NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Agenda

For meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, 36 Water Street, Whangārei, on Tuesday 19 April 2016, commencing at 1 pm

Recommendations contained in the council agenda are NOT council decisions. Please refer to council minutes for resolutions.

OPEN MEETING

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ACC - Accident Compensation Corporation AHB - Animal Health Board ALGIM - Association of Local Government Information Management AMA - Aquaculture Management Area BOI - Bay of Islands **BOPRC** - Bay of Plenty Regional Council **CAPEX** - Capital Expenditure (budget to purchase assets) **CBEC** - Community, Business and Environment Centre **CDEM** - Civil Defence Emergency Management **CEG** - Co-ordinating Executive Group – Northland Civil Defence management team **CEO** - Chief Executive Officer **CIMS** - Co-ordinated Incident Management System (emergency management structure) CMA - Coastal Marine Area **CPCA** - Community Pest Control Areas **CRI** - Crown Research Institute **DHB** - District Health Board **DOC** - Department of Conservation **DOL** - Department of Labour **DPMC** - Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet ECA - Environmental Curriculum Award **ECAN** - Environment Canterbury **EE** - Environmental Education **EECA** - Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority **EEZ** - Exclusive Economic Zone **EF** - Environment Fund **EMA** - Employers and Manufacturers Association **EMC** - Environmental Management Committee **EOC** - Emergency Operations Centre **EPA** - Environmental Protection Authority FDE - Farm Dairy Effluent **FNDC** - Far North District Council FNHL - Far North Holdings Limited FPP - First Past the Post - voting system for NRC elections **GE** - Genetic Engineering **GIS** - Geographic Information System **GMO** - Genetically Modified Organism HASNO - Hazardous Substances & New Organisms Act HBRC - Hawke's Bay Regional Council **HEMP** - Hapū Environmental Management Plan Horizons - Brand name of Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council HR - Human Resources **IEMP** - Iwi Environmental Management Plan IPPC - Invited Private Plan Change: a process to allow Aquaculture Management Areas to be established **IRIS** - Integrated Regional Information System: new computer system being developed collaboratively with other **Regional Councils KDC** - Kaipara District Council **KPI** - Key Performance Indicator LATE - Local Authority Trading Enterprise LGA - Local Government Act 2002 LGNZ - Local Government New Zealand LGOIMA - Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 LGOL - Local Government Online LTP - Long Term Plan LTFS - Long Term Financial Strategy MCDEM - Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Mgmnt MFE - Ministry for the Environment MHWS - Mean High Water Springs MNZ - Maritime New Zealand MOH - Ministry of Health **MOT** - Ministry of Transport

MPI – Ministry for Primary Industires **MSD** - Ministry of Social Development NCMC - National Crisis Management Centre **NES –** National Environmental Standards NDHB - Northland District Health Board NZRC - New Zealand Refining Company (Marsden Point) **NGO** - Non-Governmental Organisation NIF - Northland Intersectoral Forum **NIWA** - National Institute of Water and Atmosphere **NORTEG - Northland Technical Advisory Group** NPC - Northland Port Corporation NZCPS - New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement NZTA - New Zealand Transport Agency NZQA - New Zealand Qualifications Authority NZWWA - New Zealand Water and Wastes Association **OFI** - Opportunity for Improvement **ORC** - Otago Regional Council **OSH** - Occupational Safety & Health (now Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment) **PDF** - Portable Document Format **PPE -** Personal Protective Equipment **RAP** - Response Action Plan RAQP - Regional Air Quality Plan RCP - Regional Coastal Plan **RFI** - Request for Information **RFP** - Request for Proposal RTC - Regional Transport Committee RLTS - Regional Land Transport Strategy RMA - Resource Management Act 1991 **RMG** - Resource Managers Group (Regional Councils) **RMZ** - Riparian Management Zone **ROI - Return on Investment RPMS -** Regional Pest Management Strategy **RPS** - Regional Policy Statement RSG - Regional Sector Group RTO - Regional Tourism Organisation **RWASP - Regional Water and Soil Plan** SCAR - SmartStream Council Activity Reporting **SITREP - Situation Report** SMF - Sustainable Management Fund **SOE** - State of Environment (or) State Owned Enterprise **SOLGM** -Society of Local Government Managers **SPARC -** Sport & Recreation New Zealand SRC - Southland Regional Council (Environment Southland) STV - Single Transferable Vote SWAG - Surface Water Allocation Group **SWPA** - Sustainable Water Programme of Action TA - Territorial Authority: City & District Councils TAC -Technical Advisory Group Tier 1 - Site level plan or response for an oil spill **Tier 2** - Regional level plan or response to an oil spill Tier 3 - National level plan or response to an oil spill **TLA -** Territorial Local Authority – City & District Councils **TMP** - Treasury Management Plan TOR - Terms of Reference **TPK** - Te Puni Kōkiri (Ministry of Maori Development) TRAION - Te Rūnanga a Iwi o Ngāpuhi TRC - Taranaki Regional Council **TROTR** - Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa **TUANZ -** Telecommunications Users Association of NZ WCRC - West Coast Regional Council WDC - Whangarei District Council WHHIF - Whangarei Harbour Health Improvement Fund WRC - Waikato Reginal Council WWTP - Wastewater Treatment Plant

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ISSUE: Kauri Dieback in Northland – Presentation

ID: A832777

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Graeme Weavers, Biosecurity Specialist

Date: 5 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	b Information	Decision
Durnoco		Public service	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function	Annual\Long Term Plan	b Other
Significance:	Triggered	Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to introduce a brief presentation by Graeme Weavers, Biosecurity Specialist, on Kauri Dieback in Northland. It concludes with the recommendation that the report be received.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

No decision is required.

The purpose of this report is to provide an information update only. Therefore, when assessed against council policy, it is deemed to be of low significance.

Recommendation:

That the report 'Kauri Dieback in Northland – Presentation' by Graeme Weavers, Biosecurity Specialist, and dated 5 April 2016, be received.

ISSUE: Health and Safety Report

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Tracey Warboys, Health and Safety Specialist

Date: 5 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	✓ Information	Decision
Durnaaa	Infrastructure	Public service	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function	Annual\Long Term Plan	Other
Significance:		Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

This report provides an update from the Health and Safety Specialist for the month of March 2016. It concludes with the recommendation that the report be received.

The Health and Safety at Work Act 2015 (HSWA) legislative update was presented to a council workshop on 1 March 2016. This presentation introduced the requirement on a new positive duty on officers to exercise 'due diligence' (section 44(1)). This does not require officers to step into the shoes of the PCBU (person conducting business or undertaking) to fulfil those obligations, but instead requires them to take reasonable steps to ensure that those obligations are being met. Such steps will include maintaining an up-to-date knowledge of health and safety matters, understanding the nature of a PCBU's operations and the risks and hazards associated with those operations, and ensuring the PCBU has processes in place and resources available to it to comply with section 44(1). The workshop recommended Councillor Dimery is appointed to the Health and Safety Committee as part of meeting this due diligence obligation. As information, Councillor Dimery is a member of the Hazard Working Party to which the Health and Safety Committee report to.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The provision of information is part of the council's day to day operations and is in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76–82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

The information itself and the implications being accepted are considered to be of low significance in terms of council's Significance Policy.

Recommendation:

- 1. That the report 'Health and Safety Report' by Tracey Warboys, Health and Safety Specialist, and dated 5 April 2016, be received.
- 2. That Councillor Dimery is appointed as council's representative on the Health and Safety Committee.

ITEM: 4.0

H&S Statistics – YTD – 88												
	2015				2016							
	JUL	AUG	SEP	ОСТ	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
LTI	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	0	0			
MTI	0	0	1	0	0	4	0	0	1			
FTI	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	3			
INC	0	1	0	1	3	1	1	0	0			
DPI	0	2	3	1	2	2	4	2	0			
HAZ	0	0	0	3	1	3	0	7	17			
SEC	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0			
Near Miss	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	1	1			
Nil	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0			
Totals	0	6	4	7	9	14	8	9	22			
	LTI	Lost Tim	e Injury	,	HAZ		Hazar	ds Repo	rted			
	MTI	Medical	Time In	njury	SEC		Securi	ty				
	FTI	First Aid	Injury		Near	Miss	Near I	Miss Rep	oorted			
	INC	Incident			Nil		Injury	but nil t	treatmen	t		
	DPI	Discomf	ort, Pai	n/Injury								

Summary of events (items of note)

Note rise in hazards reported due to Health and Safety representatives proactively identifying and mitigating a minimum of two hazards per month.

Health and Safety at Work Act (HSWA)

• Staff briefings scheduled throughout March/April.

ACC Workplace Safety Management Practices (WSMP) self-assessment review

- Review and report complete. •
- Comprehensive ACC Tertiary Reaccreditation Plan developed. Presented to • EMT achieved (in April).

Health and Safety Committee meeting

- Meeting scheduled for 20 April.
- Issue 2 Health and Safety newsletter posted on the intranet. •

Health and Safety issues, inspections, visits, training and other

- 2016 Health and Safety rep inspections schedule reviewed and updated.
- Nil issues arising from March inspections.

Report:

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- Site visits/events
 - Attended Field Days (4 March) nil issues with well executed Health and Safety plan.
 - Accompanied Biosecurity officers (8 March) search for and destroy Senegal Tea activity at Mangapai.
 - Attended inaugural Project Mustelid pilot skills schools workshop at Trefoil Park (15 March) nil issues with well executed Health and Safety plan.
- Training
 - First aid revalidation continuing.
 - Identified lapsed warden training for both initial/refresher scheduled for April.
 - Health and Safety rep transitional training organised scheduled for April.
- Emergency events/drills
 - No scheduled drills for the month.
- Health and Safety electronic form and data repository
 - Remains WIP nil progress due to emphasis on developing and completing ACC Reaccreditation Plan.
- Health monitoring
 - Annual flu shots confirmed with Company Medic (15/22 April) self booking sheet available on the intranet.
- Other
 - Attended the following informative seminars/workshops:
 - Northland Health and Safety Forum (3 March)
 - ACC seminar (10 March) Wellness and Injury Prevention.
 - NZ Refinery (11 March) mock court session facilitated by Deloittes (excellent).
 - NZSIM exploring the potential to form a Northland branch.

ITEM: 5.1

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ISSUE: Confirmation of Council Minutes – 15 March 2016

ID:	A832135

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager

Date: 8 April 2016

Report Type:	b Normal operations	Decision
Purpose:	Infrastructure Dublic service	e 🗌 Regulatory function
	Legislative function	Term Plan
Significance:	Triggered b Not Triggere	d

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to present the unconfirmed minutes of the council meeting held on 15 March 2016 (**attached**) for confirmation as a true and correct record.

Legal compliance:

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

Recommendation:

That the minutes of the council meeting held on 15 March 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the council held in the Council Chamber, 36 Water Street, Whangārei, on Tuesday 15 March 2016, commencing at 1.00 pm

Present:	Chairman, Bill Shepherd Deputy Chairman, Graeme Ramsey Councillors: John Bain Craig Brown Joe Carr (<i>Left meeting 2.19 pm. Returned at 3.49 pm during public</i> <i>excluded.</i>) Paul Dimery Monty Knight Dover Samuels David Sinclair
In Attendance:	Full Meeting Chief Executive Officer GM – Environmental Services GM – Regulatory Services Governance Support Manager
ξ	Part Meeting Northland Inc. Limited Chief Executive Northland Inc. Limited GM Investment and Infrastructure GM – Strategy and Governance GM – Customer Service/Community Resilience Corporate Services Manager Rivers Programme Manager Strategy Specialist Economist Management Accountant Kaiwhakahaere – Matauranga Māori Kaiarahi Mātauranga Māori Strategy and Governance Team Admin PA

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 1.01 pm.

Apologies (Item 1.0)

There were no apologies.

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (Item 2.0)

It was advised that councillors should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed.

Supplementary Item for Council Meeting – 15 March 2016 (Item 2.0A) ID: A825867

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor.

Moved (Shepherd/Samuels)

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.

Carried

Presentations

Northland Region Economic Profile – 2015 Update (Item 3.1) ID: A822565

Report from Economist, Darryl Jones.

Northland Regional Council Economist, Darryl Jones, provided a presentation of the key highlights of the Infometrics annual update of the Northland Regional Economic Profile.

Kotuku Dam – Drone Footage (Item 3.2) ID: A824695 Report from Rivers Programme Manager, Joseph Camuso.

Rivers Programme Manager, Joseph Camuso, presented recent drone footage of the newly completed Kotuku Dam.

Health and Safety Report (Item 4.0)

ID: A824116 Report from Health and Safety Specialist, Tracey Warboys.

Moved (Ramsey/Sinclair)

That the report 'Health and Safety Report' by Tracey Warboys, Health and Safety Specialist, and dated 3 March 2016, be received.

Carried

Confirmation of Council Minutes – 16 February 2015 (Item 5.1) ID: A821027

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor.

Moved (Brown/Dimery)

That the minutes of the council meeting held on 16 February 2016 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 5.2)

ID: A821077

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor.

Moved (Ramsey/Brown)

That the Council Action Sheet be received.

Carried

Financial Report to 25 February 2016 (Item 6.1)

ID: A823377

Report from Financial Accountant, Vincent McColl.

Moved (Sinclair/Bain)

That the 'Financial Report to 25 February 2016' by Vincent McColl, Financial Accountant, and dated 3 March 2016, be received.

Carried

Northland Inc. Limited Six Month Financial Report, and Reporting Against Statement of Intent (SOI) for 2015–18 and Regional Promotions (Item 6.2)

ID: A822630 Report from Finance Manager, Simon Crabb, and Economist, Darryl Jones.

Moved (Brown/Bain)

That the report 'Northland Inc. Limited Six Month Financial Report, and Reporting Against Statement of Intent (SOI) for 2015–18 and Regional Promotions' by Simon Crabb, Finance Manager; and Darryl Jones, Economist, and dated 3 March 2016, be received.

Carried

Secretarial Note: Northland Inc. Limited Chief Executive, David Wilson, was in attendance and provided a verbal update on the organisation's performance for the six month period ending 31 December 2015.

Adoption of the Annual Plan 2016/17 Supporting Information (Item 7.1) ID: A822080 Report from Strategy Specialist, Kyla Carlier.

Moved (Brown/Shepherd)

1. That the report 'Adoption of the Annual Plan 2016/17 Supporting Information' by Kyla Carlier, Strategy Specialist, and dated 1 March 2016, be received.

Carried

It was further moved (Brown/Ramsey)

- 2. That council adopts the supporting information for the Annual Plan 2016/17 (attached in accompanying volume to the agenda) for the purposes of consultation, pursuant to sections 95 and 95A of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 3. That council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to make any necessary minor formatting, typographical and administrative changes to the Supporting Information prior to formal public consultation.

Carried

Secretarial Note: A supplementary page was tabled; depicting the 'Prospective statement of financial position' and replacing page 69 of the supporting information.

Adoption of the Annual Plan 2016/17 Consultation Document and Approval to Consult (Item 7.2)

ID: A821720

Report from Strategy Specialist, Kyla Carlier.

Moved (Samuels/Brown)

- 1. That the report 'Adoption of the Annual Plan 2016/17 Consultation Document and Approval to Consult' by Kyla Carlier, Strategy Specialist, and dated 1 March 2016, be received.
- 2. That council adopts and approves for release the Annual Plan 2016/17 Consultation Document (included as Attachment 1 pertaining to Item 7.2 of the 15 March 2016 council agenda) for consultation pursuant to sections 95 and 95A of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 3. That council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer the authority to make any necessary minor formatting, typographical, and administrative changes to the Consultation Document prior to formal public consultation.

Carried

2016 Local Body Triennial Elections (Item 7.3) ID: A822083

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor.

Moved (Sinclair/Dimery)

- 1. That the report '2016 Local Body Triennial Elections' by Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager, and dated 26 February 2016, be received.
- 2. That council resolves to adopt the alphabetical order of candidate names on voting documents for the 2016 Local Body Triennial Elections (in accordance with Regulation 31 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001).

Carried

Māori Participation in Northland Regional Council Planning Processes (Item 7.4 and Supplementary Item 7.4) ID: A822897 and A825870 Reports from Kaiarahi Mātauranga Māori, Rachel Ropiha.

Moved (Samuels/Brown)

- 1. That the report 'Māori Participation in Northland Regional Council Planning Processes' by Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi Mātauranga Māori, and dated 1 March 2016, be received.
- 2. That council endorse the engagement proposals as outlined in the agenda item to Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee 11 February 2016, 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, the membership and meeting schedule of the working party (as outlined in Supplementary Item 7.4 pertaining to the 15 March 2016 council agenda) be approved.

Carried

Secretarial Note: Councillor Carr left the meeting at 2.19 pm.

Submission on Draft Reserve Management Plan Kai lwi Lakes (Taharoa Domain) 2015 (Item 7.5) ID: A822838

Report from Group Manager Environmental Services, Bruce Howse.

Moved (Ramsey/Samuels)

- 1. That the report 'Submission on Draft Reserve Management Plan Kai Iwi Lakes (Taharoa Domain) 2015' by Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services, and dated 1 March 2016, be received.
- 2. That authority is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer, Chairman, and Deputy Chairman, to lodge the submission on behalf of council, including making any amendments to the submission as determined by council.

Carried

Councillor Brown voted against the motion.

Secretarial Note: Council agreed to the removal of Clause 27 of the submission regarding the support of allied work plans.

Whangārei Heads Rate Resetting Process (Item 7.6)

ID: A823403

Report from Corporate Services Manager, Dave Tams.

Moved (Brown/Dimery)

That the Northland Regional Council:

- 1. Receive the report 'Whangārei Heads Rate Resetting Process' by Dave Tams, Corporate Services Manager, and dated 14 March 2016.
- 2. Confirm that it has complied with subsections 119(2), (3) and (4) of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 as the necessary pre-conditions before it exercises its power to re-set the Whangārei Heads Pest Management targeted rate.
- 3. Confirm that, in making the decision to use Whangārei Heads Pest Management targeted rate to fund the relevant pest management activities, it has had regard to the matters set out in section 100T(2) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 as set out in the public notice published on 23 February 2016 in the Northern Advocate (and included as Appendix 3 pertaining to Item 7.6 of the 15 March 2016 council agenda).
- 4. Resolve to revoke the following part of the resolution made at the council meeting on 16 June 2015 in respect of the Rates for the Year 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016 (being Item 7.2):

"f. Targeted Whangārei Heads Pest Management Rate

A targeted rate as authorised by the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. The rate is a fixed amount assessed on each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit located in and around the Whangārei Heads area. These rating units are identified in the map below:



Whangārei District (identified in Whangārei Heads area)

Including GST \$50 per SUIP"

5. Resolve, under section 119 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, to set a targeted rate for the 2015/16 financial year (commencing on 1 July 2015 and ending on 30 June 2016), as follows:

"Targeted Whangārei Heads Pest Management Rate

A targeted rate as authorised by the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002. The rate is a fixed amount assessed on each separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit located in and around the Whangārei Heads area. These rating units are identified in the map below:



Whangārei District (identified in Whangārei Heads area)

Including GST \$50 per SUIP" 6. Resolve, for the avoidance of doubt, that the Targeted Whangārei Heads Pest Management Rate be payable in four instalments due on:

Instalment	Due Date for payment
Instalment 1	20 August 2015
Instalment 2	20 November 2015
Instalment 3	22 February 2016
Instalment 4	20 May 2016

Carried

Non-Elected Membership of Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee Confirmation (Item 7.7)

ID: A823763

Report from Group Manager Strategy and Governance, Jonathan Gibbard.

Moved (Samuels/Dimery)

- 1. That the report, 'Non-Elected Membership of Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee Confirmation', by Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager Strategy and Governance, and dated 4 March 2016, be received.
- 2. That council notes the resignation received from the following non-elected member to the Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee:

Name	Group Represented
Catherine Murupaenga-Ikenn	Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa

3. That council confirms the appointment of the following non-elected member to Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee:

Name	Group Represented
Rihari Dargaville	Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa

Carried

Secretarial Note: Catherine Murupaenga-Ikenn was acknowledged for her contribution to the committee.

Chairman's Report to Council (Item 8.1) ID: A820742

Report from Chairman, Bill Shepherd.

Moved (Shepherd/Dimery)

That the Chairman's report dated 3 March 2016 be received.

