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**Committee** Environment  
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## **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. Kapiti Water Situation**

The water shortage in Kapiti is worrying.

We have issued a water shortage direction for the Waitohu stream and at the time of writing, the Waikanae River was running at 745 l/s.

As rain is not forecast in the immediate future, we will probably have to consider a water shortage direction for the Waikanae River.

Although we are working closely with Kapiti Coast District Council, it is disappointing and frustrating that we are in the position of having to use water shortage direction yet again!

### **4. Environment Standards Reference Group**

I am part of the above group which has been set up by the Ministry for the Environment.

Although nationally environmental standards are provided for under the Resource Management Act 1991, and are set through regulations, there are not any standards in place at the moment. The Ministry wants standards that will provide bottom line clarity about environmental quality for all New Zealanders.

## **5. Stormwater**

The recently held Stormwater Seminar, attended by representatives from nearly all territorial authorities in the Region, was encouraging for the enthusiasm and willingness to address the problem. It does seem that we need to develop a Regional Stormwater Strategy so that there is a co-operative approach to what is a key environmental issue.

## **6. Harbour Safety**

Whenever we have a long hot summer, I always hold my breath that we will have an 'incident free' time in our harbours and coastal waters.

Unfortunately, there was a drowning off the Wairarapa coast; the victim was not wearing a life jacket. Otherwise, boaties, jet skiers, surfers, swimmers and commercial vessels have had a harmonious and incident free summer.

I would like to think that the actions of our Harbour Department have played some part in this.

## **7. LTCCP**

Most of our time after Christmas has been spent in preparing our Operating Plans. That job always comes at this time of the year and it is good to have the bulk of the work out of the way.

## **8. Recommendation**

*It is recommended that the Committee:*

- 1. receive the report; and*
- 2. note the contents.*

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**Attachment 1: Department Manager's Reports**