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**MARLBOROUGH  
DISTRICT COUNCIL**



Only Marlborough

16 April 2021

Record No: 2173583  
File Ref: D050-001-E01  
Ask For: Nicole Chauval

## **Notice of Committee Meeting – Thursday 22 April 2021**

A meeting of the Environment Committee will be held in the Council Chambers, 15 Seymour Street, Blenheim on Thursday, **22 April 2021 commencing at 9.00 am.**

### **BUSINESS**

As per Agenda attached.

**MARK WHEELER  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**



**Meeting of the ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE  
to be held in the Council Chambers, District Administration Building, Seymour Street,  
on THURSDAY, 22 APRIL 2021 commencing at 9.00 am**

**Committee**

Mayor J C Leggett (Chairperson)  
Clr D D Oddie (Deputy)  
Clr G A Hope (Deputy)  
Clr J A Arbuckle  
Clr J D N Croad  
Clr B A Faulls  
Clr T P Sowman  
Iwi Representative (to be advised)  
Mr E R Beech (Rural representative)

**Departmental Head**

Mr H Versteegh (Environmental Science and Policy Group Manager)  
and Ms G Ferguson (Consents and Compliance Group Manager)

**Staff**

Nicole Chauval (Committee Secretary)

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**In Public**

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## **1. Apologies**

No apologies received.

## **2. Declaration of Interests**

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a member and any private or other external interest they might have.

### 3. Resource Hearing Commissioner Decisions

(also refer to separate attachment)

#### 1. Resource Hearing Commissioner Hearings held on 17 December 2020 (U190814), 23 February 2021 (U200816) and 2 March 2021 (U191018)

Full copies of the Decisions are **separately attached** to the Agenda.

A summary of these Decisions follows:

#### Schedule of Resource Hearing Commissioner Decisions

Pages	Date	Subject	Decision
1 - 40	17 December 2020	Rarangi Golf Club Incorporated - Application for Resource Consent - Water Permit (Take Water) and Water Permit (Use Water) x2 - 217 Rarangi Beach Road, Rarangi (U190814)	<b>GRANTED</b> Water Permit (Take Water) and Water Permit (Use Water) x2 to take Rarangi Shallow FMU water from Well P28w/4808 and a pond at Grid Reference 1686720mE541640mN up to a maximum combined rate of 600m <sup>3</sup> and to take Rarangi Shallow FMU water from Well P28w/1634 up to a maximum rate of 50m <sup>3</sup> per day; to use water from Well P28w/4808 and the pond for the purposes of irrigating up to 11.9ha of greens, tees, fairways and trees on Lot 1 DP2477, Lot 1 DP8705 and Lot 5 DP319420; and to use water from Well P28w/1634 to supply water to a golf clubhouse, buildings and lawns, gardens and practice areas on Lot 1 DP2477.
41 - 56	23 February 2021	Gareth Kingsley Goodsir - Application for Resource Consent - Subdivision (Allotment Creation) - 1193 Kaituna-Tuamarina Road, Kaituna (U200816)	<b>DECLINED</b> Subdivision (Allotment Creation) to subdivide Lot 2 DP 314235 into two separate lots.
57 - 74	2 March 2021	Ants Nest Tabula Rasa Limited - Application for Resource Consent - Water Permit (Take Water) x 2 and Water Permit (Use Water) x 2 - 596 Kaituna-Tuamarina Road, Waikakaho Valley (U191018)	<b>GRANTED</b> Water Permit (Take Water) x 2 and Water Permit (Use Water) x 2 to abstract Waikakaho FMU water up to a maximum rate of 535 cubic metres per day up to 41,232 cubic metres per year during the irrigation season from well P28w/4650 located on Lot 6 DP 411361; to use water for the irrigation of up to 24.34 hectares of vineyard on Lots 1 - 7 DP 411361; to abstract Waikakaho FMU water up to a maximum rate of 535 cubic metres per day and 2,434 cubic metres per year outside the irrigation season from well P28w/4650 located on Lot 6 DP 411361; and use water for ancillary uses on Lots 1 - 7 DP 411361.

