

1. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LAW ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE 2003

Officer responsible Director of Legal and Secretariat Services	Author Angelene Holton, Committee Secretary, DDI 941-8437
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The purpose of this report is to seek approval for Councillors to attend the Resource Management Law Association Conference 2003 to be held in Blenheim.

BACKGROUND

The Resource Management Law Association (RMLA) provides a forum for a variety of professionals who have an interest in or work in the field of resource management and environmental law. The RMLA promotes an understanding of the role of resource management law and its implementation within a multi-disciplinary framework, and supports resource management processes that are legally sound, effective, and produce high quality environmental outcomes.

This year's RMLA conference will be held in Blenheim from Thursday 9 to Saturday 11 October 2003. The conference theme is "Aqua Vitae: Water for Life". A copy of the conference programme is tabled.

A number of conference sessions and workshops will be held covering topics such as "The Politics of Need" with guest speaker Bjorn Lomborg, Associate Professor of Political Science, Denmark (Author of "The Sceptical Environmentalist"). Other sessions include the sustainable management of resources in the coastal marine area, aquaculture, marine reserves, and the Ocean's Policy. Workshops sessions focus on ports and marinas, waterways and wetlands, viticulture, landscape and lifestyles. A workshop session will also be held on customary rights and legal title on 11 October.

The estimated costs per person are about \$1,210, consisting of registration (\$970) and accommodation for two nights (\$240). Some travel costs will also be incurred although it is intended that Councillors share travel.

Chair's

Recommendation: That the Council approve the attendance of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of Regulatory and Consents Committee, and additional Councillors as considered appropriate, at the Resource Management Law Association Conference to be held in Blenheim from 9–11 October 2003.