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CommitteeHutt River Advisory SubcommitteeAuthorTracy Berghan

Upper Hutt City Council: proposed District Plan change 15 - HRFMP

1. Purpose

To inform the Advisory Subcommittee on progress made with the proposed changes to the Upper Hutt District Plan to update the Hutt River flood hazard.

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. Background

The Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan (HRFMP) includes both structural and non-structural measures to implement the HRFMP outcomes. Hutt City and Upper Hutt City land not protected by stopbanks or land within the Hutt River corridor have planning controls as an agreed non-structural measure.

The Hutt City Council adopted a district plan change in 2006 which introduced planning measures for areas at Belmont and Stokes Valley not protected by stopbanks and also included a building setback line and controls over development in the Hutt River Corridor. Only nine submissions were received on the HCC district plan change of which one was subsequently withdrawn. Two submitters made presentations at the 'hearing'.

4. UHCC District Plan change 15

In June 2009, Upper Hutt City Council officers presented a report to their Policy Committee outlining a proposed district plan change to update the existing planning controls in the Hutt River Corridor and associated floodplain areas not protected by stopbanks and bring them in line with the HRFMP (refer Attachment 1).

The proposed changes include;

- Updating planning maps to show the Hutt River Corridor and the erosion setback lines
- Amending objectives and policies pertaining to natural hazards to increase consistency with the HRFMP policy framework

Officers of both Councils will seek feedback from affected landowners through an informal consultative process before the district plan change is formally notified.

Officers of the two councils have worked together on the district plan change and are currently working on a consultation strategy for the informal consultation which will be tabled at the HRAS meeting.

5. Communication

The affected residents and private property owners within the Hutt River Corridor will be contacted individually. Further opportunity to comment will be provided by the formal plan change process. Please note that the Upper Hutt Leader has already published an article on the UHCC officer's report (refer Attachment 2).

6. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

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

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Attachment 1: UHCC Plan Change 15 – Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan Report to the UHCC Policy Committee 24 June 2009 Attachment 2: Extract from the Upper Hutt Leader