



Minutes of the public meeting of the Strategy and Policy Committee to deliberate on submissions made to the Draft Annual Plan 2010-2011 held in the Tararua Room of Council's offices at 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North on Tuesday, 8 June 2010 at 10.01am,

PRESENT Crs GP Murfitt MNZM, JP (Chair), L Bailey, LR Burnell, VJF Chettleburgh QSM ED, EB Gordon (to 12.16pm), MC Guy, AK Main, DB Meads, MW Plowman, PW Rieger QSO, RG Walker JP (to 12.16pm) and J J White.

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive	Mr M McCartney
Group Manager Corporate & Governance	Mr C Grant
Committee Secretary	Ms K Booth

ALSO PRESENT:

Mr E Duggan (Strategic Financial Planner), Mr C Mitchell (Group Manager Environmental Management), Mr A Cook (Group Manager Operations), Mr G Carlyon (Group Manager Regional Planning & Regulatory) Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services & Information), Mr T Collé (Finance Manager), and Mrs C Rowe (Media & Communications Manager) at various times throughout the meeting.

APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

LATE ITEMS

There were no Late Items.

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Chairman referred to his ruling at the Submissions Hearing, that there was no conflict of interest for Councillors in respect of submissions referring to the Animal Health Board (AHB) activities.

The Chairman noted that the interim decisions made during the day, would be ratified at the June Council meeting.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

The Chairman asked Members for comments on the minutes.

- § Page 7 – Cr Meads asked that the support for the Turakina Scheme expressed by Mayor Leary (Rangitikei District Council) be included in the minutes.
- § Page 13 - Cr Main said she had left the meeting following the submission of Mr Trevor Donaldson, not earlier.
- § Page 13 – Cr Chettleburgh said Mr Andrew Peters (Taihape and Districts Branch of the Deer Farmers Association) had mentioned that he and other farmers in the area still shot a large number of possums, and asked for that to be included in the minutes.

That the minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee meetings to hear submissions on the Draft Annual Plan 2010-2011 held on 24, 26, and 27 May 2010, as circulated and with the following amendments, be confirmed as a correct record:

- § *Page 7, Rangitikei District Council to include **“Mayor Leary expressed the support of Rangitikei District Council for the Turakina River Scheme”**.*
- § *Page 13, Cr Main to be recorded as leaving the meeting after the submission of Mr Trevor Donaldson.*
- § *Page 13, Taihape and Districts Branch of the Deer Farmers Association to include, **“Mr Peters said he and other farmers in the area still shot a large number of possums”**.*

CARRIED

It was also requested that the late submission of Tanenuiarangi Manawati Incorporated was included in the ‘Written Submission’ list in the minutes.

CONSIDERATION OF SUBMISSIONS TO THE DRAFT AMENDMENT TO THE 2009-19 COMMUNITY PLAN AND DRAFT ANNUAL PLAN 2010-2010-11

Report No: 10-90

The report provided management responses and recommendations regarding submissions made to the 2010-11 Draft Amendment to the 2009-19 Community Plan and Draft Annual Plan 2010-11 (Draft Plan). The Chief Executive (CE) introduced the item and asked Mr Duggan (Strategic Financial Planner) to comment on proposed changes.

Mr Duggan explained that an increase of \$170,000 funding to the Animal Health Board (AHB), above the \$580,000 identified in the Draft Plan, would result in a rate increase of 5.41%. He said that nothing had been added to the following year for the AHB as it was a year by year programme. Members then discussed AHB funding and the effect of the \$580,000 or \$750,000 on the rate increase. Members also discussed the government’s proposed increase in GST and asked if that would affect ratepayers who did not pay the whole of their rates notice on due date. Mr Duggan clarified that because Horizons issued only one rates invoice a year, in August, that was deemed to be the point of supply and the GST was therefore 12.5% for the whole year. They also asked about the effect of GST on grants received from the government, Mr Duggan said managers had been asked to check their contracts, eg for items such as SLUI (Sustainable Land Use Initiative) grants, to ensure that they were all worded “plus GST” so there would be no tax issues. Mr Collé (Finance Manager) clarified further tax questions. The CE noted comments from Members about the possible financial impact from GST increases and ETS (Emissions Trading Scheme) in future budget planning.

