

NOTICE OF MEETING

LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN AND ANNUAL PLAN SPECIAL COMMITTEE

I hereby give notice that a Meeting of the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee will be held on:-

DATE: **Tuesday, 21 November 2006** **TIME:** **9.30 am**

VENUE: **Waitakere Central, 6 Henderson Valley Road, Henderson, Waitakere**

to consider the business as set out herein and to take any necessary action connected therewith.



15 November 2006

Ngareta Delamere
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Telephone (09) 836 8000 extn 8552

MEMBERSHIP:

Councillor	JM	Clews, QSO, JP (Chairman)
Mayor	RA	Harvey, QSO, JP (Deputy Chairman)
Deputy Mayor	CA	Stone (Deputy Chairman)
Councillors	DQ	Battersby, JP
	MFP	Chan, JP
	RI	Clow
	LA	Cooper
	AK	Corban, OBE, JP
	RP	Dallow, QPM, JP
	WW	Flaunty, QSM, JP
	DE	Gilmour
	C	Harding, JP
	PA	Hulse
	JP	Lawley
	VS	Neeson, JP

(Quorum 5 members)

★★★★★★★★★★

(The reports and recommendations contained in all agendas are reports and recommendations only and are not to be construed, in any way, as Council policy until adopted.)

**AGENDA FOR A MEETING OF THE LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN AND
ANNUAL PLAN SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT WAITAKERE CENTRAL,
6 HENDERSON VALLEY ROAD, HENDERSON, WAITAKERE,
ON TUESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2006,
COMMENCING AT 9.30 AM**

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AGENDA FOR A MEETING OF THE LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN AND ANNUAL PLAN SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO BE HELD AT WAITAKERE CENTRAL, 6 HENDERSON VALLEY ROAD, HENDERSON, WAITAKERE, ON TUESDAY, 21 NOVEMBER 2006, COMMENCING AT 9.30 AM

1 APOLOGIES



2 URGENT BUSINESS

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides that where an item of business is not on the agenda, it may only be dealt with at the meeting if:

- (i) the Committee by resolution so decides; and
- (ii) the Chairman has explained at the beginning of the meeting (when open to the public) that the item will be raised for discussion and decision, why the item is not on the agenda, and why it cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

The Committee may make a decision on a matter determined to be urgent.

NOTE: Urgent Business need not be dealt with now and may be delayed until later in the meeting.



3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- Meeting Minutes - Tuesday, 23 May 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Thursday, 25 May 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Friday, 26 May 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Monday, 29 May 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Tuesday, 30 May 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Friday, 2 June 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Wednesday, 7 June 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Tuesday, 13 June 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Wednesday, 14 June 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Thursday, 15 June 2006
- Meeting Minutes - Friday, 16 June 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Monday, 19 June 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Tuesday, 20 June 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Wednesday, 21 June 2006
- Reconvened Minutes - Friday, 23 June 2006

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the minutes of the Meeting of the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee held on, Tuesday, 23 May 2006 and reconvened on Thursday, 25 May 2006, Friday, 26 May 2006, Monday, 29 May 2006, Tuesday, 30 May 2006, Friday, 2 June 2006, Wednesday, 7 June 2006, Tuesday, 13 June 2006, Wednesday, 14 June 2006 and Thursday, 15 June 2006 and the Meeting Minutes held on Friday, 16 June 2006, and reconvened on Monday, 19 June 2006, Tuesday, 20 June 2006, Wednesday, 21 June 2006 and Friday, 23 June 2006 as circulated, be taken as read and now be confirmed.



4 PREPARATION OF THE ANNUAL PLAN 2007/2008

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to outline to the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee, the process and requirements for the preparation of the Annual Plan 2007/2008.

BACKGROUND

The Council in June 2006 adopted its Long Term Council Community Plan for 2006-2016. This document sets out the Council's ten-year expenditure pattern and work programme incorporating its strategic priorities and platforms. The document includes community outcomes and measures of performance. The next Long Term Council Community Plan must be adopted by 30 June 2009.

The Annual Plan 2007/2008 must be prepared and adopted by 30 June 2007. Year 2 of the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016 detailed the proposed work programme for that year. The Annual Plan will report on variations to this programme. If any of the variations are considered to be significant, then an amendment of the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016 will be required. This is required to be audited. The Annual Plan itself will be formally consulted on through a special consultative procedure.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Annual Plan and Long Term Council Community Plan are the tools used by the Council to deliver the Council's strategic direction. The Council's strategic direction is expressed through a series of strategic statements, the Platforms and Priorities. The Long Term Council Community Plan must describe how the local authority contributes to furthering the community outcomes.