## 4. Gravel Bed Rivers National Project Update

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(Clr Hope) (Report prepared by Peter Davidson)

E345-007-001

### Purpose of Report

1. Update MDC on progress and interim findings of the national Gravels Bed Rivers Project, particularly those relating to the Wairau River.

### Executive Summary

2. The Gravel Bed Rivers (GBR) project is a 5`five year national study focused on the water exchange between alluvial aquifers which supply a significant amount of the municipal drinking water and crop irrigation water in New Zealand, and braided rivers which is their principal source of recharge.
3. The GBR project recognises the limitation of many surface based investigation techniques by using a suite of new geophysical tools and real time subsurface observations techniques to provide fresh insights into the hydraulics.
4. Most of the initial investigation arrays have been established although the fibre optic cable using directional drilling beneath the Wairau River channel is still to be done. Initial geophysical surveys have been completed but will be repeated several times, while thermal imaging of channel water relies on the natural contrast in temperature between groundwater and river water.
5. The initial findings from the field observations and modelling show a complex hydraulic connection exists, but steady progress is being made. Flow exchange is controlled by the river deposited gravels which are being modified by changes in natural catchment sediment load, climate, localised human activities and hydrology.

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### RECOMMENDATION

**That the information be received.**

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### Background/Context

6. The Wairau Aquifer is part of the national Gravel bed Rivers (GBR) research project scheduled to last 5 years. The outputs of the project are expected to:
  - 6.1 *Identify the natural versus man-made drivers of changes over time in gravel bed rivers and their implications on hydraulically connected alluvial aquifers*
  - 6.2 *Identify those drivers that can be managed or regulated versus those that are induced by changes in natural systems (climate variability and sea-level rise channel profile)*
7. The project is predominantly funded by central government with contributions for MDC, HBRC and ECAN.
8. The Wairau Aquifer is the predominant alluvial aquifer system beneath the Wairau Plain. It supplies all of the municipal drinking water for Blenheim, Renwick and Woodbourne along with most rural drinking water. Most crop irrigation and potable winery wash-down water is also supplied from the Wairau Aquifer. Groundwater is a valuable resource nationally also.
9. A declining trend in Wairau Aquifer levels has been observed at western Wairau Plain MDC monitor wells since 1973, which pre-dates the Marlborough wine industry.

10. While the declining trend of around 1 metre over 50 years may not appear large at an average of 20 mm/year, the risk is if it continues over the very long-term, groundwater springs may dry up and ultimately there could be seawater intrusion of our coastal aquifers.
11. Given the depleted storage volume of the Wairau Aquifer after a series of dry summers since 2014 and minor Wairau River activity through the past winter recharge period, current levels of consented abstraction are also compounding the issue.
12. Similar issues have been observed to a greater or lesser degree at braided rivers in Canterbury and Hawkes Bay. However regional differences in geology, river management, hydrology, catchment sediment yield and land-use mean the symptoms are not always apparent.
13. Identifying the drivers via the GBR is a priority project for MDC, given the longer term regional scale implications for flood control, reliability of consented water consents, wetland health and security of coastal groundwater supply.
14. The causes of the decline are known to be incremental and long-acting. These drivers have been actively investigated over the past decade, but research is challenging because most of what goes on is hidden beneath the surface with measurements often indirect in nature.

## Presentation

A remote presentation will be given by Scott Wilson, Hydrogeologist (Lincoln Agritech Limited) from Lincoln in Canterbury on what has been achieved and interim findings for the Selwyn River, Ngaruroro River and Wairau River with a particular emphasis on local activities (15 minutes).

Author	Peter Davidson, Groundwater Scientist
Authoriser	Alan Johnson, Environmental Science and Monitoring Manager

## 5. Wells & Geology Database

(Clr Hope) (Report prepared by Peter Davidson)

E345-007-001

### Purpose of Report

1. To inform the Committee that the Wells & Geology (W & G) database is now operational and to provide an overview of its worth to the organisation/Marlborough community.

