

Banks Peninsula District Council

Tree planting on Reserves – Indigenous Trees and Shrubs Policy

Resolution number: P99/236

Resolution date: 8/9/99

Resolved that the following policy on tree planting in reserves in the district be accepted as Council policy:

In response to the decline of indigenous biodiversity within New Zealand, considerable efforts are being made nationally to rejuvenate the planting and growing of endemic native trees and shrubs. Banks Peninsula District Council accepts that it has an obligation on behalf of its residents to respond to this decline within the Banks Peninsula district in particular.

Council reserves are serving an increasing number of residents and visitors recreational needs. Council recognises that this increasing usage means that the planting of locally sourced native tree and shrub species and the use of indigenous plant species in its reserve generally, can be an important influence in determining how the district's environmental issues are shaped.

Due to Council's standing in the community, the number of its reserves that serve both the local and wider communities, and the greater prominence that these reserves are playing in the lives of its residents, it believes it has an obligation to take a leadership role in the promotion of the planting of native tree and shrub species in particular, and also in the necessary planning, within its district. This responsibility is tempered by the necessity to act in a cost effective manner for its ratepayers, within the confines and restraints of its annual budget.

The following five goals are hereby established in respect of the planting and caring of indigenous trees and shrubs within the district.

That within the context of appropriate funding being available, Banks Peninsula District Council will:

1. have as its first option, unless there are acceptable reasons to the contrary, the intentional planting of indigenous plant species within its reserves;
2. maintain and, where possible, restore the remaining natural habitat of indigenous plant species under its jurisdiction to their natural healthy state;
3. take appropriate steps to control all threats to its indigenous plant species;
4. encourage the planting of indigenous plant species within the district by both private landowners and public organisations;
5. where appropriate, use locally sourced indigenous plant species for its own new projects.

This policy supersedes all previous policies of Council concerning tree planting within the district.

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