

**MINUTES OF THE 288TH MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 58 KILMORE STREET, CHRISTCHURCH ON 23 NOVEMBER 2006
AT 9.30 A.M.**

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PRESENT

Crs T K Burke (Chairman), R A Budd, A S Carroll, E H Cunningham, R H M Johnston, R M Kirk, R I R Little, A R McKay, A G Neill, M E Oldfield, J F Slee, J M Waters and W E Woods.

MANAGEMENT AND OFFICERS PRESENT

B R Jenkins (Chief Executive), M C Freeman (Director Regulation), Rob Phillips (Portfolio Manager Land, Pests and Biosecurity) and J C Pani (Manager Secretariat).

1. APOLOGIES

Cr N J Wagner.

2. REGIONAL PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY OPERATIONAL PLAN 2005/06

Mike Freeman (Director Regulation) introduced this item and highlighted some minor typographical corrections required and changes to the text of the Animal Pest Management section to ensure that the wording aligned to the accompanying graphs.

In the absence of Graham Sullivan (Biosecurity Manager), Rob Phillips (Portfolio Manager Land, Pests and Biosecurity) presented the Draft Report on the Operational Plan for the implementation of the Operational Plan for Regional Pest Management Strategy (2005) and in the 2005/2006 financial year. Mr Phillips worked through the document page-by-page and talked to sections of the plan on Animal pest management, Plant pest management, Biodiversity pests and exemptions from RPMS rules.

There was discussion and clarification sought on various elements of the document, with discussion on Animal pest management relating to Rabbits, Wallabies and Rooks, and Plant pest management relating to Nasella, Broom and Gorse.

Regarding Plant pest management it was emphasised that the focus for Total Control Plants was on early intervention with the objective being to eradicate seedling plants of total control plant pests prior to setting seed.

Mr Phillips advised that an Ecologist's report had recently been completed on Biodiversity pests and suggested a future Council workshop on this topic and other RPMS related items.

It was noted that reference to Lagarosiphon is to be included in the final document, along with corrections noted by Mike Freeman.

Resolved

(a) That the issues associated with the increases in rabbit numbers and the increasing need for enforcement action be included as a future Council Workshop item.

Cr Budd/Cr Waters

(b) That the Council approves the amended report of the Regional Pest Management Strategy Operational Plan 2005/2006.

Cr Burke/Cr Johnston

3. NEXT MEETING – 7 DECEMBER 2006

4. CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 10.35 a.m.

CONFIRMED

DATE _____ CHAIRPERSON