



Date: Tuesday 29 April 2025
Time: 2.00pm
Meeting Room: Room 1, Level 26,
Venue: Te Wharau o Tāmaki - Auckland House,
135 Albert Street, Auckland

Te Komiti mō ngā Papa Rēhia / Parks Committee

OPEN ATTACHMENTS

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Regional Parks performance update - Quarter three financial year 2024/2025

Parks Committee – April 2025

Scott De Silva – Manager Regional Parks, Parks and Community Facilities

Regional Parks - network overview



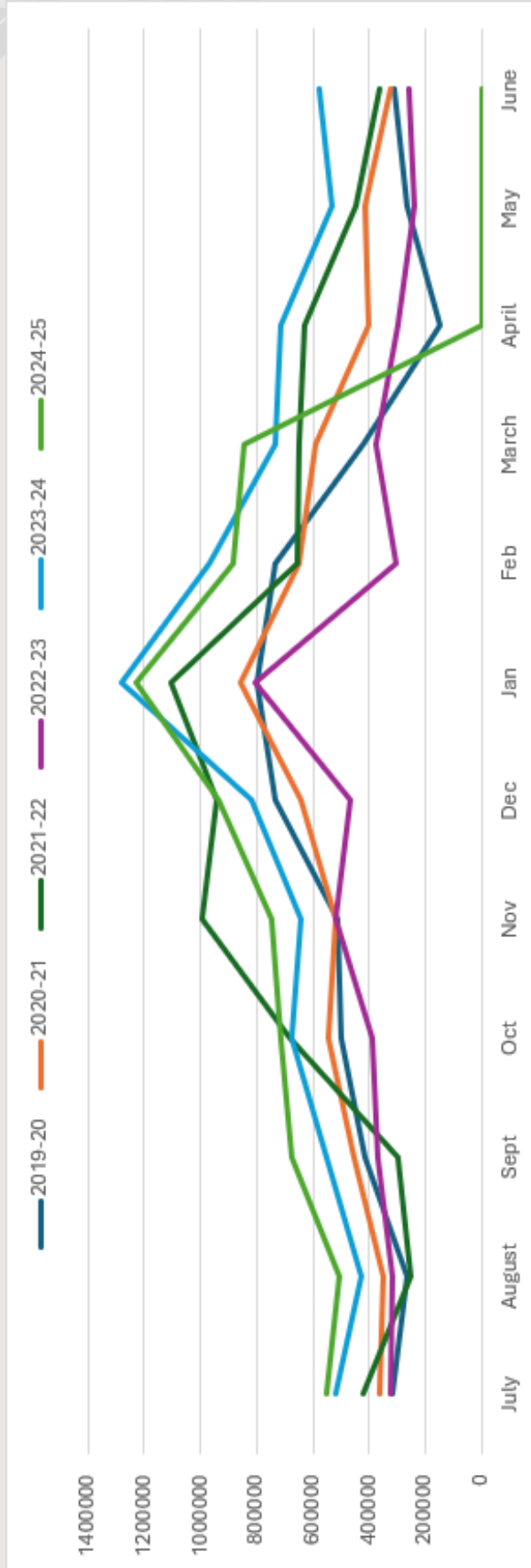
Highlights

- Regional Parks continue to attract high number of visitors.
- Popularity of the camping / beach experiences.
- Summer Rangers programme has been successful.
- Arataki Visitor Centre continues to be recognised.

Challenges

- Numerous park related incidents occurred.

Visitor numbers



Jan 1,118,893 / Feb 789,405/ Mar 759,474
 Total Visitation Q3 = 2,667,772
 Total Visitation YTD = 6,241,936

