

MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN AREA COMMITTEE

TO THE CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE

Cr M E Oldfield (Chairperson)

Cr T K Burke
Cr A S Carroll
Cr A McKay
Cr S J B Munro
Cr P McIlraith
Cr S McDermott
Cr G Smith

Cr J F Slee
Cr A G Neill
Mr P Shutt
Mr G Waaka
Mrs R Baldwin
Mr R Murphy
Mr D Moore

A meeting of the Committee will be held on

Monday, 16 April 2007 commencing at 12.30 p.m.

A light lunch will be served at midday, prior to the meeting..

VENUE: Pukaki Room
Environment Canterbury
75 Church Street
TIMARU

BUSINESS: As per Order Paper attached.

Dr Bryan Jenkins
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**RECOMMENDATIONS IN REPORTS ARE NOT TO BE TAKEN
AS COUNCIL POLICY UNTIL ADOPTED BY THE COUNCIL**

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COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002 DECISION-MAKING REQUIREMENTS

Except as below, a statement of compliance and a completed decision checklist is required for any agenda item on a council committee or the council recommending that a decision be made. This will be the responsibility of the person signing off the agenda item.

The compliance statement and checklist will not be used for:

- Recommendations that information be received or that the Council make a decision.
- Decisions taken under the Resource Management Act 1991 or the Biosecurity Act 1993 in relation to resource consents, decisions required when following the procedures set out in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, other permissions, submissions on plans, or references to the Environment Court.
- Decisions taken to proceed with enforcement procedures under various primary or secondary legislation or regulations, including procedures under the Resource Management Act 1991, the Biosecurity Act 1993, the Local Government Act 2002, and Environment Canterbury Bylaws.
- Administrative and personnel decisions that are entirely internal to Environment Canterbury.
- Other decisions where the procedures to be followed are set out in Legislation.

COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The council committee (or the council) must formally certify that:

- (a) It is satisfied that it has sufficient information about the options and their benefits and costs, in terms of the region's social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being and the effects on community outcomes, bearing in mind the significance of the decisions.
- (b) It is satisfied that it knows enough about and has given adequate consideration to the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decision.

INFORMATION CHECKLIST

(a)	A Statement of the Proposed Decision
(b)	A Statement of the Objective of the Proposed Decision and the Issue or Problem being addressed
(c)	A list of all reasonably practicable options, (including doing nothing).
(d)	For each option in (c): An evaluation of the Benefits and Costs, in terms of the region's social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being.
(e)	For each option in (c): A statement of the extent to which community outcomes would be promoted or achieved in an integrated and efficient manner.
(f)	For each option in (c): A statement of the Impact, if any, on Environment Canterbury's capacity to undertake its statutory responsibilities
(g)	If the Proposed Decision is a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water, a statement of how Maori values have been taken into account
(h)	A Statement of significant inconsistencies, if any, with any Existing Policy, Plan or Legislation arising from the Proposed Decision.
(i)	A statement how the views and preferences of affected or interested persons have been given adequate consideration during the definition of the problem or issue, the objective, the assessment of options and the development of the proposed decision, including the particular contribution of Maori to the decision-making process.

Notes:

The significance of proposals and decisions determines how much time, money and effort is put into exploring and evaluating options and obtaining the views of affected and interested parties. The significance of proposals and decisions is determined through reference to criteria contained in the policy on significance.

The policy on significance together with Section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002 set out the Council's requirements in relation to decisions. Some decisions can only be made through the Long-Term Council Community Plan, or after the Special Consultative Procedures set out in the Act have been used, (refer to the policy on significance and the Act).

All decisions of Environment Canterbury are subject to the decision-making requirements of section 76 of the Act unless inconsistent with specific requirements of other legislation.

SOUTHERN AREA COMMITTEE

ORDER PAPER

1. APOLOGIES
2. MINUTES OF MEETING – 3 APRIL 2006
3. MATTERS ARISING
4. DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS
5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
7. SOUTHERN AREA COMMITTEE: INCREASED DELEGATED AUTHORITY
8. RESOURCE CARE UPDATE – ORARI CATCHMENT

MATTER RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL

9. 2007 CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE COMMITTEE

10. QUESTIONS
11. NOTICES OF MOTION
12. NEXT MEETING

16. CLOSURE

ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY

SOUTHERN AREA COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD IN THE
PUKAKI ROOM, ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY,
75 CHURCH STREET, TIMARU ON
MONDAY 3 APRIL 2006 AT 10.00 AM.