Members then discussed the annexed Submissions summary and asked questions of clarification.

Members requested on many occasions during the meeting, that the response letters written to submitters should deal with the individual points in each written submission.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

General Comments

Members commented on the summary of general comments. It was agreed that Council would refer the submission on peak oil to the appropriate Minister.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-11 Moved

White/Meads

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- a. *That the website submission form is changed to allow multiple topics for the 2011-12 Draft Annual Plan.*
- b. *That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to general submissions.*
- c. *That Council writes to the appropriate Minister about submissions regarding oil.*

**Against (c): Cr Plowman as there was only one submitter on oil
CARRIED**

Sustainable Land Use Initiative (SLUI) and Land Management

Members discussed whether or not the introduction, in the future, of a charge or part-charge for Whole Farm Plans (WFP) might discourage landowners from participating in WFPs. It was noted that some submitters thought some payment might be appropriate. Members acknowledged those submissions and agreed they should give it some serious thought. It was agreed to add a recommendation, to that effect, to the interim decision.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-12 Moved

Meads/Gordon

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- d. *That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on Land Management Activity including the Sustainable Land Use Initiative.*
- e. *That management is asked to report back on the issue of charge or part-charge for Whole Farm Plans as part of the next Funding Policy review.*

CARRIED

Water Quality and Quantity Activity

The CE referred to the Management Submission and highlighted the work currently being undertaken on the water quality monitoring programme in the Manawatu River, and the funding impact that the new Council would consider. Members asked about the funding options mentioned in the Management Submission, and the CE explained why they had not been brought forward.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-13 Moved

Meads/Main

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- f. That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Water Quality and Quantity activity.*

CARRIED

River and Drainage General

The Group Manager Operations (GMO) spoke to this section.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-14 Moved

Guy/Meads

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- g. That a study into the feasibility of increasing permanent flow in the Foxton Loop be specifically identified as a Non-Schemes Investigations commitment in the Draft Annual Plan.*
- h. That no other changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the River and Drainage General activity.*

CARRIED

River and Drainage Scheme Activity

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-15 Moved

Chettleburgh/Guy

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- i. That Council notes the respective responsibilities of Horizons Regional Council and Palmerston North City Council (PNCC) with respect to river and stream channels within Palmerston North city.*

CARRIED

Lower Manawatu Scheme

Members discussed the Submissions Summary and in particular the proposed rating category change to provide the relief sought by the residents of White Horse Drive. The GMO referred to his comments on the issue of inequity in relation to the nearby urban area, and on the robustness of the process in developing a new rating system.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-16 Moved

Meads/Burnell

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- j. That changes be made to the HF category of the Lower Manawatu Scheme rating system, in accordance with the proposal included in the Draft Annual Plan.*

CARRIED

Members discussed, and amended the management recommendation.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-17 Moved

Meads/Bailey

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- k. *That the rate for all Lower Manawatu Scheme direct benefit rating categories be increased in 2010-11 and 2011-12 to the extent necessary to recover, over those two years, lost revenue arising from recommended changes to the HF rating category. The resulting increases would be approximately 1.2% in each year.*

CARRIED

Members fully discussed the matters raised by a submitter in relation to the new rating system, and in particular the F1 to F5 ratings, with the GMO providing further background information.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-18 Moved

Meads/Guy

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- l. *That no further change, other than that proposed in respect of the HF category, be made to the Lower Manawatu Scheme rating system at this time.*

CARRIED

In response to Members' questions, the GMO advised he had spoken with the submitter following his submission to the Hearing Committee.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-19 Moved

Meads/Murfitt

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- m. *That the submitter be advised that the HF rate has been correctly applied in respect of both his and his neighbour's properties.*

CARRIED

The GMO provided background information to this management recommendation.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-20 Moved

