



If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Environment Committee

Thursday 17 February 2022, 9.30am

Remotely, via Microsoft Teams

Members

Cr Gaylor (Chair)

Cr Blakeley

Cr Hughes

Cr Laban

Cr Lee

Cr Ponter

Cr van Lier

Barbie Barton

Cr Connelly (Deputy Chair)

Cr Brash

Cr Kirk-Burnnand

Cr Lamason

Cr Nash

Cr Staples

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council

Environment Committee

Thursday 17 February 2022, 9.30am

Remotely, via Microsoft Teams

Public Business

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Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Environment Committee meeting on 17 February 2022.

Report 21.570

Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on Thursday 2 December 2021

All members participating remotely at 9.34am.

Members Present

Councillor Gaylor (Chair)
Councillor Connelly (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Blakeley
Councillor Brash
Councillor Hughes (until 11.41am, from 11.55am)
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ponter
Councillor Staples
Councillor van Lier
Barbie Barton

All members participated at this meeting remotely, and counted for the purpose of quorum, as per clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, introduced Lian Butcher, General Manager, Environment. The Committee Chair welcomed Ms Butcher to Greater Wellington.

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Blakeley

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Laban.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Quentin Duthie, spoke regarding Belmont Regional Park.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 21 October 2021 – Report 21.495

Moved: Cr Brash / Cr Connelly

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 21 October 2021 – Report 21.495.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Process for considering submissions and feedback on the proposed new stock grazing licence at Baring Head/Ōrua-paouni– Report 21.466 [For Information]

6 Hearing of oral submissions

Paula Warren, Friends of the Baring Head Charitable Trust (submission number 11), spoke to their submission via Microsoft Teams.

7 Analysis of submissions and feedback on the proposed new stock grazing licence at Baring Head/Ōrua-paouni – Report 21.563

Fiona Colquhoun, Parks Planner and Jimmy Young, Manager, Parks, spoke to the report.

The Committee completed its deliberations.

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Lamason

That the Committee:

- 1 Considers the submissions on the proposals for new stock grazing licences (Attachment 1), together with the officer comments in determining its findings and recommendations to Council.
- 2 Recommends that Council:
 - a Agrees to the issuance of a commercial stock grazing licence for Baring Head/Ōrua-pouanui, for the period from 1 January 2022 to 31 January 2023, incorporating the following provisions:

- i The provisions set out in Option 1 (paragraph 25 of Report 21.563), including that the licence provisions are designed to protect the nationally endangered banded dotterel nesting areas on the south coast area of the park.
 - ii That the licence includes a condition limiting the use of fertiliser to a 5-hectare area of Wainuiomata River flats, avoiding the riparian zones of the river and its overflow formed drainage areas.
 - iii That the licence specifies that the use of agri-chemicals is not permitted.
- b Agrees that practices, as outlined in Option 2 of Report 21.563, to increase threat management for fire, weeds and pest animals, required for restoration of native vegetation, will commence during the term of the approved grazing license.
 - c Agrees that the discontinuation of stock grazing licences, at the conclusion of this licence, will be the Council's strategic approach.
 - d Notes that the Reclothing Papatūānuku/Parks Restoration plan currently in development, will provide directions for future restoration at Baring Head in support of Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan 2020-30 (Toitū Te Whenua) directions.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 11.06am and resumed at 11.20am.

8 Update on the Progress of Action Items from previous Environment Committee meetings – December 2021 – Report 21.511 [For Information]

Alastair Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, and Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

9 Farming Reference Group update – oral update

Barbie Barton, Chair, Farming Reference Group, provided an oral update on the farming and rural sector.

Ms Barton advised that the rural sector in Wairarapa is currently facing several challenges. The centre of the region is currently very dry, with dairy production down and store markets slow.

The Farming Reference Group has been discussing the impact of the introduction of the COVID-19 protection framework and the impact of ongoing supply issues caused by COVID-19 for instance, there is currently a 20-week wait for fencing supplies.

Ms Barton raised the challenges faced by the farming community in regard to pest management particularly in relation to the transfer of hill country land to forestry.

