



Report 05.440
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Committee Landcare
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Draft Queen Elizabeth Park management plan – Hearing on submissions by Parks and Forests Hearing Subcommittee

1. Purpose

To:

- Outline the hearing process for the Draft Queen Elizabeth Park management plan especially dates and times
- Consider membership of the Parks and Forests Hearing Subcommittee for this hearing.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters 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

At its meeting on 08 February 2005, the Landcare Committee established the Parks and Forests Hearing Subcommittee and adopted the Terms of Reference [*Attachment I*] for that subcommittee. The purpose of the Subcommittee is to hear submissions on the Regional Parks & Forests management plans.

The Landcare Committee has also considered several reports recently regarding the Queen Elizabeth Park management plan review - Report 05.08 on 08 February 2005 setting the direction for the preparation of a draft management plan and Report 05.176 on 12 May 2005 approving release of the draft management plan for public consultation.

4. Next steps for the draft Queen Elizabeth Park management plan

Arrangements now have to be made for the Parks and Forests Hearing Subcommittee to hear and consider the submissions received by Greater Wellington on the draft management plan. 422 submissions were received, and 45 submitters have indicated they wish to be heard at this stage. Hearing numbers will be confirmed closer to the time.

Key arrangements to be confirmed are:

4.1 Dates for the Hearing

The dates set down for the Hearing, and needing confirmation are:

- Wednesday, 9 November 2005 (0900 – 1700)
 - Friday, 11 November 2005 (0900 – 1700)
 - Monday, 14 November 2005 (1200 – 1700)
 - Monday, 21 November 2005 (0900 – 1500)
- At KCDC,
Paraparaumu*
- At GW Council
Chambers*

NB - The final day (21 November) is for deliberations.

The above dates and venues have been provisionally booked pending confirmation by the Subcommittee.

4.2 Subcommittee recommendations

Normally the Subcommittee would make recommendations to the Landcare Committee in response to the submissions. However, because the Landcare Committee's last meeting in 2005 prior to the Christmas/New Year recess is 17 November 2005, it is suggested that the recommendations be considered by the Council at its meeting on 15 December 2005, rather than wait until at least February 2006 for the next Landcare Committee to sit.

4.3 Membership of the Subcommittee

The membership of the Parks and Forests Hearing Subcommittee is the same as the Landcare Committee. The Subcommittee also has the ability to appoint such other members for shorter fixed durations if it so desires. This may include representatives from the local Iwi, the Department of Conservation, or a territorial authority.

In this instance the Subcommittee may consider it important and appropriate to invite a representative from each of Ngati Toa Rangatira, Te Atiawa ki Whakarongotai, Department of Conservation, and Kapiti Coast District Council. In addition, the Subcommittee may also wish to invite Councillor Turver to be a member as the Kapiti constituency representative.

4.4 Quasi judicial role

The Subcommittee has a quasi judicial role, so it is important that those members deliberating on the submissions commit to attending as much of the proceedings as possible. It would be desirable if Subcommittee members who deliberate on submissions were present at the hearings.

The Subcommittee quorum is two regional councillors who must be present throughout the entire hearing.

5. Communication

The Hearing dates will be communicated by public notices and letters to those who have indicated they wish to be heard.

6. Recommendations

That the Landcare Committee:

1. **Confirm** that the dates, times and venues for the Parks and Forests Hearing Committee considering submissions on the Queen Elizabeth Park draft management plan be:

- *Wednesday, 9 November 2005 (0900 – 1700)*
- *Friday, 11 November 2005 (0900 – 1700)*
- *Monday, 14 November 2005 (1200 – 1700)*
- *Monday, 21 November 2005 (0900 – 1500)*

***At KCDC,
Paraparaumu***

***At GW Council
Chambers***

2. **Agree** that the Subcommittee report to the Council at its meeting on 15 December 2005, rather than to the Landcare Committee, so that there is no undue delay.
3. **Invite** a representative each from Ngati Toa Rangatira, Te Atiawa ki Whakarongotai, Department of Conservation, and Kapiti Coast District Council, and Councillor Turver (as the Kapiti constituency representative), to be members of the Parks and Forests Hearing Committee for the duration of the hearing and deliberation of submissions on the Queen Elizabeth Park draft management plan.
4. **Authorise** the Chairperson, Councillor Laidlaw, in consultation with the Manager Parks and Forests, to finalise the additional appointments as outlined above.

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Parks and Forests Hearing Committee: Terms of Reference