ISSUES

The approach adopted is that the Annual Plan 2007/2008 is Year 2 of the final Long Term Council Community Plan and that any changes will be considered as exceptions from that published and will only be accommodated after consideration of adjustments to items already included in the Long Term Council Community Plan. It is anticipated at this time that there will be few changes, and little re-litigation of matters settled in the Long Term Council Community Plan.

The requirements for the information to be included in an Annual Plan are far less than those for a Long Term Council Community Plan. These are detailed in Schedule 10 of the Local Government Act 2002 and relate mainly to forecast financial statements and the funding impact statement.

Section 95 part (5) of The Local Government Act 2002 states that the purpose of an Annual Plan is to -

- (a) contain the proposed budget and funding impact statement for the year to which the annual plan relates; and
- (b) identify any variation from the financial statements and funding impact statement included in the local authority's long-term council community plan in respect of the year; and
- (c) support the long-term council community plan in providing integrated decision-making and co-ordination of the resources of the local council; and
- (d) contribute to the accountability of the local authority to the community; and
- (e) extend opportunities for participation of the public in decision-making processes relating to the costs and funding of activities to be undertaken by the local authority.

A mock-up of the proposed format prepared by the Public Affairs Unit for the Annual Plan 2007/2008 has been circulated separately with the Agenda. This mock-up meets the Schedule 10 requirements for information to be included in an annual plan and fulfils the purpose of an annual plan as detailed above.

RESOURCES

The budget for the preparation of the Annual Plan 2007/2008 (excluding staff time) is \$64,000. This covers the printing and consultation costs.

Draft Timing

The table below shows the indicative timeline for the preparation of the Annual Plan 2007/2008. The meeting dates will be considered by the Council later in the year when the draft 2007 Council Meeting Schedule is presented.

Meetings / Action	Dates
Stage 1 Deliberations Meetings	20 February 2006 - 2 March 2006
Draft Annual Plan approved	2 March 2006
Public submission period begins	19 March 2006
Public submission period ends	20 April 2006
Hearings	21 May 2006 - 8 June 2006
Stage 2 Deliberations Meetings	15 June 2006 - 26 June 2006
Final adoption of 2004/2005 Annual Plan	26 June 2006

CONCLUSION

The process outlined for the preparation of the Annual Plan 2007/2008 will enable the statutory timetable to be achieved.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Preparation of the Annual Plan 2007/2008 report be received.

Report prepared by: Bob Preston, Group Manager: Financial Management.



5 REGIONAL FUNDING INITIATIVE

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee of progress to date around requests that were raised at a workshop which was held during the Council meeting on 20 December 2006.

BACKGROUND

At the Council meeting held on 20 September 2006 there was a Long Term Council Community Plan workshop. During this workshop, it was requested that an update on regional funding be brought to the next meeting of the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee for further discussion.

A1-A5 At the September 2006 meeting of the Finance and Operational Performance Committee a report on the Regional Funding Initiative was considered. This report is attached at pages A1 to A5.

The Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee resolved as follows:

1. *That the Regional Funding Initiative report be received.*
2. *That officer participation in the Regional Funding Initiative Working Group continue.*
3. *That without endorsing the list which identifies possible regional funding as presented, Council wishes the West Wave Aquatic Centre to be recognised as a regional facility.*
4. *That the Finance and Operational Performance Committee support in principle regional funding conditional upon the levy being collected by the Auckland Regional Council.*
5. *That should the regional funding initiative proceed that it be phased in over an agreed period.*

1702/2006

The above resolution suggests that while the Committee supports the principle of regional funding for facilities, this support is conditional on any levies being collected by the Auckland Regional Council and not by the territorial authorities. The Council's position has been made very clear to the Regional Funding Initiative Project Team and while at this stage, the draft bill does not make provision for collection of the levy by the Auckland Regional Council, the Council will be able to state its position to the Parliamentary Select Committee considering the draft Bill at the appropriate time.

A6-A22 The West Wave Aquatic Centre was included in the entities for consideration for regional funding, however, the Interim Assessment Group declined the application. They also declined the application from the Edge (Aotea Centre). Their report is attached at pages A6 to A22.

The Interim Assessment Group was a completely independent body whose members had no relationships or ties to any Council. Council officers (including myself) on the Regional Funding Initiative Project Team had no input into or took no part in this assessment process.

The issue of funding for regional facilities is also under discussion as part of the Regional Governance exercise presently being undertaken.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

A23-A27 The proposed regional funding initiatives will contribute to our community outcomes as detailed at pages A23 to A27.

ISSUES

The issues are detailed in the original report.

RESOURCES

The resources are detailed in the original report.