Noted: The Committee requested that officers arrange a workshop following the next Committee meeting to discuss land management matters in the Wairarapa.

Councillor Hughes left the meeting at 11.41am, during discussion on the above item.

10 Environment/Catchment update – Report 21.523 [For Information]

Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management and Alastair Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, spoke to the report.

Councillor Hughes returned to the meeting at 11.55am, during discussion on the above item.

11 Crown Funded Projects update – December 2021 – Report 21.568 [For Information]

Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair invited Councillor Connelly to close the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public meeting closed at 12.17pm.

Councillor P Gaylor

Chair

Date:

Environment Committee
17 February 2022
Report 22.4



For Information

UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS – FEBRUARY 2022

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Environment Committee (the Committee) on the progress of action items arising from previous Committee meetings.

Te horopaki

Context

2. Items raised at Committee meetings, that require actions by officers, are listed in the table of action items from previous Committee meetings ([Attachment 1](#) - Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings – February 2022). All action items include an outline of the current status and a brief comment.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

3. There are no financial implications from this report, but there may be implications arising from the actions listed.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

4. Completed items will be removed from the action items table for the next report. Items not completed will continue to be progressed and reported. Any new items will be added to the table following this Committee meeting and circulated to the relevant business group/s for action.

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment**

Number	Title
1	Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings – February 2022

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatory**

Writers	Al Cross – Kaiwhakahaere Matua mo te Taiao/General Manager, Environment Management Wayne O’Donnell – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Whaitua/General Manager, Catchment Management
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He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> The action items are of an administrative nature and support the functioning of the Committee.
<i>Implications for Māori</i> Known implications for Māori are identified to the extent advised in Attachment 1.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> Action items contribute to Council's or Greater Wellington's related strategies, policies and plans to the extent identified in Attachment 1.
<i>Internal consultation</i> There was no additional internal consultation in preparing this report and updating the action items.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known risks or impacts.

Attachment 1 to Report 22.4

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

Meeting date	Action	Status and comment
17 June 2021	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that officers investigate what modifications have been done in the Queen Elizabeth Park area, and where they sit in the Parks Network Plan for wetland restoration.</p>	<p>Status</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment</p> <p>No physical modification works are currently underway.</p> <p>All wetland restoration work at present is focussed on research into the peat areas and ongoing hydrology monitoring. That will continue into 2022.</p> <p>This will all inform a wetland restoration plan for the wetland/peatland restoration This is consistent with actions A327 (part) A328, A329, A330, A331 contained within the PNP.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A concept plan for the wetland/peatland area has been provided to the Parks Planner and GW Environmental Science, for review <p>Discussions continue on how to manage the gorse, including aerial spraying.</p>
12 August 2021	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that officers: engage with Mangaroa residents on their concerns and regularly provide updates to residents on progress made on addressing these</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Meeting arranged with small group of residents for 8 October to progress issues.</p> <p>Progress report provided to residents via Mr Bob Anker on 13 December 2021</p>
	<p>Address the questions raised in the handout tabled by Ms Hill on half of the Mangaroa residents.</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment:</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 22.4

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

Meeting date	Action	Status and comment
		The General Manager has been liaising with Mr Hill around his concerns, including an offer for officer assistance via a co-designed site visit. These conversations are currently ongoing.
16 September 2021	<p>Public Participation</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>With regards to the concerns raised by the Mangaroa residents, the Committee requested officers:</p> <p>engage with Mr Hill and visit his property to understand and provide advice on the consenting requirements for clearing drains</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>See comments against the action item above. These issues are being dealt with as part of the wider Mangaroa discussion.</p>
	<p>Provide the Committee with an update at the next meeting addressing the Mangaroa residents' concerns.</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Complete</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>An update was provided to the 2 December meeting.</p>
16 September 2021	<p>Whaitua Implementation update – Report 21.409</p> <p>Resolution:</p> <p>Requests that officers report back to the Committee with an update on WIP implementation improvements including governance arrangements.</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Under action</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Future updates on Whaitua implementation will be reported directly to Council.</p>
	<p>Requests officers to prepare a report for the Wairarapa Committee setting out a potential whaitua implementation governance role.</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Reports being prepared.</p>
21 October 2021	<p>Managing Regional Park Land in support of the Toitū Te Whenua Vision - Baring Head/Ōrua-Pouanui – Report 21.427</p> <p>Noted: The Committee requested an outline of the various plans related to parks</p>	<p>Status:</p> <p>Ongoing</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>The Manager, Parks provided an update at the meeting of 2</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 22.4