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6. CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S REPORT
7. LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2006-2016 (LTCCP) (Staff presentation)
8. CLEAN HEAT PRESENTATION
9. SCWEG UPDATE – Peter Shutt
10. WAITAKI WATER ALLOCATION REGIONAL PLAN – IMPLEMENTATION UPDATE
11. RABBIT TRENDS IN SOUTH CANTERBURY

MATTER RECOMMENDED TO THE COUNCIL

12. CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE COMMITTEE – IDEAS FOR ITEMS FOR

DISCUSSION

13. QUESTIONS
14. NOTICES OF MOTION
15. NEXT MEETING
16. CLOSURE

PRESENT

Crs M E Oldfield (Chairperson), T K Burke, J F Slee, A S Carroll, R Johnston, A G Neill, P McIlraith, S J B Munro and G Smith; Mrs R Baldwin, Messrs P Shutt, G Waaka, D Moore.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF PRESENT

Dr Bryan Jenkins (Chief Executive), Ken Lawn (Director Operations), Linda Kirk (Air Portfolio Manager), and Sue Seymour (Timaru Office Manager). Brent Glentworth (Biosecurity Team Leader) for part of the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

An apology was accepted from Cr A McKay.

Cr Oldfield/ Cr Neill

2. MINUTES OF MEETING – 10 March 2005

Resolved

That the minutes of the meeting of 10 March 2005 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Cr Slee/Cr Neill

3. MATTERS ARISING

Nil

4. DEPUTATIONS AND PETITIONS

Nil

5. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Cr Oldfield read through his report which was circulated to members and attendees at the meeting.

The Chairperson's report included an item about the future structure of local government in South Canterbury. He confirmed that this area, including possible associated cost efficiencies, was one that had always interested him.

Members were advised that the current statutory representation review process being undertaken by the Council's Representation Review Committee should not be confused with any other issues.

It was agreed that two relevant reports (one on Functional Relationships with TLA's and the Polson Higgs report commissioned by the southern territorial authorities) would be distributed to committee members.

Resolved

(a) *That the Chairperson's report be received*

Cr Oldfield/Cr Neill

(b) *That the Southern Area Committee request that the Canterbury Regional Council hold a discussion at its next council meeting with a view to:*

- making available resources for a review and investigation of 'best units of local government' within the South Canterbury greater area
- making available documentation relating to this issue currently available
- instructing Southern representatives to consult with constituents with respect to this issue.

Cr McIlraith/Cr Munro

Cr Burke asked that Cr Oldfield's report be appended to the next Council agenda.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION

6. CHIEF EXECUTIVES REPORT

Dr Bryan Jenkins outlined the work of the nine portfolio groups in his detailed report.

Discussion followed on some of these items around the table and Dr Jenkins answered questions as they arose.

7. LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2006-2016 (LTCCP)

Dr Jenkins spoke to the powerpoint presentation on this and answered points as they were raised.

8. CLEAN HEAT PRESENTATION

Linda Kirk gave a powerpoint presentation explaining the consultation process for Clean Heat for Timaru. She outlined the options available for consideration and the timeline for processing submissions on these. A decision on which option is likely to be chosen will be made by July 2006.

A point raised by those present was that information needs to be in plain language that is understandable to the public, not so much science and push the health benefits to people. Mrs Baldwin emphasised the health benefits to people who have already had the benefit of improvements under the Healthy Homes initiative.

9. SCWEG UPDATE

Peter Shutt presented a powerpoint presentation of the work carried out by this group during the past year and an overview of the South Canterbury rivers involved.

10. WAITAKI WATER ALLOCATION REGIONAL PLAN – UPDATE

Dr Jenkins spoke to the attachment in the agenda on the allocation plan and the fact that it is currently under appeal to the High Court and therefore not operable until the appeal process is sorted out.

11. RABBIT TRENDS IN SOUTH CANTERBURY

Brent Glentworth gave a presentation on rabbit trends in this area in relation to both rabbit numbers and RHD immunity levels. The main problem area is in Kurow on the eastern side of the Hakataramea Valley. Five properties in this area are under notice to reduce rabbit numbers. It was felt that an opportunity has been lost by landowners to take advantage of the lower numbers of rabbits due to the impact early on of RHD and continuing with rabbit control programmes while the numbers were lower would have given better results.

MATTER RECOMMENDED TO COUNCIL

12. CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE COMMITTEE

Members were asked for ideas on items of interest which might be included in the calendar of events for 2006.

Recommended:

That consideration be given to holding workshops on the following topics:

- *Strategic Water Study- Stage II update*
- *Water Quality – urban/rural community water supplies (new standards coming in this year?) in conjunction with TLA's*
- *Biodiversity forum – wilding pines our next plague?*

Cr Neill/Cr Munro

The process to be followed now is that the committee chairpersons will consider the proposed calendars of events for all area committees and existing work programmes will be looked at.

