



R E P O R T	TO	POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE
	FROM	Mark Buttimore, P&E Service Manager
	FILE REF	05.001.999 - OO193687.rtf
	DATE	25 May 2004
	SUBJECT	CLIMATE CHANGE

INTRODUCTION

Attached for the information of Councillors are two documents relating to Climate Change and possible local government involvement in ongoing programmes and processes relating to this.

- Climate Change Partnership – Local Government New Zealand.
- Communities for Climate Protection New Zealand.

The initiatives described in these documents are a direct result of New Zealand being a signatory to the Kyoto Protocol.

CLIMATE CHANGE PARTNERSHIP

The memo from Local Government New Zealand is self explanatory and as the partnership develops the Hauraki District Council will be kept advised of developments and opportunities.

It is interesting to note that a recent amendment to the Resource Management Act now requires Councils to take account of effects of climate change in their governance, regulatory and environmental roles. The Council will certainly need to address at a policy level the effects of climate change in its proposed District Plan Review.

COMMUNITIES FOR CLIMATE PROTECTION NEW ZEALAND

This document gives an explanation of a new 'climate change' programme to be launched in the next few months. The parties sponsoring the development of the programme are inviting expressions of interest from local authorities to take part in the initial development and implementation of the Local Climate Action Plans.

The purpose and content of such plans is explained in the document.

It is my view that the initial partners in these programmes should be those Councils where the development of such plans could result in significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. There are already a number of larger Councils (Waitakarere, Christchurch) who already involved in this area.

I believe it is appropriate the Hauraki District Council takes a monitoring role at this stage to assess the viability of such plans. This would also be an appropriate measure as a number of national issues need to be clarified relating to greenhouse gas production in rural areas.

RECOMMENDATION

That the information be received and that Council be kept informed on the implementation of the Climate Change Partnership and the development of Local Climate Action Plans.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Buttimore', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mark Buttimore
P&E Service Manager