

# SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

4 APRIL 2018

## 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 information.*
2. *Appoints councillor/s as SWDC delegate and observer to the LGNZ Annual Conference 15-17 July 2018.*

#### **1. Long Term Plan**

Council adopted the 2018-2018 Long Term Plan (LTP) for consultation on 21 April 2018. I would like to acknowledge the time and commitment councillors, Community Board Members and members of the Maori Standing Committee have made during the preparation of the LTP. We have had open discussion and debate and people have been strategically focused in their thinking. I would also like to thank the people who attended the focus groups and shared their vision and desires for the South Wairarapa. Finally I would like to thank the staff who have worked tirelessly on producing the plan over the last few months. It is now up to our residents to give us feedback on the plan before the LTP is signed off in late June.

#### **2. Featherston Incident**

The 75th Commemoration took place on the 25th of February. The weekend had a number of events associated with the commemoration in and around Featherston.

The Service was attended by the Japanese Ambassador His Excellency Toshihisa Takata, Graham Apthorpe representing Cowra, The NZ Minister of Defence R Hon Ron Mark, Wairarapa MP Alistair Scott, The Mayors of Masterton and Carterton and well over 100 people, which is the largest number to attend a commemoration service.

The service was very moving, it was the first time the NZ Defence Force had been part of the commemoration forming an Honour Guard from the Wellington

Company 5<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Battalion Royal NZ Infantry Regiment, The National Anthems of Japan and New Zealand were sung by Georgia Jamieson Emms and accompanied by a combined Masterton and 7th Battalion Brass Band.

Wreath Laying took place by myself, Ambassador Takata, Mr Apthorpe, the NZ Defence Force, local organisations and members of the public who had relations who had been guards or prisoners at the camp. Rt Hon Tracey Martin Minister of Internal Affairs laid a wreath on behalf of her grandfather who was an officer at the camp.

The ceremony ended with the singing of KA Ze, sung by Georgia Jamieson Ems. The music had been arranged by Chor Farmer, a blessing from Father Morrison and the retreat of the guard. Afternoon tea was served in the Kiwi Hall.

I have had a letter listed in correspondence from the Mayor of Cowra thanking SWDC for the hospitality we gave to Graham Apthorpe and his wife and inviting me to attend the 75th Commemoration of the Cowra Breakout in August next year.

### **3. LGNZ Annual Conference 15-17 July in Christchurch**

Last year Mr Crimp, Crs Colenso , Maynard and myself attended the LGNZ Conference in Auckland. I have already circularised the conference details and asked for expressions of interest from councillors to attend. I have had two responses to date.

Council needs to decide how many councillors will attend this year, SWDC holds 2 votes I will be attending so we have the opportunity for one more person to attend as a voting delegate.

### **4. Logo Working Party**

The Working Party has met and the Chair Leigh Hay will update the council on progress at this meeting.

### **5. Meetings**

I have met with the Nikau Foundation, Adrienne Staples GWRC, Wairarapa Voice, Dark Sky meeting with McKenzie District Council Mayor and CEO.

#### **5.1 LGNZ Zone 4**

Topics on the agenda included: LGNZ update, Mayors Taskforce for Jobs update, Civil Defence Ministerial Review a presentation from Hon Kris Faafoi, Smart Cities presented by Wellington City council, discussion regarding ta waste manifesto remit.

#### **5.2 Rural and Provincial**

Topics covered included: LGNZ update, Civil Defence and Emergency Management, Freedom Camping, Regional Development, Climate Change and Insurance, Privacy Commission, Remuneration Authority, Transport Government Policy Statement, LGOIMA from the Chief Ombudsmen, 3 Waters and Rates Overview.

### 5.3 Hill Road Committee

Topics discussed were: Road Policing in the Wairarapa and Hutt Valley, Masterton to Carterton and Mt Bruce safety investigations and update, Remutaka Road name change and signage, update on Remutaka Hill road works, Pedestrian Crossings across the Wairarapa Townships, Speed limits and traffic counts proposed safety works.