12. QUESTIONS

Cr R Johnston, in response to questions on the matter, gave an update of the work of the Representation Review Committee. A summary of the committee's work to be sent out to members.

13. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil

14. NEXT MEETING

Workshop dates to be advised

15. CLOSURE

The Chairperson closed the meeting at 1.10pm.

CONFIRMED _____

DATE _____

AGENDA ITEM NO: 7	SUBJECT MATTER: INCREASED DELEGATED AUTHORITY
REPORT: Southern Area	DATE OF MEETING: 16 April 2007
FILE REFERENCES:	PORTFOLIO: PROJECT: OUTPUT:
REPORT BY: S Seymour	ENDORSED BY:

Attached is the item on the increased delegated authority for the Southern Area Committee which was included in the Council meeting agenda of 7 March 2007. The resolutions in the item were passed at that meeting.

Recommendation:

That the report be received.

AGENDA ITEM NO: 10	SUBJECT MATTER: CHAIRMAN'S REPORT
REPORT: Council	DATE OF MEETING: 7 March 2007
FILE REFERENCES:	PORTFOLIO: PROJECT: OUTPUT:
REPORT BY: Cr T K Burke Chairman	ENDORSED BY:

SOUTHERN COMMITTEE: INCREASED DELEGATED AUTHORITY

During discussions last year with the Mayor of Mackenzie District, John O'Neill, he raised the matter of the southern part of Environment Canterbury's area having a Standing Committee with powers similar to those of Greater Wellington's (the Wellington Regional Council's) Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee. It was suggested that such a committee would have greater autonomy and authority than the current Southern Area Committee, which it would replace.

Attachments

Wellington's Council and Management Structure as at July 2000 is attached as *Attachment 1*. I understand this structure remains the same, although many of the councillors and staff are different today.

Attachment 2 outlines the General Responsibilities of Standing Committees, while *Attachment 3* is the Membership, Objectives and Specific Responsibilities of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee.

Attachment 4 is the Terms of Reference for our Southern Area Committee and is included so that comparisons can be made with those for the Wairarapa Committee.

Attachment 5 is the letter from Mayor O'Neill of Mackenzie District in response to the Southern Committee paper.

Discussion

The Wairarapa is Greater Wellington's only significant rural area. It comprises 70% of its area and is separated from the western part of the region by significant physical barriers, the Rimutaka and Tararua mountain ranges.

Canterbury has mountains separating us from the Otago and West Coast Regional Councils' areas, not separating our northern, central and southern rural areas but, nevertheless, the Wairarapa model may serve as a basis for us to do more to address a sense in the south that too many key decisions are being made far away and with too little input from the people affected.

South Canterbury had its own Provincial Government prior to the abolition of that system in 1876 and had its own United Council and catchment board prior to the creation of regional councils in 1989. I understand that serious consideration was given then to forming two separate regional councils from what is now the current Canterbury region, one south of the Rangitata, and the other to its north.

South Canterbury has its own distinctive history and although there are not the physical barriers separating it from the rest of the region, as with the Wairarapa and the rest of the Wellington region, it may be useful to acknowledge its distinctive character and importance by devolving greater authority to the Southern Area Committee than has been the case thus far.

It is worth noting that when the new Canterbury region was established in 1989 the Local Government Commission imposed a requirement that the Regional Council establish and maintain two special committees, one for the southern area and one to deal with rural issues. These were discontinued on the expiry of the time set by the Local Government Commission.

Mayor O'Neill has already responded positively to the recommendations below. His letter of 19 January 2007 is attached.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

- (a) *Receives the report and attachments from the Chairman on the governance arrangements for the Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington), in particular its Rural Services and Wairarapa Standing Committee;*
- (b) *Agrees in principle that, given the distinctive character and geographic position of South Canterbury and that portion of Otago that is within the boundaries of the Canterbury Regional Council, consideration be given to devolving greater authority to a newly established Southern Committee by a revision of organisational arrangements and that this committee replace the current Southern Area Committee after October 2007; and*
- (c) *Establishes a Working Party consisting of the Council Chairman (to Chair the Working Party), the Deputy Chairman and the two southern Councillors (Crs Oldfield and Slee) to:*
 - (i) *meet with the Mayors of Mackenzie, Timaru, Waimate and Waitaki in March and April for preliminary discussions; and*
 - (ii) *report on the outcomes of these discussions to the 26 April Council meeting of Environment Canterbury.*