

# **AGENDA**

## **STRATEGY & POLICY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday  
11 NOVEMBER 2008**

for further information regarding this agenda, please contact:  
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|                        |   |  |   |
|------------------------|---|--|---|
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Notice is given of a meeting of Horizons Regional Council, on Tuesday, 11 November 2008 at 10.00am in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council offices, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

## **ORDER PAPER**

Agenda Pages

### **Strategy and Policy Committee**

10.00am Tuesday, 11 November

1 - 14

**11.30am - Presentation from Mr John Dalziell, Animal Health Board -  
Regional Share Funding**

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

### **NEWS EMBARGO**

Items in these 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.



## STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee of the Whole

### AGENDA

11 November 2008

10.00am

|  | <b>Pages</b> |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Apologies   |              |
| 2. Late Items:<br>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.<br><br>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:<br><br>(i) The reason why the item was not on the Order Paper, and<br>(ii) The reason why the discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting. |              |
| 3. Members' Conflict of Interest<br>Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.  |              |
| 4. Confirmation of Minutes – 14 October 2008   | 1 - 6        |
| 5. Kia Wharite Advisory Group – Proposed Terms of Reference<br><i>Report No: 08-195</i><br><i>File No: EBM 1 01</i>  | 7 - 10       |
| 6. Presentation from Mr John Dalziell, Animal Health Board<br>Regional Share Funding   |              |
| 7. Members' Questions  |              |

## PART TWO - PUBLIC EXCLUDED SECTION

The public is to be excluded from the remainder of the Council meeting as the general subject matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 (1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution is as follows:

| General subject of each matter to be considered  | Reason for passing this resolution   | Grounds under section 48 (1) for passing this resolution   |
|--|--|--|
| PX1<br>Confirmation of Minutes of<br>14 October 2008<br><br><b><i>Pgs 11 - 12</i></b>            | As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to protect the privacy of natural persons.   | That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist. |
| PX2<br>Catchment Incentive Proposal<br><i>Report No. 08-194</i><br><br><b><i>Pgs 13 - 14</i></b> | As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to enable Council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations. | That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist. |

M J McCartney  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



Minutes of the ninth meeting, seventh 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 10.06am on Tuesday, 14 October 2008.

#### **PRESENT**

Crs G P Murfitt (Chair), L Bailey, L R Burnell, E B Gordon, M C Guy, A K Main, D B Meads (from 10.08am), M W Plowman, P W Rieger QSO, R G Walker JP, 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 G Carlyon (Group Manager Regional Policy and Regulatory from 10.30am to 12.02pm, from 1.03pm to 1.55pm), Mr C Mitchell (Group Manager Environmental Management, from 10.20am to 11.26am), Mr A Cook (Group Manager Operations, from 11.29am to Mr I Lowe (District Liaison, until 10.40pm), Ms C Webb (Media Liaison Advisor until ???), and Mr E Duggan (Strategic Financial Planner, from 10.40am to 11.26am).

#### **APOLOGIES:**

**SP 08-74                      Moved                      Gordon/Bailey**

*that an apology be accepted from Cr Chettleburgh.*

**CARRIED**

#### **LATE ITEMS:**

The Chairman advised of two Late Items. The first Late Item, to be taken as 7A, was about the consultation around stages 2 and 3 for the proposed Lower Whanganui Flood Protection Scheme. There was urgency due to an Horizons presentation being made to the Wanganui District Council meeting in the following week. The second Late Item, to be discussed in Public Excluded, addressed the Chief Executive's remuneration.

**SP 08-75                      Moved                      Murfitt/Main**

*that the two Late Items be received because of the reasons given.*

**CARRIED**

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

There were no conflicts of interest noted.

The Chairman suggested that a Councillors' workshop be held on Monday, 15 December 2008 when the Chief Executive would update Members on the National Environmental Standard on freshwater, and the National Policy Statement on flood management. In noting a request for information to be distributed well in advance of the meeting, the Chief Executive commented on the confidential nature of some of the information.

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**SP 08-76**

**Moved**

**Bailey/Burnell**

*that the minutes of the meeting held on 9 September 2008, as circulated, be confirmed as a correct record.*

**CARRIED**

## **PROJECT INFORMATION MEMORANDUM IN RELATION TO LARGE DAMS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE BUILDING ACT 2004**

*Report No. 08-173*

This report sought the Committee's endorsement for the setting of charges for Project Information Memoranda (PIMs) and authorisation of delegations required for the issuing of PIMs in accordance with the Building Act 2004 (the Act) requirements.

Mr Lowe (Co-ordinator District Advice) spoke to the report. He explained the background to the transfer of Horizons' Building Consent Authority (BCA) functions, as required by the Act, to Environment Waikato (EW). This transfer did not include Project Information Memoranda (PIM) and Horizons remained responsible for the PIM process, which was explained in the report. He drew Members' attention to the footnote on the report, which outlined the definition of a Large Dam under the Act. He noted that this applied to new Large Dams, and there were currently three under construction in the Region.

