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| <b>R<br/>E<br/>P<br/>O<br/>R<br/>T</b> | <b>TO</b>       | PLANNING & FINANCE COMMITTEE                                       |
|  | <b>FROM</b>     | MARK BUTTIMORE - Acting Manager Planning & Environmental Services. |
|  | <b>FILE REF</b> | 01.010.023 - OC192358.rtf  |
|  | <b>DATE</b>     | 5 May 2004   |
|  | <b>SUBJECT</b>  | <b>APRIL 2004 REPORT</b>   |

**RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the report be received;**

**ACTING MANAGERS REPORT**

(a) **Waihi Gold**

A number of significant issues are being worked through with the Company and include: -

i) **Martha**

- Further retirement of the Martha noise mitigation plan including a review of the implementation of the draft plan over the last month.

The noise mitigation plan was triggered 5 times in April. Mine operations were ceased for a total of 27 hours as a consequence of noise mitigation actions.

- As a result of the first months operation further refinements to the plan are being negotiated to enhance its effectiveness.
- Results are very encouraging and the Company has worked co-operatively and effectively with the Council in the implementation of this plan.
- The vibration exceedance issues are being discussed with the Company and again good progress is being made.

The Company will be present at the meeting to further discuss this issue.

- A vibration mitigation plan is now being developed and will be implemented on a trial basis in the near future.

- ii) Favona Decline Consent
  - Work continues on the rehabilitation bond and noise management plan issues. The bond is close to being finalised and the Company and Council are working towards a noise mitigation plan. This is not a requirement of the consent but is seen as an effective “best practice” approach.
- iii) Favona Consent
  - Again good progress is being made with noise management and mitigation plans and vibration management and mitigation plan.
  - The opportunity will be taken to refine these plans as a result of practical matters arising from the implementation of the Favona Decline consent.
  - Issues relating to the Appeals made by the Company to the Favona Consent are being discussed. The most significant of these relate to the “blast duration” and “blast compliance” conditions.
  - It is likely that unresolved issues will be considered by the Environment Court in August, 2004.
  - Both Transit and Ngati Tamātera have withdrawn their Appeals to the consent.
  - Work on the Baxter Road intersection has commenced as a result of the settlement between Transit and the Company. The settlement was greatly assisted with input from Councils engineering team.

(b) **Consents**

Resource Consent timeframe percentages have not been as high as expected. This matter is now being addressed and a significant improvement is expected over the next two months.

(c) **Hazardous Substances**

- Although the Contract between Council and the Department of Occupational Safety and Health is still to be finalised Russell Bierre and Paul Lynch are undertaking inspections of properties in both Hauraki and Thames-Coromandel Districts with hazardous substances on site.
- The contract should be finalised shortly.

(d) **LTCCP**

Council has received:-

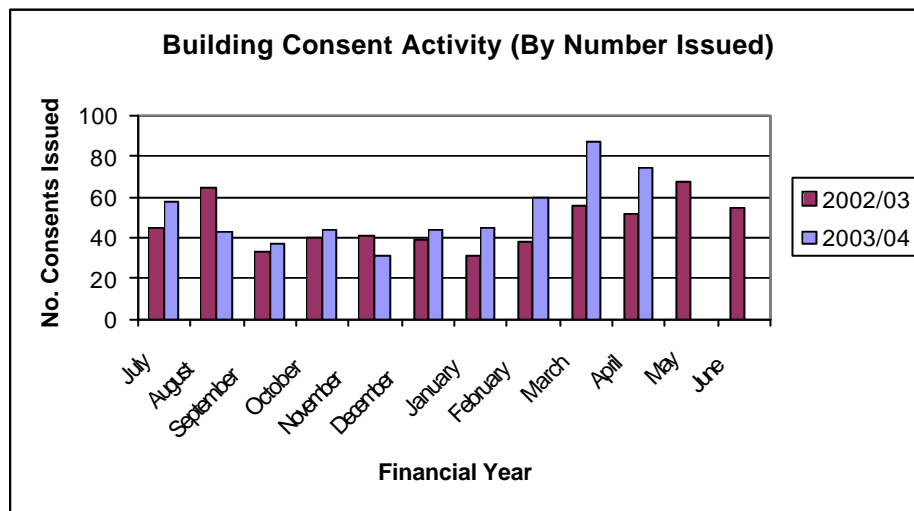
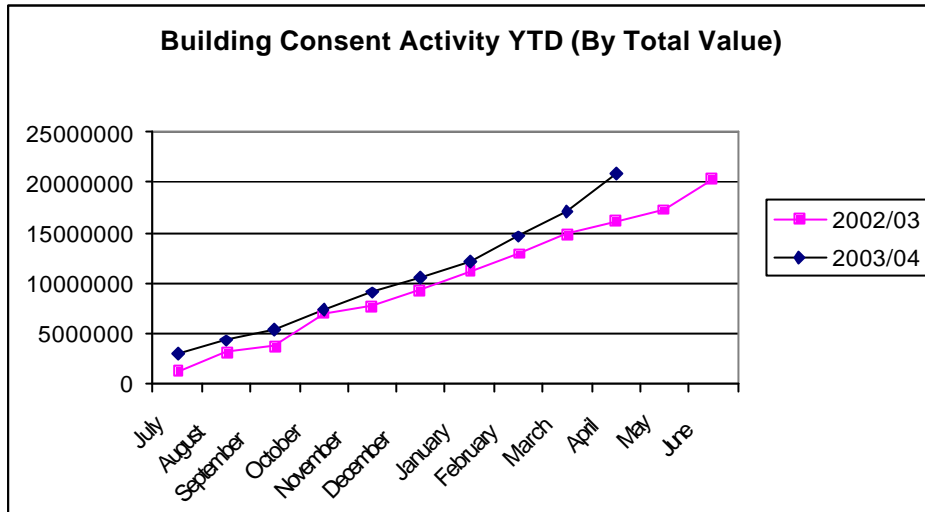
- A number of compliments in relation to the content and presentation of the Draft LTCCP.
- At this stage only a limited number of submissions have been received.
- Submissions close on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2004.
- Hearings are scheduled for 9am 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2004.

