



Report 08.787
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Committee Council
Author Tim Porteous Biodiversity Co-ordinator

Biodiversity full year review to 30 June 2008

1. Purpose

To present to the Council the biodiversity full year review to 30 June 2008. This report follows as **Attachment 1**.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

Biodiversity is a core function of Greater Wellington, reflecting our responsibilities under the Resource Management Act 1991 and the Biosecurity Act 1993. Although delivered by a number of departments, and frequently by cross-departmental groups, the Council's biodiversity activities are treated as components of one programme.

In 2001 the Biodiversity Co-ordinating Group (BCG) was established to facilitate the co-ordination of projects and programmes. In 2006/07 the group started reporting the aggregated biodiversity activities of Council to the Executive Management Team, with reporting to the Council commencing in 2007.

4. Highlights of the year

The report demonstrates that the Council's biodiversity programmes involve a wide range of sectors of the community including individual landowners, community groups and partnerships with other public agencies.

Some highlights from the year include:

- The release of North Island robins into East Harbour Regional Park. The birds have been absent from the region's forests for over 100 years and their reintroduction has been made possible by the hard work of the care group MIRO working in collaboration with Greater Wellington.
- Recognition by the New Zealand Plant Conservation Network of Greater Wellington's "outstanding contribution to native plant conservation" as a result of its various biodiversity programmes.
- The completion and adoption by Council of the Biodiversity Implementation Plan to guide the Council's biodiversity activities.
- The appointment of a Catchment Co-ordinator to work with private landowners in the Pauatahanui Inlet catchment to increase the number of streams, wetlands and bush blocks protected and enhanced.

5. Communication

Success stories resulting from the Council's biodiversity programmes are regularly communicated through Council publications and press releases.

6. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. ***Receives the report; and***
2. ***Notes the contents.***

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

Tim Porteous
Biodiversity Co-ordinator

Nicola Shorten
Manager, Environmental
Policy

Nigel Corry
Divisional Manager,
Environment Management

Attachment 1: Biodiversity full year review to 30 June 2008