



New submission for investigation "Central West Investigation"

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**Submission for the investigation "Central West Investigation"**Submitted on **04-08-2017**

Information provided by the author:

Title: **Mr**First Name: **Terry**Last Name: **South**Organisation: **Trentham Golf Club**

Description:

My position is that I am a voluntary Committee Member of the Trentham Golf Club. The Club owns land covered by 5 titles at the Northern fringe of the Trentham township. The land is used as the Club's golf course. We also hold an annual licence over a strip of crown land. At the southern end of the course, there is an unused roadway bordering the Club boundary. The unused roadway is approximately 10 metres x 300 metres running from Falls Rd to Stony Creek and was originally used as an access track for stock for watering purposes. The roadway has not been used for that purpose for many decades, certainly since before the Club commenced in 1937. In 1991, the Dept of Conservation & Environment offered and the Club applied for an annual licence over the whole of the unused roadway. We have continued to pay an annual licence fee to the Dept in its various forms since then. However in 2002, the Dept of Natural Resources and Environment wrote to the Club, notifying us of an increase in the annual rent and also indicating that our licence covered only the Northern half of the unused roadway. Nevertheless, with the encouragement and approval of the Dept. the Club has continued to mow and care for the full width of the former roadway. The area is now well treed and covered with grass which is regularly mowed by the Club's employees. It forms the boundary of one fairway of the golf course but is not part of the fairway. It has been planted to fit with our quite beautiful tree-lined course. DELWP advised the Club by mail on 25 July 17 that it is prepared to add the Southern half of the unused roadway to the Club's annual licence. As indicated, the Club has now maintained and planted the former roadway in an environmentally sound way for 26 years. We consider that it is an appropriate use of the land which forms an attractive natural boundary to the golf course. Naturally, we consider that this should continue. We have asked the Dept. whether a perpetual licence over the land could be made available to the Club. VEAC's view on this would be welcome. Of course, the Club would be interested in purchasing the land if it were available. This would be subject to price given that the Club is an incorporated association funded by its members. The Trentham Golf Club is a private club. However, we welcome visitors

including green-fee players. To this end, we attract about 6,000 visitors a year who enjoy the very natural environment of the course. The course is a vital contributor to the life of Trentham township.