

Community Environment Group Monthly Report - October 2015

TO Judicial Committee

FROM Barry Smedts - Operations Manager - Community Environment Group

DATE 18 November 2015

SUBJECT **Community Environment Group Monthly Report for October 2015**

1 Purpose of Report

This paper reports on key activities within Community Environment Group for the month of October 2015.

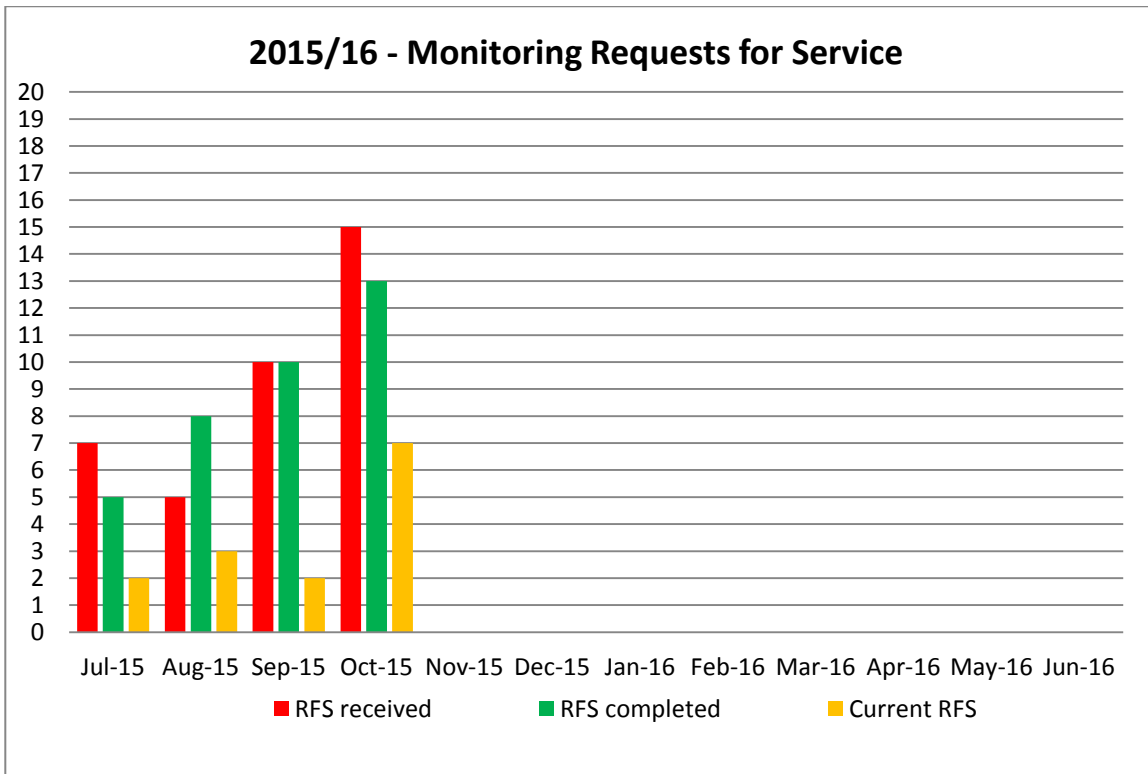
2 Discussion

RMA Monitoring

Planning Investigations

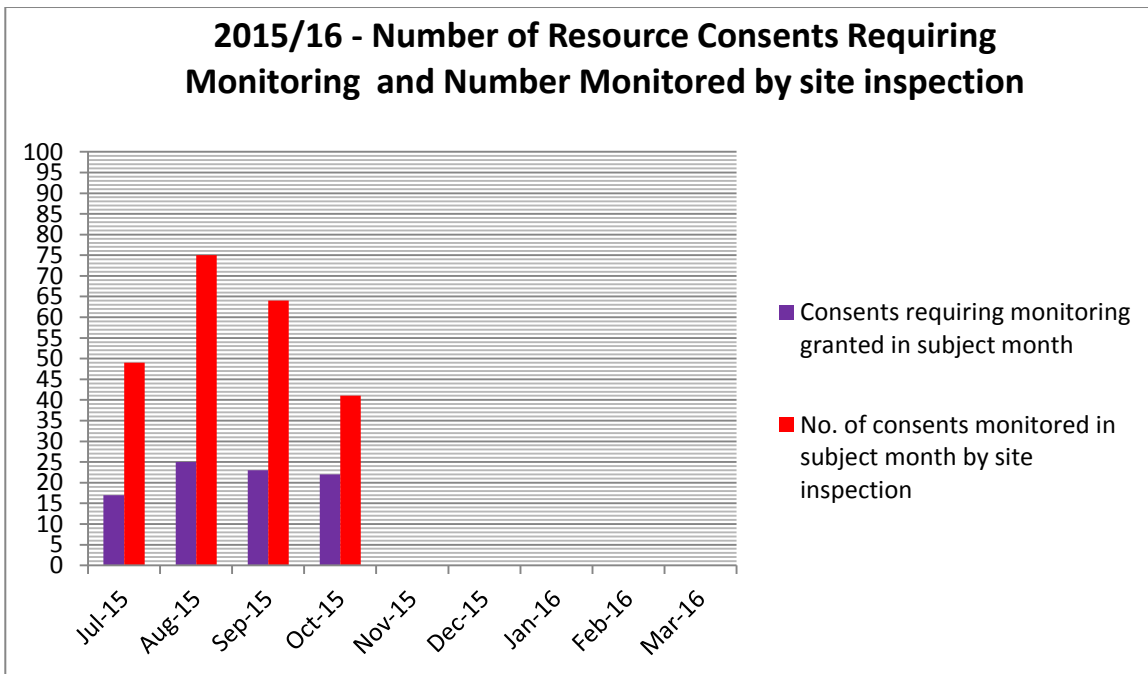
Planning Investigations	July 2015	Aug 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2015	YTD 15/16
New investigations commenced	5	0	2	2	9
Investigations Completed	0	0	6	0	6
Current Live RMA Investigations	28	28	24	26	26