Carried

Chief Executive's Report to Council (Item 8.2) ID: A820449 Report from Chief Executive Officer, Malcolm Nicolson.

Moved (Brown/Dimery)

That the Chief Executive Officer's report dated 4 March 2016 be received.

Carried

Emergency Services Fund Update (Item 8.3)

ID: A822438

Report from Group Manager Customer Services and Community Resilience, Tony Phipps.

Moved (Bain/Samuels)

That the report 'Emergency Services Fund Update' by Tony Phipps, Group Manager Customer Services and Community Resilience, dated 29 February 2016, be received.

Carried

Regional Software Holdings Limited Statement of Intent 2017 to 2019 (Item 8.4)

ID: A823640

Report from Corporate Services Manager, Dave Tams.

Moved (Knight/Brown)

That the report 'Regional Software Holdings Limited Statement of Intent 2017 to 2019' by Dave Tams, Corporate Services Manager, and dated 3 March 2016, be received.

Carried

Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee Annual Report 2015 (Item 8.5) ID: A822878

Report from Kaiwhakahaere – Mātauranga Māori, Abraham Witana.

Moved (Samuels/Dimery)

That the report 'Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee Annual Report 2015' by Abraham Witana, Kaiwhakahaere – Mātauranga Māori, on behalf of the Chairman, and dated 4 March 2016, be received.

Carried

Receipt of Committee Minutes (Item 9.0) ID: A821079

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor.

Moved (Ramsey/Sinclair)

That the unconfirmed minutes of the:

- Regional Transport Committee 3 February 2016;
- Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee 11 February 2016; and
- Finance Committee 16 February 2016

be received.

Carried

Secretarial Note:

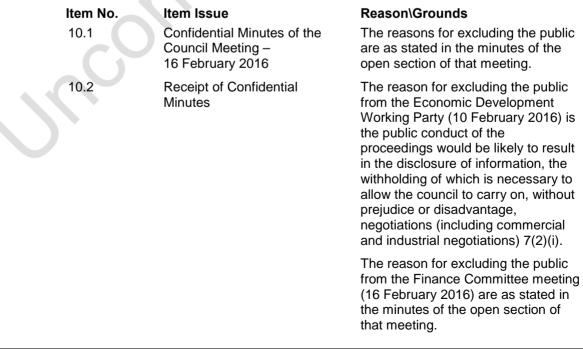
- Amended unconfirmed minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 16 February 2016 were tabled.
- The meeting adjourned at 3.06 pm and reconvened at 3.16 pm. In the temporary absence of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman presided.

Business with the Public Excluded (Item 10.0) ID: A821158

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor.

Moved (Ramsey/Brown)

- 1. That the public be excluded from the proceedings of this meeting to consider confidential matters.
- 2. That the general subject of the matters to be considered whilst the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to this matter, and the specific grounds under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution, are as follows:



10.3	Human Resources Report	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons 7(2)(a).
10.4	Opening Ceremony and Naming of Kotuku Dam	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely otherwise to damage the public interest 7(2)(c)(ii).
10.5	Investment and Growth Reserve: Feasibility and Business Case Assessment – Waipoua Forest Tourism Strategy	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in the disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to allow the council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) 7(2)(i).

3. That the representatives from Northland Inc. Limited be permitted to remain after public excluded to address Item 10.5.

Carried

CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 4.02 pm.

ISSUE: Receipt of Action Sheet

- **ID:** A832364
- To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016
- From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager

Date: 8 April 2016

Report Type:	þ	Normal operations	þ	Information		Decision
Burnosoi		Infrastructure		Public service		Regulatory function
Purpose:		Legislative function		Annual\Long Term Plan	þ	Other
Significance Policy:		Triggered	þ	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to enable the council to receive the current council action sheet **(attached).**

Legal compliance:

No decision is required.

Recommendation:

That the Council Action Sheet be received.

Council Actions new

IRISID	Current	Request	Reso/Req	Description	Request Details	Note Text	Date of Note	-
REQ.577224	Status Open	Date 19 Aug 2014	RESO	Internal Audits	That the internal audits over Support-Treasury and Democracy and Governance Reporting be undertaken (RESO).	Templates and guidance received from Meeting and Governance Solutions. Staff to review as soon as practicable. Not currently a top priority.	07 Apr 2016	By Finance Committee
REQ.577229	Open	09 Dec 2014	RESO	Kerikeri Spillway	That the CEO proceeds to acquire the necessary interests in land to enable the Kerikeri spillway flood scheme works to proceed (RESO)	Mediation is taking place to resolve consent and PWA appeals. These need to be resolved prior to finalising land acquisition.	07 Apr 2016	Council
REQ.577240	Open	17 Feb 2015	REQ	Project Management	That the issues relating to Project Management (as identified in the Audit Management Report) be addressed including, but not limited to the appropriate method, staff training and reporting (REQ)	A Project Management Course offered in Whangarei by New Zealand Institute of Highway Technology has been advertised on express and several staff have expressed interest in attending.		Finance Committee
REQ.577259	Open	21 Apr 2015	RESO	Kaipara Harbour Settlement	That council participates in the pre-settlement negotiations for Kaipara Harbour (RESO)	The Kaipara Moana Negotiations Working Party met in March at the Auckland Council's Orewa office. Councillors Ramsey and Shepherd attended supported by staff.	08 Mar 2016	Council
REQ.577425	Open	16 Jun 2015	RESO	Twin Coast Cycle Trail Proposal	That \$900k (excluding GST) be provided to FNDC from the Investment and Growth Reserve to support the completion of the Twin Coast Cycle Trail subject to the approved release by the CEO (on his satisfaction that the funding conditions have been met).	Need to prepare note for CEO on developments, with view to bringing paper to May council meeting.	07 Apr 2016	Council
REQ.578305	Closed	16 Sep 2015	REQ	Bay of Islands Hundertwasser Proposal	That enquiries be made as to the progress of the Bay of Islands Hundertwasser proposal.	CLOSED. Superceded by Action point REQ.580031	08 Mar 2016	Council
REQ.579154	Open	15 Dec 2015	RESO	NRC Procurement Policy	That further investigation be undertaken regarding the 'local purchasing clause'.	A further report on this matter will be provided to OPC for discussion.	07 Apr 2016	Council
REQ.579155	Open	15 Dec 2015	RESO	Roading Shared Services	That a 'business case' for a Roading Shared Service Business Unit be fully developed with the other three councils and NZTA and this be reported to council early within the New Year.		08 Apr 2016	Council
REQ.579179	Closed	15 Dec 2015	REQ	Honorary Enforcement Officers	That the process, contracts and previous/current arrangements for the appointment of honorary enforcement officers be investigated.	Discussed with CEO. Appointment process to be made more transparent. Next appointments not for 2 years. To be developed.	04 Apr 2016	Council
REQ.579182	Open	15 Dec 2015	RESO	Whangarei Harbour Health Improvement Fund	That the Terms of Reference for the Whangarei Harbour Health Improvement Fund be reviewed.	Work in progress	11-Apr-16	Council
REQ.579614	Open	22 Jan 2016	RESO	Code of Conduct Review	That the Northland Regional Council's Code of Conduct be reviewed [by full council] based on the fact it has not been significantly reviewed during the current Triennium.	The Code of Conduct is being updated following the council workshop on 15 March. This will be brought back to a council workshop for discussion in due course.	08 Apr 2016	Council
REQ.579618	Open	15 Dec 2015	RESO	Customer Satisfaction Framework	That a more detailed survey methodology is presented to the Organisational Performance Committee in March 2016 once the external research provider has been confirmed.	The Annual Residents telephone survey and Key Partnership/Working Group online survey were endorsed, with changes, at the March OPC meeting. The Contact with Council survey is to go back to OPC for approval. The Annual Residents survey commenced in early April and results are expected to be available in May 2016. The Key Partnership online surveys will begin in May-June.		Organisational Performance Committee
REQ.579657	Closed	05 Feb 2016	REQ	Report on Integration of RLTP and CDEM Group Plan	That staff (Transport and CDEM) report back to the next Regional Transport Committee meeting on the linking and integration of the work programmes from the Regional Land Transport Plan and the CDEM Group Plan.	COMPLETE.	08 Apr 2016	Regional Transport Committee

ITEM: 5.2 Attachment

IRISID	Current Status	Request Date	Reso/Req	Description	Request Details	Note Text	Date of Note	Requested By
REQ.579787	Closed	16 Feb 2016	REQ	NEC Depreciation/Maintenance Programme	That clarification be provided regarding the provision for depreciation and the maintenance programme for the Northland Events Centre.	COMPLETE. Further information was emailed to councillors on 7 April 2016 with a blurb also included in the April CEs Report.	07 Apr 2016	Council
REQ.579910	Closed	29 Feb 2016	6 REQ	Request from EMC Meeting to Circulate \$100 Million Fund Criteria	Request to circulate the \$100 Million Fund criteria via Malcolm Nicholson (CEO) to Environmental Management Committee members.	COMPLETE. Refer to Item 8.3 of the April council agenda.		Environmental Management Committee
REQ.579918	Closed	29 Feb 2016	5 REQ	Request from EMC Meeting for a letter to be sent to MPI	Request from Environmental Management Committee meeting for a letter to be sent to MPI requesting assurance that the closures of Mair Bank and Ngunguru seabeds is being policed and requesting information of interventions by Ministry of Fishery Officers e.g. data of fines issued.	COMPLETE. Document "Letter to request assurance the Mair Marsden Banks and Ngunguru Estuary shellfish closures are being enforced." generated		Environmental Management Committee
REQ.580031	Open	15 Mar 2016	8 REQ	Hundertwasser Kawakawa	That council meet with Far North Holdings Limited to discuss progress of the Hundertwasser Kawakawa project.	Refer to report included in the April 2016 council agenda.	07 Apr 2016	Council
REQ.580032	Closed	15 Mar 2016	6 REQ	Acknowledgement Letter	That a letter be drafted to Catherine Murupaenga-Ikenn acknowledging her contribution to the Te Tai Tokerau Maori Advisory Committee.	Letter sent, 21.01.16 obj. A827693	21 Mar 2016	Council
REQ.580033	Open	15 Mar 2016	RESO	NEST signage	That council's concerns regarding NEST signage be raised.			Council
REQ.580034	Open	15 Mar 2016	6 REQ	Regional Software Holdings	That cost/benefit analysis be undertaken regarding the supply of software resource products and services.	It is anticipated this will be workshopped with council in May.	8-Apr-16	Council

ISSUE: Financial Report to 31 March 2016

ID: A833302

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Vincent McColl, Financial Accountant

Date: 7 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	þ	Information		Decision
Burnoso	Infrastructure		Public service		Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function	þ	Annual\Long Term Plan	þ	Other
Significance Policy:	Triggered	þ	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to present the **Dashboard Results** for the nine months ended 31 March 2016 for councillors' information.

It concludes with the recommendation that this report be received.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's Long Term Plan 2015–2025 and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76–82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this issue is considered to be of low significance under council policy because it is part of normal day to day operations of council, and it does not require a council decision but is for information purposes only.

Recommendation:

That the 'Financial Report to 31 March 2016' by Vincent McColl, Financial Accountant, and dated 7 April 2016, be received.

Background:

The council year to date (YTD) report shows a net operating surplus of \$3.74M against a budgeted net surplus of \$2.91M, resulting in an overall favourable variance for the year to date of \$834K before transfers to or from special reserves. This favourable variance includes \$591K relating to three Northland Inc. projects. The full year budget for these three projects is \$1.60M and to date we have spent \$95K. After transfers to reserves the council has favourable variance of \$358K to budget.

The main drivers of the year to date revenue and expenditure variances before transfers to or from special reserves are as follows:

Year to Date Variances (negative amounts = unfavourable variances)	Variances to Budget (\$000)				
Item	Revenue	Expenses	Total		
Investment Variances					
Greater gains than budgeted in the Property Reinvestment Fund (PRF) and Infrastructure Investment Fund (IIF)	548		548		
Lower investment property income due to properties being sold and proceeds being invested	-198		-198		
Lower internal interest due to lower use of internal funding	-322	322	0		
Interest on externally borrowed funds		-181	-181		
Lower investment interest due to property budgeted to be sold and funds invested in term deposits	-134		-134		
Lower Marsden Maritime Limited dividends than expected	-110		-110		
Community Investment fund gains lower than budget	-189		-189		
Total Investment Variances	-405	141	-264		

The returns earnt on the proceeds of property sales invested in externally managed funds have outperformed the corresponding forgone rental returns by \$113k

The returns earnt on the borrowed funds invested in externally managed funds have outperformed the corresponding cost of borrowing (interest expense) by \$51K

Operational Variances			
Unbudgeted civil defence contributions from territorial local authorities	163		163
Rates penalties not budgeted	141		141
Prosecutions not budgeted	78		78
Greater rates than budgeted	58		58
Oil spill recoveries and cost	206	-206	0
Strategic water management survey funding funded half MPI and half I&G Reserve	66	-131	-65
Lower consent application fees	-137		-137
Northland Inc. Twin Coast and Kawakawa projects funded via I&G Reserve		591	591

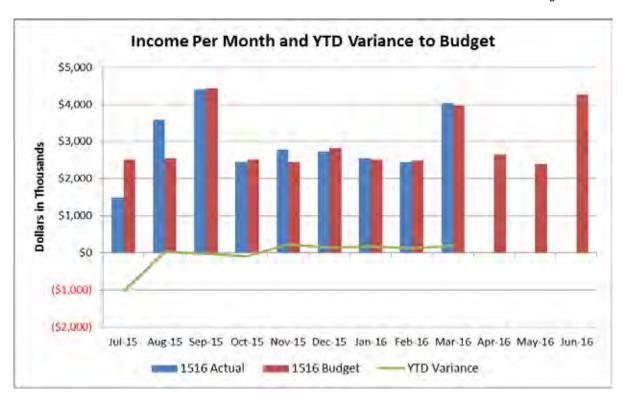
	_		//: 6.1 ge 3 of 5
Year to Date Variances (negative amounts = unfavourable variances)	Varia	nces to Budg (\$000)	jet
Item	Revenue	Expenses	Total
Printing, photocopying, and advertising - mostly Transport and Policy and Planning		163	163
Labour costs savings from timing of recruitment, vacancies, and leave movements		79	79
Roadside weeds and site led pest control programmes behind budget		46	46
Environment Fund lower payments than budgeted		42	42
Forest maintenance behind schedule		36	36
Annual plan audit invoice timing		35	35
Vehicle running costs		34	34
Coastal water testing taking place earlier than budgeted		-40	-40
Rates payable on buildings budgeted to be tenanted or sold		-80	-80
Fanworm response greater than budgeted		-85	-85
Total Operational Variances	575	484	1059
Other Variances	23	16	38
Total Variances	193	641	834

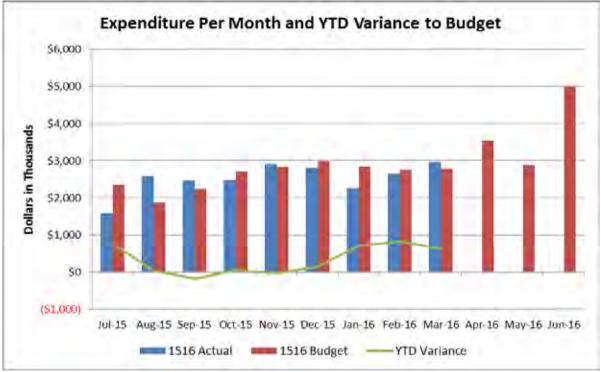
Capital expenditure for the year to date is \$3.25M compared to a budget of \$5.24M. The Whangārei River Dam project at \$1.85M is most of the capex spend and is overspent YTD by \$307K. The Kerkeri–Waipapa River works is running behind schedule and is \$1.34M below YTD budget. \$1.7M of this may be carried forward. Rating software of \$150K was budgeted YTD (\$300K full year). This is expected to be carried forward to the 2016–2017 year. The vehicle fleet replacement capex is \$72K below budget year to date as the programme is running behind schedule.

SUMMARY OPERATING RESULTS							
		000's ACTUAL YTD		000's BUDGET YTD	000's VARIANCI YTD		
Revenue (including other gains)	\$	26,443	\$	26,250	\$	193	
Expenditure	\$	22,698	\$	23,339	\$	641	
NET (COST)/SURPLUS BEFORE TRANSFERS FROM/(TO) RESERVES	\$	3,744	\$	2,910	\$	834	

YTD EXPENDITURE VARIANCE INDICATORS BY COUNCIL ACTIVITY							
= negative (unfavourable) variance over 10%							
= negative (unfavourable) variance under 10%	FAV /		FAV /				
= positive (favourable) variance	UNFAV		UNFAV				
Resource and Catchment Management	1.4%	Transport	2.8%				
River Management	3.1%	Community Representation and Engagement	-5.3%				
Economic Development	16.2%	Support Services and Commercial	-3.2%				
Hazard Management	-1.5%						







ITEM: 6.1

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Capital Expenditure Reporting								
March 2016 Year to Date								
	MONTH YEA		YEAR TO DATE					
					YTD	Revised		
Activity	Actual	Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Budget		
Monitoring	50,254	45,000	155,395	190,850	35,455	215,850		
Biosecurity	0	0	28,860	76,764	47,904	76,764		
Emergency Management	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Land and Biodiversity	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Harbour Safety and Navigation	0	27,000	39,164	137,000	97,836	147,000		
Oil Pollution Response	0	0	0	0	0	0		
River Management	198,132	741,525	2,440,422	3,911,521	1,471,099	4,626,943		
Commercial Investments	834	0	834	0	-834	0		
Information Systems	2,688	32,728	181,532	448,916	267,384	697,098		
Communications	0	0	0	11,500	11,500	11,500		
Transport	0	0	0	0	0	65,213		
Support	87,692	32,139	407,633	460,863	53,231	557,280		
GRAND TOTAL FOR COUNCIL	339,600	878,392	3,253,839	5,237,414	1,983,575	6,397,648		

