

File No. Y/21/3:CAS

2 April 2002

The Chairman  
Wairarapa District Health Board  
Masterton Hospital  
P O Box 96  
MASTERTON

Attention: Doug Matheson

Dear Doug

**Draft Strategic Plan**

Firstly, thank you to the Wairarapa District Health Board for coming to speak to the Regional Council's Rural Services & Wairarapa Committee last month on the preparation of your Draft Strategic Plan. Members of the Committee were appreciative of hearing what priorities and action areas the Wairarapa District Health Board has targeted for the next five to ten years.

The Regional Council wishes to show, by way of this submission, its commitment to working more closely with the Wairarapa District Health Board to improve the health of the community.

The Regional Council's submission is attached.

Yours sincerely

Karen Brewster  
Section Leader, Policy & Planning



*caring about you & your environment*

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**WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL SUBMISSION  
TO THE  
WAIRARAPA DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD**

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**To:** Wairarapa District Health Board

**Submission:** Strategic Plan (Working Draft 2-11 February 2002)

**Address for Service:** The Chairperson  
Wairarapa District Health Board  
Masterton Hospital  
P O Box 96  
MASTERTON

Attention: Doug Matheson

**1. Support**

The Regional Council supports the preparation of a Strategic Plan for the Wairarapa District Health Board (WDHB), and congratulates the WDHB in its preparation of a visionary statement for future health in the Wairarapa.

**2. General Comments**

The Regional Council has no statutory responsibility for health provision in the community, and therefore does not feel in a position to offer specific comment to much of the content of the strategic plan, in particular the identified health priority areas.

The Regional Council does however have a vital role in ensuring that (within its statutory responsibilities) the community lives in a healthy environment. The Regional Council ensures this by managing many of the activities in our community

that have an impact on the regions water, soil and air resources. This has a direct and positive impact on the health of the environment and ultimately the health of the community.

The Region's resource management issues, and how the Regional Council plans to respond to these are specified in the Regional Policy Statement, and five regional plans.

The regional plans are:

- Air Quality Management
- Coastal
- Discharges to Land
- Freshwater
- Soil

The Regional Council's response to resource management issues include:

- Controlling discharges to water, soil and air;
- Controlling abstraction of water from rivers, streams, aquifers and the sea;
- Controlling earthworks and vegetation clearance on erosion prone land;
- Providing a 24 hour pollution complaints and incidents team;
- Monitoring whether we are successful in managing the regions resources in a sustainable way;
- Preparing, educating and responding to hazards and emergency management;
- Planning for and delivering flood protection; and
- Controlling plant and animal pests.

While not as prominent on the Eastern (Wairarapa) side of the region, the Regional Council also has a role in:

- Managing regional parks, recreation areas and trails;
- Managing forest lands and water catchments;
- Planning and monitoring the transport network; and
- Funding public transport services and infrastructure.

As you can see the Regional Council has a broad and diverse role in managing the environment. It is requested that the existence and role of the Regional Council be added to the following documents:

- **Strategic Plan** (Working Draft 2 – 11 February 2002), “1. Partnerships and Relationships and Other Critical Success Factors” (page 10);
- **An Assessment of Health Needs in the Wairarapa**, “Local government: the territorial authorities” (page 10); and
- **Well Wairarapa The Way Forward**, “What We Do” (page 6).

Through its various functions, the Regional Council may have an opportunity to assist the WDHB in achieving its health priorities for the Wairarapa. The Regional Council

encourages the WDHB to contact the Regional Council when specific matters of possible relevance arise.

Also, the Regional Council would encourage the WDHB to be an active submitter on Regional Council resource consent applications where there is an apparent public health issue. Our staff are happy to discuss this with you further.

### **3. Presentation of submission**

The Regional Council does not request to be formally heard in support of this submission, but is happy to have further discussions with the WDHB if requested.

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Steve Blakemore  
Manager, Planning and Resources  
Wellington Regional Council

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Date

Address for service:

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