

Hutt City Council 30 Laings Road Private Bag 31912 Lower Hutt 5040 New Zealand

www.huttcity.govt.na

T 04 570 6666 F 04 569 4290

23 July 2021



Request for Information – Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

We refer to your official information request dated 26 June 2021 for information regarding the indigenous biodiversity grants.

For ease of reference we have included our responses beneath each of your questions.

1. Internal communications and decisions relating to the setting up and administration of the policy.

Answer: Please find attached our response in Appendix 1.

2. Guidelines for administration of the fund.

Answer: Published on the website, the document available in the link below provides an overview of the fund, including guidelines. http://iportal.huttcity.govt.nz/Record/ReadOnly?Tab=3&Uri=5608625

3. Summary of the applications, approvals and monies paid.

Answer: Please find attached the following:

Appendix 2 - Spreadsheet detailing funds paid

Appendix 3 - Summary of applications

You have the right to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman of this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Please note that this letter (with your personal details removed) may be published on the Council's website.

Nāku noa, nā

Information Services

Appendix 1

From: Jonathan Frericks Marcus Sherwood To:

Bruce Hodgins; Jon Hoyle; Julie Fairfield Cc: Subject: Consultation for Indigenous Biodiversity Fund Date: Thursday, 26 September 2019 11:54:50 AM

Attachments: image001.jpg

Consultation letters for the first stage of understanding how people want us to spend the indigenous biodiversity fund went out yesterday. I expect them to start to arrive in people's mailboxes from tomorrow and the closing date is the 18th of October.

The letters went out to the landowners of propertic Change 46, as per the council.

The questionnaire was developed in-house and in consultation with representatives from two of the most high-profile PC46 opposition groups – and I am pleased that are working well together.

We are keen to ensure that this work is quite separate from last year's plan change 46 and the court action surrounding it.

If there are questions or concerns, the contact email for this project is biodiversity@huttcity.govt.nz.

Kind Regards,

Jonathan Frericks

Ecology/Horticulture Advisor

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, Private Bag 31912, Lower Hutt 5040, New Zealand T, M 027 293 7261, W www.huttcity.govt.nz



From: Jonathan Frericks Bruce Hodgins To:

Subject: Indigneous Biodiversity - Preliminary "analysis" Date: Thursday, 7 November 2019 12:17:50 PM Indigenous Biodiversity Responses.docx **Attachments:**

Reseased under the Local Covertine it Official Information and Meetings Act, 1981

Indigenous Biodiversity Responses - Preliminary Analysis

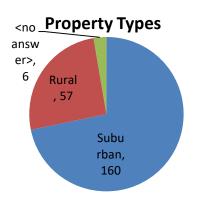
Response summary

Number of landowner responses:

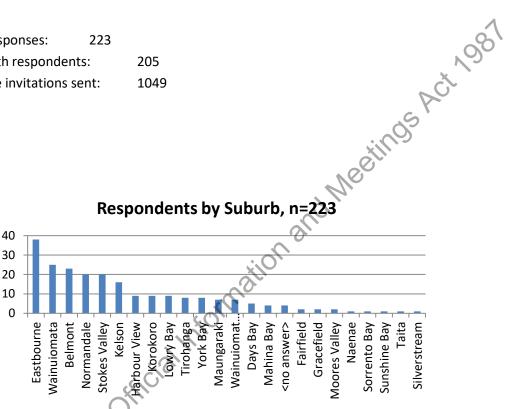
Number of properties with respondents: Number of Questionnaire invitations sent:

Response rate: 19.54%

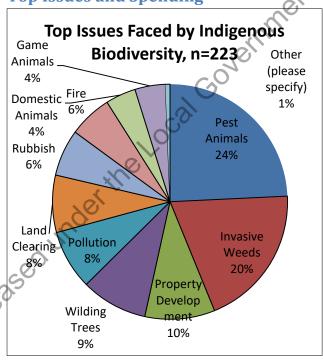
Properties Profile

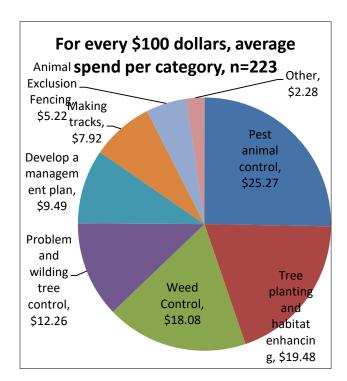


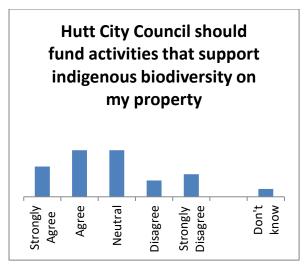


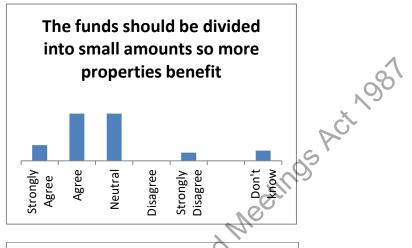


Top Issues and Spending

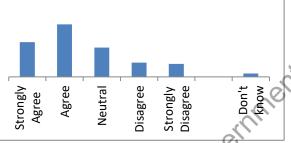


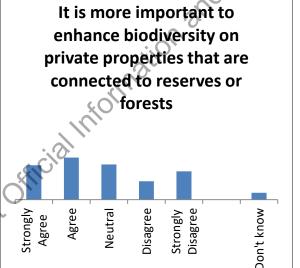




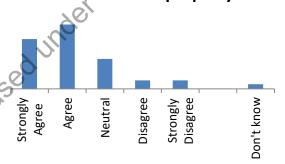


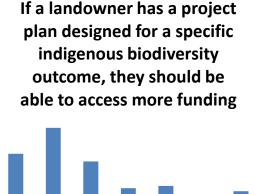
More funds should be available for activities that support indigenous biodiversity on private properties that have older or more established...

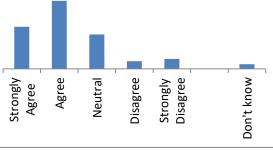




More funds should be available for landowners who have endangered or regionally significant flora or fauna on their property







From: <u>Jonathan Frericks</u>

To: 7(2)(a) 7(2)(a) Julie Sylvester, Bruce Hodgins, 7(2)(a) ; $\sqrt[n]{7(2)(a)}$ Helen Oram

Subject: Indigenous Biodiversity Landowner Fund - Area-Based Questionnaire Results

Date: Monday, 23 December 2019 12:01:09 PM

Attachments: Indigenous Biodiversity Questionnaire Responses - Area-based.docx

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12153HaHEmailSignatureFINAL 3cd6181d-2156-4dde-9fbd-b6f7f302ed05.JPG

Hi All.

At the request of some of you, I have broken down the questionnaire based on broad landscape context, dividing the Hutt City into 5 large areas: Eastbourne, Wainuiomata, Eastern Hills, Western Hills and Central. Due to the lack of indigenous ecological values in the Central area, it is absent in the analysis. There are some interesting results, specifically in section 4, where areas seem to have differing opinions about the statements (ie 6.1.4/6.2.4). There are some other interesting insights that come out when you look at how people would spend money on indigenous biodiversity in the different areas, too.

With regards to the Indigenous biodiversity fund, we will be submitting a report to council early next year. They will decide how we proceed based on this report. We will need to meet with some or all of you to discuss our draft report and the recommendations that will be included in it. The time frame is tight, so we need to meet at either 10am or 1pm on either the 27th, 28th or the 30th of January 2020. If you could give me an indication of which times/dates that you are available. We will select the time that most people are able to attend.

As and aside, I mentioned earlier this year there is a Proposed National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity. This is now out for consultation. For more information, visit the website here: https://www.mfe.govt.nz/consultations/nps-indigenous-biodiversity. Please contact MfE if you have questions about the document or the process. This is an important opportunity for you to have your say.

I wish you all a merry Christmas, and I hope that you get a chance to enjoy the summer with friends and family!

Kind Regards, Jonathan

PS. Here is my availability and Bruce Hodgins' availability, for meeting next year.

ſ		27 th Jan 2020	28 th Jan 2020	30 th Jan 2020
Ī	10am	Available	Available	Available
Ī	1pm	Available	Available	Available

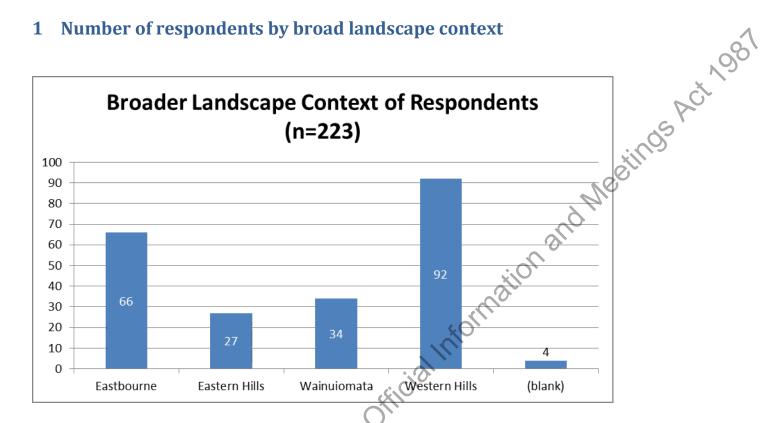
Jonathan Frericks

Ecology/Horticulture Advisor

Hutt City Council, 30 Laings Road, Private Bag 31912, Lower Hutt 5040, New Zealand T, M 027 293 7261, W www.huttcity.govt.nz

Indigenous Biodiversity Questionnaire $Results \ \hbox{--} \ {\tt Analysed} \ \ {\tt by} \ \ {\tt broad} \ \ {\tt landscape} \ \ {\tt context}.$