	Projects Actual Spend to	Budgeted Spend to	Current	Actual %	Expected %	Total Original Budget to	Total Revised Budget to	Expected (Overspend) / Cost Savings at	
	Date	date	variance	completed	completed	completion	completion	completion	Status
Monitoring									
Air Quality Beta Attenuation Monitor (BAM)	39,750	26,000	(13,750)	153%	100%	26,000	26,000	- 13,750	Price increases and currency fluctuations caused this project to cost more than originally anticipated
Water Quality Monitoring Buoy (and EX02 Sondes)	57,600	50,000	(7,600)	115%	100%	50,000	50,000	- 7,600	Overspent
Water Quality Monitoring Buoys for Lakes	23,785	80,000	56,215	23%	76%	105,000	102,000	3,000	Some savings expected due to design changes
Others TOTAL MONITORING	34,260 155,395	34,850 190,850	590 35,455	98%	100%	34,850 215,850	34,850 212,850	- 18,350	Timing
Biosecurity	133,373	170,030	33,433			213,030	212,030	- 10,330	
Digital Ultrasonic logic controller and transducers	24,860	50,000	25,140	50%	100%	50,000	50,000	-	Devices proved ineffective at detecting fan worm so monies have been used to buy a vessel quarantine dock
Others	4,000	26,764	22,764	15%	100%	26,764	26,764	-	Behind Schedule
TOTAL BIOSECURITY	28,860	76,764	47,904			76,764	76,764	-	
Harbour Safety and Navigation									
Harbour Safety and Navigation Aids to Nav	1,973	77,000	75,027	3%	100%	77,000	77,000		Work updopway
									Work underway Under budget due to trade in value of the old
Outboards - Yamaha 70hp x 2	19,686	30,000	10,314	100%	100%	30,000	19,686	10,314	outboards
Others	17,505	30,000	12,495	44%	75%	40,000	40,000	-	On track
TOTAL HARBOUR SAFETY AND NAVIGATION	39,164	137,000	97,836			147,000	136,686	10,314	
River Management									
Whangarei River Dam Project	1,848,824	1,542,025	(306,799)	94%	79%	1,542,025	1,960,000	(417,975)	Variance for construction costs of \$418k, expect to be offset from additional gains from property sale revenue
Awanui - River Works	221,255	600,000	378,745	32%	86%	700,000	700,000	-	Work underway
Awanui - Renewal Programme	59,000	44,998	(14,002)	98%	75%	59,997	59,997	-	On track
Kerikeri - Waipapa River works	92,699	1,429,577	1,336,879	5%	70%	2,030,000	2,030,000	-	Possible carry forwards of \$1,700,000 as it appears unlikely project will be complete at year end
RTK - GPS upgrade	69,450	66,000	(3,450)	100%	95%	66,000	69,450	(3,450)	Completed
New ADCP flow measuring device	59,763	60,000	237	100%	100%	60,000	60,000	-	Timing
Others	89,432	168,921	79,489	53%	100%	168,921	168,921	-	Timing
TOTAL RIVER MANAGEMENT	2,440,422	3,911,521	1,471,099			4,626,943	5,048,368	(421,425)	
Commercial Investments									
Residential Property Chattels	834 834		(834)	0%	0%		-	(834)	Oven replacement for Wharf road property
	834		(834)			-	-	(834)	
Information Systems									
IRIS	-	43,819	43,819	0%	67%	65,728	65,728	-	Behind schedule
Desktop replacement programme	15,495	7,500	- 7,995	155%	75%	10,000	10,000	- 5,495	Overspent
									Programme yet to commence, expected to
Network Switches	-	68,528	68,528	0%	75%	91,370	91,370	-	be as planned
IT Infrastructure	166,037	179,069	13,032	72%	78%	230,000	230,000	-	Slight over spend YTD however expected to be on budget at year end
Rating Software	-	150,000	150,000	0%	0%	300,000	-	300,000	Saving for 15/16 financial year will be deferred and carried forward requested into
TOTAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS	181,532	448,916	267,384			697,098	397,098	294,505	the 16/17 financial year
Communications	101,332	40,710	201,304			077,070	377,070	274,505	
Others	-	11,500	11,500	0%	100%	11,500	11,500		Projects not yet commenced, expected to be
				0%	100%			-	as planned
TOTAL COMMUNICATIONS	-	11,500	11,500			11,500	11,500	-	
Transport									
CityLink Electronic Ticketing System	-	-	-	0%	0%	65,213	65,213	-	Delayed
TOTAL TRANSPORT	-	-	-	5.0	570	65,213	65,213	-	
Support									
Vehicle replacement programme	247,338	319,250	71,912	62%	80%	399,000	399,000	-	Currently under review
Air Conditioning Replacement Project	78,279	78,280	(10.000)	100%	100%	78,280	78,280	-	Completed
Furniture, Desk set-up and Office configuration Other	67,666 14,350	48,333 15,000	(19,332) 650	104% 100%	74%	65,000 15,000	65,000 14,350	- 2,666 650	Overspent - \$10k more cost expected Completed
TOTAL SUPPORT	407,633	460,863	53,231	100%	103%	557,280	556,630	- 2,016	compreteu
ΤΟΤΑΙ	2 252 830					6 307 6/8		(137 805)	

TOTAL 3,253,839 5,237,414 1,983,575 - - 6,397,648 6,505,109 (137,805)

Council Detailed Report

Monthly Report for Period 9

	V	TD Budget 2015-			Full Year Budget Annual Plan 2015-	Full Ye Revised Budg
Total Council	YTD Actual 2015-16	ТD Budget 2013- 16	Variance	Variance %	-16 Annual Plan 2013	2015-
Revenue						
Rates	15,206,338	15,007,225	199,112	1%	20,009,632	20,009,6
User Fees and Sundry	3,601,344	3,179,755	421,589	13%	4,129,840	4,113,8
Grants and Subsidies	796,630	796,838	(208)	0%	1,089,704	1,297,2
Investment Interest Income	987,810	1,470,779	(482,968)	-33%		2,294,9
Investment Property Income	2,030,640	2,228,240	(197,601)	-9%	3,176,855	3,063,0
Forestry Income	-	-	-	-	353,529	353,5
Dividend Income	2,712,506	2,822,850	(110,344)	-4%	2,822,850	2,822,8
Property Reinvestment Fund	648,138	157,046	491,092	313%	-	209,3
Community Investment Fund Income	398,483	587,250	(188,766)	-32%	783,000	783,0
Infrastructure Reinvestment Fund	57,532	-	57,532	-	-	
Total Revenue	26,439,421	26,249,983	189,438	1%	34,869,936	34,947,4
Expenditure						
Resource and Catchment Management						
BIO - Biosecurity	2,471,360	2,308,784	(162,576)	-7%	3,157,856	3,282,2
COASTAL - Coastal Monitoring	327,288	202,508	(124,779)	-62%	336,403	355,1
COMPLNCE - Compliance Monitoring	2,114,215	2,194,649	80,434	4%	3,057,075	3,056,5
CONADV - Consents Advice	642,986	616,175	(26,811)	-4%	833,801	873,1
CONAPP - Consents Applications	561,941	662,958	101,017	15%	-	943,0
LNDBIO - Land & Biodiversity	1,666,395	1,733,178	66,783	4%	2,802,556	2,937,0
PAP - Planning and Policy	1,360,105	1,535,597	175,492	11%	2,206,766	2,172,3
SOE - State of the Environment	1,075,908	1,114,285	38,377	3%	1,590,220	1,545,9
Fotal Resource and Catchment Management	10,220,197	10,368,134	147,937	1%	14,956,932	15,165,5
River Management						
HYDRO - Hydrology	565,030	528,150	(36,880)	-7%	-	783,8
RIVMGT - River Management	1,903,357	2,018,414	115,057	6%		2,839,0
Total River Management	2,468,387	2,546,563	78,177	3%	3,604,119	3,622,8
conomic Development						
CML - Commercial Investments	449,307	329,225	(120,082)	-36%		438,4
ECOACT - Economic Development Activities	1,642,268	2,097,673	455,405	22%	2,812,532	3,719,7
ECOPRO - Economic Development Projects	242,666	357,594	114,928	32%	432,474	285,7
Fotal Economic Development	2,334,240	2,784,492	450,251	16%	3,683,623	4,443,9
Hazard Management						
EME - Civil Defence and Emergency	568,943	567,304	(1,639)	0%	762,047	818,5
NATHAZ - Natural Hazards	471,426	475,460	4,035	1%		944,0
OILSPILL - Oil Pollution Response	126,240	106,797	(19,443)	-18%	154,530	154,4
Fotal Hazard Management	1,166,609	1,149,561	(17,047)	-1%	1,662,454	1,917,0
Transport						
HARBOUR - Harbour Safety	1,337,149	1,314,521	(22,628)	-2%	1,843,075	1,847,2
TRAPTA - Passenger Transport Administration	1,632,318	1,695,960	63,642	4%	2,393,275	2,386,8
TRARTM - Regional Transport Mangement	296,385	351,077	54,693	16%	488,661	496,6
Total Transport	3,265,851	3,361,558	95,707	3%	4,725,012	4,730,6
Community Representation and Engagement						
COMPRO - Community Projects	750,383	743,985	(6,399)	-1%	1,017,687	991,9
CORP - Corporate - CEO Office	713,517	559,149	(154,369)	-28%	822,195	774,0
CORPSTRA - Corporate Strategy	64,115	17,687	(46,428)	-262%		35,2
ENVRED - Environmental Education	295,610	328,318	32,708	10%	551,906	480,8
MAORI - Maori Engagement	103,475	178,986	75,511	42%	246,077	246,3
REPRES - Community Representation	1,315,731	1,251,061	(64,671)	-5%	1,554,605	1,747,5
otal Community Representation and Engagement	3,242,832	3,079,185	(163,647)	-5%	4,273,174	4,275,9
Support Services						
COMMS - Communications	440,369	464,207	23,838	5%	594,276	650,3
CUSTSERV - Customer Services	219,670	104,282	(115,388)	-111%	108,008	142,4
INANCE - Finance	1,342,401	1,395,146	52,745	4%	3,066,724	2,833,8
IR - Human Resources	341,010	306,614	(34,396)	-11%		392,9
T - Information Technology	1,537,941	1,421,503	(116,437)	-8%		1,923,9
DNLINE - Online	147,831	124,149	(23,681)	-19%		167,7
PROPERTY - Property	362,238	425,465	63,227	15%		554,7
RECORDS - Information Management	239,400	246,051	6,650	3%	328,037	335,3
nternal Transfers Fotal Support Services	(4,630,859)	(4,437,417) 50,000	193,442 50,000	-4% 100%	<mark>(6,818,084)</mark> 143,537	<mark>(6,689,4</mark> 3 312,0
יסימי שמאאטיר שבו אורבא	0	50,000	50,000	100 %	143,337	312,0
Fotal Expenditure	22,698,115	23,339,493	641,377	3%	33,048,851	34,468,
Net (Cost)/Surplus of Services	3,741,305	2,910,490	830,815	29%		479,3

YTD Budget 2015-

Full Year Budget

Annual Plan 2015- Revised Budget

Full Year

Council Detailed Report

Monthly Report for Period 9	
Total Council	YTD Actual 2015-16
Forestry Revaluation	-

Total Council	YTD Actual 2015-16	16	Variance	Variance %	16	2015-16
Forestry Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-	-
(Loss)/Gain on Sale of Assets	(19,348)	-	(19,348)	-	619,566	619,566
(Loss)/Gain on Disposal of Financial Investments	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation - Fair Value of Financial Investments	22,519	-	22,519	-	-	-
Emissions Trading Scheme	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Gains	3,171	-	3,171	-	619,566	619,566
Net (Cost)/Surplus of Service before transfer						
from/(to) Special Reserves	3,744,477	2,910,490	833,986	29%	2,440,651	1,098,924
Transfers from/(to) Special Reserves						
Transfers from/(to) Land Management	-	13,000	13,000	100%	274,500	287,500
Transfers from/(to) Awanui River	(92,140)	(127,241)	(35,101)	28%	(113,694)	(113,687)
Transfers from/(to) Kaihu River	27,573	3,715	(23,858)	-642%	3,634	54,582
Transfers from/(to) Kaeo River Reserve	(80,045)	(36,440)	43,605	-120%	(47,049)	(47,358)
Transfers from/(to) Whangarei Urban River Reserve	(308,125)	(264,952)	43,173	-16%	(978,028)	(978,585)
Transfers from/(to) Priority Rivers Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from/(to) Infrastructure Facilities Reserve	-	-	-	-	(80,150)	(113,074)
Transfers from/(to) Recreational Facilities Reserve	(601,021)	(766,714)	(165,693)	22%	(1,016,142)	(1,016,137)
Transfers from/(to) Property Reinvestment Fund Res	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from/(to) Forest Income Equalisation Rese	36,090	93,116	57,026	61%	26,320	26,323
Transfers from/(to) Hatea River Reserve	(86,369)	8,238	94,607	1148%	(4,658)	(5,594)
Transfers from/(to) Environment Fund Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from/(to) Investment and Growth Reserve	(92,591)	478,845	571,436	119%	607,602	1,523,750
Transfers from/(to) Approved Carry Forwards Genera	59,338	81,750	22,412	27%	-	350,000
Transfers from/(to) Waipapa/Kerikeri River Reserve	(159,075)	(124,737)	34,338	-28%	(197,488)	(173,738)
Transfers from/(to) Infrastructure Investment Fund F	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from/(to) Community Investment Reserve	(406,805)	(587,250)	(180,445)	31%	-	(783,000)
Transfers from/(to) Revaluation Financial Assets Rese	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers from/(to) Kaitaia Bus Reserve Reserve	(3,112)	(1,772)	1,340	-76%	(2,363)	(2,363)
Transfers from/(to) Oyster Shell Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net (Cost)/Surplus of Service after transfer from/(to) Special Reserves	2 0 20 105	1 (00 040	250 4 47	2104	012 125	107 5 42
	2,038,195	1,680,048	358,147	21%	913,135	107,543

Note 1: Total Expenditure by Type	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance	Variance %	Full Year Budget Annual Plan	Full Year Revised Budget
Expenditure						
Salaries and Wages	8,286,750	8,420,813	134,063	2%	11,594,060	11,594,395
Other Payroll Expenses	586,223	511,721	(74,502)	-15%	518,625	760,722
Operations	12,350,544	12,927,269	576,726	4%	18,961,873	20,138,649
Member Expenses	504,093	511,558	7,465	1%	683,450	683,450
Depreciation	971,529	968,132	(3,397)	0%	1,290,843	1,290,843
Finance Overheads	4,631,370	4,437,417	(193,953)	-4%	6,818,084	6,689,426
Internal Recharges	(4,630,859)	(4,437,417)	193,442	-4%	(6,818,084)	(6,689,426)
Total Expenditure	22,699,650	23,339,493	639,843	3%	33,048,851	34,468,058

ISSUE: Schedule of Credit Notes for Approval

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Trish Wells, Accounts Receivable Officer

Date: 7 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations		b Decision
Durnoso		Public service	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function	Annual\Long Term Plan	b Other
Significance:	Triggered	b Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek ratification of a credit note issued with a value over the \$5,000.00 GST exclusive delegation limit. It concludes with the recommendation that the credit note is ratified.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are in accordance with the Council's decision making process and sections 76–82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this issue is considered to be of low significance.

Recommendations:

- 1. That the report 'Schedule of Credit Notes for Approval' by Trish Wells, Accounts Receivable Officer, and dated 7 April 2016, be received.
- That the issue of credit note 7403282 to the value of \$9,854.14 including GST (as detailed in the report from the Accounts Receivable Officer, Trish Wells, dated 7 April 2016) be ratified.

Report:

The credit note has been authorised by the appropriate manager and reviewed by the CEO who has been delegated the power to write off credit notes up to a value of \$5,000.00 GST exclusive for any one account (council resolution 25 November 2014). The following credit note amount is higher than that delegation and is therefore listed for the council's ratification:

April 2016			
Credit Note No.	Credit Amount inc. GST	Original Amount inc. GST	Customer/Reason
7403282	\$9,854.14	\$16,641.29	 APP.006510.01.03 Following the granting of the above consent, the applicant: sought a declaration from the Environment Court as to the status of the activity which was the subject of the application; appealed against certain conditions of the resource consent; and appealed against the decision to the quantum of the costs charged by NRC for the processing of the application. NRC and the applicant reached an agreement on the terms whereby all three proceedings before the Environment Court can be settled by a full and final settlement of all issues arising out of the application. In consideration of NRC accepting payment in the sum of \$6,787.15 GST inclusive (the original amount less the credit note amount), as the balance due by the applicant for its liability for the costs of the processing, hearing and determining the application, the applicant will: withdraw the declaration proceedings filed under ENV-2015-AKL-000083; make no claim for any costs on the settlement on the appeal against the conditions of the resource consent in terms of proceeding ENV-2015-AKL-000087; and withdraw its appeal against the decision of NRC on its objection to the costs claimed against it as filed under No. ENV-2016-AKL-000015.

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ISSUE: Remuneration Authority – Submission on the Allocation of Additional Duty Funds

ID: A833123

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager

Date: 7 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	b Decision	
Durnoso	Infrastructure Public service	Regulatory functio	'n
Purpose:	Legislative function	m Plan b Other	
Significance:	Triggered b Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The Local Government Act 2002 (Schedule 7, section 6) provides that the government appointed body, the Remuneration Authority (RA), must determine the remuneration, allowances and expenses payable to elected members.

At the beginning of each election year, the RA sets the base councillor salary and the Chair's remuneration (excluding reduction for the provision of a car) for each council. The base councillor salary and the Chair remuneration are based on the council's size index, which is derived from population size and council expenditure. The RA also specifies the maximum amount available to supplement base remuneration to reflect the additional duties of some elected members. Councils are invited to make a representation to the RA for additional remuneration for councillor positions of responsibility (including the Deputy Chair).

This report seeks council's confirmation as to how the higher duties pool should be allocated; for inclusion in a submission.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are part of the council's day to day operations and are in accordance with the Remuneration Authority guidelines. In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this issue does not trigger council's Significance Policy.

- That the report 'Remuneration Authority Submission on the Allocation of Additional Duty Funds' by Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager, and dated 7 April 2016 be received.
- 2. That the pool for higher duties allowance of \$108,120 be fully allocated as follows:
 - a) That the Deputy Chair receives a higher duties allowance of \$21,624 (40% councillor base salary); bringing the Deputy Chair total salary to \$75,684.

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- b) That councillors receive a higher duties allowance of \$12,357 (23% councillor base salary); bringing councillors total salary to \$66,417. This is based on the underpinning principle of council that additional duties will be apportioned in such a manner that there will be an equitable workload between councillors.
- 3. That the higher duties allocation set out above (and supporting information), and details regarding the Chair's vehicle, be provided to the Remuneration Authority no later than 13 May 2016.

Report:

In December 2015 the Remuneration Authority (RA) advised the process and timeline for the remuneration and allowance setting for elected members in 2016 (refer to Table One below).

When	Who	What	
End of March 2016	Remuneration Authority	Sends information to councils about base remuneration.	
No later than 13 May 2016	Councils	Make submissions to the Authority on funds to recognise additional responsibilities.	
		Provide details of chair vehicles to the Authority.	
By the end of April	Remuneration Authority	Notifies councils of any changes to provisions for mileage, travel time and communications allowances for 2016/17.	
No later than 10 June 2016	Councils	Submit allowance and reimbursement policies to the Authority for approval.	
Early June 2016	Remuneration Authority	Confirms remuneration details for each council.	
		Prepares determination for 2016/17 target date for gazetting 1 July.	

Table One: Summary timeline

The determination issued in June for the period from 1 July 2016 will remain in place until 30 June 2017; there will be no adjustment made at the time of the election. If incoming councils change structures or other remuneration arrangements, these can be submitted to the RA for approval at any stage during the year, and will be dealt with by way of amending determinations through the year.

Subsequently in March 2016 the RA advised of the remuneration setting for the 2016/17 period (refer to Table 2 below). The intention is to provide council with certainty of its costs and also candidates intending to stand for election some certainty around councillor salary levels.

Table Two: Base remuneration settings for NRC elected members 2016/2017					
Role 2015/16 remuneration 2016/17 remuneration					
Chair \$113,450 \$115,719					
Councillor \$53,000 \$54,060					

At the same time it was advised the maximum amount available to supplement base remuneration had increased from 150% of the base councillor remuneration to 200%; equating to \$108,120 for the Northland Regional Council in the 2016/17 period.

Councils are invited to make submissions to the Authority as to how the additional supplementary salary should be apportioned between councillor positions of responsibility (including the Deputy Chair), with submissions due by 13 May 2016.

The Remuneration Authority is clear that such a submission must include the justification of additional remuneration for each position of responsibility including its title, a brief description of the main functions of the position, a note of any delegated authorities, the recommended percentage in addition to the base salary to apply to the position and any other supporting information.

Council workshopped the matter on 5 April 2016 and key points of that discussion included:

- . It was important from council's perspective to distribute work in an equitable manner amongst the elected representatives.
- The Northland Regional Council's complex governance structure incorporated the full ambit of structures available to support decision making (including but not limited to committees, subcommittees, working parties/groups, advisory groups and portfolio holders) and only served to stress the importance of apportioning work in an equitable manner.
- Councillors were passionate about actively representing their region and participating where they could add value.
- Equitable distribution of workload and remuneration for additional duties had functioned well to date, was a good reflection of council's operations, and it was the preference of council to retain this formula.

Additional resources:

- 'Remuneration Setting for Local Authorities' (available via www.remauthority.govt.nz)
- 'Remuneration Setting Proposals for Local Authorities 2013 and Beyond' (available via www.remauthority.govt.nz)
- Local Government Elected Members (2015/16) (Certain Local Authorities) Determination 2015 (available via www.legislation.govt.nz)

ISSUE: 2016 Local Government New Zealand Conference

ID:	A828449

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Bill Shepherd, Council Chairman

Date: 29 March 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	Information	b Decision
Durnoco	Infrastructure	Public service	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function	Annual\Long Term Plan	b Other
Significance Policy:		• Not triggered	

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to bring councillors' attention to the upcoming Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Conference. It concludes with the recommendation that the report be received and that council resolve which elected representatives, along with the Chief Executive, shall be delegated to represent the Northland Regional Council at the LGNZ Conference.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2015–2025 Long Term Plan and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76 to 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

With reference to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this matter is considered to be of low significance under council policy as it is a matter of day to day operations provided for in the council's Long Term Plan.

