



# AGENDA

## STRATEGY & POLICY COMMITTEE

**Tuesday, 8 March 2011 at 1.30pm**

Notice is given of a meeting of Horizons Regional Council to be held on  
Tuesday 8 March, 2011 at 1.30pm in the Meeting Room,

**Marton Service Centre,**  
**Hammond Street, Marton**

Business to be discussed includes:

- Sewage Treatment Plants – Resource Consent Progress Update
- Conference / Training Opportunities for Elected Members

**RECOMMENDATIONS IN REPORTS ARE NOT  
COUNCIL POLICY UNTIL ADOPTED BY COUNCIL**

**NEWS EMBARGO**

Items in this agenda may be subject to amendment or withdrawal at the meeting. Items are embargoed until two days before the date of the meeting.

Reporters who do not attend the meetings should seek confirmation of the agenda material or proceedings from the Chief Executive prior to any media reports.

for further information regarding this agenda, please contact:  
Julie Kennedy, 06 9522 800

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<b>SERVICE CENTRES</b>	<b>Kairanga</b> Cnr Rongotea & Kairanga-Bunnythorpe Rds, Palmerston North	<b>Marton</b> Hammond Street	<b>Taumarunui</b> 34 Maata Street	<b>Woodville</b> Cnr Vogel (SH2) & Tay Sts
<b>REGIONAL HOUSES</b>	<b>Palmerston North</b> 11-15 Victoria Avenue	<b>Wanganui</b> 181 Guyton Street		
<b>DEPOTS</b>	<b>Levin</b> 11 Bruce Road	<b>Taihape</b> Torere Road Ohotu		
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## STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee of the Whole

### AGENDA

8 March 2011

1.30pm

	<b>Pages</b>
1. Apologies	
2. Public Speaking Rights Notification to speak is required by 4pm on the working day prior to the meeting. Further information is available on <a href="http://www.horizons.govt.nz">www.horizons.govt.nz</a> or by phoning 0508 800 800	
3. Late Items: To consider, and if thought fit, to pass a resolution to permit the Committee to consider any further items which do not appear on the Order Paper of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded.  Such resolution is required to be made pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and the Chairperson must advise:  (i) The reason why the item was not on the Order Paper, and (ii) The reason why the discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.	
4. Members' Conflict of Interest Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.	
5. Confirmation of Minutes – 8 February 2011	1 - 8
6. Sewage Treatment Plants – Resource Consent Progress Update <i>Report No: 11-34 (Incl. Annex A)</i> <i>File No: 0/0/GEN</i>	9 - 12
7. Conference / Training Opportunities for Elected Members <i>Report No: 11-22 (Incl. Annex A)</i> <i>File No: GGV 3 01</i>	13 - 17

8. Verbal Update on Strategic Work Programme for Regional Affairs Committee
9. Members' Questions

M J McCartney  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



Minutes of the second meeting, eighth triennium of the Strategy and Policy Committee of Horizons Regional Council held in the Tararua Room, Regional House, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North at 10.00am on Tuesday, 8 February 2011.

#### **PRESENT**

Crs PW Rieger QSO JP (Acting Chair until 10.02am), EB Gordon (Chair from 10.57am), JJ Barrow, LR Burnell, VJF Chettleburgh QSM ED, GL Cox, M Guy, GM McKellar, MW Plowman, CI Sheldon, RG Walker JP (to 3.12pm), and JJ White.

#### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Chief Executive  
Group Manager Corporate and Governance  
Committee Secretary

Mr M McCartney  
Mr C Grant  
Ms K Booth

#### **ALSO PRESENT** At various times during the Meeting:

Mr G Carlyon (Group Manager Regional Planning & Regulatory), Mr C Mitchell (Group Manager Environmental Management), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services & Information), Mrs C Rowe (Media & Communications Manager), Mr S Bayley (Manager Emergency Management), Mr R Munneke (Manager Policy/Consents), Ms C Barton (Senior Consents Planner), Mr J Maassen (lawyer), Mr B Gilliland (Policy Monitoring Officer), Dr J Roygard (Manager Research), Messrs S Fox and D Buxton (Te Manawa), and a member of the Press.

The Acting Chairman advised he would chair the meeting until a new Chairman had been elected.

