



**Item 7**            **General Business**

**Item 8**            **Public Excluded**

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1986, the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Executive Committee meeting, held on Monday 13 February 2012, for the following reason/s:

Item 9            Confidential Minutes  
                    Executive Committee  
                    5 December 2011

*That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information.*

**Item 9**            **Confirmation of Confidential Minutes**

Page 59

## Agenda Memorandum

**Date** 13 February 2012



**Memorandum to  
Chairperson and Members  
Executive Committee**

**Subject: Confirmation of Minutes – 5 December  
2011**

**Item:** 1

**Approved by:** M J Nield, Director-Corporate Services

B G Chamberlain, Chief Executive

**Document:** 1004197

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### Resolve

That the Executive Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. takes as read and confirms the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on Monday 5 December 2011 at 10.00am
2. notes the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on 19 December 2011.

### Matters arising

#### Appendices

Document #983390 – Minutes Executive Committee Monday 5 December 2011



**Minutes of the Executive Committee  
Meeting of the Taranaki Regional  
Council, held in the Taranaki Regional  
Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road,  
Stratford, on Monday 5 December 2011 at  
10.00 am.**



<b>Members</b>	Councillors	D N MacLeod	(Chairperson)
		D L Lean R F H Maxwell N W Walker	
		C S Williamson	(Regional Public Transport Plan)
<b>Attending</b>	Councillor	M J Cloke	
	Messrs	B G Chamberlain	(Chief Executive)
		M J Nield	(Director-Corporate Services)
		G C Severinsen	(Policy and Strategy Manager)
		A W Young	(Financial Services Manager)
		C Clarke	(Passenger Transport Officer)
		P Ledingham	(Information Officer)
	Mrs	K van Gameren	(Committee Administrator)
Ms	L Coppage	(Passenger Transport Administration Officer)	

One Member of the media.

**Apologies** The apology from Councillor P D Horton was received and sustained.

**Notification of  
Late Items** There were no late items of general business.

**1. Confirmation of Minutes**

Executive Committee  
Tuesday 25 October 2011

**Resolved**

THAT the Executive Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council

1. takes as read and confirms the minutes and confidential minutes of the Executive Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council Committee Room, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on Tuesday 25 October 2011 at 10.00 am

2. notes the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on 1 November 2011.

11/322

Lean/Walker

### **Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

## **2. Financial and Operational Report**

- 2.1. The memorandum to receive information on the operational and financial performance of the Council (Monthly Financial Reports for September and October 2011) and to confirm the use of the Council's Common Seal was received by the Committee.
- 2.2 There were no documents signed under the Council's Common Seal during the period to 5 December 2011.

### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives this memorandum and the Monthly Financial Reports for September and October 2011.

11/323

Macleod/Walker

## **3. Civic Assurance Capital Raising**

- 3.1 Mr M J Nield, Director-Corporate Services, spoke to the memorandum requesting an alteration to Civic Assurance's constitution to allow the company to make a placement of new shares and for the Council to then consider increasing the Council's investment in Civic Assurance by taking up the placement offer.
- 3.2 Civic Assurance is seeking to recapitalise through the issuing of new shares to address its financial problems arising from the Christchurch earthquakes and to re-enter the insurance market.

### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives Civic Assurance's capital raising request and the notice of Special General Meeting
2. supports the change in Civic Assurance's constitution to be considered at the Special General Meeting to occur on 16 December 2011 to allow a Rights Issue Placement and Shortfall Offer whereby Civic Assurance issues up to 7,206,790 new shares for a consideration of \$0.90 per new share

3. declines to subscribe to Civic Assurance's share offer for the Rights Issue Placement for 13,000 shares at an investment of \$11,700
4. declines to apply for Civic Assurance's Shortfall Offer
5. authorises the Chief Executive to appoint and instruct a representative or proxy to vote at the Special General Meeting on 16 December 2011.

11/324

Walker/Maxwell

#### **4. Civic Assurance Half-Year Accounts to 30 June 2011**

- 4.1. The memorandum presenting Civic assurance's half-year financial statements to 30 June 2011 were received and considered by the Committee.

##### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives Civic Assurance's half-year report for the six-months ended 30 June 2011
2. notes the deteriorating financial performance and position of Civic Assurance post the Christchurch earthquakes
3. notes that Civic Assurance will be seeking to increase its capital base going forward.

11/325

MacLeod/Walker

#### **5. Waiwhakaiho Flood Control Scheme Upgrade: Completion of Stage 1**

- 5.1. Mr R A Phillips, Director-Operations, spoke to the memorandum updating the Committee on progress with the upgrade to the Waiwhakaiho Flood Control Scheme, in particular, the completion of the upgrade works on the Waiwhakaiho River downstream of Devon Road, New Plymouth.

##### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes the memorandum on progress with Stage I of the upgrade to the Waiwhakaiho Flood Control Scheme

11/326

Lean/Maxwell

#### **6. Waiwhakaiho Flood Control Scheme Upgrade: Stage II Mangaone Stream**

- 6.1. Mr R A Phillips, Director-Operations, spoke to the memorandum updating Members on the progress with Stage II of the upgrade to the Waiwhakaiho Flood Control Scheme involving the improved protection to the Lower Mangaone Stream.

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes the memorandum on progress with Stage II of the upgrade to the Waiwhakaiho Flood Control Scheme.

11/327

MacLeod/Lean

**7. Rugby World Cup 2011 Bus Services**

- 7.1. The memorandum providing Members' with a report on the public transport services and costs provided by the Council for the three Rugby World Cup 2011 games held at Stadium Taranaki in New Plymouth was received and noted.

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and notes the report on the public transport services provided for the Rugby World Cup 2011.

11/328

MacLeod/Walker

**8. Hearing of submissions on the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022**

- 8.1. Members of the Executive Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council heard from the following submitters who wished to speak to their written submission on the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 5	Stratford District Youth Council	Jamie Chapman Rebecca Frost
Submission No. 10	New Zealand Automobile Association	Mr Graham O'Brien
Submission No. 11	New Plymouth District Council	Mr Carl Whittleston
Submission No. 12	Stratford District Council	Mayor Neil Volzke Councillor Alan Jamieson
Submission No. 13	New Plymouth Taxi Society Ltd	Mr Richard Morse
Submission No. 14	Western Institute of Technology (WITT)	Mr Richard Handley Ms Mary Bourke Ms Zinita Hinton
Submission No. 17	Mr Urs Singer	
Submission No. 18	Climate Justice Taranaki	Ms Emily Bailey

Councillor N W Walker left the Executive Committee meeting at 12.00pm.

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council adjourned at 12.05pm pursuant to Model Standing Orders (NZS9202:2003) (3.12.1).

The meeting of the Executive Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council reconvened at 12.25pm with all Members of the Committee, with the exception of Councillor N W Walker, in attendance that was listed prior to the meeting adjournment.

- 8.2 Members of the Executive Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council discussed and deliberated on all the submissions received (18 in total). Members made the following recommendations:

Submission No. 1 – Sam Dixon

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 2 – Malcolm Rose

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 3 – John Richardson

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report

4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 4 – Bishop’s Action Foundation

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer’s report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 5 – Stratford District Youth Council

The submitter’s comments in support of their submission were received and noted.

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer’s report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 6 – New Zealand Red Cross, Public Health Unit Taranaki District Health Board, Bishop’s Action Foundation

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer’s report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 7 – Lydia Wilson

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 8 - Taranaki/Whanganui Conservation Board

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. agrees to amend the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022 as follows:  
That another bullet point be added to the list of projects to be investigated in Section 3.1 on page 14 which reads:  
*Facilitate discussion with the Ministry of Education for the use (and promotion) of rural school buses by the commuting public.*
5. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 9 - New Zealand Transport Agency

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. agrees to amend the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022 as follows:  
Replace the words "*are subsidised*" in the Introduction on Page 7 with the words "*receive financial assistance*" and refer to financial assistance being received by the Regional Council and the NZTA, and make similar changes elsewhere in the Plan as necessary.

An additional paragraph of the link between Model Communities branded Let's Go and the New Plymouth bus service be added under Section 2.21 'Service Improvements' as follows:

*Model Community funding has also enabled greater collaboration between the Regional Council and New Plymouth District Council in regard to promoting the expanded Ciytlink public bus service, which complements the walking and cycling modes, through joint branding initiatives under the Let's Go brand and travel planning with schools and workplaces to encourage growth across all these alternative transport modes*

That an additional paragraph be inserted in Section 3 What we plan to do in the next three years on Page 13 after the second paragraph as follows:

*If the report on the trial indicates that part or parts of the trial services have not been successful and should not be made permanent, then as noted above, the Council will need to consider what adjustments to trial services should be made to achieve the aims of the Plan and ensure good use is made of Regional Council and NZTA financial assistance*

That under Section 3.1 New Plymouth services, To be investigated examples of improved utilisation of technology be added to Bullet Point 2 as follows (additions underlined):

*"Improved utilisation of technology for example, Google maps, hot listing of electronic smart cards, and text-a-bus'*

The vision on Page 20 Section 8.1 the word "*advantaged*" be amended to "*disadvantaged*"

That under Section 9 Policies and actions on Pages 21- 24 that an additional column is added to the tables cross referencing the relevant policy to the prioritised action.

Amend Policy 30, Section 9.4 to read (amendment underlined):

*"Promote the development of new residential subdivisions and infrastructure in locations which facilitate an increased use of public transport through appropriate provision in regional policy statements and regional and district plans."*

Add to Section 10.1.1, Ensuring environmental sustainability, under "Contribution to this public transport Plan", the following (amendment underlined):

*"Integration with other planning documents such as regional policy statements and regional and district plans to ensure integration of land use and infrastructure planning with the planning and provision of public transport."*

Add to Section 10.1.2 under 'Resource Management Act policy statements and plans' the following (addition underlined):

*"The Council will look to these policy statements and plans to consider the public transport network and its sustainability in any future changes and reviews of these documents."*

The fifth bullet point under the heading 'NZTA requirements' in Appendix C on Page 34 be amended to read (amendment underlined):

*"Provide for annual review of fare levels, and a review of fare structures at a minimum approximately once every six years or to coincide with RLTS and/or LTP reviews'*

That Strategy 3 'Reduce poor performing service's in Appendix C, on Page 37 be amended to read (amendment underlined):

*"Poor performing services( that is those with high costs and/or low patronage) can be improved by ~~reduction to frequencies and routes~~ assessing operating times, frequencies and routes and making adjustments, (including reductions) to frequencies and routes where appropriate."*

That Strategy 4 'Review of fare products and fare levels' in Appendix C, on Page 37 be amended to read (amendment underlined):

*"Small increases in fares are likely to be required on a regular basis to cover the increases in costs of providing bus services."*

5. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

#### Submission No. 10 – New Zealand Automobile Association

The submitter's comments in support of their submission were received and noted.

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 11 – New Plymouth District Council

The submitter's comments in support of their submission were received and noted.

