



Our Plan 2016-17
Officers' Responses to
Additional Miscellaneous Submission Points Received

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Additional Miscellaneous Submission Points Raised

sub#	Name	Additional comments
8	Upstream Wairoa - Roslyn Thomas	Seeks confirmation of the commitment from HBRC for waterfront enhancement work along the lower reaches of the Wairoa River

Staff Response to Submission 8

Staff have met with Wairoa District Council staff including Roslyn Thomas and advised them that HBRC are committed to a programme of planting/enhancement work along the Lower Wairoa River with an ongoing budget of \$20,000 per year funded from project 277 – Wairoa Rivers and Streams Scheme.

In conjunction with the HBRC work which will be along the river edge and immediate river margin, Wairoa District Council plan to enhance the wider river berm area. Staff expect to develop a programme of work in conjunction with Wairoa District Council early in the 2016/17 financial year with enhancement work commencing in preparation for initial planting in the winter of 2017.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 8**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Additional comments
11	Gillian Wilton, Seascape Environment Society Inc	Port Noise - fund sufficient insulation for residents to mitigate noise

Staff Response to Submission 11

The issues raised in this submission were discussed by staff and councillors with representatives of the Seascape Environment Society Inc at the Annual Plan consultation meeting held on 2 May 2016. At that meeting there was a understanding of the issues, specifically the lack of a response from Napier Port, and there was an undertaking that discussions would be held between Council and Napier Port with a view to seeking a solution acceptable to all parties.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 11**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Additional comments
14	David Apted, Ormlie Chalet Group	Water science Charges

Staff Response to Submission 14

Staff have considered the points raised in the submission and noted the claimed inequity.

It is difficult to draw a line for charging for multiple users of a single system that are servicing a number of dwellings, should it be 5, 10, 20, 100?

The decision to exempt single residential users but charge multiple users reflects the cumulative environmental impact of a system that services multiple dwellings.

The discharge to land consents are weighted by a pollution index score ranging from 1.87 to 2.25 at a base value of \$232.45 (plus a fixed charge of approximately \$90)

This year costs are going to be almost half of what they were last year, reflecting a reduced level of science work in the Heretaunga zone.

An alternative that would avoid the charges would be for the four users to install their own tanks to avoid the approximate individual charge of \$250 per year.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 14**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Additional comments
15	Paul Bailey	Climate change

Staff Response to Submission 15

The submission states that there is nothing in the consultation document to indicate that HBRC are taking any steps towards the issues raised by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment report "Preparing NZ for rising seas".

The reason that there is nothing included in this issue in the Annual Plan consultation document is that work on the development of a Coastal Hazard Strategy for the HB Coast between Clifton and Tangoio with the objective of improving the resilience of the HB community in the face of predicted sea level rise, commenced in 2014 and is now well advanced. This work is being undertaken through a Joint Committee including HBRC, Napier City Council and Hastings District Council. The submitter is referred to the project website www.HBCoast.co.nz where he will find information on the project and the work that has been completed to date, which includes an assessment of risks for the community.

This work has been publicised on numerous occasions since it commenced through HB Today and the HBRC publication "Our Place", and further engagement with open and clear communication with the community is planned.

As HBRC's fleet consists primarily of 4x4 utilities the opportunities to introduce electric vehicles into our fleet on a wide scale are limited. As a starting point, HBRC has two hybrid pool vehicles (battery & petrol) for around town use. When the hybrid vehicles are due for replacement, there is the potential to add an electric vehicle in to our pool fleet.

As electric vehicles develop further to meet our model and charging infrastructure increases, HBRC will relook at the possibility of including electric vehicles into the fleet.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 15**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
18	Jenny Baker	RWSS consents / Big 6 and Energy Strategy
61	Paula Fern	RWSS consents for Zone N

Staff Response to Submissions 18 & 61

The submitter expressed concern that resource consent was granted for Zone N in January 2016 and questioned why this was processed as a non-notified application.

No resource consent has been applied for, or granted, for Zone N.

