



R E P O R T	TO	PLANNING AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
	FROM	Mark Buttimore, P&E Service Manager
	FILE REF	01.010.023 - OO194195.rtf
	DATE	2 June 2004
	SUBJECT	MAY 2004

RECOMMENDATION
THAT the report be received;

ACTING MANAGERS REPORT

The following is the report on activities within the Planning & Environmental Services Department for the month of May 2004.

NEWMONT WAIHI OPERATIONS

Vibration Exceedance

Further discussions have been held with the company in relation to the vibration exceedances and vibration monitor calibration. The data provided by the company has been peer reviewed by an independent expert. I have prepared a proposal for the company's consideration which includes replacement of key vibration monitors with the new type of monitor proposed for the Favona mine. The proposal also includes Quality Assurance Procedures, independent certification of calibration, joint training of staff and real-time access to the monitoring system.

The company have been very cooperative with regards to our request for information and if we are able to reach an agreement on the proposal I would be in a position to recommend the withdrawal of the proposed prosecution.

Martha Pit Bond Rehabilitation

Agreement has been reached between Environment Waikato, the company and Hauraki District Council relating to the review of the Martha mine bonds. In effect this means that the current bonds remain in place until 30th June 2004 and will be reviewed following that date.

Martha Noise Mitigation Plan

Agreement has now been reached on the content and procedures in this plan with the addition of a quarterly report to the Council on the effects of its operation and a review clause should unforeseen issues arise.

Favona Decline Noise Management Plan

Favona Decline Noise Mitigation Plan

Negotiations on these documents continue and these are very important as these documents will form the base of the plans for the Favona mine.

The major issue of contention relates to the measurement of noise and other than nil metrological conditions. I have advised the company that we will be expecting to alter the noise measurements provisions as they currently apply to the Martha mine to match those required by the Favona consent. I am awaiting final advice from Council's noise consultant on current standards for noise measurement.

Favona Vibration Management Plan

Further consideration of this document will not take place until the conditions relating to blasting issues in the consent are finalised and agreed.

Favona Appeal

There are only two outstanding issues:-

- Blasting
- Polishing stock pile – operation at night

Negotiations are occurring on both in the hope that settlement can be reached without the necessity for a protracted Environment Court hearing.

Long Term Council Community Plan

While this report is being prepared prior to the hearing of submissions I believe the 2004 LTCCP process has been robust and in keeping with both the spirit and intent of the Local Government Act. The document presentation and content has generally been very well received.

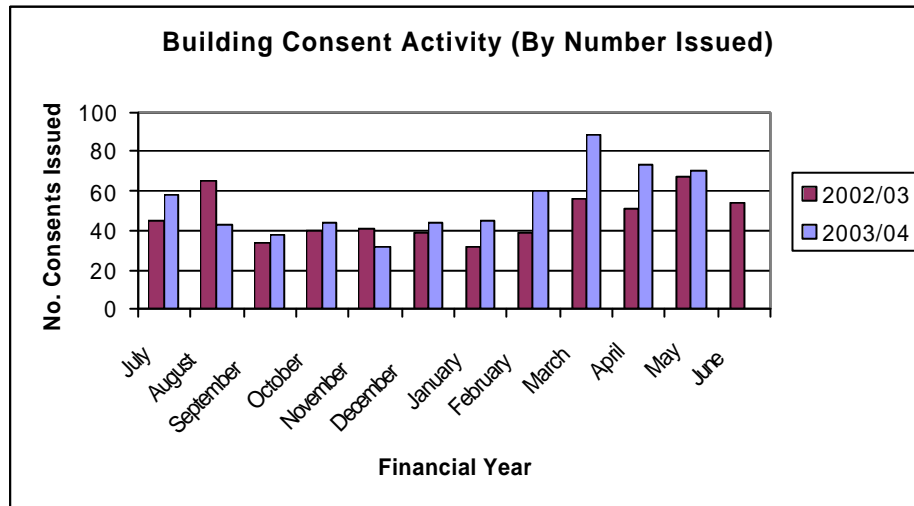
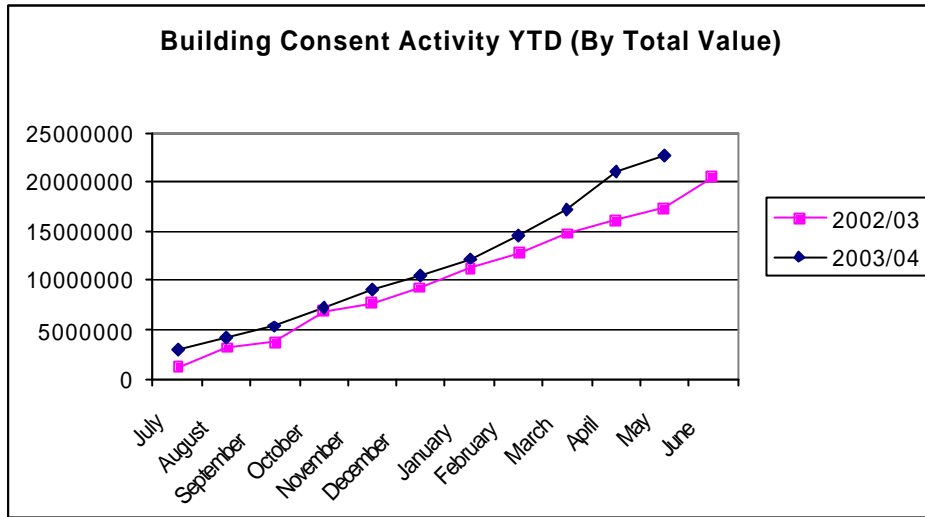
Consent Processing