The meeting adjourned at 10.02am to allow for an Extraordinary Council meeting to elect a new Chairperson following the resignation of Cr M Guy from the position of Chairman on 31 January 2011.

The meeting resumed at 10.57am.

The newly elected Chairman, Cr Bruce Gordon, took the chair.

#### **APOLOGIES:**

There were no apologies.

#### **PUBLIC SPEAKING RIGHTS**

No requests for public speaking rights had been notified.

#### **LATE ITEMS:**

There were no late items notified.

#### **MEMBERS' CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

Crs White and McKellar both indicated a possible conflict of interest in regard to Item 13 (River Exhibition – Te Manawa).

The Chairman advised a change of order in Items to allow for other people's commitments.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**SP 11-04**                      **Moved**                                      **White/Guy**

*that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 December 2010, as circulated, with an amendment to the spelling of Old Man's Beard, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**CARRIED**

**CODE OF CONDUCT**

*Report No. 11-01*

This item presented for Council's consideration and approval, the existing Code of Conduct for Horizons Regional Council.

The Group Manager Corporate and Governance (GMCG) introduced the report and the annexed Code of Conduct for Members' consideration. There was full discussion on paragraph 24, and several alternative suggestions were made in an effort to clarify the wording around the definition of 'meetings', whether it should be 'one' or 'two' consecutive meetings and 'leave of absence' discussion with the Chairperson. The GMCG was asked to bring a reworded paragraph back to a further meeting for Members' consideration. There was also discussion and clarification sought on: direct contact with staff, the Council's Media Policy, liaising with the Chief Executive around acceptance or otherwise of gifts or cash,

**SP 11-05**                      **Moved**                                      **Cox/Plowman**

*that the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a.        **notes** the legislative requirements to adopt a Code of Conduct;
- b.        **approves** the Code of Conduct for Horizons Regional Council at Annex A to Report No. 11-01, with the exception of paragraph 24;.
- c.        **requests** management to bring paragraph 24 of the Code of Conduct back for further consideration.

**CARRIED**

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT – MANAWATU-WANGANUI REGIONAL COUNCIL**

*Report No. 11-02*

This item presented for Council's consideration, the current Governance Statement (GS) for the Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council (trading as Horizons Regional Council). During discussion of the GS, it was suggested that the term 'Community Plan' be changed to 'Long-term Plan', that extra description of 'Functions' be included in clause 2, that management consider whether clause 8.3 repeated the information in clause 2, and that other amendments noted during discussion, be made.

There was discussion on clause 8.5 in regard to the implications for councillors as a result of the legislation. The GMCG confirmed the Council carried public liability insurance. Following discussion on clause 11.1, it was agreed a Councillors' workshop would be arranged. In response to questions about special consultative procedures, it was clarified that where possible these consultations were carried out during the Annual Plan and Long-term Plan process. Consultations outside this process carried a cost.

The Chairman, Chief Executive and GMCG clarified Members' questions in regard to information in the document. The GMCG undertook to make the amendments requested by Members and a new (c) was included in the recommendations.

**SP 11-06**                      **Moved**                      **Guy/Sheldon**

*that the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a.        **acknowledges** the legislative requirements to update its Governance Statement; and
- b.        **receives** the revised Governance Statement for the Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council (trading as Horizons Regional Council) at Annex A to Report No. 11-02.
- c.        **requests** management to make amendments in relation to the newly elected Chairperson, and other amendments as agreed.

**CARRIED**

*The meeting adjourned at 12.17pm.  
The meeting resumed at 1.03pm.*

### **TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT – MANAWATU-WANGANUI REGION**

*Report No. 11-05*

This report presented the existing Triennial Agreement for endorsement. The GMCG advised that the Agreement had been forwarded to the territorial authorities (TAs) for signature and to date all but one TA had done so. The GMCG confirmed he would amend the Authority page to reflect Cr Bruce Gordon as Chairperson.

**SP 11-07**                      **Moved**                      **Chettleburgh/Sheldon**

*that the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a.        **notes** that all the signatory councils have been asked to sign the new Triennial Agreement by 1 March 2011; and
- b.        **endorses** the existing Triennial Agreement (updated in regard to names and dates) and amended to include the name of Cr Bruce Gordon as Chairperson of Horizons Regional Council.