Number of respondents by broad landscape context



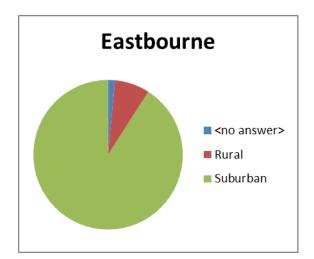
Response rate by broad landscape context

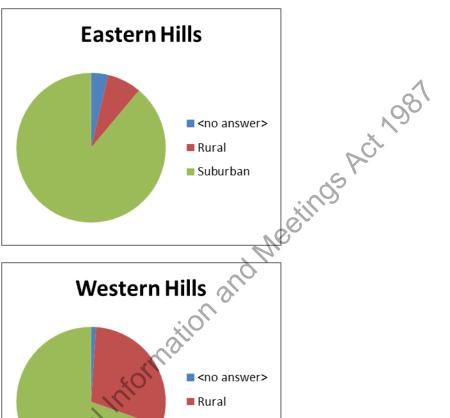
(As a percentage of properties with landowners who answered the questionnaire)

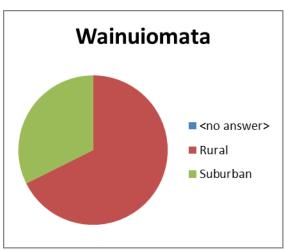
Eastbourne	Eastern Hills	Wainuiomata	Western Hills
28.11%	11.61%	16.57%	19.43%

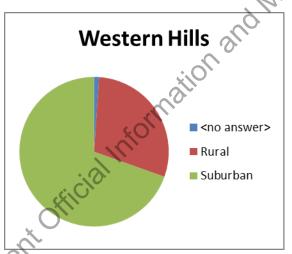
There is a significantly higher response rate in Eastbourne than in the other areas and a very low response rate for Released under the

Property Types by Broad Landscape Context



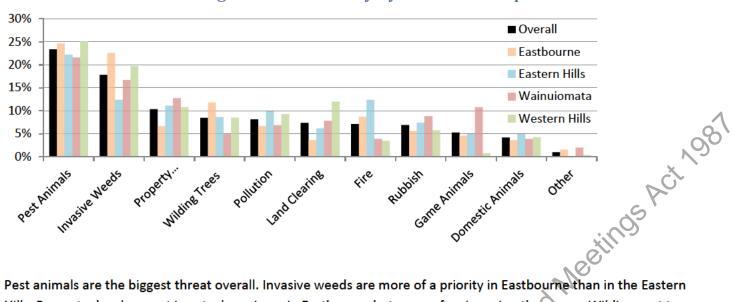






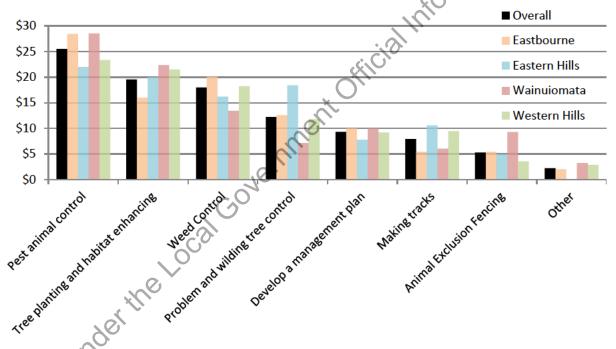
The property types in Eastbourne and the Eastern hills are quite similar. Wainiomata has considerably more rural ems to college the local college the seed under the local college the local respondents and the western hills seems to be in-between.

4 Greatest threats to indigenous biodiversity by broad landscape context



Pest animals are the biggest threat overall. Invasive weeds are more of a priority in Eastbourne than in the Eastern Hills. Property development is not a large issue in Eastbourne but more of an issue in other areas. Wilding pest trees are a bigger problem in Eastbourne and it Wainuiomata. Pollution is a larger issue on the east and west of the Hutt valley but less so in Eastbourne and Wainuiomata.

5 For every \$100 how much would you spend for the following activities?

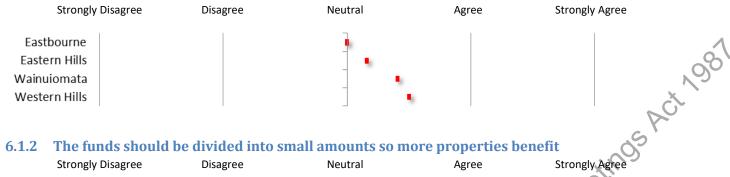


The biggest spend is for pest animal control, for which the landowners in Eastbourne and Wainuiomata would spend the more than other areas. Tree planting spending would be lower in Eastbourne than other areas. Wilding tree control spending is high in the Eastern Hills. All areas would spend similar amounts on developing a management plant. Exclusion fencing is higher for Wainuiomata than other areas.

6 Agree/Disagree

6.1 Statements by Broad Landscape Section - Continuous

6.1.1 Hutt City Council should fund activities that support indigenous biodiversity on my property



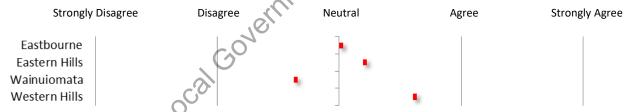
6.1.2 The funds should be divided into small amounts so more properties benefit

Strongly	Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Eastbourne Eastern Hills Wainuiomata Western Hills] :		and Meet

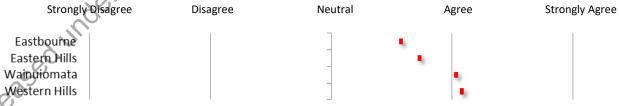
6.1.3 More funds should be available for activities that support indigenous biodiversity on private properties that have older or more established ecosystems.

Strongly Disagre	e Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Eastbourne Eastern Hills Wainuiomata Western Hills		Filicia	I I'm	

6.1.4 It is more important to enhance biodiversity on private properties that are connected to reserves or forests



More funds thould be available for landowners who have endangered or regionally significant 6.1.5 flora or fauna on their property



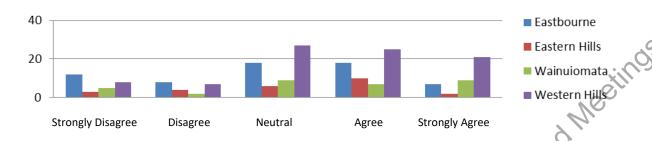
If a landowner has a project plan designed for a specific indigenous biodiversity outcome, they should be able to access more funding

Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	Strongly Agree
Judiely Disagree	Disagicc	ivcutiai	ASICC	July Agice

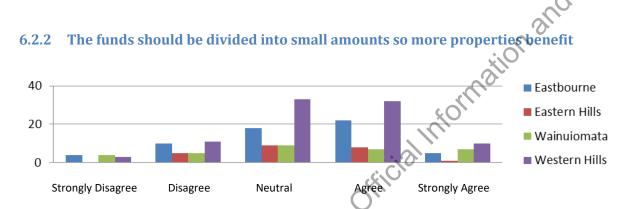
Eastbourne		
Eastern Hills		
Wainuiomata		
Western Hills		

Statements by Broad Landscape Section - Categories

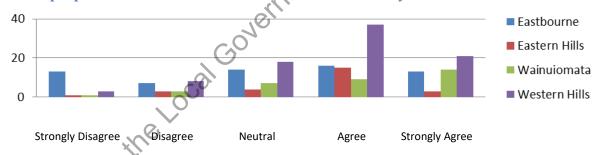
Hutt City Council should fund activities that support indigenous biodiversity on my property 6.2.1



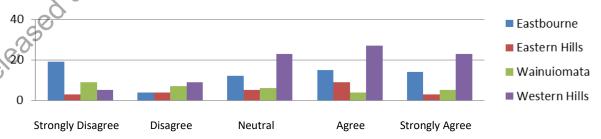
6.2.2



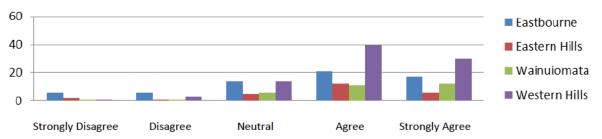
More funds should be available for activities that support indigenous biodiversity on private 6.2.3 properties that have older or more established ecosystems



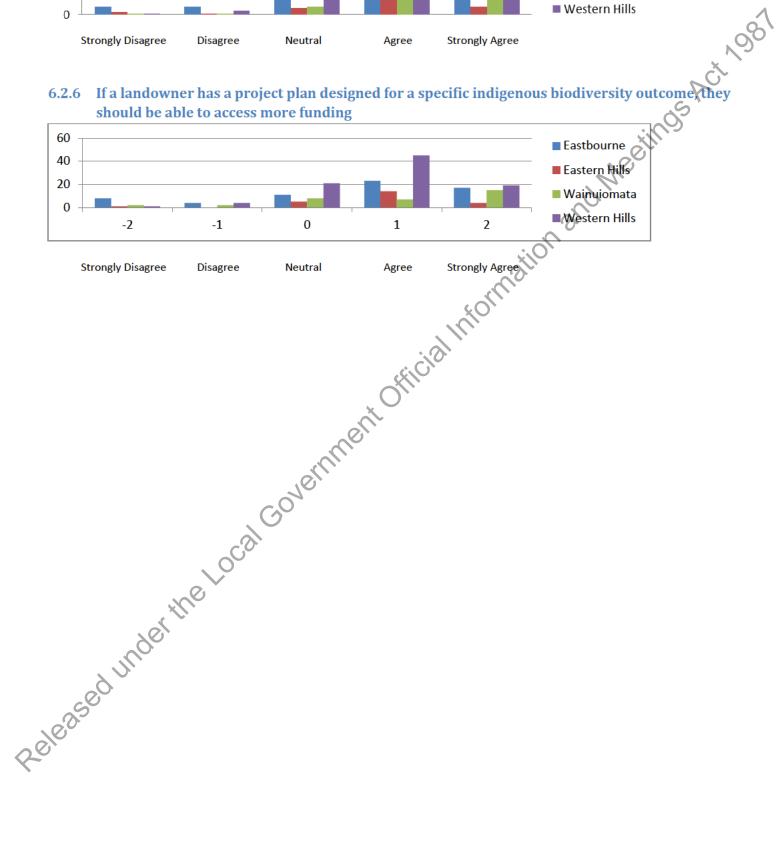
6.2.4 It is more important to enhance biodiversity on private properties that are connected to reserves or forests



More funds should be available for landowners who have endangered or regionally significant 6.2.5 flora or fauna on their property



6.2.6



.am keen for you to have a look, then we can discuss it before Act Not it would appreciate some guidance about it is would appreciate some guidance about it involved the control of the c



30 December 2019

Report no:

DECISION MAKING CHECKLIST

File: ()

File: ()

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Ro This checklist is designed to assist report writers and decision makers to more easily understand and comply with the obligations of the Local Government Act, whilst providing a legal record of how the process was followed.