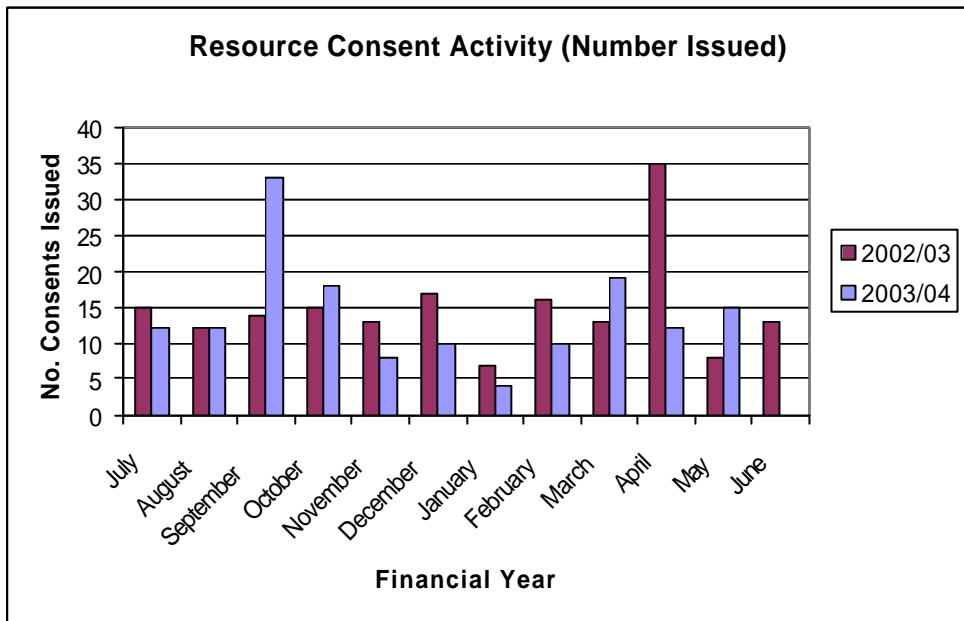
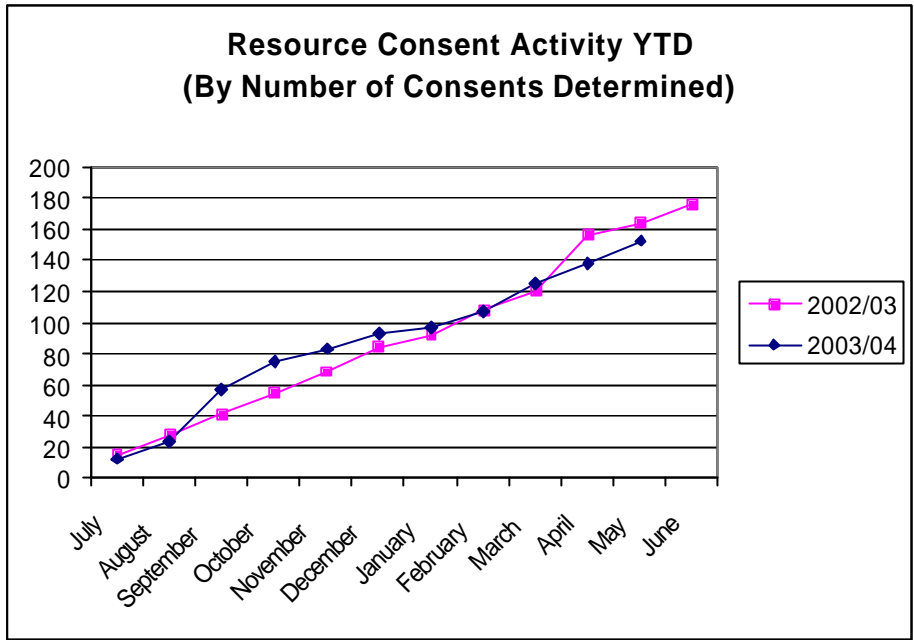
Building consent processing was behind target for May largely as a result of staff leave.

Resource consent processing showed a significant improvement during May and this improvement is expected to continue.

A number of changes in the processing of consents are being tested and implemented. In particular the processing of Resource consents will now be utilising the resource consents module. At present live data is being entered into a test system and it is expected that the system will go live during July.

Once this has been completed we will be considering the changes that will need to be made to building consent processing as a result of the new legislative provisions.





Key outputs for the Environmental Services monitoring team are shown below.

ACTIVITY	May 2003	May 2004
Building Inspections	102	168
Code Compliance Certificates	18	71
Excessive Noise	15	12
Industrial Noise	1	1
Dog Complaints	22	8
Stock Complaints	5	0
Health Act Nuisance	8	9
Food Premise Inspections	6	28
Infectious Disease Investigations	2	2
Resource Consent Compliance	-	1
Environmental Noise Surveys	16	0
Swimming Pools	-	0
Abatement Notices	1	4
Warrant of Fitness Audits	1	14
Chlorine Water Supplies	5	5
Waihi Mine Noise	9	3

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Mark Buttimore
Acting Planning and Environmental Services Manager