### 5.4 Mayors Reflection Workshop

The day workshop discussed governance, strategic thinking and planning and leadership development. Denise Church and Richard Waterson gave very good presentations.

## 6. Events

Hospice Tractor Drive, Pirinoa School Triathlon, Kokomai funders thank you, Kuranui Roof Shout, St John Award ceremony, St John members from Featherston and Martinborough were recognised, South Wairarapa Rotary Awards, 15 South Wairarapa people were recognised with Community Service or Pride of Workmanship Awards including Kathy Lenihan Greytown Librarian and Linley Thorburn who used to run the Featherston Recycling Centre. Taratahi Graduation, UCOL Graduation and Greytown Schools Wheels Day.

## 7. Correspondence

### 7.1 Inwards

DATE	INWARDS	SUBJECT
11 January 18	His Worship Bill West, Mayor of Cowra Shire Council, NSW, Australia	Introductory letter for Graham Althorpe who will represent Cowra at the 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Featherston Incident.
19 March 18	Featherston Heritage Complex Society Inc.	Thanks for the extra effort put in making the commemoration of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Featherston Incident.

### 7.2 Outwards

DATE	OUTWARDS	SUBJECT
28 February 18	Featherston Booktown Committee,	Congratulations on being awarded an Achievement Award at the recent New Zealander of the Year Awards
28 February 18	Kim Workman	Congratulations on being awarded the Senior New Zealander of the Year 2018
2 March 18	His Worship Bill West, Mayor of Cowra Shire Council, NSW, Australia	Thanks for introduction to the Althorpes who attended on behalf of Cowra the 75 Anniversary of the Featherston Incident.
6 March 18	Murray King Chair	Council supports the proposal by the Greytown Little Theatre to build a new theatre on the Council

<b>DATE</b>	<b>OUTWARDS</b>	<b>SUBJECT</b>
	Rail Heritage Trust of New Zealand	owned site on West Street, adjacent to the Goods Shed.
6 March 18	Rupert Watson, Featherston	Thanks for your assistance with the organisation of the 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Featherston Incident.
6 March 18	Georgia Jamieson Emms	Thank you for your performance at the 75 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Featherston Incident.
19 March 18	Masterton District Brass Band	Thanks to Members of the Band who attended the wreath laying to commemorate Featherston Incident.
19 March 18	7th Battalion Band	Thanks to Members of the Band who attended the wreath laying to commemorate Featherston Incident.
23 March 18	Cr Barbara Donaldson, Greater Wellington Regional Council	Regional Land Transport Plan mid-term review public consultation response
23 March 18	Review Committee, Greater Wellington Regional Council	Regional Land Transport Plan mid-term review public consultation response

## **8. Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Funding Ambulance Services

Appendix 2 – Correspondence from Mayor West, Cowra

Prepared By: Her Worship the Mayor, Viv Napier

# **Appendix 1 – Funding Ambulance Services**

28 February 2018

Hon David Clark  
Minister of Health  
Parliament Buildings  
Private Bag 18 888  
WELLINGTON 6160

Dear Minister,

**RE: FUNDING AMBULANCE SERVICES**

The Mayors of the Wellington Region, in support of recent public calls, is advocating for a fully funded ambulance service. The Forum comprises of all the Mayors of the Wellington Region and the Wairarapa. The agenda of our quarterly meetings frequently include items on services and infrastructure which our region shares in common. The objective is to ensure they are fit for purpose and, where practical, savings can be made through the sharing of these services.

At a recent meeting, on the 1<sup>st</sup> December, we discussed the provision of ambulance services and in particular the challenges to local communities of finding the funding to meet the gap between funding from Central Government and the actual operating costs of these services. While our discussions focussed on the Wellington Free Ambulance service we believe that the challenges it encounters would be encountered by all other ambulance services across the country.