**CARRIED**

### **RIVER EXHIBITION – TE MANAWA**

*Report No. 11-04*

This item sought Council's support for sponsorship of the Manawatu River Exhibition at Te Manawa. Mrs Rowe (Media and Communications Manager) introduced Mr Steven Fox (Chief Executive of the Te Manawa Museums Trust) and Mr Daniel Buxton (Principal Designer), to the meeting. Their presentation provided Members with information on the preparation, design work and costs of the refit of the Museum. The main entrance had been relocated to be more accessible to the community. They acknowledged the technical help provided by Horizons Regional Council by way of aerial photography, and this was being printed onto the foyer carpet.

Mr Fox explained the exhibition would have a seven year life span, and would provide informed, accurate information. He offered Members the opportunity to view the exhibition. In response to Members' questions they advised the exhibition would be free, clarified the carpet printing process, and said the 'in kind' support given by Horizons would be recognised. Members asked to see details of the content of the exhibition and the recommendation was amended accordingly. Mrs Rowe said she would provide this to Members. Cr Plowman did not support the proposal.

**SP 11-08**                      **Moved**                                      **Chettleburgh/White**

*that the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a.            **approves** the sponsorship of Te Manawa's River Exhibition, resulting in an overspend of \$25,000 in the 2010-2011 Communications and Promotions budget, subject to content being approved by Council.

**Against.** Cr Plowman  
**CARRIED**

## **QUESTIONS FROM COUNCILLOR PLOWMAN**

*Report No. 11-17*

This item provided information to Councillor Plowman in response to questions he asked in a letter dated 5 November 2010 to Michael McCartney and a follow up note to Craig Grant dated 21 December 2010. Cr Plowman distributed additional material to Members and said if Members wished to have time to read it, he was happy to leave discussion to another meeting. It was agreed that as Mr Maassen (lawyer) was present at the meeting to provide explanations, the item would be discussed. The Chief Executive noted caution about the discussion of consent applications in the public domain.

There was full discussion on the sections of the Resource Management Act and the Local Government Act outlined in the annexes to the Report. Cr Plowman asked Mr Maassen for his interpretations and opinions on various sections of these Acts, and he then provided a view of how he interpreted the legislation. These two interpretations were not always the same, with both Mr Maassen and Cr Plowman providing reasons for their particular interpretation/opinion. Included in the discussion was whether territorial authorities (TAs) had devolved their functions to regional councils; did regional councils or TAs have the leadership role and when, legal interpretations relating to the One Plan, and the work of the Environment Court. The Chairman commented that the Report had given Members the opportunity to hear answers to Cr Plowman's concerns, and he drew the discussion to a close.

**SP 11-09**                      **Moved**                                      **White/Chettleburgh**

*that the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a.            **notes** the information contained in Report No. 11-17, and the information given by Mr Maassen, responding to questions asked by Cr Plowman.

**CARRIED**

## REVIEWED PROCEDURES FOR CHEMICAL SPILL INCIDENTS

*Report No. 11-10*

This report informed Members of the improvements made to Horizons Regional Council's incident response system in relation to chemical spills. The Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory (GMRPR) introduced the Report.

Cr Rieger suggested a change of wording to paragraph 8(b), to read: "*On being notified of a toxic spill incident by emergency services, an appropriately qualified Horizons Regional Council Officer **will attend, regardless of whether** the notification is for information or response.*" This was accepted by Members.

It was clarified that the people who answered the hotline phonecalls had a list of all the emergency response duty officers. In response to discussion about whether all the Horizons' duty officers had dangerous goods qualifications, the Chief Executive explained that in a chemical spill the regional council was not the lead controller, but part of the team and its focus was on the environmental impact. However, he undertook to scope the cost of training all the Horizons' emergency response duty officers with dangerous goods qualifications.

**SP 11-10**

**Moved**

**Cox/McKellar**

*that the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. **receives** the information in Report No. 11-10.

**CARRIED**

## PROPOSED STRATEGY FOR RESPONSE TO ONE PLAN APPEALS

*Report No. 11-18*

The report was prepared at the request of the Council at its meeting on 23 November 2010. It provided detail relating to the appeals made to the Environment Court on the *Proposed One Plan as Amended by Decisions*, the expectations of the Environment Court on Horizons as respondent, and recommendations on a strategy for responding to the appeals.