Planning Requests for Service / Complaints



The number of completed RFS is the total number completed overall, not just for the ones that were received in the subject month.

Conditions of Resource Consent monitoring



The number of consents monitored is the total number of consents overall, not just for the consents that were granted in the subject month.

Compliance

Dog Control

Unregistered dog property visits continued in October with a further 147 dog owners receiving a visit from Compliance Officers. The majority of dogs were either deceased or had moved from the property. Officers are now taking a harder line with owners who have still failed to register dogs despite receiving a formal warning to do so. Infringements are being issued and where appropriate dogs seized.

The process to managing "unregistered dogs" after July of each year will be reviewed in early 2016 as officers are spending a lot of time visiting properties where no such dog exists and the warning system this year was leaning on Councils "compassion & empathy" values but it meant repeat visits to dog owners to achieve compliance.

A total of 26 dogs have been impounded since August but none euthanised compared to 10 euthanised for the same period last year. Officers are working more stringently with the SPCA inspector to give every dog a second chance unless the dog is not considered suitable for rehoming. Where there is no room at the SPCA kennels for TCDC dogs we now try several other dog rehoming centres in the Waikato or use the TCDC Facebook page.

There were no serious attacks on people or animals by dogs in October.

Social media (Facebook) is having an effect on less stray dogs being collected by officers and impounded as photos of stray dogs are being circulated through Facebook sites such as "Whiti Chit Chat or Tairua Chit Chat". Owners are collecting dogs directly from complainants and Council is out of the loop. These sites are being monitored to identify whether there are dogs that are constantly roaming & causing issues. One owner was cautioned recently after a photo of his dog getting into rubbish was publicised on Facebook.

Freedom Camping

October saw a significant rise in the number of freedom campers visiting the Coromandel Peninsula. The Rhodes Park certified self-contained area was full to capacity on two occasions and up to 41 self-contained campers were observed one morning spread along the Thames Coast at designated sites with some spillage out into restricted areas. Unfortunately the number of non-self-contained campers also increased with 90 offenders receiving infringements in October. There were 111 "education" visits by the compliance team to freedom campers in October.

We cannot currently easily identify through our reporting the actual infringements paid compared to those raised. We can identify infringements issued, total infringements paid and costs in sending to the court. During the year ended 30 June 2015 our figures were as follows.

1262 Freedom Infringements were issued with a potential income total of \$252,400.
84 infringements were waived with a value of \$16,800.

689 infringements were paid with a total of \$137,800. received.

Court payments received total of \$31,645.11.

Total infringement revenue received \$169,445.11

For the same period 452 infringements were lodged with the courts for collection at a fee of approx \$30 per infringement totalling \$13,560

Community Board Service Level Agreements (SLA)

Workshops with all five of the districts Community Boards were completed on time and achieved mutual compliance agreements between the boards and the Compliance Team. The SLA ensures enforcement is set at a level that takes on board current compliance resources, the boards support for the different types of enforcement activities and where non-compliance issues are identified.

The SLA confirmed that compliance resources will be stretched to deal with additional demands on the team in particular the Coromandel - Colville area with additional parking restrictions at Te Kouma and a demand for increased camping patrols to the northern Coromandel.

Staff are currently investigating how to best service the increasing demands from Community Boards and Council for compliance functions with a view to increasing resources needed to provide improved coverage of the district on proactive patrols. A report on this will be completed early next year.

