

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

20 FEBRUARY 2019

AGENDA ITEM E1

REPORT FROM HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR

Purpose of Report

To update Council on activities and issues which have arisen since my last report to Council.

Recommendations

Her Worship the Mayor recommends that Council:

1. *Receives the Mayor's Report.*
2. *Note the resignation of CEO Paul Crimp from 29 March 2019.*
3. *Note a recruitment process is underway to appoint a new CEO. Interviews for the CEO position will be conducted by the full Council.*
4. *Endorse the Destination Wairarapa Strategy to 2025.*

1. CEO resignation

Mr Paul Crimp tendered his resignation in December and will resign on the 29 March 2019. I would like to acknowledge the work Mr Crimp has done for SWDC since his appointment as Group Manager Corporate Services and as CEO since 2013. Paul has made huge strides in the financial management of council, started the implementation of the Wastewater to Land strategy, led the organisation through the uncertainties of the Super City and Wairarapa amalgamation debate, started the journey to create a South Wairarapa Spatial Plan, and completed the Waihinga Centre at the end of last year.

Paul will leave the council in a very sound financial position; council has a strong understanding of its underground and roading assets and its maintenance requirements for the next 80 plus years. This knowledge has enabled Council to develop a LTP in 2018 that is planning for the future and not concentrating on assets.

Thank you Paul for your time at SWDC, your passion and dedication to SWDC is very much appreciated.

The process to employ a new CEO is underway. Applications closed on the 13 February with strong interest in the position. The interview process should take place mid-March. Council has employed JacksonStone to undertake the appointment process.

2. Waihinga Centre

The Waihinga Centre was opened on 10 December by Rt Hon Wyatt Creech, and Mr Stevens (Chair of the Waihinga Charitable Trust), Mr McGregor (Ngati Hikawera) and me.

The building is a huge asset to the Martinborough and South Wairarapa communities. I want to acknowledge the enormous community support in both money and time that ensured this facility was completed, not quite on time but within budget.

The facility is already being well used by visitors and the Martinborough community.

3. Featherston Land

The Vacant Land Project Group have been meeting regularly, held a pot luck afternoon tea to hear suggestions and views of the Featherston community and will make recommendations to the 3 April Council.

4. Destination Wairarapa Strategy to 2025

Destination Wairarapa has undergone an examination of the changes in the tourism environment since their preceding strategy was developed in 2015/2016. These changes were worked through in a meeting of key tourism partners resulting in the Strategy document as presented in Appendix 1. The Strategy as was presented to the Wairarapa Combined Council and subsequently endorsed by major funders Masterton and Carterton District Council. Council has been asked to endorse the Destination Wairarapa Strategy.

5. Governance Review and Council Structure

This is covered in a separate report.

6. Meetings

I have attended a variety of meetings including, Civil Defence Emergency Management, Mayoral Forum, Smoke Free Co-ordinator, Construction Team meetings, Audit and Risk Working Party, Governance Review sub group, Community Boards, Maori Standing Committee, Infrastructure and Planning Working Party, LOGO Working Party, Meetings with Government Ministers at Brackenridge, ministers included Minister Chris Hipkins, Minister Damien O'Conner, Minister David Clarke and Minister Phil Twyford Featherston Commemorates group, Future Water Needs Water Users Group, Community Board Chairs, Wellington Water, Food Story Workshop, Primary Sector Skills Workshop, Featherston Land Councillors and Community Board Project Group, Wairarapa Economic Development Strategy Action Plan Governance Group, Destination Wairarapa, Wairarapa Mayoral meeting, Interviews for consultants to run CE recruitment I have had meetings with various individuals and groups.

Meeting – Date & Venue	Civil Defence Emergency Management Upper Hutt City Council Chambers 14 December at 9am
Present	Wellington Regional CDEM members
Key issues from meeting	How Emergency management is intending to work with Iwi and Marae Wellington Region Earthquake Plan WREMO 1/4 rly report

Meeting – Date & Venue	Mayoral Forum Upper Hutt City Council Chambers 14 December at 10am
Present	Wellington Region Mayors and CE's
Key issues from meeting	Appointment of Chair and Deputy Chair for 2019, Mayor Guppy Chair, Mayor Lester Deputy Chair, Update from National Council Let's Get Wellington Moving Wellington Regional Investment Plan, Impact of an Urban Development Authority Local Government Funding and Financing issues Paper Regional Indoor Stadium update LGNZ Conference 2019 Wellington is hosting
Speakers	Mayor Guppy, General discussion
Specific Items/s for Council consideration	A Wellington regional submission will be prepared to submit to the Local Government Funding and Financing Issues Paper

7. Events

South Featherston School Final Assembly, SWDC Christmas Party, Greytown Christmas Parade, Pot Luck Afternoon Tea for Vacant Featherston land, Garry Jackson's Funeral, Martinborough Golf Club, Dark Sky Tour, Martinborough Fair, Mysteries of the Moana, Martinborough Lions, Chair of Federated Farmers speaking at a Lunch event, Book Launch Featherston Heritage Museum.