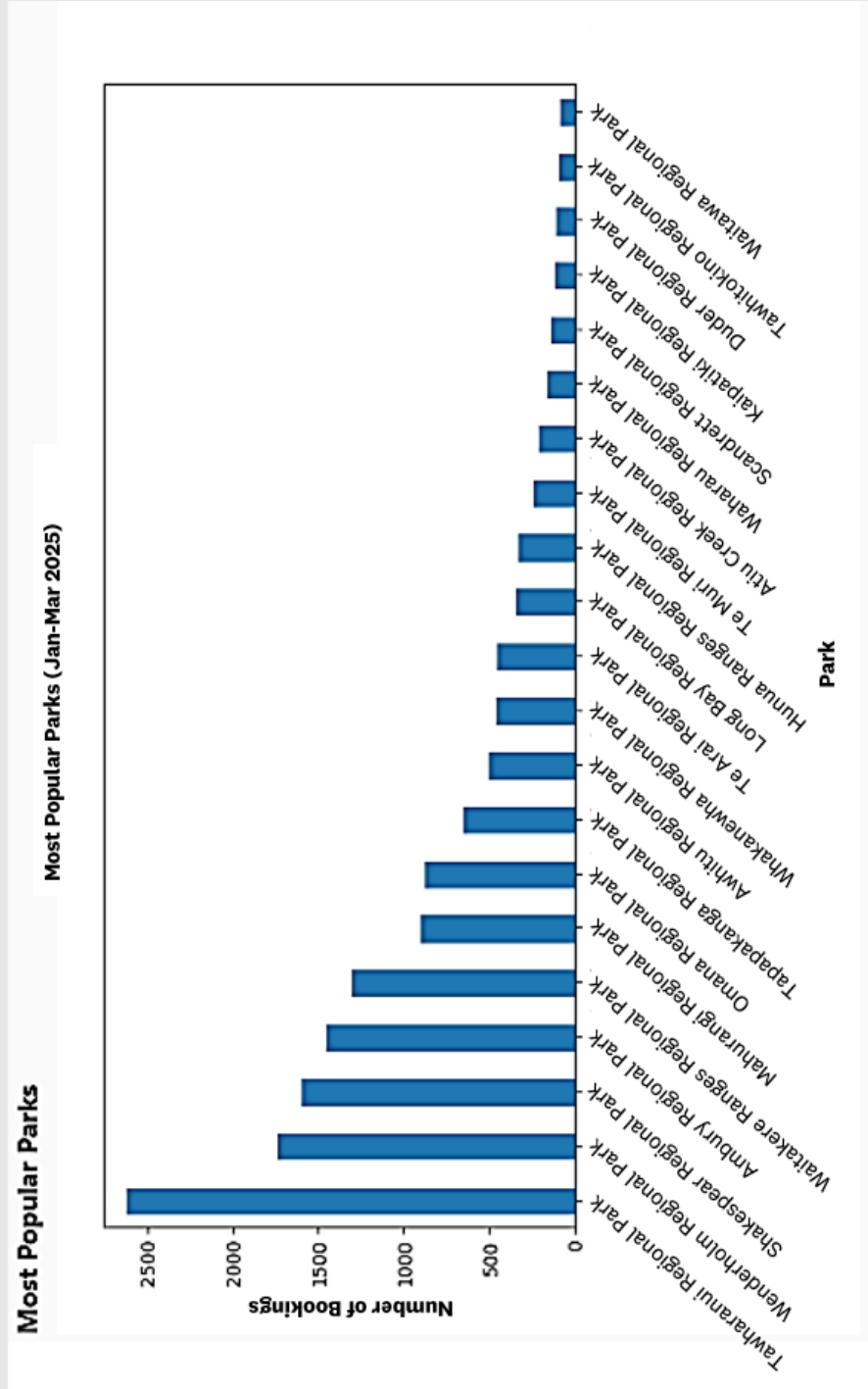


Camping and baches occupancy: Jan – March 2025



	# Bookings	# nights	# PAX	# PAX nights stayed
Lodges	41	88	1213	2637
Campgrounds	11085	18710	31080	58808
Baches	460	1084	2239	5315
Bookable sites (Days)	179		15782	
CSC (O/Night)	2500	3194	5086	6561
CSC (Multi Night Parking area)	148	178	305	366
TOTAL	14413	23254	55705	73687

Camping and baches occupancy: Jan – March 2025



Summer Ranger Programme

Pictured to the right:
23 rangers excited about the
Summer Ranger Programme
experience.