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. agrees to amend the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022 as follows:
 

That Bullet Point four under Section 3.1 New Plymouth city services, be amended to read as follows (amendment underlined):

*Provide better access for people in wheelchairs, people with prams or strollers and those experiencing lesser mobility from bus-stops to vehicles*

That the Vision, Section 8.1 on Page 20 be amended to read (amendment underlined):

*"accessible and integrated public passenger transport services that cater for the needs of the people of Taranaki (including the transport advantaged) at a reasonable cost and in a manner which contributes to a prosperous, connected, healthy, vibrant and environmentally sustainable community*
5. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 12 – Stratford District Council

The submitter's comments in support of their submission were received and noted. The Stratford District Council (SDC) sought clarification from the Committee of the intention (as outlined in the draft Regional Public Transport Plan [the Plan]) to investigate a bus service between Hawera and New Plymouth in the next three years when the Plan also referred (Section 9 – Policies and actions) to the investigation of a feasibility study of a trial service for the route to be completed in 2012. The submitter also sought that the Plan not only provide for a study to be completed in 2012, but also for a trial service to be introduced if the feasibility study showed a need for the service. It was noted from Council staff that the feasibility study would be fully completed over the next twelve months (2012) and the Plan would be amended to better reflect this. Council officers also noted that if a study demonstrated that the service was needed and was feasible, and that the necessary funding could be secured, then the intention would be to introduce a trial service. It was also noted that Council officers will be working with the Taranaki District Health Board,

New Zealand Transport Agency and other relevant agencies to explore the integration of this significant new service with existing transport services and the confirmation of funding partners. The Committee agreed that the draft Plan be amended to indicate that an investigation into a Hawera to New Plymouth service would be undertaken in 2012 and that subject to key operating criteria being met, such as the need for the service, funding and public, organizational and/or institutional support for the service, a trial will be undertaken.

During its submission, the submitter noted that section 2.5 of the draft Plan stated that funding for new services is unlikely, but that the Plan had also indicated that some funding may become available from other sources (such as reducing poor performing services or surpluses from increases in passenger levels). The submitter indicated that it may also be able to provide funding support for a service. The Committee agreed to amend section 2.5 of the draft Plan to clarify statements regarding funding of services.

In supporting its submission for a Hawera to New Plymouth service, the submitter noted the lack of Council contracted bus services running between Stratford and New Plymouth. It was noted in discussion by the Committee that other providers run transport services between Stratford and New Plymouth and that the map of Council contracted services did not give the full picture of the services available. The Committee agreed that information on other transport providers and services available (excluding charter operators) be included in the Plan.

### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. amends the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022 to:
  - clarify the timeframe of 2012 for the investigation of a feasibility study of a trial bus service between Hawera and New Plymouth; and*
  - undertake a trial subject to key operating criteria being met such as the need for the service, funding and public, organisational and/or institutional support for the services; and*
  - clarify statements in section 2.5 regarding funding of services; and*
  - include additional summary information on other transport providers in the region and the type of services they offer*
5. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

### **Submission No. 13 – New Plymouth Taxi Society Limited**

The submitter's comments in support of their submission were received and noted.

### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 14 – Western Institute of Technology (WITT)

The submitter's comments in support of their submission were received and noted.

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. agrees to amend the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022 as follows:

That the statement Section 7 Involvement of others parties, Page 19 be reworded as follows (amendment underlined)

*While the Regional Council plans, funds and contracts the required services, other parties also have a role to play. The territorial authorities of the region (the New Plymouth, Stratford and South Taranaki district councils) play a major role through the provision of supporting infrastructure such as bus-stops. The New Zealand Transport Agency provides substantial funding for public transport. The service providers such as the bus companies and, in the case of Total Mobility, the taxis companies and other service providers, are also critical partners. Community, tertiary and other interested organisations also have a role to play as advocates for the needs of the users.*

*This Plan cannot be successfully implemented without the support of all these parties working together towards the vision. The Regional Council will work closely with these parties to facilitate the provision of services which meet the needs of the region today and in the future*

5. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 15 – South Taranaki District Council

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 16 – Taranaki District Health Board**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 17 – Urs Singer

The submitter's comments in support of their submission were received and noted. The submitter sought clarification as to why page 7 of the draft Regional Public Transport Plan [the Plan] covered the three-year period from 2012-2015 when the Plan was a 10-year Plan. The Committee noted that the Plan was a 10-year Plan, but with a focus on the three-year period 2012-2015 and agreed that the draft Plan be amended to clarify this.

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. amends the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022 to amend section 1.0 and 1.2 to clarify that the Plan is a 10-year Plan with a three-year focus
5. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

Submission No. 18 – Climate Justice Taranaki

The submitter's comments in support of their submission were received and noted. The Committee supported the submitter's suggestion that the use of technology ie Skype be available as an alternative for submitters unable attending hearings in person due to transport or economic restrictions.

**Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. thanks the submitter for their submission
2. notes the comments raised in the submission
3. adopts the recommendations contained in the Summary of Submissions and Recommendations officer's report
4. agrees to amend the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022 as follows:

That another bullet point be added to the list of projects to be investigated in Section 3.1 on page 14 which reads:

*Facilitate discussion with the Ministry of Education for the use (and promotion) on rural school buses by the commuting public*

5. makes no further changes to the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022.

- 8.3 There being no further discussion on the submissions on the draft Regional Public Transport Plan for Taranaki 2012-2022, Members of the Executive Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council moved the following recommendations:

#### **Recommended**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. receives and acknowledges with thanks the submissions forwarded in response to the draft *Regional Public Transport Plan 2012 - 2022*
2. adopts the recommendations contained within the officers' report with amendments agreed by the Committee and, as a result of submissions, amends the *Regional Public Transport Plan 2012 - 2022*
3. approves the *Regional Public Transport Plan 2012 - 2022*.

11/329

Lean/Maxwell

## **9. General Business**

There were no items of general business.

## **10. General Business**

#### **Resolved**

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council

1. in accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1986, resolves that the public be excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Executive Committee meeting, held on Monday 5 December 2011, for the following reason/s:

Item 11                    2010/2011 Annual Report and Audit

*That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information.*

11/330

MacLeod/Lean

There being no further business, the Chairperson, Councillor D N MacLeod, declared the Executive Committee meeting closed at 12.55 pm.

**Confirmed**

**Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**D N MacLeod**

**Date:** **13 February 2012**

## Agenda Memorandum

**Date** 13 February 2012



**Memorandum to  
Chairperson and Members  
Executive Committee**

**Subject: Financial and Operational Report**

**Item:** 2

**Approved by:** M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services

B G Chamberlain, Chief Executive

**Document:** 1002751

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### Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to receive information on the operational and financial performance of the Council and to confirm the use of the Council's Common Seal.

### Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives this memorandum and the Monthly Financial Reports for November and December 2011
2. notes the Common Seal has been affixed to the following documents:
  - 2012/01 Agreement to vary consent notice to allow construction of a stopbank on Lot 3 DP20360 Devon Road, New Plymouth

### Background

The Council produces a Monthly Financial Report outlining the financial performance for the month and year to date. This memorandum supports the Monthly Financial Report by providing additional supporting operational and financial information. The Council operates its Common Seal under delegated authority. Part of that delegated authority is the reporting back of all Seal transactions.

### Discussion

Attached are the Monthly Financial Reports for November and December 2011. The financial results to date are in line with the estimates adopted in the *2011/2012 Annual Plan*. Notable financial variances (over \$50,000) to date are:

- Resource management planning is under budget by \$111,256 with staff time being spent in other areas, namely, civil defence and resource consent processing

- Compliance monitoring programmes is over budget by \$57,389. there has been a focus on compliance monitoring, which will change over summer as the focus moves to the state of the environment monitoring programme.
- Pollution incidents is over budget by \$73,847 with staff time being spent on events such as the Rena grounding. Staff time spend on the Rena grounding will be recovered from Maritime New Zealand
- Resource investigations is under budget by \$85,723 due to the timing of projects and the focus on compliance monitoring programmes and pollution incidents
- Enhancement grants is under budget by \$126,396 due to the timing of enhancement projects.
- Pest animal management is under budget by \$118,691 due to the timing of this year's external contractor expenditure.
- Passenger transport is under budget by \$261,284. Both passenger transport (buses) and total mobility services (taxis) are running under budget. Total mobility taxi services are \$70,811 under budget. The New Plymouth bus services and the infrastructure budget (bus stops) are under spent by \$65,698 and \$70,416 respectively. Charges for the Rugby World Cup bus services are \$53,702.
- River control schemes are \$125,374 under budget due to the timing of scheme maintenance works
- Puke Ariki is \$75,000 under budget as the programme from 2011/2012 has yet to be agreed upon.

## **Operational report**

Operationally, all programmes are currently on target with the planned levels of activity established for 2011/2012 in the *2011/2012 Annual Plan* and the *2009/2019 Long-Term Council Community Plan*.

## **Websites, intranet and social media accounts**

The Council's public websites continue to be an important tool in ensuring timely information is made available to the regional community, and over the past 12 to 18 months this effort has been supplemented by the selective use of social media channels.

The intranet (internal website), which was redeveloped on a new software platform during the 2010/2011 financial year, is firmly established as an important tool for Council officers.

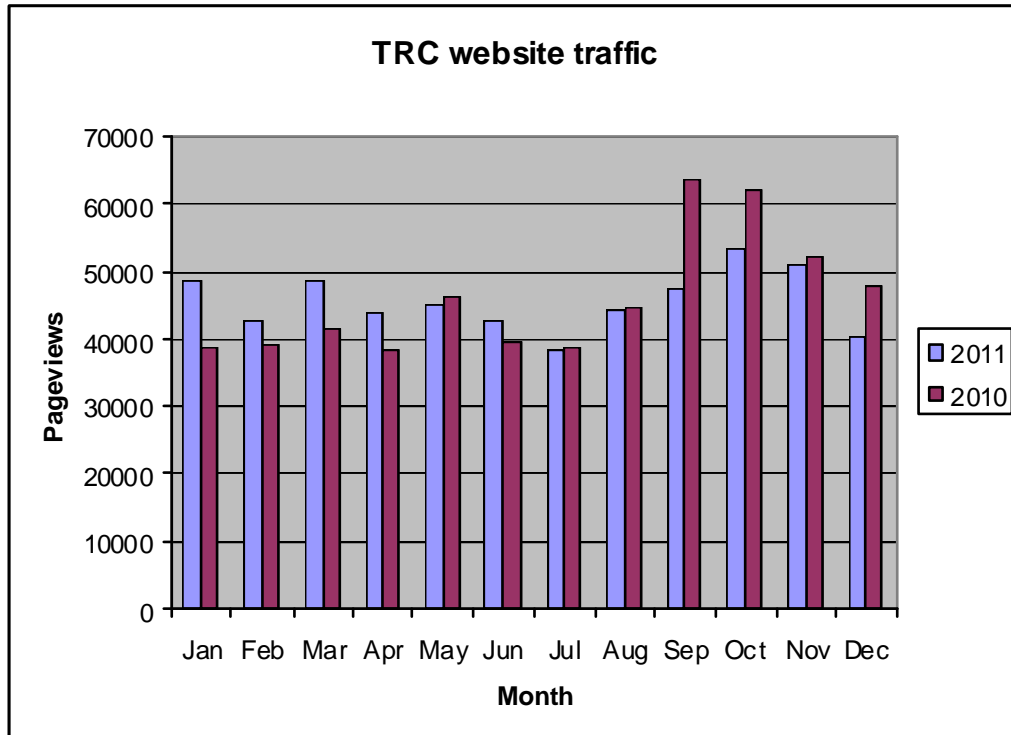
## **Council websites**

The Council's main website, [www.trc.govt.nz](http://www.trc.govt.nz), also includes distinct "separate look and feel" sections devoted to the three Taranaki Regional Gardens, the Citylink and SouthLink bus services, and Iwi Contacts.

