

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

20 SEPTEMBER 2012

AGENDA ITEM D1

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Purpose of Report

To report to Council on general activities since the Council meeting on 8 August 2012.

Recommendations

The Chief Executive Officer recommends that Council:

1. *Receive the report*

1. Finance

The Draft Annual Report 2011/2012 is to be tabled at the meeting on the 20 September 2012.

2. General

The Wairarapa Governance Review continues to occupy a significant amount of my time. The Review Group is considering the possible structure of a single Wairarapa Council and has received reports from Morrison Low in respect of whether or not a unitary authority is financially feasible. Further work is being undertaken by Greg Boyle on the possible shape of representation for an amalgamated Wairarapa Council. I have attended working party meetings during the past month at which presentations were made by both Morrison Low and Greg Boyle on each of these topics.

Work is proceeding under the direction of the Group Manager, Infrastructure and Services, Mark Allingham, on the consents for Waste Water treatment and disposal. This is very much a team effort and Glenn Bunny, Group Manager, Planning and Environment is making a significant contribution to the work by providing input to the process. To assist with progressing this work there have been meetings with the consenting staff from Greater Wellington Regional Council and it is important that a high level of liaison continues as Council officers work their way through the process. This project is a major activity and a further full day workshop is being arranged with GWRC staff for later this month.

I represent the three Wairarapa Councils on the Coordinating Executive Group Sub-Committee. This Sub-Committee meets to receive reports from the Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office (WREMO). At the

last meeting I requested that WREMO staff attend Council and Community Boards to inform them about the ShakeOut Exercise that is taking place on 26th of this month. WREMO staff attended the August meetings of Council, the Community Boards and the Maori Standing Committee where they made presentations on the exercise. I also requested that Bruce Pepperell, Regional Manager of WREMO, meet with the three Wairarapa Chief Executives to discuss civil defence issues pertaining to the Wairarapa and this meeting took place on 13 August. The objective of the meeting was to ensure that the WREMO resources were sufficiently allocated across each of the Wairarapa Councils. This meeting was a useful forum to express some of the specific needs of the Wairarapa. The new Civil Defence structure is now bedding in and it is expected to provide an excellent level of capability across the region including the Wairarapa.

Within the Wellington Region Wellington City Council, Porirua City Council, the two Hutt Councils and GWRC are working on plan review programmes for Regional Natural Hazards. There has been some discussion with the Wairarapa Councils on this subject and it is acknowledged that the Wairarapa Councils are in a slightly different position in respect of Natural Hazard Management. The second generation Combined District Plan incorporates identification of natural hazards and rules have been formulated to manage the risks. Given the work already done by the Wairarapa Councils, the need for WREMO to further its work in this area and the ongoing governance discussions, it is currently the view of the Wairarapa Councils' officers that we delay further development of this work until there is more clarity in regard to local government structure.

The Council's Property and Facilities Manager, Sandra Barns, has regrettably resigned and I would like to acknowledge the excellent work that she has done during her time with Council. Sandra has been working on the options for a new location for the Martinborough Library and there will be reporting on this at this month's Council meeting.

The Old Stella Bull Library building that was most recently being operated as the Wairarapa Wine Centre, has continued to remain vacant. There has been some interest in the building and Council continues to seek a commercial leasing arrangement for the building.

The maintenance of the holding paddocks on Te Maire Road has been an issue for some time. Councillor Sexton and I visited the paddocks and as a consequence of this a works order was issued to a contractor to carry out repair work. Further work will be needed but the work done will create a secure location for the present while the scope of further work is considered.

Staffing matters were also a significant part of my activities during the period of this report. Performance reviews are in the process of being completed and this involves a significant amount of work for the managers involved as well as myself. The process requires goals and KPIs to be set for the year ahead as well as a review of performance for the year-ended 30th June. This is an important process for staff as it feeds into the remuneration setting process.

At the 27th June 2012 Council meeting it was resolved to defer a decision on library systems given the uncertainty of local government arrangements in the future. Subsequent to that decision a meeting was convened at Carterton Events Centre which included the Mayors, CEOs, library staff and representatives of the Wairarapa Library Service Committee. It was agreed at the meeting that a recommendation would be put to Council that SWDC would implement the Kotui Library Management System in common with Carterton library.

3.0 Other Meetings Attended

Date	Meeting
08/08/12	Greytown Sport and Leisure to discuss Board Membership and Development matters
10/8/12	South Wairarapa Bridge Club
13/8/12	Bruce Pepperell, Regional Manager, WREMO. This meeting was also attended by the CEOs of Carterton and Masterton District Councils
14/8/12	Anne Gibson, LGNZ. To discuss training needs for elected members
16/8/12	Mark Raffills, Dry Crust Communications, to discuss website design and communication
16/8/12	Opus Consulting, discussion on Swimming pools report
23/8/12	City Care presentation at Royal Hotel, Featherston
28/8/12	RiskPool, Juliet Martin. Discussion on risk management and insurance
29/8/12	Richard Adams, property developer. Discussion on Pinot Grove development, Martinborough

4.0 Financial, Legal and Policy Implications

None in particular.

Contact Officer: Dr Jack Dowds, Chief Executive Officer