### Executive Summary

2. After four years of development and quality checking of records, the upgraded Wells & Geology (W & G) database is now live and actively being used by Marlborough District Council and the local drilling company.
3. A novel feature of W & G is it provides an electronic portal for water well drilling companies to send well records to Marlborough District Council online saving significant staff time, while providing all data not just a summary and eliminating transfer errors.
4. Information from the database has many Marlborough District Council applications including the assessment of liquefaction risk in 2020, a lithologic review for the recharge mechanism model and 3D modelling of subsurface hydrogeology. Well locations and drillers logs or records are mapped and made available to the public via Smartmaps on the Marlborough District Council website.

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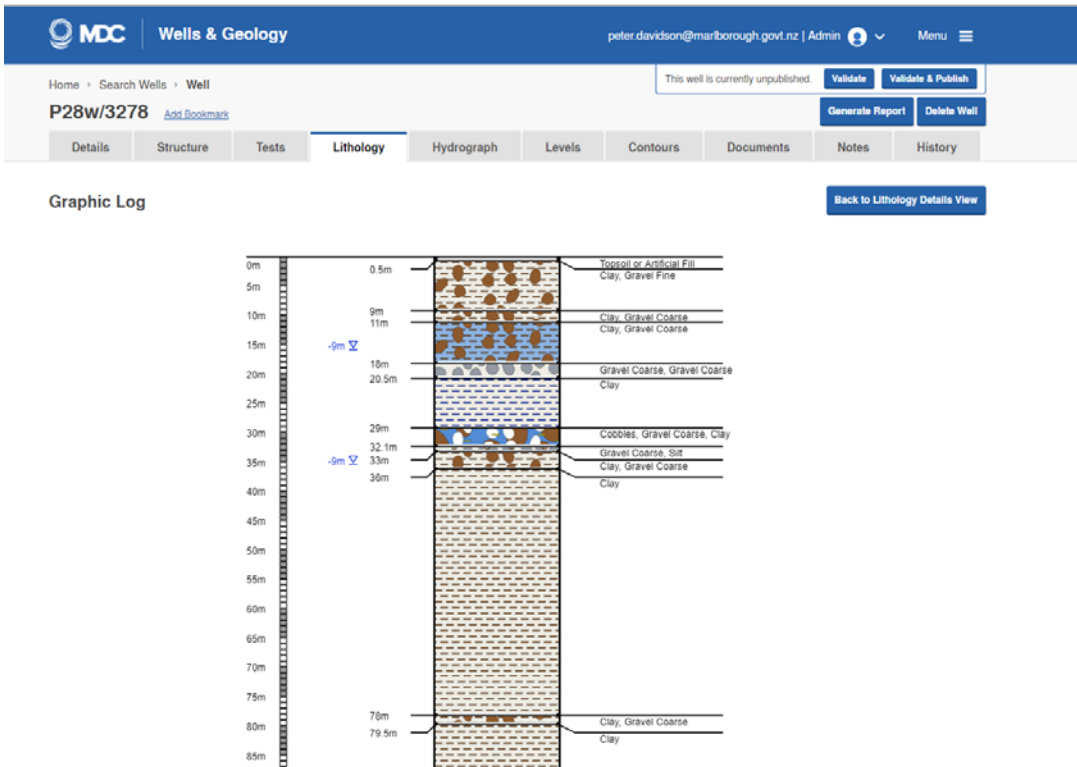
## RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

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### Background/Context

5. Most of what Marlborough District Council and the province of Marlborough have learnt about their underground water resources has come from the recorded observations of well drillers over the past 150 years describing the construction of around 6,000 water wells.
6. Keeping these records safe and in a single, easy to query repository has been a long-term aim. The recent re-structuring of the W & G database including a significant amount of record quality assurance, contributed to achieving this long-term goal.
7. The original database was built by the Marlborough Catchment Board back in the mid-1970s and the system has been upgraded with many more well records added over this time. The investment by Marlborough District Council and its predecessors in development and data checking is small over the almost half century of its existence.
8. The figures below show some of the graphical features of the database including a map of well locations/numbers and a well section showing changes in geology with depth.



- The latest restructuring was necessitated by the software of the existing database becoming obsolete and the MEP making well construction a permitted activity dependant on electronic transfer of drilling records.