There are specific obligations in the Local Government Act 2002 for Council to consider a range of factors when making decisions. The Decision Making Checklist is applicable to all reports seeking a decision to CLT, Council, Committees, Subcommittees or Community Boards.

What is the decision you are seeking in your report? How to distribute and monitor the Indigenous Biodiversity Landowner Fund.

Who is responsible for making this decision? Community and Engagement Committee

Check Council's Terms of Reference the Delegations Register and Functions and Delegations for Community Boards 2016-2019

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Does this decision fit the purpose of local government by enabling local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, the communities; and promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future \Box				
Does your report show how this decision achieves this purpose (see above) in the most cost efficient way?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.		
Does your report state whether this is a significant decision, and if so, on what basis it is significant? Refer to significance policy	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text		
Does the report show that I have considered how this decision will affect people in the community?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.		
OPTIONS		Comments		
Have I considered <i>all</i> practicable options in my report?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.		
Does the report show that I have assessed the costs and benefits (or pros and cons) of each of those options?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.		
FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS	Office	Comments		
Does my report show how this decision would	Existing budget allocation 2019/20, 2020/21, 2021/2022			
be funded? (If you answer 'existing budgets' please specify the budget year).	Existing budget allocation 20	019/20, 2020/21, 2021/2022		
(If you answer 'existing budgets' please specify	Existing budget allocation 20 Choose an item.	019/20, 2020/21, 2021/2022 Click here to enter text.		
(If you answer 'existing budgets' please specify the budget year). Have I considered the short term and long term financial implications of this decision in my				
(If you answer 'existing budgets' please specify the budget year). Have I considered the short term and long term financial implications of this decision in my report? Do I need to prepare a business case with my	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.		
(If you answer 'existing budgets' please specify the budget year). Have I considered the short term and long term financial implications of this decision in my report? Do I need to prepare a business case with my report?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text. Click here to enter text.		
(If you answer 'existing budgets' please specify the budget year). Have I considered the short term and long term financial implications of this decision in my report? Do I need to prepare a business case with my report? CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER COUNCIL PLANS Does the report recommend a decision that would substantially deviate from current plans (including the Annual or Long Term Plan, The District Plan, asset management plans or	Choose an item. Choose an item.	Click here to enter text. Click here to enter text. Comments		

	-	
Should this issue be consulted on? Refer to the Community Engagement Strategy	No	Has already been done
If so, have I identified a consultation plan and identified who I need to consult with? Refer to the Community Engagement Strategy	Not applicable	Click here to enter text.
Am I aware of any existing community views (including the Youth Council) regarding this decision?	Yes	Conusitation has been done ar has been an issue in the public eye for a long time
Should I consult with Māori on this decision? Refer to Community Engagement Strategy and Contact the Kaitakawaenga Kaupapa Maori	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS		Comments
Which other staff members within Hutt City Council should I talk about this decision with?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
How would I communicate this decision? (Consider both internally and externally)	Click here to enter text.	
Have I made a plan for the implementation of this decision?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
Does this report require specialist input (for example, advice from the legal team, the Communications team, Human Resources, Finance, or Risk Management)?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
Health and Safety: Are there any health & safety implications or risks to others in making this decision? If so have these risks been assessed in accordance with the Health & Safety at Work Act 2015 and what actions may be taken to reduce the risk of harm?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
Purpose of Report 1. The purpose of this report is fund for landowners that ma		
 The purpose of this report is fund for landowners that ma properties and the criteria th from Council. It also summa 	y have indigenous biodive at should be met in order t	rsity on their o receive support

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this report is to recommend a framework for distributing a fund for landowners that may have indigenous biodiversity on their properties and the criteria that should be met in order to receive support from Council. It also summarises consultation responses and proposes a range of actions to support indigenous biodiversity on landowners' properties.

Recommendations

That Council:

Establish a process for landowners to be able to apply for support grants for

in a two-tier model where Tier 1 grants would contribution of \$500. This may include the development of a "project management plan" or a "property management plan" which would enable the landowner to apply for Tier 2 grants at the next opportunity. Tier 2 grants would take the form of a contestable fund for projects that suitable management plan to a maximum Council Tier 2 applications should be weight.

Allocation of funds into each tier needs to be responsive but based on consultation, the majority of the funds should be provided to Tier 2 grants. In the first year, it is recommended that \$100,000 is allocated for Tier 1 and \$165,000 allocated for Tier 2.

For the reason(s) that the support will demonstrate the council's commitment to indigenous biodiversity and enable landowners that may not have the capacity to maintain or promote indigenous biodiversity on their properties.

A two-tier distribution of grants allows smaller projects to be supported without disproportional administrative overheads. Most activities such as: pest control, weed control or the supply of materials can be most efficiently supported by coordinating across properties. In some cases this work will be supported by existing Council work streams that can be expanded into landowners' properties.

Larger projects may have superior outcomes for indigenous biodiversity and should be supported with accountability and measures of success. Suitable management plans will have measureable targets which can be reported on.

In the first year it is difficult to anticipate which Tier of funding landowners will be applying for. It is important to set aside a portion of the fund for the Tier 2 projects because they often have more significant and measureable outcomes.

- Grants (Tier 1 and Tier 2) should be to landowners of properties with at least one the following:
 - Contains or is adjoining areas of indigenous vegetation greater than 1 hectare
 - Contains or is adjoining wetlands, waterways or waterbodies.
 - Contains or provides habitats for organisms that are threatened, at risk, or data deficient in the New Zealand Threat Classification System by Te Papa Atawhai, Department of Conservation.
 - Contains environments in categories 1 to 5 in the Threatened

Environment Classification by Manaaki Whenua, Landcare Research.

Contains or is adjoining land with Reserve status under the Reserves Act 1977 with a primary or secondary purpose that includes: (1) maintaining "value as a soil, water and forest conservation area" or

For the reason(s) that areas with these indigenous biodiversity values have the highest priority for protection and restoration in a range of national and regional acts and strategies and will be likely to have the most positive effects surroundings. ationain

Background

2. At a Council Meeting in 29 November 2018, Councilors decided not to proceed with Plan Change 46. One of the resolutions of this meeting was that Council "(vii) establishes a fund and criteria to assist Landowners who wish to further protect and enhance SNAs on their properties". All The resolutions from that meeting can be found in Appendix 1.

As part of the Plan Change 46 project a consultation process was undertaken by PublicVoice in September 2018. Some pertinent findings of this were:

- 89% of respondents thought protecting and enhancing native bush was very important or extremely important.
- 97% of respondents believe Council has a role in protecting native bush on public land, and 55% of respondents believe Council has a role in protecting native bush on private land.
- 78% of respondents thought Council should provide free advice and support to property owners, and 68% of respondents thought Council should support property **owners** to actively maintain native bush.

Funding to support landowners with indigenous biodiversity on their properties was approved and in September 2019, additional consultation was undertaken specifically with landowners who were affected by the proposed Plan Change 46. Pertinent findings of this were:

- 45% respondents thought that the council should fund activities that support indigenous biodiversity on their property.
- 42% respondents thought that funds should be divided into small amounts so more properties benefit and 66% respondents thought that if a landowner has a project plan designed for a specific indigenous biodiversity outcome, they should be able to access more funding.
- 69% respondents thought that more funds should be available for landowners who have **endangered or regionally significant** flora or fauna on their property. 59%

respondents thought that more funds should be available for activities that support indigenous biodiversity on private properties that have **older** or **more established** ecosystems. **46**% respondents thought that it is more important to enhance biodiversity on private properties that are **connected to reserves or forests**.

Further analysis of this second consultation can be found in the Consultation section of this document.

Discussion

3. It is obvious that landowners in Lower Hutt hold indigenous biodiversity in high regard. They are largely of the opinion that the Hutt City Council is responsible for protecting native bush on Hutt City Council-owned lands and are less strongly of the opinion that Council has a role to play in protecting indigenous biodiversity on private lands.

The Council has an opportunity to take leadership and demonstrate its commitment to indigenous biodiversity by providing grants to landowners who would like to support it but don't have the time, capability, or the funds to achieve the

Among the people who responded to consultation, there is a large amount support for larger amounts of funding being provided to landowners with a project plan. This kind of approach fits well with Council because project plans have measurable outcomes and reportable progress. However, project plans may be cumbersome for landowners who need support for smaller or routine tasks. By grouping together smaller amounts opf works and/or materials to more landowners, Council may overcome inefficiencies that individuals may have if they were working alone. For example, delivering trees to a single property is less efficient than delivering trees to a larger number of close properties.

