



**Minutes of a Meeting of the
ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
held in the Committee Room and via Zoom, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim
on THURSDAY, 26 AUGUST 2021 commencing at 9.00 am**

Present in the Room

Mayor J C Leggett (Chairperson)

Present via Zoom

Councillors D D Oddie (Deputy), G A Hope (Deputy), J A Arbuckle, J L Andrews, C J Brooks, J D N Croad, B G Dawson, B A Faulls, M A Peters, T P Sowman, N P Taylor and Mr E R Beech (Rural representative)

In Attendance in the Room

Messrs H R Versteegh (Environmental Science and Policy Group Manager), M Porter (Democratic Services Manager/Zoom Management) and N Chauval (Committee Secretary)

In Attendance via Zoom

Ms G Ferguson (Consents and Compliance Group Manager), all presenters and additional Council staff were present via Zoom as noted in the minutes.

Apologies

No apologies were received.

Carried

Env-0821-42 Declaration of Interests

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No interests with items on the agenda were declared.

ATTENDANCE: Sophie Hocart, Council's Environmental Protection Officer and Marcelo Wibmer (Sustainable Dairying Manager, Fonterra) and Jane Mitchell (Sustainable Dairy Advisory) were present via Zoom for the following item.

**Env-0821-43 Dairy Shed Effluent and Stream Crossing
Survey 2020/2021 E330-001-004, E330-001-005**

The purpose of this report is to inform the Council of the Compliance Group's monitoring of dairy shed effluent and stream crossings during the 2020/21 dairy season. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184121 and 21184128).

Members were advised that 31 out of 46 dairy farms were inspected between December 2020 and January 2021. The percentage of these 31 farms that were rated as compliant was 90% (28 farms) after the follow up inspections. This is a 1% increase from last year. There were no significant non-compliance farms within the region.

All 31 farms were monitored against the MSRMP or resource consent conditions. It was noted that 22 farms operate under permitted activity status in the MSRMP and 9 operate under resource consent. The percentage of farms that were rated as compliant with the PMP was 96% (24 farms). This is a 2% increase from the previous year.

Stream crossing elimination is continuing to progress with just two farms with stream crossings remaining.

As part of the presentation it was noted that from 1 July 2021 there is a cap of 190kg N/ha/year on the use of synthetic nitrogen fertiliser for all land in pastoral land use. PMP also has rules around N inputs - total cumulative nitrogen loading on the land to not exceed 200kg N/ha/year. All farms will be reported against the PMP starting from next season. The PNS average for Marlborough (2019/20) was 109kgN/ha.

It was reported that all farms must have a lined storage system within 24 months from the PMP becoming operative. To date a total of 32 farms have a lined storage system and 14 farms do not have lined systems. Three of these farms hold a resource consent for the unlined pond and three more of these farms have advised of their plans to install a lined system.

Liaison with Fonterra and the local farmers is on-going to assist with the implementation and ongoing reporting of the NES-F.

Farm Environment Plans have been developed for 37 farms in Marlborough and Fonterra is working with farmers to achieve good farming practices.

Cirs Hope/Croad:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Peter Davidson, Council's Groundwater Scientist and Neil Thomas, Groundwater Scientist, PDP, were present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-44 Rarangi Shallow Aquifer Saline Intrusion Risk Assessment Report E345-007-001

The external report entitled - Rarangi Shallow Aquifer Saline Intrusion Risk Assessment was presented to the Committee. The report was available on Council's website for members' information. It was noted that the intention had been to present the report to the Rarangi Residents Association following this meeting but due to the country being at Alert Level 4 this is not currently possible and has been rescheduled. (To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184112).

Members were advised that there is currently no sign of seawater intrusion affecting the Rarangi Shallow Aquifer (RSA). This is based on continuous automated observations of conductivity and groundwater level made at the MDC Cloudy Bay coastal sentinel well sites since the network was established in 2000.

The forecast inland migration of the seawater interface along the main ocean beach varies depending on location at Rarangi. A maximum of around 50 metres was predicted for the southern area between the Diversion channel and Rarangi Road (Blue Gums Corner), and a maximum of 20 metres in the northern area opposite the golf course/fire station.

It was noted that all privately owned coastal domestic water supply wells along the Rarangi beachfront mapped in the MDC Wells & Geology database are located further inland than the predicted future migration of the seawater interface.