Bailey/Guy

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- n. *That the submitter be advised of the exclusion of his property from the Lower Manawatu Scheme R1 rating category and that he be refunded the rates paid in the current year.*

CARRIED

Turakina River Management Scheme

The GMO clarified that once the Scheme was formed, a Liaison Committee would then be formed. The community was aware of this Scheme, through correspondence, and would be advised of the formation of a Liaison Committee.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-21 Moved

Gordon/Meads

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- o. That the Turakina River Scheme be implemented as from July 2010 and that new scheme rates be struck in accordance with the provision included in the Funding Impact Statement in the Draft Annual Plan.*

CARRIED

Upper Whanganui Scheme

Following discussion, the management recommendation was amended.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-22 Moved

Main/Plowman

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- p. That discussions proceed with Ruapehu District Council (RDC) with the objective of including a proposal for extension of the Upper Whanganui River Scheme to include the urban reach of the lower Ongarue River in the 2011-12 Draft Annual Plan and that the formal transfer of RDC erosion protection assets at Matapuna be initiated.*

CARRIED

Pakihi Flood Control Scheme

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-23 Moved

Plowman/Main

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- q. That the proposed changes to the Pakihi Flood Control Scheme, as described in the Draft Plan be implemented as from 1 July 2010.*

CARRIED

Ashhurst Stream Scheme

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-24 Moved

Guy/Rieger

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- r. That the submitters be advised of the reasons for delay in the capital works programme for the Ashhurst scheme and that a public scheme meeting be arranged at the earliest possible date.*

CARRIED

Ohau-Manakau Scheme

The GMO responded to questions of clarifications.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-25 Moved

Burnell/Bailey

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- s. *That Council notes the progress made to date with flood protection upgrade works on the Ohau River and the general level of support for that project.*

CARRIED

Total Catchment Rating

Members fully discussed this matter, including the points raised by submitters. They acknowledged the complexity of a 'whole of catchment' approach, and felt the wording of the first sentence under 'Total Catchment Rating' (page 41 of the Agenda) could be misleading; also the wording of the management recommendation. Crs Meads and White each suggested different wording for a recommendation. The Chair asked Members to give the recommendation some thought and said discussion would continue once the meeting resumed after lunch.

Before the meeting adjourned, Cr Gordon gave his apology for the afternoon session, and shared his thoughts on Tb funding, agrichemical collection timeframe, air quality monitoring at Palmerston North, and the management comment on Old Man's Beard control for the Rangitikei area. Cr Gordon confirmed his comments were not a pre-recorded vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12.16pm.

The meeting resumed at 1.01pm.

Apologies were received from Crs Gordon and Walker for the afternoon part of the meeting.

DCP 10-26 Moved

Murfitt/White

*That apologies are **received** from Crs Gordon and Walker.*

CARRIED

Total Catchment Rating cont.

Discussion continued on this matter. The Chair said that he and Cr Meads would withdraw their names as mover and seconder of the suggested management recommendation. Cr White put forward an alternative motion for consideration by Members.

DCP 10-27 Moved

White/Chettleburgh

- t. *That Council considers all aspects of 'whole of catchment' rating at the next Revenue and Funding Policy review.*

Members discussed the new recommendation. Some Members believed the review should be part of the next Long-term Council Community Plan process, however the Chair commented it would be up to the new Council as to when it undertook any review, and the current Council could not bind it to a timeframe.

CARRIED

General Scheme Rating Changes

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-28 Moved

Chettleburgh/Meads

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- u. *That Council adopts the proposed changes, as scheduled in the table below.*