The criteria for accessing the grants may be contentious due to the national and regional policies that exist for protection of indigenous biodiversity. While the criteria used for accessing this fund may be broad, it should not be used as a measure or delimitation of whether or not the land has significant indigenous biodiversity values outside of this funding framework.

Most of the respondents to the second consultation thought that having endangered or regionally significant flora or fauna, or having established indigenous ecosystems and being connected to reserves or bush, were reasonable criteria to be able to access larger amounts of funding.



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Figure 1. The shaded area is an example of approximately 1 hectare near to the Hutt City Council Administration Building.

Options

- 4. The support options from Council are:
 - (1) Supply *only* **large** grants for projects with a management plan. This may also include costs associated with transitioning properties into conservation covenants. This would make it difficult to make biodiversity gains between properties. This would also mean that simple tasks like weed control will need a disproportionate amount of administrative work. It is expected that in the first year, there will be a limited number of applications for large grants because of the requirement that they have suitable management plans.
 - (2) Supply *only* **small** amounts of support to a lot of landowners. The applications for tier 1 would also include applications for the creation of management plans which may be done internally or with the assistance of external contractors. The suitable and qualifying applications would be approved quickly. In most cases this would not involve the transfer of funds directly to landowners; rather the council would transfer funds directly to the supplier. This would also not be favourable because it would mean that important, targeted projects are not funded. In the consultation, this did not get as much support as the option 1.
 - (3) Create a **two-tier** model supplying large grants and small amounts of support to landowners. This constitutes a mix of option 1 and option 2 and addresses the shortcomings of each approach on its own. This **two-tier** model is recommended at this stage because council officers are unable to anticipate the demand for each of the tiers of grants. Additionally, it will be easier to anticipate demand for tier 2 applications for the following year because Council will have an indication of how many management plans it has helped to establish.

The criteria options by which landowners obtain eligibility for support are:

(1) Any landowner whose property was identified in Draft SNAs at the time of the cessation of Plan Change 46. While this may be appropriate from the perspective of the

04 March 2020

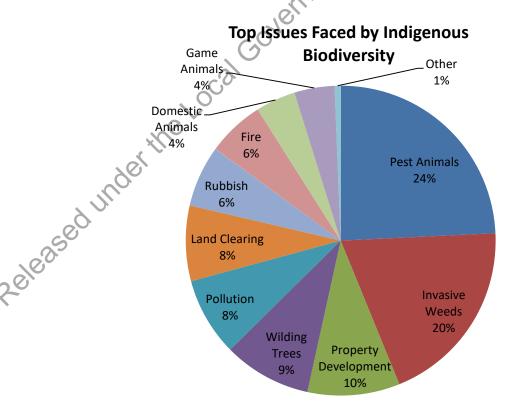
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Council resolutions of November 2018, it also uses data that has been called in to question by opponents of Plan Change 46.

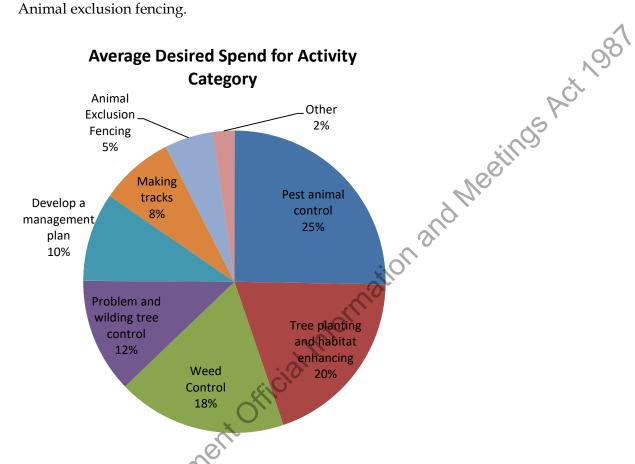
- (2) Any landowner whose property meets the criteria outlined for **SNA**s in the Regional Policy Statement Policy 23, or the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (in progress).
- (3) A **new** set of criteria based on whether the property:
 - contains or is adjoining areas of indigenous vegetation greater than 1 hectare (see figure 1 for an indicative scale).
 - contains or is adjoining wetlands, waterways or waterbodies.
 - contains or provides habitats for organisms that are threatened, at risk, or data deficient in the New Zealand Threat Classification System by Te Papa Atawhai, Department of Conservation.
 - contains environments in categories 1 to 5 in the Threatened Environment Classification by Manaaki Whenua, Landcare Research.
 - Contains or is adjoining land with Reserve status under the Reserves Act 1977 with a primary or secondary purpose that includes: (1) maintaining "value as a soil, water and forest conservation area" or (2) managing and protecting "indigenous flora and fauna, or wildlife".

Consultation

5. Respondents rated the issues facing indigenous biodiversity as follows: 24% Pest Animals, 20% Invasive Weeds, 10% Property development, 9% Wilding Trees, 8% Pollution, 8% Land Clearing, 6% Rubbish.



Respondents allocated spending on indigenous biodiversity as follows: 25% Pest animal control, 20% tree planting and habitat enhancing, 18% Weed control, 12% Problem and Wilding Tree Control, 10% developing of management plans, 8% making tracks, 5% Animal exclusion fencing.



Legal Considerations

6. Currently, legal proceedings have been lodged by Forest and Bird with regard to the failure of implementing SNAs through the District Plan. The previous sitting Council for Lower Hutt discontinued Plan Change 46. This fund does not address these proceedings, nor does it constitute an implementation of The Regional Policy Statement's Policy 23.

The provision of grants to properties with some indigenous biodiversity values on them may mean that legally, Hutt City Council holds records of areas that qualify for SNA protection and therefore MUST be included in any future SNA work.

Financial Considerations

7. Funding has been allocated for the next three years. Additional time pressure may be put on the HCC Ecology Advisor who will develop project management plans and property management plans as part of Tier 1 grants.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Resolutions of 29 November 2019

"That Council:

- (i) acknowledges the distress this issue had caused in the community and unreservedly apologises for that;
- (ii) acknowledges that the majority of SNAs have been well maintained by landowners in Lower Hutt City;
- (iii) acknowledges the extensive work the officers have undertaken on this SNA issue over the past 12 months;
- (iv) acknowledges the work of landowners, Forest and Bird, DOC and other interested community groups in this process;
- (v) introduces a plan to protect and enhance all SNAs on publically owned land;
- (vi) requires officers to work with private landowners who wish to further enhance SNAs on their land or further information with professional advice and guidance;
- (vii) establishes a fund and criteria to assist Landowners who wish to further protect and enhance SNAs on their properties; and
- (viii) establishes an Engagement Strategy with involvement from GWRC, landowners, Forest and Bird, mana whenua including Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o Te Ika a Maui and Waiwhetu Marae, other interest groups and the wider community to further highlight and lift awareness of the benefits to SNAs to community and environment."

Appendices

There are no appendices for this report.

Author: Aaron Marsh Team Leader Parks

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From: **Bruce Hodgins** Jonathan Frericks To:

Subject: CAECC04032020CC_2.DOCX Date: Tuesday, 11 February 2020 7:55:16 AM

CAECC04032020CC 2.DOCX **Attachments:**

Reseased under the Local Covernment Official Information and Meetings Act, 1981



13 January 2020

Report no:

DECISION MAKING CHECKLIST

File: (20/17)

Indigenous Biodiversity Fund

N MAKING
IST

gned to assist reaching by with the reaching state of the reaching state This checklist is designed to assist report writers and decision makers to more easily understand and comply with the obligations of the Local Government Act, whilst providing a legal record of how the process was followed.

There are specific obligations in the Local Government Act 2002 for Council to consider a range of factors when making decisions. The Decision Making Checklist is applicable to all reports seeking a decision to CLT, Council, Committees, Subcommittees or Community Boards.

What is the decision you are seeking in your report? Approval for the proposed grant framework for landowner support from the Indigenous Biodiversity Fund.

Who is responsible for making this decision? Community and Engagement Committee

Check Council's Terms of Reference the Delegations Register and Functions and Delegations for Community Boards 2016-2019

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Does this decision fit the purpose of local government by enabling local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of, the communities; and promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing of communities in the present and for the future \boxtimes Does your report show how this decision Click here to enter text. Choose an item. achieves this purpose (see above) in the most cost efficient way? Does your report state whether this is a significant decision, and if so, on what basis it is Choose an item. Click here to enter text significant? Refer to significance policy Does the report show that I have considered how this decision will affect people in the Click here to Choose an item. community? Comments **OPTIONS** Have I considered all practicable options in my Choose an item. Click here to enter text. report? Does the report show that I have assessed the costs and benefits (or pros and cons) of each of Click here to enter text. those options? FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS Comments Does my report show how this decision would be funded? Click here to enter text. (If you answer 'existing budgets' please specify the budget year). Have I considered the short term and long term financial implications of this decision in my Choose an item. Click here to enter text. report? Do I need to prepare a business case with my Click here to enter text. Choose an item. report? CONSISTENCY WITH OTHER COUNCIL PLANS Comments Does the report recommend a decision that would substantially deviate from current plans (including the Annual or Long Term Plan, The Choose an item. Click here to enter text. District Plan, asset management plans or policies or strategies); or Does the report recommend a decision that supplements or replaces any current plans or Choose an item. Click here to enter text. policies?

CONSULTATION

Comments

Should this issue be consulted on? Refer to the Community Engagement Strategy	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
If so, have I identified a consultation plan and identified who I need to consult with? Refer to the Community Engagement Strategy	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
Am I aware of any existing community views (including the Youth Council) regarding this decision?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
Should I consult with Māori on this decision? Refer to Community Engagement Strategy and Contact the Kaitakawaenga Kaupapa Maori	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
OTHER CONSIDERATIONS		Comments
Which other staff members within Hutt City Council should I talk about this decision with?	Choose an item.	click here to enter text.
How would I communicate this decision? (Consider both internally and externally)	Click here to enter text.	
Have I made a plan for the implementation of this decision?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
Does this report require specialist input (for example, advice from the legal team, the Communications team, Human Resources, Finance, or Risk Management)?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.
Health and Safety: Are there any health & safety implications or risks to others in making this decision? If so have these risks been assessed in accordance with the Health & Safety at Work Act 2015 and what actions may be taken to reduce the risk of harm?	Choose an item.	Click here to enter text.