Low lying areas such as the Pipitea Wetland and banks of the Wairau Diversion flood channel were identified as being potentially at risk also from seawater penetrating further inland into relatively low-lying areas. This may have implications for groundwater supply and the health of plants, animals and fish in these areas.

Members were advised that the impact of natural storm surge on the position of the seawater interface wasn't assessed but the report described it as occurring for short periods during south-easterly storms with seawater waves breaking over the upper beach and infiltrating to the water table. The implication is that contamination would be a short-lived process and be flushed out subsequently by groundwater flowing to the coast.

Cirs Oddie/Sowman:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Cllr Dawson withdrew from the meeting at 9.54 am during the following item.

ATTENDANCE: Oliver Wade, Council's Environmental Scientist – Coastal was present via Zoom for the following two items and Dr Marta Ribó (University of Auckland) was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-45 Microplastics Contamination in Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui Marine Sediments E325-002-007

The purpose of the report was to provide information to the Committee on the findings of a report describing initial results on the extent of microplastic contamination in the sediments of Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui. The report was available on Council's website for members' information. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184108).

It was noted that the Marlborough District Council was successful in gaining funding from the 2020 Envirolink fund for University of Auckland and NIWA researchers to investigate the distribution of microplastics in sediment cores collected from the seafloor of Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui.

It was noted that unlike marine litter, microplastic particles (< 5mm) are not readily visible to the naked eye. Microplastics were found in both cores analysed and appear in greater concentrations in the sediments of the inner Sound rather than the outer areas.

Members were advised that it was not possible to correlate the deposition of microplastics with sediment accumulation rates since microplastics were found throughout the cores suggesting that the sediment layers have been disturbed and mixed by physical forces.

It was reported that microplastics originate from a variety of sources, and identifying the type of particles is important to reveal their origin. Further analyses on the plastic particles using Fourier-transform infrared spectrometry (FTIR) are needed to establish the microplastic types and potential origin of the plastic particles detected in the sediment samples collected.

It was noted that the next steps will be to identify areas which are most affected by plastic pollution and what activities on land and on sea that are potential sources of plastic pollution. Work will be done to integrate Māori principles and perspectives in responses to environmental change related to human activities.

**Cllrs Oddie/Sowman:
That the report be received.**

Carried

Env-0821-46 Marine Litter in Marlborough: 2019-2021 E325-002-007

The report to the Committee provided information on the findings of a report describing the types of marine litter found on Marlborough's coastline. The report was attached to the agenda for members' information. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184102).

It was noted that the report characterised the marine litter collected during beach cleans around the Marlborough Coastline. Beach cleans were organised by various community groups and schools as part of the 'Litter Intelligence' project. Compared to other regions, a similar number of marine litter items were found on our beaches.

Plastic items make up the majority of marine litter collected at the survey areas. The other common items are categorised as glass, ceramics and metals.

It was noted that the report relies entirely on data collected by members of the community and the amount of litter found at most locations is typical for NZ beaches in general. However, the sources are not typical, at some sites there is a far higher proportion of marine derived litter.

The types and proportions of litter recovered appear to be related to activities close to the survey area. It was noted that the Marine Farming Association (MFA) do undertake beach clean-ups and continue to look at ways of improving their practices.

Members were advised that MDC staff will continue to support communities and industries to address issues and organise litter surveys. Introduce SOE monitoring using same methodology at selected locations to improve coverage and focus on hotspots and areas of community concern.

Cirs Oddie/Fauls:
That the report be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Peter Hamill, Council's Land and Water Team Leader, was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-47 Recreational Water Quality - Summer 2020/2021 **E370-007-001**

The 2020/21 Recreational Water Quality State of the Environment Report was presented to the Committee. A copy of the report is available on Council's website for members' information [https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/meetings/Recreational Water Quality - Summer 2020-21](https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/your-council/meetings/Recreational%20Water%20Quality%20-%20Summer%202020-21).

Ten coastal beaches and eight river sites were sampled on a weekly basis between November 2020 and March 2021. The samples were analysed for faecal indicator bacteria, E. coli for river samples and Enterococci for coastal samples. These bacteria are an indicator for faecal contamination and are assessed according to national guidelines.

Most sites were graded as 'Fair', which means that water quality is generally suitable for recreational activities, but swimming should be avoided during and after rainfall. The Marlborough District Council and the District Health Board generally recommend not swimming in rivers and coastal waters for at least 48 hours after rainfall.

Members were advised for the later part of the year there were no exceedances in the Taylor River which is a positive sign of the success of the Taylor River Improvement Project and the extensive repairs of earthquake damaged sewerage infrastructure.

