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Report to the Utility Services Committee
From Barry Leonard, Manager Plantation Forestry

Environmental Management Systems

1. Purpose

To adopt an Environmental Management System (EMS) for the Plantation Forestry Department.

2. Background

Council has published corporate environmental policies and all divisions have been working to develop processes to give effect to these policies and to demonstrate compliance with them.

Within Utility Services Division, The Water Group has completed an EMS that was adopted by Council on 8 December 1999.

The preparation of an EMS for the Plantation Forestry Department was initially deferred while the ongoing ownership issue was considered. Now this has been resolved, in the short-term at least, it was considered prudent to prepare an EMS

3. Plantation Forestry's Environmental Management System

This system draws on the work carried out in the preparation of The Water Group's EMS with the necessary modifications to reflect the different activities.

As most activities within the plantation forests are contracted out, the EMS is biased towards monitoring the activities of contractors to ensure compliance. The system also sets out the need to monitor "best industry practice" and to adopt the practices that will enhance the EMS.

The Environment Division has reviewed the EMS and their suggested amendments have been included in the final document.

A copy of the Plantation Forestry EMS is attached as *Attachment 1*.

4. Recommendation

That the Committee adopt the Plantation Forestry Environmental Management System.

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission by:

BARRY LEONARD
Plantation Forestry Manager

DAVID BENHAM
Divisional Manager, Utility Services