

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

23 APRIL 2014

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.*
2. *Receive the financial statements for the 7 months ended 28 February 2014*

1. Executive Summary

The period since the last meeting has been dominated by the preparation and finalisation of the Draft Annual Report, which was adopted on 9 April and will be issued for public consultation on 16 April.

A very useful meeting was held with interested parties at the Papawai Marae regarding the Greytown Wastewater consent. This included a walk around and explanation of the proposed site for the screening and UV plant.

The other matter occupying time is the Martinborough Town Hall project, with various meetings, including the very positive "town hall" meeting.

As discussed in the previous report, we are aligning the report structure to more closely align with our annual plans.

Finally, we were successful in the prosecution of a (multiple) dog owner for a breach of the micro chipping of dogs legislation. We are hoping to recover as much of the costs as we can but in general the Courts don't award full recovery. This is another case of local authorities expending a lot of time, energy, and money to enforce a central government initiative. Thanks to Murray, Bronwyn, and Andrew for the professional manner in which they progressed this issue.

2. Governance/Leadership/Advocacy

The following table provides the year to date results for KPI's set for the Governance output

GOVERNANCE/ LEADERSHIP/ ADVOCACY KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS	TARGET 2013/14	YTD RESULT	COMMENT SOURCE, AND ACTIONS TAKEN TO ACHIEVE TARGET
Ratepayers and residents feel they can contact a Council member to raise an issue or problem	75%	73%	NRB Survey 3 yearly*
Ratepayers and residents feel that the Mayor and councillors give a fair hearing to their views	75%	62%	NRB Survey 3 yearly
Ratepayers and residents are satisfied with Council's decisions and actions	50%	76% (very or fairly satisfied)	NRB Survey 3 yearly
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% (very or fairly satisfied)	NRB Survey 3 yearly
Community Board decision - making reports on local issues	90%		Community Board reports and minutes
% of ratepayers and residents who know how to contact a community board member	65%	65%	NRB Survey 3 yearly
Ratepayers and residents satisfied with the way Council involves the public in the decision it makes	65%	49%	NRB Survey 3 yearly
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 minutes

2.1 Local Government Commission/Governance Review

The Local Government Commission (the Commission) continues its background work.

The Commission signalled the preferred option would be announced mid-March in its latest newsletter, and a few days later we were informally advised that the date had been pushed out to late April/early May.

This reporting date has now been pushed back until late May / early June.

Councillors will be updated as new information comes to hand.

3. Strategic Planning and Policy Development

3.1 Meetings

3.1.1. Civil Defence

Discussions are ongoing with WREMO regarding the updated "concept of operations".

While there is a lot of focus on preparing for "declared events, the majority of incidents in the Wairarapa are localised impacting one or two local authorities.

This initiative will be useful in providing more resource to the local controllers in the event of an emergency.

3.1.2. TOI Wairarapa

Funding was set aside this year to review whether the existing charter is effective.

There appears to be some consensus that generally the charter is still current and that the best way forward will be to carry out a survey to ascertain the effectiveness of Toi Wairarapa.

While we have not received a formal request, there was comment at the combined council forum about diverting these funds into operations.

3.1.3. Wellington Mayoral Forum

Key matters from this forum that may impact the Wairarapa included ratifying the triennial agreement, and a presentation regarding the restructuring of the Wellington basin tourism and development agencies.

3.1.4. Combined Council

An interesting agenda which provided an update on many of the GWRC issues.

The rail system attracted a lot of commentary and issues and idiosyncrasies impacting the Wairarapa line were outlined. It seems that there are only small incremental steps that can be taken to improve "on time performance" – each of these is relatively expensive given the relative volumes and number of services.

3.1.5. Chief Executives Forum

An update on the progress of the FAR review was provided by NZTA representatives. Of particular relevance was that NZTA have recognised the impact of taking special purpose roads back into the normal funding regime, and are looking further at the options with regard to this road classification.

Attached as appendix 1 is the latest combined Wairarapa submission to the FAR review.

Reliability of electricity services was discussed and it seems that it doesn't matter whether you live in a large metro area or small urban environment outages are an issue!!