CONCLUSION

Funding has caused ongoing problems for most of these organisations which has limited their capacity to deliver amenities and services that would be normally be expected in a world class urban area. Historically, these organisations have largely relied on grants from the Auckland City Council with much lesser contributions from other local authorities, though the Auckland Regional Council has increased its funding in its latest Long Term Council Community Plan.

The proposed legislation will ensure that these organisations will have a greater degree of certainty for funding to enable them to be more sustainable into the future, enabling them to deliver a far better service for all of the region.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional Funding Initiative report be received.

Report prepared by: Bob Preston, Group Manager: Financial Management.



6 FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE PROGRAMME

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee on footpath maintenance as requested at the Annual Plan 2007/2008 Workshop held on 20 September 2006.

BACKGROUND

At the 20 September 2006 workshop, Councillors requested information on the footpath maintenance programme, as follows:

- Tree-trimming, cleaning (water-blasting) where needed, maintenance/renewal;
- Comment on Council Health and Safety responsibilities;
- Comment in context of strategic direction and cost/benefit.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The provision of footpaths contributes to the following strategic objectives:

- Safe City;
- Urban and Rural Villages;
- Integrated Transport and Communication.

Council has adopted a Walking and Cycling Strategy.

ISSUES

Footpath Condition Rating

The last footpath condition survey was carried out in June 2004 and the next survey is scheduled to commence in November 2006, with the results being available by February 2007. The historical grading is as set out in the table below:

Grade	Description
1	Good condition.
2	May require renewal within 5 to 10 years.
3	Likely to require renewal within 3 to 5 years.
4	Will require renewal within 2 to 3 years.
5	Poor condition including danger to pedestrians and / or more than 15mm lip, requires replacement within 1 year.

Grade	Length of Footpath (kms)	Cost of Renewal
1	808	\$0
2	53	\$4,770,000
3	26	\$2,340,000
4	5	\$450,000
5	8	\$720,000
Total		\$8,280,000

The average cost of footpath renewals is \$90,000 per kilometre.

In addition, on demand 230 customer service requests are received per year. The Council has provided additional funding to address a backlog of 680 service requests. These footpaths are made safe and programmed for renewal. The cost of resolving the backlog is estimated at \$367,000 and should be resolved by 2008/2009.

Through the condition rating survey, an assessment will be made for any additional maintenance issues that may be required to address the issues raised by Councillors at the workshop. A report will then be brought back to Council as part of the decision making process for the Annual Plan 2007/2008.

RESOURCES

Additional funding has been provided to improve footpath maintenance and the enhancement of footpaths in town centres, as shown in the table below:

	Budget			
	2004/2005	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008
Footpath Renewals (including maintenance)	\$550,000	\$630,000	\$750,000	\$750,000
Town Centre Footpath Renewal	0	0	0	\$513,000

It should be noted that footpath renewals do not attract a subsidy from Land Transport New Zealand. The Council will advocate for a subsidy to be available for footpath renewals, as they are an essential part of walking and cycling, which is promoted under the Land Transport Management Act.

CONCLUSION

The Council has increased the maintenance budgets over the last few years to provide for additional footpath renewals and from 2007/2008 there will be a programme of enhanced renewals in town centres.

Councillors have requested information on the following:

- Tree-trimming, cleaning (water-blasting) where needed, maintenance/renewal
- Comment on Council Health and Safety responsibilities
- Comment in context of strategic direction and cost/benefit

At present there is not enough information on which to provide any recommendations on these issues, and a detailed report will be prepared for Council's consideration by February 2007, once the footpath condition rating work has been completed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Footpath Maintenance Programme report be received.
2. That a report be brought back to Council in February 2007 to address the following issues:
 - Tree-trimming, cleaning (water-blasting) where needed, maintenance/renewal
 - Comment on Council Health and Safety responsibilities
 - Comment in context of strategic direction and cost/benefit

Report prepared by: Tony Miguel, Group Manager: Asset Management.



7 REGULAR CLEANING OF TOWN CENTRES

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide information to the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee on regular cleaning of town centres as requested at the Annual Plan 2007/2008 Workshop of 20 September 2006.

BACKGROUND

At the 20 September 2006 workshop, Councillors requested information on the regular cleaning of town centres.

Over the last three years, Council has significantly increased the budget and resources for cleaning and maintenance of town centres, and Council officers are not aware of any outstanding issues. As part of this initiative, funding has been made available for two full-time auditors and dedicated town centre maintenance staff employed by the Council.

This report sets out the detail of the work programme for town centre maintenance and the Committee is requested to advise officers of any issues which are not being addressed.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Well maintained and clean town centres contribute to the Council's strategic direction as described in the Council's strategic priority of a Safe City; which required the Council to ensure the general safety of the community as integral, over an above health and safety considerations.

