

# STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Chair and Members, Corporate Services Committee

**FROM:** Corporate Services Manager

**REFERENCE:**

**DATE:** 25 May 2009

**SUBJECT:** **Hubbub**

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## Purpose

To consider a recommendation from Council's Communications Subcommittee.

## Background

At its meeting of 11 March 2009, the Communications Subcommittee passed the following recommendation:

*"That it be recommended to the Corporate Services Committee that Hubbub be discontinued"*

## Discussion

When Hubbub first commenced there was a perceived need to keep Richmond Ward ratepayers informed on what was occurring in their community. The publication has been successful but over time other publications have also focused on Richmond. Whilst these other publications are not funded by Council they do ensure that Richmond ratepayers are kept fully informed. These publications include Waimea Weekly and the Waimea edition of The Leader.

In preparing Hubbub, Council and Dry Crust staff have increasingly found it difficult to ensure that stories contained in Newsline – The Mag are not duplicated in Hubbub. Often stories are left out of one publication to avoid a clash.

In addition, Newsline – The Mag is promoted as the one place to go for Council information. With articles appearing in Hubbub and not always Newsline, this objective is not always being achieved.

Newsline has recently moved to a 12-page publication every second issue which means space is now available for ward-specific issues to be covered, if and when required.

Hubbub is produced at a cost of \$16,596 per annum.

## **Significance**

The recommendation is not considered significant as noted in Council's Significance Policy.

## **Options**

### **Option 1**

Hubbub remains on a quarterly basis.

### **Option 2**

Hubbub be discontinued with the resulting saving of \$16,596 per annum.

## **Recommendation**

That Hubbub be discontinued from 30 June 2009.

Murray Staite  
Corporate Services Manager