catch-up. London was certainly a lot warmer and more pleasant place at the end of June than NZ after the cold wet southerly fronts that occurred in that week.

Below I highlight a few matters that have come to my attention following my leave.

Divisional year end report

Stephen Hill is still in the process of pulling together the Divisions year end report. My intent is to present the completed report to the Committee at the next (4 September) meeting.

Overall it looks like a good years work with some particular highlights, and a sound financial result achieved (about a \$130,000 funding surplus after reserve adjustments, which includes an unbudgeted \$115,000 ACC refund payment in June).

New stopbank through the Hutt and Boulcott Golf Clubs

On 30 June Council decided to let the Committee's recommendation on the preferred alignment lie on the table to allow for a final set of discussions with Hutt City Council over the matter. These discussions are advancing well and we expect to be in a position to make a final firm recommendation for Council's consideration at its meeting on 11 August.

Vector Management Contract with the Animal Health Board

We still do not have a signed Vector Management contract with the Animal Health Board for the current 2008/09 year. It looks like GW staff will need to be more assertive in ensuring that a contract document that captures all the relevant discussions is compiled and signed. One key area still to be finalised and documented is the management transition support expected from Greater Wellington.

I will give this matter a high priority as there is now some urgency for the contract to be finalised, particularly given that at the end of July our first fee claim and funding contribution payment are due to be made. In the meantime Wayne O'Donnell's team are getting on with implementing the agreed programme for the year.

Preparation for the 2009-19 LTCCP process

Work is well underway within the Catchment Management team to agree and develop the key Catchment issues that we believe need to be considered by Council in the upcoming LTCCP process.

At the moment the Manager's are preparing presentation material to be presented to the Councillor workshops scheduled for the 22, 23 and 24 July. Appointed members are invited to stay on after the Catchment Committee meeting on 24 July and participate in the Councillor workshop that is programmed for that afternoon where the key Land related matters will be presented.

TCM

Some good progress has been made on the implementation framework since the TCM report was considered by the Committee in June. Next Monday (21 July) I will be seeking the support of the Executive Management team to the framework as a next step to progress the TCM concept at Greater Wellington.

Climate Change Presentation

On the 11 July I attended the Wairarapa Combined Council meeting along with the David Benham, Cr Buchanan and the Council Chair. One particularly interesting item was an update by a NIWA scientist on the latest forecasts for global warming and the likely impacts on the Wairarapa. Overall we can expect the Wairarapa to become warmer and generally drier than at present. I will see if I can get a summary of the information for presentation to the Committee (September) as climate change is a significant consideration for the Catchment Division's areas of responsibility.

David Benham gave a presentation on some current Greater Wellington projects of likely interest. Councillors from our three Wairarapa District Councils' showed a high level of interest in the status of the Bovine Tb vector control programme, and the possibility of a Council run programme in Tb Free roll out areas. They asked for a presentation on the issue, and our proposal, as part of its consideration through the LTCCP process.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

Report prepared by:

Geoff Dick
Divisional Manager, Catchment Management

Attachment 1: Departmental Managers Report