Purpose of Report

1.1. The purpose of this report is to recommend a framework for distributing a fund for landowners that have indigenous biodiversity on their properties and the criteria that should be met in order to receive support from Council. It also summarises consultation responses and proposes a range of actions to support indigenous biodiversity on landowners' properties.

2. Recommendations

That Council:

- approves a process for landowners to be able to apply for support grants for
- which the fund is divided into these tiers and potential positive impacts of the applications received ror each tier. Tier 1 grants should take the form of supply of materials or work and Tier 2 should take the form of a contestable fund for projects that have a suitable management plan.

 agrees that Tier 1 grants should have a maximum Council contribution \$1000. This would primarily be used for the supply of could also include the development of property management plan. (ii) agrees to a two-tier grant model in which the fund is divided into these tiers
- (iii) agrees that Tier 1 grants should have a maximum Council contribution of for Tier 2 grants at the next opportunity.
- (iv) agrees that Tier 2 grants should have a maximum Council contribution of \$20,000 - with exceptions to be approved by the Head of Parks and Recreation. Tier 2 applications should be weighted and prioritised by their outcomes so that the projects with the greatest impact are funded.
- (v) agrees that properties which are eligible for landowner grants (Tier 1 and Tier 2) must meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - Contain or adjoin areas of indigenous vegetation greater than 1 hectare.
 - Contain or adjoin wetlands, waterways or waterbodies.
 - Contain or provide habitats for organisms that are Threatened, At Risk, or Data Deficient in the New Zealand Threat Classification System by Te Papa Atawhai, Department of Conservation.
 - Contain environments in categories 1 to 5 in the Threatened Environment Classification (See Appendix 1) by Manaaki Whenua, Landcare Research.

With an additional requirement of a suitable "project management plan" or "property management plan" for the Tier 2 grants. All management plans must have measurable targets or progress indicators.

- requests a review of the operation and performance of supported projects for July 2021, following a full year of operation. The review should also contain recommendations to increase effectiveness of the programme in increasing indigenous biodiversity.
- For the reason(s) that The support will demonstrate the council's commitment to indigenous biodiversity and that landowners may need assistance to maintain or promote indigenous biodiversity on their properties.
- 2.2. The two-tier distribution of grants allows smaller projects to be supported without disproportional administrative overheads and larger projects can also be supported with accountability and measures of success.
- 2.3. Most of the activities such as pest control, weed control or the supply of materials can be most efficiently supported by coordinating across

- properties. In some cases this work will be supported by existing work streams that can be expanded into landowner's properties.
- 2.4. Larger projects may have superior outcomes for indigenous biodiversity. Suitable management plans will have measureable targets which can be reported on.
- Hings Act 1981 2.5. Areas that have indigenous biodiversity values matching the criteria above should have the highest priority for protection and restoration and will be likely to have the most positive effects on its surroundings. In some cases they are protected by national and regional acts and strategies.

3. **Background**

- Following a Council decision to include support for Indigenous Biodiversity in 3.1. the Long Term Plan, \$265,000 was allocated for this purpose in June 2019. This was as a result of strong community feedback to the proposed Plan Change 46 for Council to provide voluntary measures to protect the indigenous biodiversity on private lands.
- Council already has a number of programmes and management that support indigenous biodiversity on public and private lands. On public lands HCC control pest plants, boundary weed control where private properties neighbour reserves, support Predator Free groups, undertake native plant revegetation, create fire breaks, manage an ex-situ conservation collection and has rules for Significant Natural Resources (SNR) in the district plan.
- 3.3. Council also supports Key Native Ecosystems run by GWRC and support conservation groups such as those that enhance habitats for native animals. On private lands, Council provides free weed control and monitoring for five major invasive species in the area. Council also provides free advice and information to the public who would like to promote indigenous values on their property.
- In September 2018, Hutt City Council commissioned PublicVoice to undertake consultation on public opinion on indigenous biodiversity. Some pertinent findings of this were:
 - 89% of respondents thought protecting and enhancing native bush was very important or extremely important.
 - 97% of respondents believe Council has a role in protecting native bush on public land, and 55% of respondents believe Council has a role in protecting native bush on **private land**.
 - 78% of respondents thought Council should provide free advice and support to property owners, and 68% of respondents thought Council should support property **owners** to actively maintain native bush.
- 3.5. After funding to support landowners with indigenous biodiversity on their properties was approved, discussions were held with landowner representative groups and additional consultation was undertaken specifically with landowners who were affected by the proposed Plan Change 46. Pertinent findings of this were:

SACT 98

- **45**% respondents thought that the council should fund activities that support indigenous biodiversity on **their property**.
- 42% respondents thought that funds should be divided into small amounts so more properties benefit and 66% respondents thought that if a landowner has a project plan designed for a specific indigenous biodiversity outcome, they should be able to access more funding.
- 69% respondents thought that more funds should be available for landowners who have **endangered or regionally significant** flora or fauna on their property. 59% respondents thought that more funds should be available for activities that support indigenous biodiversity on private properties that have **older** or **more established** ecosystems. 46% respondents thought that it is more important to enhance biodiversity on private properties that are **connected to reserves or forests**.
- 3.6. Further analysis of this second consultation can be found in the Consultation section of this document.
- 3.7. In the near future, the Biodiversity section of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy Action Plan will be reviewed and this work will be a component of it.

4. Discussion

- 4.1. Landowners in Lower Hutt hold indigenous biodiversity in high regard. They are largely of the opinion that the Hutt City Council is responsible for protecting native bush on Hutt City Council-owned lands and are less strongly of the opinion that Council has a role to play in protecting indigenous biodiversity on private lands.
- 4.2. The Council has an opportunity to take leadership and demonstrate its commitment to indigenous biodiversity by providing grants to landowners who would like to support it but don't have the capacity to achieve substantial results.
- 4.3. Among the people who responded to consultation, there is support for larger amounts of funding being provided to landowners with a project plan. This kind of approach fits well with Council because project plans have measurable outcomes and progress which can be reported on. Landowners and council could work together on funded projects to ensure the best outcome and to ensure that the fund is being used efficiently.
- 4.4. However, project plans might be cumbersome for landowners who need support and advice for smaller or routine tasks. By grouping together smaller amounts of works and/or materials to more landowners, Council could overcome inefficiencies that individuals may have if they were working alone. For example, delivering trees to a single property is less efficient than delivering trees to a larger number of close properties. In some cases this might not involve the transfer of funds directly to the landowners; rather the Council could transfer funds directly to the supplier.

- 4.5. To achieve greater outcomes and to reduce inefficiencies of individuals accessing resources separately, a combination of both larger and smaller grants could be considered. However, apportioning the fund to different types of grant could be problematic because it is not yet known how many will apply. Based on consultation, priority should be given to the larger projects with a plan. Targets such as "75% to large projects and 25% to smaller projects" will probably not be helpful if the applications received do not reflect this ratio. To help with apportioning the fund to the level of support, it is preferable to set an annual deadline for applications so that the projects can be prioritised. It is preferable that support deadlines occur prior to the winter so that landscaping works activities can be undertaken when most ecosystems are least active, and can tolerate the most change.
- 4.6. Some landowners want to enter into conservation covenants, and for properties that are deemed acceptable by the covenanting parties, there may be surveying and legal fees that could be supported by Council. Currently officers are investigating the feasibility of Hutt City Council entering into conservation covenants under Section 77 of the Reserves Act 1977. The Queen Elizabeth II Trust is currently the main agency with conservation covenants in Hutt City. Unfortunately many areas that have indigenous biodiversity values are not large enough for them to consider for their use.
- 4.7. The criteria for accessing the grants could be contentious due to the national and regional policies that exist for protection of indigenous biodiversity. While the criteria used for accessing this fund may be broad, it should not be used as a measure or delimitation of whether or not the land has significant indigenous biodiversity values outside of this funding framework.
- 4.8. Most of the respondents to the second consultation thought that having endangered or regionally significant flora or fauna, or having established indigenous ecosystems and being connected to reserves or bush, were reasonable criteria to be able to access larger amounts of funding.
- 4.9. The criteria by which a landowner is eligible for funding is important for achieving the aims of the grant fund. Alongside clear thresholds such as threatened species (DoC) and threatened environments (LandCare), there is also a need for contextually important areas to be included, such as properties that contain or are adjoining wetlands, waterways or waterbodies or areas of indigenous vegetation greater than 1 hectare (see figure 1 for an indicative scale).

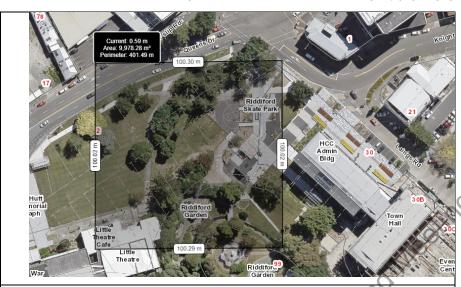


Figure 1. The shaded area is an example of approximately 1 hectare near to the Hutt City Council Administration Building.