Over the 12 months of the 2011 calendar year, traffic volumes generally showed an increasing trend. Comparison with the previous 12 months is of limited value because a feature of the latter half of 2010 was the heavily publicized and well-received Taranaki

Blowout online Civil Defence awareness and preparedness campaign, which brought unprecedented spikes in internet traffic.

Also of note is the loss of nine days of traffic data in December 2011, due to a technical malfunction. Total traffic for the month has been conservatively estimated.



The top 10 most visited pages during the 2011 calendar year were:

1. Home page
2. Taranaki Regional Xplorer portal page
3. Live environmental monitoring – wind speed and direction
4. Citylink bus routes information
5. Live environmental monitoring – rainfall
6. Live environmental monitoring – river flow and water temperature
7. Pukeiti home page
8. Main page of “region and council” section
9. Council vacancies
10. Main page of “environment” section

Website developments during the year included:

- Development of a secure website area for the use of Councillors and senior management. This has facilitated the distribution and use of electronic agendas and agenda reports before and during Council meetings.

- Redevelopment of the Citylink and SouthLink section of the website, allowing the introduction a cleaner look and easier user navigation, as well as clearer alignment with the NPDC Let's Go programme, a Model Communities project from which the Taranaki Regional Council is leveraging promotional opportunities for the Citylink bus service. Timetable information on the new bus pages is managed by simply uploading spreadsheets, rather than working with the cumbersome HTML tables used previously.
- Altering page templates to accommodate the changes to the Council slogan and logo.

Developments planned for the 2012 calendar year include expanding the website's live environmental monitoring data to include air temperature at selected sites.

### **Taranaki Regional Xplorer**

A new version of the Council's web-based public GIS application, Taranaki Regional Xplorer (TRX), was launched during the 2011 calendar year, prompted by decisions in the GIS sector which effectively ended support for the software platform used in the previous version. These decisions came with minimal forewarning.

While the launch of the new version of TRX was largely successful, a number of users have reported difficulties with it. The company which hosts the application, Explorer Graphics Ltd (EGL), has resolved a number of issues, while Council officers have been working with individual members of the public to clear up other difficulties. Follow-up work is continuing.

Statistical reporting on the usage of TRX is also in a state of flux, as statistical analysis methods used in the former software platform cannot be translated to the new platform. A satisfactory resolution is awaited.

### **Social media**

The Council's social media audience grew significantly during the 2011 calendar year. Social media channels include Twitter and Facebook pages for Taranaki Regional Gardens, a Twitter page for the Council and a Twitter page for Taranaki Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM).

The Taranaki Regional Gardens Facebook audience increased from 75 in January 2011 to 169 in January 2012, while the Twitter audience increased from 60 to 231 in the same period.

The Council's Twitter audience increased from 90 in January 2011 to 277 in January 2012.

The CDEM Twitter audience increased from 73 in January 2011 to 367 to January 2012.

Continued efforts are made to engage with the audience on the Taranaki Regional Gardens Twitter and Facebook pages. The Council and CDEM Twitter pages are viewed more as a useful tool for disseminating information, rather than engaging with the community.

The growth of the social media audience in the past 12 months indicates that it is an increasingly important communications channel, but one which supplements rather than replaces traditional Public Information channels.

An additional foray into the social media world during the 2011 calendar year was the establishment of a WordPress “blogging” site for CDEM. This is intended as a back-up site for potential use in a prolonged emergency event and/or recovery phase, but it was also used during a successful Civil Defence Public Information exercise in November 2011 that involved journalism students from the Western Institute of Technology in Taranaki (WITT).

### **Intranet**

The 2011 calendar year was one of consolidation for the Council Intranet, after it was relaunched on a new software platform in the latter half of 2010.

The site is firmly established as a useful source of information and assistance for Council officers, and feedback continues to be positive.

### **Common Seal**

The following documents were signed under seal during the period to 13 February 2012:

2012/01 Agreement to vary consent notice to allow construction of a stopbank on Lot 3 DP20360 Devon Road, New Plymouth

### **Decision-making considerations**

Part 6 (Planning, decision-making and accountability) of the Local Government Act 2002 has been considered and documented in the preparation of this agenda item. The recommendations made in this item comply with the decision-making obligations of the Act.

### **Financial considerations—LTCCP/Annual plan**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council’s adopted Long-Term Council Community Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

### **Policy considerations**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the Local Government Act 2002, the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Biosecurity Act 1993.

### **Legal considerations**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

### **Appendices – separate reports**

Document 999427: Monthly Financial Report – November 2011

Document 1001395: Monthly Financial Report – December 2011



## Agenda Memorandum

**Date** 13 February 2012



**Memorandum to  
Chairperson and Members  
Executive Committee**

**Subject: Capital Expenditure Programme for  
2012/2013 and for 2012/2022**

**Item:** 3

**Approved by:** MJ Nield, Director – Corporate Services  
BG Chamberlain, Chief Executive

**Document:** 998752

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### Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to obtain Council's approval for the proposed 2012/2022 capital expenditure programme for inclusion in the *2012/2022 Long-Term Plan*.

### Recommendation

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. approves the capital expenditure programme for 2012/2013 and 2012/2022 for inclusion in the *2012/2022 Long-Term Plan*.

### Background

The capital expenditure programme is one of the building blocks for the *2012/2022 Long-Term Plan*. Consideration of the programme at this stage allows for the consideration of the full *2012/2022 Long-Term Plan* at the 21 February 2012 Ordinary Meeting.

Capital and maintenance expenditure on flood control schemes and the regional gardens is consistent with the respective adopted asset management plan.

### Discussion

The following table summarises the fixed asset movements proposed for the *2012/2022 Long-Term Plan*:

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
	Estimate \$	Indicative \$	Indicative \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$
Opening balance	\$18,364,506	\$19,146,898	\$18,313,326	\$18,497,605	\$18,814,014	\$19,047,291	\$17,791,588	\$16,801,135	\$15,617,352	\$14,783,669
Plus vested assets	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Plus capital expenditure	\$3,316,700	\$1,658,750	\$2,696,450	\$2,861,050	\$2,887,000	\$1,204,750	\$1,483,450	\$1,354,050	\$1,785,700	\$1,493,250
Less disposals	\$241,500	\$138,000	\$116,500	\$152,500	\$273,000	\$118,000	\$118,500	\$172,500	\$248,000	\$118,000
Less depreciation	\$2,292,808	\$2,354,322	\$2,395,671	\$2,392,141	\$2,330,723	\$2,342,453	\$2,355,403	\$2,365,333	\$2,371,383	\$2,383,583
<b>Closing balance</b>	<b>\$19,146,898</b>	<b>\$18,313,326</b>	<b>\$18,497,605</b>	<b>\$18,814,014</b>	<b>\$19,047,291</b>	<b>\$17,791,588</b>	<b>\$16,801,135</b>	<b>\$15,617,352</b>	<b>\$14,783,669</b>	<b>\$13,775,336</b>

The following table categorises capital expenditure by the major asset groups.

	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019	2019/2020	2020/2021	2021/2022
	Estimate \$	Indicative \$	Indicative \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$	Forecast \$
General office	\$60,000	\$160,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000	\$10,000
Plant and equipment	\$318,700	\$150,250	\$485,450	\$212,550	\$248,000	\$161,750	\$335,950	\$157,550	\$115,700	\$193,250
Information technology	\$625,000	\$500,000	\$550,000	\$500,000	\$800,000	\$500,000	\$500,000	\$550,000	\$500,000	\$800,000
Land and Buildings	\$853,000	\$235,500	\$92,000	\$111,000	\$59,000	\$48,000	\$90,500	\$31,000	\$38,000	\$5,000
Flood and river control assets	\$300,000	\$50,000	\$1,050,000	\$1,500,000	\$500,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Vehicles (net of trade-in)	\$918,500	\$425,000	\$392,500	\$375,000	\$947,000	\$367,000	\$428,500	\$433,000	\$874,000	\$367,000
<b>Total capital expenditure</b>	<b>\$3,075,200</b>	<b>\$1,520,750</b>	<b>\$2,579,950</b>	<b>\$2,708,550</b>	<b>\$2,564,000</b>	<b>\$1,086,750</b>	<b>\$1,364,950</b>	<b>\$1,181,550</b>	<b>\$1,537,700</b>	<b>\$1,375,250</b>

The major items of capital expenditure for 2012/2013 and the following nine years are as follows:

- Finalisation of the upgrade of the Waiwhakaiho River Flood Control Scheme (2012/2013) and initial provision for the upgrade of the Waitara River Flood Control Scheme subject to the preparation and adoption of feasibility plans and updated asset management plans (approximately \$3m – 2014/2015 to 2016/2017)
- Construction of a visitor information centre at Hollard Gardens in line with the adopted asset management plan
- Replacement of the waste water treatment systems at Pukeiti
- Aerial photography is scheduled to be reflown every five years – \$300,000
- Completion of the development of the IRIS systems (due in 2012/2013) and then the ongoing investment in the maintenance and development of the project
- Continued investment in information technology systems (hardware \$100,000 to \$150,000 pa and software \$150,000 to \$200,000 pa)
- The Council's policy is to replace vehicles every four years with provision for the Chief Executive's discretion to delay or accelerate any individual purchase. The Chairperson's vehicle is replaced every three years to coincide with local body elections.

No provision has been made for capital expenditure arising from the completion of the Pukeiti asset management plan and any subsequent redevelopment on site.

### Decision-making considerations

Part 6 (Planning, decision-making and accountability) of the Local Government Act 2002 has been considered and documented in the preparation of this agenda item. The recommendations made in this item comply with the decision-making obligations of the Act.

**Financial considerations—LTCCP/Annual plan**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Council Community Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

**Policy considerations**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the Local Government Act 2002, the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Biosecurity Act 1993.

**Legal considerations**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.



## Agenda Memorandum

**Date** 13 February 2012



**Memorandum to  
Chairperson and Members  
Executive Committee**

**Subject: Public transport operational report for  
the quarter ending 30 December 2011**

**Item:** 4

**Approved by:** R A Phillips, Director – Operations  
BG Chamberlain, Chief Executive

**Document:** 999205

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### Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide Members with an operational report of the public transport services throughout Taranaki and to provide an update on the SuperGold Card Scheme for the quarter ending 30 December 2011.