The Chief Executive distributed an Environment Court document listing the One Plan appellants for Members' information. Mr Gilliland (Policy Monitoring Officer) explained the Proposed One Plan was now in an appeal situation, that 22 appeals had been received, and there were 38 to 39 section 274 parties. He referred Members to paragraphs 22 to 25 of the Report for clarification on section 274 parties.

Mr Maassen (lawyer) was invited to comment on the role of the Council in the Environment Court process, which he explained to Members. He believed there was a role for governance in the process, to monitor and understand what was happening, and while some appeals would be simple to resolve, he said that others were more complex and would take longer.

*Cr Walker left the meeting at 3.12pm.*

Mr Maassen believed Members could be confident that the independent Hearing panels appointed by Council, remained independent. He clarified Members' questions on the Court mediation process and where costs would lie. Mr Maassen clarified other questions from Members in regard to membership of the Advisory Group, and the costs to Council and other groups if mediation did not resolve the issues. Following discussion of the recommendations, Cr Guy's name was added to (c) as a member of the Advisory Committee.

SP 11-11

Moved

Sheldon/Rieger

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **receives** the information in Report No. 11-18;
- b. **approves** the proposed process for dealing with appeals set out in this paper;
- c. **approves** the establishment of an advisory committee comprising the Chairperson of Catchment Operations, Chairperson of Environment Committee, Horizons Regional Council Chairperson, Chief Executive and Chief Executive delegate(s), Cr Guy and Ms Christine Foster (Independent Planning Professional), to advise the Chief Executive on dealing with One Plan appeals;
- d. **directs** the Chief Executive to:
  - i. respond to the Court's direction in line with this agreed process;
  - ii. seek the Court's agreement to stage the hearings by topic;
  - iii. seek clarification from appellants where he considers it appropriate in accordance with this agreed process;
  - iv. initiate compilation of factual technical/science evidence used as the basis for the Hearing Panels' decisions; and
  - v. engage in court assisted mediation where mediation is identified as an appropriate mechanism to resolve appeals, and to consult with the advisory committee to guide the mediation and negotiation process;
- e. **delegates** to the Chief Executive any functions and powers under the Resource Management Act necessary to resolve the appeals in line with the approved process;
- f. **directs** the Chief Executive to report back to Council on a regular basis on progress and ongoing costs and prospects of resolution with respect to dealing with One Plan appeals.

**CARRIED**

## HORIZONS REGIONAL COUNCIL DROUGHT RESPONSE

Report No. 11-20

This item sought the support of regional councillors to the establishment and operation of a stakeholder and agency group to share information and make collective decisions, as appropriate to drought situations. The GMRPR spoke to the Report and to a powerpoint presentation to Members. The presentation included the benefits of being prepared with a Drought Event Standard Operating Procedure, and the suggested stakeholders for a Regional Drought Committee.

SP 11-12

Moved

Chettleburgh/White

that the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. **endorses** the collaborative approach recommended for response to determining and managing drought events;

- b. **directs** the Chief Executive to initiate action in relation to potential drought conditions in line with the proposal.

**CARRIED**

## **REGIONAL COUNCIL FORESTRY RIGHTS**

*Report No. 11-15*

This report updated Members on the current status of Horizons Regional Council's forestry and forestry rights, planted as part of Council's Sustainable Land Use Initiative (SLUI). The Group Manager Environmental Management (GMEM) introduced the Report and drew Members' attention to paragraphs 7 and 8 which set out the key protocols established by Council in 2007. The GMEM clarified that the acronym 'PFSI' stood for *Permanent Forest Sink Initiative*. He suggested an alternative recommendation (b).

Cr Guy updated Members on the investment opportunities from forestry, 'carbon trading', and the possible issues. He suggested a stock-take of what was currently in the forestry portfolio that related to emissions trading. The Chief Executive referred to recommendation (b) and suggested he discuss the detail of the proposed Council paper with Cr Guy. Members discussed what they would like to see in the proposed Council paper and suggested: a forecast over a number of years; risks (financial and political) as well as opportunities; possible landowner issues; and forestry area lost through erosion and storms etc.