The town centre maintenance activities also respond to the following platforms:

- Urban and Rural Villages: Specifically to make the city a vibrant and enjoyable place to be, by creating attractive urban places that encourage growth and economic development, with minimal environmental impact;
- Strong Innovative Economy: Specifically by designing high quality town centres that are fit for the task and promote local enterprise, jobs and economic development.

ISSUES

Management Process

Officers from the Park Assets, Roading Assets and Solid Waste teams have developed a co-ordinated approach to the management of maintenance and renewals in town centres and high profile areas.

There is also regular contact with the Strategic Projects team and operational staff to inform all staff that are involved in town centres of what is taking place in town centre management.

The objective is to coordinate the maintenance, renewal and management of high profile areas, town centre, civic areas, parks and road reserves to ensure that these areas are maintained and repairs and minor renewals undertaken in a co-ordinated and timely manner and to a quality standard.

Two contracts have been established to carry out the following:

- respond quickly to customer requests;
- undertake minor repairs;
- respond to make any areas safe;
- manage sub contractors in undertaking minor repair works;
- carry out inspection of assets to ensure that they continue to provide the intended level of service;
- undertake regular inspections of known hazard areas;
- undertake the provision of new and the renewal of minor assets;
- update asset condition data.

Some modifications have been made to the contract processes over the past year to improve the processing of works and maximise the available resources to meet the objectives of the contracts.

The contracts provide for the following:

- auditing of assets;
- identifying maintenance works and minor projects;
- carrying out maintenance works and repairs;
- responding to requests for service;
- Carrying out minor projects and programmed renewal of assets.

Levels of Service

A28-A30 The detailed schedules for the levels of service are attached at pages A28 to A30.

Response times are as set out in the table below:

	Response	Completion
Emergency	2 hours	12 hours
Normal	2 days	10 days

Response times for Town Centre Maintenance

Auditing

The auditing process is carried out by two Asset Auditors who inspect and audit assets in the first three days of each week and then undertake repairs in the remaining two days of the week.

The two Asset Auditors inspect and audit the assets on the following sites. All Council assets are audited:

- Town centres weekly
- Arterial routes weekly
- Hazard sites weekly
- City Wide Sports/Community parks fortnightly
- Piha/Bethells fortnightly

All health and safety issues are immediately phoned through to the Call Centre to be lodged on the Request For Service system. If possible the issue is isolated by the Auditor.

The Auditors will undertake minor works while they are on site. These include ones that can be undertaken by one person safely and include clean up, removal of rubbish rubble, trim plantings etc.

Photographs are taken of all findings and a schedule produced on all inspections and the action taken is recorded.

Separate reports are produced for Roads, Parks and others with a schedule and photograph of all the issues found. These reports are to be supplied by each Wednesday with details of the previous inspections and works undertaken.

Projects that have been identified for action through the Audit process are placed in priority order based on health and safety and profile of the site by the Auditors and the Supervisor.

A full audit is undertaken of all roading issues in each of the town centres on a centre by centre basis.

All Solid Waste issues which are identified through the weekly audits are placed through the Request For Service system when they have been identified by the Auditor.

The following town centres and high profile roads and parks are audited, as set out in the tables below.

Town Centres

Glen Eden	Massey
Glendene	New Lynn
Green Bay	Ranui
Henderson	Royal Heights
Hobsonville	Swanson
Kaurilands	Te Atatu Peninsula
Laingholm	Te Atatu South
Lincoln North	Titirangi
Westgate - Massey Leisure	Waitakere

High Profile Roads

Alderman Drive	Parrs Cross Road
Atkinson Road	Pine Avenue
Border Road	Pleasant Street
Brighams Creek Road	Pomaria Road
Bruce McLaren Road	Portage Road
Central Park Drive	Railside Avenue
Clarke Street	Rata Street
Croyden Road/Rua Road	Ratanui Street
Don Buck Road	Rathgar Road
Edmonton Road	Royal Road
Edsel Street	Scenic Drive
Forest Hill Road	School Road
Glenvale Road	Sel Peacock Avenue
Glenview Road	Seymour Road
Godley Road	State Highway 16
Golf Road	Sturges Road
Great North Road	Swanson Road
Henderson Valley Road	Te Atatu Road
Hobsonville Road	Te Pai Place
Huia Road	Titirangi Road
Kauri Road	Titirangi to Woodlands Park
Kaurilands Road	Triangle Road
Kelston to Parrs Cross	Trig Road
Larnoch Road	Universal Drive
Lincoln Road	Vitasovich Avenue
Luckens Road	Waitakere Road
Makora Road	West Coast Road
Margan Avenue	Westgate Drive
Moire Road	Wiseley Road

