



Report 07.29  
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Committee Landcare  
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Parks and Forests

## Divisional Manager's Report

### 1. Purpose

To inform the Committee about the activities and progress of the Parks, and Marketing and Design, Departments since the Committee's last meeting.

### 2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 3. Managers' reports

The department managers' reports are attached.

### 4. Comment

#### 4.1 Parks

The parks planning process is in full swing with the East Harbour Park plan being completed, the Battle Hill Farm Forest Park plan about to be released and submissions being received for the initial phase of the Belmont Park planning.

The horse riding concession at the Queen Elizabeth Park is now much more secure as the contract is for several years. The barn will be used by the concessionaire. Refurbishment work is being priced at present.

Possum control work in the Akatarawa and Pakuratahi Forest will be a major operation this winter. We are working with the community to ensure they are well informed about this and that the operation runs as smoothly as possible.

A ranger's office has been established at the Stratton Street entrance to the Belmont Regional Park. It was previously in the ranger's house. The relocated office was originally at Queen Elizabeth Park and the new location is considered temporary until the park plan has been reviewed.

## **4.2 Marketing and Design**

Over the last few years a considerable number of signs have been erected at the regional parks and recreation areas. One of the latest signs is at the Kaitoke Regional Park and a photo of this is included in the manager's report. While we would like to do more in regard to signage outside the parks we need to comply with Transit New Zealand and local authority requirements. Inside the parks though it is under Greater Wellington control which has allowed a considerable amount of innovation.

The regional outdoors programme is well underway and there have been good attendances even though the summer weather in January was rather ordinary. A full report on the summer events programme will be presented to the Committee at a later date.

## **4.3 Wind energy developments**

A contract was let to RES New Zealand Limited in December for the development of the Puketiro windfarm site. The company is in the process of establishing an office in Wellington and it has already obtained resource consents to construct 80m high wind monitoring towers.

## **5. Communication**

Media releases have been made for the regional outdoors programme and these will continue.

## **6. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

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

Report prepared by:

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**Attachment 1: Manager, Parks report for period ending 2 February 2007**

**Attachment 2: Manager, Marketing and Design report for period ending 2 February 2007**