- 4.7. The New Zealand Threat Classification System is published by Te Papa Atawhai, Department of Conservation. It has assessed known native species and ranks them by how at risk or threatened the species are. There are four broad categories which are in order: Not threatened, At Risk, Threatened, and Extinct. The At Risk and Threatened categories have subcategory ranks within them. Additional to these categories is a "Data Deficient" category for species for which there is too little information to categorise the threat often, but not always, these species are lacking data due to their rarity. It is recommended that support is given for any species that is known to be At Risk, Threatened or is Data Deficient.
- 4.8. The Threatened Environment Classification (TEC) by Manaaki Whenua, Landcare Research is a combination of three data sources which helps to locate areas with greatly reduced and poorly protected native ecosystems. There are six threat categories: (1) Acutely Threatened, (2) Chronically threatened, (3) At Risk, (4) Critically Unprotected, (5) Underprotected, and (6) Less Reduced and Better Protected. The category 6 criteria is >30% remaining and >20% protected. Anything less than this should have access to support. Note that if an area doesn't qualify to obtain support for this criterion, there are other criteria under which it might qualify. Further information on TEC can be found in a document found here:

https://www.landcareresearch.co.nz/ data/assets/pdf_file/0007/21688/TEC UserGuideV1 1.pdf

4.9. An important consideration of this work is to have strong and clear messaging to the public about the availability and the outcomes of this work. In order to get a good understanding of how this fund is supporting indigenous biodiversity, the project needs to be reviewed after the first year. This review could be done internally and should include an assessment of its suitability and recommendations that could increase desirable outcomes.

5. Options

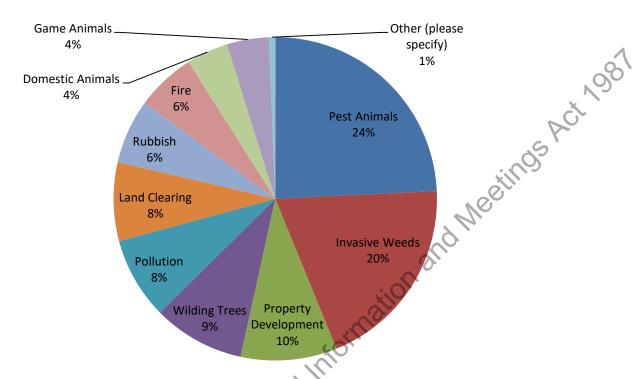
The support options from Council are:

- 5.1 **Option 1:** Supply *only* **large** grants for projects with a management plan. This may also include costs associated with transitioning properties into conservation covenants. This would make it difficult to make biodiversity gains between properties. This would also mean that simple tasks like weed control will need a disproportionate amount of administrative work. It is expected that in the first year, there will be a limited number of applications for large grants because of the requirement that they have suitable management plans.
- 5.2 **Option 2:** Supply *only* **small** amounts of support to a lot of landowners. The applications for tier 1 would also include applications for the creation of management plans which may be done internally or with the assistance of external contractors. The suitable and qualifying applications would be approved quickly. In most cases this would not involve the transfer of funds directly to landowners; rather the council would transfer funds directly to the supplier. This would also not be favourable because it would mean that important, targeted projects are not funded. In the consultation, this did not get as much support as the option 1.
- 5.3 **Option 3:** Create a **two-tier** model supplying large grants and small amounts of support to landowners. This constitutes a mix of option 1 and option 2 and addresses the shortcomings of each approach on its own. This **two-tier** model is recommended because it will be most efficient and satisfactory for landowners, based on consultation.

6. Consultation

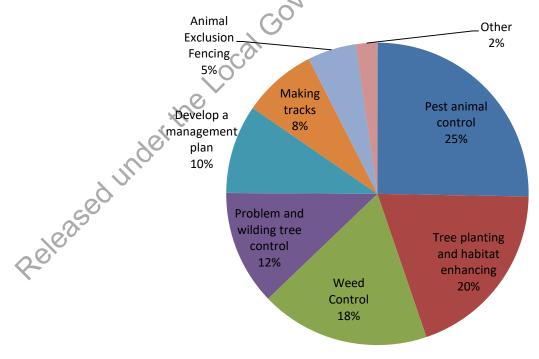
- 6.7. Discussions with representative landowner groups resulted in a co-designed consultation questionnaire which went out to landowners who had been included in the Draft SNA discussions in November 2018. The consultation occurred in September 2019 and was intended to understand what landowners thought were the major threats to indigenous biodiversity and how they would spend money on protecting or enhancing indigenous biodiversity. It was also used for understanding what kinds of support Council should prioritise.
- 6.8. Respondents rated the issues facing indigenous biodiversity as follows: 24% Pest Animals, 20% Invasive Weeds, 10% Property development, 9% Wilding Trees, 8% Pollution, 8% Land Clearing, 6% Rubbish.

Top Issues Faced by Indigenous Biodiversity



6.9. Respondents allocated spending on indigenous biodiversity as follows: 25% Pest animal control, 20% tree planting and habitat enhancing, 18% Weed control, 12% Problem and Wilding Tree Control, 10% developing of management plans, 8% making tracks, 5% Animal exclusion fencing.





7. **Legal Considerations**

7.1 This report is focussed on voluntary support measures and it is separate from Official Information and Meetings Act 1981

Official Information and Meetings Act 1981 any matters of statutory consideration.

11

8. **Financial Considerations**

8.1 Funding of \$265,000 has been allocated for each of the next three years.

Appendices

There are no appendices for this report.

Author: Jonathan Frericks Ecology/Horticulture Advisor

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Als ad Comp. **Approved By:** Bruce Hodgins

Strategic Advisor, City and Community Services

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Hutt City Council INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY GRANT

TIER 1 APPLICATION FORM

(Please complete all sections)



Support is available for landowners to protect and enhance indigenous biodiversity on their properties. Grants are accessible in two forms: *Tier 1* is for supply of work or materials to the value of \$1,000 and *Tier 2* is a contestable fund for the supply of work, materials, or reimbursements to the value of \$20,000 for activities that are part of a project or property management plan.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION	
Surname or Family Name(s)	Given Name(s) Phone Number (daytime)
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Property Address	Phone Number (daytime)
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Email:	
2. ACTIVITY	Mo
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	Pest animal/insect control
A	Supply of pest animal traps
	XXXX Developing a property management plan
☐ Other:	Developing a property management plan
Cill E	
3. INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY VALUES ON YOUR SITE	
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4. CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

The funds will be awarded on the basis that:

- 1. The information supplied is true and correct. The Hutt City Council reserves the right to decline support if the information is found to be inaccurate.
- 2. Funds will be paid directly to the suppliers provided that proof of expenditure is true and correct.
- 3. The decision of the acceptance panel will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 4. Hutt City Council must be able to inquire about the progress of supported works at any time.

APPLICANT CHECKLIST	
Please ensure you have included the following so that your application can be processed:	
□Answered all questions on the application form	
☐ Supporting documents (if applicable)	
□ Answered all questions on the application form □ Supporting documents (if applicable) This application, together with the supporting material, must reach: Indigenous Biodiversity Grants C/- Hutt City Council Private Bag 31-912 Lower Hutt 5040 email: Biodiversity@huttcity.govt.nz by 5.00 pm 20 May 2020	
email: Biodiversity@huttcity.govt.nz	
by 5.00 pm 20 May 2020	

PRIVACY STATEMENT

- I, the undersigned, acknowledge that:
 - The information provided in this application is collected by and will be held by Hutt City Council.
 - The information provided here will be used for the purpose of administering and assessing the application. People having direct access to the information are members of the panel considering the application.
 - I have a right under the Privacy Act 1993 to obtain access to and request correction of any personal information held by Hutt City Council concerning me.
 - I understand my information will be held securely and will not be distributed to third parties unless allowed by the Privacy Act 1993.

DECLARATION BY APPLICANT		
I declare, that to the best of my knowledge, the	nformation provided by me is true and correct.	
Signature of Applicant	Date	

Hutt City Council INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY GRANT

TIER 2 APPLICATION FORM

(Please complete all sections)



Support is available for landowners to protect and enhance indigenous biodiversity on their properties. Grants are accessible in two forms: *Tier 1* is for supply of work or materials to the value of \$1,000 and *Tier 2* is a contestable fund for the supply of work, materials, or reimbursements to the value of \$20,000 for activities that are part of a project or property management plan.

1. APPLICANT INFORMATION	No. of the second secon
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Property Address	Given Name(s) Phone Number (daytime)
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Email:	
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2. PROJECT OR PROPERTY MANAGEMENT PLAN OUTCO	DMES CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRAC
Please describe the major indigenous biodiversity outcome(s)	of your project plan or property management plan?
(these may be discussed in more detail upon processing of you	ur application)
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3. INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY VALUES ON YOUR SITE	
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□ Does your site provide a habitat for indigenous insects or (Wetlands, coastal, streams, rivers)	animals? If yes, which one(s)?
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20	
☐ Is your site connected to, or adjacent to any areas of natu	ral bush or forest larger than 1 hectare?
(Yes/No/Additional comments)	
☐ Is your site under any sort of formal protection (such as co	ovenants)? Please describe the protection.

4. CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

The funds will be awarded on the basis that:

- 1. The information supplied is true and correct. The Hutt City Council reserves the right to decline support if the information is found to be inaccurate.
- 2. Funds will be paid directly to the suppliers provided that proof of expenditure is true and correct.
- 3. The decision of the acceptance panel will be final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 4. Hutt City Council must be able to inquire about the progress of supported works at any time.

APPLICANT CHECKLIST						
Please ensure you have included the following so that your application can be processed:						
☐ Answered all questions on the application form						
☐ A Project Plan or Property Management Plan (with targets and measurable outcomes)						
☐ Supporting documents (if applicable)						
This application, together with the supporting material, must reach: Indigenous Biodiversity Grants						
C/- Hutt City Council						
This application, together with the supporting material, must reach: Indigenous Biodiversity Grants C/- Hutt City Council Private Bag 31-912 Lower Hutt 5040 email: Biodiversity@huttcity.govt.nz by 5.00 pm 20 May 2020						
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by 5.00 pm 20 May 2020						
PRIVACY STATEMENT ***						
I, the undersigned, acknowledge that:						
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The information provided here will be used for the purpose of administering and assessing the application. People having direct access to the information are members of the panel considering the application.						