High Profile Parks

Rotary Park	Parrs Park
Luckens Reserve	Harold Moody/Duck Park
Awaroa Park	Fred Taylor Park
Triangle Park	Olympic Park
Opanuku Reserve	Ceramco Park
Cranwell Park	Shadbolt Park
Te Pai Park	Ken Maunder park
Henderson Creek Walkway	Te Atatu Peninsula Park
Harbour View/Orangihina	Starling Park
Prospect Park	Moire Park
Herald Island Hall	Henderson Park
Rush Creek	Trusts Stadium - Douglas Track and Field - Waitakere Stadium
	Crum Park
Included in Town centres	Royal Reserve
Swanson Rail Station Park	
Massey Lesiure Centre	

RESOURCES

There are no resource implications arising from this report.

CONCLUSION

The Council has increased funding and resources over the last few years to provide for enhanced cleaning and maintenance programmes in town centres.

Council officers are not aware of any outstanding issues and the Committee is requested to advise of any specific issues that have not been addressed

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regular Cleaning of Town Centres report be received.

Report prepared by: Tony Miguel, Group Manager: Asset Management.



8 DISTRICT PLAN WORK PROGRAMME AND STRATEGIC OUTCOMES

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to outline to the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee the current District Plan work programme and identify where improvements can be made to the Annual Plan 2007/2008 to more closely align the District Plan and the Council's strategic outcomes as detailed in the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016.

BACKGROUND

The District Plan is a key regulatory tool for delivering Council's strategic outcomes which include the five priorities (The Treaty of Waitangi, Sustainable Development, First Call for Children, Safe City, and Lifelong Learning) and the nine Strategic Platforms (Urban and Rural Villages, Integrated Transport and Communication, Strong Innovative Economy, Active Democracy, Strong Communities, Green Network, Three Waters, Zero Waste, and Sustainable Energy and Clean Air).

Both the District Plan and the Council's Strategic Outcomes were strongly influenced by the 1992 Rio declaration on the Environment and Development and Agenda 21. More recently these principles were reaffirmed at the United Nations world summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg in 2002 and the through the 2004 Aalborg Commitments. The Council has adopted these principles to guide Council's strategic outcomes. Due to their origin there is a close alignment with the District Plan and the Council's strategic outcomes. It should, however, be recognised that the content of the District Plan is guided by the Resource Management Act 1991 which effects based legislation with sustainable management rather than sustainable development as its guiding principle, while promoting community involvement and is subject to legal processes (such as appeals to the Environment Court).

The Waitakere City District Plan itself was notified in October 1995, and following an extensive hearing process decisions were released in 1998. This attracted a significant number of appeals which have largely been resolved by negotiation in a manner that maintains the core focus of Council's strategic outcomes. The majority of the District Plan was declared operative in March 2003. This is an important detail as the plan will be subject to review in March 2013 with a requirement to provide a monitoring report every five years (March 2008).

More recently the District Plan has been influenced by the Local Government (Auckland) Amendment Act 2004 (LG(A)AA 2004). The LG(A)AA 2004 seeks to align all the District and Regional Plans in the Auckland region with the Auckland Regional Growth Strategy and to better integrate land use and transport planning. In response, Waitakere City Council notified Plan Changes 13 to 18 in March 2005 and sought changes to the Metropolitan Urban Limit at Massey North, Hobsonville Village, and Hobsonville Airbase. Plan Changes 13 to 18 seek to bring on much needed employment and housing opportunities for the Council including Hobsonville Airbase, Hobsonville Corridor, Massey North Westgate, and New Lynn specifically. Plan change 16 identifies further growth and intensification areas and sequences when these areas will be developed in the future. Plan Change 18 introduces a range of rules to address amenity and urban design issues associated with intensification including, Apartment Design criteria, site analysis, street frontage, and noise and building controls for mixed use development.

These changes are not only a response to the LG(A)AA 2004 but they are also key to ensuring that the City achieves its strategic outcomes. The current District Plan work programme is heavily focussed on achieving these key strategic outcomes for the City, and will continue to be until the end of the 2007 calendar year.

It is however acknowledged that there are some gaps that need to be addressed in the short term (prior to the next Long Term Council Community Plan in 2009). The Council is also seeing this workstream as an opportunity to work towards the District Plan "monitoring report" that is required to be produced in 2008. This requirement arose from the 2003 amendment to the Resource Management Act 1991, and the report is required five years after the District Plan was made operative. This is considered to be an important pre-cursor to the full review of the District Plan in 2013.