Scheme	Change requested	Impact on Scheme Rates	Impact on General Rate
Whangaehu-Mangawhero River Management Scheme	Maintain proposed level of activity but reduce proposed rate increase from 10% to 0% by increasing loan drawdown.	-\$9,823	-\$1,788
Moutoa Drainage Scheme	Increase works budget by \$50,000 and fund by loan drawdown	+\$3,814	+\$583
Tekawa drainage Scheme	Repay outstanding loan balance in 2009/10 from Opex savings. Eliminates loan servicing costs in 2010/11	nil	-\$353
Makerua Drainage Scheme	Delete proposed Central Pump Capex item (\$350k), add \$50k to maintenance budget for boundary improvements and Akers culvert. Increase loan drawdown by \$20k, reduce reserves transfer by \$20k. (Note: these changes will result in changes in the individual category scheme rates presently shown in the DAP Funding Impact Statement)	-\$21,575	-\$9,493
Upper Whanganui River Scheme	Reduce proposed rate increase from 2% to zero, utilizing interest savings and credit balance	-\$2,484	nil
TOTALS		-\$30,068	-\$11,051

CARRIED

Funding Impact Statement Change

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-29 Moved

Chettleburgh/Guy

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- v. *That the Funding Impact Statement in the Draft Plan be amended to reflect corrected scheme rating information now available.*

CARRIED

Lower Manawatu Scheme City Reach Project

The GMO clarified that Horizons was working very closely with PNCC in regard to this project, and this would continue. The wording of the management recommendation was slightly amended.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-30 Moved

White/Rieger

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- w. *That Council continues to work collaboratively with Palmerston North City Council in advancing opportunities for improving recreational access to Manawatu River environs.*

CARRIED

Members requested that the names of three Wanganui submitters, who submitted on this issue, be added to the list on page 43 of the Agenda, namely Grey Power, Jango and Mr Tulloch.

Environmental Protection Group of Activities

Biosecurity Activity (including Tb Vector Funding)

The CE advised Members that there was no recommendation from management on Tb vector funding. There was discussion about whether the Tb vector programme sat within the Biosecurity activity, or elsewhere in Council's business, and that there was a need to provide clarity that Horizons was asked to levy this on behalf of the AHB. It was agreed there would be a new 'tab' in the Annual Plan labelled "Animal Health Board Levy".

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-31 Moved

Main/White

- x. *That the Committee recommends to Council that a new Tab be created in the Annual Plan labelled 'Animal Health Board levy'.*

CARRIED

Cr Plowman put forward a motion about AHB funding which lapsed for want of a seconder.

Members then discussed the suggested Council resolution in the Agenda which supported AHB funding of up to \$750,000. It was suggested that the recommendation should include details of how it would be funded in 2010-11 only, so that the new Council could decide on funding in future years.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-32 Moved

Meads/Burnell

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- y. *That the Tb Vector Programme is to be funded up to \$750,000 for the 2010-11 year by levying a targeted rate on properties 4 hectares and above.*
- z. *that the fundng will be provided on an instalment basis upon satisfactory completion of works which has been based on an agreed Operation Plan.*

Cr White spoke against (y) because she was not convinced by some of the arguments in the AHB submission, and that she had a feeling of being 'held to ransom' by some submitters that if Horizons did not provide funding then the government would not pay. Cr White was disturbed by the general lack of understanding of the \$2.2m contribution by Horizons to possum control, and she believed there was not complete frankness in the letter (from TBfree NZ) that went to all farmers that the proposed funding of \$580,000 was an increase from zero dollars which had been proposed in the Community Plan, and not a decrease from \$750,000.

Cr Main did not support recommendation (y) because she did not want the ratepayers of this Region to be funding this activity through the rates imposed by the Regional Council.

Cr Bailey did not support (y) and shared the comments made by Crs White and Main. She observed that approximately 99 submissions received on the AHB funding was not a high number considering the number of letters that had been sent to farmers on this issue.

Crs Rieger, Plowman, and Guy said they supported the recommendation.

The CE clarified that the 'instalment basis' referred to in the recommendation would be discussed with the AHB during conversations about their Operational Plan.