Recommendations:

- 1. That the report '2016 Local Government New Zealand Conference' by Bill Shepherd, Chairman, dated 29 March 2016, be received.
- 2. That the Chairman, Chief Executive and Councillor(s)______ represent the Northland Regional

Council at the 2016 LGNZ Conference.

The LGNZ Conference (<u>http://www.lgnz2016.co.nz/lgnz16</u>) is being held between 24-26 July 2016 in Dunedin.

The conference programme includes both international and domestic speakers. The focus of the conference will be on place making – creating places where people love to live, work and play. There will be a strong focus on leading change and building places for tomorrow where families and businesses can prosper. There will also be concurrent sessions led by LGNZ experts covering topics of interest to both councils and communities.

The conference is a chance to network, share ideas and learn about the work our counterparts are doing in local government.

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ISSUE: Proposed Release of Coastal Hazards Maps

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Toby Kay, Natural Hazards Advisor

Date: 30 March 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations		Information	V	Decision
_			Public service	V	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function		Annual\Long Term Plan		Other
Significance:		Q	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

Coastal hazards assessments, including maps, have been prepared by Tonkin & Taylor engineers for over 60 Northland sites. The purpose of this report is to notify council that the assessments have been completed and to seek a council resolution that this information should be made available to the public as draft information.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

Maintaining and making available natural hazards information 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 decision in this report, to release coastal hazard mapping, is the final step in a process initially signalled, and consulted on, through the development of the new Regional Policy Statement for Northland. While the matter does not therefore trigger the council's significance policy, it is worth noting that considerable public consultation occurred through the development of the Regional Policy Statement and additional consultation with directly affected property owners is proposed in this report.

- 1. That the report 'Proposed Release of Coastal Hazards Maps' by Toby Kay, Natural Hazards Advisor, and dated 30 March 2016, be received.
- 2. That council resolves to make the mapping available to the public as a draft version via the online maps, and that property owners in the mapped areas are notified and invited to provide feedback on the maps.

Background

Tonkin & Taylor consultants have mapped potential coastal erosion hazards at 31 sites, and potential coastal flood hazards at 61 sites around the coast. The assessments have used the best information available at this time, and the methodology has been reviewed by Professor Paul Kench, University of Auckland.

Several workshops on the coastal hazards assessments have been held with staff from the regional council, district councils, and regional councillors, as follows:

- 28 August 2014 Coastal Erosion Hazard workshop (council staff);
- 5 November 2015 Natural Hazards / Climate Change Workshop (councillors);
- 27 November 2015 Coastal Flood Hazard workshop (council staff); and
- 22 March 2016 Coastal Hazards workshop (councillors, EMC, and council staff).

'Final draft' mapping outputs have now been delivered and the related reports are expected in April. As the new assessments will shortly be available, it is proposed to release this information to the public in a similar manner followed for the Priority Rivers flood mapping. This has involved making the maps available on the council website at <u>www.nrc.govt.nz/floodmaps</u> and writing to property owners to notify them of, and provide them with information about, the mapping.

Based on NRC held property data, the number of property parcels in the draft potential coastal flood hazard areas (CFHZ) is approximately 12,000 (**see Table 1, Annex 1**). The number of property parcels within draft potential coastal erosion hazard areas (CEHZ) is approximately 2,400. Given that there is likely to be some overlap in coastal areas potentially prone to both erosion and flooding, the total number of properties in the newly mapped potential coastal hazard areas, including potential wave run up areas, is estimated to be approximately 14,000.

This compares to over 26,000 properties located within the Priority Rivers Flood Hazard areas (**see Table 2, Annex 1**), for the 25 catchments which have been flood mapped since 2010. Property owners within these flood hazard areas were notified in writing at the time the river flood maps were released on the NRC website.

Of the 61 sites assessed for potential coastal flood hazard, 23 sites (or 38%) have also been flood mapped under the Priority Rivers project. For those 23 sites there are 4,131 properties located within the draft CFHZ 2 which are also within the mapped river flood hazard area (**see Table 3, Annex 1**). The 4,131 properties within coastal flood hazard areas at these 23 sites represent just over 34% of the total number of properties located within coastal flood hazard areas at all 61 sites assessed.

Final property numbers within the draft potential coastal hazard areas will not be available until the district councils have provided lists from their property databases. Requests to the district councils for property lists will be made in April, and it is expected that the physical mail out will be ready for dispatch in May, or early June.

A community engagement plan is being developed in consultation with the communications team. As with the Priority Rivers mapping releases, it is proposed to provide an information sheet with answers to frequently asked questions, together with web links to the new mapping and related Tonkin & Taylor reports. Hard copies of the information will be made available on request.

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An online questionnaire form for feedback on the draft mapping will be set up, and a link to this site will be provided in the mail out. Hard copies of the form will be made available on request. Information received by <u>1 September 2016</u> that has a bearing on the mapping will be provided to Tonkin & Taylor engineers for review and a recommendation on whether the mapping should be adjusted. NRC staff will make a final decision on mapping adjustments, and communicate these back to the relevant property owner by <u>1 November 2016</u>. Following completion of mapping adjustments, the coastal hazard maps will be put to council to adopt as 'Final maps', together with a report on the feedback received, and the mapping adjustments made. The timeframe for undertaking this will depend on the number and complexity of the mapping adjustments that may be required. It is anticipated that final maps will be completed between February 2017–April 2017, and available to be adopted via council resolution.

Coastal inundation of high storage volume areas

Four sites assessed for coastal flood hazard are characterised by large low lying areas protected by coastal stopbanks. These are: Awanui estuary (site #44), Kaihu estuary (#57), Dargaville–Wairoa (#58), and Ruawai (#59). At these sites, the connected bathtub approach to mapping coastal storm surge extent may be overly conservative because this approach does not consider limitations on inflow volume from the sea. In practice, the volume of sea water that is able to overtop a coastal stop bank during several high tide cycles may be insufficient to raise the inland inundation level to the same level as at the coast.

Staff have commissioned a more refined coastal hazard assessment for the Kaihu– Dargaville–Awaroa area using the recently completed hydraulic flood model. Subject to review, it is intended to use the mapping from this assessment in preference to the Tonkin & Taylor mapping for the area covered by the flood model.

For the remaining high volume sites, staff propose to initially release potential coastal flood mapping relating to the 100 year timeframe (CFHZ 2) only. The rationale for releasing just the draft CFHZ 2 maps is that the depth of coastal stopbank overtopping for this potential scenario is likely to result in stop bank breaches, as the scenario is based on 1.0m of sea level rise, and a 1% AEP storm surge event. Further work will be initiated to better define the current (CFHZ 0) and 50 year (CFHZ 1) potential coastal storm surge extents for these high volume sites.

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ANNEX 1 – Properties within mapped hazard areas

Table 1: Properties within Draft Coastal Flood Hazard Zone 2 – (CFHZ2)(61 sites assessed)				
	Parcels	Reserves	Total	
Far North	3727	27	3754	
Kaipara	3706 13 3719			
Whangārei 4496 38 4534				
Total 11929 78 12007			12007	

Table 2: Properties within 100 YR RIVER FLOOD EXTENTS			
	Parcels Reserves Total		
Far North	20013	72	20085
Kaipara	Kaipara 937 0 937		937
Whangārei 5323 37 5360			
Total 26273 109 26382			

Table 3: Properties within both 100YR RIVER FLOOD EXTENTS and CFHZ2 (23 sites assessed)				
	Parcels Reserves Total			
Far North	2091	8	2099	
Kaipara	720 0 720			
Whangārei	Whangārei 1309 3 1312			
Total 4120 11 4131				

ISSUE: Service Delivery Review – Section 17A

ID: A829617

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager Strategy and Governance

Date: 24 March 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	n þ Decision
Durnoco	Infrastructure Public ser	vice
Purpose:	Legislative function Annual	ng Term Plan
Significance:	Triggered b Not Trigge	ered

Executive summary:

Section 17A was introduced as part of the Local Government Act 2002 Amendment Act 2014 (LGA). The objective of this new addition to the legislation was primarily to provide a mandatory review process for determining whether the existing means for **delivering a service** remains the most efficient, effective and appropriate means for delivering that service. The legislation has transition provisions allowing the council to prioritise which reviews they would like to complete first – by 17 August 2017, with all remaining services needing to be reviewed by August 2022. All services must then be reviewed every six years.

The purpose of this report is to approve a staged approach to conducting the section 17A review by completing the review of economic development by 17 August 2017, and all remaining 'public facing' services by August 2022.

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 activity is part of normal day to day operations of council, hence when assessed against council policy is deemed to be of low significance.

- That the report 'Service Delivery Review Section 17A' by Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager Strategy and Governance, and dated 24 March 2016, be received.
- 2. That the council approve the section 17A review schedule completing the review of economic development by 17 August 2017, and all remaining services by August 2022.

Report:

The obligation to undertake a section 17A review applies to all 'public-facing' council services, with both an initial review and an obligation to conduct reviews on a regular basis. While back office / support services, such as finance and information management, are not subject to this review, they will be reviewed in conjunction with the 'Northland Forward Together' shared services project with other Northland councils. This project seeks to identify and develop shared services and activities that deliver a clear benefit to the region.

The section 17A reviews must consider three elements, those being:

- 1. How a service is **governed**;
- 2. How it is funded; and
- 3. How it is **delivered**.

Decisions about **what** services are provided and **how** resources are allocated remain part of the Annual Plan and Long Term Plan process. Section 17A is concerned primarily with the **delivery** of council services. Service delivery options include:

- 1. "in-house" delivery;
- 2. council controlled organisation (CCO), either wholly owned by a local authority, or a CCO where the local authority is a part owner;
- 3. another local authority;
- 4. another person or agency (e.g. central government, a private sector organisation or a community group);
- 5. a shared service agreement;
- 6. a joint committee;
- 7. a business unit within council;
- 8. a joint venture or public private partnership; or
- 9. outsourcing to external providers.

While council is not required to engage with the community when undertaking these reviews, should the outcomes and then implementation involve a change in delivery then this will need to be assessed against council's Significant and Engagement Policy and will possibly require community engagement.

Section 17A review schedule

An overview of the scope of the Service Delivery Review, how council services are currently governed, funded and delivered, and recommendations resulting from the initial stages of Phase 1 of the review is included as **Attachment one.**

Phase 1 review

The LGA has a transitional provision that allows council to prioritise which reviews it would like to do first - by **17 August 2017**¹ (Phase 1), with all remaining reviews to be completed by August 2022 (Phase 2).

There are two statutory circumstances where a review by 17 August 2017 is <u>not</u> <u>necessary</u>. These are:

1. There is a contract or agreement in place that cannot reasonably be changed within two years; and/or

¹ LGA Schedule 1AA clause 2

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- 2. The council is satisfied that the costs of doing a review outweigh the benefits of doing a review.

As Phase 1 of the review requires completion by 17 August 2017, an initial analysis of council services was undertaken with particular emphasis on assessing which delivery model was the 'best fit' for each council service and whether potential benefits existed in changing the current method of delivery. A summary of the results of this exercise are illustrated in the following table.

Phase 1 - Summary of initial service delivery analysis

Are there identified benefits in reviewing the current model of service delivery?

Service	Review ü / û	Reason to exclude from service delivery review
Community Representation and Engagement	û	In the absence of LG reorganisation there are few benefits to a review.
Consents	û	This service already contracted out when cost effective/ necessary to do so. New Draft Regional Plan due for public consultation August 2016 and operative June 2018. New plan may affect which activities may or may not require a consent. Review should not be undertaken until the new conditions are known. Sufficient benefits are not identifiable to cover the cost of the review.
Monitoring	û	Aspects of this service are already contracted out where it is cost effective to do so. We already collaborate with neighbouring councils where commonality exists, e.g. Kaipara harbour monitoring. Review should not be undertaken until RMA amendments are finalised as this may change the scope or demand for this service. Sufficient benefits are not identifiable to cover the cost of the review.
Land and Biodiversity	û	Services are constrained by regional boundaries and farm plans are very region specific. It is currently not known whether the RMA National Biodiversity Policy Statement will be coming back in. Review should not be undertaken until RMA amendments are finalised as this may change the scope or demand for this service. There are limited external providers that could supply these services – consultants are not cost effective and industry groups have vested interests. Sufficient benefits are not identifiable to cover the cost of the review.
Planning and Policy	û	Services are bound by regional boundaries. NRC has little in common with its next regional neighbour – being Auckland. We already collaborate on areas with commonality. Services are highly unique to the challenges and opportunities faced by the Northland region. It is a strategic service posing considerable risk if not conducted in-house. Prospective changes to regional plans and legislation such as RMA and NPS for freshwater need to be implemented before change in delivery assessed. Sufficient benefits are not identifiable to cover the cost of the review.
Biosecurity	û	Services offered are highly unique to issues facing the Northland region and dynamic. We already work collaboratively with other regions on areas of common interest, e.g. Kauri dieback. Skilled staff are required to be located in the region as service most often delivered 'on-site'.

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r		Page 4 of
		New NPS Biodiversity would need to be implemented before
		change in delivery assessed. Sufficient benefits are not
		identifiable to cover the cost of the review.
River Management	û	Function needs to be retained as a regional service.
		Services offered are unique to issues facing the Northland
		region and dynamic. Level of staff expertise required would
		be difficult to source. There is a high level of public interest in
		river management and considerable political risks to
		changing the mode of delivery. Sufficient benefits are not identifiable to cover the cost of the review.
Civil Defence and	û	With Opex of \$500K sufficient benefits could not be achieved
Emergency		to warrant the cost of the review.
Management		
	•	
Natural Hazard	û	This activity is closely aligned with other activities of river
Management		management, civil defence and hydrology. Efficiency and
		effectiveness would be compromised if this service was considered in isolation. Sufficient benefits are not identifiable
Oil Pollution	û	to cover the cost of the review. This is a statutory requirement that is already a full cost
Response		recoverable shared service. Trained staff need to be on-site
Пезропзе		in the region. Sufficient benefits are not identifiable to cover
		the cost of the review.
Economic	ü	This includes Northland Inc. (already a CCO), special
Development	-	projects, Investment and Growth Reserve, and commercial
Development		property investments. There is a high level of public and
		political interest on this activity resulting in a desire to ensure
		the most effective mode of delivery is used. Possibilities exist
		to work more collaboratively with other councils and perhaps
		regional neighbours – particularly on infrastructure projects.
		The benefits of a review are considered in excess of the
		costs – therefore a review is recommended for this activity.
Transport	û	The provision of transport services is already subjected to an
		extensive tender process and work is already contracted out
		for reasons of cost effectiveness. Sufficient benefits are not
		identifiable to cover the cost of the review.
Harbour Safety and	û	Is a statutory responsibility. The large geographical area and
Navigation		number of harbours means it is unlikely to find a more cost
		effective option. Work that is able to be contracted out
		already is. Sufficient benefits are not identifiable to cover the
Communication	•	cost of the review.
Communication	û	Northland Councils' project group is assessing shared
Māori Engagement	•	services opportunities (part of shared services).
Māori Engagement	û	Council Māori Advisory Committee is still in its early stages
Finance	Û	and needs more time to establish itself. Back office functions are excluded (part of shared services).
	-	
Human Resources	û	Back office functions are excluded (part of shared services).
and Health and		
Safety		
Information	û	Back office functions are excluded (part of shared services).
Management		
Information	û	Back office functions are excluded (part of shared services).
Technology		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
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Based on the results of this analysis, it is recommended that economic development services be reviewed by 17 August 2017, and all remaining public facing services by August 2022. This recommendation also aligns with councillors' desire to review the extent of council's role and function in economic development generally and it is proposed that both of these reviews be combined as one is likely to affect the other.

Phase 2 review

Activities not reviewed in Phase 1 must be reviewed within the next six years – being 2022². It is recommended that the council adopt a plan of rolling reviews incorporated into the Annual Plan and Long Term planning processes. The order of these reviews should reflect the potential changes in the wider operational environment (such as pending changes in legislation) which have impacted in the council's decision to exclude from the Phase 1 reviews. A suggested timetable for Phase 2 reviews is as follows:

Activity	Sub-activity	Review
River Management	River Management	2017
	Hydrology	2017
Land and Biodiversity		2017
Biosecurity		2017
Natural Hazard Management		2017
Civil Defence and Emergency Management		2017
Community Representation and Engagement	Community Representation and Engagement	2018
	Environmental Education	2018
	Māori Engagement	2018
	Communication	2018
Transport	Regional Transport Management	2019
	Passenger Transport Administration	2019
Oil Pollution Response		2019
Harbour Safety and Navigation		2019
Planning and Policy		2020
Consents	Consent Applications	2020
	Consents Advice and Information	2020
Monitoring	State of the Environment Monitoring	2020
	Compliance Monitoring, Environmental Incidents Response and Waste Management and Contaminated Sites	2020

² LGA 2002 s 17A (2)(c)

Support services

Support services will be reviewed as part of the 'Northland Forward Together' shared services project in conjunction with other Northland councils.

Activity	Sub-activity	Review
Corporate Services	Finance	2016–2017
	Human Resources and Health and Safety	2016–2017
	Information Management	2016–2017
	Information Technology	2016–2017

Conclusion

The LGA decision making requirements of sections 77–81 apply when opting to exclude a service from review (by 17 August 2017). Consequently a council decision is being sought to decide which services to include and which to exclude in Phase 1 of the review.

This matter is now set down for discussion.

Service delivery review-on-a-page

REVIEW SCOPE:	Is a new LGA requirement			
	Looks at how council activities are:	Governed	Funded	Delivered
	Options:	- by council - shared with others	 rates fees & charges grants subsidies commercial investment income 	 "in-house" by council Council Controlled Organisation -CCO shared service joint committee business unit within council joint venture, public/private partner

CURRENT SITUATION:

All council services are **governed** by the council and **funded** by combinations of rates, fees and charges, grants, subsidies & commercial investment income.

Most council services are **delivered** "in-house". Some contracts are in place with various external providers where it is either more cost effective to do so, or where skill / capacity requires.

The exception is economic development activity which encompasses two alternative service delivery modes being:

- 1. A CCO Northland Inc whose mission it is "To strengthen, diversify and grow the Northland economy". The council is the sole shareholder and appoints all of the Directors.
- 2. A joint venture with Kiwirail to progress the Marsden Point Rail Link.

WHAT IS REQUIRED TO COMPLETE A SERVICE DELIVERY REVIEW?

Phase 1 review – by 17 August 2017

Legislative transition arrangements allow council's to decide whether to either exclude services from the phase 1 review on the basis of certain triggers to do with either: * contracts / legislation in place that can't be changed within 2 years OR * that the costs of undertaking a review exceed the potential benefits.

- Results of phase 1 review
 - Conduct a review on the economic development activity by 31 October 2016.
 - Exclude all other services from the phase 1 review on the basis that the benefits are insufficient to warrant the cost of the review.
 - Council resolution sought to reflect these findings.

Phase 2 review – by August 2022

All services are to be reviewed by this date. It is proposed to implement a rolling 6 year review plan and tie reviews into the Annual Plan and Long Term Plan process. This will enable any proposed changes to be incorporated into existing planning and public consultation processes. Reviews become a part of standard council planning – not something extra just to tick a legislative compliance box. The activity management plans completed every 3 years for a LTP will be the basis for assessing potential costs and benefits of any proposed changes to service governance, funding or delivery.

A full Service Delivery Review report is available with templates and documented processes to achieve the above.

ISSUE: Service Excellence Strategy

To: Council meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Tony Phipps, Group Manager Customer Service / Community Resilience

Date: 1 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations Information	b Decision
Burnasa	Infrastructure Public service	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function Annual\Long Term F	Plan b Other
Significance:	Triggered b Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

Following earlier discussions with the Organisational Performance Committee, the purpose of this report is to gain council approval of the Service Excellence Strategy. Implementation of this strategy will provide a means to align all aspects of council service delivery to the things that really matter – from the customer's point of view.

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 activity is part of normal day to day operations of council, hence when assessed against council policy is deemed to be of low significance.

- 1. That the report 'Service Excellence Strategy' by Tony Phipps, Group Manager Customer Service / Community Resilience, and dated 1 April 2016, be received.
- 2. That the Service Excellence Strategy-on-a-page be adopted by the council as a summary of the agreed approach to providing excellent customer service.