### Executive summary

Overall the Council's public transport services have performed well in the second quarter (October to December 2011) of the current financial year. With the New Plymouth service now in the second full year of the trial, comparisons between this year and last year will give Members a more accurate picture of how the trial is performing.

For the second quarter of the year New Plymouth patronage is up 5% with Adult patronage up 79% on last year. Revenue is also up, with the last two months having farebox recovery rates of 44% and 24% respectively compared to 40% and 22% in 2010/11. The low farebox recovery rate during this time of year is affected by the school holidays.

Two key areas of work are being undertaken on the New Plymouth service. These are the preparation of the report on the service improvements required by the New Zealand Transport Agency by 31 March 2012 and preparation for the next New Plymouth service tender as the current contract expires on 30 June 2013.

Patronage of the Southlink services and the Inglewood service are mixed when compared to the second quarter of 2010/11. Waverley to Hawera is up 25%, Opunake to Hawera (including Manaia-Hawera) is up 33%, Opunake to New Plymouth is up a significant 59% while Inglewood to New Plymouth continues to slide, down 11%.

Total Mobility trips are down 10% on the same period last year.

SuperGold card trips in the region for the second quarter totalled 10,655 (8%) of all passenger trips. A decrease of 408 trips (4%) occurred in the second quarter when compared to the second quarter of 2010/11.

As is expected at this early stage of the year all services are performing to budget.

## Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives and notes the operational report of the public transport services for quarter ending 30 December 2011
2. receives and notes the operational overview of the SuperGold Card Scheme for the quarter ending 30 December 2011.

## Background

The Taranaki Regional Council is responsible for promoting an integrated, safe, responsive and sustainable land transport system within the region. This involves a range of activities, including provision of public transport services and the Total Mobility Scheme.

## Discussion

### New Plymouth, Bell Block, Waitara and Oakura bus service

Total patronage year-to-date (YTD) is 255,060, an increase of 12% above the 228,219 recorded in the same period in 2010. Of the 255,060 trips 24,622 were Transfers. This compares to only 21,824 Transfers recorded in 2010. Excluding the category of Transfers the overall increase across all the other fare categories YTD is 12%. This reflects the growing success of the service in attracting adult passengers.

Patronage for December 2011 was 24,233. It was 7% above December 2010 (22,727). Excluding Transfers the increase across all fare categories when comparing the two months is also 7%. (Transfers are when a passenger connects from one service to another, within one hour of the first trip while there is no cost to the passenger for this second trip, it is of necessity recorded as another trip in the patronage figures).

This data is shown in Table 1 below:

**Table 1: New Plymouth Citylink patronage totals as at 30 December 2011**

Financial year	Month of December	YTD
2011/12	24,233	255,060
2010/11	22,727	228,219
Difference	1,506	26,841
Change	+7%	+12%

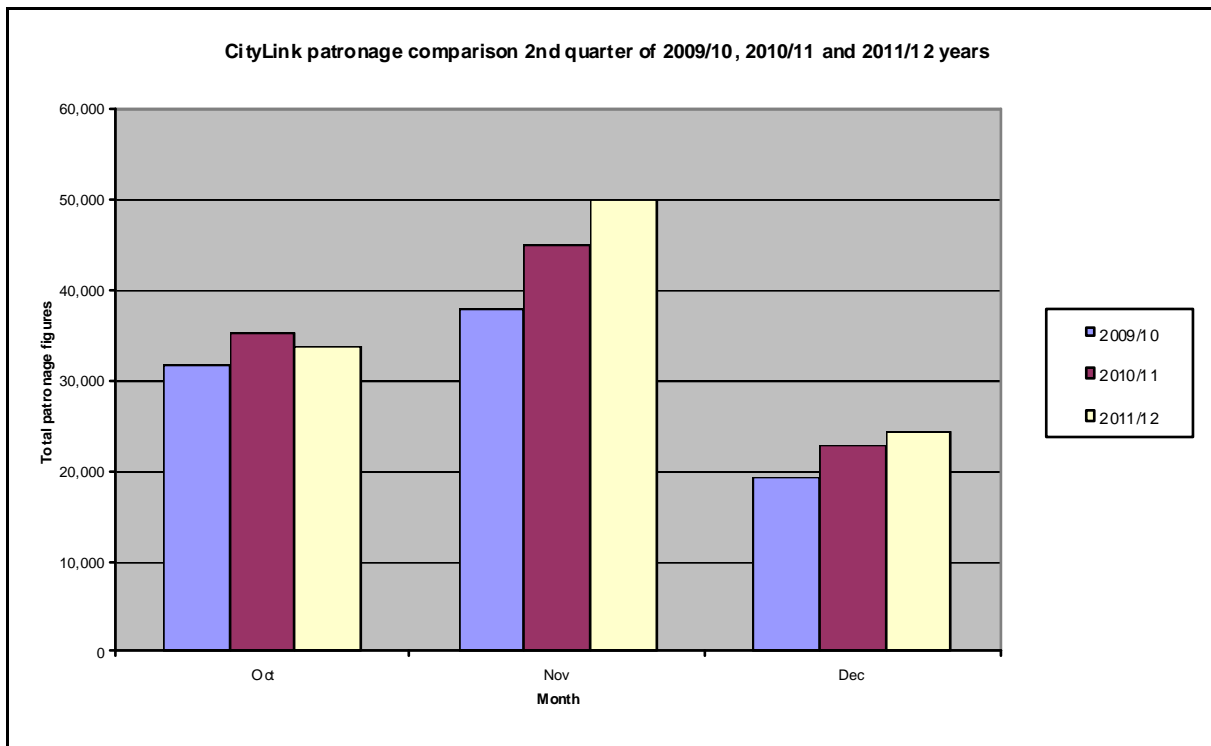
Table 2 shows the changes in patronage by fare category comparing the second quarter of 2010/2011 to the second quarter of 2011/2012.

**Table 2: Changes in patronage from Oct-Dec 2010 to Oct-Dec 2011**

Fare Category	Change from 2010/11
Adult	+79%
Student/children	-4%
Senior/SuperGold	-6%
Tertiary	-2%
Beneficiary	+11%
WITT	+78%

Chart 1 shows the total monthly patronage recorded during the second quarter comparing it the second quarter in 2009/2010 and 2010/2011.

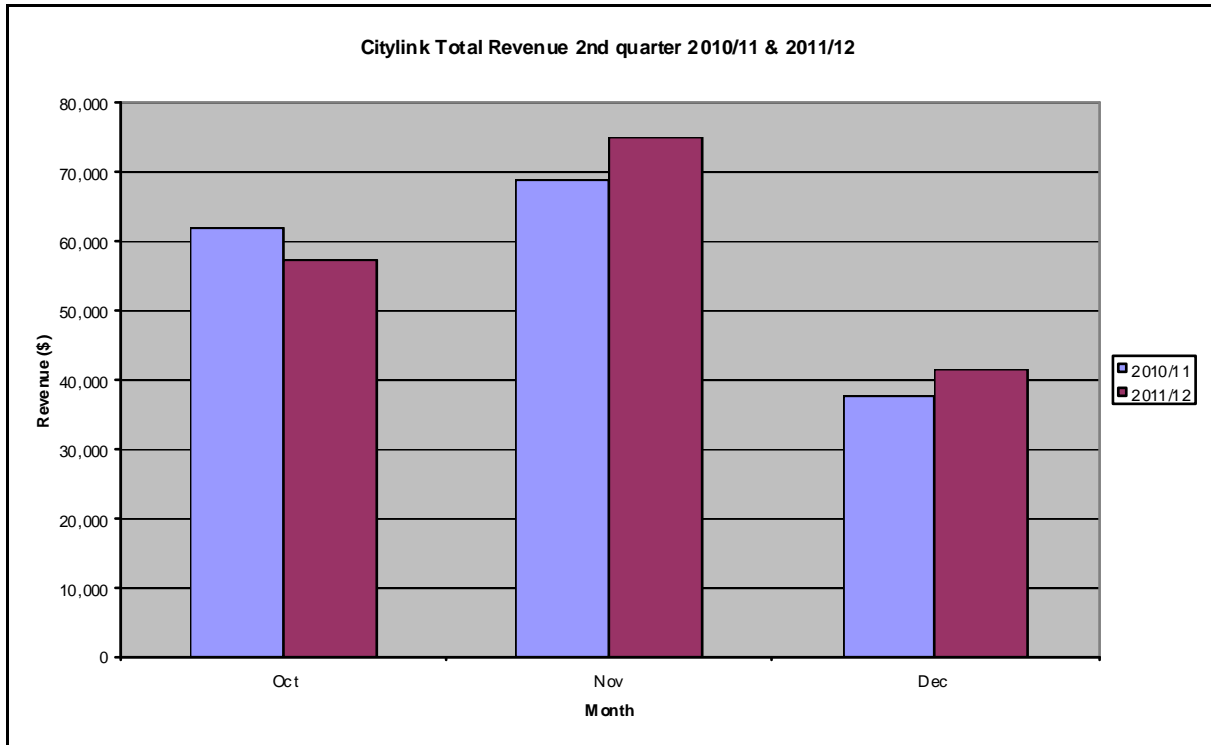
**Chart 1: New Plymouth Bus Service patronage comparison 2nd quarter 2009/10, 2010/11 and 2011/12**



This service is (\$64,826) under budget. For the year net expenditure (expenditure less revenue) was \$645,650 compared to a budget of \$710,476. This is due to increases in fare, WITT and advertising revenue. It should be noted that expenditure includes promotional activities and revenue includes SuperGold card.