**SP 11-13**                      **Moved**                                      **Guy/McKellar**

*that the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. **receives** Report No. 11-15 noting future decisions regarding carbon trading; and
- b. **requests** the Chief Executive to bring a paper outlining the registration criteria, risks and opportunities related to the Emissions Trading Scheme and recommendations regarding potential emissions trading to a future Strategy and Policy Committee meeting.

**CARRIED**

## **MEMBERS' QUESTIONS**

Cr Cox asked if the Audit, Risk and Investment Financial Briefing could be moved to 8.30am on Tuesday 15 February, prior to the Councillors' Workshop. This was agreed.

The meeting closed at 4.25pm.

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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CHAIRMAN



A Significant decision? <b>If Yes</b>	N
Do recommendations meet Significance Policy (contained within the LTCCP)	

**Item No: 6**  
**Date: 8/03/2011**  
**Report No: 11-34**  
**File No: 0/0/GEN**

## **SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANTS – RESOURCE CONSENT PROGRESS UPDATE**

### **PURPOSE**

1. This report is to inform Members of progress toward resolving resource consents relating to sewage treatment plants (STPs).

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

2. As this item is for information only there is no financial impact.

### **BACKGROUND**

3. Over the last 10 years a number of consents for discharges from STPs have expired. In each case the Territorial Authority (TA) submitted a new application to continue with the activity. Some of the applications included additional treatment to reduce environmental effects, but the majority were to continue the activity with no significant improvements. Currently there are 17 applications throughout the Region that are unresolved, some of which date back to 2001. A list of these applications is provided in the attached Table.
4. Sewage treatment plants compete with other local authority services (parks, libraries, potable water) for ratepayer funding. Investment in this infrastructure can be difficult to establish as STPs are perhaps not as attractive to the ratepayers as road maintenance, libraries and parks. This is because the individual ratepayer accrues little direct benefit. An upgraded plant does not really change their level of service. They can still get rid of their wastewater exactly the same as they did before.
5. There is a secondary problem which compounds the lack of STP funding which relates to economies of scale. In line with a 'user pays' philosophy, sewage treatment plants are generally paid for by the community they serve. Thus while Palmerston North City residents pay for their sewage treatment facilities, so do Kimbolton residents. The reality is that Kimbolton residents will pay proportionally more for their wastewater disposal and have a lesser service standard than Palmerston North because the costs are distributed among far fewer ratepayers.
6. Accordingly, the Region which has numerous small STPs, has a significant problem in achieving a reasonable effluent quality. Most STPs in the Region are underfunded. It is against this backdrop that the Regional Council is requiring, in most cases, a higher level of service through its regulatory (consenting) arm. Naturally this is the cause of tension which has proven to be difficult to resolve.

### **COMMENT**

7. Section 124 of the Resource Management Act allows a consent holder to continue with an activity while the new application is being determined. Therefore until such time as these applications are resolved, each activity is lawfully allowed to continue. This often

leads to a situation where there is no urgency by the applicant to resolve the new application as they are legally entitled to continue with their discharge.

8. The regulatory team has become increasingly concerned with this issue and so has been working closely with each TA to progress matters. This has been the real challenge for staff. For the past 24 months a strategic approach has been undertaken with the TAs to try and achieve a net environmental benefit. This was preferred to driving them through the process which in the past often incurred expenses without any substantial improvement to the plant, and has led to decision-making that almost deferred the decision (ie short term consents). Ideally we would like to see more investment in the STP plants rather than preserving the status quo at a resource consent hearing. In some cases we have had real success whereby a better environmental outcome has been put forward, however in other cases very little has been achieved.
9. Table 1 provides an update for each of the applications and an indicative work programme for their resolution. You will see that for some, a hearing will be set down in the next six months and for others a little extra time has been given to finalise matters. We consider this reasonable as it is not feasible to hold a hearing for all applications given the resources they demand. However we have sent a strong message to all applicants that the time for delay has passed and we will be pushing for resolution.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

