

Report 11.529
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Committee Council
Author Anna Kennedy, Democratic Services Advisor

Report on the Environmental Wellbeing Committee meeting 11 October 2011

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Environmental Wellbeing Committee that took place on 11 October 2011.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Reports

3.1 Environment Education: An overview

Greater Wellington's environment education programme, *Take Action*, has been very successful to date and is highly regarded by students, parents, and teachers. The Committee agreed that the short term benefits of education programmes are evident, but that the long term benefits can be difficult to assess. Suggestions were made regarding how benefits could be measured using existing information held by various educational organisations. As part of aligning the Biodiversity Department to the new Biodiversity Strategy, a review of all existing programmes within the department is underway.

3.2 General Manager's report

The Committee commended the quality of the Guide to Managing Stock Access to Waterways and discussed options to proactively promote the Guide. The Committee discussed the importance for Greater Wellington to assist farmers in working towards best practice for managing stock around waterways. Officers are to report back on Greater Wellington's grazing lease agreements, including their terms and conditions, and the ability for these leases to include an enforcement provision.

The Government's review of forestry within the Emissions Trading Scheme has been delayed until 2012.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Wayne O'Donnell
General Manager, Catchment
Management

Barbara Donaldson
Chair