

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

7 OCTOBER 2015

AGENDA ITEM D3

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT

Purpose of Report

To report to Council on general activities since the last meeting.

Recommendations

The Chief Executive Officer recommends that Council:

- 1. Receive the information.*

1. Executive Summary

A very busy period since the last Council meeting with many projects on the boil.

The Draft Annual Report has been completed, apart from a few minor tidy ups. Audit New Zealand will be commencing their site visit this week. Three of four sentences certainly understate the amount of work annual report require.

Meetings around the structure and shape of local government continue, generally still mapping out work programmes. This will be carried out in the most part by the Local Government Commission.

We eagerly await the Commissioners findings for the Martinborough consent application. Work continues on the Greytown consent application with evidence being finalised.

2. Governance/Leadership/Advocacy

The following table provides the year to date results for KPI's set for the Governance output [note this report updated and is as at 30 June 2015]

GOVERNANCE, LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY MEASURING SERVICE DELIVERY PERFORMANCE				
SERVICE LEVEL	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS			
		2014/15	RESULTS	COMMENTS
Opportunities are provided for the community to have its views heard	Ratepayers and residents feel they can contact a Council member to raise an issue or problem	75%	73% (2010/11 survey 75%)	The customer satisfaction survey was carried out during 2014/15. In addition to the 73% (2011 75%) positive response, 16% (2011 14%) felt they were unable to comment.
	Ratepayers and residents feel that the Mayor and councillors give a fair hearing to their views	75%	62% (2010/11 survey 55%)	The customer satisfaction survey was carried out during 2014/15. In addition to the 62% (2011 55%) positive response, 21% (2011 28%) felt they were unable to comment.
Council determines what activities it should engage in through consultation and regulatory requirements then sets clear direction	Ratepayers and residents are satisfied with Council's decisions and actions	50%	59% (2014 survey 76%)	A Public Booster survey was carried out in 2015 in addition to the 59% 11% felt they were unable to comment. The full customer satisfaction survey was carried out during 2014/15. In addition to the 76% (2011 73%) positive response, 8% (2011 9%) felt they were unable to comment.
	Ratepayers and residents are satisfied with how Council allocates rates/funds to be spent on the services and facilities provided (target peer group age)	78%	64% (2010/11 survey 59%)	The customer satisfaction survey was carried out during 2014/15. In addition to the 64% (2011 59%) positive response, 14% (2011 9%) felt they were unable to comment.
Community Boards make decisions that consider local issues	Community Board decision - making reports on local issues	90%	Greytown 92% (2014 100%) Featherston 95% (2014: 96%) Martinborough 95% (2014: 95%)	This measure reports on the percentage of resolutions made that relate solely to local issues.
	% of ratepayers and residents who know how to contact a community board member	65%	65% (2010/11 survey 52%)	The customer satisfaction survey was carried out during 2014/15. In addition to the 64% (2011 59%) positive response, 14% (2011 9%) felt they were unable to comment.
Opportunities are available to raise local issues and understand what will happen as a result	Ratepayers and residents satisfied with the way Council involves the public in the decision it makes	65%	49% (2010/11 survey 50%)	The customer satisfaction survey was carried out during 2014/15. In addition to the 49% (2011 50%) positive response, 26% (2011 25%) indicated they were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied, and 5% (2011 5%) felt they were unable to comment.
Opportunities are available to raise issues relating to Maori through the Maori Standing Committee	The Maori Standing Committee makes recommendations to Council in relation to policy and plan development and resource management applications	100% applicable applications		Maori Standing Committee met on 8 occasions. In total 3 resource consent applications were considered, however due to the timing of the meetings 9 were considered outside normal meetings.

2.1 Wairarapa Governance Review Working Party

Following the meeting with Sir Wiri Gardiner, the majority of work currently being carried out is scoping the various work streams the Local Government Commission will undertake.

Wairarapa has been identified as a separate work stream and an initial discussion between the chief executives and officers of the Commission have been held.

In conjunction with this local work stream, a number of planning workshops have been held with the regional chief executives and the Commission.

These workshops were again focussed on planning what work streams would be appropriate for the Commission to undertake and what the priority order might be.

3. Strategic Planning and Policy Development

3.1 Meetings/Conferences

3.1.1. Chief Executive Forum

Three regional Chief Executive forums have been held. Two of these were in relation to governance discussions described above.

The "normal" forum provided an update on Transmission Gully, LGC update, Spatial Planning update.

Wellington Water was also on the agenda, this session was not attended.