8. Correspondence

Date	Inwards Correspondence	Subject
10 December	Chor Farmer	Thanks assisting with arrangements for concerts and improvements made to Sakura Garden.
13 December	Dr Lynn, Chief Executive of UCOL	Joint letter to Mayors of the Wairarapa outlining programme for the year ahead and to thank for continued support.

Date	Inwards Correspondence	Subject
17 December	Kuranui College	Thank you for the prize giving donation.
18 December	Ambassador of Japan	Welcoming the Ambassador to NZ.
11 January	CEO Federated Famers, Tertiary Educations Union, NZ Union of Student Associations	Joint letter to Mayors of district to seek a meeting to discuss the Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre.

Date	Outwards Correspondence	Subject
11 December	The Martinborough Dark Sky Society	Support for the proposal to create an International Dark Sky Reserve.
17 December	Library Volunteers	Letters of thanks to those individuals who volunteered their help with the move to Waihinga Centre.
18 December	South Wairarapa College Prizegiving recipients	Individual letters of congratulation on their respective award.
19 December	Rt Hon Wyatt Creech CNZM	Letter of thanks for opening the Waihinga Centre.
19 December	Nelson Rangī	Thanks for participation in the opening of the Waihinga Centre.
19 December	Craig Nelson, Principal, Martinborough School	Thanks to the school for participating in the opening of the Waihinga Centre.
19 December	Horipo Rimene	Thank you thank you for the time you have been a representative of Rangitane o Wairarapa on the SWDC Maori Standing Committee.
20 December	Jason Osborne	Congratulations on recently becoming a recipient of a New Zealander of the Year "Local Hero" award.
20 December	CEO Federated Famers, Tertiary Educations Union, NZ Union of Student Associations	Letter from the three Wairarapa Mayors to advise of the intent to convene a meeting to have a targeted conversation about the future workforce and skills requirements of the primary sector of the Wairarapa.
21 December	Hon Chris Hipkins, Minister of Education	Seeking a meeting following the decision to commence liquidation of the Taratahi Agricultural Training Centre.
24 January	Helen Masters, Ata Rangī	Congratulations on NZ Winemaker of Year Award by Gourmet Traveler.

9. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Destination Wairarapa Strategy to 2025

Prepared by: Her Worship the Mayor, Viv Napier

Appendix 1 – Destination Wairarapa Strategy to 2025

Destination Wairarapa DRAFT Strategy to 2025

Vision: Every traveller has the Wairarapa on their “Must Do” list.

Mission: Grow the Wairarapa’s Tourism Revenue to \$212m by 2025, while shallowing the low to high season trough by attracting More Visitors, who Stay Longer and Spend More

Statement of Intent: Destination Wairarapa has a responsibility to major funders, regional stakeholders and the wider community to deliver economic growth and positive outcomes from tourism related activities. We are committed to being a great employer and to deliver value to our members and funders. We do this by ensuring the Wairarapa has the Right Tourism Offering, with Outstanding Delivery, Communicated Effectively.

EXTERNAL - The Right Tourism Offering
<p>Work with existing and potential members and stakeholders to deliver a diversity of experiences for visitors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identifying gaps in our tourism offering - facilitate the development of new product <p>Develop products with Key Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - cycling trails tied in to the Great Ride - Food Story and Dark Sky - Iwi to own and tell their story <p>Influence Key Agencies to improve tourism infrastructure; WREDA, GWRC, Transdev & NZTA</p> <p>Assist, mentor and support events and present a regional event calendar</p> <p>Work with strategic partners to attract Business Events to the region</p> <p>In line with the Reg. Investment Plan, engage with relevant community groups to promote Social Licence</p>

INTERNAL - With Outstanding Delivery
<p>Invest in the skills and knowledge of our team by providing relevant training</p> <p>Inspire members to deliver a quality visitor experience every time</p> <p>Identify gaps in our members’ capability and facilitate training opportunities</p> <p>Help our members stay up to date with marketing, technology and legal changes</p> <p>Ensure our members are well informed regarding regulatory and industry developments and business best practice</p>

OUTPUT - Communicated Effectively
<p>Targeting Destination Wairarapa marketing spend to optimise members’ yield opportunities</p> <p>Driving off peak visitation</p> <p>Working smart through our digital marketing platforms</p> <p>Promote the Wairarapa as a Business Events destination through trade shows and PCO partners</p> <p>Working with key partners and WREDA to market offshore</p> <p>Working across other departments of WREDA through their Wairarapa based agency</p> <p>Promote the Wairarapa as a world class destination</p>