Cirs Hope/Croad:
That the report be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Rachel Russell, Council's Catchment Care Officer, was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-48 Catchment Condition Surveys **E355-021-02, E355-021-04**

The purpose of the report was to provide an update to the Committee on the Catchment Condition Surveys (CCS) as part of the Catchment Care programme and Te Hoiere Restoration Project. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184100).

Members were advised that the Catchment Condition Surveys are used to help identify and prioritise mitigation work across catchments in the Te Hoiere/Pelorus Restoration Project and Catchment Care Programme.

Catchment Condition Surveys (CCS) have been completed over 10,924ha in two Catchment Care catchments and seven Te Hoiere catchments. It was noted surveys for Flaxbourne and Tuamarina are still to be completed. It is anticipated that Tuamarina will be completed this year and a community meeting with residents will be held prior to commencement.

It was reported that individual landowner meetings are being planned to discuss the results of the CCS and to look at what each individual landowner has planned for their property once COVID Alert Levels allow. Use of CCS data is also a useful tool for those landowners that need to develop freshwater farm plans.

Members were advised that the fencing target for 2021/22 is 34 km with 4.57 km proposed, 3.58 km agreed and 3km completed.

Members were advised that there has been really good engagement from the majority of landowners. The tools that have been developed to date by Council and Geolnsight have made it simple and easy to provide information back to the landowners.

It was noted that to improve water quality, we will be assisting landowners with fencing, planting and the introduction of dung beetles. Over the next year the goal will be to complete 40km of fencing and plant 9,700 riparian plants. To date landowners have agreed to build 6.9km of fences over the next six months. Ten dung beetle packs have been ordered, with first releases scheduled for late 2021.

Clr Hope/Mr Beech:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Mike Aviss, Council's Biodiversity Coordinator, was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-49 Significant Natural Areas Programme Annual Report 2020/2021 E310-006-001

The purpose of the report was to provide an update to the Committee on the results of the Significant Natural Areas (SNA) Programme for 2020/2021. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184097).

Members were advised that there are 758 SNA sites mapped and in the database and the survey programme of SNAs is ongoing as landowners agree to provide access to their land. 45 new SNA sites on seven properties have been identified, documented and mapped during 2020/21. MDC has invested over \$215K into improving condition of SNAs in 2021 and this has helped leverage another \$260K from landowners and others.

It was reported that nine new covenants in Waihopai and Branch forestry blocks protect nine existing SNAs. Ten of the 27 projects funded in 2020/21 were legally protected, with \$73,346 spent by Council to help manage threats. 15 new Covenanted SNAs giving a total of 89 and DOC's Conservation Covenant database has added another 40 covenants into the system, 16 of which overlap with SNAs.

Members were advised that the SNA monitoring programme was affected by the unavailability of Geoff Walls, Ecologist which resulted in a reduction of field monitoring occurring for the year. Despite this eight sites were visited, most of which were un-managed. As expected, managed sites were in better condition and trend than un-managed sites, the overall condition and trend of all sites was very good.

Members were advised that modification of the coast by the 2016 earthquake uplift and the subsequent increased access by vehicles into the coastal environment is an ongoing issue effecting indigenous ecosystems and species. Restoration of indigenous biodiversity along the coast has become an important focus. Council has a separate process underway consulting with the community to address access issues.

It was noted that the East Coast beaches are a critical corridor for migratory and resident shore birds, and other, often threatened, plants and animals. 65% of this 80km coast is SNA (29 sites). There are 16 SNAs along the coast between Marfell's Beach and the Waima/Ure River. Council is guiding a long term restoration project there with local volunteers and landowners; killing pests and weeds and planting indigenous species.

Council is continuing to engage with landowners in relation to having SNAs and managing the threats on them with four large SNAs surveyed in Upper Awatere in 2021. The team is working closely with three Awatere properties to help manage threats to their SNAs.

It was noted that the Landowner Assistance Programme provides assistance to landowners to help protect and restore SNA sites. There are currently 27 projects active, with \$215,247 of Council funding spent on managing sites during this reporting period.

In response to a query on possible numbers of unmapped sites Mr Aviss advised that we are possibly three quarters of the way there but there is still a lot to be done on private land. It was noted that wetlands have come into the system in a way that they weren't there before and are forming a big part of the programme.

Cllrs Hope/Arbuckle:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Meeting adjourned at 11.20 am and resumed at 11.30 am.