Action items from previous Environment Committee meetings

Meeting date	Action	Status and comment
	management and further detail on how these plans interconnect.	<p>December 2021 (2 reports) – <i>Considering submissions and feedback and analysis of submissions and,</i></p> <p><i>Feedback on the proposed new stock grazing licence at Baring Head/Ōrua-Pouanui.</i></p> <p>Fire Plan being developed that will then inform the Restoration Plan (which includes pest and weed control).</p> <p>Further clarification to be sought on plan detail requested.</p>
21 October 2021	<p>Regional Pest Management Plan Operational Plan for 2021/22 – Report 21.462</p> <p>Noted: The Committee requested that regular updates and photos of pest plants be put on Greater Wellington’s social media channels to help raise awareness.</p>	<p>Status: Completed</p> <p>Comment: Work continuing with comms on specific seasonal pest plant updates on website.</p>
2 December 2021	<p>Farming Reference Group update – oral report</p> <p>Noted: The Committee requested that officers arrange a workshop following the next Committee meeting to discuss land use change implications and carbon economics.</p>	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>Comment: Land Management will discuss at Environment Committee workshop in early 2022 (likely 31 March).</p>

Environment Committee
17 February 2022
Report 22.5



For information

ENVIRONMENT/CATCHMENT UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform the Environment Committee (the Committee) of Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) activities relating to the Committee's areas of responsibilities.

Te horopaki

Context

Regional issues

Proposed Natural Resources Plan

2. All draft consent orders have been filed with the Environment Court and we are awaiting the remaining four consent orders to be issued by the Court. Following this, updates to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan will be finalised and brought to Council to make operative (and recommend to the Minister of Conservation to approve the Regional Coastal Plan provisions).

Parks

3. The draft Recloaking Papatūānuku Restoration Plan is expected around mid-February 2022. Officers are still looking for options to engage with mana whenua.
4. Parks have awarded the contract for Master Planning work to Jacobs, who is commencing work on the project plan for West Belmont/Hill Road and Wainuiomata - with work to be completed by end of June 2022. Further Master Planning will happen over the next two financial years across the network.

Regulation

5. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) has lodged their stage 1 consent application for operational stormwater discharges from state highway roads across the Region. Further information has been requested.
6. The date of Transmission Gully Road opening remains uncertain. The operational stormwater treatment system is currently being completed with the construction of a treatment wetland adjacent to State Highway 58. The investigations into non-compliance on site are ongoing.

7. As in the last report, wetlands continue to feature prominently in the Consenting, Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement space. The other significant area of concern is wastewater non-compliance. Environmental Regulation officers are involved in a number of investigations, prosecutions and other regulatory actions across the Region. Specific cases are progressing and reported on below.
8. We have commenced a review of our Compliance Monitoring and Enforcement programme, which was last completed in 2018. This broad review will look at our priorities and plans for the next few years. More specific dialogue will be held with Councillors over the coming months.

