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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. **Upper Hutt Depot**

You are aware of the recent incidents at the Upper Hutt Depot. We have been working very closely with the Police in order to ensure that our staff are kept safe in the face of the intimidation tactics that are being invoked.

While it is not appropriate to comment on the matter in any detail I am able to say that the staff at the Depot (from three Council Divisions) have proven to be people to be proud of. Support for Depot staff from other parts of the Council has also been very strong.

My personal thanks go to the Depot Manager and Parks and Forests Manager who have had to deal with these incidents (and the considerable media attention) on top of their normal workload.

4. East Harbour Regional Park Land Issues

Some of you will be aware that the Turvey Block was recently sold to a private individual. We intend to speak to the new owner in the next few weeks to see how we can work together as good neighbours.

5. Conservation Week and Awards

Together with Councillors Shields and Barr I attended the Conservation Week Awards at Parliament recently. Once again projects that involved the WRC featured heavily. The Community Connection programmes run through the Landcare, Environment and Wairarapa Divisions are clearly showing benefits, if the awards are anything to go by.

The Awards were to mark the opening of Conservation Week. This year we had a longer lead in time than normal so Graham Laws and his team were able to create a customised display around the Mountains theme. The Parks and Forests team also ran an extremely successful guided tour up Mount Climie. I'm told that our 4WD fleet was going non-stop all day.

6. **2002/03 – At Last!**

This Order Paper contains the last of the 2001/02 Performance Indicator Reports. Now that all the accruals, carry-overs, Quarterly Reviews and Performance Indicators are dealt with I am looking forward to getting on with 2002/2003.

7. **Recommendations**

That the Committee:

- (1) **Receive** the report.
- (2) *Note* the contents of the report.

Report prepared by:

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