



I hereby give notice that an ordinary meeting of the Regional Strategy and Policy Committee will be held on:

Date: Thursday, 4 December 2014
Time: 9.30am
Meeting Room: Reception Lounge
Venue: Auckland Town Hall
301-305 Queen Street
Auckland

Regional Strategy and Policy Committee

OPEN ADDENDUM AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Chairperson	Cr George Wood, CNZM	
Deputy Chairperson	Cr Anae Arthur Anae	
Members	Cr Cameron Brewer	Cr Mike Lee
	Mayor Len Brown, JP	Kris MacDonald
	Cr Dr Cathy Casey	Cr Calum Penrose
	Cr Bill Cashmore	Cr Dick Quax
	Cr Ross Clow	Cr Sharon Stewart, QSM
	Cr Linda Cooper, JP	Cr Sir John Walker, KNZM, CBE
	Cr Chris Darby	Cr Wayne Walker
	Cr Alf Filipaina	Cr John Watson
	Cr Hon Christine Fletcher, QSO	Cr Penny Webster
	Deputy Mayor Penny Hulse	Glenn Wilcox
	Cr Denise Krum	

(Quorum 11 members)

Barbara Watson
Democracy Advisor

1 December 2014

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Extension of Regional Pest Management Plan Expiry Date - Recommendation from the Environment, Climate Change and Natural Heritage Committee of 26 November 2014

File No.: CP2014/28137

Purpose

1. To extend the expiry date of the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan.

Executive Summary

2. At the Environment, Climate Change and Natural Heritage Committee meeting of 26 November 2014 this item was considered at Item 10 and was resolved as follows:

Resolution number ENV/2014/49

MOVED by Cr C Darby, seconded by Member L Ngamane:

That the Environment, Climate Change and Natural Heritage Committee:

- a) recommend that the Regional Strategy and Policy Committee
 - i) extend the expiry date of the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan by 12 months, from 17 December 2014 to 17 December 2015.

CARRIED

Recommendation/s

That the Regional Strategy and Policy Committee:

- a) extend the expiry date of the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan by 12 months from 17 December 2014 to 17 December 2015.

Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Original report - Extension of Regional Pest Management Plan Expiry Date	7

Signatories

Authors	Crispian Franklin - Democracy Advisor
Authorisers	Dean Kimpton - Chief Operating Officer

Extension of Regional Pest Management Plan Expiry Date

File No.: CP2014/25097

Purpose

1. To extend the expiry date of the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) by 12 months and provide for a Proposed RPMP to be prepared once the National Policy Direction for Pest Management is in effect.

Executive summary

2. The Auckland RPMP gives effect to the Biosecurity Act 1993 and provides a strategic and statutory framework for the efficient and effective management of plant and animal pests in the Auckland region. It includes rules prohibiting the propagation, breeding, distribution or release of identified pest species. The Auckland RPMP expires on 17 December 2014. An operative Auckland RPMP provides for the effective management of pests in Auckland and prevents actions by individuals that could place economic, ecological, and Māori values at risk from the adverse effects of pests.
3. As part of the Reform of the Biosecurity Act in 2012 a new instrument, termed a National Policy Direction on Pest Management (NPD), has been introduced. Once an NPD is in effect Council must determine if the Auckland RPMP should be amended to be consistent with the NPD and commence a review to resolve any inconsistencies. A proposed NPD has been notified by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and submissions have closed. MPI currently advise that the NPD should be in effect by April 2015. However this timeframe maybe subject to further extension. It is anticipated that once the NPD has come into effect significant amendments to the Auckland RPMP will be required.
4. Council can, under the transitional provisions of the Biosecurity Reform Act, extend the expiry date of the Auckland RPMP by 12 months to 17 December 2015 in order for the Auckland RPMP to remain in force and for the preparation of a Proposed Auckland RPMP to be undertaken when the NPD has come into effect.
5. In extending the Auckland RPMP expiry date Council must be satisfied that there is no significant effect on any person's rights or obligations. Extending the expiry date of the RPMP does not change any of the provisions of the RPMP and therefore does not alter or affect any person's rights or obligations under that Plan. It is also considered that this approach is consistent with the general purpose of the transitional provisions of the Biosecurity Reform Act which create interim processes for the review and extension of regional pest management plans while an NPD is being prepared.

