

**REPORT OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD AT 9.23AM ON WEDNESDAY 15 FEBRUARY 2015  
AT THE MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE,  
KAIKOURA.**

**PRESENT:** Councillor D Morgan (Chair), Mayor W Gray, Councillors T Blunt, J Diver, G Harmon, J Howden, C Mackle, D Millton.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** S Grant (Chief Executive Officer), M Hoggard, R Vaughan (District Planners), S Syme (Committee Secretary).

**1. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES REPORTS**

**a) Building**

The newly appointed Building Control Officer had spent a week in Hurunui to undertake some intensive training.

Requirements were being reviewed for the IANZ accreditation audit which was planned for May.

A request was made for the actual revenue figure from building consents to be provided each month.

**b) Resource Planning**

Two applications for land use and two for subdivision had been received in the reporting period. Staff had been busy dealing with pre-application enquiries and people seeking to complete their subdivisions.

**c) District and Environmental Planning**

**Climate Change**

The Ministry for the Environment would be setting up a website to provide more up to date information about climate change. Changes to the Resource Management Act in terms of natural hazards may be more stringent however there was still no definite guidance from central government.

**Walking and Cycling**

The District Planner advised there had been a good level of interest in a Trails Trust but so far it had been a struggle to find key drivers. It was felt this could improve after the busy summer.

**Kaikoura Enhancement Group**

The Group was currently seeking cost indications for work on the West side of State Highway 1. A meeting was scheduled for later in February.

### **Earthcheck**

The annual audit had been completed and certification would be retained for another year.

### **Waste Minimisation**

A lot of pressure had been put on the recycling infrastructure over the summer season. A review of public place recycling systems would be undertaken due to the way people used the facilities. Outside funding options would be explored to reconfigure sites.

### **Resource Management Act (RMA) Review**

A discussion was held regarding the review of the RMA with regard to excessive costs and delays to development. It was noted the report commissioned by the Government regarding planning rules, regulations, uncertainty and delays on residential property development had only looked at costs and not a cost benefit assessment. The District Planner advised in many cases the additional costs were a result of District Plans which had been through the public consultation process therefore any RMA reforms may not resolve the issues.

### **Active Faults and Folds**

A draft report entitled “General distribution and characteristics of active faults and folds in the Kaikoura District, North Canterbury” had been received by Environment Canterbury from GNS Science. The report provided the most up to date information on the location of faults and folds in the Kaikoura District. There was now an opportunity to decide how to best use the information. Options were;

1. Do nothing
2. Detailed fault mapping
3. Immediate Plan Change
4. Plan Change 2018

The District Planner recommended Council continue with the current approach which was to keep a register which could be used for Land Information Memorandums. Where properties were flagged and if a subdivision was proposed, more information would be required. A discussion was held regarding having areas around the Hope fault as no build zones. The District Planner advised due to the structure of the Act Council was unable to have total avoidance zones. It was generally felt the best Council could do was to provide the information. Councillor Millton felt Council should be more proactive and include no build areas in the District Plan. The District Planner advised the rules were open to submission and appeal and it would cost Council a lot of money to zone areas. It was generally felt the District Plan review in 2018 was the time for Council to consider tightening the rules.

***Moved by Councillor Howden, seconded by Councillor Blunt and resolved that;***

- 1. The report entitled Active Faults and Folds in the Kaikoura District be received.***
- 2. Council endorse the continued use of a hazard register and only consider a specific plan review in relation to hazards in 2018 when the District Plan was due for review.***

***Moved by Councillor Morgan, seconded by Councillor Millton and resolved that the Environmental Services Reports be received.***

***There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.05am.***