

Report to the Policy and Finance Committee
from Richard Peterson, Policy Advice, Resource Policy

Managing the Effects of Subdivision on the Natural Character of the Coastal Environment

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the recommendations of the Environment and the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committees on the issue of subdivision within the Region's coastal environment.

To clarify the Council's approach to implementing its policy on the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment.

2. Background

Staff presented the attached report to the 9 September meeting of the Environment Committee and to the 7 October meeting of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee. The report was in response to a growth in the number of coastal subdivision proposals within the Region, particularly along the Wairarapa coast. The report asked the Committees:

"to affirm the actions of staff to continue to oppose coastal subdivisions where they adversely affect the natural character of the coastal environment."

In response to the staff report the Committees have made different recommendations. The Environment Committee made the following resolution:

- 1. That the report be received and its contents noted.*
- 2. That the Committee affirms the actions of staff to vigorously oppose coastal subdivisions where they adversely affect the natural character of the coastal environment.*
- 3. That appropriate information and consultation strategies be implemented to ensure understanding of this approach.*

The Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee, which followed the Environment Committee, made this resolution:

1. *That the reports be received and their contents noted.*
2. *That the Committee affirms the actions of staff in evaluating the effects of subdivision where they could adversely affect the natural character of the coastal environment.*
3. *That appropriate information and consultation strategies be implemented to ensure understanding of this approach.*

3. **Communications**

This will depend on the decision of the Committee.

4. **Recommendation**

That the Committee clarify the Council's position with respect to new subdivisions proposed within the Region's coastal environment.

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Attachments: 1