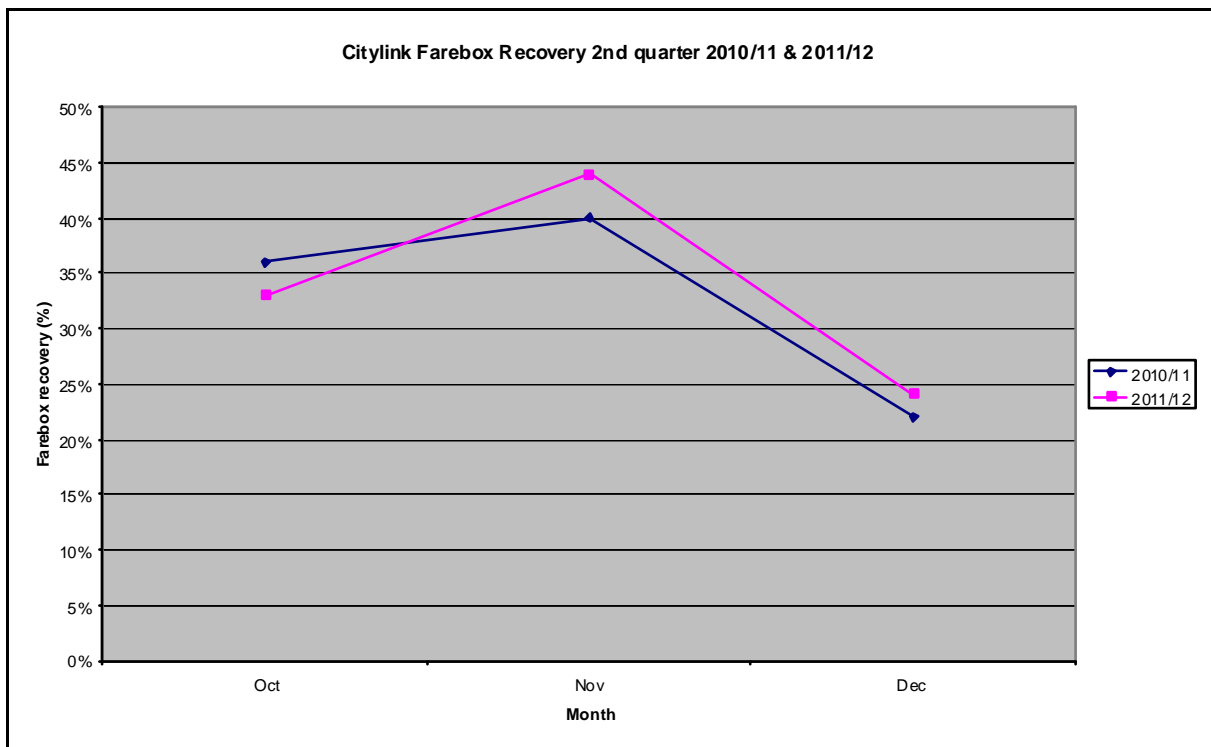
Revenue for the year has increased 7% over last year. Chart 2 compares revenue between the second quarter 2010/2011 and 2011/2012.

**Chart 2: New Plymouth Citylink total revenue comparison 2nd quarter 2010/11 and 2011/12**



Farebox recovery for December was 24% following on from November where the recovery rate was 44%. The year to date figure is 34% and is ten percent below the target rate of 44% for the trial. Chart 3 compares second quarter farebox recovery between 2010/2011 and 2011/2012.

**Chart 3: New Plymouth Citylink Farebox recovery 2nd quarter 2010/11 & 2011/12**



There are two main areas of operational work currently being undertaken. These are:

- Preparation of the report to the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) on the service improvements initiated in May 2010. The report is due by 31 March 2012.
- Preparation for the retendering of the Citylink service as the current contract expires on 30 June 2013. This work involves assessing the contract type (net versus gross), firming up on service levels and contract costs and continuing discussions with NZTA on likely funding levels, following assessment of the report on the service improvements noted above.

### South Taranaki (SouthLink) services

For ease of reporting the Southlink service's patronage and financial data is shown in Table 3. Members may recall that a recovery rate of 25% has been set as one of the performance criterion for these services.

**Table 3: Southlink patronage and financial performance as at 30 December 2011**

Service	Passenger trips YTD	Net Budget YTD	Net expenditure YTD (expenditure less revenue)	Fare box recovery rate YTD
Waverley-Patea-Hawera	941	\$3,626	\$3,011	56%
Opunake-Hawera (including Manaia - Hawera)	1,625	\$8,622	\$5,969	44%
Opunake-New Plymouth	696	\$8,678	\$7,228	29%

The Waverley-Patea-Hawera service farebox recovery rate is over double the criterion and is (\$615) under budget. There has been a 9% increase in patronage compared to last year.

The above figures for Opunake - Hawera also includes the expenditure and revenue for the Manaia - Hawera service. Overall the Opunake - Hawera service is (\$2,653) under budget. Growth on these services is currently 30% above last year.

The Opunake - New Plymouth service is now reaching the performance criterion and there has been a 60% increase in patronage this year. The service is (\$1,450) under budget. The increase in patronage follows the recent operational review of the service. Results from the survey showed the community still values the service and wants to see it continue. Additional operational changes are proposed following the review. These include extending the time the service is in New Plymouth by 30 minutes and also adding an extension of the service to include Parihaka which will increase the potential passenger catchment area by approximately 100 people.

### Inglewood - New Plymouth -service

Table 4 shows the passenger numbers on the services for the current financial year and the farebox recovery rate. A recovery rate of 25% was likewise set as one of the performance criterion for this service.

**Table 4: Inglewood-New Plymouth patronage and financial performance as at 30 December 2011**

Service	Passenger trips	Budget YTD	Net expenditure YTD (expenditure less revenue)	Fare box recovery rate
Inglewood – New Plymouth	401	\$3,152	\$3,266	32%

There has been a drop in patronage of 9% compared to last year. Even with the drop the service is still performing above the criterion. The service is \$114 over budget.

Officer will commence a review of the Inglewood service as has been carried out recently for the Opunake to New Plymouth service to better understand the declining numbers and to reinforce the message of “use it or lose it”.

### Total Mobility Scheme

Table 5 shows the number of taxi trips and net expenditure (YTD) for the Total Mobility Scheme.

**Table 5: Total Mobility trip and financial performance as at 30 December 2011**

Service	Passenger trips	Budget YTD	Net expenditure YTD (expenditure less revenue)
Total Mobility Scheme (including wheelchair hoist trip payments)	27,403	\$191,178	\$154,648

Currently Total Mobility taxi trips and wheelchair hoist trips are down 3,255 (11%) on the same period last year. Net expenditure is (\$36,530) under budget.

Phase Two was implemented on 1 April 2011 which included an increase in trip subsidy to \$13 (GST inclusive). Of the 4,473 trips made in December, 393 (9% of all trips) were above the previous \$10 subsidy, amounting to additional trip expenditure of \$765.30 (GST exclusive) for the month. Of the 393 trips, 125 trips reached the maximum subsidy.

### Ironside Vehicle Society Incorporated

Table 6 shows the current number of passenger trips carried out by Ironside, including the number of wheelchair trips for the current financial year as at 30 December 2011.

**Table 6: Ironside trips and financial performance as at 30 December 2011**

Service	Trips involving wheelchairs	Total trips claimed	Budget YTD	Net expenditure YTD
Ironside Vehicle Society	2,759	3,485	\$40,000	\$23,854

There has been a 13% increase in the number of trips involving wheelchairs compared to the last financial year. Whereas, non-wheelchair trips have increased 27.5% in the same period.

Expenditure YTD is \$23,854, noting that expenditure is capped at \$40,000 per annum.

## SuperGold Card Scheme

Table 7 shows the number of trips taken throughout the region by patrons using their SuperGold Card and the percentage of these trips compared to all trips made in the current year.

**Table 7: SuperGold Card YTD patronage by service as at 30 December 2011**

Service	Passenger trips	% of all trips
New Plymouth, Oakura, Bell Block and Waitara	19,507	8%
Manaia-Hawera	398	88%
Waverley-Patea-Hawera	511	54%
Opunake-Hawera	676	58%
Opunake-New Plymouth	316	45%
Inglewood-New Plymouth	198	49%
<b>Total</b>	<b>21,606</b>	<b>8%</b>

The total of 21,606 SuperGold Card trips equates to 8% of all public transport trips, across all services undertaken in the current financial year. The total number of trips is up 382 on the first two quarters of last year. The table shows the significance of the SuperGold Card scheme to the Southlink and Inglewood to New Plymouth services.

## Decision-making considerations

Part 6 (Planning, decision-making and accountability) of the Local Government Act 2002 has been considered and documented in the preparation of this agenda item. The recommendations made in this item comply with the decision-making obligations of the Act.

## Financial considerations—LTCCP/Annual plan

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Council Community Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

## Policy considerations

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the Local Government Act 2002, the Land Transport Management Act 2003 and the Public Transport Management Act 2008.

## Legal considerations

This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.



## Agenda Memorandum

**Date** 13 February 2012



**Memorandum to  
Chairperson and Members  
Executive Committee**

**Subject: Environmental Enhancement Grant  
(EEG) funding for Swampy Bush  
Wetland habitat protection**

**Item:** 5

**Approved by:** RA Phillips, Director - Operations

BG Chamberlain, Chief Executive

**Document:** 999496

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### Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to seek funds from the Environmental Enhancement Grant for the protection and enhancement of the Regionally Significant Wetland known as Swampy Bush, on the Ngatitara 15, 16A & B, and 17 blocks, at approximately 240 Kina Road, Opunake, in the Oaonui catchment.

### Executive summary

The Regionally Significant Wetland (RSW) known as Swampy Bush is a remnant of semi-coastal forest on the Taranaki ringplain, now a rare forest type having been mostly cleared for agriculture. Moreover, the forest remnant provides habitat for native fauna.

Swampy Bush is classified as a RSW under the Regional Freshwater Plan. It is also classified as a Significant Natural Area under the South Taranaki District Plan. Legal protection is currently being sought via a QEII covenant.

Construction of 1,827m of fence around the bush remnants at an estimated cost of \$32,886.00 is proposed for the 2011/2012 financial year. Provided a QEII covenant is established, 50% of the cost of fencing will be born by QEII. A further 20% of the cost of fencing will be sought from South Taranaki District Council (STDC). The remaining 30% of fencing costs, equating to \$9,865.80, would be sought through the Environmental Enhancement Grant (EEG).

Spraying of blackberry in canopy gaps at a cost of \$1,000 is also proposed for the 2011/2012 financial year, the full cost of which is sought from the EEG.

Enhancement planting is proposed for the winter of 2012; however, this could be undertaken in July and allocated to the 2012/2013 financial year. To complete the proposed planting,

4,800 plants would be required at a cost of \$12,768.00 plus planting costs of \$9,600.00. The full cost of plants and planting, \$22,368.00, is sought from the EEG.

The total cost of all works is \$56,254.00. The total cost sought from the EEG is \$33,233.80.

The project meets the following environmental enhancement criteria: 1. Urgency, 2. Formal protection (pending), 4. Regional significance, and 5. Wider ecological benefits. For more detail on these EEG criteria refer to section 9 of Appendix 1.

## Recommendation

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. approves an environmental enhancement grant of \$33,233.80 for fencing, weed control, and enhancement planting of Swampy Bush Wetland on Kina Road for the 2011/2012 and 2012/2013 financial years.

## Background

The wetland is located across four blocks of Maori Land. The smaller area of bush (approximately 3.2ha) is located on both the Ngatitara 15 and 16A blocks; the larger area of bush (approximately 16.3ha) is located across the Ngatitara 16A, 16B and 17 blocks. Valerie Davey has a third share in the Ngatitara 15, 16A and 16B blocks with the remaining two thirds ownership being administered by John McCarthy (lawyer). The Ngatitara 17 block is vested in a trust administered by the Maori Trustee Office.

These properties are being run as part of the immediate neighbour's dairy platform, one of a number of dairy units on this road.

### Legal description:

Assessment Number 1193026100, KINA RD, South Taranaki District, NGATITARA 15 BLK VI OPUNAKE SD - X REF 11930/25900 11930/26200 11930/26300 119/27500 15.813ha.