I declare, that to the best of my knowledge, the information provided by me is true and correct. Signature of Applicant Date

information held by Hutt City Council concerning me.

by the Privacy Act 1993.

I have a right under the Privacy Act 1993 to obtain access to and request correction of any personal

I understand my information will be held securely and will not be distributed to third parties unless allowed

From: Jonathan Frericks To: **Bruce Hodgins**

Subject: RE: Amendments re: Indigenous biodiversity fund Date: Wednesday, 4 March 2020 11:42:31 AM

Hi Bruce.

In response to Tui's email,

I am unsure about the amendment to recommendation ii. This may encourage covenanting but it is also the case that covenanted properties already have some degree of support. Would be happy for tier 2 support to be prioritised on covenanted properties but I think tier 1 support happy for tier 2 support to be prioritised on covenanted properties but I think tier 1 support doesn't need this to be prioritised. It may inhibit efficiency. I don't feel strongly about this happy to prioritise covenanted properties.

The change to recommendation (iv) is perfectly good.

Cheers jonathan

From: Tui Lewis

Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2020 11:36 AM

To: Andy Mitchell; Bruce Hodgins

Cc: Jonathan Frericks

Subject: FW: Amendments re: Indigenous biodiversity fund

Morena Bruce and Jonathan,

Please read Andy's email and let me know your thoughts on your approach prior to the Governin meeting?

Cheers

Tui Lewis **Hutt City Council Deputy Mayor**

021 271 6249 9705159

From: Andy Mitchell

Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2020 11:29 a.m.

To: Tui Lewis

Subject: Amendments re: Indigenous biodiversity fund

Kia ora Tui,

At today's meeting I would like to propose two amendments to the IB Fund recommendations, both of which are intended to encourage and reward covenanting of land.

The amendments are:

(ii) to include "Priority for grants in both tiers will be given to properties protected

by conservation covenants"

(iv) to insert "Tier 2 applications should be weighted and prioritised so that projects with the greatest impact, including covenanting of land, are funded."

Released under the Local Covernment Official Information and Meetings Act, 1985

From: Jonathan Frericks To: Tui Lewis

Subject: Re: Amendments re: Indigenous biodiversity fund Date: Wednesday, 4 March 2020 12:50:53 PM

Good afternoon Tui

and Meetings Act 1981 I am unsure about the amendment to recommendation ii. This may encourage covenanting but it is also the case that covenanted properties already have some degree of support. Would be happy for tier 2 support to be prioritised on covenanted properties but I think tier 1 support doesn't need this to be prioritised; It may inhibit efficiency. I don't feel strongly about this happy to prioritise covenanted properties.

The change to recommendation (iv) is perfectly good.

kind regards, Jonathan

From: Tui Lewis

Sent: Wednesday, 4 March 2020 11:36 AM

To: Andy Mitchell; Bruce Hodgins

Cc: Jonathan Frericks

Subject: FW: Amendments re: Indigenous biodiversity fund

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Released under the Local Covernment Official Information and Meetings Act, 1985

From: Donna Male Jonathan Frericks To:

Subject: Action Memo CEC2020 2 50 - Indigenous Biodiversity Fund - 24 March 2020.DOCX

Date: Friday, 27 March 2020 4:03:50 PM

Attachments: Action Memo CEC2020 2 50 - Indigenous Biodiversity Fund - 24 March 2020.DOCX

Released under the Local Covernment Official Information and wheetings Act, 1985

For Action

MEMO TO: Jonathan Frericks - Ecology/Horticulture Advisor

COPY TO:

DATE: 27 March 2020

Please note for your action / information the following decision arising from the meeting named above:

C 20222 Indigenous Biodiversity From 20/17

- RESOLVED: (Deputy Mayor Lewis/Cr Briggs) Minute No. C 20222(3)

 "That Council:

 (i) approves a process for landowners to be able to are 'biodiversity on their properties verification in the state of t biodiversity on their properties using the fund that was established for this purpose in June 2019;
- and potential positive impacts of the applications received for each tier. Tier 1 grants should take the form of supply of materials or work and Tier 2 should take the form of a contestable fund for projects that have a suitable management plan.
- (iii) agrees that Tier 1 grants should have a maximum Council contribution of \$1,000. This would primarily be used for the supply of materials or work and could also include the development of a "project management plan" or a "property management plan" which would enable the landowner to apply for Tier 2 grants at the next opportunity;
- (iv) agrees that Tier 2 grants should have a maximum Council contribution of \$20,000 with exceptions to be approved by the Head of Parks and Recreation. Tier 2 applications should be weighted and prioritised by their outcomes so that the projects with the greatest impact, including covenanting of land, are funded;
- (v) agrees that properties which are eligible for landowner grants (Tier 1 and Tier 2) must meet one or more of the following criteria:
 - (a) contain or adjoin areas of indigenous vegetation greater than 1 hectare;
 - (b) Contain or adjoin wetlands, waterways or waterbodies; and/or
 - contain or provide habitats for organisms that are Threatened, At Risk, or Data Deficient in the New Zealand Threat Classification System by Te Papa Atawhai, Department of Conservation;

With an additional requirement of a suitable "project management plan" or "property management plan" for the Tier 2 grants. All management plans must have measurable targets or progress indicators;

- (vi) requests a review of the operation and performance of supported projects for July 2021, following a full year of operation. The review should also contain recommendations to increase effectiveness of the programme in increasing indigenous biodiversity; and
- (vii) acknowledges the efforts of stakeholders, including landowners and officers working together on the matter to get to this point and wishes for this to continue."

From: **Helen Oram** Jo Miller To:

Carvn Ellis; Jon Hoyle; Andrea Blackshaw; Lvndon Allott; Bruce Hodgins; Jonathan Frericks Cc:

Subject: Launch of Indigenous Biodiversity Fund Date: Tuesday, 26 May 2020 6:44:23 PM

Description on the second being as a result of the SNA District and the second next week.

I want to make sure this doesn't come as a surprise to CLT, nor to elected members.

The fund has been endorsed by Council, discussed with iwi in our regular catch-ups, and the officer group has been working with the 'affected' community.

The launch of the fund will include:

Notification to the iwi that this is about to be launched

Letters to the 1200 'affected' people on our "SNA" list

New pages on the website

Fund applications will be made online via our website, as a preference

Jon and I are working on some digital 'event' for the letters or concerns?

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From: **Bruce Hodgins**

To: Jonathan Frericks; Helen Oram; Karen Piper

Cc: Ion Hoyle

RE: Indigenous Biodiversity Fund - Draft outline and application forms Subject:

Date: Thursday, 28 May 2020 7:00:55 AM

Thanks Jonathan. Yep that looks good and covers off the matters we discussed.

Biodiversity Fund - Draft outline and application forms

... raren,

I have updated the forms based on feedback, and I have attached the latest revision to this email

I am happy to discuss,

(ind regards pnathan

m: Helen Ore

From: Helen Oram < Helen. Oram@huttcity.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 26 May 2020 6:16 PM

To: Karen Piper < Karen. Piper@huttcity.govt.nz>

Cc: Jonathan Frericks < Jonathan. Frericks@huttcity.govt.nz>; Bruce Hodgins <bruce.hodgins@huttcity.govt.nz>; Jon Hoyle <Jon.Hoyle@huttcity.govt.nz> Subject: FW: Indigenous Biodiversity Fund - Draft outline and application forms

Hi Karen

As you know, I am working with Jon Hoyle, Jonathan Frericks and Bruce Hodgins on the Indigenous Biodiversity Fund – I need your help on this please!

In the meeting this morning we discussed launching this next week (albeit it a bit later than expected, because of Covid).

The two forms attached need to be converted to fillable forms that we can then attach to the website – can you please convert them for us?

There are a couple of minor changes needed that Jonathan Frericks will do tomorrow (see highlighted below) and then he will send through to you the final forms for conversion.

Thanks Karen. Helen

From: Helen Oram

Sent: Tuesday, 26 May 2020 4:33 PM To: Jon Hoyle; Jonathan Frericks

Cc: Bruce Hodgins

Subject: FW: Indigenous Biodiversity Fund - Draft outline and application forms

Hi Jonathan

I have also had a look at the forms.

These are my questions please:

- 1. Are the forms fillable electronically?
- I suggest we ONLY allow electronic applications this is where we are trying to get through across the organisation. People can contact you if they have trouble putting the applications in electronically; we do have ways for people to email in large files.

 The dates need changing ©
 I'm not sure what the XXX means in section 2 in the T.

 Has Brad Cato looked at this? 2. I suggest we ONLY allow electronic applications – this is where we are trying to get The dates need changing

 4. I'm not sure what the XXX means in section 2 in the Teir 1 application form

 5. Has Brad Cato looked at this?

 eers
 len

 im: Bruce Hodgins

 it: Tuesday, 26 May 2020 7:28 AM
 Helen Oram

 pject: FW: Indigenous Biodiversity Fund Date:

Cheers Helen

From: Bruce Hodgins

Sent: Tuesday, 26 May 2020 7:28 AM

To: Helen Oram

Subject: FW: Indigenous Biodiversity Fund - Draft outline and application forms

Released under the Local Government Fyi - for this morning's meeting with Jonathan

From: <u>Jonathan Frericks</u>

To: <u>Helen Oram; Jon Hoyle; Bruce Hodgins</u>

Subject: RE: An update on how we are tracking - Indigenous Biodiversity Fund

Date: Wednesday, 10 June 2020 4:50:06 PM

Hi Helen,

Thanks for that :) 'natural' is a bit of a stretch

We'll be out at the landowners property 7:30am tomorrow to catch the sunrise:)

I have given Gavin Bird a heads up in case they get an influx of calls about pest plants – and how to best deal with them.