Biodiversity

9. We have put in place increased Health, Safety and Wellbeing controls for summer events since the move to the Red Light setting under the Covid Protection Framework. 200 people participated in the Community Snorkelling Day at Taputeranga Marine Reserve on 29 January 2022. They were given allocated time slots and fewer than 100 participants were in the event zone at any one time. We are consulting with our mana whenua partners and other collaborating organisations to work out whether we will go ahead with the Kākahi Count (13 February 2022) and the Whitireia Community Snorkelling days (5 and 12 March 2022).
10. The deed of funding has been signed with Ministry for the Environment for the “Improving fish passage in the Greater Wellington Region” project. This project runs until 2026 and aims to collaboratively support the long-term sustainability of indigenous freshwater fish, by opening up additional instream habitat and encouraging free passage from freshwater to the sea, to enable migratory species to complete their lifecycles. The Senior Biodiversity Advisor leading the project has been appointed and recruitment for two project rangers is underway.
11. Two new roles have been created in the Biodiversity department to bring the regional leadership and coordination of Enviroschools in-house. Greater Wellington has been contributing funding to this environmental education network across the Region for a number of years, partnering with Toimata Foundation. In the new arrangement, Greater Wellington employs a Team Leader, Enviroschools and an Enviroschools Advisor, while Toimata continues to contract the team of facilitators who work within school and early childhood centre communities.

Harbours

12. Our education and safety programme is continuing with online and at boat ramp visuals to raise safety awareness. Support for retailers in the promotion of swimmer tow floats has seen over 50 being sold in the last six weeks.
13. The revised Navigation Safety Bylaws have been printed and copies are available in the Councillors lounge.
14. We have issued two infringements for speeding.

Whaitua-specific issues

Te Whanganui-a-Tara

15. Biosecurity: Consultation and boundary inspections are underway for the Hutt Water Catchment area and Kaitoke Regional Park aerial 1080 operation, which is due to be undertaken in May 2022. Consultation is also underway for the South Makara aerial 1080 operation.
16. Wallaby exclusion operations continue in the Kaitoke area with detection and control work co-ordinated in conjunction with the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI).
17. KiwiRail, Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington Biosecurity department are working together with a community group to control old man's beard in the Johnsonville area.
18. The NRP/RPS Change Councillors Working Group held a meeting in December where they provided direction on issues and options prior to the 9 December Council meeting. Topics covered were:
 - a Regional Policy Statement integrated framework and climate change issues and objectives
 - b Natural Resources Plan (NRP) Plan Change 1 issues and approach for sediment, urban stormwater and wastewater discharges, and
 - c NRP Plan Change 2 issues and options for water allocation.

Further discussion on RPS topics were had at the 3 February 2022 Council workshop, along with introducing NRP Plan Change 3, which is updating existing schedules in the NRP.

(also applies to Ruamāhanga and Te Awarua-o-Porirua whaitua)

19. It is likely that the Council response to the Te Whanganui-a-Tara WIP and Te Mahere Wai will be delayed due to a lack of available resources. Work continues on integrating the regulatory components into the plan change work where appropriate.
20. We are still awaiting a first decision from the courts on the enforcement order proceedings relating to wetlands in the Mangaroa Valley; the trial for the prosecution of offenders in that case has been deferred until later 2022.
21. Abatement notices were issued last year to Wellington Water Limited (WWL), the plant operators and the asset holding councils for non-compliant discharges at Seaview, Moa Point and Western Wastewater Treatment Plants. We are still assessing the ongoing issues, including an assessment of the results of WWL's Independent Review, and working with the various parties to bring them back to into compliance.
22. The Seaview wastewater treatment plant main outfall pipe required an urgent unplanned repair and this was completed 21 January 2022. On current information our assessment is that the repair/and diversion to the short outfall (Waiwhetu Stream) met the consent requirements (i.e. is in compliance).
23. The RiverLink Resource Consent process has made good progress progressing through Environment Court ordered mediation. Many of the submissions have been resolved with only a few still likely to progress to the environment court. The Environment Court

Hearing is planned for 30 April 2022 and a decision anticipated by June 2022. With the good progress being made on consenting, the Board is now reviewing the management structure of the partnership as the focus shifts from consenting to procurement and delivery.

24. A section 127 change to conditions of consent has been received for Te Ara Tupua (Ngauranga to Petone Cycleway) resource consent issued by the Environment Protection Authority. A number of changes to the project are sought through this process including to the revetment design, construction methodology, penguin management and offshore habitat. The application is currently under consideration by Environmental Regulation.

