

Report 99.231

4 May 1999

File: N/3/13/25

Report to the Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee
from Derek Wilshere, Consultant, Landcare

Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan : Confirmation of Objectives

1. Purpose

To seek the Advisory Committee's endorsement of the Objectives for the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan.

2. Background

The Advisory Committee at its meeting on 21 December 1998 (Report 98.609) endorsed a set of draft objectives for public consultation. However, the Committee requested that the title "medium priority objectives" be removed from the schedule, and officers were asked to review and re-submit the objectives following public consultation.

3. Consultation

The draft objectives were included in the newsletter "Living with the River – March 1999". The newsletter was published as a centrefold in the Hutt News and Upper Hutt Leader on 25 and 26 March 1999 respectively. More than 800 copies of the newsletter, tabled at the last Advisory Committee meeting, have since been distributed to interested or potentially affected parties in the Hutt Valley. The Project Leader's report gave full statistics of the distribution.

While there has been limited response from the public to this opportunity to comment on objectives, those that were received both in writing and verbally have been useful. In summary, the key issues that have drawn comment are:

- A hierarchy or priority within the objectives is not desirable. Grouping of objectives, under representative headings is preferable. All objectives should be achievable, through the preparation and implementation of the Plan.
- The draft objective regarding legislation should not be included. It is the responsibility of the parties involved to meet statutory and legal requirements.
- The language used to draft the objectives is clumsy.
- There may be too many objectives.
- There is repetition within the objectives.
- The requirement that selected measures are affordable should be more explicit.

The responses will be updated verbally at the meeting.

4. **Recommended Objectives**

The issues raised above are accepted. The objectives have been reviewed, minor revisions made to them and they have been grouped into representative categories. The revised schedule is included as **Attachment 1**.

The objectives as drafted will provide a comprehensive set of “flags” that can be considered at various stages of the Plan’s preparation and implementation. The Advisory Committee may feel that there are too many objectives or that they are too specific. It is however, suggested that the Committee accepts them and reviews their relevance prior to drafting of the floodplain management plan.

5. **Recommendation**

That the Hutt River Floodplain Management Advisory Committee recommend the objectives for the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan to the Landcare Committee for adoption.

Report prepared by:

Approved for submission:

DEREK WILSHERE
Consultant, Landcare

BRENDAN PAUL
Manager, Flood Protection (Strategy and Assets)

DAYA ATAPATTU
Project Engineer

ANDREW ANNAKIN
Divisional Manager, Landcare

Attachment 1 : Objectives for the Hutt River Floodplain Management Plan