Planned future partnership
opportunity with Lincoln
University.



Incidents and challenges

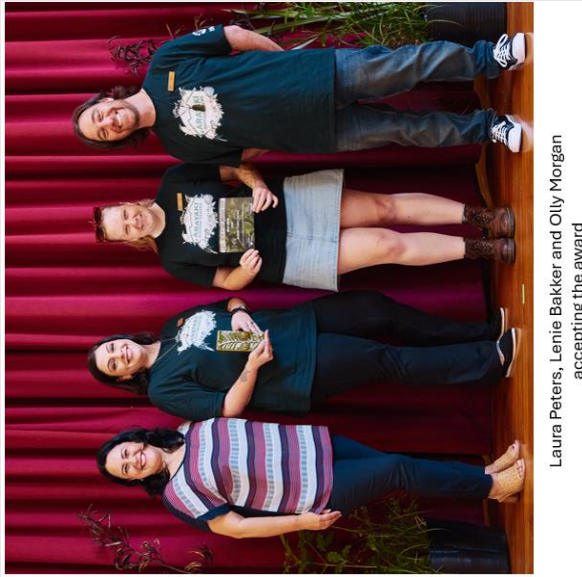
Between January and March we recorded 436 parks related incidents:

- 82 activity without a permit
- 88 dog related
- 26 Marine fauna/ flora related
- 24 unauthorised fires
- 32 undesirable behaviour
- 17 vandalism
- 75 vehicle in unauthorised location.

96 closed track incursions occurred in January, 101 in February in western parks.



Regional Parks: Acknowledgements and Awards



Laura Peters, Lenie Bakker and Oilly Morgan accepting the award

Arataki Visitor Centre won the Nikau Award category in the Eco Matters Love Your Place Awards 2024.



Riki Bennett (ranger Cascade Kauri) completed 45 years working in Regional Parks.





Focus area 1: Commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Hunua Forum established in February to engage with mana whenua during the planned 1080 operation.

Deed of Acknowledgement Te Kawerau ā Maki – public engagement March – April.

Maōri names gifting ceremony held at Arataki for lecture and AV rooms.

Ngāti Manuhiri blessing for kiwi translation from Tāwharanui to Tamahunga.

Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara liaison on protecting pā site at Te Rau Pūriri.



Focus area 2: Protecting biodiversity

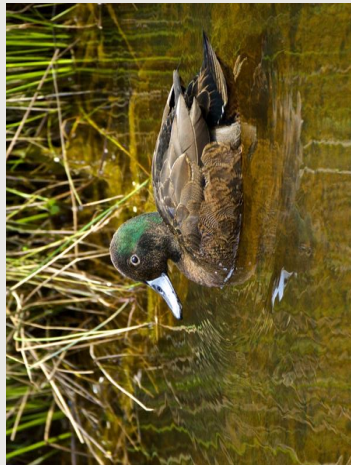
- **Raukawa gecko** – sighted in a southern park.
- **Kiwi translocation** – 20 birds transferred from Tāwharanui to Tamahunga, 40 individuals now on site.
- **Hunua Ranges** – the ranges are still free from Kauri Dieback.
- **New rat trap network** installed at Whakanewha – 100+ rats caught in 2 months.
- **Whatipu Scientific Reserve** – new trapping and baiting network installed.



Focus area 2: Sanctuaries highlights

Tawharanui Regional Park:

- Tākehe chick now three months old.
- Pāteke survey – 108 birds, down from 195 in 2024.
- NZ dotterel – 12 chicks fledged from 16 pairs.
- Pest incursions – one stoat, one ship rat, one possum.
- Rabbit control underway.



Focus area 2: Sanctuaries highlights

Shakespeare Regional Park:

- Hihi – 64 chicks fledged in first breeding season.
- Ōkoromai stream daylighting unearthed remnants of the heritage floodgate structures associated with the anti-tank ditch.
- Pest incursions - one possum, ongoing. Multiple ship rats caught response underway.



