

Northland Regional Council Regional Policy Committee

Meeting Agenda

Regional Policy Committee

For meeting to be held in the Council Chambers,
36 Water Street, Whangarei, on
Monday, 25 August 2014,
commencing at 1.00pm

**NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
Regional Policy Committee**

Agenda

For meeting to be held in the Council Chambers, 36 Water Street, Whangarei, on Monday, 25 August 2014, commencing at 1.00pm

MEMBERSHIP OF THE REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

Cr G Ramsey, Chairman

Cr D Sinclair

Cr J Carr

Cr C Brown

Cr B Shepherd (ex officio)

Cr J Bain

OPEN MEETING

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ISSUE: Confirmation of Minutes – 23 June 2014

ID: A668966

To: Regional Policy Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Evania Laybourn, Committee Secretary

Date: 18 August 2014

Report Type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input type="checkbox"/> Decision
Purpose:	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low

Executive Summary:

The minutes the meeting held on 23 June 2014 are **attached**.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

Councils are required to keep minutes of proceedings in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002.

Recommendation(s):

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1. That the report "Confirmation of Minutes – 23 June 2014 by Evania Laybourn, Committee Secretary and dated 18 August 2014, be received.
 2. That the **attached** minutes of the Regional Policy Committee Meeting held on 23 June 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record.
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NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL
REGIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Regional Policy Committee Meeting
held in the Council Chamber,
Northland Regional Council, 36 Water Street, Whāngārei, on
Monday 23 June 2014, commencing at 2.00 pm

Present:

Northland Regional Council
Cr Graeme Ramsey (Chairman)
Cr Craig Brown
Cr David Sinclair
Cr Joe Carr
Cr Bill Shepherd NRC Chairman

In Attendance:

Chief Executive Officer – Malcolm Nicolson
General Manager – Planning and Policy
Programme Manager – Resource Management
Policy Specialist – Coastal
Committee Secretary
Economist

The Chairman opened and then adjourned the meeting at 2.08 pm to allow for the Regional Policy Committee and Environmental Management Committee to finish off their workshop.

The meeting resumed at 2.40 pm.

Apologies (Item 1.0)

There were no apologies.

Carried

Declaration of Conflict of Interest (Item 2.0)

The Chairman gave members the opportunity to declare an interest on any item of business on the agenda for the meeting.

There were no conflicts of interest declared at this point.

Confirmation of Minutes – 24 February 2014 (Item 3.1)
Report from Evania Laybourn, Committee Secretary dated 16 June 2014.
ID: A650844

Moved Cr Brown/ Cr Carr

1. That the report “Confirmation of Minutes – 24 February 2014 by Evania Laybourn, Committee Secretary and dated 16 June 2014, be received.
2. That the minutes of the Regional Policy Committee Meeting held on 24 February 2014 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Update on the Review of the Regional Plans (Item 3.2)
Report from Ben Lee, Policy Specialist – Coastal dated 10 June 2014.
ID: A648815

Moved Cr Ramsey/Cr Brown

1. That the report “Update on the Review of the Regional Plans” by Ben Lee, Policy Specialist - Coastal and dated 10 June 2014, be received.
2. That the Regional Policy Committee direct staff to include in the process for the review of the Regional Air Quality Plan, Regional Water and Soil Plan, and Regional Coastal Plan an additional step to that proposed in the report for the committee to review and comment on the draft summary reports prior to their circulation to key stakeholders and that staff work with the Chief Executive Officer on a process to involve the Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee in the Plan Review Process.

Carried

In discussion it was noted that one week should be sufficient time for the committee members to review the draft summary reports. It was acknowledged by the committee that this review would alter the timing proposed by a fortnight to a month depending on the comments and feedback from committee members to staff.

Committee members felt that it was important that the Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee should have a role in the process given the interests of Māori in resource management and economic development. Given the inaugural Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee meeting was going to be held on 27 June 2014 it was too early to say when it would be ready to consider the plan review. However, staff were asked to monitor the committee’s progress and develop a proposed process for the inclusion of the Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee for consideration by the committee.

The technical input of the Māori resource management practitioners should continue to be sought for the review building upon the work that had been done in developing the Proposed RPS.

The committee requested that the key stakeholder list be recirculated.

Key Preliminary Findings of the Regional Plans Review (Item 3.3)

Report from Ben Lee, Policy Specialist - Coastal dated 10 June 2014
ID: A648698

Moved Cr Ramsey/Cr Carr

That the report “Key Preliminary Findings of the Regional Plans Review” by Ben Lee, Policy Specialist - Coastal and dated 10 June 2014, be received.

Carried

Conclusion

The meeting concluded at 3.42 pm.

ISSUE: Review of the Regional Plans Update

ID: A66624

To: Regional Policy Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Ben Lee, Policy Specialist - Coastal

Date: 12 August 2014

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision
Purpose:	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low

Executive Summary:

The timeframes for the regional plan review process are as follows:

- Draft summary reports circulated to key stakeholders – early September 2014
- Key stakeholder workshops – October 2014
- Committee workshop – late October 2014
- Finalise reports – November 2014
- Reports presented to committee – December 2014

These timeframes assume no major changes are required as a result of the feedback from the committee on the draft summary reports.

The key stakeholder workshops will be held in Whangarei. The committee may wish to consider and confirm the role of the committee members at the workshops.