Members fully discussed the method of sizing the dams, and also the Environment Waikato charges which were outlined in the annexed brochure. Mr Lowe explained that the Act allowed Horizons to set charges, if any. There was no requirement to use a special consultative process, there was no requirement for a formal charging regime under the Act in the Long-term Council Community Plan, and asking for Council's endorsement of the delegations to issue the costs.

Members asked for clarification about the use of the wording 'Large Dams' and they referred to the definition in the Act, and then the definitions used by EW in the brochure. Mr Lowe explained that EW had set 'Small', 'Medium', and 'Large' within the range of a Large Dam as defined by the Act. Cr White referred to Table 2 of the EW brochure and asked if Horizons would use the same range of charges. Mr Lowe explained that the officer recommendation was for the charge to be the actual cost of the staff working on the PIM. He clarified that Horizons and other regional councils would be using the EW brochures to distribute to applicants, and to avoid confusion about Table 2, he had asked for any queries about dams to be directed to him in the first instance and he could explain the charges at that time.

Cr Plowman outlined his concerns that the definitions by EW would be confusing to potential applicants, and asked who would be affected by a Large Dam at the back of a property covering 1000 hectares. He believed it was an over-regulation of basic use of land within private property. The Chief Executive recognised his concern and explained that Horizons was bound by the legislation of the Act, which provided for safe structures. The Chairman clarified that the measurement of 3 metres was taken on the inside wall of the dam.

Mr Lowe clarified Members' questions.

An amendment was made to (d) to identify the positions initially, followed by person currently in the position.

**SP 08-77**

**Moved**

**Rieger/Murfitt**

*that the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. **receives** the information in this report;
- b. **sets** the level of charges for Project Information Memoranda applications as the same as those of Environment Waikato (Annex A);
- c. **formally** includes the level of charges (if any) in the 2009-19 Community Plan Revenue and Funding Policy, and
- d. **delegates** the responsibility for the issuing of Project Information Memoranda to the Co-ordinator District Advice (primary) (Ian Lowe) and, Plan Implementation Co-ordinator (alternate) (Peter Taylor).

**CARRIED**

## **DRAFT CONSULTATION STRATEGY FOR COMMUNITY PLAN**

*Report No. 08-178*

The report informed Members of the Consultation Strategy for the Community Plan (CP) and how Horizons would communicate the draft CP to the public. The Group Manager Regional Planning and Regulatory (GMRPR) clarified Members' questions. He explained that specific displays were created on information boards to outline 'hot topics' at sites of interest, such as on the Green Rig when it was used as a venue, and at Field days. Cr White suggested that 'sign farms' (such as the area by the Fitzherbert Bridge) would provide useful publicity. The GMRPR advised that in the past he had rented banner space in Broadway.

The Councillors agreed they wanted better distribution of information, such as the 'Across The Region' (ATR) newsletter and the CP Summary (which would be in the ATR format), and highlighted concerns over distribution problems with the ATR in the past. Suggestions for successful distribution to everyone in the community included: an insert in newspapers or community papers, radio publicity, separate contractor, advertisement about delivery, distribution points at service stations and supermarkets, and posted, although that was seen as an expensive option. The GMRPR commented that a recent survey had shown the ATR was widely read, and linked people to Horizons.

Cr Plowman voiced his concern with using the Green Rig for a consultative purpose. The Chief Executive clarified that the process that Council used to make its decisions, was through submissions received in response to the Draft Community Plan.

In response to Members' comments about the timing of consultation with iwi, the GMRPR said the consultation would be brought forward in the schedule. The recommendation was amended.

**SP 08-78**

**Moved**

**Burnell/White**

*That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. **receives** the information in Report No. 08-176 and Annex and that management will action appropriate suggestions from Council.

**CARRIED**

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING – AFFORESTATION GRANT SCHEME

Report No. 08-184

This item sought endorsement to commit to a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry (MAF) and a consortium of regional councils. The Chief Executive outlined the background to the report, .

**SP 08-79**                      **Moved**    **Guy/Burnell**

- a.        **receives** Report No. 08-184; and
- b.        **authorises** the Chief Executive to sign the Memorandum of Understanding for the Afforestation Grant Scheme between the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry and Horizons Regional Council.

**CARRIED**

## LATE ITEM

### Proposed Whanganui River Flood Protection Works

**SP 08-80**                      **Moved**    **Main/White**

- a.        that Horizons urgently invites a formal position from the Wanganui District Council and the Working Party on the suggestion of delaying consultation on stages 2 and 3 of the Scheme for one year.
- b.        Council requests a report from management on the implications of a delay.
- c.        In light of (a) and (b) above, Council formally considers its position in response to the position of Wanganui District Council and the Working Party at its October Council meeting.

**CARRIED**

## MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

*The meeting adjourned at 12.22pm.*

*The meeting resumed at 1.03pm.*

**SP 08-81**                      **Moved**    **Murfit/Bailey**

*that the public is to be excluded from this portion of the Committee meeting as the general subject matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government*

*Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for passing of this resolution is as follows:*

| General subject of each matter to be considered              | Reason for passing this resolution   | Grounds under section 48 (1) for passing this resolution   |
|--|--|--|
| PX1<br>Members' discussion on One Plan Hearing Remuneration. | As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to protect the privacy of natural persons. | That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist. |
| PX2<br>Chief Executive's Remuneration.                       | As disclosure would not be in the public interest because of the greater need to protect the privacy of natural persons. | That the exclusion of the public from that part of the meeting is necessary to prevent the disclosure of information for which good reasons for withholding exist. |

***CARRIED***

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 1.04pm, and resumed at 2.14pm.

