

Report 12.105
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Committee Council
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Management

Report on the Social and Cultural Wellbeing Committee meeting 14 March 2012

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Social and Cultural Wellbeing Committee that took place on 14 March 2012.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Report

3.1 Quarterly Review for the period ending 31 December 2011

The Committee discussed the 6% decrease in water usage across the region as set out in the Quarterly Review. The cause of the reduction in usage is difficult to measure but the Water Supply team is setting up a survey to investigate whether the reduction in demand was weather driven or part of the conservation of water marketing campaign for the upgrade of the Te Marua Lakes. If demand for water has been decreasing then the potential benefits of water metering could also decrease however, it is necessary to determine the cause of the decrease and to differentiate between areas within the region before any conclusions are made.

The Committee noted the productive relationship that Greater Wellington has developed with the new Friends of the Hutt River group. This group has a high level of engagement which will lead to positive outcomes for the River.

The Warm Wellington scheme has had some recent positive media exposure and the Committee expressed the hope that the scheme will continue to work well. Feedback from applicants and service providers has also been positive.

3.2 East Harbour Regional Park – Baring Head/ Ōrua-pouanui Draft Amendment

The Committee discussed and approved the draft amendment to the Parks Network Plan ('the Plan') for consultation for the East Harbour Regional Park - Baring Head/ Ōrua-pouanui. As the land at Baring Head/ Ōrua-pouanui is newly purchased, Greater Wellington is required to amend the Plan to incorporate the land change and inclusion of the land as a Scenic Reserve in to the overall network. Officers met with the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust as well other agencies who are involved in the area in the development of the amendment. As each park has individual challenges that do not necessarily relate to the network, Greater Wellington carries out amendments to the Plan in a 'rolling programme' that deals with each new amendment separately. Consultation on the amendment will begin in March with hearings and deliberations on the amendment to take place in June.

The Committee sought assurance that any future car parking area within the park close to the lighthouse compound will not interfere with any airflow samples taken by NIWA at the site. Officers have consulted with NIWA on this issue and a small car park with a limited number of vehicles will not hinder any atmospheric sampling.

Boundary fencing around the park needs to be stock proof in order to keep stock out in line with Greater Wellington's no grazing approach in the park. The cost of fencing will be the subject of discussions between Greater Wellington and the adjoining land owner.

3.3 General Managers' report

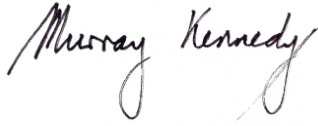
River levels over the summer have been consistently high enough that low flow monitoring was unable to be carried out. Due to low levels of demand for water the reduced Hutt River consent limits for abstraction at Kaitoke have not needed to be activated. The Committee noted that it is important to pass this information on to the public and a media statement is to be issued to local community papers.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:



Murray Kennedy
General Manager,
Development

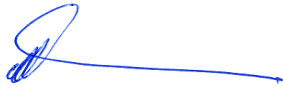
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