25. Council approved a new 13 month grazing licence for Baring Head/Orua-pouanui in December 2021.

Work has commenced on a Fire Plan for the block that will inform the site-specific restoration plan, which includes weed and pest control.

26. The Hem of Remutaka (Jobs for Nature) project has completed recruitment and now has a full team of six staff employed.
27. Greater Wellington's Parks department has been working through differences of opinion with the Forest Managers over fire risk and excluding recreation from a part of Puketiro Forest over the Christmas break. Greater Wellington Parks is seeking Fire and Emergency New Zealand (FENZ) guidance and expertise to solve this issue.

Ruamāhanga

28. Charges have been laid against a dairy operation in Pirinoa for repeatedly taking water in breach of low flow restrictions during the 2020/21 irrigation season.
29. We have received the Stage 1 Stormwater Consents from all three Wairarapa territorial authorities. They were all lodged before the 31 December which was the proposed NRP deadline. These are being processed and are currently with experts so we can obtain their advice on the effects from the proposals.
30. Biosecurity meetings with officers from the Biodiversity department, Department of Conservation (DOC), and external consultants have occurred to plan pest control aspects of the Wairarapa Moana Wetland Project. Planning will cover commitments for the next three years including resourcing that Biosecurity department will supply.
31. Te Awarua-o-Porirua Hearings on Porirua City Council's Proposed District Plan are continuing. There are eight topic-based Hearing Streams established, and Greater Wellington will likely be presenting at most if not all Hearing Streams. Hearing Stream 3, which covered natural hazards, was completed in early December 2021. Hearing Stream 4, which covers Three Waters, Earthworks and Transport, begins on 8 February 2022.
32. A draft Restoration Plan was completed by Cardno for West Belmont licence area (also includes part of Kilmister Block near Hill Road), which is to be retired 31 March 2022. A site visit was conducted with Ngahere Korowai in December 2021, and a draft Restoration Plan will be shared with Ngahere Korowai and Friends of Belmont.

33. There was an assault on our summer contractor at the Mana launching area in early January 2022. This matter is with the Police and was a factor in withdrawing the security guard at the ramp. We are considering further options for this area. This was reported more fully to in Finance, Risk and Assurance Committee meeting on 15 February 2022 (Harbour Management – Risk and Compliance Update – February 2022 – Report 22.32.

Kāpiti Coast

34. We intend to have the draft Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Kāpiti Whaitua process available for Council consideration in March 2022; with the first whaitua committee meeting to be held in April 2022. The TOR are being co-designed with mana whenua and the Kāpiti Coast District Council (KCDC). While some of the TOR will be standard (eg, status, purpose, payment etc.) the following matters are being considered with our partners:
- a The Tiriti House model to be used (as there are a range)
 - b Scope – primary scope is setting objectives and targets for water quality as per the National Policy Statement – Freshwater Management (NPSFM), but some matters will be out of scope where they have been or are being addressed nationally (e.g. wetlands, stock exclusion) or in other fora (e.g. stormwater management)
 - c Membership – alternates may be necessary for Covid contingency
 - d Meeting frequency and time
 - e Participant expectations – attendance, role in connecting with networks etc.
35. We are establishing our engagement on the Regional Policy Statement plan change with Kāpiti iwi now and have had an initial meeting with Te Ātiawa Ki Whakarongotai.
36. As determined by Council, the application for advertising a 3-year grazing licence for 208ha in Queen Elizabeth Park will not proceed. In the meantime, work is underway to develop a Fire Plan and manage weeds along with the current planting programme.
37. Just before Christmas we concluded a prosecution for damaging wetlands on the Kapiti Coast which resulted in imprisonment of an offender and a fine to the landowner. In addition the court granted an enforcement order requiring remediation of the damage caused.¹
38. The resource consent application for the Paraparaumu Wastewater Treatment Plant was lodged in December 2021. The application is currently being reviewed by technical experts. Officers, the applicant (KCDC) and Te Ātiawa Ki Whakarongotai are continuing to meet to discuss the proposed discharge and mitigation measures.
39. Biosecurity is working with MPI and DOC regarding removal of sea spurge (Unwanted Organism) from known sites on the Kapiti Coast, and further monitoring of the sites. We are also working with Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust to gain consent for aerial spraying of Manchurian Wild Rice in Te Harakeke Wetland. We hope to be able to spray in April or May 2022. Large scale rabbit poisoning operations are being planned

¹ <https://www.gw.govt.nz/your-region/news/heavy-sentence-for-damaging-wetlands/>

for private landowners who requested control work, these operations are due to start mid-February. Night shooting operations continue at various sites.

