

Report 11.177
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Committee Social and Cultural Wellbeing Committee
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General Managers' report to the Social and Cultural Wellbeing Committee meeting on 13 July 2011

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of Greater Wellington activities relating to the Committee's areas of responsibility.

2. Utilities and Services Group

Public Participation: Committee meeting on 16 March 2011

Mr Ron Oliver from the Wellington Residents' Coalition presented a petition, on behalf of 17,988 signatories, against the compulsory introduction of residential domestic water meters. Mr Oliver was keen for the Council to explore the collection and use of rainwater and greywater.

Ms Maria Van Der Meel highlighted that the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and that the water was freely available and secure for children.

2.1 Water Supply – Gear Island Water Treatment Plant grading

For some years, the Gear Island Water Treatment Plant has been ungraded while we worked towards achieving a grading. This has been complicated as the plant's mode of operation does not sit neatly within the Ministry of Health's grading framework. Effectively, the plant re-treats water from the Waterloo and Wainuiomata Water Treatment Plants before the water goes to Wellington City. The re-treatment involves chlorine and fluoride adjustment.

At the end of June, the Ministry awarded Gear Island Water Treatment Plant an A1 grading, this is the highest grading that can be achieved. This means that three of our water treatment plants are now graded A1 and Waterloo is graded B. The sole reason for Waterloo being graded B is Hutt City's preference to receive unchlorinated water.

3. **Strategy and Community Engagement Group**

Public Participation: Committee meeting on 16 March 2011

Chris Horne and Barbara Mitcalfe, representing the Wellington Natural Heritage Trust, spoke to the Baring Head report and suggested grazing should stop. They also talked about motorised recreation in the block and which they said is damaging the coastal habitats

The issue of grazing is a complicated one as outlined in the report to the Committee. Officers are coordinating a group of experts in this area to discuss the implications of continuing or removing grazing on the various landscapes/habitats within the block. The conclusions of this group will be fed into the management planning process. This group are meeting in May.

This issue of motorised vehicles is being considered by officers. To date a site visit has occurred and a team has been formed to consider the issues. The suggestions made by Mr Horne and Ms Mitcalfe will be considered.

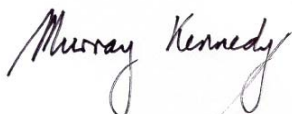
Joy Baird also spoke as Chair of the Friends of Baring Head in support of the work being done by Greater Wellington as it prepares to develop a management regime for the Park. Officers attend meetings of the Friends Group and provide updates on any work that Greater Wellington is undertaking at Baring Head. Officers recently met with one of the Trustees of the Friends of Baring Head, Colin Ryder, about the various aspects that the Friends would like to make progress on. This is likely to be a small restoration project of the pump shed adjacent to the river and Greater Wellington awaits to receive restoration plans from the Friends group.

4. **Recommendations**

That the Committee:

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

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