

# Environment Committee

## Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Environment Committee is as follows:

- To ensure, through appropriate performance monitoring and information receipt, the effective promotion of sustainable management of natural and physical resources of the Region (including science, education and regulatory matters).
- To ensure that, in the management of natural and physical resources account is taken of the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti O Waitangi).
- To monitor the implementation and progress of Biosecurity activities within the Region.
- Where delegated by Council, to develop draft Regional plans and strategies, after taking due account of public submissions, for adoption by Council.

## Committee Membership

Membership of the Environment Committee consists of five to twelve elected members and sits four times a year.

This Committee may invite advisers (eg from the rural community and/or Regional Animal Health Committee) to attend relevant portions of the Committee's business.

A quorum will consist of:

- half of the members physically present, where the number of members (including vacancies) is even; and
- a majority of the members physically present, where the number of members (including vacancies) is odd.

## Objectives

The operating objectives are:

- Monitor the implementation and progress of integrated management of the natural and physical resources of the Region.
- Oversee (usually through various reporting mechanisms) the implementation of the Resource Management Act by:
  - monitoring the granting of resource consents, with individuals acting as Hearing Commissioners when required;
  - maintaining oversight of compliance by resource consent holders with conditions on their resource consents;
  - promoting non-regulatory methods of implementing resource management policy;
  - monitoring the state of the environment in the Region; and
  - undertaking or supporting investigations necessary to promote sustainable management in the Region.

- Investigate opportunities to promote effective implementation of the Resource Management Act, including delegations and, where appropriate, transfer of functions.
- Monitor the implementation and progress of Biosecurity activities within the Region.
- Monitor the effectiveness of the Council's environmental plans and strategies, and recommend these for review as appropriate.
- Develop policy and plans as delegated by Council (including Regional Plans).

### **Delegations**

The Committee has no general decision-making or financial delegations but from time to time may be given such delegations by Council for specific matters.