Focus area 3 / 4: Adapting and mitigating climate change

- 18 draft fire plans have been completed. Estimated to complete the remaining by June 2025.
- Planning underway to implement the new guidelines for providing shade for stock.
- Incorporation of actions from the Whangapāraoa Shoreline Adaptation Plan into the park's operational plans.



Regional Parks – Farming operations

Guidelines for providing shade for animals

October 2024, Version 1.0

aucklandcouncil.govt.nz

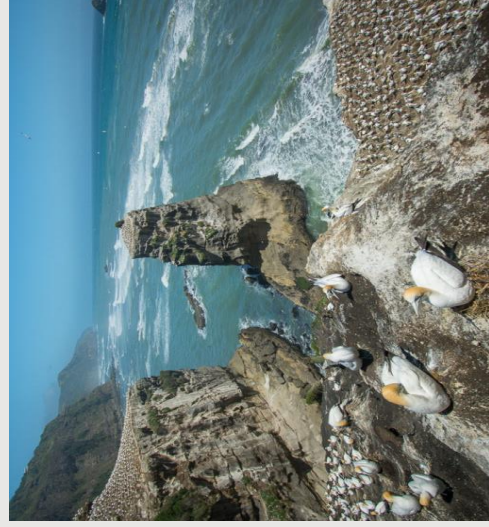


Focus area 5: Adding value to visitor experience

Tracks reopened:

- Access to Muriwai gannet colony opened.
- Access to Lake Wainamu restored.
- Section of Ahu Ahu Track has reopened.
- Signage / wayfinding renewed at Lake Wainamu.
- Barriers completed on Connect Track and Laird Thompson Track.

60km tracks cleared in Hūnua Ranges



Focus area 5: Adding value to visitor experience

Events on parks:

- Maraetai Half Marathon - Ōmana and Duder
- Ōmana Trolley Derby – 2000+ people
- Karamatura Farm day
- Earth Beat Festival - Atiu Creek
- Mahurangi Regatta – Mahurangi West.

Arataki Visitor Centre:

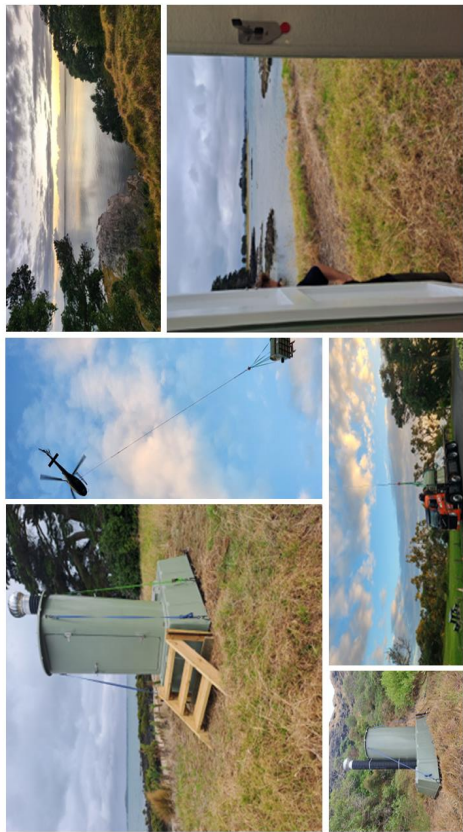
- Summer Rhyme Time
- Musical Sound Journey
- Kauri Dieback VR Experience
- iNaturalist workshop
- Local artist exhibitions.



Focus area 5: Adding value to visitor experience

Project delivery:

- Motukorea / Browns Island – two new toilets installed.
- Te Whetuki / Tapapakanga baches upgraded.
- Muriwai – food truck for summer.



Focus area 6: Collaborating with others

- Increasing number of volunteers / groups wanting to help on northern parks.
- Several large groups already booked in for the planting season.
- Friends of Regional Parks taking part in monthly planting days at Te Muri.
- Conservation Volunteers NZ supporting planting at Atiu Creek.



Farming operation

Highlights

- Impressive lamb weights were achieved over the last season, averaging 19.7kg, national average is 19.2kg.
- Three new llamas have been added to the animal stock at Ambury, proving to be very popular with visitors.

