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**REPORT 8**  
*(1215/12/IM)*

## **CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT BACK**

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### **1. Purpose of Report**

This report provides the Board with information about matters of interest to the Tawa Community.

### **2. Recommendations**

Officers recommend that the Community Board:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Approve the officers recommendation that a new lease be granted for 10 years, and one right of renewal of ten years for the North Wellington ITF Taekwon-Do Incorporated on land which is recreation reserve and is adjacent to Kowhai Park on the corner of Hinau and Kowhai Streets.*

### **3. Summary**

The monthly report on general matters is attached as Appendix 1.

Contact Officer: *Neil Cherry, Chief Financial Officer*

## *Upcoming Consultations*

### *Draft Dog Control Policy 2009*

The Dog Control Policy (the Policy) was adopted by the Council in 2004 with a resolution to review the policy in 2009. The policy is largely concerned with community safety and health, animal welfare and providing mechanisms for the registration of dogs. The policy also sets out restrictions over dog access to public places (with the exception of disability-assist dogs which are exempt from all the restrictions).

The Policy has worked well overall, but an opportunity exists with this review to balance the policy's regulation and control focus with recognition of the community health benefits of dog ownership. This report recommends that the following issues and associated proposed policy changes are agreed for consultation:

- a) New policy objectives recognising the positive community health benefits of dog ownership in addition to the existing policy focus on the control of dogs.
- b) Improved access to the waterfront through the central city dog restriction area.
- c) New provisions to encourage the take up of responsible dog ownership (RDO) status including emphasis on the need for timely payment of fees in order to maintain RDO status, new requirements to ensure owners have adequate knowledge of dog care, and easier retention of RDO status when dogs die.
- d) Changes to controlled public places, prohibited public places and exercise areas, including increased numbers of exercise areas, and a new category of exercise area (specified times).
- e) A destination dog park.
- f) Provision of criteria for determining the requirement to neuter menacing dogs.
- g) Provision of a new bylaw requirement for dog owners to carry a receptacle for removal of dog faeces while in public places.
- h) A new provision to encourage dialogue between owners and the Council to promote responsible dog ownership.

The Wellington Consolidated Bylaw: Part 2; Animals (Animals Bylaw), which provides the Council powers to enforce the Dog Control Policy, is also being reviewed. A report on the review of this part of the bylaw is also being presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee on 5 May 2009 for approval for public consultation.

Consultation on the Draft Dog Control Policy 2009 will open on 26 June 2009. A copy of the report has been circulated to Board members under separate cover.

## **Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 2008 Review: - Part 2 – Animals**

The Council is reviewing the Dog Control Policy (2004) and a number of the proposed policy changes necessitate amendments to the Animals Bylaw. It is a requirement of the Act that any necessary bylaws which the Council makes to give effect to its Dog Control Policy come into force within 60 days of the policy being adopted<sup>1</sup>.

The Animals Bylaw regulates animal keeping and husbandry activities for the purposes of animal welfare and public health and safety. It details the activities that require Council permission and when an offence is committed. The Bylaw also enables the Council to meet its statutory requirements under the Dog Control Act (1996) (DCA) to set dog exercise areas, prohibited areas and restricted access areas, to make dispensations from the requirements of the DCA<sup>2</sup>, and to give effect to other aspects of the Dog Control Policy such as the requirement for owners to remove dog faeces from public places.

The review of the Animals Bylaw primarily addresses issues relating to dogs although the opportunity has been taken to address matters concerning keeping poultry, feeding animals in a manner not to cause nuisance and adequate confinement of animals.

The proposed amended bylaw includes the following changes which support the Draft Dog Control Policy 2009:

- inclusion of a list of controlled public places, prohibited public places and dog exercise areas
- inclusion of a clause requiring the compulsory carrying of a receptacle for dog faeces
- clarification of the requirement for Council permission to keep more than 3 dogs on a property.

The proposed amended Bylaw also includes the following requirements which relate to animals generally:

- adequate confinement of animals within an owner's property
- feeding of animals in a manner not to cause nuisance
- Council permission to keep more than 6 poultry or a rooster (urban area).

On Committee consideration and approval the proposed amended Animals Bylaw and Summary of Information and Statement of Proposal will be referred to Council to initiate the special consultative procedure, pursuant to the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002). This is being considered by the Strategy and Policy Committee at its meeting on 5 May 2009.

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<sup>1</sup> Dog Control Act 1996 s10(6)

<sup>2</sup> Dispensations from the requirements of the Act include reduced fees for responsible dog owners and permission for keeping more than three dogs.

## APPENDIX 1

Consultation on the Wellington Consolidated Bylaw 2008 Review: - Part 2 – Animals will open on 26 June 2009. A copy of the report has been circulated to Board members under separate cover.

### ***Leases on Council Owned Land***

#### ***Granting of a new lease to North Wellington ITF Taekwon Do Incorporated***

North Wellington ITF Taekwon-Do Incorporated (the Club) has joined with two other groups to secure a lease on the building formally known as the Linden Scout hall.

The land is recreation reserve, and is adjacent to Kowhai Park on the corner of Hinau and Kowhai Streets. The Scouting Association used the building from 1945 to 2007 at which time the building transferred to the Council by agreement.

Registrations of interest were sought and 10 proposals were received from various groups. After assessment of each group individually, officers discussed a possible premises-sharing arrangement with four similar groups: the Club, Hutt Valley Fencing Club Incorporated, Wellington Aikido Club Incorporated, and Wellington Judo Association Incorporated (known as Onslow Judo Club). A joint proposal was submitted to officers from the four groups, proposing that the Club be the head tenant, and as such would hold the lease with the Council.

A licence to occupy has been granted to the Club to occupy the Linden Scout Hall on Kowhai Park, while a lease is negotiated to enable works to be done to the building by the groups. This was also to facilitate immediate occupation, as the building is often subjected to attacks of vandalism.

Officers are recommending that a new lease be granted for 10 years, and one right of renewal of ten years for the Club on land which is recreation reserve, and is adjacent to Kowhai Park on the corner of Hinau and Kowhai Streets.

#### ***Draft Long-Term Council Community Plan 2009/19***

The Council needs your ideas about the choices that it should be making to ensure Wellington is an affordable, internationally competitive city that will offer a great quality of life for the next decade. Some of the things to think about regarding the LTCCP are:

- What services do you think the city will need in ten years?
- How can we retain the special character that makes people want to live, visit and do business here?
- How can we ensure Wellington remains a place that people can afford to live in?
- To keep rates down, should we reduce some services and the pace we intend to deliver them?

Submissions close for the 2009/19 LTCCP at 5.00pm on Monday 18 May 2009.