

From: Neil Wells <newells@cybernet.co.nz>
To: "David Bayvel (E-mail)" <bayveld@maf.govt.nz>
Date: 8 October 1998 1:53pm
Subject: WAITAKERE CITY

Dear Barry

Thanks for giving me your time this morning. This summarises our discussion today.

1. TAs will not be recognised in the Bill because of the reasons you outlined.
2. Under the terms of the Bill all bodies nominating inspectors will need to be "approved organisations" and meet specified criteria such as animal welfare as a principal purpose, can meet standards of training and operation, do not create a conflict of interest, etc.
3. Current Waitakere Inspectors will be re-warranted in December (for 12 month period?) on the understanding that the Animal Welfare Institute of New Zealand concept is proceeding and they will ultimately operate under a memorandum of understanding between MAF Reg and AWINZ (detail yet to be discussed and subject to the final detail of the Act).
4. Waitakere City can proceed with training additional officers under the current temporary programme and they will be warranted (subject to suitability for appointment) with terms of office tied to the renewed warrants of the other officers. This is at Waitakere's risk as the outcome of the detail of the Bill cannot be certain.
5. If the trust does not proceed or cannot meet the criteria as it is confirmed by Parliament in the Act the Waitakere programme will be reviewed.
6. The compliance audit planned for November has been cancelled.
7. I will prepare a detailed proposal as soon as the Bill is in the public domain (you will send me a copy as soon as it is public) and other details of the trust operation are firmed up. This will probably be by mid-October.

I trust this reflects our discussion

Regards

Neil

Neil,

Yes you have captured most of the issues discussed - if the bill precludes WCC or AWINZ involvement then we will have no option but to discontinue the programme - therefore any "expansion" of the current pilot programme is at WCC risk, and would only be sanctioned by this office providing the issues surrounding the establishment of the AWINZ are clarified, and that these are consistent with the policy of the draft bill, and/or the select committee's recommendations in this area. However the ultimate test will be the final act, and any interim arrangements would need to be consistent with the new act once in force - therefore the current pilot and any changes to it is subject to this outcome, and MAF will not be liable for to WCC for any issues that arise in this regard.

Regards

Barry

David

Above is the text of my e-mail to Barry and his reply following our meeting on 16th September.

Now that the Bill is public and I have seen the criteria for an "approved organisation" I am proceeding with a detailed proposal (as per 7 above) that the Animal Welfare Institute of New Zealand can meet the criteria of the Bill as it stands. There is of course a risk that the criteria in the final Act may change (as per Barry's e-mail above). But I think the risk is small.

Notwithstanding, Waitakere wishes to proceed with the Block Training of 12 officers (as per 4 above). 6 officers with current warrants will go through the training again and there are 6 new officers. All 12 will operate as one compliance unit covering both Waitakere City and the North Shore.

(As an aside - Auckland SPCA has an unwarranted field officer operating on

the North Shore and West Auckland who is calling on Waitakere to provide back-up when a warranted Inspector is required. That reinforces the notion that compliance organisations can work together.)

I have looked at the qualification framework that was approved by Barry 3 years ago for the initial training of Waitakere officers. The following unit standards meet that qualification framework in terms of course content, but will achieve a higher standard in terms of the performance criteria.

- 5181 First aid companion animals (8 credits)
- 14234 Animal welfare legislation (4 credits)
- 4223 Describe powers (4 credits)
- 4235 Plan and prepare investigation (4 credits)
- 4236 Conduct an investigation (4 credits)
- 4239 Search premises (4 credits)
- 4241 Seize property (4 credits)

This amounts to 32 credits out of a total of 83 required for the National Certificate. The goal is for all 12 students to be assessed in the 7 unit standards which means they are well on the way to gaining the National Certificate.

If you don't have the full unit standards they can now be downloaded and printed without charge from:

<http://www.nzqa.govt.nz/framework/>

UNITEC has agreed that the course will operate through UNITEC with me as course co-ordinator, as they are accredited to provide the units.

I have a tight time frame to meet. The goal is to have all officers qualified by the 1st week of December. Existing warrants will be up for renewal on 12th December so it would be better if the new warrants also ran from that date.

There will be 48 hours of formal lectures/workshops for the course, plus work place assignments. The final timetable of the training course has yet to be finalised but it is proposed that it commences on 19th October with 9 hours of formal lectures per week. That would complete the course by 27th November with final assessments and examinations in the final week.

I would like to fit in a guest lecturer from MAF Reg. (say you or Kate) to cover the role of MAF Reg. Will that be okay with you?

I am now working on revision of course material to update it and to ensure that it covers the performance criteria of the Unit Standards.

Can you confirm that the above unit standards meet the criteria for training as agreed with Barry.

When I met with Barry he advised that he had cancelled the MAF Compliance audit of Waitakere scheduled for next month. Trish Pearce has not confirmed the cancellation with Tom Didovich. Can you confirm that the November audit is not proceeding?

For reasons I will outline in my next e-mail it would make sense to schedule the compliance audit for February next year, just before the Bill comes back into the house.

I will send you a separate e-mail with an outline of how the Animal Welfare Institute of New Zealand will meet the criteria of an "approved organisation" in terms of the Bill.

Kind regards

Neil

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