

# Petition: Officers' Response

**Title:** Vegetate excavated bare rock faces around the Mount Victoria Summit

**Primary Petitioner:** Richard Tingey, Levin  
**Total Signatures:** 3 (via ePetition)

**Presented by:** Richard Tingey  
**Contact officer:** Amber Bill  
**Director responsible:** Anthony Wilson

## Officers' recommendation:

Officers recommend that the Committee:

1. *Receive the petition.*

## Background:

The ePetition "Vegetate excavated bare rock faces around the Mount Victoria Summit" was initiated by Richard Tingey on 13 February 2014 and closed on 13 May 2014.

The purpose of the petition is to request that the Council beautify the bare rock faces around Mount Victoria Summit by planting evergreen creepers. This could be achieved by a wire frame and climber approach.

The petition was open to all members of the public with internet access to the Council's website. It received 3 signatures.

## Officers' response:

This is an exposed part of the Town Belt, and as the petition acknowledges, is essentially bare rock. Options for greening this space are therefore very limited. The proposal for a 'wire frame and climber' approach is certainly feasible if the right species could be selected. It would however be experimental and by no means guaranteed in success. Expenditure on capital upgrade would be needed (this would need to be new funding), and there would also be ongoing operational costs with watering and maintenance. In short, while this may be a nice feature, it is not a current funding or management priority.

Key priorities for this area have been set out in the Wellington Town Belt Management Plan (2013) – these do not preclude consideration of the current proposal, either as part of the priorities or at some time in the future. Short term (1-3 year) priorities for the Mt Victoria/Matairangi area include: developing a master-plan for Mt Victoria/Matairangi that looks at landscape, future plantings and removal of pines, as well as recreation development and ways to reduce user conflict; develop vegetation guidelines for Mt Victoria; work in partnership with the Rotary Club of Wellington and Mt Vic Revegers on the 'City to Summit' project.