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Committee Landcare
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Recreation and heritage assets performance indicator

1. Purpose

To report to the Committee on progress of the asset management programme for the Greater Wellington's parks and forests during the 2006/07 financial year in order to meet the performance indicator requirements of the Annual Plan.

2. Annual Plan performance indicator

The 2006/07 Annual Plan contains the following Performance Indicator:

Recreation and heritage assets and facilities in the regional parks and forests will be managed in accordance with the Parks and Forests Infrastructural Asset Management Plan service levels and within a budget of \$1,331,000 .

A report on compliance with the Infrastructural Asset Management Plan service levels will be approved by Council.

The performance indicator was **achieved** at a cost of \$1,282,400.

3. Monitoring and review process

To ensure that recreational needs and safety requirements are met, we regularly monitor the condition of our assets and have a process to set and review operational work programmes. An important component of the work programme is the ongoing monitoring of assets by rangers to ensure compliance with service standards.

Regular maintenance is undertaken by the Assistant Ranger construction teams (responsible for structures, buildings, and facilities) and landscape teams (responsible for tracks, roads, grounds and environment work).

Park Rangers manage specified projects in the annual work programme - working with the maintenance teams or engaging contractors to do the work. Rangers also monitor routine contract maintenance such as toilet cleaning and grass mowing, environmental protection, enhancement and land management work programmes within the parks to ensure compliance with service standards.

Work programme implementation is the overall responsibility of the Principal Rangers. The Principal Rangers schedule maintenance programmes and oversee the total operation.

4. Annual inspection and audit

During the annual inspection we review the condition of the assets and identify renewals or replacements required. Specialist engineering or heritage consultants independently assess the condition of key assets every two to six years.

The annual inspection showed that the parks and forests' assets were in very good condition across the network. The regular maintenance and replacement programmes continue to produce consistently high standards with improvements in many areas. This was supported by the last condition assessment of the Council's infrastructure assets which showed that average asset condition had improved from 2.91 to 2.22 an improvement of 0.67 however fence assets had gone from 2.57 to 2.78, a decline of 0.21. (Asset condition grading rates from 1 = very good to 5 = very poor). In 2005/06, we noted that the condition of fences in grazing lease areas had deteriorated. A number of fences have been repaired, upgraded or replaced this year and regular annual replacements are now programmed.

Bridge upgrades and replacements have resulted in strong, safe and durable structures with longer life expectancies and reduced ongoing maintenance costs. Programmed painting (preventative maintenance) has ensured the good appearance of buildings. Our priority re-metalling and upgrading of tracks in the year has resulted in improved standards on all high use tracks. With the launch of the new Council brand, we have continued to upgrade a number of map boards and directional signs.

A summary of services provided in 2006/07 is detailed in **Attachment 1**.

5. Further development of the asset management plan

During 2004 we joined the Yardstick project, which is a system for comparing parks management data. Members include 55% of all New Zealand territorial authorities plus Regional Councils, Department of Conservation and several Australian parks agencies. We submitted data to the project again this year. The financial, asset and management information gathered by the project is analysed and shared amongst members for the purposes of benchmarking. This helps us to see the strengths and weaknesses of our AMP programme and contribute to its improvement. The results of this year's survey were not available at the time this report was written.

Together with other GWRC departments, we are investigating options to acquire an Asset Management Information System (AMIS) that will meet all our legal and operational requirements.

6. Key aspects of the work programme achieved

This year we met the AMP requirements for maintenance of grounds and infrastructure assets in the parks and forests.

In addition we implemented the asset renewal programme for the infrastructure assets. All structures were inspected during the year with a full engineering inspection of the bridges in Belmont Regional Park.

7. Communication

This report is part of the verification process for meeting Annual Plan performance indicators. Most of the matters relate to ongoing maintenance.

8. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Notes** the contents of the report.

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Attachment 1: Summary of services provided in the 2006/07 annual plan