10. Another driver was the original intention to include geotechnical data being generated following the Kaikoura and Christchurch earthquakes. The decision was made by Marlborough District Council for the W & G database to concentrate on water wells because the National Geotechnical database run by EQC was the logical library for specialised geotechnical records.
11. To allow for the electronic transfer of drillers logs as the MEP required, the existing system had to be upgraded and the opportunity was taken to make other enhancements that better suited organisational requirements.

## **Presentation**

Peter Davidson will demonstrate the W & G database and some of its applications (10 minutes).

Author	Peter Davidson, Groundwater Scientist
Authoriser	Alan Johnson, Environmental Science and Monitoring Manager

## 6. Climatic Change Report

(also refer to separate report available on Council's website)

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(Clr Hope)

E320-004-20

### Purpose of Report

1. The report on Climate Change projections and impacts for Marlborough has been prepared for Council by NIWA (NIWA report 2121031WN) in order to inform Council of areas where Climate change impacts may require further investigation and actions.

### Executive Summary

2. The report summarises likely changes in temperature, rainfall, drought, and sea level rise in the Marlborough District over the remainder of this century, and discusses the probable impacts of these changes on river flows, droughts, forestry, horticulture, and ecosystem and human health.
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### RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received.

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### Presentation

A presentation will be given by Gregor Macara (Climate Scientist - NIWA) (30 minutes).

Author	Val Wadsworth, Environmental Scientist - Hydrology
Authoriser	Alan Johnson, Environmental Science and Monitoring Manager

## 7. D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Charitable Trust - Rangitoto Birdsong Project

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(Chairperson) (Report prepared by Jono Underwood)

E315-018-002

### Purpose of Report

1. To consider the re-confirmation of Council funding, and variation to the existing funding agreement with the D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Charitable Trust (DISECT) who are delivering the Rangitoto Birdsong Project.

### Executive Summary

2. The Rangitoto Birdsong Project is overseen by DISECT and has the objective of eradicating stoats from Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island and ultimately returning birdsong to the island.
3. Council committed \$500,000 toward the project over 6 years, during the 2019/20 Annual Plan process.
4. Due to some delays early in 2020, and then land access issues, the project was put on hold. DISECT are now wishing to re-activate the project and seeking re-confirmation of support from funding partners.
5. There continues to be uncertainties and a degree of risk for the project, primarily relating to the land access issues. However, the funding partners need to balance that risk with the potential benefits of such a project should it be able to re-activate successfully.
6. A considered response to the re-activation request is recommended.

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### RECOMMENDATIONS

1. **That the information be received.**
  2. **That approval be given to vary the existing funding agreement with the D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Charitable Trust to begin in the 2021/2022 Financial Year on the condition that a suitable plan is established prior to 30 June 2021 outlining how the current issues are going to be addressed to achieve an equivalent project outcome.**
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### Background/Context

7. In 2018, the D'Urville Island Stoat Eradication Charitable Trust (DISECT) finalised a case and project plan that attracted cornerstone support from Predator Free NZ Limited with the ambition of eradicating stoats from Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island. DISECT also gained support and commitment from the Rata Foundation as another cornerstone funder.
8. As a result of a submission by DISECT to Council during the Annual Plan process for 2019/20, Council also committed \$500,000 of funding over six years beginning in the 2020/21 financial year on the condition a feasible project plan could be finalised.
9. This project plan was finalised and as such, a funding agreement was established between DISECT and Council with annual payments would be made on the basis that appropriate milestones were met.
10. In early 2020, while the project plan was finalised, there were some minor delays with the project. Then with the Covid-19 pandemic, the project was required to push sequencing by one year to ensure the trapping network was established and 'opened' at the optimal time.

11. In late 2020, through the planned process of re-confirming all the landholder access agreements, two landholders changed their position and no longer provided access for the project. One of the landholdings is a significant portion of the island.
12. As a result of this issue arising, DISECT made the decision to place the project on pause while working through the land access issues. This put a stop to all operational activities and associated expenditure while Trustees worked on finding a suitable resolution going forward.
13. The Council funding agreement with DISECT outlined that the first payment could essentially be made at any point in the 2020/21 financial year. As a result, the funding agreement was left to sit in the hope a resolution could be found without the need to vary the agreement.
14. In March 2021, DISECT have approached the funding bodies with a proposition to 're-activate' the project. The land access issue is still present, however the situation becomes a "chicken and egg" discussion regarding re-confirming funding in order to re-activate.
15. The primary funding bodies – Predator Free NZ Limited, Rata Foundation and Council have discussed the situation and how to move forward with what are greater levels of uncertainty while still holding optimism for the project.
16. To address the financial risk of committing funding upfront while DISECT work through the initial phases of re-activation, Predator Free NZ Limited has offered for solely their funding to support DISECT in the initial re-activation phase. This will take the project to a point where either the project risks can be assessed as being surmountable or not. The timeframe for this has been identified as being by 30 June 2021.