ATTENDANCE: Cllr Brooks withdrew from the meeting at 11.25 am during the following item.

ATTENDANCE: Bev Doole, MLG Coordinator, was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-50 Marlborough Landscape Group C230-001-M05

The purpose of the report was to provide an update on the Marlborough Landscape Group's 2021-22 Work Plan. To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184091).

It was reported that the Marlborough Landscape Group (MLG) acts as a conduit between Council, industry and community to provide comment and guidance on landscape issues and policy. Volunteer members bring expertise and community connections to help Council enhance the look and ecology of the region. Major MLG projects have included the plantings along the Taylor River Reserve, a co-funding scheme to increase native biodiversity on vineyards, and advocating for a Wairau River Regional Park.

The Marlborough Landscape Group's work plan for 2021-22 was attached to the agenda for members' information.

Cllr Arbuckle/The Mayor:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Jono Underwood, Council's Biosecurity Manager was present via Zoom for the following three items and Sian Reynolds (Boffa Miskell Ltd) was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-51 Wilding Conifer Management in Marlborough – Update E315-003-023-01

The report to the Committee provided an update on the range of projects and initiatives targeting the management of wilding conifers in Marlborough and an insight into the various project structures and the role Council plays. (To highlight this report two powerpoint presentations were shown (one presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184081 the presentation from Sian Reynolds was extra large and is not currently saved on the system).

Members were advised that the increased Crown investment in wilding conifer management has seen a significant increase in activity in Marlborough. Management programmes have gone from small, piecemeal projects less than five years ago to large and cohesive programmes making real progress. Tremendous community support has also been built thanks to active and engaged organisations such as the Marlborough Sounds Restoration Trust (MSRT) and the South Marlborough Landscape Restoration Trust (SMLRT).

Council has played a role of facilitator and enabler as programmes have grown in scale. This has also extended to 'contract principle' to manage some of the complexities and liabilities associated with the larger programmes and funding involved.

In 2020, in conjunction with stakeholders, Council took on a more centralised role of both 'fund holder' and contract principle for the larger wilding programmes in the Waihopai and Molesworth areas. This involved Council directly engaging dedicated project management expertise and the on-ground contracting resource utilising the pooled 'fund-holder' resources. This has allowed for a shorter and cleaner contracting chain between the NWCCP funding and the on-ground works.

The 2020/2021 season was the first use of this approach and the Molesworth and Waihopai management units were hugely successful in terms of what was planned.

The presentation by Sian Reynolds covered the Molesworth wilding conifer ten year strategy. It was noted that the strategy is to achieve a landscape free of wilding exotic trees allowing indigenous biodiversity and pastoral values to flourish. Covered in the presentation were control methods undertaken and how they were able to target only wilding conifers.

It was noted that the management of wildings conifers is very much a long term game. There are still intractable seed source infestations in south Marlborough that affect many active management programmes and still large areas of the Marlborough Sounds that are in need of both initial control and return maintenance.

Members were advised that this long term protection and maintenance of areas either cleared or currently clear of wildings is the fundamental principle behind the recent proposal to amend the Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP). It was noted that while Council decided to amend the RPMP in July 2020, an appeal to this decision is still under action through the Environment Court.

The recent investment by the NWCCP has enabled significant gains to be made. However, there remains to be many more years of investment required to both progress and maintain efforts made. The single biggest risk in this respect is a lack of continuity of funding.

Clr Croad/Mr Beech:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Rupert Wilson, Chair Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Project, was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-52 Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Project E315-018-002

The purpose of the report was to report back to the Committee on the Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Project and the planning the D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Charitable Trust (DISECT) the project has undertaken as a result of land access issues that arose during 2020/21 and to recommend a way forward in relation to Council's financial support committed during the Annual Plan process in 2020.

By way of background it was noted that the Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Project was ready to commence with the originally planned full scale eradication project in the first half of 2020. This was after securing significant financial support from Predator Free NZ Limited, the Rata Foundation and during Annual Plan 2020, Marlborough District Council. Over the course of 2020/21, a combination of issues hit the project which resulted in significant delays and the project going on pause to resolve them. DISECT were given until 31 July 2021 to come back to Council with a plan to take the project forward.

A new project plan was provided to Council on 26 July 2021 whereby DISECT wished to shift to a phased eradication attempt starting at the southern end of the island (+ mainland) initially then moving north on the island over two subsequent phases. It is intended that this will provide DISECT with the time envisaged to resolve the land access matter. The project will in effect be suppression to eradication over time, rather than eradication from the outset.

