

STAFF REPORT

TO: Chair and Members, Motueka Community Board

FROM: Jeff Cuthbertson, Utilities Asset Manager

REFERENCE: W209

SUBJECT: **Motueka Water Subsidy Application – Working Group
MCB11-04-08**

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update the committee on the subsidy application for the Motueka Plains Water Supply and to seek agreement to appoint a Working Party to move the project forward.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Thank you for supporting the application for subsidy for the Motueka Plains Water Supply. We received your letter and included it in the application document. We have provide a copy of the application document to the Chairman.
- 2.2 The Ministry of Health will now review, evaluate, score and rank all the subsidy applications received. We understand a large number of applications were received and given there is only \$10 million subsidy available and we are asking for \$4 million we know there will be stiff competition. However we have to prepare for the outcome whichever way it goes.
- 2.3 If a subsidy is granted, then Council has to:
- determine the cost to the community for the water supply;
 - consult with the community – perhaps by information brochure, workshop and public meeting;
 - receive and assess the community response; and
 - decide whether to proceed.
- 2.4 If a subsidy is not granted, Council then has to decide how to proceed in the light of public health risks, servicing future growth and upgrading and developing the existing supply.

3 OPTIONS

- 3.1 In order to move this project forward, we suggest that a working party is formed which includes representation from the Community Board. Initially the working party could meet to agree the purpose and operating protocols of the group, and explore whether anything sensible can be advanced while the

subsidy is being decided (for example, how should consultation be done with the community, what information should they receive). Once the subsidy is decided, the working party would take a more active role to help communicate with the community, understand their views and provide recommendations to Council on the direction it should take.

3.2 A draft agenda for a first meeting of the working party is as follows:

- Appoint chair;
- Agree purpose;
- Agree protocols;
- Review the subsidy application and chances of success;
- Consider the possible scenarios and what needs to be done in each scenario:
 - Subsidy successful
 - Subsidy unsuccessful
- Determine action plan and agree next meeting date.

4 RECOMMENDATION

4.1 THAT the Motueka Community Board agrees to the formation of a Working Party to progress the Motueka Plains Water Supply Project. The Working Party to include all members of the Community Board, the local Ward Councillors, the Engineering Manager and the Utilities Asset Manager as noted in this report MCB11-04-08.



Jeff Cuthbertson
Utilities Asset Manager