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Report 02.43

7 February 2002

File: E/6/16/3

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Report to the Landcare Committee
from Rob Forlong, Divisional Manager, Landcare

Divisional Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Landcare Division since the Committee's last meeting.

2. Managers' Reports

The Departmental Managers' Reports are attached.

3. The Weather

You will see from the Managers' reports that the summer rains have had a significant effect on our work programme recently. The grass is growing so well that our mowing operations have needed to be stepped up considerably to cope. However, the regular rain has had an adverse effect on the number of people attending the Regional Outdoors Summer Visitors Programme with six events having to be cancelled. The upside is that when the weather is good the programme is very popular.

The rains have also caused a significant amount of flood damage in the Korokoro area of Belmont Regional Park and at Tunnel Gully.

4. The First Half of the Year

The first half of the year has been a very successful one for the Division. The vast majority of jobs (including the jobs that we carried over from 2000/2001) are progressing well. All four departments are reporting that they are on track to achieve Business Plan objectives. The only exceptions relate to matters that are beyond our control (Baring Head Bridge, Otaihangā Road Raising).

5. **Proposed Divisional Reorganisation**

As you are aware, I am proposing to reorganise the Division to consolidate it into two departments. I see this as an evolutionary change as the Division begins to alter its focus away from preparing plans and towards implementing them. As I noted in my memo to staff, I consider that the line between what is a Strategy function and what is an Operational will blur as we proceed down the implementation track.

The formal consultation phase will conclude on Monday, 11 February 2002. Following that, I will consider the input and make a final decision on what the structure will be. I will keep you informed as matters proceed.

6. **Recommendations**

That the Landcare Committee:

- (1) *receive the report.*
- (2) *note its contents.*

ROB FORLONG
Divisional Manager, Landcare