Assessment Number 1193026200, KINA RD, South Taranaki District, NGATITARA 16A & 16B BLK VI OPUNAKE SD - X REF 11930/25900 11930/26100 11930/26300 119/27500 16.638ha.

Assessment Number 1193026300, KINA RD, South Taranaki District, NGATITARA 17 BLK VI OPUNAKE SD - X REF 11930/25900 11930/26100 11930/26200 119/27500 20.26ha.

Swampy Bush is a previously logged forest remnant situated on lahar deposits, on the Taranaki ringplain, close to the coast. This is an area where little native vegetation remains. As the drainage of the lahar deposits is uneven, parts of the forest are poorly drained with occasional pools of water. In addition, a stream passes through the centre of the larger bush remnant.

The flora consists of a mosaic of swamp forest and drier forest types on the varied topography of the lahar deposits (kahikatea-pukatea swamp forest and tawa-pukatea forest respectively). Nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*) is also present. These forest types are now rare having mostly been cleared for agriculture. Moreover, this is a large wetland greater than 5ha.

Swampy Bush provides habitat for native birds including the Kereru/New Zealand wood pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaseelandiae*), a species in gradual decline as classified by the New Zealand Threat Classification Systems List. The stream and connected pools within the wetland may also provide habitat for native fish.

## **Discussion**

The lack of physical and legal protection of Swampy Bush has been an ongoing issue for many years. At present, farmed livestock pose the greatest threat to the longevity of this forest remnant. Livestock currently have access to both areas of bush and the understorey of both forest remnants has been decimated; there is virtually no vegetation beneath the canopy. Consequently, as there are no seedling canopy species regenerating, there is a high risk of canopy collapse as the canopy ages and starts to die.

Several attempts have been made in the past by Regional Council staff to obtain the agreement of all the landowners involved to fence and covenant the wetland area but these attempts have been unsuccessful. However, the commitment of these landowners to place the wetland under a QEII covenant has recently been secured and an application to QEII has been made.

If the application is successful, QEII will fund half the cost of a stock-proof fence around the wetland. However, the landowners are unable to finance the remainder of the fencing costs themselves. It is for this reason that funding is sought from STDC and EEG to meet the full cost of fencing this RSW.

In addition to fencing, some minor weed control along with enhancement planting is required to ensure that grassed areas within the wetland do not become weed infested once grazing pressure is removed.

## **Decision-making considerations**

Part 6 (Planning, decision-making and accountability) of the Local Government Act 2002 has been considered and documented in the preparation of this agenda item. The recommendations made in this item comply with the decision-making obligations of the Act.

## **Financial considerations—LTCCP/Annual plan**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Council Community Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

## **Policy considerations**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the Local Government Act 2002, the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Biosecurity Act 1993.

**Legal considerations**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

**Appendices/Attachments**

Document 977263: Memo EEG Swampy Bush Ngatitara

Document 999668: Swampy Bush\_Ngatitara Map

Document 999761: Swampy Bush\_Ngatitara Map 2

Document 999760: Swampy Bush\_Ngatitara Map topo

Document 1000319: Swampy Bush photo montage 1

Document 1000318: Swampy Bush photo montage 2

## Memorandum

**To** RA Phillips, Director – Operations; Don Shearman, Land Services Manager; Darren Scown, Land Management Officer; Cheryl Newport, Departmental Secretary.

**From** Sophie Arnoux, Land Management Officer

**Document** 977263

**Date** 5/12/2011

## Swampy Bush (Ngatitara) - Wetland & Habitat Protection.

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to seek funds from the Environmental Enhancement Grant for the protection and enhancement of the Regionally Significant Wetland known as Swampy Bush, on the Ngatitara 15, 16A & B, and 17 blocks, at approximately 240 Kina Road, Opunake, in the Oaonui catchment.

### 2. Summary

The Regionally Significant Wetland (RSW) known as Swampy Bush is a remnant of semi-coastal forest on the Taranaki ringplain, now a rare forest type having been mostly cleared for agriculture. Moreover, the forest remnant provides habitat for native fauna.

Swampy Bush is classified as a RSW under the Regional Freshwater Plan. It is also classified as a Significant Natural Area under the South Taranaki District Plan. Legal protection is currently being sought via a QEII covenant.

Construction of 1827m of fence around the bush remnants at an estimated cost of \$32886.00 is proposed for the 2011-2012 financial year. Provided a QEII covenant is established, 50% of the cost of fencing will be born by QEII. A further 20% of the cost of fencing will be sought from South Taranaki District Council (STDC). The remaining 30% of fencing costs, equating to \$9865.80, would be sought through the Environmental Enhancement Grant (EEG).

Spraying of blackberry in canopy gaps at a cost of \$1000 is also proposed for the 2011-2012 financial year, the full cost of which is sought from the EEG.

Enhancement planting is proposed for the winter of 2012; however, this could be undertaken in July and allocated to the 2012-2013 financial year. To complete the proposed planting, 4800 plants would be required at a cost of \$12768.00 plus planting costs of \$9600.00. The full cost of plants and planting, \$22368.00, is sought from the EEG.

The total cost of all works is \$56254.00.

The project meets the following environmental enhancement criteria: 1. Urgency, 2. Formal protection (pending), 4. Regional significance, and 5. Wider ecological benefits. For more detail on these EEG criteria refer to section 9.

### 3. Ownership and land tenure

The wetland is located across four blocks of Maori Land. The smaller area of bush (approximately 3.2ha) is located on both the Ngatitara 15 and 16A blocks; the larger area of bush (approximately 16.3ha) is located across the Ngatirata 16A, 16B and 17 blocks. Valerie Davey has a third share in the Ngatitara 15, 16A and 16B blocks with the remaining two thirds ownership being administered by John McCarthy (lawyer). The Ngatitara 17 block is vested in a trust administered by the Maori Trustee Office.

These properties are being run as part of the immediate neighbour's dairy platform, one of a number of dairy units on this road.

Legal description:

Assessment Number 1193026100, KINA RD, South Taranaki District, NGATITARA 15 BLK VI OPUNAKE SD - X REF 11930/25900 11930/26200 11930/26300 119/27500 15.813ha.

Assessment Number 1193026200, KINA RD, South Taranaki District, NGATITARA 16A & 16B BLK VI OPUNAKE SD - X REF 11930/25900 11930/26100 11930/26300 119/27500 16.638ha.

Assessment Number 1193026300, KINA RD, South Taranaki District, NGATITARA 17 BLK VI OPUNAKE SD - X REF 11930/25900 11930/26100 11930/26200 119/27500 20.26ha.

### 4. Current protection status

The trustees and landowners of all four blocks have recently agreed to place a QEII covenant on both blocks of native bush and an application to QEII has been made.

### 5. Ecological Values

Swampy Bush is a previously logged forest remnant situated on lahar deposits, on the Taranaki ringplain, close to the coast. This is an area where little native vegetation remains. As the drainage of the lahar deposits is uneven, parts of the forest are poorly drained with occasional pools of water. In addition, a stream passes through the centre of the larger bush remnant.

The flora consists of a mosaic of swamp forest and drier forest types on the varied topography of the lahar deposits (kahikatea-pukatea swamp forest and tawa-pukatea forest respectively). Nikau (*Rhopalostylis sapida*) is also present. These forest types are now rare having mostly been cleared for agriculture. Moreover, this is a large wetland greater than 5ha.

Swampy Bush provides habitat for native birds including the Kereru/New Zealand wood pigeon (*Hemiphaga novaseelandiae*), a species in gradual decline as classified by the New Zealand Threat Classification Systems List. The stream and connected pools within the wetland may also provide habitat for native fish.

### 6. Plant & animal pests

Apart from blackberry, which is quite abundant in canopy gaps, plant pests are currently not a major threat to the wetland. At present, farmed livestock pose the greatest threat to the longevity of this forest remnant. Stock currently have access to both areas of bush and the understorey of both forest remnants has been decimated; there is virtually no vegetation beneath the canopy. Consequently, as there are no seedling canopy species regenerating, there is a high risk of canopy collapse as the canopy ages and starts to die.

Possoms are controlled in the area through the Self-help programme. However, other animal pests including hares, rabbits, feral cats, mustelids, and rats, are present. If protection of the forest remnant and enhancement planting is undertaken, animal pest control will need to be addressed to ensure the survival of plant seedlings, and to ensure safe habitat for native fauna to recolonise.

### **7. Fencing, weed control, and enhancement planting**

Construction of an eight wire post-and-batten fence around the bush remnants, and spraying of blackberry in canopy gaps, is proposed for the 2011-2012 financial year. Enhancement planting, to fill in gaps in the canopy, is proposed for the winter of 2012; however, this could be undertaken in July and allocated to the 2012-2013 financial year.

### **8. Estimated cost**

#### **Fencing approximately 1827 metres of Swampy Bush Wetland.**

<i>Fencing materials &amp; labour @ \$18/m</i>	
QEII: 50%	\$16443.00
STDC: 20%	\$6577.20
EEG: 30%	\$9865.80
<b>Total fencing cost</b>	<b>\$32886.00</b>

#### **Weed control in Swampy Bush Wetland**

EEG: spraying of blackberry	\$1000.00
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#### **Planting approximately 3ha of Swampy Bush Wetland.**

<i>Plants</i>	
EEG: 4800 karamu @\$2.66 ea.	\$12768.00
<i>Planting</i>	
EEG: 4800 plants @\$2.00 ea.	\$9600.00
<b>Total planting cost</b>	<b>\$22368.00</b>

<b>Total Project cost</b>	<b>\$56254.00</b>
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## 9. Enhancement grant criteria

Table 1 Environmental Enhancement Grant Criteria

Environmental Enhancement Grant Criteria:	
1.	<b>Urgency</b> The urgency of threats to the area that the project could alleviate, and dependency on support from the Environmental Enhancement Grant to address such threats
2.	<b>Formal protection</b> The project involves privately owned lands with a high level of secured long term protection (e.g. QEII covenant, Conservation covenant or TRC Memorandum of Encumbrance)
3.	<b>Partnership</b> The project involves contributions from the landholder and other sources (including in-kind contributions)
4.	<b>Regional significance</b> The project involves: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the maintenance and enhancement of regionally significant values on privately owned land (e.g. Key Native Ecosystems)</li> <li>The project involves the protection of rivers, streams and wetlands identified as having regionally significant values in the Regional Fresh Water Plan for Taranaki)</li> <li>the protection of other aspects of the environment identified as regionally significant</li> </ul>
5.	<b>Wider ecological benefits</b> The wider benefits of the project in terms of maintaining ecological processes, restoring connectivity, and/or buffering land or water bodies identified as having regional significant values
6.	<b>Community support</b> The extent to which the project broadens the base of community effort and support (e.g. community and school projects) for protecting the environment.

- 9.1** The project meets the following environmental enhancement grant criteria  
1,4 & 5 as outlined above

## 10. Recommendation

That the Taranaki Regional Council approves an environmental enhancement grant of up to \$56254.00 for the protection of the Swampy Bush Wetland on Kina Road for the 2011/12 and 2012/13 financial years.