### **Assessment/Analysis**

17. Council is in a position of assessing the risks associated with continuing financial support for the project balanced with the potential positive biodiversity outcomes. It is also in a scenario where there are other funding partners in a project where alignment is critical.

### **Option One (Recommended Option)**

18. Undertake a variation to the existing funding agreement to continue the commitment of Council funding but now commencing in the 2021/22 financial year. The variation is to be conditional on a suitable plan being provided to Council (and the other funding bodies) by 30 June 2021 that outlines how the current project risks associated with land access are going to be managed in order to meet the equivalent project outcomes.
19. Should this plan on moving forward either not be provided, or in the opinion of all the funding bodies does not address the project risks, then the termination clause within the agreement is to be triggered.

#### *Advantages*

20. This provides continued (be it conditional) Council support to the project at a time of some uncertainty for DISECT.
21. No funding is being provided up-front, and at risk given the uncertainties.

#### *Disadvantages*

22. Nil.

### **Option Two**

23. Terminate the funding agreement effective immediately due to the level of uncertainties and risks associated with the project.

### *Advantages*

24. The removal of the associated financial commitment on Council in the years 2020/21 – 2026/27.

### *Disadvantages*

25. The project loses the financial support of the local authority which could result in withdrawal of other financial support.
26. Council would no longer be supporting what is seen as a marquee biodiversity project on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island that has tremendous level support on the island.

### **Next steps**

27. Continue dialogue between the primary funding partners and DISECT as the Trust develops the re-activation and works to resolves the land access issue.
28. The Council funding agreement will be varied to reflect the resolution of Council.

### **Presentation**

The Chairperson of both DISECT and the Rangitoto Birdsong Project Governance Committee – Rupert Wilson – will be present to answer any questions. (15 minutes).

Author	Jono Underwood, Biosecurity Manager
Authoriser	Alan Johnson, Environmental Science & Monitoring Manager

<b>Summary of decision-making considerations</b>			
<b>Fit with purpose of local government</b>			
The proposal enables Council to make an informed and objective decision associated with the support for the Rangitoto Birdsong project.			
<b>Fit with Council policies and strategies</b>			
	<i>Contributes</i>	<i>Detracts</i>	<i>Not applicable</i>
LTP / Annual Plan	<b>X</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Financial Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
Infrastructure Strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
Social well-being	<b>X</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
Environment & RMA Plans	<b>X</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Arts & Culture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
3 Waters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
Land transport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
Parks and reserves	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>X</b>
This proposal contributes to the protection and maintenance of biodiversity values on Rangitoto ki te Tonga/D'Urville Island.			
<b>Nature of the decision to be made</b>			
Both options involve a significant decision in relation to land or a body of water.			
The relationship of Māori and their culture and traditions with their ancestral land, water, sites, wahi tapu, valued flora and fauna, and other taonga have been identified.			
For either option, the support and success (or otherwise) of the Rangitoto Birdsong Project will have impacts on the terrestrial ecosystems on the island. Either the project proceeds - or the project does not proceed and the gains in biodiversity as a result of stoat eradication are realised or not.			
<b>Financial considerations</b>			
The project (\$500,000 total) has been budgeted for in Biosecurity budgets evenly across 2020/21 to 2026/27 to. As a result of the variation to the funding agreement, the spread of payments will need to be shifted to span financial years 2021/22 to 2027/28, still totalling \$500,000.			
Should the condition not be met, the funding agreement can be terminated with the budgeted \$500,000 total demand over six years no longer be required. Equally, should the project cease at a future reconsideration point within the agreement, the remaining years' funding will no longer be required.			
<b>Significance</b>			
The decision is considered of low significance under Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.			
<b>Engagement</b>			
Engagement has occurred with DISECT, Predator Free NZ Limited, Rata Foundation and the Department of Conservation.			

