

Infrastructure and Services Committee

Creating the ultimate
living environment



WHANGAREI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Notice of Meeting

A meeting of the Infrastructure and Services Committee will be held in the Council Chambers & Committee Room 1, Forum North, Whangarei on:

**Wednesday
9 June 2010
10.00 am**

Committee:

Cr C B Christie (Chairperson)
His Worship the Mayor
Cr V P D Cocurullo
Cr S M Glen
Cr P R Halse
Cr G M Martin
Cr B L Mclachlan
Cr S L Morgan
Cr K J Sutherland
Cr W L Syers

Vision Statement

To be a vibrant, attractive and thriving District by developing sustainable lifestyles based around our unique environment; the envy of New Zealand and recognised world wide.

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**Recommendations contained in this agenda are NOT final decisions.
Please refer to the minutes for resolutions.**

1. Minutes: Infrastructure and Services Committee Wednesday 12 May 2010

Minutes of a meeting of the Infrastructure and Services Committee of the Whangarei District Council held in the Council Chamber Forum North on Wednesday 12 May 2010 at 10.00 am.

Present:

Cr C B Christie (Chairperson)

Crs V P D Cocurullo, S M Glen, G M Martin, B L Mclachlan, S L Morgan, K J Sutherland and W L Syers

Apologies:

His Worship the Mayor and Cr P R Halse

Moved: Cr Martin

Seconded: Cr Glen

"That the apologies be sustained."

CARRIED

Also Present:

Crs S J Deeming and S L Mai

In Attendance:

Chief Executive Officer (M P Simpson), Group Manager Infrastructure and Services (S Weston), Land Information Support Officer (R Jeffcoate), Councillor Support (J Benyon) and Senior Meeting Co-ordinator (C Brindle)

1. Confirmation of Minutes of a Meeting of the Infrastructure and Services Committee held on 14 April 2010

Moved: Cr Mclachlan

Seconded: Cr Cocurullo

"That the minutes of the meeting of the Infrastructure and Services Committee held on 10 March 2010, having been circulated, be taken as read and now confirmed and adopted as a true and correct record of proceedings of that meeting."

CARRIED

2. Level of Service Measures for the Third Quarter 2009/2010

Moved: Cr Cocurullo

Seconded: Cr Martin

"That the information be received."

CARRIED

3. New Road Names

Moved: Cr Mclachlan
Seconded: Cr Martin

- "1. That the new private way off Monk Road be named Store House Lane.
 2. That the new private way off Corks Road be named Cedar Place."

CARRIED

4. Temporary Road Closure – Rally of the North

Moved: Cr Martin
Seconded: Cr Cocurullo

- "1. That pursuant to the Tenth Schedule of the Local Government Act 1974 the following roads be closed to vehicular and pedestrian traffic on the date and times indicated:

Stage 8

Marlow Road, from the district boundary to the intersection with Riponui Road.

Riponui Road, from Marlow Road to the intersection with Crows Nest Road.

Crows Nest Road, from its intersection with Riponui Road to the edge of the tarseal at the State highway one end.

Date of closure: Saturday 9 October 2010

Time of closure: 3.15pm to 7.25pm.

2. That the Chairperson of the Infrastructure and Services Committee and the Infrastructure and Services Manager be delegated to hear objections and cancel or amend any or all of the road closures if appropriate."

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 10.17 am

Confirmed this 9th day of June 2010

C B Christie (Chairperson)

2. Applications - Waste Minimisation Fund

Reporting Officer: John Langsford (Solid Waste Engineer)
Date: 24 May 2010

Vision, Mission and Values

Appropriate management of solid waste is in keeping with the Council mission of creating the ultimate living environment.

Local Government Act 2002 – The Four Well-Beings

Cultural: *No significant effect*

Economic: *Waste Fund applications would have a positive effect if successful*

Environmental: *Projects to minimise waste would have environmental benefit*

Social: *No significant effect*

Summary

This report is intended to update the Committee on applications made to the Waste Minimisation Fund.