### Land Management Officer

Sophie Arnoux

Recommended by **Land Services Manager**

DW Shearman

Approved by **Director-Operations**

RA Phillips

# Swampy Bush/Ngatitara Wetland



## Legend

- Farm\_Boundary
- Stream
- Existing Fencing
- Proposed Fencing, Proposed
- Wetland Establishment
- parcel

Ngatitara 15

Ngatitara 16A

Ngatitara 16B

Ngatitara 17

SCALE 1:3,500

0 50 100 200  
Meters

DATE 27 January 2012



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# Swampy Bush/Ngaititara Wetland



SCALE 1:10,000

0 145 290 580  
Meters



DATE: 27 January 2012



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# Swampy Bush/Ngatitara Wetland



SCALE 1:78,500

0 1,150 2,300 4,600  
Meters



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DATE: 27 January 2012







## Agenda Memorandum

**Date** 13 February 2012



**Memorandum to  
Chairperson and Members  
Executive Committee**

**Subject: 60 Springs Report for Taranaki Regional  
Council for Terms 3 and 4 2011**

**Item:** 6

**Approved by:** MJ Nield, Director – Corporate Services  
BG Chamberlain, Chief Executive

**Document:** 999360

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### Purpose

The purpose of this memorandum is to present the *60 Springs Report for Taranaki Regional Council for Terms 3 and 4 2011*.

### Recommendation

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the *60 Springs Report for Taranaki Regional Council for Terms 3 and 4 2011*.

### Background

The Council has been a funding partner for the *60 Springs Environmental Education Programme* through its partnership agreement with Puke Ariki.

The Taranaki Regional Council's funding for the *60 Springs Programme* concluded on 30 November 2011 at the end of Council's partnership agreement with Puke Ariki. Further discussions are being held between the Council and Puke Ariki to reach agreement on a future partnership/funding relationship.

### Discussion

The report summarises the projects and outcomes from the *60 Springs Programme* for terms 3 and 4 of 2011.

During the terms 417 students from 14 classes and five schools were engaged in the *60 Springs Programme*. A second successful Penguin Experience camp was held in October. Greenprint was initiated with two youth forums in Hawera and New Plymouth in November 2011.

Seventeen media and public events were recorded over the period.

### **Decision-making considerations**

Part 6 (Planning, decision-making and accountability) of the Local Government Act 2002 has been considered and documented in the preparation of this agenda item. The recommendations made in this item comply with the decision-making obligations of the Act.

### **Financial considerations—LTCCP/Annual plan**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Council Community Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

### **Policy considerations**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the Local Government Act 2002, the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Biosecurity Act 1993.

### **Legal considerations**

This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

### **Attachment**

Document 999341: *60 Springs Report for Taranaki Regional Council for Terms 3 and 4 2011*



## TERMS 3 AND 4 (1 AUGUST – 16 DECEMBER 2011) REPORT FOR TARANAKI REGIONAL COUNCIL

PREPARED BY: Fiona Cayzer, Project Support.

TEAM: Puke Ariki

Date: 17 January 2012

Doc#: 1252757

### Summary

- Over terms 3 and 4 of 2011 417 students, 14 classes and five schools were engaged in the 60 Springs programme.
- A second successful Penguin Experience camp was held over three days in October school holidays for 10 high school students from around Taranaki. Two local community groups, North Taranaki Forest & Bird and Ngā Motu Marine Reserve Society, supported this live-in camp by sponsoring the registration fees for three students.
- Over 50 historical records were collected from the 'Tell us your penguin stories' appeal and added to the Ngā Motu Reserve Society database on the New Plymouth kete. <http://ketenewplymouth.peoplesnetworknz.info>
- Two students involved in 60 Springs won awards in this year's Fonterra Taranaki Science and Technology Fair.
- Greenprint was initiated with two youth forums, one in Hawera and the other New Plymouth with a total of 43 people attending and a small group wanting to continue the conversation.
- 17 media and public events were recorded over the period.



Penguin squad with Raewyn Hope (STOS), Rodney Baker (Ngāti Mutunga) and Rachel Eckersley.



Greenprint forum, Hawera

### Comments:

'Children were given the expertise and use of equipment to complete higher levelled science fair project ideas. They were very keen to be chosen to receive extra support and looked forward to Nathan's return visits.' Teacher, St. Joseph's School, Opunake.

"... also, if you have another camp, call me and I'll run games, whatever you need. It was one of the best camps I have ever been on! So just call me and I'll help out!" Sam, participant Penguin Experience II.

"... it was really interesting for me because we touched on issues that you think about in everyday life but you don't really develop your thought process. Sitting down in a collective and nutting out all these ideas and what we think is wrong with the world and how we can change it. It was just really interesting to follow that thought pattern and see where it actually led." Dylan, participant Greenprint Hawera forum.

## Schools programme

417 students, 14 classes and five schools participated over terms 3 and 4 of 2011. The schools involved and a brief description of their projects are as follows:

- Hawera Primary School – Four year 5/6 classes participated in a unit on the mountain using the Taranaki Naturally Gallery at Puke Ariki. Students learned about the flora and fauna, and conservation programmes running on Mt. Taranaki.
- St. Joseph’s School, Waitara - A class of 20 students visited Puke Ariki to undertake the Tools and Traps lesson taught by Nathan where they explored historic Pacific and modern tools and traps.
- St. Joseph’s School, Opunake – Nathan continued to mentor six students with the write up of their science fair projects. Two projects received merit and special awards at the 2011 Fonterra Taranaki Science and Technology Fair. Callum Hickey’s *Riparian success* project measured water temperature, clarity, conductivity and MCI testing at three locations at and downstream of riparian planting. The second project by Kameron Waugh, Jackson Sinclair and Herne Minhinick compared water quality in the Waiaua River and Opunake Lake. They wanted to find out if the quality of the water in the river increased or decreased after it had travelled through the lake. Their hypothesis was that the water quality would decrease as it travelled through the lake. They used water temperature and conductivity to measure their results. Their results showed that in fact the water got cleaner as it travelled through the lake. The trio suggested that the installation of a device that increases water movement could help increase the water quality in the lake.
- Highlands Intermediate School – Nathan undertook a unit on water chemistry and water testing in Pukekura Park with three classes.
- Devon Intermediate School – Nathan participated the school’s final year camp on Mt. Taranaki. He ran workshops on the history and conservation programmes on the mountain, animal tracking and vegetation monitoring.



*Riparian Success* project by Callum Hickey



Devon Intermediate students identifying animal tracks at their school camp (Konini Lodge)

## Penguin Experience II

10 teenagers were selected to participate in the second Penguin Experience live-in camp from 13-15 October 2011 at Urenui Beach. Students came from as far as Pātea Area School and ranged in ages from 13-18 years. Three students had their registrations sponsored by the North Taranaki Forest & Bird Society and Ngā Motu Marine Reserve Society. This showed the strong support for such a camp by local community groups.

Several guests were invited to participate in the camp and share their knowledge with the students they included Bridey White (New Zealand Wildlife Health Centre), Rodney Baker (Ngāti Mutunga), John Elliot

(Principal, Mimi School), Kris Grabow (Rapanui Grey Faced Petrel Trust), Callum Lilley (DOC), and Elise Smith (Ngā Motu Marine Reserve Society). Raewyn Hope (Shell Todd Oil Services) and Rachel Eckersley also helped Nathan run the camp.



Penguin squad 2011 at Wai-iti Beach waiting for penguins; Digging in penguin boxes at Urenui Beach; Little blue penguin chicks at Chaddy's Charters.

The following are some reflections from Nathan Hills on this year's camp. "Bursts of rain and sunshine didn't stop the much anticipated 60 Springs Penguin Experience II camp. Running the camp during the penguin breeding season was a good call as several penguins and chicks were seen during the three days. The camp was action packed with a variety of presentations, workshops, games, scenario playing and fieldtrips.

During the first night trip six penguins were seen dashing up the beach towards their burrows – a rare but magical sight that was a highlight for everyone involved. Beach cleanups were conducted on Wai-iti, Urenui and Ōnaero beaches and residents were surveyed to see if they had heard or seen any penguins. Upon arriving at camp the students were alerted to an injured penguin on the beach. This sparked a rescue operation to try and save it resulting in it being taken to a local vet. Unfortunately the bird died shortly afterwards of its injuries – most likely after being bashed around during rough seas.

On the last day several penguin boxes made at last years' camp were repositioned and dug into the ground. It is hoped this action will make them more habitable for the penguins particularly during the heat of the summer. Feedback was gathered from the students and lastly certificates handed out before heading back to New Plymouth to greet and share stories with families."

For some further information on the camp and video footage please follow this link.

<http://www.pukeariki.com/Research/Education/60Springs/PenguinExperience2011.aspx>

### **Tell us your penguin stories**

In conjunction with Penguin Experience Puke Ariki initiated a "Tell us your penguin stories" campaign. Historical information about the little blue penguins is limited but essential to help researchers and wildlife biologists in their work conserving penguin populations. Puke Ariki and the community libraries appealed to the public to send their memories or stories through a media promotion and recording forms being made available at district and regional libraries or on the Puke Ariki website. Over 50 historical records were sent in from Waverley, Opunake, Ōkato, Ōākura, Urenui, Ōnaero, Mōkau and several locations in New Plymouth. The most common sightings were from Ōākura, Ōnaero and Urenui. Some of the stories were really sad and others hilarious, adding weight to the idea that penguins are true characters. The records/stories were added to the Ngā Motu Marine Reserve Society's database on the New Plymouth Kete (see link below). A summary has also been placed on the 60 Springs website.

<http://www.pukeariki.com/Research/Education/60Springs/Tellusyourpenguinstories.aspx>

[http://ketenewplymouth.peoplesnetworknz.info/nga\\_motu\\_marine\\_reserve\\_society/topics/show/90-contribute-your-information](http://ketenewplymouth.peoplesnetworknz.info/nga_motu_marine_reserve_society/topics/show/90-contribute-your-information).

## WITT Visual Art Design students – Bird awareness project

Nathan coordinated a group of five WITT students from the Level 7 Design Agency class and interested community groups (Ngā Motu Marine Reserve Society, DOC, North Taranaki Forest and Bird Society) in a project to raise the awareness about birds/penguins and encourage better dog control. WITT wanted an external design project for their final year students and was approached by Ngā Motu Marine Reserve Society about their bird aversion project, which was later changed to bird awareness. 60 Springs' close relationship with these community groups and Ian Clothier, WITT lecturer, meant Nathan took on the role of facilitating all the groups involved.

The design team focussed on a positive approach to bird awareness by planning a public event that would educate the public on local bird species, training for dogs and their owners and promote areas for on/off leash dog exercise. They proposed that the event would run during Seaweek 2012 and have designed a brand logo, posters, educational signage and a giveaway pack and devised a communication/marketing plan. Although the project is now finished for the students the community groups are seeking financial support to make these ideas a reality. Nathan compiled a DVD of the students work and has shown it to Tina Christmas (NPDC Parks) and Jim Aitken (NPDC Dog control officer).