Members were advised that the Rata Foundation has since resolved to terminate their funding agreement with DISECT given the existing agreement was based on a singular eradication project from the outset and a way

forward was not clear at that time. DISECT have remained in contact with Rata in relation to a potential pathway for re-entry support at a future stage.

It was noted that this phased eradication will add time and arguably cost to the project but will enable the project to commence on the mainland and southern portion of the island and progressively move north.

The options provided in the report were outlined and following discussion members indicated their continued support of DISECT. It was noted that this would mean a variation to the existing funding agreement to continue the commitment of Council funding now commencing in the 2021/22 financial year.

It was noted that the variation would also include updated project milestones which would align with any made by PFNZ.

**Clr Faulls/Mr Beech:
That Council:**

1. **Continues to provide support to the phased Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication project.**
2. **Vary the existing Grant Agreement to shift the six year project funding forward by one year to commence 1 July 2021 [back-dated] and condense project milestones to align with that of the Predator Free NZ Limited agreement.**

Carried

Env-0821-53 Biosecurity - Operational Plan Report 2020/2021 E315-002-005-10, E315-002-005-11

The Biosecurity Operational Plan Report for 2020/2021 was presented to the Committee for approval. The report and previous Operational Plan reports are available on Council's website via the following link [https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/RPMP Operation Plan Reports](https://www.marlborough.govt.nz/RPMP/Operation%20Plan%20Reports).

It was noted that a final report has been prepared on the Biosecurity Operational Plan at the completion of the 2020/2021 financial year, covering the activities of Council's Biosecurity Section. A review of the Biosecurity Operational Plan 2018-2028 was also carried out by Biosecurity staff with proposed amendments contained within Part Four of the report.

Members were advised that it has been a successful year for the Biosecurity Section with almost all of the operational targets set achieved. In particular, there continues to be no establishment of all of the pests under exclusion programmes within the Regional Pest Management Plan.

Members noted that the Regional Pest Management Plan is really starting to show its worth in the achievements it's made since its inception.

It was noted that the emphasis being placed on good data collection continues to help shape up both long term trends and also clearly showing how the strategic specie-led programmes are progressing. The benefit of this is that it can assist in decisions needed around resourcing or even operational techniques to respond to any trends observed.

Clr Croad/Mr Beech:

1. **That the report be received.**
2. **That the annual report on the Biosecurity Operational Plan for the 2020/2021 financial year be approved by the Council in accordance with section 100B(2) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.**
3. **That the amendments proposed within Part Four of the 2020/2021 Biosecurity Operational Plan Report, as a result of the annual review of the Operational Plan, be approved by the Council in accordance with section 100B(1)(b) and (c) of the Biosecurity Act 1993.**

Carried

Env-0821-54 2020/2021 Regulatory Budget Carryovers
R450-002-G01, F275-001-02

A request for Regulatory 2020/2021 Budget Carryovers to be incorporated into the 2021/2022 budget was put forward for consideration by the Committee. A list of the carryovers were attached to the agenda item for members' information.

It was noted that a number of works scheduled for completion in 2020/21 did not proceed or were not completed for a variety of reasons. There is no rating impact arising from the carryover action.

The Mayor/Clr Sowman:
That the 2021/2022 budget be amended to incorporate the Regulatory Department 2020/2021 carryovers.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Karen Winter, Council's Team Leader Environmental Health, was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-55 Noise Contract Update **E350-007-009-02**

The report to the Committee provided an update on the performance of the Noise Control Contractor from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 and explained how they perform their function. Due to a technical issue the scheduled powerpoint was not shown.

It was reported that there were 1110 complaints received regarding excessive noise from 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. This is an increase of 286 from the previous year. 69 Excessive Noise Directions were issued, no equipment was seized. There were no Noise Abatement Notices issued during this period.

Members were advised that the Noise Control Contractor has continued to provide the required service to ensure any noise complaints are dealt with professionally and promptly.

It was noted that Armourguard trains their Officers on how to respond to noise complaints. This training is supported by the Environmental Health Team when required. Monthly meetings are held with the local Armourguard manager to discuss any developing issues or concerns.

Information brochures are available to inform people on the process involved when a noise complaint is received and their rights if they have noise equipment seized.