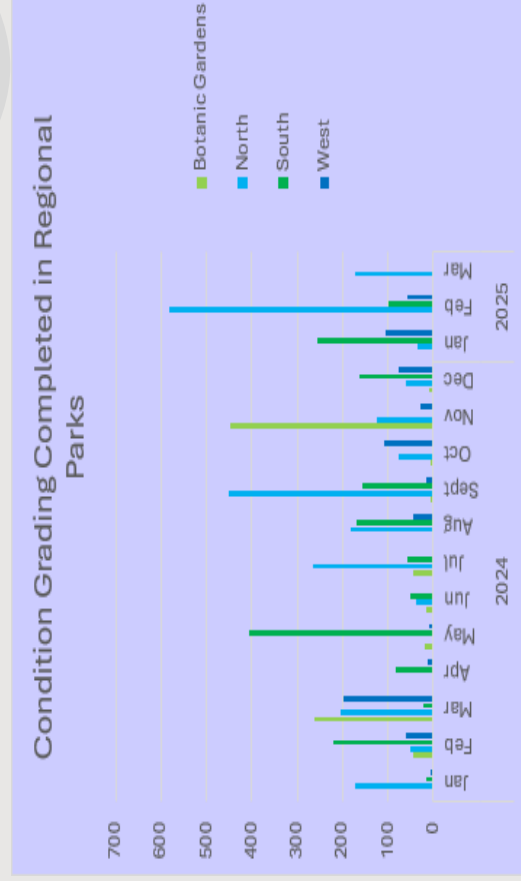
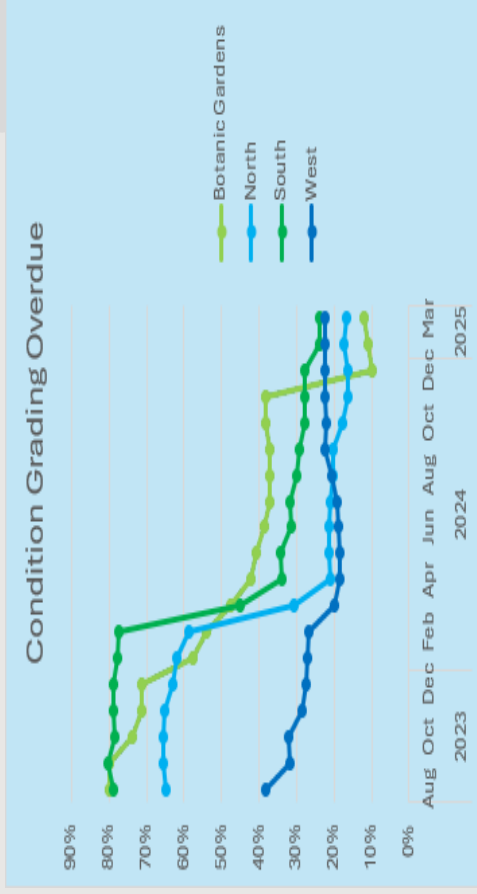
Events

- Two industry events were held at Ambury in December and February 2025 featured expert presentations on:
 - industry benchmarking
 - animal health issues / prevention
 - future market trends and predictions
 - animal genetics / the right breeds for the job
 - record keeping and audits
 - feed management.



Asset management

- Completing our asset condition grading assessment has been a key focus since 2024.
- Overdue assessments have been reduced from 80% down to 10-20% by March 2025.
- Refinements applied to iAuditor now enables maintenance contractors to be directly notified of identified service requests.
- Work is underway to automate regional parks visitor counters, enabling easier data collation.



Capex delivery

- Total budget for 2024/2025 is \$3,462,945.
- Regional Parks projects are 87% on track for delivery as at the end of March 2025.
- Focus is on completing investigation and design phase for 14 projects, including the future development of Te Arai Regional Park.



RPMP Implementation Plan 2024/25

Progress update




- Disability access assessment underway.
- Completed 18 draft fire plans to date.
- Review arrival areas and carparking capacity.
- Recreation assessment for network due to start.
- Concessionaire framework review in progress.