Some of the early design concepts developed by the WITT students to increase the awareness of penguin nesting areas to dog owners.

## Greenprint – a vision for the region's future

*Greenprint* is all about giving young people the freedom to think creatively about what kind of a future they want to live in. But it's not just about words and ideas, this project aims to develop a 'greenprint', a roadmap if you like, on how we are going to get there.

It has been a strand of the 60 Springs project and was kickstarted through the *What if? The future of Taranaki* conversation at Puke Ariki last summer. Data from this conversation and other 60 Springs research was analysed by Massey University and used as background information for two youth forums. An e-invite was sent out to people aged 18-35 years throughout the region. Glen Bennett was engaged to work with Fiona Cayzer to deliver the forums and write a summary report (due Jan 2012). This project was planned in collaboration with Leighton Littlewood (Community Development, NPDC) and had some input from Simon Cayley (Bishop's Action Foundation).

Two forums were run in Hawera (7 Nov at TSB Hub) and New Plymouth (8 Nov at Puke Ariki) where young people had the chance to feed ideas into this *Greenprint*. The evening forums consisted of some collaborative creative thinking around topics like the natural environment, the built environment, the

economy, the community and governance/leadership. They were then challenged to consider what these things could or should look like in 30 years time. Their ideas were pitched to a panel of current 'decision makers' (district and regional councillors plus other influential members of the community).

18 people attended the Hawera event with panel consisting of Mayor Ross Dunlop, Michael Joyce (Councillor, Taranaki Regional Council), Te Aroha Hohaia (Councillor, Patea Ward, South Taranaki District Council) and Celine Filbee (businesswoman).

25 people attended the New Plymouth forum with some lively debate from our panelists Pauline Lockett (Councillor NPDC), Craig Williamson (Councillor TRC), Bry Kopu (Chairwoman, Tu Tama Wahine o Taranaki) and Mike Brewer (CEO Taranaki Daily News).



Greenprint forum held in the foyer of Puke Ariki; Sarah Hamilton discussing the 'community hub' concept with the Hawera panel; Holly Rine, Samuel Rine and Joshua Avery with their future governance proposal.

Initial ideas proposed by the participants were for:

- a community hub
- planting fruit trees along streets instead of ornamental trees
- extended coastal walkway around the mountain
- interest free banking system
- different industries participating in knowledge sharing
- people of all ages represented in decision making
- lower speed limits around our region to encourage people to participate in their community
- voting on policy instead of political parties, and
- restoration of fish and eels in our waterways.

A group of at least five young people are keen to carry on these conversations and develop the ideas further towards formulating a Greenprint. This will occur early in 2012.

Branding was created for *Greenprint* and remains strongly linked to the 60 Springs brand.



### Website upgrade

The [www.60Springs.co.nz](http://www.60Springs.co.nz) site is currently being refreshed with content from seven feature schools and six outstanding projects such as Penguin Experience camps, *TSB Bank Festival of Lights*, *Kinetika*, *SCANZ*, *Greenprint* and *What if?* The upgrade includes new video footage, photos and sound bites. The new pages will go live early in 2012.

### Workshops and Public Events

- TRC Biodiversity teacher workshop , 4/08/11. Nathan Hills gave a short presentation on biodiversity and a hands-on workshop with Melissa Jacobsen (Educator, Rotokare) to seven adults.
- Science Fair Workshops, 16/08/11. Nathan organised and facilitated the rotation style workshops with guest speakers Hoani Eriwata (Puke Ariki), Kama Burwell (Hive Taranaki), Michael Lawley (EcoInnovation) and Nathaniel Benefield (Let's Go, NPDC). 60 students from Waitara High School, Hawera High School, New Plymouth Boys High School and Francis Memorial College attended this event.
- Enviroschools Education for Sustainability teacher workshops, 9/09/11. Nathan presented to 10 adults a talk on Education for Sustainability and some tips on maintaining enthusiasm for long term projects.
- Rotokare Rambles, 13/19/11. Nathan ran a station, as part of a Conservation Week event held at Rotokare Scenic Reserve, exploring the use of night vision cameras in conducting monitoring and research.
- Conservation week quiz, 17/09/11. Nathan conducted a quiz as part of the Living Legends event for Conservation week. The event was open to the general public and included the planting of coastal trees and shrubs near the Rewa Rewa bridge on the coastal walkway. A number of community organisations had stalls at this event that was attended by a large crowd. Nathan had over 100 people participate in the quiz and engage in discussing the answers.



Science Fair workshops: Kama Burwell (Hive Taranaki) Terraquaculture – the surprising truth about water; Michael Lawley (EcoInnovation) A sustainable future; Nathaniel Benefield (Let's Go) Sustainable transport and electric bikes.

### Proposed activities for January – June 2012

- Website upgrade to go live – January 2012
- Greenprint – debrief with small group of interested young people and begin to compile the *Greenprint*. (May 2012)
- Collate 60 Springs information and place on to New Plymouth Kete (June 2012)
- Map the relationship developed through 60 Springs (June 2012).
- Final report (30 June 2012)
- 60 Springs project finale celebration. (tbc)

## Media coverage

- “Teens to get Penguin Experience” by Virginia Winder, *Taranaki Daily News*, 14/9/2011. An interview with Nathan Hills and Fiona Cayzer promoting Penguin Experience II.
- “Little blue stories wanted for project” by Virginia Winder, *North Taranaki Midweek*, 5/10/11. A article promoting the tell us your penguin stories campaign.
- “Little blues’ bite worse than its bark” by Virginia Winder, *North Taranaki Midweek*, 12/10/11. An interview with Frank Chapman as he remembers little blue penguins from his camping holidays as a child at Waiau Beach.
- “New speaker for little blue talk” *North Taranaki Midweek*, 12/10/11. An announcement explaining the change in speaker to Bridey White for the public talk, as Pauline Conayne went to Tauranga to help wildlife caught up in the Rena disaster.
- “Penguin rescue shows team’s role” by Kate Sanders, *Taranaki Daily News*, 14/10/11. An article on the public talk given by Bridey White from the New Zealand Wildlife Health Centre at Massey University. Attended by 50 members of the public at Puke Ariki.
- “Trip into wild spurs on career plans” by Virginia Winder, *North Taranaki Midweek*, 19/10/11. An interview with Bo Marsh and Matthew Sturgess from the 2011 Penguin Experience squad.
- “Penguin camp to inspire lucky teens” *This Is Us (Puke Ariki Magazine)*, issue seven: October 2011. An article summarising the penguin experience camp.
- “Little Blue Penguins” *Oakura TOM*, November 2011. An article requesting penguin stories from the public.
- “Inviting youth opinion” by Virginia Winder, *North Taranaki Midweek*, 02/11/11. An article, interviewing Glen Bennett, on the Greenprint youth forums.
- “60 Springs Penguin Experience” *North Taranaki Branch Newsletter, Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society*, November 2011- January 2012. A cover photo of the whole group and a article with a letter of thanks from one of the sponsored students.
- “Wildlife Rescue at Massey University” *North Taranaki Branch Newsletter, Royal Forest & Bird Protection Society*, November 2011- January 2012. An article describing the public talk at Puke Ariki from Bridey White.
- “Youth mull fresh ideas for future” by Zaryd Wilson, *Taranaki Daily News*, 10/11/11. An article summarising some of the ideas presented at the Greenprint forums.

## Advertising and promotion

Posters and flyers were made up for Penguin Experience, Penguin public talk and Tell us your penguin stories and sent to all district and regional libraries, NPDC Civic Centre and Aquatic Centre, i-SITE (Puke Ariki, Hawera, Stratford), Department of Conservation, Taranaki Regional Council, Shell Todd Oil Services, all high schools, Home School coordinators, HIVE Taranaki, Ngā Motu Marine Reserve, Taranaki Forest & Bird Society, Ornithological Society, Grey Faced Petrel Trust, Taranaki Kiwi Trust, Brooklands Zoo, Mimi School, Ngāti Mutunga, Taranaki Regeneration group, and Chaddy’s Charters. These events were also advertised in the North Taranaki Midweek and Taranaki Daily News.



## Feedback from teachers and young people

'Children were given the expertise and use of equipment to complete higher levelled science fair project ideas. They were very keen to be chosen to receive extra support and looked forward to Nathan's return visits.' Teacher, St. Joseph's School, Opunake.

'I thought that the workshops were extremely well organised with enthusiastic experts presenting them. I was impressed with the educational information the students were presented with and the challenge for ongoing education. The workshops were relevant, interactive and fun. The whole organisation was a credit to you and your team. Well done. I wish there were more workshops. From the students' point of view, it was a fun day with relevant and thought provoking issues. They appreciated the short workshops with clear instructions. Like me, they were hoping that there were more workshops on offer. Looking forward to what your team will come up with for next year's workshops.' Julius Prasad (Senior Physics Teacher), New Plymouth Boys' High School.

'I think this was the best experience ever! Thanks heaps!' Bo (14), Penguin Experience II

'I'm glad I can go home aware of the penguins and what effects them and their habitats' Anonymous, Penguin Experience II.

"What a great time Simon had, he talked none stop about it. When we got him in the car he said he had not wanted the experience to end. Many thanks." Parent feedback, Penguin Experience II.

"... also, if you have another camp, call me and I'll run games, whatever you need. It was one of the best camps I have ever been on! So just call me and I'll help out!" Sam, in an email to Nathan 10 days after the penguin experience camp.

" I think it was well facilitated, clear instructions. The structure of the evening I thought ultimately was a bit strange and it kind of left you wondering so what? It feels like we've started something but it's already finished. I am interested in what comes next that is in more meaningful ways. This could be a good launch pad." Peter, Greenprint Hawera forum feedback.

"...brainstorming would be good, I am thinking they want ideas of what we think Taranaki would look like in the future, not how we are going to change the government or anything strange like that. Just keep thinking about Taranaki and I guess young people." Cruize, Greenprint Hawera forum, response when asked 'where to from here?'

"... it was really interesting for me because we touched on issues that you think about in everyday life but you don't really develop your thought process. Sitting down in a collective and nutting out all these ideas and what we think is wrong with the world and how we can change it. It was just really interesting to follow that thought pattern and see where it actually led." Dylan, Greenprint Hawera forum, when asked how he found the evening.

"I found this (the forum) good, as I have never done anything like this before, so it is good to come here and get out of your comfort zone and talk about real issues and be able to do a brainstorm and present it in this sort of way" Nathan P, Greenprint New Plymouth forum.

"Fantastic – you can have your own ideas but they may not be quite feasible, the way you want it. So it is good to bounce the ideas off people who are in that environment all the time." NathanP, Greenprint New Plymouth forum, when asked how he found the panel.

## **Agenda Reports**

**Executive Committee, Monday 13 February 2012**

**Item 2**

[Monthly Financial Report - November 2011](#) (122 KB)

[Monthly Financial Report - December 2011](#) (122 KB)