

Report 16.383
Date 9 August 2016
File CCAB-8-692

Committee Council
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Report on the Environment Committee meeting, 9 August 2016

1. Purpose

To inform Council of the Environment Committee meeting of 9 August 2016.

2. Reports

2.1 General Managers' report to the Environment Committee

The Committee was updated on the activities of the Catchment Management, Environment Management, and Strategy groups relevant to the Committee.

The Committee received an update on the progress of the Regional Pest Management Plan Review, and was advised that Canada Geese could be included as pests in the future if a cost benefit analysis was favourable and acceptable control tools were available.

The Committee was advised of a new insect pest, the pea weevil (*Bruchus pisorum*), which has been found in pea seeds grown on eight different properties in the Wairarapa. Testing indicates an established population of the weevil is present in the Wairarapa area. MPI will attempt to eradicate this new to New Zealand unwanted organism by banning any pea growing (domestic and commercial) within the Wairarapa control area for two years. Pea weevil requires growing pea plants to complete its lifecycle.

The Committee was advised that staff have been working with farmers in the Mangatarere River catchment to identify low risk soils that are suitable to receive irrigated dairy shed effluent. There has been 100% uptake of dairy farmers in the area for this programme.

2.2 Report on the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting of 14 June 2016

The Committee received a report informing it of matters occurring at the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting of 14 June 2016.

The Committee expressed concern that Hutt City Council currently only has \$11 million of funding allocated in their Long Term Plan for Making Places, as the estimated cost is \$35 million.

2.3 Report on Te Kāuru Upper Ruamahanga River Floodplain Management Plan Subcommittee meeting 17 June 2016

The Committee received a report informing it of matters occurring at the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting of 17 June 2016.

3. Communication

No external communication is required.

4. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

4.1 Engagement

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

5. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

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