How the District Plan aligns with the Council's strategic outcomes is identified below. It is recognised that this alignment can be improved and changes are identified in the 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 work programme.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Key strategic outcomes which relate to the District Plan are:

- The *Sustainable Development* Priority, which seeks that all development demonstrates quadruple bottom line benefits for current and future communities;
- The *Urban and Rural Villages* platform which seeks to deliver vibrant town centres
- The *Strong Innovative Economy* platform, which seeks to provide quality local employment for Waitakere City residents;
- The *Green Network* platform which seeks to retain and enhance the qualities of the natural environment within the areas that are proposed to be urbanised, while seeking the relief of development pressure on the non-urban areas such as the Waitakere Ranges and Foothills; and
- The *Integrated Transport and Communication* platform which seeks to deliver sustainable urban form integrated with passenger and other transport networks in a way that reduces vehicle trips, reduces the dependence on private motor vehicles, and supports alternative transportation modes such as public transport, walking and cycling.
- The *Three Waters* Platform which seeks the innovative approach to water supply, wastewater and stormwater in a way that minimises environmental impacts

A broad outline of how the District Plan responds to these platforms is contained below:

The *Sustainable Development* Priority

The District Plan achieves this by focusing on a range of key platforms outlined below. In particular City growth is largely focused within the Urban area and gives priority to Town Centres and transport corridors in order to maximise social and economic benefits and at the same time reducing the City's environmental footprint. Limited future urban growth is directed to the north of the City to cater for anticipated population growth and employment needs in a way that will not compromise intensification objectives. Similarly limited opportunities for growth are proposed in the rural parts of the City.

The *Urban and Rural Villages* platform

The District Plan focuses intensive residential and employment activities (particularly retail) in Town Centres. As noted a range of amenity controls have been introduced via Plan Change 18 to address amenity issues associated with intensification. Plan Change 16 prioritises when different centres will be intensified a comprehensive concept planning is required. Rural and Coastal villages act as service areas for the wider rural area.

The *Strong Innovative Economy* platform

Again the District Plan concentrates significant employment opportunities in Town Centres whilst also making provision for people to work from home as a home occupation. New growth areas have an employment focus so that the City can maximise local employment opportunities.

The *Integrated Transport and Communication* platform

Intensive development is focussed along key transport corridors. Concept planning is required for significant residential development and Town Centre intensification. A key component of concept planning is maximising transport connections and supporting transport investment.

The *Green Network* platform

The District Plan seeks to protect significant vegetation and natural landscapes both by focusing intensive development in the urban area (outside the Waitakere Ranges) but also by ensuring the protection and enhancement of green and blue corridors within the urban area. The Natural Area layer of the District Plan affords greater protection to those areas containing significant vegetation and landscapes.

The *Three Waters* platform

The District Plan supports the provision of innovative water measures by requiring mitigation for water impacts at the resource consent stage through management of potential contaminants at source. As new growth areas are developed Waitakere also completes integrated Catchment Management Plans to address the three waters collectively.

ISSUES

As noted the key focus for the District Plan work programme has been the LG(A)AA hearing process. This also involves significant resources in seeking changes to the Auckland Regional Policy Statement to ensure that the Council's strategic outcomes are fostered.

Several other key areas of work are also identified for the short term and these are on current work programmes and have been budgeted for in the Annual Plan 2006/2007.

A31-A34

This is specifically detailed at pages A31 to A34. To summarise this includes:

- Ranges Policy Development (Green Network);
- Prohibiting Genetically Modified Organisms (Green Network);
- Whenuapai Airbase (Strong Innovative Economy and Transport);
- Medium Density Housing Design Criteria;
- Retailing and residential development in the Working Environment (Strong Innovative Economy);
- Refining the Medium Density Housing Criteria (Urban and Rural Villages);
- Piha Landscape issues (Green Network);
- View Shaft clarification (Green Network);
- Sale of Liquor (Urban and Rural Villages and Strong Innovative Economy);
- Prostitution (Urban and Rural Villages and Strong Innovative Economy);
- Concept plan development for Town Centres including Henderson, Glen Eden, Te Atatu Peninsula, and Ranui (Urban and Rural Villages and Strong Innovative Economy and Transport);
- Scope renewable energy plan change (Sustainable Energy and Clean Air);
- Pakanui Structure Plan.

It is important to recognise that whilst this work is identified on the 2006/2007 work programme, not all plan changes will be progressed in that year. The plan change process from inception to operative status can take up to four years.

