

8. TRAINING FOR ELECTED MEMBERS – RESOURCE MANAGEMENT ACT

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of forthcoming training sessions for elected members on the Resource Management Act.

Councillors will have received notice of two seminars which will be held at the Fendalton Service Centre on 5 December (9.15am – 12.30pm) and 11 December (9.30am – 11.45am). Councillor Wells has indicated that, as in previous years, all Councillors and Community Board members who wish to serve on resource consent hearings panels will be expected to attend both seminars.

In addition to this in-house training, a seminar will be held in February or March next year for elected members with a more general focus on roles and responsibilities under the RMA. This training is provided by the NZ Planning Institute in conjunction with the Ministry for the Environment and Local Government New Zealand. Further details will be forwarded to elected members once the date has been confirmed.

During 2002 it is also proposed to provide on-going training for hearings panels and planning staff on recent case law and topical issues such as permitted baseline and precedent/cumulative effects.

Recommendation: That the information be received.

Recommendation from the Chair: Not seen by the Chair.