Dogs

1. Dogs Registered

Dogs Registered 2015/6	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sept 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
Registered	3547	4129	4303	4402	N/A
Unreg	1133	558	304	143	N/A
Total	4680	4687	4607	4545	N/A
% Reg	76%	88%	93%	97%	N/A
% Unreg	24%	12%	7%	3%	N/A
Infringements	3	3	8	10	24
Property Surveys	48	1	1	147	197

2. Dogs Impounded

Dogs Impounded 2015/16	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sep 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
Impounded	10	12	15	12	49
Claimed	4	5	10	5	24
Euthanized	2	4	0	0	6
Adopted	1	0	0	1	2
SPCA	1	1	1	3	6
Kept impounded	1	1	3	3	N/A

3. Dog Complaints

Dog Complaints 2015/16	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sep 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
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Dog Attack - person	0	0	0	2	2
Dog Attack - animal	4	1	2	1	8
Other complaints	26	27	41	26	120
Total Dog Complaints	30	28	43	29	130

Bylaws

1. Freedom camping

Freedom Camping 2015/16	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sept 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
Warnings	4	7	4	28	43
Waivers	2	2	1	1	6
Infringements	38	40	49	90	217
Total	42	47	53	118	260

* Waiver statistics for the previous month are not indicative of potential waivers as appeals may still be considered two months after the infringement issue date.

2. Parking

Parking 2015/16	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sept 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
Total Parking Infringements	86	37	58	112	293

3. Noise

Noise 2015/16	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sept 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
Noise Requests for Service	18	13	26	43	100
Excessive noise directions	8	4	7	14	33

4. Other Bylaw Activity

Bylaw Activity 2015/16	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sep 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
Total Complaints	23	25	16	14	78

Environmental Health and Licensing

1. Health Licensing

Food Act - Food Control Plans

Currently food control plan (FCP) operators are only using a FCP on a voluntary basis but from March next year premises that prepare meals and also sell liquor will within the following 12 months have to transition to operate under a FCP. Plans are being developed to ensure that transition process is carried out in a structured manner and Environmental Health Officers will be working with licensees in the coming months to assist with the process.

Health Licence Inspections 2015/16	July 2015	Aug 2015	Sept 2015	Oct 2015	YTD Total 15/16
Food Premises	25	16	14	17	72
Camping Grounds	0	0	0	0	0
Hairdressers	5	2	0	2	9
Funeral Directors	0	0	0	0	0
Mobile/Itinerant Traders	0	0	0	0	0
Event Monitoring	0	0	0	0	0
MPI Food Control Plans Audited	0	1	1	5	7

2. Alcohol Licensing

Alcohol Applications lodged for month 15/16	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sept 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
On	3	6	6	4	15
Off	1	3	3	3	7
Club	6	4	1	3	11
Managers Certificate	26	27	22	20	75
Special Licence	20	8	14	14	42
Temporary Authority	0	4	1	2	5
Total for Month	56	52	47	46	155

Liquor Application activity for the month 15/16	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sept 15	Oct 15	YTD 15/16
Applications assessed, reported on and finalised for the month	67	40	40	44	191
General Manager Interviews held	9	9	9	9	35
Alcohol Hearings before DLC	0	0	0	0	0
Alcohol Hearings before ARLA *	0	0	0	0	0

* ARLA hearings occur approximately once per annum

Alcohol Inspections

These premises are inspected to ensure that they meet the requirements of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012.

Sale of Liquor Licenses	Registered 2015/2016	Jul 15	Aug 15	Sep 15	Oct 15	YTD Total
On	115	8	1	2	2	13
Off	62	6	2	0	1	9
Club	32	3	2	0	2	7

Financial Results for Compliance and Environmental Health for October 2015

1. Revenue

Cost Centre	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Variance
Animal control	585,310	287,589	354,145	66,556
Health Licensing	326,740	187,631	187,412	(219)
Parking	102,550	25,020	17,955	(7,065)
By-Laws	109,729	41,201	58,337	17,136
Noise Control	2,051	684	0	(684)
Liquor	370,419	159,558	168,400	8,842
Liquor Bans	-	-	-	-

2. Expenditure

Cost Centre	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Variance
Animal control	581,735	194,516	195,208	(692)
Health Licensing	326,740	109,160	108,165	995
Parking	43,725	11,836	16,239	(4,403)
By-Laws	53,531	17,745	30,432	(12,687)
Noise Control	111,818	37,276	25,248	12,028
Liquor	365,292	124,422	129,605	(5,183)
Liquor Bans	5,128	1,500	705	795

3 Suggested Resolution(s)

That the Judicial Committee:

1. Receives the 'Community Environment Group Monthly report - October 2015' dated, 18 November 2015.