Background:

The council's Long Term Plan (LTP) 2015–2025 identified the following values – being the ways in which we will conduct our business which are relevant to delivering excellent customer service:

- 1. We are a positive and customer-friendly organisation; and
- 2. We progressively increase the engagement of Northlander's in our activities.

In order to position the council to deliver these values and other activities detailed in the LTP 2015–2025, the council recently undertook a restructure to ensure that the capacity and capability of the organisation could transform the LTP into reality over the coming 10 year period. A major focus of the restructure was to realign the organisation to focus more on service delivery.

Service Excellence Strategy-on-a-page

Attachment 1 is a high level document outlining our vision and goals, how we plan to achieve them and the promise we will make to our customers – to expect excellent customer service – every time.

Following endorsement of the Service Excellence Strategy, the council will recruit a Service Quality Manager to implement and co-ordinate all service activities across the council. This new position was created during the recent restructure and resource set aside to fund it. Council will then receive regular reports on service performance and customer satisfaction.

This matter is now set down for discussion.

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Service Excellence Strategy-on-a-page

ITEM: 7.6 Attachment 1

Service excellence vision

"Northland Regional Council is committed to working in partnership with our customers to provide excellent service –every time".

OUR CUSTOMERS. Northland is a region of significant diversity with communities earning their living from a variety of industries including farming, forestry and tourism. We have the challenge of providing services across a large often sparsely populated geographical area. A special feature is our large Maori population, accounting for 30% of the residents, compared to just 14% nationally. We also have a significant number of older people – 18% being age 65 or older compared with 14% for the rest of the country. Council activities are governed by nine elected representatives representing seven constituencies. Councillors are elected for a three year term of office.

OUR SERVICES are delivered by 190 full time permanent staff through 4 regional offices. Services are grouped by activities into community representation and engagement, resource management, river management, economic development, hazard management, transport and support services.

Our service excellence goals

- 1. To consistently provide great customer service to all our customers, all the time, across all our activities through all of our delivery channels.
- 2. To build on our solution-orientated culture to personalise and improve the customer experience.
- 3. To strive to understand our customers' needs, recognising that in a dynamic environment, these never stand still and we remain current only by continuously improving.
- 4. To be business friendly, enabling and empowering businesses to grow and prosper in Northland.
- 5. To develop a stronger culture of teamwork across all council activities and support services.
- 6. To foster better use of technology that enhances customer service and supports better business performance.
- 7. To inform and educate our internal and external customers about what our business is, and how we operate.

We will achieve our goals through our values of Decisive leadership

We will demonstrate decisive leadership by delivering our shared vision of service excellence. We will empower and inspire our staff, contractors and volunteers to bring it to life in all we say and do.

Understand our customers

We will actively engage the wider Northland public and specific customer groups to better understand their needs and expectations. We will deliver solution-orientated services centred on the things that matter from the customer's point of view.

Higher performance

We will engage our staff to deliver higher performance. We will measure what we do, identify efficiencies and seek out opportunities to improve.

One team – clear and simple

Northland Regional Council is one team. We share our knowledge, support and collaborate with each other. We foster the spirit and disciplines of teamwork across the organisation so we are "customer friendly" and easy to deal with.

Integrity

We will demonstrate integrity by publicly stating our service excellence vision, keeping our customer service promise and honestly reporting what we achieve and how we can improve.

Our promise

As our customer you can expect us to:

- Listen and treat you respectfully.
- Take time to understand your needs and help find the best solution for your situation.
- Use plain language when we can.
- Tell you when we will respond to your enquiry and then keep you informed.
- If meeting in person we will be on time and well prepared.
- Follow through and keep any promises we make.
- Make it easy for you to find the information you want.
- Own up & put things right if we make a mistake.

Our commitment to you:

- We will sort out your request or refer it to the person or agency who can help you.
- We will help you by giving professional and accurate advice.
- We will interpret and apply the laws, by-laws and regulations in good faith.
- We will make decisions that are consistent, fair and in line with Council policies and relevant legislation.
- We will be clear on what we can and can't do and fully explain our decisions.
- We will always strive to improve and meet your expectations.
- We will act in the best interests of the Northland region.

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ISSUE: Review of Regional Pest Management Strategies – Extension of Timeline

ID: A831190

To: Council meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Manager

Date: 6 April 2016

Report Type:	þ	Normal operations	Information	þ	Decision
Burnasa		Infrastructure	Public service		Regulatory function
Purpose:	þ	Legislative function	Annual\Long Term Plan		Other
Significance:		Triggered	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The review of the Regional Pest Management Strategies is making steady progress. Public notification of the proposed Pest Management Plan and Marine Pathway Plan was expected in June 2016 however this deadline will require review. There are significant benefits in extending the timeline for both plans until June 2017. These include meeting the statutory requirements of the national policy direction for pest management; completion of the required cost benefit analysis; ensuring national pest management alignment, and regional alignment with Auckland Council.

It is recommended that council resolve to extend the expiry date of the Regional Pest Management Strategies 2010–2015 by 12 months to provide for further development of the proposed Northland Regional Pest and Pathway Management Plans.

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 matters are not significant under council policy and are in accordance with the above legislation and Biosecurity Act 1993.

- 1. That the report 'Review of Regional Pest Management Strategies -Extension of Timeline' by Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Manager, and dated 6 April 2016, be received.
- 2. That the council agree to the revised timing for formal notification of the proposed Regional Pest Management Plan and Pathway Management Plan.
- 3. That the council resolve pursuant to section 100G of the Biosecurity Act 1993 and section 83(19) Biosecurity Law Reform Act 2012 to extend the expiry date of the Regional Pest Management Strategies 2010–2015 to 20 July 2017.

Report:

Regional Pest Management Plans and Regional Pathway Management Plans

The Northland Regional Pest Management Strategies 2010–2015 are currently under review. Following a 2012 amendment to the Biosecurity Act 1993 (BSA), the Act now provides for the development of longer term (10 year) Regional Pest Management Plans and Regional Pathway Management Plans. The council has chosen to develop a Regional Marine Pathways Plan, which will be a first for Northland.

The new Regional Pest Management Plan (RPMP) will manage identified pests as per the present strategies, whereas a Marine Pathway Management Plan will aim to manage the pathways (particularly transport via boat hulls) through which marine pests can be introduced to Northland.

A key background requirement is that, for each pest or related group of pests, or pathway, the council must be able to show that the benefits of management via the plan would outweigh the costs, after taking account of the likely consequences of inaction or other courses of action. Where strict measures are being considered this requires a detailed level of cost benefit analysis.

Review progress

The review process is well underway with a proposed RPMP being gradually compiled section by section. However, it has become apparent that there are a number of recent national and inter-regional developments that need time to either be completed or be carefully assessed before they are incorporated into the review process and/or the RPMP. These are:

- the National Policy Direction on Pest Management 2015 and related published implementation guidance;
- the Regional Chief Executives' Group national pest management alignment project;
- the proposal for a National Pest Pet Accord;
- inter-council work on regional pathways management plans as a new statutory instrument; and
- alignment with the Auckland regional pest management plan review.

Below is a brief summary of these developments and their implications for the review.

National Policy Direction

As part of the 2102 amendments, the relevant Minister of the Crown (presently the Minister of Primary Industries) is required to prepare a national direction for pest management (NPD). The first NPD became operative in September 2015. This contains additional directions on the content and process for developing pest and pathway management plans, as well as their implementation, monitoring and good neighbour rules.

The NPD also provides information on the required level of cost benefit analysis that must be undertaken when proposing a new plan. This level of analysis is far more robust than was required previously, and is requiring significantly more time and resources to complete than originally anticipated. The proposed RPMP cannot be notified until the cost benefit is complete, and this information must be made available to the public during consultation.

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All new plans are required by the Act to 'not be inconsistent with' the National Policy Direction. A 50 page guidance note has been produced by the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI) to aid implementation of the NPD including:

- criteria for determining the appropriate level of cost benefit analysis for particular pests; and
 - directions on the proposed allocation of costs for pest and pathways management.

These matters remain subject to ongoing discussions between councils and with MPI. It is critical that the council allows time to fully understand and implement the NPD to ensure that the reviewed regional pest management plans and marine pathways management plan meets the requirements for consistency with the NPD.

National alignment

The council is part of a national pest management alignment project with other regional councils. The Regional Chief Executives' Group has endorsed a more collaborative process for the development of the next generation of pest management plans. The aim of the project is to develop new regional pest management plans that are:

- (a) consistent with the NPD;
- (b) look and 'feel' similar;
- (c) align pest programmes across regions where it makes sense to do so; and
- (d) recognise efficiencies from common methodologies and cost sharing in their development to achieve better pest outcomes for our regional communities.

A national template for the format of pest management plans has been developed and confirmed by chief executives. As may be expected, the template is very much focused on compliance with the BSA and NPD requirements. Thought is being given to ensuring that the template is followed while still providing a user-friendly document that suits day-to-day pest management operational needs. This will take additional time.

A process is also being developed for an independent peer review of proposed RPMPs to ensure that councils follow the agreed templates. This peer review process needs to be added to the timeline for the Northland review, and will be required before the proposed regional pest management plan is notified for public consultation.

A process is also underway to undertake cost benefit analyses for a group of species that are common to many regions, including Northland. Other ongoing work includes developing standard clearance distances for species with good neighbour boundary control rules, and liaison with the Department of Conservation regarding their role in paying for pest control on Crown land when pests on their land affect neighbours.

National Accords

As part of its current pest management activities, the council works in partnership with MPI to implement the National Pest Plant Accord (NPPA). The purpose of this is to prevent the sale and distribution of specified pest plants where the nursery trade is the most significant way of spreading the plant.

The NPPA is essentially a cooperative agreement between the Nursery and Garden Industry Association, regional councils and government departments with biosecurity responsibilities. All plants on the NPPA are unwanted organisms under the

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Biosecurity Act 1993. These plants cannot be sold, propagated or distributed in New Zealand. A role of council staff under the accord is to undertake inspections of nurseries and follow up on reports of species in the accord being offered for sale.

A new accord is currently in development which is designed to remove high risk species from the pet trade, for example, it may include some large lizard species, or birds which have the potential to establish populations in New Zealand. The new accord will mirror the NPPA, with council staff likely to undertake a similar inspection role. The list of the species to be included in the new National Pest Pet Accord has not yet been confirmed, but is likely to be released in the middle of the year. This list may affect the species that we do or do not include in the new Northland Regional Pest Management Plan.

Regional collaboration

In addition to the above projects we are also working with several other councils throughout the country on the development of both pest and pathway management plans.

Regional Pathway Management Plans are new and as yet there are no operative pathway plans in New Zealand. Several other regions are also developing marine pathway plans or are about to start development, and staff are sharing ideas and information. Environment Southland and the Top of the South marine biosecurity partnership group (Marlborough, Tasman and Nelson Unitary Authorities) are developing marine pathway plans. Other councils in the northern North Island marine biosecurity partnership, including Auckland Council, have also recently indicated that they are going to start developing plans. Feedback received from the marine industry is that alignment between regions would make it less confusing for marine users to meet requirements when travelling from one region to another.

Delaying the timeline for the Northland plans will ensure we coincide with national projects, and enable greater regional collaboration thus providing for closer alignment both regionally and nationally. It will also allow more opportunities for public awareness, education and consultation, which is expected to result in greater compliance with any new rules.

Alignment with Auckland Council Review

We have been working with Auckland Council on aspects of the cost benefit analysis, as well as discussing possible alignment of some species and rules. This has involved sharing parts of the cost benefit analysis to avoid duplication of effort and greater efficiency. We are also discussing several species which both councils may propose to ban from sale. Auckland Council has also delayed their review timeline, and will now be notifying their proposed pest management plan during 2017.

Statutory allowance for further review process extension

The current RPMS have been extended and are now due to expire on 20 July 2016. The extension was allowed as a recent evaluation of the current pest management strategies (August 2014) demonstrated a high level of effectiveness of the strategies. Extending the operation of the strategies allowed for ongoing effective management of Northland's pests while the new Regional Pest Management Plan proceeded through the statutory process.

If it is accepted, based on the information set out above, there is strong merit in further extending the timeframe for completing the RPMP review; this is legally allowable

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under the BSA. Legal advice has been obtained that the transitional provisions of the Biosecurity Law Reform Act 2012 provide for further extension of the expiry date of Pest Management Strategies by up to 12 months. Using this provision would mean the timeline for the review process could be extended until 20 July 2017, if required. Once a proposed new plan is notified, the existing RPMS will remain operative under the BSA until a new plan is adopted to replace it, even if the expiry date is reached.

The process for extending the expiry date of the RPMS is resolution under section 100G of the Biosecurity Act 1993 and section 83(19) Biosecurity Law Reform Act 2012. To make a resolution under section 100G the council must be satisfied that the resolution does not have a significant effect on any person's rights and obligations.

It is considered that continuance of the RMPS for a further 12 months will not have a significant effect on any person's rights and obligations, these will remain the same.

Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan timeline

It is proposed that the review timeline be extended for up to 12 months. However, if the recent national and inter-regional developments progress efficiently, staff are confident that the review could be completed several months earlier.

Draft to Communications team for final editing.	11 April 2017	Four weeks
Submit draft to council for notification approval.	Council meeting May 2017	
Notify plan	June 2017	ЗO
Submission period closes	July 2017	One month
Submission summary period	July 2017	Two weeks
Hearings	Late July 2017	One week
Decision reporting, agenda item for plan approval	August 2017	Two weeks
Council approve plan	Council meeting August- September 2017	Thre (15) days
If no appeals to Environment Court, council make operative plan with seal.	Council meeting September- October 2017	Three weeks (15 working days)

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Potential adverse implications of a timeline extension

The only risk identified due to a timeline extension is that there would be a delay in introducing new rules for the Northland region. However, any new rules introduced would be intended to add to the suite of rules and tools that are already in place, rather than replace them. As the existing strategies have demonstrated a high level of effectiveness, and would continue to remain operational, this is considered low risk.

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ISSUE: Making Operative the Proposed Regional Policy Statement and Plan Change 4 (Aquaculture)

ID: A830210

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Ben Lee, Policy Development Manager

Date: 4 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations		Information	þ	Decision
Burnosoi	Infrastructure		Public service	þ	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function		Annual\Long Term Plan		Other
Significance:	Triggered	þ	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to make operative:

- The proposed Regional Policy Statement for Northland (except the provisions relating to genetically modified organisms); and
- Plan Change 4 (Aquaculture) to the Regional Coastal Plan for Northland Regional Council.

Staff recommend Monday 9 May 2016 as the operative date.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The decisions detailed in this report are in accordance with the processes set out in the First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991. Pursuant to section 76(5) of the Local Government Act 2002, the requirements of the Resource Management Act 1991 take precedence.

- 1. That the report 'Making Operative the Proposed Regional Policy Statement and Plan Change 4 (Aquaculture)' by Ben Lee, Policy Development Manager, and dated 4 April 2016, be received.
- 2. That the proposed Regional Policy for Northland be approved in accordance with Clause 17, Schedule 1, Resource Management Act 1991, except for Issue 2.6(g), Policy 6.1.2 and Method 6.1.5 and related explanations.
- 3. That Monday 9 May 2016 is the date the proposed Regional Policy Statement for Northland (except for Issue 2.6(g), Policy 6.1.2 and Method 6.1.5 and related explanations) becomes operative.
- 4. That Monday 9 May 2016 is the date Plan Change 4 (Aquaculture) to the Regional Coastal Plan for Northland becomes operative.

Report:

The purpose of this report is to make operative¹:

- The proposed Regional Policy Statement for Northland (except the provisions relating to genetically modified organisms); and
- Plan Change 4 (Aquaculture) to the Regional Coastal Plan for Northland Regional Council.

A copy of the proposed Regional Policy Statement will be attached as an accompanying volume². The maps which form part of the proposed Regional Policy Statement are on the council's website:

<u>http://www.nrc.govt.nz/Your-Council/Online-maps/</u> click on "Northland Regional Council Maps – Regional Policy Statement".

Staff recommend Monday 9 May 2016 as the operative date for both documents. This accounts for the requirement to give at least five working days' notice of the operative date and gives time to organise logistics of the public notification.

Proposed Regional Policy Statement

The proposed Regional Policy Statement provides the broad direction and framework for managing Northland's natural and physical resources. These include land, water, air, soil, minerals, plants, animals and all built structures. It is the umbrella document for regional and district plans³.

The proposed Regional Policy Statement was notified 8 October 2012. There were nearly 1000 submissions and 22 hearing days. Council adopted the hearing committee recommendations on 17 September 2013. Sixteen appeals were lodged with the Environment Court on a range of matters.

All appeals have been resolved by the Environment Court except the provisions relating to genetic engineering (GE).

Council can choose to make parts of the proposed Regional Policy Statement operative⁴. Rather than wait until the GE provisions are resolved, staff recommend that all other parts of the proposed Regional Policy Statement be approved and made operative now because:

- It will likely be late this year (at the earliest) that the GE provisions will be resolved⁵.
- District councils support the RPS being made operative now (rather than waiting for resolution of the GE provisions) as it would provide greater certainty⁶ for their district plan processes.

¹ In accordance with Clauses 17 and 20, Schedule 1, RMA.

² A copy of Plan Change 4 is not included as there is no change to the document that was approved by council on 15 September 2015.

³ Regional and district plans must 'give effect' to the Regional Policy Statement (sections 67 and 75, RMA).

⁴ Clause 17(2), Schedule 1, RMA.

⁵ The High Court heard the case for jurisdiction to include GE provisions in February this year. There was no decision at the time of writing. If the High Court finds that there is jurisdiction, there will then be an Environment Court hearing on the merits of the RPS managing GE.

⁶ A regional policy statement must be operative before regional and district plans are required to give effect to it.

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- It provides certainty for the development of the new Regional Plan (a draft is scheduled for release for public feedback in August this year).

Plan Change 4 (Aquaculture) to the Regional Coastal Plan for Northland Regional Council

Plan Change 4 sets out the management approach for aquaculture in the coastal marine area. Details on the purpose and history of Plan Change 4 were included in the item to the 15 September 2015 council meeting (where it was adopted by council).

As Plan Change 4 is part of the Regional Coastal Plan, it has to be approved by the Minister of Conservation before it can be made operative. Plan Change 4 was approved (with no changes) by the Minister of Conservation on 2 February 2016.

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ISSUE: Next Steps for Freshwater - Draft Submission

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Justin Murfitt, Resource Management – Planning and Policy Manager

Date: 31 March 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations Information	þ	Decision
Purpose:	Infrastructure Public service	þ	Regulatory function
	Legislative function Annual\Long Term Plan		Other
Significance:	Triggered b Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to advise council of the consultation document released by the government, titled 'Next Steps for Freshwater'. The consultation document outlines new initiatives proposed by the government that form part of its ongoing programme to improve the management of freshwater. The report concludes with the recommendation that council lodge a submission on the consultation document. Submissions close Friday 22 April 2016. A draft submission is **attached** for consideration by council.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are part of the council's day to day operations and as such 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 decision making elements of the report are limited to the content of a submission and the matter is therefore of low significance in terms of council's significance policy.

- That the report 'Next Steps for Freshwater Draft Submission' by Justin Murfitt, Resource Management – Planning and Policy Manager, dated 31 March 2016, be received.
- 2. That council approves lodging of a submission on the Next Steps for Freshwater Consultation Document.

Report:

As part of its ongoing programme to improve the management of freshwater, the government has released a consultation document called Next Steps for Freshwater (available online at: <u>http://www.mfe.govt.nz/publications/fresh-water/next-steps-fresh-water-consultation-document</u>). The consultation document outlines a number of new initiatives across four broad topics summarised as follows:

- 1. Freshwater and the environment including regulations to exclude stock from specified freshwater bodies and amendments to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater 2014 (NPSFM) to:
 - Provide exceptions to bottom lines for significant infrastructure.
 - Require use of Macroinvertebrate Community Index as a monitoring tool for ecosystem health.
 - Establish water quality attributes for intermittently closing lagoons.
 - · Clarify 'maintain or improve overall water quality'.
- 2. Economic use of freshwater, including:
 - Development of technical efficiency standards.
 - Facilitating the transfer of allocated water and discharge allowances.
 - Use of good management practice.
 - Improve the ability for councils to recover costs of monitoring, compliance and research.
- 3. Iwi rights and interests in freshwater:
 - Strengthening Te Mana o Te Wai as a basis for community discussion on freshwater.
 - Improving iwi / hapu participation in freshwater governance and management, including a direction to identify all iwi / hapu relationships with water bodies in RMA plans and establishment of 'mana whakahono a rohe' (a similar mechanism to the Iwi Participation Arrangement concept recently proposed in the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill).
 - Better integrating water conservation orders with regional water planning and allow for increased iwi participation in decision making on water conservation orders.
- 4. Freshwater funding, including changes to the Freshwater Improvement Fund to:
 - Broaden the scope so it is not limited to land purchase only.
 - Require that projects support users to transition to managing within water quality and water quantity limits.
 - Require projects to demonstrate environmental benefits.