The resource consent granted to extend production land use within the RWSS command area is a physical extension of existing zones. The Board of Inquiry acknowledged that the final extent of the RWSS command area would not be known until water sales were made and anticipated that further resource consents would be required to meet this need.

Staff undertook a notification assessment which was independently peer reviewed by Simpson Grierson who agreed with the staff recommendation that the consent could be treated as non-notified.

The submitter has also expressed interest in progress on the planned Energy Futures work of the Council. As councillors will be aware progress on this work has been slower than expected due to staff turnover and higher priorities for the remaining staff through a period of recruitment. This work is now underway again and a meeting of key stakeholders planned for June to consider a draft energy strategy document and determine next steps, including wider community engagement.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submissions 18 and 61**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
24	Kathryn Bayliss	For: GM free HB, ban big burn offs, keep rates as low as possible Against: HBRIC; HBRC involvement in energy strategy & investments; oil prospecting & fracking

Staff Response to Submission 24

The submitter has expressed her views on the Amendments to the Long Term plan and all of these issues raised are addressed in the staff responses to these proposals.

In addition, the submitter has expressed a view that the HBRC should not allow oil and gas exploration and development in the region, and only consent renewable energy activities with no environmental impacts. As councillors will be aware the Resource Management Act provides for the sustainable management of natural resources and is not a zero-risk based regulatory construct. The Council is currently reviewing the Regional Resource Management Plan rules in relation to oil and gas activities but staff do not believe that a total prohibition on such activities in the region would be lawful under the current national legislative framework, including the Crown Minerals Act. These are matters for national political debate.

The submitter has raised a number of further matters that are beyond the scope of the Annual Plan.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 24**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
35	Graeme Carroll, Napier-Gisborne Railway Shortline Establishment Group	re-establishment of Napier-Gisborne rail services
109	Mary Liza Manuel	Napier-Gisborne rail investment
139	Gerard Pain	Support for Napier – Wairoa rail

Staff Response to Submissions 35, 109 and 139

The submitters' support HBRC's objectives in respect of establishing log train services from Wairoa to Napier Port. This support is appreciated.

The submitter (35) seeks an objective to re-open the line to Gisborne as a second stage after the Napier to Wairoa section has reopened and proved its viability. The submitter also specifically seeks that HBRC includes in its negotiations with KiwiRail the objective of enabling access to the railway for other rail operators.

The alternative proposal submitted to KiwiRail by HBRC last year is focussed upon a commercial arrangement with KiwiRail that is specifically focused upon log freight from Wairoa. Any legal agreement between representatives of HBRC and KiwiRail is not proposed to cover off tourism activities on any section of the line.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submissions 35, 109 and 139**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
47	Ken Crispin, Citizens Environmental Advocacy Centre	Environmental impacts of road freight

Staff Response to Submission 47

The submitter makes a number of points, some of which are relevant to HBRC. Support for establishing log train services from Wairoa to Napier Port is appreciated.

The mitigation of the environmental impacts of road freight involves a number of agencies and measures coordinated through the Regional Transport Committee and individual transport and resource management plans.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 47**, and any comments and proposals made by Council officers.*

sub#	Name	Comment
71	June Graham	Transport, Road safety, GoldCard / Support for NGR / Ahuriri Estuary protection & values
72	June Graham, Grey Power Napier & Districts	Leasehold land / Transport safety, GoldCard & Velodrome / NGR support / Environmental issues, e.g. wetlands

Staff Response to Submissions 71 and 72

The submitter intends to make verbal presentations at the Annual Plan hearings on the matters identified and no staff response can be provided until then.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submissions 71 and 72**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
75	Margaret Gwynn	Seek law change to levy water being exported

Staff response to Submission 75

The submitter requests that HBRC be proactive in seeking a law change to enable councils to levy a charge on any water exported as water and to give regional councils the power to refuse water bottling consents to protect local aquifers.

