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Report to the Environment Committee
from Jane Bradbury, Divisional Manager, Environment

Appointment of Alternate Regional Controller

1. Purpose

To seek approval for the appointment, under Section 30 (2) of the Civil Defence Act 1983, of an Alternate Regional Controller for the Wellington Region.

2. Background

The current Wellington Regional Council Civil Defence Plan makes provision for a Regional Controller and four Alternate Controllers. The Regional Controller is John Allard (Corporate Advisory Services Manager) with Dave Watson (Divisional Manager, Regional Transport), Colin Wright (Divisional Manager, Wairarapa) and Wayne Hastie (Council Secretary) the Alternate Controllers. A vacancy emerged with the retirement of Ted Maguire.

3. A New Alternate Controller

A trend with modern emergency management in New Zealand is to appoint emergency managers as the controller or one of the alternate controllers. In our region this has occurred in Wellington City Council, Hutt City Council and South Wairarapa District Council. It is proposed that the Wellington Regional Council follow the same practice and appoints Rian van Schalkwyk, Manager, Emergency Management as the fourth Alternate Controller.

4. Responsibilities of Controller

In accordance with Section 30 of the Civil Defence Act 1983, the following functions, duties and powers are delegated to the Regional Controller:

- Ensure plans are prepared to continue Council's essential functions during and after a Civil Defence emergency
- Power to declare:
 - Limited declaration (geographic)
 - Limited declaration (purpose)
 - Provision of assistance
- Power to extend declaration
- Functions during a National Civil Defence emergency as defined
- Require clearing of roads
- Provide for the rescue/removal to safety endangered persons
- Set up first aid posts
- Relief of distress
- Conservation of essential supplies
- Prohibit or regulate land, air, water traffic
- Emergency disposal of the dead
- Disseminate information/advice to the public
- Provide for equipment, accommodation and facilities
- Evacuation of premises and places
- Entry on premises
- Closing of roads and public places
- Removal of vehicles
- Requisitioning powers
- Contracts in urgent cases
- Financial provisions

5. Recommendation

That the Committee recommends that the Regional Council appoints Rian van Schalkwyk, Manager, Emergency Management as an Alternate Regional Controller for the Wellington Regional Council.

Report prepared by:

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