While the discussion document lacks detail in some areas, a number of initiatives are likely to improve the management of freshwater or at least assist councils and communities to do so. It is recommended that council submit on the consultation document and make the following points:

Freshwater and the environment

- Support the principle of providing exceptions to bottom lines for infrastructure and that any such proposed exception is to be subject to public consultation.
- Support the proposed amendment to Objective A2 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 to maintain or improve overall water quality within a FMU.

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- Support the clarification that maintaining water quality includes tolerating lower (or conversely higher) contaminant levels provided that they remain within an attribute band.
- Support the use of MCI as a consistent measure of ecosystem health, but recommend that any mandatory requirement to use MCI as a measure recognise and provide for variation across regions and stream types.
- Support the proposal to create national regulation requiring time-staged exclusion of livestock from certain freshwater bodies, as a nationally consistent approach is more efficient than debating the issue region-by-region.

Economic use of freshwater

- Support for technical efficiency in relation to use of freshwater, but advise that any such standards should be developed in close association with the relevant industry and that standards only become a requirement once tested and supported by the relevant industry.
- Council also supports use of good management practice, but again recommends this be developed in close association with the relevant industry.
- Council also supports the intent signalled in the discussion document that both technical efficiency standards and good management practices only be required where councils have allocated discharge allowances and where catchments are near or at full allocation.
- Support for increasing the ability of councils to recover costs from water users for monitoring, enforcement, research and management, but advise the changes proposed in the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill do not go far enough and should be explicit (in section 36 RMA) that councils can charge for permitted activity monitoring.

lwi rights and interests

- Council supports amendment to the NPSFM to clarify the role and status of Te Mana o Te Wai in implementing the NPSFM, as this is currently ambiguous.
- The resource management purpose for identifying all iwi / hapu relationships with water bodies in regional planning documents is unclear. Council considers there should be a clearly stated resource management outcome established prior to this proposal being pursued and also suggests rather than being a directive at a national level, it is better that iwi / hapu identify those relationships they consider are a matter to be addressed in RMA plans.
- While council supports better participation between iwi / hapu and councils in decision making, the discussion document is very vague on whether or not 'mana whakahono a rohe' would replace the iwi participation arrangements (IPA) recently proposed in the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill or the intention is to provide an additional tool. If the latter, there would be significant potential for inconsistency, overlap and unnecessary duplication were these two mechanisms both in place.
- Council supports the amendments to require that applications for water conservation orders include evidence of consultation with tangata whenua and that tangata whenua be represented on any tribunal to hear the application.

Freshwater funding

Council supports broadening of the scope of the Freshwater Improvement Fund beyond just land purchase to include support for other initiatives that provide environmental benefit and assist in managing within limits. However, minor amendment to the fund criteria is suggested to enable funding to be allocated to projects that assist communities to manage within limits and / or provide environmental benefits (on the grounds that proposals that support management within limits may not necessarily result in environmental benefit).

Conclusion

It is recommended that council lodge a submission on the consultation document 'Next Steps for Freshwater' highlighting the points raised above. A draft submission is attached as **Appendix 1** for consideration by council.



Submission

To: Freshwater Consultation 2016 Ministry for the Environment PO Box 10362 Wellington 6143 New Zealand watersubmissions@mfe.govt.nz

By: Northland Regional Council On

Next steps for fresh water: Consultation document

Northland Regional Council Private Bag 9021 Whāngārei Mail Centre WHĀNGĀREI 0148

- 1. Northland Regional Council (the council) appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposals in *Next steps for fresh water: Consultation document*.
- 2. The council supports the intent of the proposals and commends the Government for its ongoing efforts to improve the state and management of fresh water in New Zealand.
- 3. This submission is made with council's statutory functions in mind and in the interests of promoting workable improvements to the management of freshwater in New Zealand.

'Maintain or improve overall' water quality

4. Water quality by its definition is a measure of the microbiological, chemical, and physical characteristics of water relative to a particular use or value. Determining if water quality is maintained or enhanced not only involves identifying the particular concentration or other measure of a particular water quality variable (i.e. attribute), but also includes measuring the state of the water quality dependent value or use (e.g. algal biomass and diversity of macroinvertebrates). In other words, determining whether water quality is maintained or enhanced should be considered in the light of identified values and objectives. Given freshwater management units (FMU) are the basis for identifying values and setting objectives, it makes sense to apply the direction to maintain or improve overall water quality to the FMU rather than across a region as a whole.

- 5. The council therefore supports the proposed amendment to Objective A2 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 (NPS-FM) to maintain or improve overall water quality within a FMU. The amendment is supported because the fundamental concept behind FMU is to group water bodies by environmental characteristics – objectives can then be developed for each FMU informed by uses and values. FMU are also the basis for monitoring water quality. It therefore makes sense to constrain the direction on maintaining or improving overall water quality to within a FMU (rather than across a region).
- 6. The council also supports amending the NPS-FM to clarify that maintaining water quality includes tolerating lower (or conversely higher) contaminant levels provided that they remain within an attribute band. This is because the primary aim after all is to ensure the ecosystem health or human health objective is met (as opposed to a specific numeric value). In other words, a shift to a lower band is the critical issue in relation to objectives, rather than a shift within a band.

Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI)

7. We support use of MCI as a consistent measure of ecosystem health. However, we advise caution in how it is applied – as we understand it applying a nationally applicable measure for MCI is problematic given variation across NZ- some species may differ biogeographically in their pollution tolerances depending on, for example, water temperature. Also MCI is influenced by the geographical range of particular species and the influences of such things as climate, geology and topography meaning the MCI would be problematic to apply as a national metric for ecosystem health, without some ability to 'index' or adjust for specific a region. In our experience MCI performs differently as a measure across stream type (hard vs soft bottom) and does not accurately reflect ecosystem health in soft bottom streams in Northland. We therefore recommend that any mandatory requirement to use MCI as a measure recognise and provide for this variation across regions and stream types.

Significant Infrastructure

8. Council agrees with the principle of allowing exceptions to bottom lines to provide for significant infrastructure and supports the approach signalled that Appendix 3 be populated following evidence gathered during the limit setting process. We also support the intent that any exceptions to bottom lines for infrastructure be subject to public consultation.

Stock exclusion from water bodies

9. The council strongly supports the proposal to create national regulation that requires exclusion of livestock (dairy, beef, deer, and pigs), particularly given that the proposal is a robust product of the Land and Water Forum. A nationally consistent approach is more efficient than debating the issue region-by-region. We also support the ability for council's to be more stringent than the regulations as this will better enable freshwater objectives to be achieved. The regulations should however provide for exceptions (E.g. for stock crossings) as part of a pragmatic approach to stock exclusion. The regulations should also be explicit that in the event stock exclusion cannot reasonably be achieved, then a resource consent is available. This recognises that there will be instances where land contour or stock water reticulation costs make stock exclusion impractical.

- 10. However the reference to permanently flowing waterways greater than 1m wide and 300mm deep is a concern this creates interpretation / application problems as waterways typically vary widely in width and depth (i.e. one part of a stream may be less than a metre wide and /or 300mm deep and therefore not require stock to be excluded, whereas another part of the same stream would exceed these dimensions and require stock exclusion making implementation 'patchy' and the regulations less effective). Council considers a clearly interpretable and practical measure would be to require stock exclusion from permanently flowing streams (without any reference to width or depth depth has little bearing on the transport of sediment and contaminants).
- 11. Council also queries why the timeframes for dairy support / dairy grazing are different to beef in lowland/rolling hill country (4-15°). This does not appear effects based and in our view they should be treated alike. Nonetheless, the council recommends that the Government be more ambitious in its timeframe for excluding drystock (and dairy grazing/support) from water bodies in lowland/rolling hills (4-15°). Reducing the date from 2030 to 2025 will create a stronger incentive to start excluding drystock from water bodies. Evidence in Northland suggests that drystock are a significant contributor to sediment and faecal bacteria issues in some lowland areas. Council do however support the voluntary approach to exclusion of beef and other non-dairy stock in hill country above 15° slopes on the basis that fencing and other stock exclusion methods can be problematic in steeper areas.
- 12. There is potential for ambient water temperatures to increase with climate change. Temperature, along with reduced dissolved oxygen levels and a lack of shade are thought to be key drivers of macrophyte and algal biomass in Northland's rivers. Riparian buffers are a key remedy for these issues. A potential shortcoming with the proposed regulation is that it will not require a riparian buffer. The council appreciates the reasons for this: different buffer sizes for different water quality remediation purposes, the costs of lost production, and planting and weed control. However siting fences at the edge of waterbodies may preclude or frustrate future efforts to create vegetated riparian buffers because of the costs and practicalities of shifting or installing new fences.

Economic use of freshwater

Technical efficiency / good management practice

- 13. Council supports technical efficiency in relation to use of freshwater, however the consultation document is light on detail on how standards will be developed, for what uses of water and by when. Developing standards to define the amount of water used by an 'efficient' user for different end uses in various climates and soil types will need to cater for regional and even local variation, which will be complex. Any such standards should be developed in close association with the relevant industry and perhaps better yet by industry themselves (supported by Government) we support the intent for such an approach signalled in the discussion document. Council also supports the intention to only apply these standards in areas approaching or at full allocation we also recommend that technical efficiency standards only become a requirement once tested/proven and supported by the relevant industry.
- 14. The same comments made above apply to good management practice (GMP). We also note that GMP would only be required where councils have allocated discharge allowances and where catchments are near or at full allocation. We support this intent because as at this point in time council does not intend to regulate nutrient input or loss (i.e. apply nutrient load

limits), as we are not experiencing water quality issues that warrant such an approach. We would therefore oppose mandatory nutrient loss standards applied broad brush.

Council funding for freshwater management

- 15. Proposal 2.6 is to increase the ability of councils to recover costs from water users for monitoring, enforcement, research and management. The proposal is made correctly on the basis that the "Government recognises that effective implementation of the existing freshwater management system will require local councils to spend more on science, monitoring, management, and enforcement."
- 16. No details are provided however on how the proposal will be implemented. A major resourcing issue relates to the council's ability to recover the costs of monitoring permitted activities. There is divergent legal opinion on whether the costs of such monitoring can be passed on to the people carrying out the activities, which in absence of a rule in a regional plan would be unlawful under sections 14 and 15 of the RMA. The community (i.e. the council) can also incur costs monitoring section 14(3)(b) RMA takes to ensure that they do not, or are not likely to, have an adverse effect on the environment.
- 17. How the proposal will work is further clouded by section 20(2) of the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill 2015, which if enacted would insert the following paragraph as section 36(1)(cc) of the RMA:

...charges payable by a person who carries out a permitted activity, for the monitoring of that activity, of the local authority is empowered to charge for the monitoring in accordance with section 43A(8)

18. Section 43A(8) is also a new proposed subsection of the RMA – pertaining to the contents of national environmental standards – that states:

A national environmental standard may -

- (a) empower a consent authority to charge for monitoring any permitted activities specified in the standards; and
- (b) specify how consent authorities must perform their functions in order to achieve the standard.
- 19. These proposed amendments strongly infer that councils will only be able to charge people carrying out permitted activities for the monitoring of the activities if they are specified in a national environmental standard, and the standard empowers the monitoring.
- 20. If this is the Government's intention, the council may have to constrain its monitoring of permitted water takes and discharges or pass the costs on to general ratepayers. Such an approach is inconsistent with the user pays doctrine, which is based on the principle that the most efficient allocation of resources occurs when consumers pay the full costs of the goods that they use. In this case a common pool resource freshwater.
- 21. The council requests the Government to expressly provide for the monitoring of any permitted activities associated with the use of freshwater (including as a receiving environment for contaminants), and other common pool resources (coastal water, air, etc). The Resource Legislation Amendment Bill provides an opportunity to do so in changes to Section 36 RMA.

Iwi rights and interests in freshwater

- 22. Council supports amendment to the NPSFM to clarify the role and status of Te Mana o Te Wai in implementing the NPSFM, as this is currently ambiguous.
- 23. Council supports engagement with iwi and hapu to identify relationships with water bodies that are important in the context of implementing the NPSFM and the Resource Management Act generally. However, the intent of this proposal as set out in the discussion document is vague. The term 'relationships with water bodies' is unclear arguably iwi / hapu have a relationship with all waterbodies within their rohe. The resource management purpose for identifying all iwi / hapu relationships with water bodies in regional planning documents is also unclear. Council considers there should be a clearly stated resource management outcome established prior to this proposal being pursued and also suggests rather than being directive at a national level, it is better that iwi / hapu identify those relationships with water bodies that they consider are a matter to be addressed in RMA plans.
- 24. Council supports better engagement between iwi / hapu and councils in decision making, however the discussion document is very vague on how the 'mana whakahono a rohe' agreement would work in relation to the iwi participation arrangements (IPA) proposed in the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill. The need for both tools being available is unclear and if both tools were available, there would be significant potential for inconsistency, overlap and unnecessary duplication. Council considers implementation could be problematic in the event both mechanisms were enacted. Council therefore considers government should only pursue one or the other of IPA or 'mana whakahono a rohe' rather than making both mechanisms available. Regardless of which is progressed, the mechanism should not over-ride the ultimate decision making powers of councils.
- 25. If the 'mana whakahono a rohe' mechanism is to be embedded in the RMA, council considers that the provisions be designed to provide a framework that is not exclusive to iwi and that it provide for hapu engagement (council also submitted to this effect in relation to the IPA provisions of the Resource Legislation Amendment Bill).
- 26. Council supports the amendments to require that applications for water conservation orders (WCOs) include evidence of consultation with tangata whenua and that tangata whenua be represented on any tribunal to hear the application, subject to requirements for suitable qualifications (similar to those applicable for RMA commissioners) and obligations relating conflict of interest. We also support the proposal to provide a streamlined process for establishment of WCO over outstanding water bodies.

Freshwater funding

27. Council supports broadening of the scope of the Freshwater Improvement Fund beyond just land purchase to include support for other initiatives that provide environmental benefit and assist in managing within water quality and / or water quantity limits. The criteria proposed in Proposal 4.1 appear sound, however we see some tension between the first two criteria; namely that supporting water users to manage within water quantity or water quality limits may not necessarily provide an obvious environmental benefit (other than it being more likely a limit will be met) – for example, technical efficiency gains in water use may not result in tangible environmental benefits (i.e. would only create capacity within the limit unless the 'saved' water is returned to the water body and the allocation limit is adjusted accordingly to secure the benefit for the environment). We therefore suggest the first two criteria are subject to an and / or condition. This will enable funding to be allocated to projects that assist to manage within limits and / or provide environmental benefits.

Conclusion

28. Council thanks the Government for the opportunity to submit on the proposals set out in the consultation document and looks forward to working with both the Ministry for the Environment and Ministry for Primary Industries to progress these initiatives.

Malcolm Nicolson (CEO)	Dated
On behalf of Northland Regional Council Private Bag 9021 Whangarei 0148	

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ISSUE: Submission on the Annual Plan 2016/17 Consultation Documents – Whangarei District Council and Far North District Council

ID: A833188

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Kyla Carlier, Strategy Specialist

Date: 6 April 2016

Report Type:	þ	Normal operations	þ	Information		Decision
Burnasa		Infrastructure		Public service		Regulatory function
Purpose:		Legislative function	þ	Annual\Long Term Plan	þ	Other
Significance:		Triggered	þ	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The Whangarei District Council and the Far North District Council have released their Annual Plan 2016/17 Consultation Documents for public consultation. This item identifies the key issues that it is proposed the council make submission on.

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 activity is part of normal day to day operations of council, hence when assessed against council policy is deemed to be of low significance.

Recommendations:

- 1. That the report 'Submission on the Annual Plan 2016/17 Consultation Documents – Whangarei District Council and Far North District Council' by Kyla Carlier, Strategy Specialist, and dated 6 April 2016, be received.
- 2. That a submission be made on the Whangarei District Council's and Far North District Council's 2016/17 Annual Plan on the points summarised in this item.
- 3. That the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman are delegated the authority to finalise the detail, and lodge a submission on behalf of council on the Whangarei District Council's and Far North District Council's 2016/17 Annual Plans based on the points summarised in this item.
- 4. That the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman are delegated the authority to lodge a submission on behalf of council on the Kaipara District Council 2016/17 Annual Plan and that the submission will be reported to the May council meeting.

The Whangarei District Council and the Far North District Council have released their Annual Plan 2016/17 Consultation Documents for public consultation. The consultation period for the Whangarei District Council closes on Friday 29 April, with hearings planned for 17 May. The Far North District Council's consultation period closes on 22 April, and no formal hearings are planned.

The Kaipara District Council will release their consultation document on 27 April for a two week consultation period. This timeframe will not allow for submission points to be brought to council for consideration. Therefore delegation is sought for the CEO and Chairman to consider and finalise any potential submission to the Kaipara District Council and that any submission would be reported to the May council meeting.

Whangarei District Council

The Whangarei District Council (WDC) Consultation Document highlights the main areas of infrastructure and services that they are spending time and money on, which are:

- Transportation
- · Water
- Wastewater
- · Solid Waste
- Parks and Recreation
- Libraries
- New Airport
- Council Premises
- · Support Services.

Staff analysis has identified activities within these groups that are different from the WDC's Long Term Plan and that relate either to a previous submission made by council to the WDC's Long Term Plan, or have been flagged as a change that should be submitted on. A summary of the recommended submission points is provided below:

Wastewater

WDC is proposing to undertake the Hikurangi sewer network upgrade over two years, due to the size of the project and the need to make the best use of what pipes and pumps they already have in place. Last year council made a submission on WDC's Long Term Plan, that supported continued investment in renewal and rehabilitation of wastewater assets, particularly where they addressed inflow and infiltration, and reduced sewage overflows. It is recommended that council reiterate this support.

<u>Transport</u>

NZTA has recently signalled that they will redesignate some roads within the Whangārei and Far North District as state highways, as part of an 'inland freight route'. WDC is not proposing any budgetary changes as a result of this due to a lack of certainty as to when the designation will occur, but they have removed bridge strengthening projects from their capital works programme, where they relate to this stretch of road.

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It is recommended that council encourage the reinvestment of any and all savings achieved through the redesignation of Mangakāhia Road, into other district roading projects (for example seal extensions).

In addition to those topics that are proposed to be changed as part of WDC's Annual Plan, there are some additional topics that it is proposed council should submit on.

Financial support for Northland Inc.

Northland Inc. supports businesses and assists economic development across the region and supports all councils through various economic related initiatives such as the implementation of the TTNEAP, leadership of the Broadband/Digital Leadership Group, etc. As such, all Northland councils should be encouraged to provide appropriate levels of financial support to Northland Inc.

It is recommended that council note the importance of the financial contribution of WDC for Northland Inc's operational expenditure and encourage them to consider increasing this level of support.

Bus terminus

The Rose Street bus terminus in central Whangārei is in need of an upgrade or replacement. NRC transport staff have secured an NZTA subsidy of 54% of a total \$100K expenditure on upgrade works.

It is recommended that council request consideration by WDC of funding the remainder of the upgrade or replacement of the Rose Street bus terminus.

LiDAR survey

While not expressly referred to in the consultation document, it is understood that WDC has confirmed its support for the joint LiDAR project to the tune of \$250,000. It's recommended that council should acknowledge and support WDC intention to support this initiative.

Far North District Council

The Far North District Council (FNDC) Consultation Document discusses three material differences between the proposed Annual Plan 2016/17 and year two of the Long Term Plan 2015–2025. These are:

- A proposal to delay improvements to Te Kao's water supply;
- Delay drought-resilience work for their water supply at Opononi-Ōmāpere; and
- Restore funding for community groups.

