
Northland Regional Council

Supplementary Item

Council Meeting

**Tuesday, 15 March 2016
at 1.00pm**

**ISSUE: Supplementary Item for Council Meeting –
15 March 2016****ID:** A825867**To:** Council Meeting, 15 March 2016**From:** Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager**Date:** 14 March 2016

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"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive Summary:

A “placeholder” was included in the council agenda for:

- Item 7.4: Māori Participation in Northland Regional Council Planning Processes

to indicate that supplementary information was required before presenting the full report to council.

Thus it is recommended that the supplementary information be received.

Recommendations:

That as permitted under section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987:

- **Supplementary Item 7.4:** Māori Participation in Northland Regional Council Planning Processes;

be received.

ISSUE: Māori Participation in Northland Regional Council Planning Processes

ID: A822897

To: Council Meeting, 15 March 2015

From: Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi Mātauranga Māori

Date: 1 March 2016

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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regulatory function
	<input type="checkbox"/> Legislative function	<input type="checkbox"/> Annual\Long Term Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
Significance:	<input type="checkbox"/> Triggered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

This report recommends to council the decision of the Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee for Māori input into council’s Regional Plan, Annual Plan (2016) and Pest Management Strategy and Marine Pathways Plan.

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 2015–2025 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 matter does not trigger the council’s Significance Policy.

Recommendations:

1. That the report ‘Māori Participation in NRC Planning Processes’ by Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi Mātauranga Māori, and dated 1 March 2015, be received.
 2. That council endorse the engagement proposals as outlined in the agenda item to Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee 11 February 2015, being the establishment of a Māori Technical Working Party – for the purposes of informing the council’s Annual Plan, Regional Plan and Pest Management Strategy and Marine Pathways Plan.
 3. That the following Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee members be appointed to the Māori Technical Working Party:

Bundy Waitai	Henry Murphy	Nora Rameka
Juliane Chetham	Rowan Tautari	Tui Shortland
Mikaera Miru	Patu Hohepa	Mira Norris
 4. That for the purposes of adhering to council’s Appointed Members Policy, that the membership and meeting schedule of the working party as outlined in this report be approved.
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Background

The Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee (the committee) tasked a subcommittee (working party) to review, analyse and provide recommendations on how council can best engage with and seek Māori input into councils planning documents. This work addressed some of the key objectives of the committee as outlined in the purpose of its terms of reference:

- To establish and advance a model of Māori engagement that is equitable, sustainable and empowering that will drive environmental and economic priorities across the region.
- Where required, present submissions on council's plans and policies.
- To ensure the views of Māori are taken into account in the exercise of council functions.

Report

Māori input into council's plans

At the 11 February 2016 meeting of the committee the working party tabled the paper '*Māori engagement in planning processes*'. The paper outlined their work including the results of their investigation and analysis with recommendations of a process to ensure Māori participation in council's planning processes.

The paper also highlighted that a number of council's key planning documents were currently being reviewed and that some of these plans might not be reviewed again for a number of years. This drove the need to form a process for input into council's plans that could be applied now, to ensure Māori participation in their development.

After consideration, the committee agreed to recommend to council their support as outlined in the paper to enable engagement of and to seek input from Māori - during the development of council's:

1. Regional Plan;
2. Annual Plan; and
3. Pest Management Strategy and Marine Pathways Plan.

The committee further endorsed the formation of a technical group – as a working party of the committee - whose purpose would be to provide detailed technical input into the plans (as noted above).

Process for Māori participation in councils plan development

The committee has endorsed specific recommendations relating to Māori input into the three aforementioned significant planning documents under development over the next 12 months (in addition to statutory processes including submissions):

This process is attached in **Appendix One**. The steps identified contain reference to both the proposed working party and how this information will be captured and considered by the relevant project teams.

