

Report 13.661
Date 6 June 2013
File SP/07/01/01

Committee Council
Author Chair, Annual Plan 2013/14 Hearing Committee

Report of the Annual Plan 2013/14 Hearing Committee

1. Purpose

This report outlines the recommendations of the Annual Plan 2013/14 Hearing Committee (the Committee) on the draft Annual Plan 2013/14 (the draft Plan) arising from the consideration of written and oral submissions and other relevant information.

2. The decision-making process and significance

The subject matter of this report is part of a decision-making process that will lead to the Council making a decision of high significance within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002. The decision-making process is explicitly prescribed for by the Local Government Act 2002 and includes the use of the special consultative procedure.

3. Community views and preferences

Officers have considered the need to take account of the community's views and preferences in relation to these matters. The Local Government Act 2002 requires the use of the special consultative procedure. This report details the results of part of that consultation process.

4. Background

The Annual Plan 2011/12 Hearings Committee met on 28 May 2013 to hear oral submissions and consider all written and oral submissions received on the:

- Draft Annual Plan 2013/14
- Proposed Resource Management Charging Policy
- Proposed Parks Concessions Guidelines (2013)

In total 41 written submissions were received. The number of submissions grouped by type of organisation is as follows:

Organisations (including community groups)	21
Local government	3

Individuals	<u>17</u>
Total	41

A summary of the written submissions was prepared for consideration by the Committee, along with comments and recommendations from officers (Attachment 1 to Report 13.634).

There were 18 oral submissions on the day. Themes raised in the oral submissions were in support of those in the written submissions.

5. Deliberations

5.1 Draft Annual Plan 2013/14

The Committee reviewed and considered all the written submissions, the matters raised by oral submissions, and the additional information and consultation responses provided. Consideration was given to each separate topic identified in the summary of submissions, along with the officers' recommendations.

The Committee determined that:

1. One minor change be made to the draft Annual Plan to include 'at least' into the emergency management performance measure '% of households with emergency food and water to last *at least* three days'.
2. That further consideration is needed of programming of additional water supply sources, particularly with regards to the option of a Whakatiki storage lake.
3. The annual report on GWRC's Biodiversity Strategy should be made publicly available on the GWRC website.
4. GWRC should meet further with Sport Wellington to discuss their strategic plan, participate in the Wellington Regional Recreation Initiatives Group, and ensure that consideration is given to implementation of the recommendations of the research project on the cost of physical inactivity.
5. GWRC should further progress the offer made by the Animal Health Board to work in partnership with GWRC and DOC to move toward active pest management of the entire Wellington region.

5.2 Proposed Parks and Forests Concessions Guidelines 2013

The Committee requested officers to report on the feasibility of a minor amendment to the Proposed Parks and Forests Concessions Guidelines 2013 to give officers discretion to issue fee waivers for events raising money for charitable purposes.

The Committee recommends that the Proposed Guidelines are approved following this minor amendment.

Officers will provide a separate report to the next Council meeting (on 26 June 2013) detailing the amendment and seeking adoption of the Parks and Forests Concessions Guidelines 2013.

5.3 Proposed Resource Management Charging Policy

The Committee requested amendments to the Resource Management Charging Policy in the following two areas:

- to reflect a preference for annual inspections with more targeted inspection times for higher risk consents, rather than twice a year. It will be noted that any non-compliance will result in additional inspections until the non-compliance is fully resolved.
- to include reference to s35 of the RMA which outlined GWRC's obligations to monitor the state of the environment and the exercise of resource consents in the region.

The Committee recommends that the Proposed Charging Policy be approved following these minor amendments.

Officers will provide a separate report to the next Council meeting (on 26 June 2013) seeking adoption of the Resource Management Charging Policy.

6. Communication

All submitters who made submissions on the draft Annual Plan will, subsequent to Council adopting the final Annual Plan, receive a response outlining the decisions of the Council and any key changes.

7. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Notes that the Committee requested one minor change to the draft Annual Plan 2013/14, to amend an emergency management performance measure.***
4. ***Approves the Proposed Parks and Forests Concessions Guidelines 2013, subject to officers reporting to Council on the matter of officer discretion to grant fee waivers for events raising money for charitable purposes***
5. ***Approves the Proposed Resource Management Charging Policy subject to officers reporting to Council on the inclusion of reference to the RMA S35 and a preference for annual inspections with more targeted inspection times for higher risk consents.***

Report approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Donaldson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "B".

Cr Barbara Donaldson
Chair, Annual Plan 2013/14 Hearing Committee