Introduction

The Waste Minimisation Act 2008 introduced a Waste Disposal Levy of \$10/tonne on all waste to landfill, commencing 1 July 2009. The Act also introduced a Waste Minimisation Fund into which all levy revenue was channelled. The concept of the Fund is that 50% is allocated on a population basis to local authorities, with the other 50% contestable by any organisation for new waste minimisation initiatives.

Council budgets contribute about \$140,000 per annum (pa) to the fund, for the levy cost of refuse disposal from collections and transfer station contracts on 14,000 tonnes pa of refuse. The District as a whole would contribute about \$400,000 on 40,000 tonnes of refuse to landfill annually.

This financial year is the first for collection of the levy and for applications to the fund. Council has received the automatic allocation of its share back from the Fund, in instalments paid in January and April totalling approximately \$130,000. Next financial year \$260,000 is budgeted. The Act stipulates that this money must be applied to Waste Minimisation activity. Council has used the revenue to fund education and kerbside recycling activity.

Applications for the contestable portion of the fund opened 1 December 2009 and closed 1 March 2010. Council made three applications to the fund and will hear back in early June as to results.

An annual round of applications to the fund will be run administered by the Ministry of the Environment (MfE).

First Funding Round

A total of 164 eligible applications were received, requesting a total of \$55million. For the 2010 funding round, only \$6million is available. The next round is expected to open in January 2011, and an amount of at least \$12million should be available for a full year. Nationally some

2.5million tonnes of refuse are land filled annually, so the levy collected is in the order of \$25million pa. Results of the first round of applications are to be advised to applicants 1 June 2010. Successful applicants are then invited to proceed to stage 2, with final approval in July subject to completion of a project plan and funding deed. Successful projects would commence in August 2010.

Council Applications

The criteria for the fund require that projects must promote or achieve waste minimisation. Funding is for a finite term not to exceed a maximum of three years. The fund will not cover the entire cost of a project. A minimum grant level of \$50,000 is specified, except for feasibility studies where the minimum is \$10,000. A full statement from MfE showing criteria for Eligibility and for Assessment is attached.

The Waste and Drainage Department of Council made applications to the fund for a total of \$142,250 in year one, in conjunction with CBEC Eco Solutions in the area of waste minimisation education. The council applications survived the first cut, and were amongst 164 deemed eligible for further assessment. When making the application, staff chose the waste minimisation education sector as the appropriate area. It was decided that the Council Joint Venture, Northland Regional Landfill Limited Partnership (NRLLP), would be the more appropriate arm to apply for any practical and commercial waste minimisation projects.

Council currently carries out waste education activity by way of a contract with CBEC Eco-Solutions. This is for \$35,000 annually, mostly for school-based modules. Council also contributes \$5000 pa, towards office rental making a total cost of \$40,000 pa. The funding criteria requires an increase above existing levels of service and funding cannot be for existing operating costs alone. The assessment criteria emphasise strategic value, the degree of partnership and cross sector collaboration, and the level of funding from other sources.

For the above reasons, the applications were made in collaboration with CBEC, and with three parties contributing to project funding if the applications succeed. The major funder would be the Waste Minimisation Fund (WMF).

The combined applications project funding would be as follows in year 1:

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------|
| • | WDC | \$45,790 |
| • | WMF | \$142,250 |
| • | CBEC | \$49,200 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | Total | \$237,240 |

The applications were made for a 3-year project term at these funding levels from WDC and CBEC. The WMF share would drop to \$98,530 in years two and three, because office fit out cost is a one off. As noted above council currently funds CBEC at a level of \$40,000 per annum, and should all applications succeed this would increase by \$5,790, funded from existing operating budgets. A summary of the three applications is shown below, with further detail in the document attached.