The consultation document also highlights a number of minor changes, which are:

- Reinvesting surplus funds in roads
- Dealing with dust on metal roads
- Regional approach to LiDAR survey
- Safer drinking water for Omanaia
- Paihia Wastewater Plant upgrade
- Move sewer at Ōpua to stable ground
- Fix sewage pumps at Ngāwhā
- Hundertwasser Centre planned
- · Delayed start to sports hub development
- Community infrastructure planning for Mangonui.

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Staff analysis has identified activities that relate either to a previous submission made by council to the FNDC'S Long Term Plan, or have been flagged as a change that should be submitted on. A summary of the recommended submission points is provided below:

Water supply

It is proposed that Te Kao's water supply project be delayed by a year to allow time to work with the community to find an affordable solution. It is recommended that council support this proposal (option 1) over option 2 (improve water supply without a subsidy), or option 3 (leave the matter with the private supplier).

It is proposed that the Opononi-Ōmāpere water supply project be deferred by a year to allow time to drill test bores and work with the community to find an affordable solution. It is recommended that council support this proposal (option 1) over option 2 (cancel the project), and option 3 (vary the consent).

<u>Transport</u>

NZTA has recently signalled that they will redesignate some roads within the Whangārei and Far North District as state highways, as part of an 'inland freight route'. FNDC has proposed that any resulting savings be reinvested in other roading projects. It is recommended that council support this.

Due to an NZTA subsidy being declined, FNDC has reduced budget for dealing with unsealed roads, and is proposing to trial a new polymer technology that is expected to reduce dust. It is recommended that council support this.

LiDAR survey

FNDC is proposing to contribute \$180,000 to the LiDAR survey of Northland. It is recommended that council support this.

Wastewater

It is recommended that council support the proposal to:

- Build a new sewer at Ōpua, outside the landslide zone.
- Install a sewage pump between Ngāwhā and the rest of the Kaikohe sewerage network, to allow pumps to work under a greater range of pressures.

Both the Paihia and Kaitāia wastewater treatment projects are proposed to be delayed by one year (from that proposed in the LTP). While council staff understand the reasons for these delays, the delay in the upgrade in the Paihia wastewater treatment plant is yet another slip in timing for this plant to be upgraded, while the delay in the upgrade of the Kaitāia sewerage system is disappointing. Council may wish to highlight its concern at the delays in these projects.

In addition to those topics that are proposed to be changed as part of FNDC's Annual Plan, there are some additional topics that it is proposed council should submit on.

Northland Inc.

Northland Inc. supports businesses and assists economic development across the region and supports all councils through various economic related initiatives such as the implementation of the TTNEAP, leadership of the Broadband/Digital Leadership Group, etc. As such, all Northland councils should be encouraged to provide appropriate levels of financial support to Northland Inc.

Mid North bus trial

The Regional Land Transport Plan outlined plans for a Mid North bus trial, which is currently in the consultation phase and is due for operation in the 2016/17 year. It is recommended that council request that, if it has not already done so, FNDC consider funding for infrastructure associated with this trial, such as bus stop signage.

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ISSUE: Investment and Growth Reserve: Feasibility Assessment and Business Case Development – Cape Brett Walkway

ID: A832861

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Darryl Jones, Economist

Date: 12 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations		þ	Decision
Purpose:	Infrastructure	Public service		Regulatory function
	Legislative function	Annual\Long Term Plan		Other
Significance Policy:	Triggered	b Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek council's approval to provide \$15,000 from the Investment and Growth Reserve (IGR) to Northland Inc. to fund the development of a business case for the Cape Brett Walkway project (**Attachment 1**). The total cost of developing the business case is estimated to be \$45,000, with the outstanding balance of \$30,000 being sought from other funding partners. Council has provided an annual funding allocation of \$200,000 for feasibility assessment and business case development. For the 2015/16 financial year, three allocations totalling \$105,000 have been made. It is recommended that council approve this distribution.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are in accordance with the IGR criteria, the Long Term Plan 2015–2025, and council's decision making process as prescribed in the Local Government Act 2002. This matter has been assessed according to the council's Significance Policy and deemed to be of low significance.

Recommendations:

- 1. That the report 'Investment and Growth Reserve: Feasibility Assessment and Business Case Development Cape Brett Walkway' by Darryl Jones, Economist, and dated 12 April 2016, be received.
- 2. That council agrees to provide \$15,000 from the Investment and Growth Reserve to support the development of a business case for the Cape Brett Walkway project outlined in **Attachment 1**.

Report:

- At the Audit and Risk Committee meeting of 18 February 2014, council established a separate annual funding category of \$200,000 to support Northland Inc. carry out feasibility assessment and business case development.
- Council has to date allocated three feasibility assessments and business case developments for the 2015/16 financial year totalling \$105,000: \$25,000 for further development of the Orchard Collaborative Workspace Concept; \$50,000 to carry out a pre-feasibility analysis of an integrated sawmill and mechanical pulp mill at Ngāwhā; and \$30,000 to develop a business case for the Regional Economic Vitality Extension Initiative (REVEI).
- Officers have reviewed the assessment proposal contained in Attachment 1 and concur that it does relate to feasibility analysis or business case development and therefore is eligible for this funding category.
- The funding will be used to develop a business case for the Cape Brett Walkway. The total cost for the business case is estimated to be \$45,000. Only \$15,000 is being requested as this represents the remaining amount available for allocation based on Northland Inc. board approved projects (note that not all these have come before council for approval yet). Northland Inc. will look to obtaining the outstanding balance from other agencies such as Te Puni Kokori.
- The Cape Brett Walkway project has links with the Twin Coast Tourism Discovery Revitalisation project currently being undertaken by Northland Inc. with funding from the IGR. It also provides an opportunity to partner with a Māori organisation (Te Rawhiti 3B2 Trust) on economic development.
- Representatives from Northland Inc. will be in attendance to answer any questions on this item.

ITEM: 7.10 Attachment 1

NorthlandInc

Growing Northland's Economy Kia tupu ai te ōhanga o Te Tai Tokerau

Cape Brett Walkway

Subject:	Feasibility and Business Case funding application
Report by:	Vaughan Cooper, GM Investment and Infrastructure
Dated:	March, 2016
Commercial in Confidence:	No

Background to Project:

What is the overall Project:

The funding application is to develop a business case for the assets of the Rawhiti 3B2 Ahu Whenua Trust (3B2). The project will investigate the potential around guided walks to Cape Brett and the necessary infrastructure to develop and support such an activity. The project is an initiative by 3B2 to develop local employment options for their people consistent with their traditional values and future obligations to beneficiaries.

Where is it:

Eastern Bay of Islands peninsular to Cape Brett.

When will it begin (and end):

The project is intended to be conducted as soon as possible.

Who are the parties involved (background, experience):

The Trustees of 3B2 acting on behalf of the beneficiaries of the trust, being affiliated to Ngati kuta me Patu Jeha.

What is the potential total investment into the project and potential I&GR investment: (if possible include central government and or private sector contributions)

3B2 are seeking a partnership approach for funding the project. Total project costs are estimated at \$45,000. There is a maximum of \$15,000 remaining within the feasibility and business case funding and therefore initial approaches have been made to other funding partners such as TPK who may be interested in supporting the project on a third/third/third basis.

What are the projects outcomes and how are they consistent with the Investment & Growth Reserve criteria? (High Level (Infometrics), GDP, Jobs, Household Income)

The objectives of 3B2 are:

- 1. To investigate the potential use, and develop the trust land to deliver the best advantage to the beneficial owners
- 2. To ensure the retention of the land for the present beneficial owners and their successors
- 3. To make provision for the special needs of the owners as a family group or groups
- 4. To represent the beneficial owners on all matters relating to the land and to the use and enjoyment of facilities associated herewith

The project further meets the criteria by way of:

- a) Being located in Northland
- b) Promoting viable, long term economic development
- c) Consistent with social, environmental and cultural well-being
- d) On-going creation of new jobs
- e) Product development as part of regional Twin Coast Discovery Revitalisation

Feasibility and Business Case Application:

What part is the feasibility and or business case funding application for:

The application seeks to secure support to fund the development of a business case for assets under the care of the Trustees of 3B2. The business case is to consider:

- 1. Opportunities to develop the tourism potential on and around 3B2, which may include but not be limited to:
 - a. Eco Tourism
 - b. Adventure Tourism
 - c. Cultural Tourism
- 2. Other opportunities that could arise from the development of tourism activities, which may include but not be limited to:
 - a. Accommodation
 - b. Food and beverage
 - c. Merchandising
 - d. Service support industry
 - e. Infrastructure development
- 3. How the Cape Brett Walk would or should fit into regional tourism opportunities
- 4. A macro-economic view considering the Bay of Islands, Northland, Auckland and NZ
- 5. Identification and suitability of potential partners / stakeholders and how they might fit in, and be engaged with. The initiative will involve careful consideration around local stakeholder groups given the nature of the environment in the area
- 6. Analysis of potential markets and the value of those markets, including demographics and how products could be developed to meet market demands.

Estimate of project costs and timeframes:

The indicated budget is \$45,000 excluding GST.

Admin

What is the current available allocation of feasibility and business case funding?

This would be the eighth funding application within the 2015/16 financial year that the Northland Inc board has considered.

Projects funded, and approved by NRC are

- Further work on 'The Orchard', budgeted at \$25,000
- Ngawha Forestry Pre-Feasibility study, budgeted at \$50,000
- REVEI budgeted at \$30,000.

Projects approved by the board but not yet presented to NRC are

- Whaingaroa Tourism \$20,000
- Te Nota Honey \$20,000
- Hundertwasser Kawakawa \$20,000
- Waipoua Forest Tourism Strategy \$20,000.

Therefore the potential funding available is \$15,000.

Recommendation:

Recommend that \$15,000 for feasibility and business case funding be approved for the Cape Brett Walkway Business Case from the Investment and Growth Reserve.

ITEM: 7.11 Page 1 of 2

ISSUE: Investment and Growth Reserve: Feasibility Assessment and Business Case Development – Kawakawa Hundertwasser

ID: A823196

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Darryl Jones, Economist

Date: 12 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations		Information	þ	Decision
Purpose:			Public service		Regulatory function
	Legislative function	þ	Annual\Long Term Plan		Other
Significance Policy:	Triggered	þ	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek council's approval to provide \$20,000 from the Investment and Growth Reserve (IGR) to Northland Inc. to fund the development of a business case for the Kawakawa Hundertwasser project (**Attachment 1**). Council has provided an annual funding allocation of \$200,000 for feasibility assessment and business case development. For the 2015/16 financial year, three allocations totalling \$105,000 have been made. It is recommended that council approve this distribution.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are in accordance with the IGR criteria, the Long Term Plan 2015–2025, and council's decision making process as prescribed in the Local Government Act 2002. This matter has been assessed according to the council's Significance Policy and deemed to be of low significance.

Recommendations:

- That the report 'Investment and Growth Reserve: Feasibility and Business Case Assessment – Kawakawa Hundertwasser' by Darryl Jones, Economist, and dated 12 April 2016, be received.
- 2. That council agrees to provide \$20,000 from the Investment and Growth Reserve to develop a business case for the Kawakawa Hundertwasser project outlined in **Attachment 1**.

Report:

- At the Audit and Risk Committee meeting of 18 February 2014, council established a separate annual funding category of \$200,000 to support Northland Inc. carry out feasibility assessment and business case development.
- Council has to date allocated three feasibility assessments and business case developments for the 2015/16 financial year totalling \$105,000: \$25,000 for further development of the Orchard Collaborative Workspace Concept; \$50,000 to carry out a pre-feasibility analysis of an integrated sawmill and mechanical pulp mill at Ngāwhā; and \$30,000 for the Regional Economic Vitality Extension Initiative (REVEI).
- Officers have reviewed the assessment proposal contained in Attachment 1 and concur that it does relate to feasibility analysis or business case development and therefore is eligible for this funding category.
- The funding will be used to develop a business case for the Kawakawa Hundertwasser project. The scope of the project has progressed during 2015 from a visitor centre within the Kawakawa Hundertwasser Park to a larger facility incorporating a café, FNDC's Kawakawa based service centre and library, the demolition of the building currently locating these FNDC services, and the creation of a public space/town square in its place.
- The business case will be integral to Northland Inc. assessing the viability of the project for Impact Investment funding. Council requested Northland Inc. to carry out this assessment as part of its decision on 15 July 2014 to commit 'in principle' up to \$500,000 to the Kawakawa Hundertwasser project.
- The development of a business case will also assist applications to central government for the remaining funding that will be necessary for the project.
- The revised project requires a greater involvement of FNDC, including a commitment to relocate its facilities in Kawakawa. As part of its 2016/17 annual plan development, FNDC council has made a commitment to becoming an anchor tenant in the new Hundertwasser building and providing funding if it goes ahead. The following text is taken from the supporting documentation to the draft FNDC Annual Plan.
 - "There are a number of assumptions that have been made in the FNHL business case. Supposing these can be met, including securing external funding, Council has decided that it would relocate its service centre and library into the new building.
 - Council also makes a capital contribution of \$206,000 to fund the land needed for the rear carpark (\$158,000), which it committed to in previous years, and a refurbishment of the toilets. There will be a small increased rental cost (\$10,000) which will be passed on to the ratepayer (an increase of cents not dollars).
 - Council will use its money it has already budgeted to renew the current building interior to fit out the building space it occupies in the new building, and will continue to advocate for external funding to make up the shortfall which as we go to consultation is \$256,000."
- The appointment of a contractor to carry out the business case development will be selected through a closed tender process.
- Representatives from Northland Inc. will be in attendance to answer any questions on this item.

NorthlandInc

Growing Northland's Economy Kia tupu ai te ōhanga o Te Tai Tokerau

9.0 Investment

9.2 Kawakawa Hundertwasser

Subject:	Feasibility and Business Case funding application
Report by:	Vaughan Cooper, GM Investment and Infrastructure
Dated:	February, 2016
Commercial in Confidence:	No

Background to Project:

What is the overall Project:

Friedensreich Hundertwasser's death in February 2000, brought a group of passionate citizens together, to form eventually the Kawakawa Hundertwasser Park Charitable Trust. Its aim is to preserve and safeguard the memories and legacy of Hundertwasser's New Zealand heritage, in particular his prominence in the Kawakawa history. It is the aim of the Trust to design and build a visitor centre within the Hundertwasser Park.

Initially, the project was led by the Trust and Northland Inc provided assistance by way of staff resource. During the course of this it became apparent that it was necessary to involve Far North Holdings and incorporate further buildings to provide main street frontage.

The building needs to be highly visible and accessible. This can be achieved by purchasing the building that adjoins the toilet block, currently occupied by the FNDC library and the post office.

- Demolish this and create a Hundertwasser town square or "focal" point for Kawakawa
- The original Hundertwasser building to be extended but maintain the integrity and ethos of the original proposal.
- Within the new design incorporate the FNDC activities; library, i-site, and FNHL would secure a café operator.
- This now creates the multiple uses needed to "trade of each other" to ensure long term viability, creates a building which has community value which is as important, if not more important, than building something for tourism and economic outcomes.

- The community have a town square with park and library, with workspaces and café.
- This generates foot traffic in its own right, so would help support the museum and art space the trust would lease at a peppercorn rental. No business case needed from HCPT and no risk to ratepayers for subsidy going forward as the building is owned by FNHL with commercial tenants occupying most of the space.

The building lacks any presence or "high st" frontage. It sits isolated behind the existing retail units and from the viewpoint of FNHL it would not sustain a café operator, or those uses proposed by the Trust, in such a scenario and there would be a high risk the building occupants would not last long term. The business case needs to identify the economic benefit that the will derive to local businesses as it makes Kawakawa a day stop (rather than a photograph stop) with the; Hundertwasser toilets, square, visitor centre and park, vintage railway and cycleway.

More importantly it provides a "heart" for the community with town square, library, park all together and creates a mix of areas local people can meet and enjoy. This social and community benefit is another significant upside, should it proceed.

Where is it:

Kawakawa

When will it begin (and end):

The project will take approximately 8 weeks to complete and is proposed to be initiated by a closed tender process.

Who are the parties involved (background, experience):

Far North Holdings

What is the potential total investment into the project and potential I&GR investment: (if possible include central government and or private sector contributions)

The total build cost is currently estimated at approximately \$1M and the investment in the project from the Investment and Growth Reserve is currently ear marked at \$500,000. FNDC is anticipated to provide \$250,000 and the remaining funding is proposed to be sought from central government.

What are the projects outcomes and how are they consistent with the Investment & Growth Reserve crteria? (High Level (Infometrics), GDP, Jobs, Household Income)

The objectives of the Trust for the facility are:

- Information and exhibition area (as a consequence of the popularity of the Hundertwasser toilets). It will host the constantly expanding Kawakawa Hundertwasser collection, currently exhibited at the museum.
- Indoor / outdoor Café for approximately 60 customers

- Open area Marae Atea. It is located in front of the exhibition building/between the entrance and the cafe and is designed to be used for cultural performances, art, music and other learning activities.
- Studio will serve as a lecture and education facility and to host artists 'in residence' on invitation of the Trust.
- Landscaped setting reflecting Hundertwasser's philosophies and love of nature.

The actual project outcomes are to be confirmed through the preparation of the business case.

Feasibility and Business Case Application:

What part is the feasibility and or business case funding application for:

The Northland Regional Council has previously considered a funding request relating to the Kawakawa Hundertwasser Park development proposal and requested that Northland Inc undertake a detailed assessment as to whether the proposal is suitable for funding through the Impact Investment Fund – up to a maximum of \$500,000.

Initially, the project was led by the Trust and Northland Inc provided assistance by way of staff resource. During the course of this it became apparent that it was necessary to involve Far North Holdings and incorporate further buildings to provide main street frontage.

Far North Holdings has noted the following pre-requisites:

- FNHL securing the building that adjoins the existing toilets, which will open up the rear site thereby creating the necessary visibility and presence the building needs, at an acceptable value.
- FNDC confirm the resolution to fund the acquisition of land needed for the rear car and coach park and the formation of this.
- FNDC agreeing to take a lease of space for the library and i-site within the new building. (and identify funding for the fit-out of the library)
- FNDC revoke the local purpose reserve car parking status on that portion of land upon which the building is situated to allow FNHL to secure the development funding against.

Far North Holdings has prepared a basic commercial assessment of the opportunity but this is not sufficient to satisfy the Investment & Growth Reserve funding process. A consultant is required to complete a business case.

Estimate of project costs and timeframes:

Total cost of the project is estimated at \$20,000 (+GST).

Admin

What is the current available allocation of feasibility and business case funding?

This would be the fourth funding application within the 2015/16 financial year. The first three projects funded, and approved by NRC are further work on 'The Orchard', budgeted at \$25,000, the Ngawha Forestry Pre-Feasibility study, budgeted at \$50,000 and REVEI budgeted at \$30,000. Therefore the potential funding available is \$95,000.

Recommendation:

Recommend that \$20,000 for feasibility and business case funding be approved for the Kawakawa Hundertwasser Business Plan from the Investment and Growth Reserve.

ITEM: 7.12 Page 1 of 2

ISSUE: Northland Inc. Limited: Draft Statement of Intent 2016–19

ID: A833184

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Darryl Jones, Economist

Date: 12 April 2016

Report Type:		Normal operations		Information	þ	Decision
Burnoso		Infrastructure		Public service		Regulatory function
Purpose:	þ	Legislative function		Annual\Long Term Plan		Other
Significance:		Triggered	þ	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to enable council to receive Northland Inc. Limited's Draft Statement of Intent (SOI) 2016–19. It recommends that the Draft SOI be received and that council delegates responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with the council Chairman and Deputy Chairman, to provide feedback to Northland Inc. on its Draft SOI.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

Schedule 8(2) of the Local Government Act requires the board of a council controlled organisation to deliver to its shareholders a draft statement of intent on or before 1 March each year.

A statement of intent is the mechanism by which shareholders can influence the direction of the organisation and provide a basis for the accountability of the directors to their shareholders for the performance of the organisation. The potential loss of control of a council controlled organisation is deemed a significant matter; hence the content of a statement of intent must be a careful consideration of council. Provided this is the case, the matter does not trigger council's significance policy.