10. That the Committee recommends that Council:
  - a. **receives** the information in Report No. 11-34.

R Munneke  
**POLICY AND CONSENTS MANAGER**

## ANNEX

- A Table of STP consents

## List of Applications for Territorial Authority STP Discharges

Applicant	Common Name	Expire	Receiving Environment	Current Status	Proposed Action
Horowhenua District Council	Shannon STP	1/07/2001	Stansells drain then Mangaere Stream	A draft application has been lodged and commented on by staff. The application is to discharge directly to the Manawatu River. Awaiting finalised application	A meeting is scheduled with HDC on 1 March to put a timeframe for the final application. An update will be provided at the Environment Committee meeting
Ruapehu District Council	Taumarunui STP	1/03/2003	Whanganui River	RDC are trying to resolve outstanding submissions. They have been given until mid March to do this	If submitters do not sign off by mid March, a hearing will be set down in April/May
Tararua District Council	Pahiatua STP	30/06/2005	Town Creek / Mangatainoka River	TDC were required to provide an update by 18 February about plant upgrades	The outcome of the plant upgrades report will determine the next steps in the process. If no new treatment is proposed a hearing will be set down in May/June. If new treatment is proposed, a revised application may be required by May/June. An update will be provided at the Environment Committee meeting
Ruapehu District Council	National Park STP	12/07/2005	Unnamed Tributary of the Makaretu Stream	RDC are investigating additional treatment options. A Council meeting will be held on 8 March to determine final option. RDC required to report back on final by end of March	The results of the feasibility report will determine the next step. If no new treatment is proposed a hearing will be set down in June. If new treatment is proposed, a revised application will be required by June
Tararua District Council	Eketahuna STP	4/10/2005	Makakahi River	TDC were required to provide an update by 18 February about plant performance	Once the information is received, a pre-hearing meeting will be held in March/April
Rangitikei District Council	Koitiata STP	21/9/2009	Land	Staff undertaking technical assessment	Draft conditions to be circulated to affected party 1 March. If the affected party is happy, consent will be issued
Wanganui District Council	Wanganui STP	31/3/2010	Tasman Sea	The application has been notified. WDC is resolving submitter concerns by 1 April	When the submitter signs off consent will be issued
Ruapehu District Council	Rangaataua STP	20/12/2005	Mangaehuehu Stream	RDC are required to submit a draft application by 3 March as the proposal has changed. Final application will be submitted by 11 March	Staff will assess the new application once it is received and determine notification requirements
Palmerston North City Council	Aokautere STP	16/12/2008	Burns Creek	The application is on hold while PNCC look to connect the discharge to the main Palmerston North STP. The pipeline will be built in March/April	The proposal will remain on hold until the pipeline is built and the discharge is longer needed. The application will then be withdrawn

Applicant	Common Name	Expire	Receiving Environment	Current Status	Proposed Action
Rangitikei District Council	Bulls STP	7/10/2006	Rangitikei River	The application has stalled because of a request from staff to investigate combined discharges with Riverlands. RDC is still attempting to work this through	Need to meet with RDC staff to set out timeframe for providing an AEE
Rangitikei District Council	Hunterville STP	30/04/2007	Porewa Stream	A draft application has been lodged commented on by staff. We are currently waiting for the revised application to be lodged which is due 1 April	Staff will assess the new application once it is received and determine notification requirements
Manawatu District Council	Feilding STP	1/06/2009	Oroua River	MDC presented options for land disposal to their Councillors on 1 February. MDC had a Council meeting on 22 February where they would decide on the preferred option	If there is no change to the proposal a hearing would be set down in June. If a revised proposal was preferred a new application will be required by 1 May. An update will be provided at the Environment Committee Meeting
Manawatu District Council	Longburn STP	31/05/2010	Manawatu River	MDC proposing to build pipeline to PNCC STP. Public consultation is taking place and MDC is waiting to hear submissions. If approved the discharge will cease in mid to late 2011	Staff will follow up with MDC about their decision. An update will be provided at the Environment Committee meeting
Rangitikei District Council	Taihape STP	27/04/2011	Hautapu River	RDC has submitted an amended application with additional treatment. Staff assessing effects of new activity	Notify application in March and resolve through pre-hearing meeting or hearing in June
Horowhenua District Council	Waitarere STP	30/1/2007	Land	The application has been notified with submissions. A pre-hearing has been held. There are outstanding submissions to be resolved	A meeting is scheduled with HDC on 1 March to determine the next step in the process. An update will be provided at the Environment Committee meeting
Horowhenua District Council	Levin STP	7/12/2007	Land (The Pot)	The application has been notified with outstanding submissions	A meeting is scheduled with HDC on 1 March to determine the next step in the process. An update will be provided at the Environment Committee meeting
Tararua District Council	Woodville STP	6/10/2010	Mangaatua Stream	Staff are awaiting further information on mixing zones. This is due 1 April	Staff will assess the proposal to determine notification requirements once further information is received