| | |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| Application N ^o 1. – Community Area | – Waste Education Centre |
| | – \$146,280 |
| Application N ^o 2. – Commercial Area | – Waste Doctor and Waste Audits |
| | – \$37,020 |
| Application N ^o 3. – Education Area | – Zero Waste Education in Schools |
| | – \$51,540 |

Conclusion

Each year the Waste Minimisation Fund will offer approximately half the Waste Levy collected by Government on a contestable basis via the MfE for suitable projects. This is expected to be some \$12 million in the 2011 financial year. Decisions on the 2010 application round for \$6 million available will be announced in June. Council in conjunction with CBEC has applied for \$237,240 in total in three applications. In total \$55 million has been applied for nationally, so considerable culling is anticipated, with only 11% by value of eligible projects able to be funded. Successful applicants will then be invited to proceed to Stage 2.

Recommendation

1. That the information be received.
2. That the applications to the Waste Minimisation Fund made by the Waste and Drainage Department be endorsed.
3. That should council applications succeed at Stage 1 of the selection process, they be approved to proceed to Stage 2.

Attachments:

1. [Summary of Council Waste Minimisation Fund Applications](#)
2. [Criteria for the Waste Minimisation Fund](#)

Ministry for the Environment Funding Applications – Waste Minimisation Fund

Whangarei District Council has applied to the Ministry for the Environment for Waste Minimisation Funding. This funding will be used to support new projects to be undertaken by CBEC Eco Solutions, who currently has a contract with WDC to provide waste minimisation education in schools and to promote waste minimisation activities.

Three applications have been made:

Application No 1 – Community Area – Waste Education and Sustainability Centre.

The purpose of this project is to develop a Waste Education and Sustainability Centre. This centre would be the core of waste minimisation and sustainability education in the Whangarei District. From this centre it is intended to run education in waste minimisation through a variety of projects including offering advice to the public, education, assistance with recycling at events, and specific projects including developing a worm farm and a series of washable nappy hire kits.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Total |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| WDC | \$8,740 | \$8,740 | \$8,740 | \$26,220 |
| MfE | \$88,340 | \$44,620 | \$44,620 | \$177,580 |
| CBEC | \$49,200 | \$49,200 | \$49,200 | \$147,600 |
| Total | \$146,280 | \$102,560 | \$102,560 | \$351,400 |

Application No 2 – Commercial Area – Waste Doctor and Waste Audits

The purpose of this project is to assist the commercial sector of Whangarei to reduce the quantity of waste, especially hazardous waste, going to landfill.

It is intended to increase the number of waste audits currently completed from 2 to 20 per year. This will reduce waste by identifying resources that can be reused that are currently sent to waste and identifying potential areas where recycling can occur.

A “waste doctor” concept would also be developed. This would be a dedicated CBEC staff person working one day per week to assist local business to reduce and minimise waste. The focus of all commercial contact would be to provide best practice advice about all hazardous waste including chemicals, tyres, lead acid batteries, e-waste etc. The waste doctor would also promote best practice through the production of specific waste minimisation and management plans for industry sectors.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Total |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| WDC | \$7,800 | \$7,800 | \$7,800 | \$23,400 |
| MfE | \$31,620 | \$31,620 | \$31,620 | \$94,860 |
| CBEC | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total | \$37,020 | \$37,020 | \$37,020 | \$118,260 |

Application No 3 – Education Area – Zero Waste Education

The purpose of this project is to provide additional waste minimisation education in the Whangarei District through school teaching and also provide seminars and workshops to the general public.