An update from Kiwirail on the performance of the network was provided, which included some discussion around the Wairarapa line and the various factors impacting the service, however as mentioned above little positive news in addressing the main issues.

Attached as appendix 2 is a copy of the January summary for information.

3.2 Legislation

We continue to work toward implementation of the various legislation changes that have been, or are about to be made.

4. Monitoring and Reporting

4.1 Financial Statements

Financial Statements for the 7 months ended 28 February 2014 are included as appendix 3.

The financial statements for the eight months ended 31 March 2014 are due to be discussed at the risk and audit working party on 17 April and will be tabled.

4.2 Rates Arrears

DATE	AMOUNT \$'000	NUMBER	DAYS SINCE INSTALLMENT DUE	SWDC COMPONENT \$'000 (81%)
30 June 2011	\$851	631	31	\$689
1 August 2011	\$780	463	64	\$632
28 November 2011	\$969	760	7	\$785
1 March 2012	\$925	690	7	\$740
16 March 2012	\$830	602	23	\$672
23 March 2012	\$790	555	30	\$640
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

9 ratepayer accounts have been referred to our lawyers for an initial letter. If there is not response to these initial letters formal legal action will commence. The cost of this formal legal; action is recovered from the ratepayer.

A further 45 demands have been made to organisations who have an interest in properties that are in arrears. This is mainly banking institutions.

4.3 Annual Plan/Annual Report

The 2014/15 draft Annual Plan was adopted for public consultation on 9 April 2014.

The draft includes a proposed rates increase of 3.48% which is 1.04% above that included in the 2012/22 LTP for the 2014/15 year. This increase is driven by the purchase of land for the disposal of treated wastewater at Papawai (1.01%) and the proposed commencement of seal extension (1.04%).

The matters under consideration included in the draft plan are open for public consultation from 16 April until 19 May.

5. Corporate

5.1 Staffing

We are currently recruiting for the role vacated by JP Irwin. There has not been a lot of interest so far and we are exploring all our options to ensure the requirements of this role are covered.

5.2 Occupational Health and Safety

There were no incidents reported since the last Council meeting.

As reported at the previous Council meeting, there has been a change in legislation signaled which will come into effect mid/late this year.

This is a significant change in direction with more liability placed on organisations, and this flows through to contractors working for those organisations.

As more information comes to hand we will brief Council.

5.3 Insurance Review

LGNZ commissioned a review of the Local Government insurance market, the author (Craig Stobo) arrived at three recommendations –summarised:

- Encourage councils to spend more on risk profiling, risk management, and risk mitigation
- Create a Local Authority owned agency, not an insurance provider (like Civic), but to get the best deals in the market
- Rearrange the 60/40 split between LA's and the Government – change to self-insurance, commercial insurance, and taxpayer support.

This is a complex issue and I will keep members updated as progress is made.

LGNZ are contemplating their next steps regarding this review.

5.4 LGOIMA Requests

DATE	REQUEST MADE BY	TOPIC OF INFORMATION REQUEST	REQUEST RESPONSE
20 February	Chris Faafoi MP	Numbers of paid public notices placed in financial year 2012/13.	82 Notices @cost of \$20,076.54
17 March	Ratepayer, Greytown	Requesting papers relating to establishment of a new site for clay target shooting on Moroa Road.	All documents requested sent.
17 March	Ratepayer, Greytown	Requesting papers relating to Council approval of widening of the Moroa water race into a private pond	All documents requested sent.
17 March	Neil Mongomerie-Crowe	Seeking details of expenditure on floral planting in towns of South Wairarapa.	
28 March	Phil Twyford MP	Rateable values on properties in South Wairarapa	Information supplied direct to requestor by Rateable Value.

6. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Wairarapa Combined FAR Review Submission

Appendix 2 – Tranz Metro Summary for January

Appendix 3 – Financial Statements for the Seven Months Ended 28 February 2014

Contact Officer: Paul Crimp, Chief Executive Officer

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Appendix 2 – Tranz Metro Summary for January

**Appendix 3 – Financial
Statements for the Seven
Months Ended 28 February
2014**