### ***Summary of decision-making considerations***

Engagement across the existing funding bodies has relating to forward looking milestones and sequences and resulting in the situation articulated within the recommended option.

Engagement with the Department of Conservation (Nelson) resulted in the confirmation that their stance on the project has not changed. Their stance is that while they support community conservation efforts generally, they continue to hold reservations whether this project investment focussed on stoats will realise the anticipated net conservation outcomes. They are also concerned in the reliance of advances in technology around monitoring, trapping and lures to achieve the project outcomes. Nonetheless, they have entered into a community agreement with DISECT to facilitate project across public conservation land on the island.

#### ***Risks: Legal / Health & Safety, etc***

There are no known significant risks or legal implications as this relates to an existing engagement.

#### ***Climate Change Implications***

There are no known climate change implications to this decision.

## 8. Markets/Events Inspections – Update

(Cllr Faulls) (Report prepared by Georgia Murrin)

E350-004-009-02

### Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the inspections undertaken by the Environmental Health Team of markets and events in Marlborough from 1 July 2020 to June 2021.

### Executive Summary

2. Environmental Health Officers and Technicians continue to routinely inspect markets and events in Marlborough to ensure compliance with the legislative requirements of both the Food Act 2014 and the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012 and provide the public with confidence in the safety of the food they are purchasing from these markets.

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## RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received.

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### Background/Context

3. Under the Health Act 1956, the Local Authority is directed to complete inspections of its district regularly for the purpose of ascertaining if any conditions likely to be injurious to health or offensive exist in the district.
4. Under the Food Act 2014 a person selling food for human consumption must be registered to do so unless they are fundraising less than 20 times a year or are operating only once a year for personal profit.
5. Food Stall licences that were previously provided to vendors have been disestablished as businesses are already charged with the registration fee and verification costs. If a vendor travels outside of the district they have to get a third party verifier to complete their verification. Marlborough currently does not have any third party verifiers in the district so there is an increased cost for this as they usually have to pay travel fees on top of verification cost.
6. Under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012, a Special Licence is required to sell alcohol at a location where a licence is not held. When a Special Licence is issued it has conditions outlining what is required.
7. Environmental Health Officers/Technicians inspect all major events where food or alcohol is sold, and inspect regular markets throughout the year.
8. Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic some major events that are held in the district have either been postponed or cancelled however the team has still managed to inspect 12 markets/events to date. The annual Plan 2020/21 performance target is for 12 or more markets and events to be inspected during the year.

### Current Inspections

9. To date we have inspected 12 Markets:-
  - Farmers Market (Twice in this period)
  - Car Boot Sale
  - Friday Night Feast
  - Marlborough Garden Fete
  - Mistletoe Market



- Christmas Festival
  - Maritime Festival
  - Market Day
  - Maori Night Market
  - Havelock Mussel Festival
  - Relay For Life
10. When inspecting food stalls we look for the ability to wash hands if they are cooking or handling food as well as basic food safety procedures. Before an event occurs we request from the event coordinator a list of food stall holders to check they have an active registration on the Ministry for Primary Industries registered food business database. This is to minimise disruption on the day of the event and work with food stall holders to ensure they meet the requirements.
  11. When inspecting alcohol sites we are checking for compliance with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. In particular they must display their duty manager's name and have free water readily available. They must also show compliance with their special licence conditions which may include specifics such as fencing and security requirements, availability of food and non-alcoholic options, and maximum serve size or vessel type.
  12. Of the 12 markets inspected this year to date there have been no significant non-compliances noted. Before an event commences we have prepared a basic pamphlet that can be provided to stall holders detailing the basic requirements such as handwashing, temperature controls and knowing allergens within the foods.
  13. An educative approach is usually the first step to resolve any minor issues or concerns.

## Presentation

A short presentation will be given by Georgia Murrin (10 minutes).