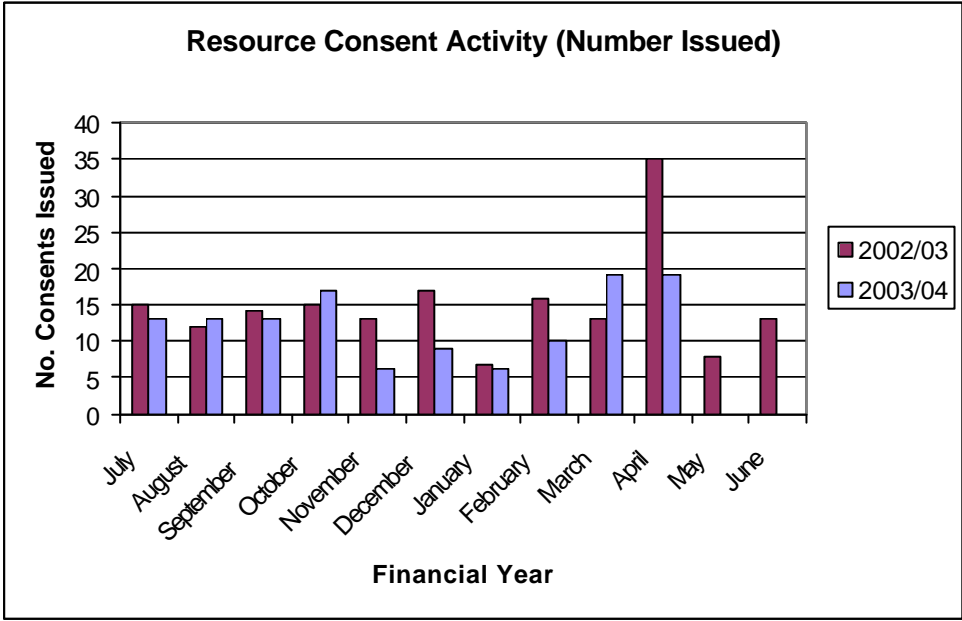
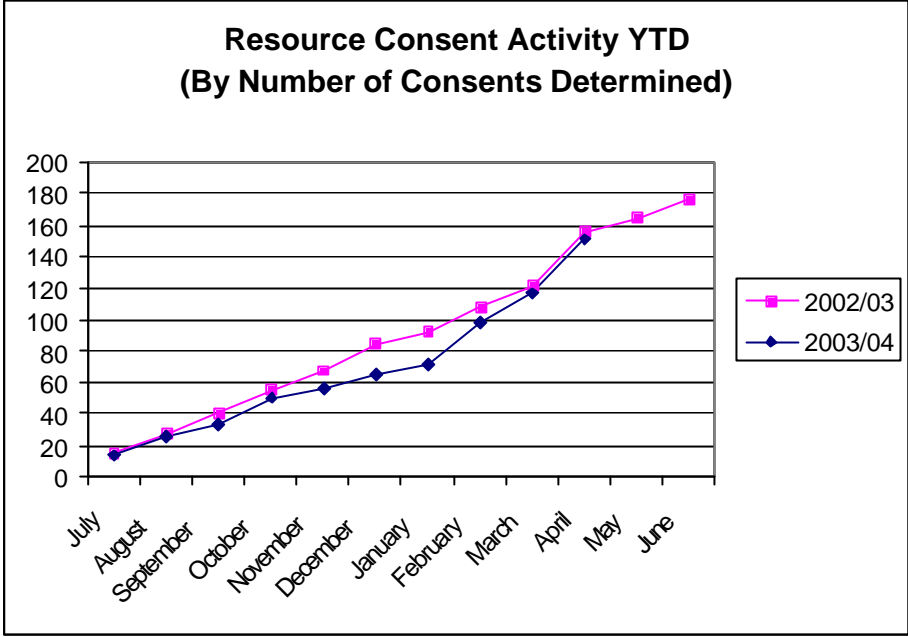
(e) **Liquor Ban Control By-law**

- Submissions closed April 7<sup>th</sup> 2004

- 59 submissions were received
- 4 people wish to speak in support of their submission
- The hearing of submissions date is yet to be decided

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





**RECOMMENDATION**  
**THAT the report be received;**

Mark Buttmore  
 Acting Planning and Environmental Services Manager