

Report 12.592
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Committee Council
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Report on the Environmental Wellbeing Committee meeting 27 November 2012

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Environmental Wellbeing Committee that took place on 27 November 2012.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Report

3.1 Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022: Operational Plan Report 2011/12

This was the tenth Operational Plan report under the Regional Pest Management Strategy 2002-2022. The report highlighted the progress made by officers against the performance objectives of the Operational Plan. The Committee noted that the Plan draws attention to the importance of continuing to fund region wide pest management schemes.

The Committee discussed the self-setting 'Henry' possum trap trial. Compared to current control methods the self-setting trap has not significantly reduced possum numbers in the trial area. However, the technology is still very promising and Biosecurity officers have offered feedback to the manufacturer.

The Committee noted the low expenditure on controlling feral cats outside of KNE sites. Consideration will be given to the appropriate level of expenditure during the formal review of the Strategy which will commence in 2013/14.

3.2 Confirmation of Flood Protection Asset Condition for 2011/12 and Proposed Work Programme 2012/13

Officers gave a Power Point presentation on the assessment of all Flood Protection assets which has been undertaken over the past financial year. The results of the monitoring and condition rating of the assets show that just over 95 percent of the assets achieved a moderate or above rating where no or moderate maintenance is required.

It was noted that flood protection scheme reserves are important for a quick start to repairs after the event of a major disaster. The Committee enquired what the optimum level of flood protection reserves for the region would be, and were advised that officers are currently undertaking a project to ascertain the appropriate number.

3.3 Floodplain Management Plan Implementation: Annual progress report to June 2012

The Committee received an update on the progress for the western Floodplain Management Plans and the Lower Wairarapa Valley Development Scheme. Implementation of the Plans is progressing well with the target of completing the western projects by 2040 and the Wairarapa project by 2022.

3.4 Waikanae River Floodplain Management Plan (FMP) Review report 2012

The review of the Waikanae Floodplain Management Plan is the first since its completion in 1997 and was a technical appraisal rather than a complete revision of the Plan. Key outcomes of the review include explicit recognition of climate change in river modelling and design, changes to reflect the latest flood hazard zones in the Kapiti Coast District Council District Plan, establishment of a Friends of the River group and the management of gravel levels in the river.

It is likely that the next review of the Plan will be in 2022 and will include a complete revision and republishing of the Plan.

3.5 Waiohine River Floodplain Management Plan Update

The progress of the Waiohine Floodplain Management Plan was discussed and the Committee endorsed the recommendations of the Waiohine Floodplain Management Plan Advisory Group regarding the preferred options to be evaluated in detail for phase three of the Plan.

The remaining options for consideration will be further investigated with a presentation to be given to the Committee in 2013. The Committee commended officers for their work on the project so far.

3.6 General Managers' report

The Committee discussed the General Managers' report and in particular the recognition received for the collaboration by PCC, WCC, GWRC and Te Runanga O Ngāti Toa on the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy and

Action Plan. The Plan won the Wellington branch of the NZ Planning Institute's Geok Ling Phang Memorial Award for 2012.

It was noted that the Akura Conservation Centre expansion plan is being implemented with good progress made on establishing six hectares of new poplar and willow plantings.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Management Group

Barbara Donaldson
Chair