



Report 10.309
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Committee Council
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Review Coordinator

Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust: Nomination of Founding Trustee

1. Purpose

To recommend the nomination of a councillor to the proposed Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust (PHACCT).

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

Porirua Harbour (comprising the Onepoto Arm and Pauatahanui Inlet) is the largest estuary in the lower North Island. The harbour has national, regional and local significance as an ecological, recreational, cultural and economic resource. Management of the harbour catchment involves three councils - Porirua City Council, Greater Wellington and Wellington City Council. About 25% of the total harbour catchment and 75% of the Porirua Stream sub-catchment is within Wellington City.

Recognising the importance of the harbour and its catchment to the city, Porirua City Council has allocated \$2.6 million in its ten-year plan through to 2016 for the development and implementation of a comprehensive Porirua Harbour Catchment strategy for the harbour and catchment. This strategy is an evolution of the Pauatahanui Inlet Action Plan implementation programme (the "Pauatahanui Project") which has involved a successful collaboration between Porirua City Council and Greater Wellington since 2000. The proposed management structure to support the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy draws on the successful aspects of the Pauatahanui Project.

In the last 18 months, officers of Porirua City Council, Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington have been meeting on a regular basis to develop an understanding of the “baseline” information required to support the development of a comprehensive harbour strategy. As a result, Greater Wellington has committed \$50,000 in the 2010/11 financial year to assist with the development of a hydrodynamic model to enable a better understanding of how the harbour and catchment function.

Porirua City Council is currently drawing up a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to formalise the involvement of various organisations, including Greater Wellington, in the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy. The MOU reflects Greater Wellington’s previous and current involvement in the harbour project and does not commit the Council to any additional expenditure.

4. Proposed Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust

The Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust is modelled on, and intended to replace, the existing Pauatahanui Inlet Community Trust (PICT). PHACCT, a charitable trust, is intended to provide a conduit for the community to have an input into the development and implementation of the strategy and general issues relating to the harbour. It does not have a governance role but is purely advisory. Section 5.0 of the draft Trust Deed details the objectives of the Trust as follows:

The objectives of the Trust are to promote the sustainable management of the Porirua Harbour and its catchment by:

- (a) Advocating for the sustainable management of the harbour and its catchment;*
- (b) Fostering the understanding of ecological and environmental issues associated with the harbour and its catchment through education and community awareness;*
- (c) Coordinating input from community groups on issues relating to the harbour and its catchment;*
- (d) Supporting, promoting and contributing to programmes and projects aimed at improvements to the Porirua Harbour and its catchment ,where appropriate;*
- (e) Engaging in any other activities and processes that are complementary to any of the foregoing objectives.*

A copy of the Trust Deed is attached to this report (**Attachment 1**).

As with PICT, PHACCT will comprise nominated and appointed trustee positions. The nominated positions will comprise trustees appointed from its elected members by Porirua City Council, Wellington City Council, Greater Wellington and a representative of Te Runanga O Toa Rangatira. The Trust will be formed once each of the above organisations nominates a trustee.

Porirua City Council will be considering the nomination of Mayor Jenny Brash at their meeting on 10 June and Wellington City Council will consider the nomination of a councillor at their meeting on 25 June. Councillor Donaldson has represented Greater Wellington on PICT and has indicated her willingness to be appointed to PHACCT.

5. Communication

Regular press releases are being issued as the project develops. Particular care is being taken to coordinate the messages coming from Greater Wellington and Porirua City to reinforce the collaborative nature of this project. The formation of PHACCT will be the subject of extensive publicity once it is formed, in part, to encourage members of the public to make themselves available for the appointed positions.

6. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Nominates Councillor Donaldson as a Founding Trustee of the Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust.*

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Trust Deed establishing The Porirua Harbour and Catchment Community Trust