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Committee Council  
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## Report on the Environment Committee meeting, 1 December 2015

### 1. Purpose

To inform Council of the Environment Committee meeting of 1 December 2015.

### 2. Public Participation

Heli Matilainen spoke to item 6 on the agenda - General Managers Report. Ms Matilainen spoke on the health impacts of the spraying agent- glyphosate. Ms Matilainen stated that GWRC should consider including provisions in the Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington region that restrict the chemicals use, and/or consider alternate methods of weed management.

### 3 Reports

#### 3.1 Hutt River City Centre Upgrade Project - Preferred Option

The Committee recommended that Council proceeds with the preliminary design, costing and implementation timelines to be prepared for Option A. The Committee also recommended that Council instructs the Chief Executive to prepare a land purchase strategy before entering into discussions with affected land owners.

The Committee noted that properties purchased by Council prior to the implementation of the project, would be leased out with GWRC acting as landlord.

### **3.2 General Managers' Report to Environment Committee meeting, 1 December 2015**

The Committee was updated on the activities of the Catchment Management and Environment Management groups, and the activities of the Strategy Group relevant to the Committee.

The Committee noted that a Council workshop will be convened shortly to discuss health concerns relating to glyphosate. A further public meeting will be held at Raumati South on 9 December.

The Committee noted that two Mediterranean farm worms have been discovered on vessels at Chaffers Marina in Wellington harbour during October and November. Both vessels have been cleaned and a commercial diver inspected nearby blocks but did not see any suspicious looking fan worms.

Despite ongoing discussions with Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) staff there is still no signed contract for the hill country erosion programme. The main issue is that MPI wants a degree of separation from the Hill Country Erosion Fund and the Afforestation Grant Scheme. The Committee noted that there is no risk to the Wellington Regional Erosion Control Initiative scheme.

The Committee was informed that the proposed Whitireia Park Management Plan had been approved at the Whitireia Park Board meeting on 30 November 2015. As required by the Reserves Act, the plan and bylaws will now be sent to the Minister for Conservation and the Department of Conservation for final approval.

### **3. Communication**

No external communication is required.

### **4. The decision-making process and significance**

No decision is being sought in this report.

#### **4.1 Engagement**

Engagement on this matter is unnecessary.

### **5. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

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