In summary the committee are advocating that:

A working party consisting nine members of the committee be formed to provide technical input into the plans. That the working party meet as per the identified timelines associated with each respective plan during its development. (*Refer appendix one*)

The schedule (**Appendix One**) notes up to nine meetings between council and the working party these being:

- 3 - 5 meetings for the purpose of providing input into the draft regional plan (November – December 2016),
- 1 - 2 meetings for the purposes of providing input into the Regional Pest Management Strategy and Marine Pathways Plan (June – July 2016), and
- 1 - 2 meetings for the purposes of providing input into the Annual Plan (September – October 2016).

While a committee of council may at any time establish a subcommittee - if they are seeking to be reimbursed for their time, both the membership and a schedule of meetings needs to be approved by council¹. In this regard the committee is seeking endorsement of the engagement process and approval for the working party to be compensated for their technical expertise and time.

Considerations

At a maximum, the preferred process would see nine members attend nine meetings this calendar year and at a minimum, five meetings. The number of meetings is also dependent on the three projects running to schedule.

Applying council's current payment schedule if nine meetings were held and all members of the working party attended and sought payment, this would amount to a maximum of \$21,103.74 (meeting and travel allowances)².

It should be noted however, a number of scenarios could see this cost reduced such as:

- Should only five meetings (minimum) be held the cost would be \$11,724.30,
- If working party meetings coincide with committee meetings³,
- The projects staying on target and achieving milestone dates,
- Subject to all members seeking payment⁴, and
- Not all members may be available on given dates; therefore some meetings may not have a full complement of working party members in attendance.

Note: The meeting costs cited are indicative of meeting and travel allowances only and do not include any associated meeting costs.

Summary

Council established the Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee to (among other things) help inform it as to best practice for ensuring Māori input into its plans. The committee has, through a working party consisting of council and Māori representatives defined a process as outlined in this paper as:

- a) The most suitable process for gaining effective technical input into council's plans, and
- b) Providing for Māori values to be considered during the drafting of the region's most significant planning documents (region and pest management plans).

¹ Appointed Members Policy – Northland Regional Council adopted 2015.

² Travel allowance has been applied as per the last meeting of the committee and those members identified as working party nominees.

³ Formal committee meetings that might coincide with this process are June, October and December

⁴ At least one member of the working party has never sought payment for attendance to committee meetings.

Appendix one**Schedule of meetings for technical working party***Regional Plan (Resource Management Act)*

Noting that the regional plan review process has already begun and that engagement with Māori has already occurred through a number of avenues. The below recommendations take this into account and provide suggestions as to an appropriate process for the remainder of the plan development process.

- Present draft plan to the committee for high level feedback (August)
- During the draft plan consultation period invite expressions of interest to meet with any Māori group (August to mid-September). Council to consider expressions of interest and design and implement hui schedule accordingly (October / November).
- **Māori Technical Working Group** to meet 3 – 5 times to review draft plan and provide technical feedback (November / December).
- Māori resource management consultant employed to collate all feedback (including from submissions, marae hui and Advisory Group) and prepare recommendations report. Report to be approved by the committee (December / January 2017).
- Consultant to attend all Regional Policy Committee workshops where recommendations have been made.

Regional Pest Management Plan (Biosecurity Act)

- Present general direction for new plan and seek initial feedback from the committee (February).
- Notify Plan for feedback including direct notification for iwi/hapu on council database (June – July)
- **Māori Technical Working Group** to meet 1 -2 times to review the draft plan and provide technical feedback. Staff to collate feedback for committee approval. (June – July)
- Staff to present council decisions and the approved Regional Pest Management Plan to the committee in November.

Annual Plan (Local Government Act)

- Staff to present the Annual Plan 2016/17 Consultation Document to the Committee for feedback (April).
- Staff to present council decision and final Annual Plan to the committee (August).
- **Māori Technical Working Group** to meet 1 – 2 times to provide ideas inform staff input and councillor consideration of potential new initiatives for inclusion in the 2017/18 Annual Plan. Staff to collate feedback for committee approval (September – October).