To date HBRC has discussed with the Minister for the Environment the issue of a water levy for water bottling and the response has been that this is not a matter the Minister wishes to consider. Nevertheless it is a broader central government issue and affects not just Hawke's Bay but other areas of New Zealand.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 75**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
98	Pauline Doyle & Ken Keys, Guardians of the Aquifer	deep bore drilling Heretaunga / Plan Change re gas/oil exploration

Staff response to Submission 98

The submitters have sought a plan change to the Regional Resource Management to classify the drilling for oil and gas as a prohibited activity in or near water catchment and seismically active areas. The Council is currently reviewing the Regional Resource Management Plan rules in relation to oil and gas activities and advice on this matter is to be provided to the Regional Planning Committee on 1 June.

The submitter has requested funding 3 deep bores across the Heretaunga Plain to support the TANK groundwater modelling. Staff do not believe that deep bore information is currently required to inform the modelling currently underway to support the TANK policy process. Staff have advised Council that deep bore information will be useful in time and have suggested that a programme of drilling be considered for the 2018-2028 LTP cycle.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 98**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
122	Rex McIntyre	Napier-Wairoa rail corridor and SH2 upgrade

Staff response to Submission 122

The submitter supports that HBRC undertakes a feasibility study of a multi-use (rail, road, cycleway) corridor concept for the corridor between Esk and Putorino. At present HBRC is committed to negotiating a potential agreement to transport logs on the rail line from Waiora to the Port.

The submitter questions where the public consultation was for the investment of \$5.4 million by HBRC to the Napier-Gisborne rail line. Public consultation on this proposed investment occurred in the 2014/15 Annual Plan process. It has not specifically occurred through this Annual Plan consultation because local authorities are no longer required to consult on their Annual Plan in total, only where they wish to make changes from the Long Term Plan. HBRC has not proposed any change to its long term plan to commit funding for investment in the rail corridor.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 122**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
142	Toimata Foundation	Support for Enviroschools

Staff response to Submission 142

The submitter recognises HBRC's ongoing involvement with the Enviroschools foundation and encourages the continuation of this. HBRC proposes no change to this involvement in the Annual Plan. The submitter's support is appreciated.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 142**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*

sub#	Name	Comment
147	Ann Redstone, WOW Inc	Cape Coast shingle replenishment/ Awatoto gravel extraction /Cape Coast groyne field

Staff response to Submission 147

1. HBRC will continue to work with Hastings District Council regarding the ongoing maintenance of the beach crest in the vicinity of Haumoana, with particular emphasis on ensuring that there is a clear understanding between the two Councils and the community regarding work that will be undertaken following any future event during which the sea overtops the beach crest.
2. While it is agreed that extraction of shingle and sand from the beach at Awatoto does have an impact on the coast, studies of this done to date do not show that impact extending as far as Haumoana. The current resource consent for the extraction of shingle by Winstones at Awatoto expires on 31st May 2017. Winstones are legally entitled to seek an extension of that consent at that time, however HBRC have held a number of discussions with the company to encourage them to seek an alternative source of material. Further discussions will be held during the 2016/17 year. Since the granting of the current consent HBRC have continued to enhance their understanding of coastal processes operating along this part of the coast and believe that there is sufficient evidence to support the cessation of extraction upon expiry of the current consent.
3. The development of the Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Strategy guided by the Joint Committee is being undertaken in 4 stages. To date stage 1 (understand the hazard and the associated risks) has now been completed. The Joint Committee are now focussing on Stage 2 which is the development of the framework under which decisions on the future strategies for various parts of the coast will be considered and ultimately made. Stage 3, the process for considering and making decisions is programmed to commence during the 2016/17 financial year. The final stage 4, will involve the long term programme of implementing the decisions made. Accordingly it is expected that options regarding the long term management of the coastal environment will be considered during the next financial year.

Issues associated with the potential impact on gravel transport have been modelled and considered as part of the RWSS project and mitigation measures have been required as part of the resource consent conditions for the project, including renourishment in the vicinity of the Tukituki River Mouth.

Recommendation

*That Council considers the submission points received relating to **Submission 147**, and any comments and proposals made by staff.*