Item 7

Attachment A



Regional Parks Project Koru

Parks Committee – April 2025

Scott De Silva – Manager Regional Parks, Regional Operations, Parks and Community Facilities




Purpose




To provide the Parks Committee
an update on the operationally
led Project Koru







Project Koru




A series of workstreams designed to enhance the way Regional Parks operate.




Project Koru was first introduced to all staff in March 2023.



Programme of works that seeks to: improve kaimahi engagement, consider future workforce needs and leverage opportunities from organisational design shifts.



Has 10 defined Programmes of Work that will lift the way Regional Parks operate.



Te Komiti mō ngā Papa Rēhia / Parks Committee Forward Work Programme 2025

This committee is established to provide oversight of regional parks network and other significant open spaces (not including the Auckland Domain or waterfront). The full terms of reference can be found here: [Auckland Council Governing Body Terms of Reference](#)

Note: Annual Budget decisions may affect the work programme.

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role ohia / endorse, tautoko / support and/or tika / give direction	Expected timeframes Highlight the month(s) this is expected to come to committee in 2025												
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	
Parks and Community Facilities															
Parks and Community Regional Capital Investment Work Programme 2025/2026	Present the draft 25/26 regionally funded capital works programme with a focus on Regional Parks, Farming and Botanic Gardens	To whiwhi / receive and consider an update on the Regional Parks parts of the Parks and Community Regional Capital Investment Work Programme 2025/2026 prior to approval by the Community Committee. Progress to date: Parks and Community Facilities - Regional Operations Capital Work Programme 2024/2025 delivery update – February 2025 – Link to decision . Draft Regional Capital Investment Programme for Regional Parks, Farming and Auckland Botanic Gardens for financial years 2026-2028 – February 2025 – Link to decision .													
Quarterly Regional Operations update	To provide a regular operations update to the committee on the previous quarter's challenges, successes and update on the delivery of the current delivery programme	To whiwhi / receive the Quarterly Regional Operations update on Regional Parks, Farming and Botanic Gardens, including status updates on current capital programme delivery. Progress to date: February 2025 – Link to decision .													
Project Koru Update	To provide updates to the committee on Regional Parks and Farming operating model improvements	To whiwhi / receive the update on Regional Parks and Farming Operational improvement initiative – Project Koru Progress to date:													
Te Ara Hura Project 27	Review of the structure of full facilities contracts and to explore a potential future contract framework.	To whiwhi / receive and consider an update on the project as it relates to Regional Parks prior to approval by the Revenue, Expenditure and Value Committee. Progress to date: Te Ara Hura 2027 Parks and Community Facilities maintenance contracts – February 2025 – Link to decision .													

Item 10

Attachment A

Area of work and Lead Department	Pūnga / Reason for work	Committee role ohia / endorse, tautoko / support and/or tika / give direction	Expected timeframes Highlight the month(s) this is expected to come to committee in 2025														
			Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec			
Regional Parks Management Plan (RPMP) Annual Report	23/24 Annual report will be provided via memo, 24/25 report will report on progress against the implementation plan (insert resolution).	To whiwhi / receive the Regional Parks Implementation Plan. Others TBC Progress to date: Regional Parks Management Plan - 2024/2025 Implementation Plan – October 2025 – Link to decision .															
Review of committee forward work programme* Governance and Engagement Policy, Planning and Governance	Regular reporting	To whai / adopt the committee work programme. To whiwhi / receive updates (monthly) To arotake / review the content of the forward work programme six-monthly. Progress to date: October 2024 - Link to decision															

Completed

Area of work and Lead Department	Committee role	Whakatau / Decision
<p>[insert the work stream name] [insert the name of the Lead Department or CCO]</p>	<p>[Briefly summarise the decision or direction you will be seeking from this committee. If there are multiple, please describe these separately and in chronological order. Te reo verbs should be used here too] [For expected timeframes highlight the month(s) which this work is expected to be considered by the committee – see right-hand column]</p>	<p>[the Governance Advisor to provide a link to the final decision only - decisions to be hyperlinked to the public minutes HTML version] Report name – [Day Month Year] Link to decision</p>

Item 10

Attachment A