40. In partnership with Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki (NHoO) we have submitted a resource consent application to undertake aerial blackberry control at Te Hāpua Wetland Complex Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) site, located in Te Horo on the Kapiti Coast. We are seeking a resource consent for 10 years to allow us to control blackberry aurally across three private properties in the wetland complex for wetland restoration purposes.
41. Graeme Campbell (Manager, Flood Protection) and Councillor Gaylor attended a public meeting in Mangaone on 2 February 2022 along with KCDC officers to discuss the flooding that occurred in the area on 5 and 6 December 2021. About 60 people attended at an out door venue with all necessary Covid 19 Protocols being followed. The main concerns were around the loss of access over a three day period, the level of flooding and the duration the water remained. A lot of the community commentary centred on the blocked waterways and the inability of the water to drain away. We will work with KCDC staff and our regulation team to develop approaches to improving the situation for future events.

Wairarapa Coast and Eastern Hills

42. Catchment community meetings have been held with community groups seeking to come together to develop their self-led groups, and produce catchment plans to achieve community catchment goals. There is a high level of interest to prepare for the upcoming East Wairarapa Whaitua process. These meetings involved community leaders from nearly all sub-catchments within the Eastern Whaitua.

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Approvers	Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management Wayne O’Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management
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<p>He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations</p>
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>The Environment Committee has responsibility to consider all matters across the development and implementation work programmes of Greater Wellington's Catchment Management and Environment Management Groups.</p>
<p><i>Implications for Māori</i></p> <p>Greater Wellington is required to manage land and water within the statutory requirements of a range of legislation, which requires giving effect to Te Mana o Te Wai, and consideration of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in the development and implementation of the Council's strategies, plans, programmes and initiatives.</p> <p>Implementation with mana whenua partners is guided by Te Whāriki – the new Māori Outcomes Framework as part of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>Development and implementation of related work programmes falls under the core activities of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>Internal consultation was limited to officers of Greater Wellington's Catchment Management and Environment Management Groups.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>This report covers the full breadth of work programmes, and equally a broad range of environmental, reputational, legal, financial, and Health, Safety and Wellbeing risks and implications are associated.</p>

Environment Committee
17 February 2022
Report 22.54



For Information

CROWN FUNDED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMMES UPDATE – FEBRUARY 2022

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Environment Committee (the Committee) on the Crown funded projects and programmes.

Te horopaki

Context

2. The Government announced infrastructure investment funding to create jobs and progress COVID recovery. Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) secured funding for regional projects, as outlined in [Attachment 1](#) – Crown funded projects and programmes – progress update presentation February 2022.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

3. The General Manager Catchment Management will speak to [Attachment 1](#) at the Committee's meeting on 17 February 2022.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachment

Number	Title
1	Crown funded projects and programmes – progress update February 2022

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatory

Writer	Wayne O'Donnell – General Manager Catchment Management
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<p>He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations</p>
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>It is appropriate for the Committee to be informed of the progress of the Crown funded COVID-19 recovery projects as the projects in the Wellington Region relate to Council's environmental strategies, plans, programmes and initiatives, which address environmental issues in the Region.</p>
<p><i>Implications for Māori</i></p> <p>Implications for Māori are advised to the extent described in Attachment 1.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>The update contributes to the delivery of the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project, Ruamāhanga River flood protection strategies, Predator Free Wellington, and 1 Billion Trees Partnership Project.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>All Crown Funded projects are reported to the Greater Wellington Crown Funded Project Board, comprising representatives from Catchment, Environment and Corporate Services.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>There are no known risks or impacts.</p>

