

Report 14.44
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File E/12/01/04

Committee Council
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Establishment of the Parangarahu Lakes Parks Network Plan Hearing Subcommittee

1. Purpose

To establish a subcommittee to hear and consider the submissions on the Draft Amendment to the Parks Network Plan and the Draft Parangarahu Lakes Co-Management Plan.

2. Background

The Strategy and Policy Committee, on 18 February 2014, agreed to the release of the non-statutory Draft Parangarahu Lakes Co-Management Plan and the statutory Draft Amendment to the Parks Network Plan for public comment in accordance with section 41 of the Reserves Act 1977.

The Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust will be asked to agree to the release of the Draft Parangarahu Lakes Co-Management Plan at their Board meeting in March 2014.

All submissions must be considered and any person or organisation that makes written comment on the draft plan or amendment shall be given the opportunity of appearing before the administering body or an appointed committee.

3. Comment

3.1 Need to Establish a Hearings Subcommittee

Hearings subcommittees are an efficient option for hearing a number of submitters and considering submissions in some detail. A subcommittee will allow hearing dates and times to be easily tailored to suit submitters and ensure a quorum is achieved throughout the hearings.

3.2 Terms of reference for Subcommittee

The proposed terms of reference for the Subcommittee are attached (**Attachment 1**).

3.2.1 Scope of the Subcommittee's Role

It is recommended that the Subcommittee be established to hear, evaluate and report on submissions, and make recommendations to:

- both Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust and the Council regarding the Paragarahu Lakes Co-Management Plan and,
- the Council regarding the Draft Amendment to the Parks Network Plan.

The Subcommittee will have the opportunity to ask questions of those submitters who present their submissions orally and have matters clarified where necessary. The Subcommittee will also spend some time discussing the submissions and deliberating on the matters raised. This will give it the ability to consider the submissions in some depth.

3.2.2 Subcommittee Membership

It is proposed that the membership of the Subcommittee comprise six members, made up of three Greater Wellington Regional Council councillors, and three appointed members nominated by the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust. The appointment of members representing the Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust is the subject of a separate report (Report PE 14.55).

It is consistent with best practice and the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 that members hearing submissions must be present for the duration of the hearing of the oral submissions. The only constraint, therefore, is the availability on the day of hearings and deliberations.

3.2.3 Quorum and Standing Orders

The Wellington Regional Council Standing Orders will apply to the subcommittee. This is provided for in the attached Terms of Reference.

The proposed quorum is four members comprised of two representatives from Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust and two representatives from Greater Wellington Regional Council.

4. Communication

Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust will be informed of the Council's decision.

5. The decision-making process and significance

The matter requiring decision in this report has been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

5.1 Significance of the decision

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking into account the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines. Due to the procedural nature of this decision officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

6. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Notes** the content of the report.
3. **Resolves** to establish the Parangarahu Lakes Parks Network Plan Hearing Subcommittee to hear and consider the submissions on the Draft Amendment to the Parks Network Plan and on the Draft Parangarahu Lakes Co-Management Plan.
4. **Appoints** as members of the Subcommittee:
 - Cr.....
 - Cr.....
 - Cr.....
5. **Appoints** Cr..... as Chair.
6. **Notes** that the appointment of members to the Subcommittee representing the Port Nicholson Board Settlement Trust is the subject of a separate report.
7. **Adopts** the terms of reference for the Subcommittee as set out in Attachment 1 to this report.

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