



Report 08.128  
Date 5 March 2008  
File J/02/01/02

Committee Regulatory Committee  
Author Mike Pryce, Regional Harbourmaster

## Reappointment of Honorary Enforcement Officers

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the functions of Honorary Enforcement Officers, and to recommend to Council the re-appointment of existing Honorary Enforcement Officers and the appointment of new Honorary Launch Wardens as listed in **Attachment 1** for a period of three years.

### 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

In December 2000, the Wellington Regional Council increased the area of coverage for the Wellington Regional Navigation & Safety Bylaws out to 3 nautical miles around the entire regional coastline.

Honorary Enforcement Officers provide their time voluntarily to assist in promoting safety on the water - they receive no remuneration or payment. They are not expected to specially patrol the harbour looking for boat owners infringing the regulations, but rather to observe and report during their own boating or recreational activities. They are not “water police”, although they do have the full support of the Wellington Police Maritime Unit.

Their most important role is to help to educate recreational water users about the Bylaws. They are also able to advise about educational courses that are available to improve seamanship and promote a better awareness of water safety.

With a wide variety of water sports now available, and with no requirement for licensing, the problem usually encountered is that of ignorance of basic safe boating practices and competing/conflicting uses of water space.

In recruiting Honorary Enforcement Officers, preference is given to selecting mature, experienced and active recreational water users who are familiar with water safety and its problems and who have usually demonstrated an interest in water safety.

#### **4. Comment**

These officers are appointed under s 5.1.3 of the Wellington Navigation and Safety Bylaws 2003 under powers given to Council by s 650B(1) of the Local Government Act 1974 (the Act).

Under s 650B (2) of the Act, the powers of Honorary Enforcement Officers are specified by the Council, within the limits set by the Act.

It is proposed that the Council limits the powers of Honorary Enforcement Officers to matters concerning pleasure craft only and solely for the purpose of navigation safety.

These powers should be:

- To issue directions (s 650C(3)). This is limited to instructing vessels to move from one area to another or to modify the manner in which they are being operated.
- To require persons appearing to be in charge of a vessel to stop and give his or her name and address if:
  - (a) a complaint has been received that there has been a breach of the Wellington Regional Navigation and Safety Bylaws 2003 or a breach of maritime rules involving navigation safety; and
  - (b) on investigation of the complaint, the Honorary Enforcement Officer is of the opinion that there has been a breach of the above Bylaws and maritime rules; or
  - (c) the Harbourmaster requests the Honorary Enforcement Officer to do so (s 650E (2) and s 650E (3)).

#### **5. Communication**

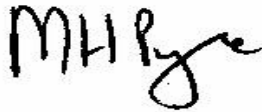
A press release will be prepared.

## 6. Recommendations

*That the Committee recommends that Council:*

1. **Receives** the report;
2. **Reappoints** as *Honorary Enforcement Officers* for a period of three years the persons listed in Attachment 1, and;
3. **Grant** them the powers outlined in Section 4 of this report.

Report prepared by:



Mike Pryce  
Regional Harbourmaster

Report approved by:



Nigel Corry  
Divisional Manager,  
Environment Management

## **Existing Honorary Enforcement Officers to be reappointed**

Capt S Banks	Active boat owner, Porirua harbour. Centreport Pilot
Mr A Blockley	Member Wellington Volunteer Coastguard.
Mr J R Carter	Retired custodian, Clyde Quay Boat Harbour.
Mr G Higgins	Member of Waikanae Volunteer Coastguard.
Mr S Kovacs	Active member, Wellington Water Ski Club.
Mr B Lawrie	Member of Waikanae Volunteer Coastguard.
Mr M Littleford	Active member, Wellington Water Ski Club.
Mr I McManaway	Active boat owner. Centreport Pilot Launchmaster.
Mr E Makarios	Active boat owner.
Mr D Mitchell	Active boat owner. Member Lyall Bay Surf Life Saving Club. Active diver. Member Wellington Volunteer Coastguard.
Mr D Milligan	Active boat owner. Waikanae Volunteer Coastguard
Mr O Muller	Active boat owner. Ferry skipper.
Mr M Myers	Active boat owner.
Mr K Naylor	Active boat owner.
Mr C Olds	President Ngawi Sports fishing club. Honorary fisheries officer.
Mr R Pomare	Fisheries Officer.
Mr B Popple	Active boat owner.
Capt L Robinson	Tugmaster Centreport. Active boat owner. Past President Wellington Volunteer Coastguard.
Mr B Spedding	Active small boat owner and diver. Boatmaster Certificate.
Mr L Stewart	Active member, Wellington Water Ski Club
Mr R Telford	Launchmaster RPNYC.

Mr R Third	Active boat owner. Diver
Mr G Weakley Launchmaster	Member Wellington Volunteer Coastguard. Commercial
Mr B Zurr	Wellington Windsurfing Association. Active member Paremata Boating Club. Member of the Guardians of the Pautahanui Inlet