

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

27 JUNE 2012

AGENDA ITEM D1

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Purpose of Report

To report to Council on general activities since the Council meeting on 16 May 2012.

Recommendations

The Chief Executive Officer recommends that Council:

1. *Receive the report.*

1. Finance

The financial report for the month ending 30 April 2012 is included with the Council papers.

2. General

The Wairarapa Shared Services Working Party was renamed as the Wairarapa Governance Review Working Party. This Group has continued to work on the issue of the future of local Government in the Wairarapa. The potential options have been researched and following its deliberations the Working Party decided that more information was needed to better inform decision making. In particular, the costs that would have to be met if a new structure involved a new territorial organisation in the Wairarapa having to assume the activities such as flood control, regional transport and pest control that are currently being undertaken by Greater Wellington Regional Council.

The three Wairarapa Councils have also agreed to participate in a Colmar Brunton survey that has been commissioned by Wellington City Council. The survey will be modified to include specific questions that are relevant to the Wairarapa.

Wairarapa Mayors and Chief Executives arranged to meet with the Honourable David Carter, Minister of Local Government and also with Basil Morrison, Chair of the Local Government Commission, in order to further explore the structural possibilities for local government reform within the Wairarapa and the possible time-frames that might apply.

Submissions to the Representation Review closed on 18 May and no submissions were received. Arrangements have been made to finalise the process by placing an advertisement in the press and informing the parties that are statutorily required to be informed that the process has been completed.

3.0 CEO's Activities

- 3.1** On 17 May I attended a public meeting in Tukurimuri to present the Draft LTP to the community. The presentation went well and the feedback from the community was received.
- 3.2** A Zone 4 meeting was held on 18 May in Petone. I attended this meeting with Her Worship the Mayor and a number of Councillors. The meeting was addressed by The Minister for Local Government, the Honourable David Carter. The new Chief Executive of LGNZ, Malcolm Alexander, also addressed the meeting.
- 3.3** The CEG Sub-Committee met at Wellington City Council on 25 May. I attended this meeting and represented the three Wairarapa Councils. The meeting was chaired by The Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office Regional Manager and Group Controller, Bruce Pepperell.
- 3.4** Met with Marcus Boroughs, Director of Aratoi Museum, on 31 May to discuss a number of issues pertaining to the Anzac Hall Centenary. This meeting was also attended by Her Worship the Mayor and Mark Allingham, Group Manager, Infrastructure and Services.
- 3.5** On 7 June I attended a meeting of the Wairarapa Water Use Project Stakeholder Advisory Group at Carterton Events Centre.
- 3.6** I attended a Better Local Government Forum meeting at Palmerston North City Council on 8 June. The Forum was organized by the Department of Internal Affairs and its purpose was to outline how the Government will engage with the local government sector. The forum covered matters such as:
 - Strengthening council governance
 - Streamlining reorganization procedures
 - Establishing a local government efficiency taskforce
 - Efficiency of local government infrastructure provision
 - Review of the use of development contributions
- 3.7** NZ Post arranged for a marketing consultant to meet with the three Wairarapa Territorial Authority Chief Executives to discuss how NZ Post's services might contribute to Council's operational activities. I attended this meeting on 13 June at Carterton District Council offices. The meeting was a fact-finding exercise to enable NZ Post to more fully understand the range of District Council activities with a view to improved NZ Post service in a changing communication environment.

- 3.8** The Wairarapa Mayors and CEOs met with David Carter, Minister for Local Government, at Parliament on 18 June. The meeting was requested by the Wairarapa Governance Review Working Party and its purpose was to discuss matters pertaining to the future of local government in the Wairarapa.
- 3.9** I attended a stakeholder meeting at Carterton Event Centre on 21 June. This meeting was arranged by the Wairarapa Governance Review Working Party.

Financial, Legal and Policy Implications

None in particular.

Contact Officer: Dr Jack Dowds, Chief Executive Officer