

Report No:	RCN11-09-04
File No:	
Date:	9 September 2011
<b>Information Only – no decision required</b>	

## REPORT SUMMARY

**Report to:** Tasman District Council  
**Meeting Date:** 22 September 2011  
**Report Author:** Paul Wylie, Chief Executive  
**Subject:** **Chief Executive's Report RCN11-09-04**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on various matters for the months of August/September.

### RECOMMENDATION/S

That the report be received.

### DRAFT RESOLUTION

**THAT the Tasman District Council receives the Chief Executive's Report RCN11-09-04**

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## **1. STAFF MORALE**

- 1.1 It is important to recognise that once a Chief Executive's resignation date becomes known, the 'lame duck' syndrome takes root and uncertainty begins to pervade the organisation.
- 1.2 I understand that the Council is to consider the appointment of an Acting Chief Executive within a few days. I wish to stress the importance of making this appointment and announcing who will act as Chief Executive as soon as possible in order that business as usual continues within the Council organisation.
- 1.3 I wish to congratulate the Council on making a decision to proceed towards advertising for a new Chief Executive. For the same reasons as outlined above, it is vital that both the public and staff recognise that the Tasman District Council wishes to maintain its momentum and progress towards fulfilling the goals set out in its Long Term Plan. Since 2006 the Tasman District Council has made rapid progress up the economic league table provided every two years by BERL. Sending a clear signal that the Council intends to maintain that momentum with a new Chief Executive is important to both the public and staff stakeholders.
- 1.4 The Council is experiencing uncertain times. There is a pressing need for all Councillors to accept a personal responsibility for maintaining the confidence and loyalty of staff. Can I ask that you ensure that public comments are not made so that hard-working and dedicated staff are left with an impression that they are not valued and that their efforts can be sacrificed for political expediency.

## **2. INDUSTRIAL WATER USERS**

- 2.1 Council is still endeavouring to bring this matter before an arbitrator and had hoped that there would be some resolution before the end of the calendar year. This is now looking increasingly unlikely.

## **3. LEE VALLEY DAM**

- 3.1 Considerable progress has been made by staff working parties in addressing the complex range of variables that need to be resolved before a firm proposal can be placed before all the stakeholders. At this stage I am hopeful that 'in principle' models will be able to be brought back to the Council and other stakeholders within the present calendar year.

## **4. REPRESENTATION ON THE REGIONAL CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S FORUM**

- 4.1 As an interim measure, I have asked Mr Dennis Bush-King to act for the Tasman District Council in my absence. Council is fortunate to have someone of Mr Bush-King's knowledge and ability to fulfil this regional council interface role.

## **5. CHIEF EXECUTIVE TRANSITION ARRANGEMENTS**

- 5.1 To ensure smooth transition I have commenced transferring various ongoing tasks and projects to other officers. In all cases I am acutely aware that I am adding even more workload to people who are already working extremely long hours. However it is vital that the Council's impetus is maintained. I would like to take this opportunity to record my appreciation to those staff for their willingness to take up the challenges that I have placed before them.

## **9. RECOMMENDATION**

That the report be received.

## **10. DRAFT RESOLUTION**

**THAT Tasman District Council receives the Chief Executive's Report  
RCN11-09-04**