

STAFF REPORT

TO: Environment & Planning Committee

FROM: Dennis Bush-king, Environment & Planning Manager

REFERENCE: S611

SUBJECT: **MANAGER'S REPORT - REPORT EP09/11/09** - Report prepared for meeting of 19 November 2009

1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We have received one further notification of a claim being made to the Weather Tight Homes Resolution Service for a dwelling in Golden Bay but happily one other case has been resolved with no cost to Council. The current number of claims should now stand at two.

Prosecution proceedings were initiated against a permit holder acting in contravention of an enforcement order.

2. URBAN DESIGN PANEL

The Council decided to adopt an Urban Design Action Plan in November 2008 and enable independent design review of development projects, preferably at the pre-application stage. It is proposed to have a joint urban design panel that will service the Tasman District and Nelson City Council areas.

Expressions of interest for the Panel were sought from members of professional bodies with an interest in urban design and the launch date will have passed at the time of the meeting (being proposed for 18 November). The Panel members are leading architects, landscape architects, urban designers and planners from around New Zealand and within the local region selected by the Urban Design Champions and Environment and Planning Chairs of both Councils. A minimum of three members will be present at each Panel meeting from the pool of 11 members. A full list of members and information about them will be available at the meeting.

All developers of projects with urban design significance will be invited and encouraged to seek the advice of the Panel before applying for resource or building consent. The Panel will also consider any Council capital project that has significant urban design implications.

Tasman District Council is particularly offering the services of the Panel to developers of:

- Comprehensive and compact residential developments;
- Buildings in the commercial, mixed business, tourist services and central business zones;
- Buildings in township gateway areas; and
- Other major projects in the district
- The use of the Panel's services is voluntary and free (at this stage). The Panel does not have statutory decision-making powers. It will consider projects submitted to it and provide constructive advice and a written report within five working days. The report will be available to applicants and relevant staff. Projects will be assessed against best urban design practice, any relevant design guide and the urban design objectives and policies of each Council.

3. TASMAN NELSON ENVIRONMENT AWARDS 2009

Entries have now closed for the Tasman Nelson Environment Awards 2009. Interest has been high, and numbers of nominees were well up from last year (86 v 36). The Awards ceremony is scheduled for Friday, 20 November at Woollaston Estates with Mr John Palmer, Air New Zealand Chairman the guest speaker. Thanks go to Rob Francis for his organising the event and all his helpers and to the Judges.

4. ECOLOGICAL ADVISORY GROUP

The TRMP aquaculture provisions provide for the establishment of an ecological Advisory Group when applicants are ready to submit the results of their monitoring in order to allow the full block expansion from 50 hectares to 250 hectares. As we have two applications ready to take this step we have called for nominations in accordance with the plan provisions. We received at least two nominees each from the eight identified parties. We ended up with eight nominees because of overlap and finally selected the three required. The panellists are Rob Davidson, Dr Paul Gillespie and Dr Mark James.

5. NATIONAL BOVINE TB PEST MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

A submission has been prepared in response to the Animal Health Board's proposed strategy and a small group comprising the Mayor, Crs Borlase, Bryant and Norriss, and Mr Roy Bensemen Chairman of Tb-Free Tasman met with staff to identify the main elements of a submission. A draft submission will be circulated under separate cover.

6. WAIMEA ESTUARY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

By the time of the meeting we will also have launched the Waimea Estuary Management Strategy. A verbal update will be given at the meeting.

7. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that this report be received.



Dennis Bush-King
Environment and Planning Manager