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

Divisional Manager's Report

1. **Purpose**

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Environment Division and about any matters that have arisen since the Committee's last meeting.

2. Managers' Reports

The Department Managers' Reports, along with the Divisional Accountant's report follow as attachment 1.

3. Regional Policy Statement/Strategic Issues

At the last meeting on 25 July 2002, when the Committee received the report from Geoff Skene on Regional Policy Statement and Regional Plan Implementation, Councillors requested that:

A report on issues that result from the Regional Policy Statement Implementation that may need follow-up for the Long Term Council Community Plan will be presented to the next meeting of the Committee.

In readiness for the Long Term Council Community Plan, we had set up a number of staff "strategic groups", comprising staff from various Divisions in the Council, to review existing work programmes and the strategic direction of a number of environment related areas, e.g. environmental monitoring, energy, groundwater etc.

The findings of these groups are now being reviewed and will form the recommendations for the LTCCP process. It is intended that, because of the particular synergies between the Environment and Wairarapa Divisions, management and senior staff of these Divisions get together to discuss these important issues. This has not yet

taken place, although all the necessary background work has been completed. Consequently, as the work of the Environment Division impinges on so many other areas of Council, we would like to report the next meeting of the Committee to ensure that we are presenting a truly representative picture of where staff think we should be heading with our work programmes.

4. Staffing

I'd like to welcome Nicola Shorten as the new manager of the Resource Policy Department. She is joining the management team at a particularly interesting time. The RPS and the regional plans will soon be under review and the LTCCP process, as mentioned above, provides a timely opportunity for us to think about the direction of our work programmes. Nicola is fully aware of the challenges in store for her and I know she has a number of ideas and views on some issues. I look forward to her input and contribution to the Division's management team.

5. **Recommendation**

That the report be received and its contents noted.

Report prepared by:

JANE BRADBURY Divisional Manager, Environment