

Report of the ordinary meeting of the Regulatory and Planning Committee held in the Council Chambers, 29 Bowler Avenue, Gore on Tuesday 14 March 2017, at 5.02 pm.

Present His Worship the Mayor (Tracy Hicks, JP), Cr Beale (Acting Chairperson), Crs Bolger, Davis, Dickson, Gardyne, D Grant, P Grant, Phillips, Reid and Sharp.

In Attendance The Chief Financial Officer (Mr Luke Blackbeard), General Manager Regulatory and Planning (Dr Ian Davidson-Watts), Parks and Recreation Manager (Mr Ian Soper), Transport Manager (Mr Peter Standring), Communications Manager (Sonia Gerken), Building Control Manager (Mr Russell Paterson), 3 Waters Asset Manager (Mr Matt Bayliss), Senior Corporate Support Officer (Ceri Macleod), Policy and Planning Officer (Miss Emma Williams), Animal Control Officer (Mr David McKewen), 3 Waters Project Manager (Mr Sam Bunting) and one member of the public in the gallery.

Apologies Cr Highsted and the Chief Executive apologised for absence.

Cr Beale called for any conflicts of interest. None were declared.

1. ANIMAL CONTROL ACTIVITIES REPORT FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2016 AND JANUARY 2017

The Committee perused a report from the Animal Control Officer.

The Officer advised the Committee that the November infringement notices were higher than usual. He said this reflected the numbers of infringement notices issued to dog owners who had failed to register their dogs by 30 June 2016.

In response to Cr D Grant, the Officer said that animals removed from premises were rehomed wherever possible. In response to Cr P Grant, the Officer said the increase in the reported number of stock on the roads had been observed across the District rather than in any specific geographical area.

Cr Reid asked how often dog patrols were taking place at Hamilton Park and what was discussed with owners. The Animal Control Officer replied that he visited Hamilton Park at least once a day and talked to dog owners about where to walk their dogs and the need to carry leads and bags.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr P Grant THAT the report be received.

2. SCHEDULE OF BUILDING CONSENTS

A schedule of building consents issued for November 2016 to February 2017 had been circulated with the agenda.

In response to Cr Beale, the Building Control Manger said that the high consent values were attributable to a couple of one-off projects (for example Mataura Valley Milk) and that the figures may not reflect the high level of work being undertaking by Council staff.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Reid, seconded by Cr Dickson THAT the report be received.

3. REPORT FROM BUILDING CONTROL MANAGER ON BUILDING CONTROL ACTIVITIES FOR NOVEMBER, DECEMBER 2016 AND JANUARY, FEBRUARY 2017

The Committee perused a report from the Building Control Manager.

Cr Davis complimented the Building Control Manager on the report and asked whether applications had been received for the position of Building Control Officer. The Building Control Manager confirmed that some good quality applications had been received.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Bolger, seconded by Cr P Grant THAT the report be received.

4. SERVICE DELIVERY REVIEW - REGULATORY AND PLANNING (SC0106)

A memo had been received from the Chief Executive together with a copy of a service delivery review of regulatory and planning activities undertaken by Alicia McKay.

Cr Beale drew the Committee's attention to the key points raised in the report.

The General Manager Regulatory and Planning noted he had faced similar issues whilst employed at another council, and that he intended to support the Council in taking an enabling approach in making regulatory decisions in partnership with the community.

Cr Beale suggested that the Committee should view the recommendations in the report as a positive indication of the good work being undertaken by the Council.

Cr Gardyne asked what the reasons were behind the termination of the environmental health contract with Southland District Council. His Worship advised that cost and cultural differences in their approach to the role had been a key factor in the decision.

RECOMMENDED on the motion of Cr Davis, seconded by Cr D Grant THAT the service delivery review of regulatory and planning activities be received,

THAT the recommendations contained within the report in regard to financial management and performance management be adopted,

AND THAT a further report to the Regulatory and Planning Committee be provided profiling arrangements secured and progress achieved in transitioning to an environmental health service that is a mixture of local staff provision and contractor engagement for select technical tasks.

The meeting concluded at 5.18pm.