Author	Georgia Murrin, Environmental Health Technician
Authoriser	Karen Winter, Team Leader Environmental Health

## 9. Dog Microchipping Campaign

(Clr Arbuckle) (Report prepared by Jane Robertson)

E305-006-005-01

### Purpose of Report

1. To update the Committee on the microchipping campaign which Animal Control is undertaking.

### Executive Summary

2. Animal Control is embarking on a microchipping campaign to capture those dogs which are not currently microchipped and improve compliance with the microchipping requirements in the Dog Control Act 1996.

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## RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received.

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### Background/Context

3. All dogs registered for the first time on or after the 1 July 2006 are required under section 36A of the Dog Control Act 1996 to be inserted with a microchip of the prescribed type NZS/ISO Standard and in the prescribed manner.
4. Dogs that are registered as working dogs are not required to be microchipped.
5. Puppies must be microchipped within two months of their first registration.
6. All dogs (if they are not already microchipped) must be microchipped prior to release from the pound.
7. Animal Control will be running an amnesty for the month of May 2021 for un-microchipped dogs to encourage owners who have not microchipped their dogs.
8. There will be a discounted special amnesty price of \$15.00 for Animal Control to microchip dogs in the month of May. The reduced fee from \$25.00 to \$15.00 allows covering costs only and does not include Animal Control Officer time.
9. Alternatively dog owners need to provide certification to Animal Control from a veterinarian that their dog has been microchipped or dogs can be presented to Animal Control to verify that their dog has been implanted with a functioning microchip of the prescribed type and in the prescribed location.

### Numbers outstanding that need microchipping

10. There are 874 dogs (as of 6 April 2021) which are not microchipped that should be.
11. The breakdown of categories and numbers of dogs currently registered and microchipped in Marlborough (as of 6 April 2021) is detailed in the table below:

Registration Category	Numbers Registered	Numbers Microchipped
Responsible Dog Owner Category 1	5,033	5,033
Standard Dog Category 2 (this includes menacing dogs)	3,057	2,217
Working Dogs	1,757	154
Old Dogs	777	679
Dangerous Dogs	9	9

<b>Registration Category</b>	<b>Numbers Registered</b>	<b>Numbers Microchipped</b>
Certified Companion Dog	7	6
Guide Dog	3	3
Police Dog	3	3
Hearing Dog	2	2
<b>Total dogs</b>	<b>10, 645 registered</b>	<b>8,108 microchipped</b>

12. Any person who fails to comply with the microchipping requirements by failing to confirm the microchipping of a dog by presenting it for verification or not providing certification can be issued with a \$300.00 infringement notice.

### **Benefits of microchipping**

13. There are a number of benefits of having dogs' microchipped. Microchipping is a permanent means of identifying dogs.
14. All the dogs and owners details are loaded on to the National Dog Data Base so dogs can be found anywhere in New Zealand which makes it easy to reunite lost and found dogs.
15. Microchipping can be a deterrent for people stealing dogs.
16. In Marlborough, dogs that are microchipped and desexed are generally entitled to the lower Responsible Dog Owner annual dog registration fee of \$60 compared to the Standard Dog registration fee of \$90.

### **Next steps**

17. At the end of April 2021, letters will be sent to all dog owners who do not have their dogs' microchipped to notify them of their legal obligations and inform them of the microchipping special that Animal Control will be holding for the month of May.
18. At the end of May 2021, the numbers of microchipped dogs will be reviewed. Infringements will be issued to owners of any remaining dogs which are not microchipped after the amnesty period is completed. However, the infringement notices will be waived if microchipping certification or verification can be provided within 28 days of the notice being issued.
19. There is some confusion that once a dog has been microchipped that Animal Control will automatically know that a microchip has been registered. Therefore, Animal Control will be contacting the local vet clinics to let them know that dog owners may be requesting microchip certification from them as a result of the letters being sent out.
20. Communication will be on social media and the newspapers to inform dog owners of the microchipping campaign and special discounted price at Animal Control for the month of May.
21. A follow up report will be provided to the Environment Committee to update on the results of the microchipping campaign.

Author	Jane Robertson, Animal Control Contract Manager
Authoriser	Jamie Clark, Compliance Manager

## 10. Information Package

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### RECOMMENDATION

That the Regulatory Department Information Package dated 22 April 2021 be received and noted.

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