

Report 06.90

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Committee Landcare

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Management

Divisional Manager's Report - Catchment Management

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of matters relevant to the Landcare Committee's responsibilities since the Committee's last meeting.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Managers Report

The Flood Protection Managers report is attached.

4. Comment

My time since 1 February 2006 has been split roughly 50% between my new Divisional role and continuing to take responsibility for various projects within the Flood Protection Department. Balancing the two responsibilities has kept me busy!

I have put a large amount of time over the last seven weeks getting to know the staff in the Catchment Management Division, the work it does (non river related) and some of the issues that are currently being addressed. I have managed a couple of trips out of the office, and have met the CEO's from the three Wairarapa District Councils. I was also able to attend the joint GWRC / Wairarapa Councils Councillors meeting last week which I found very useful.

On 21 February 2006 I appointed Sharyn Westlake to the role of Acting Manager, Flood Protection. Sharyn is still getting to grips with her new role but it is great to have her taking over much of the day to day work to ensure that the Department meets its various commitments.

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The property aspects of the Chrystalls Extended stopbank project will take some time to work through and hence the update report to the Committee. It is important that this and future updates about the project are well communicated to our funding partner the Kapiti Coast District Council.

The Hutt River capital improvements are going very well, and the team is about to launch into the Hutt/Boulcott stopbank upgrade feasibility study next month. This is a significant step forward in the implementation of the Hutt River FMP.

I am pleased to finally be able to table the draft Waitohu Stream Study report that is the culmination of several years' effort. I am sure the report will be well received by the Waitohu community and it is a significant step forward in Council's management of this stream.

I was able to attend the Waiwhetu officers steering group meeting on Monday 20 March and get an early heads up on the three significant areas of investigation effort currently underway on this project. I am confident we are making some good progress on the detailed analysis of both the flood and contaminated sediments problems, and an initial assessment of the solutions available. This will all be reported to the Waiwhetu Stream Advisory Committee at their meeting on 4 April 2006.

Lastly, but not least, I am getting to know the Rimutaka Hill Road very well.

5. Communication

No communication is required.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. **Receives** the report.
- 2. *Notes* the content of the report.

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Flood Protection Manager's report for the period ending 10 March 2006.

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