Against (y): Crs White, Bailey, Main
CARRIED

There was discussion about the submissions that mentioned problems with Canadian Geese and other bird pests. The Group Manager Environmental Management (GMEM) clarified that Canadian Geese and Paradise Ducks were both covered by the Wildlife and Animal Control Act and that Horizons had submitted that both these birds be removed from Category 1 of the Act (protected game species) and put into Category 2 which allowed a landowner to control them when causing economic damage on his/her property. Horizons had not yet heard whether that change had been made. Members considered that central government should be lobbied on this matter.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-33 Moved

Bailey/Rieger

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- a.a That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the remaining elements of the Biosecurity activity.*
- bb. that Horizons Regional Council should lobby central government for changes to the legal status of game birds, being Canadian Geese and Paradise Ducks, as per our current Regional Pest Animal Management Strategy.*

CARRIED

Resource Consents and Pollution Management Activities

The Chair reminded Members that a workshop would be held on 14 June to discuss this. In regard to questions about costs that might need to be considered in the Deliberations process, the CE clarified that the recent paper to Council indicated there would be no significant costs, and therefore no additional funding had been set aside. Cr Rieger referred to a submission about 'building and roading contractors appearing to get away with disturbing land'. He believed the problem was prolific in urban areas where no effort appeared to be made by territorial authorities (TA) to ensure building and roading contractors put sediment filters in place to prevent sediment from polluting rivers. He suggested a strong letter be sent to TAs about this.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-34 Moved

Meads/Main

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- cc. *That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Resource Consent and Pollution Management activity.*

CARRIED

Environmental Reporting and Education Activity

Members discussed submitters' comments on air monitoring, and the management reply in the Agenda. Members were advised that at this stage, Palmerston North was considered a lower risk area than other sites in the Region. There was also discussion on agrichemical collections by local authorities in the past and that the industry now took responsibility for disposal.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-35 Moved

Main/Burnell

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- dd. *That page 35 is amended to remove Taihape from the sentence regarding the stopping of air quality monitoring.*
- ee. *That no other changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Environmental Reporting and Education activity.*

CARRIED

Living Heritage Activity

Members discussed comments made in support of the submission from Bushy Park and noted the involvement of Horizons in pest control.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-36 Moved

Plowman/Main

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- ff. *That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Living Heritage activity.*

CARRIED

Regional Leadership and Governance Group of Activities

Community Relationship Activity

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-37 Moved

Murfitt/Bailey

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- gg. *That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Community Relationships activity.*

CARRIED

Emergency Management Activity

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-38 Moved

Guy/Rieger

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- hh. That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Emergency Management activity.*

CARRIED

Iwi Activity

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-39 Moved

Main/White

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- ii. That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the iwi activity.*

Against: Cr Plowman did not agree with inclusion of 'h' in spelling of Wanganui
CARRIED

Strategic Management Activity

Members asked questions of clarification.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-40 Moved

Murfitt/Chettleburgh

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- jj. That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Strategic Management activity.*

CARRIED

Transport Group of Activities

Transport Planning activity

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-41 Moved

Chettleburgh/Rieger

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- kk. That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Transport Planning activity.*

CARRIED

Passenger Services Activity

Cr Bailey referred to the activities of the Horowhenua Health Shuttle and said she understood that the calculation for the percentage of trips being made by the shuttle on the trip, Levin/Foxton/Shannon/Palmerston North, was inadvertently omitted when the management reply was formulated. She supported management's suggested subsidy rates of \$2.00 per single trip for Levin/Foxton, and suggested the subsidy for Levin/Shannon/Palmerston North be increased to \$5.00 per single trip. Cr Bailey said demand for the Levin/Foxton/Shannon/Palmerston North trip was increasing, and suggested a subsidy rate of \$6.00 per single trip, which had not been included in the management reply. She believed the annual payment should be increased to \$40,000 as a minimum, which would not impact on rates, but was concerned there could be a shortfall and suggested it be increased to \$45,000 which would have a \$5,000 impact on a targeted rate in the Horowhenua urban area.

Cr Chettleburgh supported Cr Bailey's suggestions. He expressed concern about the unknown amount of financial support that MidCentral Health was prepared to provide to the Horowhenua District Health Transportation Trust and the conditions around that funding. Cr Burnell referred to the suggested \$6 per single trip subsidy and said his preference would have been to look at the calculations first. Members agreed that if management found they needed to make an amendment to the Draft Annual Plan as a result of these recommendations, they were to do so as Members understood that by the next Council meeting, the document would have been to Audit NZ.

