

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

22 FEBRUARY 2012

AGENDA ITEM D1

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Purpose of Report

To report to Council on general activities since the Council meeting on 14 December 2011.

Recommendations

The Chief Executive Officer recommends that Council:

1. *Receive the report.*

1. Finance

The financial report for the month ending 31 December 2011 is included with the Council papers.

2. General

The period since the last Council meeting included the Christmas Holiday and although the Council Offices closed for the period from 24 December 2011 until 6 January 2012 council staff and contractors were on call and working when the occasion demanded it. The most significant event as far as Council Officer involvement was concerned was the La De Da Concert that took place on 31 December and 1 January. Council Officers monitored the event to ensure that it complied with all relevant legislative requirements. The main issue for Council from the event was the noise complaints that were received from as far away as Western Lake Road in Featherston. The noise was monitored and did not exceed the levels specified in the Resource Consent. There was also a problem with parking along Dry River Road which was exacerbated by the atrocious weather conditions. Overall, the event did not generate any significant problems. A debriefing of parties involved including Council and Police is scheduled to take place on 23 February.

Work has continued with preparation of the Long Term Plan (LTP). A schedule of workshops with the LTP working Group has been prepared and several workshops have taken place. Separate meetings have also taken place with representatives from the rural, business and sport and leisure sectors. As part of this process council officers have been preparing Asset Management Plans. This is a task that requires greater resourcing than is currently available and it is clear to me that Council would be best served

by the appointment of an Asset Manager. This position was in place until a number of years ago and was not replaced when the Asset Manager resigned. I propose to commence the search process for an Asset Manager and hope to go out to the market in the near future.

Council has been continuing to work on its Waste Water Strategy and this is being managed by the Group Manager Infrastructure and Services. The question of whether Council should purchase land near the Greytown sewerage plant arises from time-to-time and it is my view that this should not happen at this time. Any purchase of land should only occur after full consideration of all land opportunities in the vicinity. It may be that some land is more suitable for treated effluent disposal and less prone to flooding than other land. Due diligence is therefore required before a decision on further land acquisition for this site can be made.

3. CEO's Activities

- 3.1** On 21 December I met with Wellington City Council's Electoral Officer, Ross Bly. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the forthcoming Representation Review. It was very useful to meet with Ross to discuss the procedure that applies to this important process.
- 3.2** From 23 December until 16 January I was on annual leave.
- 3.3** I attended the Mayoral Forum on 24 January. The Forum included a presentation by Gen-I's Tom Le Grice on *The Local Government Community Cloud*. This is a platform that allows a council of any size to improve operational efficiency, and gain economies of scale without sacrificing the ability to respond to the unique requirements of local constituents. The remainder of the meeting was taken up with matters to do with the Wellington Regional Strategy and Grow Wellington.
- 3.4** I met with the Rural Focus Group to discuss the Long Term Plan. The purpose of the meeting was to explain the process and to listen to and record the concerns of members of the Focus Group.
- 3.5** I attended a meeting of the Co-ordinating Executive Group on 27 January. The focus of this group is Civil Defence and Emergency Management. The agenda included a presentation by Mr Bruce Pepperell, the Regional Civil Defence Controller entitled *A Case for Network Enabled CDEM*. Essentially this was a presentation on the proposed structure for CDEM in the Wellington Region. Other items on the Agenda were:
 - Continued Support for the "It's our Fault" Project
 - CDEM Group Resilience Fund Applications
 - CDEM Group Public Education Strategy

- 3.6** I met with Greg Boyle of Greg Boyle and Associates on 27 January to discuss the Waste Water Strategy. The purpose of the meeting was to update Greg on Council's activities in respect to the Waste Water Strategy document that he produced last year and to discuss progress on that project.
- 3.7** I attended a meeting on 2 February to discuss Civil Defence within the Wairarapa Region. The meeting was attended by the Wairarapa CEOs and the CDEM staff based in Masterton. The meeting discussed the Wellington Region CDEM structure, training, liaison with volunteers and staffing.

4. Financial, Legal and Policy Implications

None in particular.

Contact Officer: Dr Jack Dowds, Chief Executive Officer