



Report 03.591
Date 6 October 2003
File X/08/03/01

Committee Environment Committee
Author Geoff Skene Manager, Environment Co-ordination

Regional Policy Statement and Regional Plan Implementation 2002/2003

1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of progress in implementing the Regional Policy Statement and regional plans during the 2002/2003 financial year.

2. Background

This is the eighth annual report on progress in implementing the Regional Policy Statement (RPS), and the second to include progress with plan implementation. This report complements other reports on RPS and plan projects which have come before the Committee throughout the year.

Many of the methods in our regional plans are similar to those of the RPS. It is appropriate to report on these together so that a picture can be gleaned of our overall performance.

3. Relationship With Annual Plan Performance Indicator

The Annual Plan requires the implementation of the RPS and the regional plans to be “to the satisfaction of the Council”. This report is designed to demonstrate to the Committee that significant progress is being made and that Councillors can be well satisfied with these implementation activities this year.

4. Not just the Environment Division

Like last year’s report, this one looks broadly at the contributions being made to implement the RPS and plans by departments across the Regional Council. This occurs through an extraordinary array of activities.

5. Relationship with *Measuring Up*

The state of the environment report for the Wellington Region, *Measuring Up*, is the accountability device for the RPS. It tells us how well we are doing in achieving the Policy Statement’s resource management objectives. This report

refers to the findings of *Measuring Up* to show how RPS and plan implementation is addressing the environmental problems of the Region.

6. Additional Information

In addition to this report, a detailed review of the implementation of the regional plans over the last three years has been completed. This review has been used as a source for this report, as have a number of major summary reports to various Council Committees over the last year (for example, recent reports to the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committees on Discharges and Waste and the Annual Monitoring Report for the Regional Land Transport Strategy). These reports provide further useful evidence of Greater Wellington's efforts to implement its environmental management documents. The plan implementation review is available for Councillors if they require more detailed information.

7. Communications

The completion of the year's RPS and plan tasks focuses attention on the diversity of the Council's activities. Communicating that diversity is difficult in a press release, given the range of topics and the ongoing nature of much of the work. Discrete aspects of the activities described in this report are publicised throughout the year.

8. Recommendation

It is recommended that the Committee accepts the Report as evidence of the Council's implementation of the Regional Policy Statement and regional plans for 2002/2003.

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Geoff Skene
Manager,
Environment Co-ordination

Jane Bradbury
Divisional Manager,
Environment

Attachment 1: Implementation of the Regional Policy Statement and Regional Plans in 2002/2003