A31-A34

Several other issues that need further work were identified in the September 2006 Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan workshop. These along with other issues have been identified through the LG(A)AA hearing process and the development of the City Growth Strategy. These are also more fully described at pages A31 to A34 and include:

- Social infrastructure planning (Strong Communities);
- Intensification facilitation (Urban and Rural Villages and Transport);
- Displacement of potential noxious activities (Urban and Rural Villages and Strong Economy);
- Car parking (Urban and Rural Villages and Transport);
- Commercial zonings on train stations (Urban and Rural Villages and Strong Economy);
- Integrated Catchment Management Planning (Green Network and Three Waters).

At this stage it is anticipated that these can be added to the 2007/2008 work programme and can be absorbed in the projected budget as outlined in the Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016. However, the 2007/2008 budget may need to be reviewed in light of the decisions on the LG(A)AA on the basis that the District Plan will need to be updated to "give effect" to the, by then, newly released Regional Policy Statement decisions. There is also the potential that the Council may wish to appeal some of the Regional Policy Statement decisions where these will not enhance the Council's strategic outcomes. Further clarification will also be provided through this process on the success of Council's applications to alter the Metropolitan Urban Limit which will influence whether further District Plan changes will also be necessary. This may have significant resource implications but it is unpredictable at this stage.

RESOURCES

Funding and resources have been provided in the Annual Plan 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 for the majority of District Plan Changes that seek better alignment with the Council's strategic objectives. It is however unpredictable at this stage whether additional resources will be required to respond to the decisions released as part of the LG(A)AA hearing process.

CONCLUSION

The District Plan is currently closely aligned with Council's strategic outcomes. The existing work programme for the 2006-2008 work programme identifies a series of changes that will improve this alignment. This budget can be further refined once the decisions on the LG(A)AA hearings are released in early to mid 2007.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the District Plan Work Programme and Strategic Outcomes report be received.
2. That a report be brought back to the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee once decisions have been released on the LG(A)AA hearings regarding whether further resources will be required to deliver the 2007/2008 District Plan work programme.

Report prepared by: Matt Heale, Team Leader, Sustainable Management and Eryn Shields, Principal Planner.



9 **ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION**

PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee on Environmental Education activities, following a request made at the Long Term Council Community Plan and Annual Plan Special Committee workshop on 20 September 2006

BACKGROUND

The Council has delivered environmental education as a cornerstone of its Eco City policies since 1992. Until recently, however, several different departments undertook different activities. For example, Ecowater has a strong environmental education programme, the Refuse Transfer Station operated its learning centre, and there were educational aspects to Project Twin Streams and Waicare. Various departments had also agreed to collaborate on developing an Enviroschools project.

In the Chief Executive Officer-led organisational review in 2005 these various educational functions were transferred to one department (Public Affairs) and this became effective at the beginning of 2006. The intention was - and remains - to consolidate these functions in one overall Education for Sustainability programme in which all sustainable education activities have a common structure and are offered alongside all other programmes, in a "single menu".

The objective of this is to give schools a choice of options to suit their needs and continuity of study options either by continuing study of a single sustainability issue year by year or studying several side by side or by progressing from one subject to another.

This framework is intended to create a single education for sustainability programme with many topics available on a mix and match basis - rather than having different council departments operating independently and competing with each other for schools' attention and resources.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Environmental Education work programme is key component contributor to council's Strategic Platforms and Priorities and in particular:

- Green network;
- First Call For Children;
- Sustainable Environment;
- Principles of the Treaty.

It also supports the council's contribution to community outcomes, in particular, the Green Network, Sustainable Environment, Waiora (Environmental Protection), Strong Economy, Strong Communities and Healthy Lifestyles.

ISSUES

The objective of the environmental education programme is to deliver a broad range of resources and activities to, mainly, school aged children (ranging from primary through to secondary schools). This requires an equally broad range of approaches - for example up-skilling of teaching professionals through to direct delivery of the programme (at the Refuse Station's Learning Centre)

Key programmes and Initiatives:

Animal Welfare and Waste Minimisation

The Learning Centre at the Refuse Transfer Station currently caters for up to 10 sessions a week (around 300 children) at primary school level. Local (i.e. Waitakere) schools are given booking preference and the facility is also made available free of charge to other local authorities in the region, however, they must provide their own teaching staff. In the current financial year it is intended that this programme be integrated with the neighbouring Animal Welfare Centre which will provide a greater focus on animal care and welfare as opposed to animal "control".

Main Schools Programmes

The Ecowater schools and adult education programmes have continued to be very successful, as has the education dimension of Project Twin Streams (PTS) and the input to Waicare.

The Ecowater programme supports classroom learning for primary and secondary students, in pursuit of curriculum objectives. Outcomes in secondary schools count towards NCEA.