A Significant decision? <b>If Yes</b>	N
Do recommendations meet Significance Policy (contained within the LTCCP)	

**Item No: 7**  
**Date: 8/03/2011**  
**Report No: 11-22**  
**File No: GGV 3 01**

## CONFERENCE / TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR ELECTED MEMBERS

### PURPOSE

1. This purpose of this report is to inform Members about conference and training opportunities for their consideration.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

2. The annual budget for Councillors' conference and training development is \$10,661. To date in this financial year, \$4,642 (excl GST) has been spent on training and conferences for elected members. This has included:
  - Newly Elected Members training (Crs Barrow, Cox, McKellar, Sheldon)
  - New Chair's training (Cr Guy)
  - RMA certification training (Cr Sheldon)

### BACKGROUND

3. At the request of Members, for the past year a Training and Conference Opportunities schedule has been compiled prior to each Council meeting and distributed to Members at the Council meeting.
4. In the past Councillors have indicated when they are interested in a particular opportunity and the Chairman has considered their request.
5. The Governance Coordinator has then been requested by the Chairman to arrange the appropriate registration, and any other relevant arrangements (travel, accommodation), for the Member/s.

### COMMENT

6. An updated schedule of Training and Conference Opportunities is attached at Annex A. Details of each event can be found by accessing the website link supplied, or the brochure is available for your perusal from the Governance Coordinator.
7. In response to distribution of an earlier Schedule, the Chair of Regional Transport is already registered (by Earlybird registration) to attend the Transport New Zealand Summit and Expo 2011. This cost is included in the \$4,642 mentioned in paragraph 2.
8. A future training opportunity in this financial year which could be of interest to Crs White, Guy and Plowman, is the Re-certification workshop for RMA Certificate holders. This workshop is being held in Wellington on 7 April at a cost of \$990 (excl GST) per person.
9. Should the three Members request and be approved to take up this re-certification training, the balance of the training budget for this financial year would therefore be \$3,049.
10. Another conference opportunity for Members is the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) annual conference. In the past the Chairman and two or three Councillors have

attended this Conference and the preceding regional tour. This year it is being held on 9-13 July 2011, and the registration costs would fall within the current financial year. Although these costs are not yet available, the Earlybird registration last year was \$1,130 (excl GST) per person which included the Welcome reception and the formal dinner.

11. Members may wish to consider whether the Chair continues to approve requests to attend conferences and/or training opportunities. Another option is for the Chair and the Deputy Chair to consider and decide on these requests.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

12. It is recommended that the Council:
  - a. **receives** Report No. 11-22 and the updated Training and Conference Opportunities Schedule at Annex A; and
  - b. **agrees** that the Chair approves/declines requests by Members to attend training and/or conference opportunities;or  
**agrees** that the Chair and Deputy Chair consider and approve/decline requests by Members to attend training and/or conference opportunities.