CBEC Eco Solutions currently completes in-school teaching in primary and intermediate schools under contract to WDC. Currently there are 28 schools involved in this programme and with additional funding from MfE all 48 primary and secondary schools within the Whangarei District will be given access to this waste minimisation teaching. In addition the number of public seminars/workshops will be increased from the current 1 per year to 6 per year.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Total |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| WDC | \$29,250 | \$29,250 | \$29,250 | \$87,750 |
| MfE | \$22,290 | \$22,290 | \$22,290 | \$66,870 |
| CBEC | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Total | \$51,540 | \$51,540 | \$51,540 | \$154,620 |

Summary

The total cost for the combined projects is included below showing the split between WDC, MfE and CBEC.

| | Year 1 | Year 2 | Year 3 | Total |
|--------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| WDC | \$45,790 | \$45,790 | \$45,790 | \$137,370 |
| MfE | \$142,250 | \$98,530 | \$98,530 | \$339,310 |
| CBEC | \$49,200 | \$49,200 | \$49,200 | \$147,600 |
| Total | \$237,240 | \$193,520 | \$193,520 | \$624,280 |

Eligibility and assessment criteria

The WMF has set eligibility and assessment criteria for projects applying for funding. Check your eligibility using the online eligibility checklist.

Eligibility criteria

Please ensure your project fits these eligibility requirements before submitting an application. You can test your eligibility using the Online Eligibility tool available on the Ministry's website.

Meeting WMF eligibility criteria does not guarantee that your project will be funded.

Eligibility for waste minimisation projects

1. Only waste minimisation projects are eligible for funding. Projects must promote or achieve waste minimisation. Waste minimisation covers the reduction of waste and the reuse, recycling and recovery of waste and diverted material. The scope of the fund includes educational projects that promote waste minimisation activity.
2. Projects must result in new waste minimisation activity, either by implementing new initiatives or a significant expansion in the scope or coverage of existing activities.
3. Funding is not for the ongoing financial support of existing activities, nor is it for the running costs of the existing activities of organisations, individuals, councils or firms.
4. Projects should be for a discrete time frame of up to three years, after which the project objectives will have been achieved and, where appropriate, the initiative will become self-funding.
5. Funding can be for operational or capital expenditure required to undertake a project.
6. For projects where alternative, more suitable, government funding streams are available (such as the Sustainable Management Fund, the Contaminated Sites Remediation Fund, or research funding from the Foundation for Research, Science and Technology), applicants should apply to these funding sources before applying to the Waste Minimisation Fund.
7. The applicant must be a legal entity.
8. The fund will not cover the entire cost of the project. Applicants will need part funding from other sources.
9. The minimum grant for feasibility studies will be \$10,000. The minimum grant for other projects will be \$50,000.

Examples: What the WMF will not fund

- Projects that do not meet eligibility criteria
- General environmental education projects (as distinct from education focusing on waste minimisation)
- Projects focused on waste disposal, treatment of wastes for disposal or clean-ups
- Monitoring and/or data collection projects that do not produce outcomes that result in waste minimisation
- Running costs of the existing activities of organisations, individuals, councils or firms
- Ongoing financial support of existing activities
- Retrospective and/or backdated costs

Assessment criteria

All applications that meet WMF eligibility criteria will be assessed using the WMF assessment criteria.

Project benefits

1. Preference will be given to projects that collectively give the largest net benefit over time. The assessment of the effectiveness of projects will include the extent to which the projects can demonstrate:
 - likelihood of success
 - reduction of harm to the environment
 - reduction in the volume of waste disposed of
 - economic, environmental, social or cultural benefits
 - longer-term benefits after the completion of the project.
2. Projects will be assessed for their strategic value in achieving the purpose of the Fund. Strategic value means the likely ability of projects to act as catalysts that enhance and extend the uptake of waste minimisation.
3. The degree of partnership and cross-sectoral collaboration will be taken into account in assessing the strategic value of proposals.
4. The level of funding from other sources will be taken into account. Shared funding is preferred.

Project delivery

5. The applicant must demonstrate:
 - ability to deliver the project
 - how the project will achieve its goals
 - how the effectiveness of the project will be monitored, evaluated and reported
 - if and how the project will be used to promote waste minimisation to the wider public
 - if and how the project will continue after funding ends and become self sustaining, particularly if the funding is for the establishment phase of a longer-term project.

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