



Report 09.363  
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Committee Council  
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Management

## Report on the Regulatory Committee meeting held on 16 June 2009

### 1. Purpose

To inform Council about the meeting of the Regulatory Committee that took place on 16 June 2009.

### 2. Reports

#### 2.1 Recreational water quality monitoring report 2008/09

The results of recreational water quality monitoring undertaken by Greater Wellington (GW), and several of the territorial authorities in the Wellington region, between November 2008 and March 2009, were presented to the committee. One hundred sites were monitored during the bathing season, in both freshwater and marine water locations. As with previous years, recreational water quality at bathing water sites was strongly influenced by rainfall, reflecting the effects of diffuse source agricultural and/or urban stormwater runoff.

Overall, however, recreational water quality at marine bathing sites over the last summer was better than in the last few years, with 23% of the 77 sites exceeding the action guidelines on at least one occasion (compared with 56% in 2007/08 and 36% in 2007/07).

The committee also received a presentation by Mark Heath, a Masters Student at Victoria University, who is receiving funding from the GW science fund to support his research into toxic algae. Mark's presentation focussed on his research to date, which has highlighted the complexity of algal growth and patterns of growth, and confirmed much of the thinking around causal factors that were already understood.

## **2.2 Take Charge area investigation: Grenada North and Naenae**

An update on the completed Take Charge pollution prevention programme in the Grenada North area was provided to the committee.

The Grenada North Business Park had been the focus of Take Charge work since 2007, with 32 businesses receiving a comprehensive Take Charge audit following an initial assessment of the area which identified 62 industrial sites in the Takapu Stream catchment. Through these assessments, businesses have made improvements to the overall environmental performance at their sites, such as identification of stormwater sumps onsite, developing spill containment procedures, and installation of washpads.

The objective of Take Charge is to assess business activities, identify actual and potential pollution sources and to remove or reduce pollution inputs by providing advice to business on pollution control methods. The next Take Charge audit catchment is the Naenae area which is located within the Waiwhetu Catchment, and provides excellent opportunity to work closely with Hutt City Council and other parts of Greater Wellington around stormwater and wastewater management.

## **2.3 Review of regional plans**

A brief update on work to date on the review of Greater Wellington's Regional Plans was provided, including a proposed timetable and process for the development of this work through to June 2012. There was some discussion around this timeframe, and speed of delivery associated work, as well as the degree and timing of consultation with the community as a whole, and specific industry and sector groups specifically. Officers will continue to refine this work programme and report back to the Committee again at a future meeting.

## **3. Regular reporting**

Regular summary reports on decisions on non-notified resource consent applications, pollution control incidents, and the Council's input into city and district planning were also provided. This information is readily available on the Council's website to ensure public accessibility of the information.

## **4. Unconfirmed minutes**

The unconfirmed minutes of the committee meeting are attached as *Attachment 1*.

## **5. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

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

Report approved by:

Report prepared by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized initial 'N' followed by a long horizontal stroke.

**Sally Baber**  
Chair,  
Regulatory Committee

**Nigel Corry**  
Divisional Manager,  
Environment Management

**Attachment 1: Unconfirmed minutes**