C Grant  
**GROUP MANAGER CORPORATE & GOVERNANCE**

K Booth  
**GOVERNANCE COORDINATOR**

## ANNEX

- A Schedule of Training/Conference Opportunities 2011

# TRAINING / CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE OPPORTUNITIES – 2011

8 March 2011 - Strategy and Policy Committee meeting

Training /Conference Opportunity	Date 2011	Venue	Course Provider	Cost Full Reg	Cost Papers Only	Registrations Close
Financial Governance 101 <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz/">www.lgnz.co.nz/</a>	10 March	Palmerston North City Council	LGNZ	\$395 + GST	N/A	---
Financial Governance 101 <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz/">www.lgnz.co.nz/</a>	18 March	Wellington City Council	LGNZ	\$395 + GST	N/A	---
Asset Management <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz/">www.lgnz.co.nz/</a>	18 March	Wellington City Council	LGNZ	\$395 + GST	N/A	---
5 <sup>th</sup> Annual Regulatory Evolution Summit <a href="http://www.conferenz.co.nz">www.conferenz.co.nz</a>	30-31 March	Wellington	Conferenz	\$2295 + GST \$1995 + GST (Earlybird)	\$495 + GST	Earlybird closes 16 Feb 2011
Making Good Decisions – RMA Re-certification <a href="http://www.cce.auckland.ac.nz/rma">www.cce.auckland.ac.nz/rma</a>	7 April	Wellington	University of Auckland	\$990 + GST	N/A	N/A
Financial Governance 201 <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz/">www.lgnz.co.nz/</a>	18 April	Wellington City Council	LGNZ	\$395 + GST	N/A	---
NZ Transport Strategy, Infrastructure & Funding Summit <a href="http://www.conferenz.co.nz">www.conferenz.co.nz</a>	27-28 April	Auckland	Conferenz	\$2295 + GST \$1995 + GST (Earlybird)	N/A	Earlybird closes 15 March 2011
Environmental Law Regulation Reform <a href="http://www.conferenz.co.nz">www.conferenz.co.nz</a>	27-28 April	Wellington	Conferenz	\$2295 + GST \$1995 + GST (Earlybird)	\$495 + GST	2 for 1 Special Earlybird closes 16 March 2011

Maori Legal Forum <a href="http://www.conferenz.co.nz">www.conferenz.co.nz</a>	27-28 April	Wellington	Conferenz	\$2295 + GST \$1995 + GST (Earlybird)	N/A	Earlybird closes 16 March 2011
Decision Making <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz">www.lgnz.co.nz</a>	4 May	Palmerston North City Council	LGNZ	\$395 + GST	N/A	---
Transport NZ Summit & Expo 2011 <a href="http://www.activebusinesscommunications.com/transport/">www.activebusinesscommunications.com/transport/</a>	1-2 June	Auckland	Active Business Communications	\$850 + GST (Earlybird) \$895 + GST (Early)		Earlybird closed 24 Dec 2010
EDS National Conference – Reform in Paradise II <a href="http://www.edskonference.com">www.edskonference.com</a>	1-2 June	Auckland	Environmental Defence Society	TBA		TBA
LGNZ Annual Conference - Future Focus 2011 <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz/events/conference/">www.lgnz.co.nz/events/conference/</a>	10-13 July	Wellington	LGNZ	TBA		TBA
RMA – How it really works <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz">www.lgnz.co.nz</a>	3 August	Palmerston North City Council	LGNZ	\$395 + GST	N/A	---
Asset Management <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz">www.lgnz.co.nz</a>	26 August	Wellington City Council	LGNZ	\$395 + GST	N/A	---
14 <sup>th</sup> International Riversymposium <a href="http://www.riversymposium.com">www.riversymposium.com</a>	26-29 Sept	Brisbane	Riversymposium	TBA		TBA
The Secret to Building Good Relationships with your CE <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz">www.lgnz.co.nz</a>	30 Sept	Wellington City Council	LGNZ	\$395 + GST	N/A	---

Effective Team Review <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz">www.lgnz.co.nz</a>	12 October 9.30am to 1pm	Palmerston North City Council	LGNZ	\$250 + GST	N/A	---
Ethical Responsibilities <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz">www.lgnz.co.nz</a>	12 October 1.30pm to 5pm	Palmerston North City Council	LGNZ	\$250 + GST	N/A	---
Local Government : An introduction to how it works <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz">www.lgnz.co.nz</a>	13 October 9.30am to 1pm	Palmerston North City Council	LGNZ	\$250 + GST	N/A	---
Elected Members Effectiveness <a href="http://www.lgnz.co.nz">www.lgnz.co.nz</a>	13 October 1.30pm to 5pm	Palmerston North City Council	LGNZ	\$250 + GST	N/A	---
2011 Water NZ Conference & Expo <a href="http://www.waternz.org.nz/annualconference.html">www.waternz.org.nz/annualconference.html</a>	9-11 Nov	Rotorua	Water NZ	Registrations open 22 July.		Earlybird closes 21 Sept







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