The recommendations were amended.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-42 Moved

Bailey/Chettleburgh

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- ii. *That an increase in the concessionary fare payments with a cap of \$45,000 occurs as follows:*
 - (i) *Levin / Foxton trip - \$2.00 per single trip*
 - (ii) *Levin /Shannon/Palmerston North - \$5.00 per single trip*
 - (iii) *Levin/Foxton/Shannon/Palmerston North - \$6.00 per single trip*

- mm. *That Horizons Regional Council enters into meaningful discussions with MidCentral Health about funding of health transport services.*

CARRIED

Road Safety and Sustainability Activity

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-43 Moved

Rieger/Bailey

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- nn. *That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Road Safety and Sustainability activity.*

CARRIED

Corporate Support and Investment

Investment Activity

The CE referred Members to the Horizons' management submission (Reduced Investment Income) and elaborated to Members. Mr Duggan explained the actual costs for company expenses were now known and budgets had been amended accordingly. Members commented on, and asked questions of clarification in regard to future income from MWRC Holding Ltd, other options to consider due to the reduced investment income, concern about rate increases, and part-funding the shortfall from the projected 2009-10 surplus. The Chair asked Members if they wanted to revisit some of the funding decisions they had made, or accept an increase in rates above 4.99%, or fund the shortfall out of the projected surplus. A straw poll was taken and following discussions, the recommendation was amended.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-44 Moved

Meads/Guy

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- oo. That Council reduces the investment income by \$168,000 in 2010-11 and funds the shortfall from the 2009-10 surplus.*
- pp. That Council reduces the investment income by \$215,000 in 2011-12 with a corresponding increase in the general rate.*

CARRIED

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-45 Moved

Chettleburgh/Murfitt

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- qq. That no other changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the investment activity.*

CARRIED

Changes to Financial Policies

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-46 Moved

Guy/Meads

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- rr. That no changes are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on financial policies.*

Against: *Crs Main, White, Burnell did not agree with the 3%.*

CARRIED

Fees and Charges

There was full discussion on the contents of the management submission in regard to annual administration charges, and the management reply. The GMO and GMRPR clarified Members' questions in regard to the increased charges proposed by the management submission. Members expressed disappointment that this had come forward at this point in the process. Mr Duggan provided clarification on wording in the original policy. The recommendation was amended to cover any concerns highlighted during the discussion

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-47 Moved

Main/Rieger

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- ss. *That Council increases the gravel quantity research charges to \$0.20 per cubic metre extracted volumes under consent, and review whether extracted or authorised in next Funding Policy round.*
- tt. *That Council alters the table for discharge research charges to include 100 cubic metre consents.*
- uu. *That no other charges are made to the Draft Annual Plan in regard to submissions on the Fees and Charges.*

Against: *Cr Plowman as the increase in gravel extraction was not included in the Draft Annual Plan.*

CARRIED

Rate Increase

Members then discussed this matter and requested Mr Duggan to amend the Draft Annual Plan in accordance with the interim decisions that had been made during the meeting.

(Interim Decision)

DCP 10-48 Moved

Murfitt/Meads

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- vv. *That the Draft Annual Plan be amended in accordance with the deliberations and resolutions made on 8 June 2010.*

CARRIED

MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

In response to Cr Bailey's question about AHB funding for the following year, the Chair advised the funding agreed earlier in the meeting was for one year only and the new Council would decide on the following year. Cr Bailey also asked for the management submissions to be an oral submission at future Draft Annual Plan Submissions Hearings.

Cr Rieger asked when the requirement for annual application forms for contiguous properties, as mentioned by some submitters, would be discussed. Mr Duggan advised that there was no requirement to apply annually, and that was what staff told customers. In response to Cr Rieger's ongoing concern, the GMCG advised there was a rating project being undertaken by MW LASS which would consider standardising some of the policies across the region, including contiguous properties.

The Chairman thanked Members and staff for their input into the meeting.

The meeting closed at 3.45pm.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHAIRMAN