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Committee Hutt Valley Floodplain Management Subcommittee
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Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Plan - Update

1. Purpose

To update the committee on progressing development of the Waiwhetu Stream Floodplain Management Plan.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Background

The Waiwhetu Stream floodplain management plan is in the 'Define Risk and Treatment Options' phase. Nine option combinations have been developed at a conceptual level covering a range of approaches from very non structural through to very structural.

Four of these combinations, plus a do nothing option, have been taken to a further detailing stage. One of these combinations is based on community feedback collated during the period November 2010 to February 2012.

4. Floodplain Management Plan

4.1 Option combination development

Reporting on the detailing and cost estimation work for the option combinations has been pushed back due to delays in receiving information back from the consultants engaged for this work. Additional resources have been engaged to get the work back on track. A new programme has been developed which proposes delivery of the option combinations at the next meeting of this Subcommittee in September 2012.

4.2 Environmental strategy

The environmental strategy development continues. Conceptual designs, to be used in conjunction with each option combination, are being further detailed. These concepts include a range of ideas addressing cost, amenity, recreation, environmental and maintenance concerns.

A shade model has been constructed to aid planting plan development and guide species to be used in different areas of the catchment.

4.3 Cape pond weed management

The consents for diquat chemical control of cape pond weed expire in February 2013. It is intended that this consent is retained, and a renewal process will commence in September 2012 as part of the Floodplain Management Plan and Environmental Strategy.

The contract for manual weed control in the stream expires in June 2013, and a new contract will be tendered early in 2013.

4.4 Community Stream Management

The Friends of the Waiwhetu stream continue to carry out voluntary stream management activities in conjunction with and supported by both Greater Wellington and Hutt City Councils. These activities include rubbish collection, in stream weed removal and planting. These activities are complimentary to existing management and maintenance carried out by both councils. The stream environment has been significantly improved as a result of this extra work.

5. Communication

The Friends of the Waiwhetu Stream committee and members of the community participating in the floodplain management plan development will be updated on the proposed new programme following the 26 June Subcommittee meeting.

6. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

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

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