



Report 06.165
Date 2 May 2006
File E/06/16/03

Committee Landcare
Author M D Kennedy Divisional Manager, Water Supply,
Parks and Forests

Divisional Manager's Report

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Landcare Division since the Committee's last meeting.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Managers' Reports

The Departmental Managers' Reports are attached.

4. Comment

Evidence suggests that visitor numbers for the parks are weighted more to summer than winter. Overall though some of the estimates of park visits in the past have perhaps lacked rigour. Report 06.30, to be considered by the Committee, sets out a framework for measuring visitor numbers in a more scientific way. Numbers are only part of the game, visitor satisfaction is also important. The Report also mentions a visitor satisfaction survey.

Over the past few months the 5th annual summer events programme has been run in the parks and forests involving a total of 52 events. While successful in the sense of the number of participants and variety of events, it requires considerable staff resources. A slightly more selective programme is being considered for 2006/07. A separate report reviews the programme just completed.

On 29 April (the day after the end of the period), a one third of a page article was published, in the Saturday Dominion Post, about a readers very positive experience in visiting the Wainuiomata water supply catchment.

A Councillor's tour on 3 April surveyed the possible extent of a Wairarapa wetlands regional park. Investigating how to develop this is included in the business plan for 2006/07.

5. Communication

No communications are required.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

Report by:

M D Kennedy

Divisional Manager, Water Supply, Parks and Forests

Attachment 1: Parks and Forests Manager's report for period ending Friday 28 April 2006