

## Council Briefing Agenda

**Date:** Thursday, 19 October, 2017

**Time:** 12:30 pm

**Location:** Committee Room 1  
Forum North, Rust Avenue  
Whangarei

**Elected Members:** Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai  
(Chairperson)

Cr Stu Bell

Cr Crichton Christie

Cr Vince Cocurullo

Cr Tricia Cutforth

Cr Shelley Deeming

Cr Sue Glen

Cr Phil Halse

Cr Cherry Hermon

Cr Greg Innes

Cr Greg Martin

Cr Sharon Morgan

Cr Anna Murphy

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact  
the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

**1. Apologies**

**2. Reports**

- 2.1 Camping in Public Places Bylaw - Summer 2017/18 monitoring and options 1

**3. Closure of Meeting**

## 2.1 Camping in Public Places Bylaw – summer 2017/2018 monitoring and options

**Meeting:** Whangarei District Council  
**Date of meeting:** 19 October 2017  
**Reporting officer:** Reiner Mussle, Acting Health and Bylaws Manager  
Shireen Munday, Strategic Planner

### 1 Purpose

To present a range of options for monitoring and enforcing the Camping in Public Places Bylaw for the 2017/2018 financial year together with associated costs.

### 2 Background

An information report on enforcement options for the Camping in Public Places Bylaw was provided at the 28 September Council meeting.

At that meeting, Council requested a briefing to more fully discuss the various enforcement options presented.

### 3 Discussion

Staff have revisited the item presented at the 28 September 2017 meeting and have further analysed the enforcement requirements, as well as reviewing the budgets for the 2017/2018 year.

The key factors for consideration for a camping bylaw enforcement regime are:

- Daily or regular monitoring of either all or selected sites in the District. This allows for both educational and enforcement activities during the monitoring visits
- responding to complaints as a Priority 1 (site visit within a max of 2 hours of receipt depending on location) and taking enforcement action as required
- responding to complaints as Priority 3 or 4 within the general prioritisation for all other enforcement activities (site visits within up to 48/72 hours) and taking enforcement action if possible.

In determining the daily or regular monitoring option, 33 key sites were identified as being suitable for such a regime, the remaining 27 sites of the schedules of the Bylaw are not considered high risk sites, nor is the remainder of the District where self-contained camping can occur. However, changes to the regime are possible with some sites being added/removed as required. The following options are based on these 33 key sites.

### 3.1 Options

| Options  | What   | Approach  | Cost          |
|----------|--|---|---------------|
| Option 1 | Daily monitoring of sites  | Daytime/evening/morning as appropriate. Enforcement and education activities undertaken during monitoring as required. Complaints responded to as Priority 1 24/7.                                  | \$930 per day |
| Option 2 | Regular monitoring of sites, at least every 2 <sup>nd</sup> day, some key sites (<10) daily        | Daytime/evening/morning as appropriate. Enforcement and education activities undertaken during monitoring as required. Complaints responded to outside of monitoring timeframes as Priority 3 or 4. | \$612 per day |
| Option 3 | Regular (every 2/3 day) monitoring of sites for enforcement purposes, some key sites (< 10) daily. | Focus on enforcement activities during night time periods. Minimal educational activities. Complaints responded to as Priority 1 24/7   | \$425 per day |
| Option 4 | Complaints response only – Priority 1  | Complaints responded to as Priority 1, nighttime focus.   | \$265 per day |
| Option 5 | Complaints response only – Priority 3/4  | Complaints acted on within existing contract and prioritised against other complaints received (e.g. dogs, noise etc.)  | \$0 *         |

\* Note: this is based on complaints remaining relatively static compared to previous years and the cost being accommodated within the existing contract provisions. Should there be a significant increase in complaints received, a review of the contract will be required.

### 3.2 Summer/winter issues

Due to the nature of the activity there is a clear difference in monitoring and enforcement requirements depending on the time of year.

Staff have further analysed the expected enforcement requirements for the summer, shoulder and winter periods. A 'complaints only' option for the winter period (Option 5 above) was not provided for in the original item but is considered feasible by staff.

The 28 September items discussed a longer and a shorter summer season, the seasons have been split into the following table based on this:

|                 |   |          |
|-----------------|---|----------|
| Spring Shoulder | Labour Weekend to 19 December                         | 60 days  |
| Summer          | 20 December to Waitangi                               | 49 days  |
| Autumn Shoulder | Day after Waitangi to Easter Monday                   | 55 days  |
| Winter          | Tuesday after Easter to Friday before Labour Weekend. | 201 days |

All the Options and associated costs provided under 3.1 of this report can be applied to the seasons as required/preferred.

### 3.3 Budget

The Acting Health and Bylaws Manager has undertaken a further review of the 2017/2018 enforcement budgets. This review shows that a budget of \$120,000 has been allocated to summer monitoring and enforcement activities and this funding is available to support a monitoring/enforcement regime for the Camping in Public Places Bylaw.

The budgeting activities for the Long-Term Plan will include a review of the enforcement programme after the summer period, to make a recommendation as part of that process for future years.

### 3.4 Recommendation

The Acting Health and Bylaws Manager has discussed an appropriate monitoring and enforcement programme with the contractor as well as the Parks and Recreation Department. The following programme is considered feasible and can be met within existing budgets.

| Season          | Option   | Cost                       |
|-----------------|----------|----------------------------|
| Spring Shoulder | Option 2 | 60 days x \$612 = \$36,720 |
| Summer          | Option 1 | 49 days x \$930 = \$45,570 |
| Autumn Shoulder | Option 2 | 55 days x \$612 = 33,660   |
| Winter          | Option 5 | 201 days x \$0 = \$0       |

**Total cost for remaining 2017/2018 year: \$115,950.**

An alternative option would be to increase the monitoring regime to Option 1 for the Autumn Shoulder, which is considered the busier of the two shoulder seasons. This would increase the overall budgeted cost to \$133,440. This would be achievable within existing operational budgets of the Health and Bylaws Department, or the number of days could be extended to meet the available budget of \$120,000.

### 3.5 Next steps

Based on the discussion of Council at this meeting, staff can bring a supplementary item to the 26 October Council meeting for a resolution to confirm the preferred approach.