Clr Faulls/The Mayor:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Georgia Murrin and Margy White, Council's Environmental Health Technicians, were present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-56 Environmental Health: Chopping Board Hygiene
E350-004-009-02

The report to the Committee provided information on the work the Environmental Health Team has undertaken alongside food businesses within Marlborough to verify cleaning practices within premises are achieving hygienic chopping boards. (To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184063).

Members were advised that the study involved sampling food businesses heavily used chopping boards to understand effectiveness of cleaning practices used within the business. Fifteen businesses participated in the study and a total of 27 samples were collected and analysed, resulting in 89% of samples achieving a "fair" or

better result. Businesses were individually engaged with regarding their result and advice provided. Feedback from the businesses that participated indicated that the project was very well received.

It was noted that due to the small sample size no definite conclusions could be made but it did highlight areas for future studies, such as different materials used and business type.

It was reported that the results of the study will be communicated in the 'Food News' which is sent out seasonally. A poster/brochure for all food businesses highlighting key messages including cleaning regimes, how often to replace and separation of use for chopping boards will be developed.

Cllrs Fauls/Oddie:
That the information be received.

Carried

Env-0821-57 Appeals Update

R450-004-22

It was noted that the purpose of report was to provide an update as to the current Appeals/Judicial Review caseload in Regulatory Services as at 3 August 2021.

Members were advised that Council is engaged in eight appeals either as intervener or respondent - four relate to resource consent decisions; one relates to policy case law; one relates to building compliance; and two relate to RMA compliance (abatement notices).

Cllrs Oddie/Arbuckle:
That the information be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Jane Robertson, Council's Contract Manager (Animal Control), was present via Zoom for the following item.

Env-0821-58 Dog Control Policy and Practices Annual Report 2020/2021

E305-003-003-01

The Annual Dog Control Policy and Practices Report was presented to the Committee. The report focused on the dog control activities for the 2020/21 financial year which is the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. (To highlight this report a powerpoint presentation was shown (presentation filed in CM Record No. 21184059).

Members were advised that there are currently 10,687 dogs registered in Marlborough. Of those 760 dogs (552 owners) are not registered. Animal Control do follow these up and late fees apply at the start of August.

A total of 2,650 complaints were received in the 2020/21 year. The majority of complaints received related to roaming, found or lost dogs or dog nuisance barking.

It was noted that dog safety education sessions are available free of charge to primary school and pre-school aged children. The purpose of these sessions are to promote safety around dogs and responsible dog ownership and care. There were 30 such presentations provided during the year. Animal Control also provided sessions to 703 primary school children from 15 schools at the Clued Up Kids programme at Brayshaw Park.

The report also notes the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw Review which was undertaken and the progress made with improving compliance with microchipping requirements. The new policy and bylaw came into effect on 1 August 2021. The Council website, forms and signage will be updated.

It was reported that Council engages Maataa Waka as the contractor to provide Animal Control Services in Marlborough. The contract commenced on 1 April 2015 and expires on 31 March 2022. A request for tender will be going out in September to provide animal control services.

Members were advised that Animal Control is an essential service and continues to operate, although the office is closed. In level 4 officers respond to urgent calls and assist with reuniting lost and found dogs. Animal Control continue to care for any impounded dogs and arrange contactless return of dogs.

Clr Arbuckle/The Mayor:
That the report be received.

Carried

ATTENDANCE: Clr Oddie withdrew from the meeting at 1.00 pm during the following item.

Env-0821-59 Animal Control Sub-Committee D050-001-A04

The minutes of the Animal Control Sub-Committee were presented for ratification by the Committee.

Members were advised of the discussion at the meeting regarding the establishment of a Pet Remembrance Park and a Blenheim Dog Park on the same site. The Sub-Committee is working with the Property and Community Facilities Department on the proposed site being George Conroy Drive (behind the Brethren Church).

It was requested that if members require further information or would like to provide comments please contact Clr Arbuckle or Jane Robertson on the proposal.

Clrs Arbuckle/Fauls:

That the minutes of the Animal Control Sub-Committee meeting held on 2 August 2021 be ratified.

Carried

Env-0821-60 Information Package -

The Mayor/Clr Croad:

That the Regulatory Department Information Package dated 26 August 2021 be received and noted.

Carried

Env-0821-61 Decision to Conduct Business with the Public Excluded -

The Mayor/Clr Croad:

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

- Confirmation of Sub-Committee Minutes (Public Excluded Section)

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Minutes	As set out in the Minutes and Reports	That the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under Section 7 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Carried

The meeting closed at 1.07 pm.

Record No: 21185511