Planning and decision making with Rhythm and Vines event

The key people involved in the planning of the R & V event are diverse including event managers, a range of consultants including Insight Resource Management Consultancy, marketing experts etc., and since the first R & V festival a representative from the Waiohika Estate Vineyard has also been on the planning team.

Regular contact is maintained with the Gisborne District Council and support services such as ...this is essential to ensure that all parties are aware of decisions...(1)

The planning also changed again in 2008 when the festival became a three day event considerably increasing the complexity of the planning required.

Before the event, organisers would have to plan how many people the festival can accommodate, (2) as well as available sewerage, power, water... over the entirety of the holiday. Transport from BW to the Waiohika Estate for the thousands of people ...

Since the first festival in 2003 when the site was secured after being selected using a sieve analysis technique, *(3) it has been necessary to obtain consent to increase the size of the festival site, this is negotiated with Waiohika Estate....

There are several aspects the R & V organisers needed permission for. Under the RMA, they must get district land consent, to discharge contaminants to land in a manner that may enter the water and noise level legislation (4) etc. They also need permission to sell alcohol so a Liquor License is required.

District land use consent: R & V must secure consent to use the property at ...for the event, and adjoining properties. The lease of the land needs to be discussed, taking into account size of the land, legal description, potential environmental implications and ... They need to provide an outdoor entertainment venue, to create a temporary campground and to provide suitable waste management facilities...(5)

Consent must be obtained when land is being used in a way not designated in the district plan. As the land where the R&V festival will be held is not zoned for festivals land use consent is mandatory. Under the District Plan car parks are required to be sealed, consequently R & V needed to apply for an exemption...

Restricted Discretionary Activity consent was also required due to the number of people attending the festival, this is essential to ensure that the Gisborne District Council has systems in place to cope with and control the methods of waste disposal... (6)

The Building Act states that for an event that includes over 800 people, a minimum of four toilets must be established, plus 1 toilet per every 350 people. As the BW campgrounds and Waiohika Estate is fairly rural, permanent ablution blocks are unavailable for the partygoers; *(7) hence ...

Environmental Impact:

The potential environmental impacts are huge with the increasing number of people attending this festival. It was estimated that more than ... tonnes of rubbish was generated by 25,000 festival-goers over five days of partying in 2010. It is estimated that in 2010, over ... tonnes of waste was produced every day at the BW campground this was much less than in previous years (8). BW Campgrounds started a recycling programme and this dealt with large volumes of waste, especially the cardboard, so removing that from the waste stream was effectively saving ...tonnes of recyclable material from the landfill. This action has remedied a potentially major negative impact on the environment and is one response to meet the requirements of the resource consent application, which states the festival must minimise any environmental effects anyway they can* (9). A follow up to this action includes a post clean-up scheme. Groups who helped this clean-up scheme include local maraes, churches and Gisborne Boys' High School, who used this opportunity to start fundraising campaigns.

The fire and glass ban for the entirety of the concert, for both BW campgrounds and R&V festival decreases the potential for any sort of fire or glass hazard which could cause environmental implications (10)...

It is inevitable that land will be damaged during the three day event, due to tent pegs and general wear of the ground due to the 25,000 plus attendees and a large number of vehicles. Soil quality of the Waiohika Estate Vineyard is an especially important environmental concern, as this area is first and foremost a working vineyard. The impact of large numbers of people and vehicles could cause major damage to the soil quality, causing it to become compacted and hinder drainage capabilities (11).

An * indicates where a related evaluation from the Student 1 exemplar could be added to meet the Excellence requirement.