Crown Funded Covid Recovery Projects - Progress Update

The Projects:

FUND	FUNDER	PROJECT	TOTAL VALUE	GW CONTRIBUTION	JOBS CREATED	STATUS	ON TRACK / ACHIEVED
							DELATED / AT RISK
							OFF TRACK / NOT ACHIEVED
MfE	J4N	Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project Expansion	\$5M	\$1.5	2 FTE + staff support & DOC resources (2 FTE)		
Kānoa	Shovel Ready	Climate Resilience Programme – Erosion Projects	\$19.6M	\$8.8M	50 FTE (30 FTE)		
Kānoa	Shovel Ready	Climate Resilience Programme – Major Projects					
MfE	J4N	Ruamahanga River buffer riparian planting	\$5M	\$2.5M	1 FTE (1 FTE plus contractor labour)		
PFW	PF2050 Ltd	Predator Free Wellington	\$7M	\$250K	31 FTE (25 FTE) Up to 15 contractors (4 permanent)		
1BT	MPI	1 Billion Trees – Hill Country Erosion	\$15M	\$7.4 (GW & landowner)	6 FTE (100% MPI funded) (6 FTE)		
1BT	MPI	1 Billion Trees Partnership Grant – Riparian/Parks/Biodiversity programme increase	\$4.5M	\$3.25M (GW & landowner)	1 FTE (100% MPI funded) (11 estimated FTE)		



MfE – Ministry for the Environment • J4N – Jobs for Nature • MPI – Ministry of Primary Industries
 PDU – Provincial Development Unit now known as Kānoa-RDU – Regional Economic Development and Investment Unit

J4N Wairarapa Moana Wetland Enhancement

MfE have approved the Year 2 annual work plan and budgets.

Contracts are in place with Kāhu Environmental and Henley Hutchings consultancies, and with Cawthron and Otago University to develop Plans to guide programme delivery to 2025. Planning work is underway.

Delivery of Year 2 work is ongoing including pest animal control, facilities maintenance and community engagement.

**A variation to the Deed of Funding is with GWRC for review.
(a variation is required to roll-over Year 1 budgets into Year 2, to incorporate the Project Lead salary for Year 2-5 and adjust annual budgets).**

Climate Resilience (previously Shovel Ready)