It may be stating the obvious to say that ambulance services are a critical part of patient care, but we do not believe that this fact can be overstated. Many improvements have been introduced in recent years in terms of the services provided in ambulances; among them,

- The staffing of ambulances by paramedics trained to degree level
- The technical equipment available on board for use by those paramedics
- The equipment that enables the base hospital to monitor a patient's condition on route to the hospital

(These improved services come of course at additional cost.)

In addition Wellington Free Ambulance (WFA) has developed a very effective triage approach which enables many more patients to receive excellent care in their homes, so freeing up hospital beds and obviating what would otherwise be a need for family members to travel to a base hospital to support the patient. In addition patients with specific conditions are transported to facilities for specific and immediate treatment, again reducing the demand for base hospital resources while maintaining the highest standards of clinical treatment.

No doubt there will be many further significant advances in future years.

Alongside this improved capacity it is necessary to consider the ever-growing demand for services from increasingly complex patients. The demand for transport by ambulance for WFA increased from 48,000 trips in 2015/2016 to 57,000 in 2016/2017 an increase of 18.75% in one year. In addition to this very considerable increase in demand per se, there are many more patients with chronic long term conditions, and with complex mental health concerns. This increasing demand for services will not abate when we have an ever aging population.

The shortfall in funding between funding from Central Government and operating costs, which include the costs of fleet renewal, means that,

- Services have to devote considerable resources to fund raising activities. These resources could be much more effectively deployed in, for example, community education programmes
- Fund raising activities will increasingly rely on the ability of an aging population, many of whom will be on fixed incomes, to raise funds to enable the services to operate at least well as they do today.

The Mayoral Forum believes that ambulance services are essential services critical to the well-being of our communities and on a par with Fire and Emergency New Zealand and the New Zealand Police. No one would suggest that these two essential services should rely on community donations for their operational funding and we believe that neither should ambulances be in this position. In other words we believe that in the twenty first century, not only WFA but ambulance services across the country should be fully funded by Central Government.

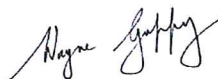
We appreciate that achieving this position would require a budget bid for additional funding, and we would be pleased to have the opportunity to work with the National Ambulance Sector Office (NASO) to agree the parameters of such a budget bid.

Given the national importance of ambulance services we are sure that what would be a relatively small increase in the total of Vote Health, would provide value returns that would far outweigh the costs of the additional funding. We, the members of the Wellington Mayoral Forum, urge you Minister to respond positively by authorising us to meet with NASO to explore how our proposal for funding can be progressed

Yours sincerely



Justin Lester  
**MAYOR of WELLINGTON**



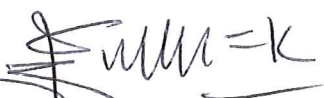
Wayne Guppy  
**MAYOR, UPPER HUTT**



Mike Tana  
**MAYOR, PORIRUA CITY**



Ray Wallace  
**MAYOR, LOWER HUTT**



K. Gurunathan  
**MAYOR, KĀPITI COAST DISTRICT**



Lyn Patterson  
**MAYOR of MASTERTON**



John Booth  
**MAYOR, CARTERTON DISTRICT**



Viv Napier  
**MAYOR, SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT**

# **Appendix 2 – Correspondence from Mayor West, Cowra**





# Office of The Mayor

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14 March 2018

Reference No: 605491  
Your Ref:

Ms Viv Napier  
Mayor  
South Wairarapa District Council  
PO Box 6  
MARTINBOROUGH 5741  
NEW ZEALAND

E: [the.mayor@swdc.govt.nz](mailto:the.mayor@swdc.govt.nz)

Dear Mayor Napier

I write to thank you for your kind gift of *Featherston The First 150 Years; 1857-2007*, and for your generous welcome and hospitality offered to Graham and Ann Apthorpe during their recent visit.

It is my pleasure to formally invite you to attend the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commemorations to be held in Cowra in August 2019. I welcome the opportunity to strengthen the bond between our two communities, and look forward to welcoming you to our home.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bill West', written over the typed name.

Cr Bill West  
**Mayor**