The meeting closed at 2.15pm.

Confirmed

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CHIEF EXECUTIVE

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CHAIRMAN



|   |   |
|---|---|
| A Significant decision?<br><b>If Yes</b>                                | Y |
| Do recommendations meet<br>Significance Policy and LGA<br>requirements? | Y |

**Item No: 5**  
**Date: 11/11/2008**  
**Report No: 08-195**  
**File No: EBM 1 01**

## **KIA WHARITE ADVISORY GROUP - PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **PURPOSE**

1. This item seeks Members' support for an Advisory Group structure to assist with delivery of the Kia Wharite project.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

2. There is no financial impact associated with recommendations in this paper.

### **BACKGROUND**

3. During the 2008-09 Annual Plan process, a proposal for the Kia Wharite project was adopted by Council. The Kia Wharite project is a joint initiative involving the Department of Conservation (DoC) and Horizons Regional Council. The two organisations will work collaboratively on an enhanced plant and animal pest control programme covering a 180,000 ha area centred on Whanganui National Park. The objectives of the project are to improve forest health and increase North Island brown kiwi and blue duck (whio) populations.
4. DoC will concentrate its efforts on public conservation land, Horizons will concentrate its efforts on private land, and the two organisations will work collaboratively along common boundaries. Involvement in the project is voluntary for private landowners.

### **COMMENT**

5. The investment by Horizons and DoC is substantial, and extends over a number of years. A five-year Operational Plan, and an annual work programme for 2008-09, set out the project objectives, timelines, and individual work streams. These documents and work programmes have been developed and are now being delivered in an extremely positive partnership involving DoC and Horizons staff. Notwithstanding this relationship, it is the view of staff and management of the two organisations that a more formal 'community input' structure, beyond the management team charged with day-to-day administration and operations, is required.
6. As such, a structure with organisational and community representation is recognised as an appropriate model to allow for ongoing and increased community involvement, whilst recognising the management responsibilities of the two key organisations.

7. An Advisory Group structure, rather than a more formal governance or trust structure, is the preferred option for the following reasons:
- it acknowledges the management agencies, Horizons and DoC, have the budgetary control, infrastructure and staff expertise to deliver on outcomes;
  - it acknowledges community and external agency input is principally of an advisory and supportive nature;
  - it allows for efficient and cost-effective administration while maintaining public input; and
  - a similar advisory group structure has been working successfully for the last two years around Totara Reserve Regional Park.
8. In line with this preferred option, a proposed Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group is shown at Annex A. This Terms of Reference borrows heavily from that adopted for Totara Reserve Regional Park.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

9. That the Committee recommends that Council:
- a. **endorses** the proposal for an Advisory Group structure for the Kia Wharite project;
  - b. **seeks** the agreement of the Department of Conservation to the proposed Terms of Reference; and
  - c. **adopts** the Proposed Terms of Reference.

G J Carlyon

**GROUP MANAGER REGIONAL PLANNING AND REGULATORY**

## ANNEX

- A Proposed Terms of Reference

## PROPOSED TERMS OF REFERENCE

### KIA WHARITE ADVISORY GROUP

#### PRINCIPAL ROLES

- to provide advice and assistance to Horizons Regional Council (HRC) and Department of Conservation (DoC) in their management of the Kia Wharite project in line with the five-year Operational Plan;
- to represent community and external agency opinion to HRC and DoC for consideration by those management agencies;
- to provide advice and feedback to officers of HRC and MDC for preparation of an Annual Report for consideration by the management agencies;
- to bring forward recommendations independently developed by the Advisory Group for consideration by the management agencies;
- to seek and obtain community support for the operation of the Kia Wharite project;
- to seek and obtain, where possible, funding additional to the core funding made available by the management agencies to achieve outcomes consistent with the operative management plan.

#### ADMINISTRATION

- a. that the Advisory Group be represented by nine (9) members:
  - two members appointed by Horizons Regional Council;
  - two members appointed by the Department of Conservation;
  - three members appointed by Whanganui iwi;
  - one member appointed by the Retaruke Valley community; and
  - one member appointed by the Manganui-a-te-Ao Valley community.
- b. that the members be appointed for a period of one (1) year initially, extending out to three-year terms after the initial set-up term, with reconfirmation of members to the Group coming via appointment by the agencies identified in (a) above. To expedite matters for this initial term, it is recommended that, rather than call for nominations from the Retaruke and Manganui-a-te-Ao Valley communities, instead suitable candidates are 'shoulder-tapped'.
- c. that the Chairman of the Group be appointed by the members;
- d. that the Advisory Group be administered and serviced jointly by Horizons Regional Council and Department of Conservation;
- e. that the Advisory Committee meets two (2) times annually.







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