3.1.2. Mayoral Forum

One Mayoral Forum was held and I am sure this will be covered in Her Worship's report. As indicated above governance matters were high on the agenda.

3.2 Wastewater Consents

A number of iterations of evidence have been prepared for the Greytown wastewater consent application.

While the Greytown hearing is still some time away, a high level of pre work is the most efficient way to progress matters, as many of the issues can be resolved before the formal hearing.

3.3 Financial Statements / Draft Annual Report

The draft annual report is nearing completion with audit New Zealand on site for two weeks commencing Monday 28 September.

The full financial statement and annual report are due for adoption, following audit, on 28 October. The statutory deadline for adoption is 31 October.

3.4 Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA)

LGFA have accepted our application to become a borrower against this fund. LGFA have completed their financial due diligence and we fall well within their benchmarks.

There is a reasonable amount of documentation required and this will be completed following completion of the Annual Report.

3.5 Other

Discussions are progressing well with the **land swap** at our Greytown site. This land swap is "like for like" and will result in both ourselves and Papawai Ahu Whenua trust ending up with contiguous and more useable blocks of land.

Allied to this planning is almost complete for the **gliding** operation to commence building their hanger, it is planned for this to be completed in a few months and we will see activity slowly increasing.

Costs were finally received for the **Featherston Town Square**. These were somewhat higher than anticipated. The working group discussed the costs and after some refinement we instructed the consulting engineer to call for quotes, ensuring local suppliers were able to participate in this process.

The **Waihinga centre** consultation document was finalised and posted. We are gearing up for a busy time with enquiries and processing the returns.

A number of discussions have been held regarding **civil defence** with a view to understanding the new structures and response procedures. These are ongoing.

Discussions are continuing with the **Department of Conservation** on the ownership of assets they construct. DOC's issue is that they are required to pay a capital charge for the assets they own, which comes out of their operational budgets. If they can transfer asset ownership then they are not charged the capital charge and therefore have more funding available for maintenance. While conceptually we may be able to assist, future obligations need to be well understood. Destination Wairarapa are helping in these discussions as one of the projects is a cycleway DW have received grant funding for.

Other meetings included **Community Board and Maori Standing** committee meetings and the Featherston public meeting, rounding out this period nicely.

3.6 Rates Arrears (Incl. GST)

DATE	AMOUNT \$'000	NUMBER	DAYS SINCE INSTALMENT DUE	SWDC COMPONENT \$'000 (81%)
1 June 2012	\$855	722	10	\$692
19 June 2012	\$730	632	31	\$591
10 September 2012	\$947		21	\$767
15 February 2013	\$820	565	57	\$664
17 June 2013	\$913	740	27	\$739
4 March 2014	\$1,033	863	12	\$836
14 April 2014	\$954	675	53	\$773
19 August 2014	\$818	592	91	\$663
30 September 2014	\$1,008	809	37	\$816
11 November 2014	\$770	627	83	\$623
27 January 2015	\$672	537	68	\$544
2 March 2015	\$784	798	10	\$635
25 May 2015	\$762	803	3	\$617
3 July 2015	\$624	669	39	\$505
18 August 2015	\$580	547	59	\$470

You will note that the outstanding amount is the lowest dollar amount on this report. The concerted efforts at collection are paying off.

This is a particularly good result as the amount outstanding includes the additional 10% arrears penalty.

In the order of 330 of the above rate debts have mortgages and the process has commenced to enable a demand from the banks. Once the initial notification has been sent to the bank (copied to the ratepayer) there is a three month grace period until we can make the formal demand.

4. Corporate

4.1 Occupational Health and Safety

An initial report received from Major Consulting, and following analysis of this report a draft strategy has been developed.

We have had an initial review of this strategy and are considering this strategy and implementation plan. This will take some time to understand and implement.

It will be prudent for a presentation to Council at some stage once our response has been planned.

There were no OH & S matters since the last reporting period.

4.2 LGOIMA Requests

DATE	TOPIC OF INFORMATION REQUEST	REQUEST RESPONSE
27 August 2015	Details of Building consent requests	Information provided
26 August 2015	Has Council carried out methamphetamine decontamination of Council flats and the details of such?	No such decontamination requested.
2 September 2015	Artworks held and their value	
28 September 2015	Conflict of Interest Guidelines and use of Commissioner in such circumstances.	
28 September 2015	The process determining impact of a proposed activity to be of a "minor" nature when assessing a consent application.	
28 September 2015	Provide information about determinations of certain activities under the Resource Consent.	

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