



**Report**                    **04.562**  
**Date**                      14 September 2004  
**File**                        E/09/07/07

**Committee**            **Policy, Finance and Strategy**  
**Author**                **Wayne Hastie Council Secretary**

## **End of Triennium matters**

### **1. Purpose**

To report on a number of matters relating to the end of the Triennium which require consideration by Council.

### **2. Minutes of Last Meeting before Election**

Standing Order No. 32 provides:

*“The Chairperson and General Manager shall be responsible for confirming the accuracy of the minutes of the last meeting of Council prior to the next election of members”.*

Minutes of the final meeting on 7 October will be circulated to Councillors as soon as possible following the meeting. Any comments from Councillors will need to be given to the Chairperson by 12 noon on 8 October. The Chairperson and Chief Executive will make the final decisions regarding any changes sought by Councillors.

The process must be completed prior to the Chairperson going out of office.

### **3. Vacation of Office**

In accordance with the Local Electoral Act 2001 and the Local Government Act 2002:

- (a) Councillors who are elected unopposed (Crs Kirton and Turver) go out of office on 9 October and come into office the same day. However, these Councillors cannot act as members until they make their declaration at the first meeting of the new Council, tentatively scheduled for 28 October.
- (b) Councillors who face an election go out of office on the date of the Electoral Officer’s declaration, which is expected to be around 13 October. Members come into office on the day after the declaration.

- (c) The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson vacate office on the date of the Electoral Officer's declaration.

#### **4. Remuneration**

Following the election, Councillors will be remunerated in accordance with the Local Government Elected Members (Interim) Determination 2004 (included in Councillors' Information Bulletin 2004/29, 23 July 2004). The Determination comes into force on the date of the Electoral Officer's declaration and continues until a new remuneration regime is adopted by the Council and approved by the Remuneration Authority.

#### **5. Discharge of Committees**

Unless the Council resolves otherwise, all committees, subcommittees or other subordinate decision-making bodies are deemed to be discharged on the coming into office of the new Council.

#### **6. Emergency Arrangements**

As there will be a period between the election and the first meeting of the new Council when Councillors are unable to act, there is a need for delegation of authority to deal with emergency and some other matters in the "interregnum". It is proposed that the Chief Executive be authorised to act in any emergency matters in consultation with the appropriate Divisional/Corporate Manager. Any such matters will be reported to the incoming Council as soon as practicable.

Also, normal delegation to Committees, or any delegation involving particular political office holders, e.g. Committee Chairs, cannot resume until the Committee structure is confirmed and members appointed. However, once the new Council is sworn in, a meeting of the full Council can be convened to deal with any significant matters.

The Resource Management Act 1991 provides tight statutory timeframes for the consideration of resource consent applications and it may be necessary to commence arrangements for hearings in the period between the two Councils. If such circumstances arise, it is proposed that the Chief Executive be authorised to appoint a hearings panel in consultation with either the Divisional Manager, Environment or the Divisional Manager Wairarapa, according to their respective areas of responsibility within the Region.

In addition, it is proposed that all current Councillors be appointed as hearings commissioners until 31 December 2004 so that those who are re-elected are available to hear and decide on resource consents in the interregnum, should the need arise. Remuneration would be at the same rate as paid to a Councillor.

#### **7. Communication**

There is no communication needed as a result of this report.

## 8. Recommendations

*That the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee:*

(1) **Receives** the report.

(2) **Recommends** that the Council:

- (a) **Authorise** the Chief Executive to act on any emergency matters arising from the time the present Council and its Committees are discharged until the new Council is sworn in.
- (b) **Authorise** the Chief Executive, in consultation with either the Divisional Manager, Environment or the Divisional Manager Wairarapa, according to their respective areas of responsibility, to appoint hearings panels if required to consider any notified resource consent application during this period.
- (c) **Instruct** the Chief Executive to report any such matters to the incoming Council at the first appropriate opportunity.
- (d) In accordance with section 34A of the Resource Management Act 1991, **appoint:**

*Judith Aitken  
Hugh Barr  
Ian Buchanan  
Glen Evans  
Rex Kirton  
Chris Laidlaw  
Rick Long  
Terry McDavitt  
Margaret Shields  
Rosemarie Thomas  
Chris Turver  
Dick Werry*

*as hearings commissioners for the period from 9 October 2004 until 31 December 2004, and delegate them the power to hear and decide on resource consents when they are appointed to a hearings panel.*

- (e) **Note** that any commissioner appointed in accordance with (d) above will be remunerated at the same rate as paid to a Councillor.

Report prepared by:

**Wayne Hastie**  
Council Secretary