Staff have been working with Keir Volkerling to develop the process for a tangata whenua perspective review of the regional plans and tangata whenua engagement process. A proposal was presented to (and subsequently supported by) the Tai Tokerau Iwi Chief Executives on 15 July 2014.

Please refer to the **attached report** for more information.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are part of the council's day to day operations, are provided for in the council's 2012-2022 Long Term Plan, and are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002. The matters are not significant under council policy.

Recommendation(s):

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1. That the report "Update on the Review of the Regional Plans" by Ben Lee, Policy Specialist - Coastal and dated 12 August 2014, be received.
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Report

Timeframes

The committee will recall that at the last meeting (23 June) that they;

- discussed the process for completing the regional plan review; and
- directed that staff include in the process for the review an additional step for the committee to review and comment on the draft summary reports (i.e. the committee workshop prior to this meeting).

As a result of the additional step, the amended timeframes are as follows:

- Draft summary reports circulated to key stakeholders – early September 2014
- Key stakeholder workshops – October 2014
- Committee workshop – late October 2014
- Finalise reports – November 2014
- Reports presented to committee – December 2014

These timeframes assume no major changes are required as a result of the feedback from the committee on the draft summary reports (the timeframes allow two weeks for staff to respond to committee feedback).

Key stakeholder workshops

The key stakeholder workshops will all be held in Whangarei over a three week period. The key stakeholders were sent a letter in June 2014 introducing the regional plan review, letting them know about the upcoming workshops and asking that they indicate their interest in attending. We have received about 30 responses, most of who are based in Whangarei or further south (e.g. Auckland and Wellington). Formal invitations will be sent out at least three weeks before the workshops.

At the 24 February 2014 meeting, the committee agreed that where possible at least one committee member will attend each workshop. The committee may wish to consider and confirm the role of the committee members at the workshop.

The proposed structure of the workshops is for staff to start with a brief presentation (attendees will have already had access to the draft summary reports) followed by discussion (either in groups or all together depending on numbers). Attending committee members may wish to say a few words at the start of the workshop. Otherwise the suggestion is that committee members are there to observe and respond to questions as necessary on behalf of council.

Tangat whenua perspective review

As discussed at the last meeting, staff continue to progress a process for engaging with tangata whenua into the plan review process. Staff have been working with Keir Volkerling (Environmental Management Committee Maori representative and respected Maori resource management practitioner) to develop the process. A proposal was presented to (and subsequently supported by) the Tai Tokerau Iwi Chief Executives on 15 July 2014. The process is based on the Maori engagement model successfully used for preparing the proposed Regional Policy Statement.

The process is as follows:

- Keir Volkerling will facilitate a process with Maori resource management practitioners to prepare a review of the regional plans from a tangata whenua perspective (funded by NRC).
- Invite known active tangata whenua participants in resource management to the key stakeholder workshops.
- Hui for tangata whenua held after the key stakeholder workshops. The focus would be on getting feedback on the draft tangata whenua report, which will be released prior to the hui.
- The final tangata whenua report presented to NRC.

ISSUE: Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee and the Plan Review Process

ID: A667030

To: Regional Policy Committee, 25 August 2014

From: Ben Lee, Policy Specialist - Coastal

Date: 12 August 2014

Report Type:	<input type="checkbox"/> Normal operations	<input type="checkbox"/> Information	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Decision
Purpose:	<input type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure	<input type="checkbox"/> Public service	<input type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> Moderate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Low

Executive Summary:

At the last committee meeting, there was a resolution that “...*staff work with the Chief Executive Officer on a process to involve the Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee in the Plan Review Process*”.

The recommendation is for an agenda item to be presented to Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee outlining the regional plan review and where it fits into the broader process for developing new regional plans.

Please refer to the **attached report** for more information.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are part of the council's day to day operations, are provided for in the council's 2012-2022 Long Term Plan, and are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76-82 of the Local Government Act 2002. The matters are not significant under council policy.

Recommendation(s):

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1. That the report “Update on the Review of the Regional Plans” by Ben Lee, Policy Specialist - Coastal and dated 12 August 2014, be received.
 2. That the Regional Policy Committee approve presenting an agenda item to the Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee outlining the regional plan review and where it fits into the broader process for developing new regional plans.
-

Report

At the 23 June 2014 meeting, the committee made the following resolution:

That the Regional Policy Committee direct staff to include in the process for the review of the Regional Air Quality Plan, Regional Water and Soil Plan, and Regional Coastal Plan an additional step to that proposed in the report for the committee to review and comment on the draft summary reports prior to their circulation to key stakeholders and that staff work with the Chief Executive Officer on a process to involve the Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee in the Plan Review Process.

(Note – this resolution is from the unconfirmed minutes. Underlining added for emphasis.)

Staff and the Chief Executive Officer have discussed the underlined and recommend that an agenda item be presented to Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee outlining the regional plan review and where it fits into the broader process for developing new regional plans. Key reasons for the recommendation are:

- Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee is still in its formative stages and their role is yet to be confirmed. It would be premature to be presenting anything to them at this stage other than for information purposes.
- It will mean delays for the regional plan review project if we were to wait until the role of Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee is confirmed.
- The regional plan review is not about making policy decisions. This will start at the next phase when the new regional plan(s) begin to be drafted. This is likely to be where Te Taitokerau Māori Advisory Committee interests are.
- A robust process is already underway to engage with tangata whenua on the plan review (see report “Regional plan review update” in this agenda for details).