I could drop Esther from 'Love Wainuimata' a line regarding the fund – I don't really know many more groups. I have shared the info with the parks and reserves team so that at least the community groups volunteers can be in the know.

Otherwise. I think we're all on track

Cheers jonathan

From: Helen Oram < Helen. Oram@huttcity.govt.nz>

Sent: Tuesday, 9 June 2020 8:15 PM

Jonathan Frericks < Jonathan. Frericks@huttcity.govt.nz>

Subject: RE: An update on how we are tracking - Indigenous Biodiversity Fund

Hi guys

Additions in red below

Anything else we need to do?

Do you think I should let the DMs and the local libraries (and Love Wainuiomata?) know in case people go in and ask them about it?

Jonathan – apparently you are a natural behind the camera 😊

Thanks

From: Helen Oram

Sent: Monday, 8 June 2020 12:06 PM

To: Bruce Hodgins; Jon Hoyle; Jonathan Frericks

Subject: An update on how we are tracking - Indigenous Biodiversity Fund

Hi guys

Things are full steam ahead by the sound of it – great!

Isn't it amazing what we can do when we set our minds to it.

Is this correct? And are there any further actions that I haven't included/thought of.

- video getting done this week (Wed/Thurs) of Tom from Normandale are we having something with you talking also Jonathan? Done
 Press release Jon Hoyle writing Jon writing for release this weet

 ers to iwi Done

- chis week (Wed/Thurs) of Tom from Normandale
 ...g with you talking also Jonathan? Done
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From: **Helen Oram**

Mayor & Councillors; Eastbourne Community Board; Petone Community Board; Wainuiomata Community To:

Board

Cc: CLT; Jonathan Frericks; Bruce Hodgins; Jon Hoyle

Subject: Indigenous Biodiversity Fund Date: Thursday, 11 June 2020 2:58:06 PM

Good afternoon

I am pleased to announce that Council is about to launch its Indigenous Biodiversity Fund.

This fund is available to any land-owner who has land with indigenous biodiversity values, and wants to undertake some work to enhance or protect those values.

PCT 08

It's come about primarily as a response to the desire by Council to support landowners who addressed Council through the SNA plan change process in 2018.

Applications to the fund open on 15 June and close on 31 July. We have \$200,000 available this year for distribution.

There are two funding tiers: one for small grants of up to a \$1000 in value, the other for larger grants up to \$20,000.

For the larger grants, the land owner will require a project or property management plan. More information about the work we are doing around indigenous biodiversity, about the fund and application forms can be found here

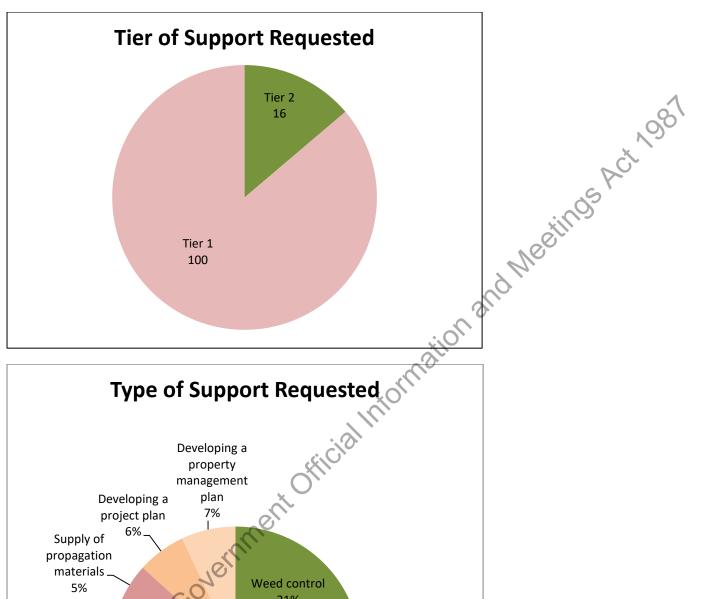
More than 1000 letters are being sent out to landowners who were affected by the SNA process. er who i.e. oral covernment official covernment of the local covernment of the For the launch we are preparing a pre-recorded video with our biodiversity expert speaking about the fund, and an interview with a landowner who has been doing great things with his

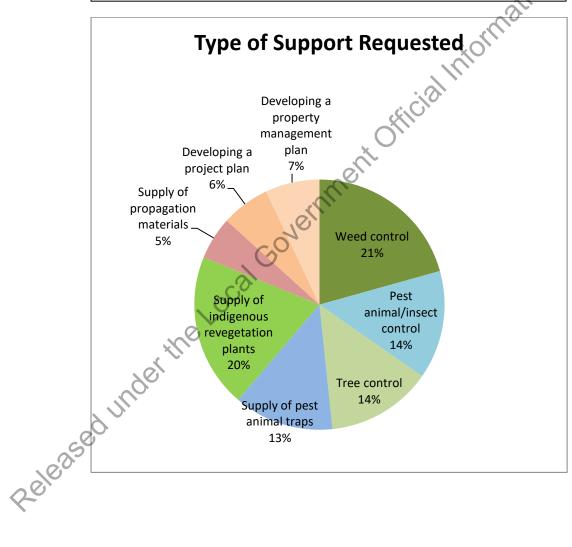
Appendix 2

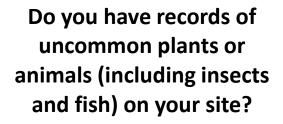
Transaction Listing (Enquire)

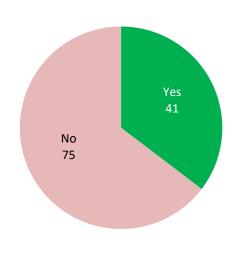
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	4/12/2020 12:00 AM 2		APINV	6	585.00			1 Grant 2020/042		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	04/12/2020 12:00 AM
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	7/12/2020 12:00 AM 2		APINV	6	546.26			1 Grant 2020/035		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	07/12/2020 12:00 AM
	7/12/2020 12:00 AM 2		APINV	6	500.00			1 Grant 2020/049		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	07/12/2020 12:00 AM
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	2/01/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	7	310.30			1 Grant 2020/044		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	12/01/2021 12:00 AM
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	2/05/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	11	162.59	, .		1 Grant 2020/049		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	12/05/2021 12:00 AM
	9/05/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	11	188.71			1 Grant 2020/049		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	19/05/2021 12:00 AM
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	9/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	341.09			1 Grant 2020/030		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	09/06/2021 12:00 AM
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1	0/06/2021 12:00 AM 2	2020/020	APINV	12	504.38			1 Grant 2020/020		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	10/06/2021 12:00 AM
	4/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	195.00			1 Grant 2020/054		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	14/06/2021 12:00 AM
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1	6/06/2021 12:00 AM 2	2020/095	APINV	12	39.81	162,994.94	94 Teir	1 Grant 2020/095	1.2901.	6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	16/06/2021 12:00 AM
	6/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	4,347.83			1 Grant 2020/071, 2020/075, 2020/076, 2020/118		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	16/06/2021 12:00 AM
1	6/06/2021 12:00 AM 2	2020/069	APINV	12	322.72			1 Grant 2020/069	1.2901.	6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	16/06/2021 12:00 AM
	7/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	127.64			1 Grant 2020/064		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	17/06/2021 12:00 AM
1	7/06/2021 12:00 AM 2	2020/058	APINV	12	371.55	168,164.68	8 Teir	1 Grant 2020/058	1.2901.	6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	17/06/2021 12:00 AM
	7/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	217.39			1 Grant 2020/054		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	17/06/2021 12:00 AM
	7/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	60.80			1 Grant 2020/022		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	17/06/2021 12:00 AM
	B/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	869.57			1 Grant 2020/104		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	18/06/2021 12:00 AM
	B/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	807.08			1 Grant 2020/027		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	18/06/2021 12:00 AM
	1/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	121.61			1 Grant 2020/044		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	21/06/2021 12:00 AM
	1/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	98.20	170,339.33		1 Grant 2020/044		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	21/06/2021 12:00 AM
	1/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	772.98	171,112.31		1 Grant 2020/100		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	21/06/2021 12:00 AM
	1/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	360.00			1 Grant 2020/051		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	21/06/2021 12:00 AM
	1/06/2021 12:00 AM 2		APINV	12	36.52			1 Grant 2020/051		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	21/06/2021 12:00 AM
	7/06/2021 12:00 AM II		APINV	12	2,066.00			very of Plants for Indigenous Biodiversity Fund		6425.000000	Biodiversity	AP	27/06/2021 12:00 AM
	1/07/2021 12:00 AM 0		REVJNLPO	12	110.00			Accrual for Period 12 HCC0005446 PESTPROOF LIMITED		6425.000000	Biodiversity	GL	01/07/2021 12:00 AM
			3		173,684.83						-		

173,

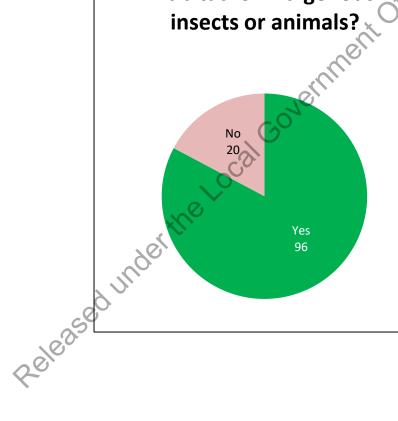








Does your site provide a habitat for indigenous insects or animals?



Skicial Information and Meetings Act 1981