Recommendation

That the Environment, Climate Change and Natural Heritage Committee:

- a) Recommend that the Regional Development and Operations Committee
 - i) extend the expiry date of the Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan by 12 months from 17 December 2014, to 17 December 2015.

Comments

Auckland Regional Pest Management Plan

6. The current Auckland RPMP is a legacy plan prepared by the former Auckland Regional Council under the Biosecurity Act 1993. The stated purpose of the Auckland RPMP is "... to provide a strategic and statutory framework for efficient and effective management of plant

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and animal pests in the Auckland region". The RPMP identifies approximately 292 plant and 39 animal pests and sets out a range of responses for these pests. These responses include:

- rules prohibiting the propagation, breeding, distribution or release of pest species;
 - requirements for landowners to manage some plant and animal pests on their land; and
 - total control, containment, surveillance, research and community initiative pest management programmes.
7. An operative Auckland RPMP provides for the effective management of pests in Auckland and prevents actions by individuals that could place economic, ecological, and Māori values at risk from the adverse effects of pests.

National Policy Direction on Pest Management

8. As part of the Reform of the Biosecurity Act in 2012 a new instrument termed a National Policy Direction on Pest Management (NPD) has been introduced. The NPD will (*inter alia*) define the types of pest management programmes that can be included in pest management plans. Once the NPD is in effect Council must determine if the Auckland RPMP should be amended to be consistent with the NPD and must commence a review to resolve any inconsistencies.
9. A proposed NPD has been notified by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and submissions have closed. MPI have previously advised that the NPD would come into effect by December 2014. MPI currently advise that this will occur by April 2015. However this timeframe maybe subject to further extension. It is anticipated that once the NPD has come into effect amendments to the Auckland RPMP will be required.

Review of Auckland RPMP and Extension of Expiry Date

10. The current Auckland RPMP was originally due to expire in December 2012. However Council can, under the transitional provisions of the Biosecurity Reform Act, extend the expiry date of the Auckland RPMP by 12 months at a time until the NPD comes into effect. Council has previously extended the Auckland RPMP expiry date on two occasions to December 2013 and December 2014 respectively. Extending the expiry date avoids Council producing a proposed RPMP only to have to commence another review once the NPD comes into effect.
11. Initial work on the review of the Auckland RPMP has commenced. This includes workshops with Councillors, workshops with Local Boards, consultation with Māori and consultation with other key parties. However it is considered that a Proposed RPMP should not be notified until the National Policy Direction is in effect. Other factors affecting the timing of the RPMP review include the potential for collaboration with other North Island Councils and the timing of Council's LTP process. Extending the expiry date of the current RPMP allows for the content of the National Policy Direction to be confirmed and for these others factors to be taken into account in the timing of the review process. It is also considered that this approach is consistent with the general purpose of the transitional provisions of the Biosecurity Reform Act which create interim processes for the review and extension of regional pest management plans while the NPD is being prepared.
12. In extending the RPMP expiry date Council must be satisfied that there is no significant effect on any person's rights or obligations. Extending the expiry date of the RPMP does not change any of the provisions of the RPMP and therefore does not alter or affect any person's rights or obligations under that strategy.

Consideration

Local board views and implications

13. The RPMP applies at a local as well as a regional scale. Many Local Boards fund pest control programmes. Local Board views have been sought as part of the initial review

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process through workshops and meetings with environment portfolio holders. The extension provides for local board views to be further sought and considered as part of the review process.

Māori impact statement

14. Pursuant to the Biosecurity Act, one of the primary purposes of pest management plans is to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of pests on the relationship between Māori and their culture, traditions, ancestral lands, waters, sites, wahi tapu and taonga. The Biosecurity Act requires Council to be satisfied in reviewing the Auckland RPMP that consultation with affected tangata whenua has occurred and impacts on Maori considered. Initial consultation with Maori has occurred. The recommended extension provides for further engagement and consultation with Māori as part of the Auckland RPMP review process.

Implementation

15. The recommended extension of the Auckland RPMP expiry date provides for the continued implementation of the current RPMP.

Attachments

There are no attachments for this report.

Signatories

Authors	Dave Marshall - Principal Specialist Natural Heritage
Authorisers	John Dragicevich - Manager Infrastructure and Environmental Services Harvey Brookes - Manager Economic Development