



PAD 09 01 08 10

07 September 2005

Ian Buchanan  
Chairman  
Greater Wellington Regional Council  
PO Box 11646  
WELLINGTON

Dear Ian

Cabinet has agreed to contribute the requested amount to the purchase of Waitangirua farm. It has also agreed to purchase Whareroa farm and for DoC to complete the purchase. I am advised I can't release the Cabinet Minute but below are the key decisions for Whareroa.

**Whareroa - Cabinet:**

- Noted that, subject to confirmation of the decision by full Council, the Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) will manage Whareroa as a regional park without call on the Crown for ongoing management funding;
- Agreed in principle, (subject to the report in paragraph 1.7), to a Crown purchase of the whole of Whareroa Farm from Landcorp, to be held for the purposes of the Reserves Act 1977;
- Agreed that the Department of Conservation negotiate the purchase and any continued grazing of the property with Landcorp;
- Agreed that, subject to confirmation by the full Council, management and undiluted governance responsibilities are to be held by the GWRC;
- Noted that if the GWRC does not accept this role, alternative management and funding arrangements will need to be considered.

The "report in paragraph 1.7" referred to in summary reported

- Greater Wellington Regional Council has, subject to confirmation by full Council, agreed to manage Whareroa Farm as a regional park. Kapiti District Council may contribute in our years.
- If Greater Wellington Regional Council do not agree to manage the farm the preferred fall-back is for management by the Department of Conservation, again with the community in a supportive but not governance role. If this fall-back option is taken, the Department of Conservation will be seeking additional funding to cover the costs of managing and developing the farm.

For the purchase and establishment of grazing, I am keen to pick up the experience of your Council's recent negotiations with Landcorp over Waitangirua. I have talked to Murray Waititi over whether we could use Peter O'Brien to work with Murray and I without any conflict of

Presuming however Council will be the manager, I will be keen to do the purchase and Reserves Act transactions and pass the property on to Council as soon as I can. I am keen to avoid starting an extensive visioning/management planning engagement with the community only to have it overtaken by the more appropriate Council process. Equally I want to restrict the need to take management decisions that pre-empt Council taking due time to consider and act.

I will however be taking advice from the Guardians over matters they consider relevant to the sale and establishment of grazing, but as I say, resisting starting an ongoing planning engagement with them.

### Waitangirua

I believe the contact for you to talk to in DIA is John Sutton and he will advise a contact in DIA's finance area. The DoC contact is Geoff Tylbrook in our Head Office, phone 4710 726.

### Cabinet

- Note that the Minister of Conservation has approved a contribution of \$0.889 million [GST excl] from the appropriation – Other Expenses to be incurred by the Crown – Purchases and Development of Reserves. This is on the condition that the usual adjustment at the October Baseline Update is made for the balance in the reserves account at 30 June 2005 plus the amount expected to be received in the account to 30 June 2006;
- Agree to make a grant of \$2.296 million [GST excl] to the Greater Wellington Regional Council and the Porirua City Council for the part purchase of Waitangirua Farm;
- Agree that the grant be subject to the Porirua City Council and Greater Wellington Regional Council being in a position, after purchase, to declare the land, under s.14 Reserves Act 1977, to be held for the purposes of that Act subject to a prior lease to Landcorp;
- Agree to the establishment of a new Other Expenses to be incurred by the Crown, entitled "Grants to assist in Land Purchases" Vote: Local Government.

I have offered Murray Waititi to look at how we can help brief Council for its decision on Whareroa and how he can help appropriately with DoCs purchase and grazing negotiation, and the Waitangirua follow up to Cabinet's decision.

Yours sincerely



Allan Ross  
Conservator