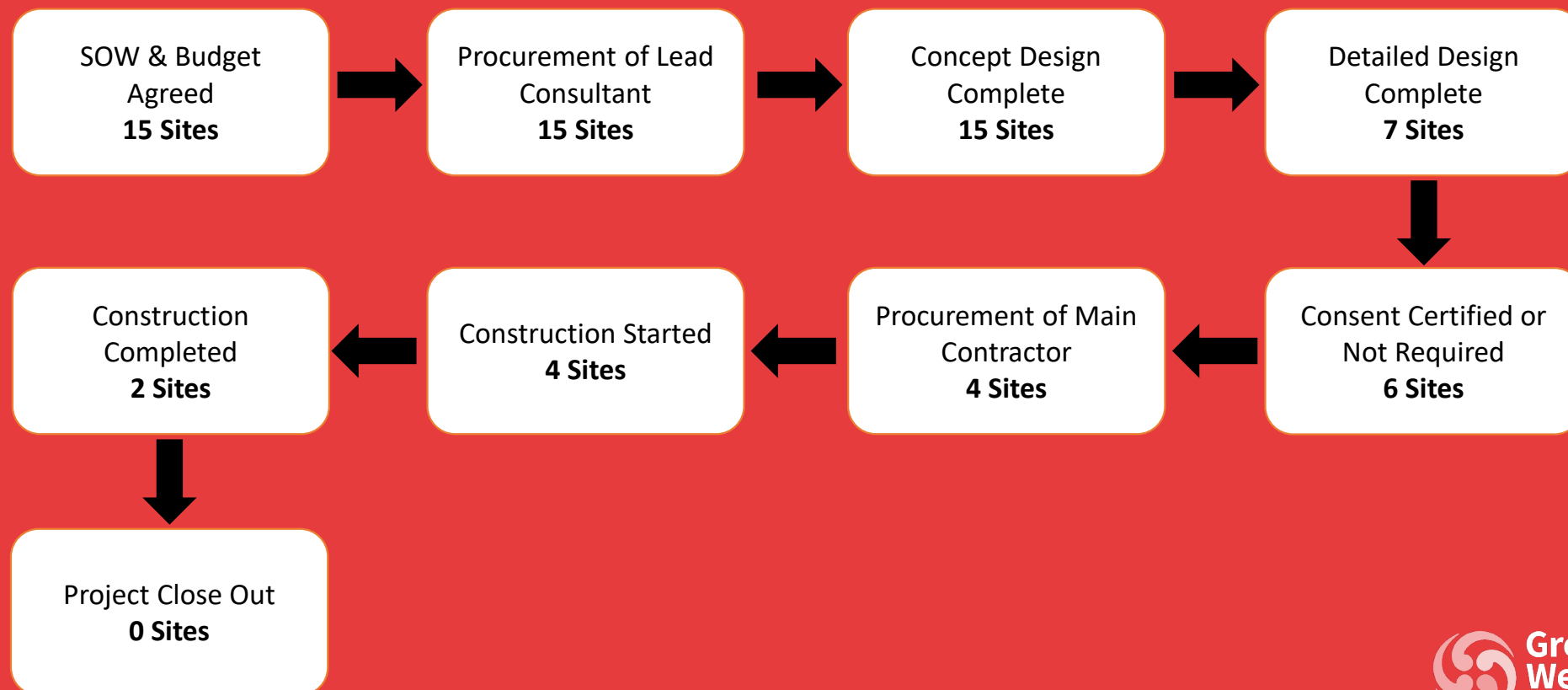
Two projects over 15 sites (2 sites are *complete*, 2 are currently *under construction*)

Detailed design, consenting, and construction processing as scheduled

Sustainable procurement process:

- Supporting our contractors to focus on worker mental health:
 - *Promoting and enhancing mental wellness*
 - *Resources, support and training for suicide awareness and prevention*
- Initiative to strengthen iwi-Corrections relationships, facilitation support provided by GWRC program team
 - *Upcoming meeting between Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Ara Poutama Aotearoa (Corrections)*
- Supporting growth of Māori businesses
 - *Mills Albert - local, Māori owned contractor procured for works at multiple sites*
- Wetland restoration project
- Specified program funding for professional development, life skills, mental wellness, etc.

Resilient River Communities Programme Overview – Feb. 2021



J4N Ruamahanga River Riparian Planting

- **Planting sites finalised for winter 2022**
- **Discussions with nurseries complete and orders placed for 64,000 plants**
- **Pest plant activities have started and pest animal starting this month**
- **Maintenance activities of winter 2021 planting sites have started, they are showing good growth and survival rates**

Predator Free Wellington

- Rat populations still persist in difficult high value rat habitats. Our Technical Advisory Group (TAG) is assisting in developing a new strategy on how to tackle rats in these areas.
- Recruitment has been completed so we are now finally working with a full complement of staff.
- Number of juvenile rats caught are declining which is what we need to see.
- Learnings from the cameras deployed in prototype zones are helping TAG form a new strategy on how to tackle persistent rat populations.
- Support for the project in Miramar and the rest of Wellington is running high with people happy to sign and host gear.
- Community outreach operations have increased and a community led piece of work to develop a buffer/barrier into the Phase 2 zone is underway.



1 Billion Trees

- **Planting sites for winter 2022 have been finalised with 80 hectares to be planted this winter**
- **175,600 plants have been ordered for winter 2022, with some planting to be completed this financial year**
- **Pre-spraying of sites will occur in March-April, and fencing of sites (where required) is to be completed by May-June**
- **Auditing of plant survival from 2021 plantings will be undertaken in March. This is a reporting requirement of the One Billion Trees Agreement**