Resources developed under the programme are shared nationally and one, *Focus on Bugs*, is acknowledged as Best Practice. The programme is divided into the following areas:

- **Teacher development:**
(Hosting teacher training events, producing information material such as the Learning Waters newsletter and information to educational magazines).
- **Resource development:**
(Written and photographic resources, teaching plans and On-line resources).
- **Response to schools:**
Supporting programmes developed by teachers for both field and classroom work.

Projects in recent years have included the ground breaking children's adventure film (on DVD) *Guardians of the Mauri*, the play *Aquatic Alien Invaders* and the video *Focus on Bugs*.

There is a very high level of partnership with Iwi in this programme.

Virtually all Waitakere schools use these sorts of resources. Many resources are placed on the internet, for use nationally. In addition, 200 copies of *Guardians of the Mauri* have been distributed locally and 300 were purchased by the National Waterways Project (The Royal Society) for national distribution. A similar number of copies of *Focus on Bugs* has been distributed. *Aquatic Alien Invaders* was a Department of Conservation project supported by the Council. It toured 28 Waitakere schools.

This programme also supports adult education programmes at Rutherford High School.

In addition we have supported Bio Blitz and regularly support Eco Day and Story Fest, as well as schools arts programmes under the Project Twin Streams banner

Enviroschools

Several departments of the Council have set aside budget to develop a “Facilitated” Enviroschools Programme. This would have funded a half time position which would have had marginal value because the programme requires operational budget support which was not provided for.

We do however intend to launch an Enviroschools programme, with the available resources, for the second half of the 2006/2007 year and seek a separate discrete budget for a minimum one full time equivalent and operational costs of \$10,000 in the 2007/2008 annual plan year.

It is, however, important for the sustainability of the programme, which takes approximately three years to fully develop in each school, to make a commitment to support the programme for at least three years, and preferably indefinitely.

Perhaps even more importantly it should be sustained because Enviroschools consists of essentially any programme which engages the school in sustainable behaviour, it has the capacity to be a flagship in our overall education for sustainability programme

Civics Education

The council has also participated in the development of a national approach to Civics Education being hosted by Local Government New Zealand. The long-term objective of this project is to increase active citizenship in local government and understanding the role that local government plays in communities.

The project will initially focus on developing resources for use in New Zealand schools. This material will help young people to understand how decisions are made in their communities and increase their active engagement with local government.

The project will also provide resources to support Councils to engage with students, children and young people working on a range of projects for introduction to schools.

Closest to completion is an initiative from the Electoral Commission - “Kids Voting” - that involves students in a mock election experience. Waitakere is ahead of the game on this as one out of five schools is assisting prior to Christmas with a mock election to test the voting system.

Other projects including a Citizen’s Jury Project and changes to schools curricula are still under development.

The Citizen’s Jury Project will be a web based resource to assist schools and local government to hold citizens’ juries, or simulated decision making processes, about local issues. It is aimed at 11-12 year old students and will provide them with the tools to engage in the decision making process, weighing a range of views and coming to a decision. This will be trialled in 2007 but not introduced before 2009.

The Mr Huff cartoon character is now fully developed and available. Mr Huff is “jo-average” and in the cartoon he starts his day by wondering what he gets for his rates and frame by frame in the cartoon - the evolving of his day - he encounters the wide variety of services the council provides.

Waitakere City Council will be availing itself of this resource in the new year.

RESOURCES

The existing educational programmes with the exception of Enviroschools, are fully or partially budgeted (salaries and operational support budgets). The additional resources that will be required to formalise the Education For Sustainability project and bring it under a single management/structure, include creation of a team leader position at approximately \$73,000 per annum plus on-costs; and at least one full time equivalent for Enviroschools at approximately \$40,000, per annum operational budgets of approximately \$20,000 for the Team Leader/department and \$10,000 for Enviroschools.

CONCLUSION

Environmental Education is a vital component in the Council achieving its environmental objectives. What children learn in their formative years they will put into practices in their adults lives. Thus the next generation will embark on their lives as decision makers, already committed to good sustainable practices.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Environmental Education report be received.
2. The Council consider the additional resources that will be necessary to bring the Education for Sustainability Programme into fruition

Report prepared by: Dai Bindoff, Manager: Public Affairs.



10 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER MEETINGS

RECOMMENDATION FROM NEW LYNN COMMUNITY BOARD MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, 30 OCTOBER 2006

FINALISATION PROCESS FOR YEAR 2 OF THE LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN (ANNUAL PLAN 2007/2008)

The New Lynn Community Board Recommends:

That the footpath construction budget be increased to \$1 million in the Annual Plan 2007/2008.