Recommendations:

- 1. That the report 'Northland Inc. Limited: Draft Statement of Intent 2016–19' by Darryl Jones, Economist, and dated 12 April 2016, be received.
- That the 'Northland Inc. Limited Draft Statement of Intent 2016–19' (Attachment One) be received.
- 3. That the Chief Executive Officer, in consultation with council Chairman and Deputy Chairman, be delegated authority to provide feedback to Northland Inc. Limited on its Draft SOI 2016–19.

Report:

.

Northland Inc. Limited has submitted to council their draft SOI for the three-year period 2016–19 (**Attachment 1**). This was received within the time requirement set out in Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 2002), i.e. before 1 March 2016. A review of the document confirms it includes the necessary statutory components as per Schedule 8(9)(1) of the LGA 2002.

The main changes proposed in the draft SOI in comparison to the current SOI are:

- The inclusion in section 3 of 19 high level Regional Outcomes that are lifted from a variety of sources: the Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan (TTNEAP), indicators historically used by council to track economic development progress, and those set by Northland Inc.
- A different list of objectives (section 4) for the organisation: half are the same; half are new.
- The addition of a new work stream (section 6) supporting the implementation of the TTNEAP, and new work activities under the Business Growth and Innovation and Supporting Māori Economic Development.
- A modified and expanded list of key performance targets (section 7).

According to Schedule 8, council has until the end of April to provide comment back to Northland Inc. on the draft SOI. Council had an opportunity to discuss the draft SOI at a workshop on 5 April 2016. Based on the discussion at the workshop, and review by officers, the response to Northland Inc. will include, among other things, the following points:

- The Regional Outcomes listed in the SOI should only include those that relate to the work activity areas of Northland Inc., e.g. the three outcomes relating to qualifications and training should be removed.
- Support for the additional work stream to support the implementation of the TTNEAP and the two new work activities. At the workshop on 5 April, Northland Inc. clarified that the new work stream and additional work activities will not require additional funding from council. They will be funded from within Northland Inc.'s current operating budget and from third party funding sources.

However, should third party funding not be forthcoming, NRC seeks that Northland Inc. facilitation and implementation of the TTNEAP (where appropriate) remain a priority and that Northland Inc. reprioritises its other workstreams to ensure this occurs.

Some of the performance targets need to be more clearly described, e.g. what is innovation intensity; while others need to be set at a higher level, e.g. a 2% increase in turnover is not much more than inflation.

Additional specific feedback will seek to clarify any matters that remain unclear, ensure consistency with council's LTP and councillors' wider discussion to date.

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ITEM: 7.12 Attachment One

NorthlandInc

Growing Northland's Economy Kia tupu ai te ōhanga o Te Tai Tokerau

Statement of Intent

2016/19

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1 Message from the Board

This Statement of Intent lays out how Northland Inc Limited (Northland Inc) will support the Northland Regional Council (NRC) with its economic development objectives for Northland. Northland Inc is tasked to implement economic development activities and support investment in the Northland economy. It does these things to improve the prosperity and well-being of Northlanders.

2 Introduction

This Statement of Intent is a public declaration of the activities and intentions of Northland Inc; it has been prepared in accordance with Clause 9 of Schedule 8 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Northland Inc is a Company registered under the Companies Act 1993 and is a reporting entity for the purposes of the Financial Reporting Act 1993 and is also a subsidiary of the NRC. Northland Inc is a council-controlled organisation as defined under Section 6 of the Local Government Act 2002, by virtue of the NRC's right to appoint the Directors. The financial statements of Northland Inc have been prepared in accordance with the Financial Reporting Act 1993 as required by the Local Government Act 2002.

The primary objective of Northland Inc is to provide services for the community or social benefit rather than making a financial return. Accordingly, Northland Inc has designated itself as a public benefit entity (PBE) for the purposes of New Zealand equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (NZ IFRS).

Northland Inc is funded by an operational contribution from the NRC and is project funded through public and private agencies, with central government being the next largest contributor. The organisation has a governance board of five Directors appointed for three years or as otherwise specified from time to time by the NRC. A Chair is chosen by the Directors. Operational activity is led by the Chief Executive Officer. Northland Inc has no subsidiaries or joint ventures.

The Statement of Intent is the guiding governance tool and terms of reference of Northland Inc and defines the key performance indicators as agreed by the owner/shareholder (NRC). The statement outlines the Directors' accountabilities to the shareholders for corporate performance.

3 Context

Northland Inc is the Regional Economic Development Agency encompassing the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO).

Northland Inc works with a number of strategically important institutions in Northland across public and private sectors with a common agenda to strengthen, grow and diversify Northland's economy. A set of regional outcomes have been developed through the Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan process that provide context for Northland Inc's work. These are:

Regional Outcomes (10 year horizon to 2025)

- An equitable, minimum standard of digital coverage is achieved across the region with uptake equal to or better than the NZ average (Action Plan)
- Northland's rate of Maori unemployment declines to 10% (Action Plan)
- Maori land holdings are as profitable and productive as other equivalent land holdings (Action Plan)
- Northland Farms are performing at a level equal to or better than national averages (Action Plan)
- Two thirds of Northland forestry production is processed in Northland (Action Plan)
- Sustained growth in GDP per annum from specialised manufacturing (Action Plan)
- Employment in specialised manufacturing and services increases year on year (Action Plan)
- Guest nights rise from 1.75m to 2.0m (Action Plan).
- Visitor spend rises from \$661m/annum to \$720m (Action Plan).
- Visitor seasonality shifts with an increase of 30% in guest nights from May-September inclusive (Action Plan).
- Economic growth measured through the real GDP per usual resident population is equal to NZ average (NRC)
- Business growth measured by the ratio of business start-ups to business closures is consistently higher than 1 (a ratio below 1 means there were fewer businesses in operation than previously) (NRC)
- SME businesses are as profitable as the NZ average (NInc)
- Employment rate measured by the proportion of the labour force that is in paid employment is equal to NZ average (NRC)
- Incomes measured through average earnings from wages and salaries is equal to the NZ average (NRC)
- At least 20% of Northland's population have higher qualifications (currently 12.4% compared to the National average of 20%) (Action Plan)
- At least 85% of Northland's 18 year olds will hold an NCEA level 2 qualification or equivalent by 2017 (Action Plan)
- Northlands rate of youth not in employment, education or training will have declined from 20.3% to 12% (national rate is 11.4%) (Action Plan).
- Northland's Export value grows by 20% (NInc)

NRC Long Term Plan

The Northland Regional Council's 2015 Long term Plan (LTP) sets out the NRC's objectives, community outcomes, values and areas of focus. Collectively this provides a statement about the direction the NRC wishes to take in making a meaningful contribution to the region. A number of these are relevant to guiding the setting of Northland Inc's objectives, approach and activities.

Community outcomes means the outcomes that the council aims to achieve in meeting the current and future needs of communities for good quality local infrastructure, local public services and performance of regulatory services.

4 Northland Inc Vision, Mission and Objectives

(Sec 9 (1) (a))

Northland Inc is the Regional Economic Development Agency for Northland encompassing the roles and functions of the Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO). Northland Inc supports the Council and Government by undertaking activities that support their economic objectives.

Vision

Northland is one of the most prosperous regions in New Zealand delivering employment and business opportunities for locals in a fair and equitable society and a healthy and productive environment.

Mission

To strengthen, diversify and grow the Northland economy.

Objectives (2-3 yrs)

- Successfully promote Northland as a place to live, work, invest and visit (Implements NRC LTP Objective 10)
- Communicate Northland's economic development successes to internal and external stakeholders to build confidence in the Northland economy (NRC LTP Objective 7)
- Promote economic development opportunities which lift local economies, provide employment and increase incomes (Implements NRC LTP Objective 9)
- Provide sound advice to the NRC, Territorial Authorities and Government on strategy, economic trends and economic development opportunities in Northland
- Provide sound advice to the NRC in regard to investment opportunities for Northland that provide a return for council funds and protect shareholder interests (Implements NRC LTP Objective 1 and 2)
- Leverage NRC's Investment and Growth Reserve to attract investment into Northland (Implements NRC LTP Objective 3)
- Facilitate Iwi, Hapu, Whanau, Ahu Whenua Trusts or other Maori organisations to create employment opportunities for Northland (Implements NRC LTP Objective 4)
- Facilitate business support for Northland firms to build business capability and capacity and promote capital investment, research and development (NRC LTP Objective 6)
- Establish a suite of capital assistance and business investment partners for Northland entrepreneurs and firms (Implements NRC LTP Objective 5)
- Establish a high performing innovation ecosystem to support innovation and create new businesses (Implements NRC LTP Objective 5 and 6)
- Promote the establishment and development of infrastructure that underpins economic growth
- Leverage Northland's proximity to Auckland (Implements NRC LTP Objective 8).

5 Governance Approach

(Sec 9 (1) (b))

(i) The Board will effectively represent and promote the interests of the shareholder by seeking to fulfil its mandate as described above.

- (ii) The Board will discharge their duties in accordance with the Board Charter
- (iii) The Board will promote the development of the management structure through delegation of responsibilities and authority to Northland Inc's management team.
- (iv) The Board will direct and monitor management performance through:
 - the establishment of clear strategic objectives and plans
 - regular meetings to review performance and progress towards set objectives
 - the approval of detailed operating and capital budgets
 - regular meetings to review actual performance against budget;
- (v) The Board will familiarise itself with the issues of concern to the shareholder through regular interaction with the shareholder
- (vi) The Board will employ "best practice" in exercising its fiduciary management responsibilities.

6 Nature and scope of activities to be undertaken

(Sec 9 (1) (c)):

The nature and scope of activities of Northland Inc are to deliver on the vision, mission and objectives of the organisation through focusing on the following areas:

- 1. Supporting Business Growth and Innovation by
 - Working with and supporting businesses that want to grow
 - Facilitating increased productivity in primary industries
 - Facilitating the development of increased processing, manufacturing and service industries that leverage Northlands key sectors and comparative advantages
 - Developing clusters, business networks or associations to take advantage of market development opportunities
 - Facilitating the transfer of specialist knowledge through events to improve intellectual property opportunities in Northland
 - Developing a range of capital support mechanisms for Northland firms
 - Delivering business advice to support innovation, capacity and capability development through the Regional Business Partnership
 - Supporting the Landing Pad Programme to develop investor and investee opportunities
 - Facilitating support for entrepreneurs through the establishment of The Orchard collaborative business hub
 - Developing clusters, business networks or associations to take advantage of market development opportunities through the Coalitions programme.

Additional Work:

Supporting and encouraging innovation in Northland firms through the establishment of a Regional Research Office.

- 2. Supporting Investment and Infrastructure by
 - Actively supporting and facilitating investment in strategic sectors in the Northland economy
 - Acting as a clearing house for inward investment into Northland by preparing and conducting robust feasibility, due diligence, business case and risk assessments in support of investment proposals
 - Providing a continual deal flow of investment ready proposals for the NRC's Investment and Growth Reserve
 - Leveraging NRC investments to increase investment into the Northland economy
 - Supporting and facilitating the development of new and enabling infrastructure such as UFB, roads, rail and water
 - Managing projects on behalf of NRC at their request.
- 3. Supporting Maori Economic Development by
 - Engaging with Maori to advance iwi, hapu and whanau aspirations for economic development
 - Supporting the implementation of He Tangata, He Whenua, He Oranga
 - Partnering with Maori in investment, business and economic development projects.

Additional work:

- Working with and supporting Maori businesses that want to grow.
- 4. Promoting the region by
 - Assisting the development of infrastructure, products, services and sub-regional destinations which grows the value derived from visitors through increasing: regional spread, length of stay, expenditure and off-season travel.
 - Delivering a promotional programme to encourage investment and market development of Northland's strategic growth sectors
 - Delivery of an Annual Tactical Marketing Plan for destination marketing, in conjunction with the national tourism organisations and the Northland tourism sector

• Implementing the Twin Coast Discovery Revitalisation Project

Additional work stream

- Supporting the implementation of the Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan (TTNEAP) by
 - Facilitating and administering the Advisory Group
 - Leading a region wide implementation group
 - Providing Portfolio and Project Management
 - Implementing projects led by Northland Inc

In undertaking these activities Northland Inc will seek to:

- achieve the objectives of its Shareholders, both commercial and non-commercial as specified in this Statement of Intent;
- be a good employer;
- exhibit social and environmental responsibility

Further detail on how Northland Inc intends to deliver these activities is developed within Northland Inc's annual Business Plan. The Business Plan is prepared using an Intervention Logic assessment process. The Business Plan will be presented to the NRC as a supporting document to this Statement of Intent.

7 Shareholders' funds

(Sec 9 (1) (d))

The Equity Ratio shall be 100% unless specifically authorised by the shareholder.

8 Accounting policies

(Sec 9 (1) (e))

The accounting policies that have been adopted are detailed in the company's 2013/14 Annual Report. A copy is included as **Appendix A**.

The Company is classified as a Public Benefit Entity (PBE).

9 Performance targets

(Sec 9 [1] [f])

Key Performance indicators are:

- Growth in Northland businesses engaged with Northland Inc¹ measured through an increase in:
 - o turnover by 2% per annum
 - o exports as a percentage of sales by 2% per annum
 - o innovation intensity by 2% in three years
- Northland Inc Board recommendations made to the NRC Investment and Growth Reserve:
 - o 1 project for debt or equity funding per annum; and
 - o 1 project for impact investment funding per annum; and
 - 1 project partnering with Iwi, hapu and/or Maori collective organisations on economic development
- Promotion of the region measured by
 - o 10% annual increase in (Google Analytics) sessions on www.northlandnz.com per annum
 - o Industry investment of \$300K per annum in regional promotion activity
 - An Equivalent Advertising Value of \$15m per annum achieved from destination media coverage

Additional Work KPI:

- Implementation of the TTNEAP measured by
 - o Value of confirmed investment from outside the region into Northland projects
 - Projects / actions successfully completed
 - At least 5 new projects are added to the Action Plan per annum.

10 Distributions to shareholders

(Sec 9 [1] [g])

No distribution to the shareholder is required during the 2015/16 financial year.

11 Information to be provided to the Shareholders

(Sec 9 (1) (h))

Directors will formally report progress against the SOI to the NRC quarterly via a written report submitted within 6 weeks of the end of the 1st and 3rd quarters, and attendance at a Council meeting thereafter as per the NRC schedule dictates.

In compliance with Clause 66 of Part 5 the Directors will, within two months after the end of the first half of each financial year, deliver to the shareholder an unaudited half year report containing at least:

- a Statement of Performance, Position and Cash flow as at the half year balance date
- financial forecasts for the full year and comparison to approve budgets

¹ Measured by business engagement data captured in CRM

• commentary on progress to meeting performance targets and the expected year end position.

In accordance with Sec 2 of Schedule 8 the Directors will deliver a draft SOI to the shareholder by 1st March of each year for the subsequent three year period.

In accordance with Sec 3 of Schedule 8 the Directors will deliver a Board approved SOI to the shareholder on or before the 30th June of each year.

In compliance with Clause 67 of Part 5 the Directors will, within three months of the end of the financial year, deliver to the shareholder an audited Annual Report which meets the requirements of Sec 68 and Sec 69 of Part 5. In addition the Director's Report is to contain a declaration by the Board as to the compliance with the Act and specifically that the requirements of Schedule 8 have been met.

12 New entries, acquisitions and sales

(Sec 9 (1) (i))

Directors may not create any new legal entity, acquire shares or any equity interest in any existing legal entity or sell any interest held by Northland Inc without the specific approval of the NRC as the shareholder.

13 Activities for which local authority funding is sought

(Sec 9 (1) (j))

Northland Inc reserves the right to seek compensation from time to time for the necessity to provide any service required by the NRC where funding has not been previously agreed.

14 Estimate of the commercial value of the shareholders' investment

(Sec 9 (1) (k))

The Directors' forecasted estimate of the commercial value of the Shareholders' investment in Northland Inc at 30 June 2016 is \$10,000 and is equal to the Shareholders' equity in Northland Inc. Reassessment of the value of this shareholding shall be undertaken by 30 June each year.

The business should be viable (have a positive net worth) by the end of each financial year.

15 Any other matters

(Sec 9 (1) (l))

The NRC is required to hold a confidential Council meeting at Northland Inc's request to discuss any matter which is considered commercially sensitive. Northland Inc has the ability to submit formal reports into the confidential agenda of any such meeting.

16 Financial Information

(Sec 9 (3))

A prospective statement of financial performance is included as Appendix B.

Appendix A: Northland Inc Accounting Policies

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of Northland Inc have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002: Part 6, Sec 98 and Part 3 of Schedule 10, which includes the requirement to comply with generally accepted accounting practice in New Zealand (NZ GAAP).

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with NZ GAAP. They comply with NZ IFRS, and other applicable Financial Reporting Standards, as appropriate for public benefit entities.

The financial statements have been prepared on a historical cost basis.

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand dollars and all values are rounded to the nearest dollar. The functional currency of Northland Inc is New Zealand dollars.

Changes in Accounting Policies

The accounting policies set out below have been applied consistently to all periods presented in these financial statements.

There have been no changes in accounting policies during the financial year.

Early adopted amendments and revisions to standards

The following amendments and revision to standards have been early adopted:

Amendments to NZ IFRS 7 Financial Instruments: Disclosures - The amendment reduces the disclosure requirements relating to credit risk. Full disclosure has been included in these financial statements as per Note 21.

Standards and interpretations issued and not yet adopted

Standards, amendments and interpretations issued but not yet effective that has not been early adopted, and which are relevant to Northland Inc include:

NZ IFRS 9 Financial Instruments will eventually replace NZ IAS 39 Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement. NZ IAS 39 is being replaced through the following 3 main phases: Phase 1 Classification and Measurement, Phase 2 Impairment Methodology and Phase 3 Hedge Accounting. Phase 1 on the classification and measurement of financial assets has been completed and has been published in the new financial instrument standard NZ IFRS 9. NZ IFRS 9 uses a single approach to determine whether a financial asset is measured at amortised cost or fair value, replacing the many different rules in NZ IAS 39. The approach in NZ IFRS 9 is based on how an entity manages its financial instruments (its business model) and the contractual cash flow characteristics of the financial assets. The new standard also requires a single impairment method to be used, replacing the many different impairment methods in NZ IAS 39. The financial liability requirements are the same as those of NZ IAS 39, except for when an entity elects to designate a financial liability at fair value through the surplus/deficit. The new standard is required to be adopted for the year ended 30 June 2016. However, as a new Accounting Standards Framework will apply before this date, there is no certainty when an equivalent standard to NZ IFRS9 will be applied by public benefit entities.

The Minister of Commerce has approved a new Accounting Standards Framework (incorporating a new Tier Strategy) developed by the External Reporting Board (XRB). Under this Accounting Standards Framework, the Company is classified as a Tier 3 reporting entity and it will apply the PBE Simple Format Reporting Standard - Accrual (PSFR-A). The effective date for public sector PBEs to adopt the PBE Standards will be periods beginning on or after 1 July 2014. This means the Company expects to transition to the new standards in preparing its 30 June 2015 financial statements.

Due to the change in the Accounting Standards Framework for public benefit entities, it is expected that all new NZ IFRS and amendments to existing NZ IFRS will not be applicable to public benefit entities. Therefore, the XRB has effectively frozen the financial reporting requirements for public benefit entities up until the new Accounting Standard Framework is effective. Accordingly, no disclosure has been made about new or amended NZ IFRS that exclude public benefit entities from their scope.

Appendix B: Prospective Statement of Financial Performance

Statement of Financial Performan	ite						
Income	2016/17	Forecast	2017/18		2018/19	Foreca	st
NRC Opex		1,198,212		1,227,481		1	,258,977
NRC I & G		200,000		200,000			200,000
NRC Regional Promotions		410,500		410,500			-
Twin Coast Revitalisation		250,000		-			-
WDC		105,000		105,000			105,000
FNDC & KDC		65,000		65,000			65,000
NZTE & CI		339,531		339,531			339,531
Project Income		79,000		79,000			79,000
Total Income		2,647,243		2,426,512		2	,047,508
Less							
Programme Expenditure	1,071,665		812,928		406,423		
Salaries	1,116,958		1,146,560		1,169,491		
Overheads	448,620		457,024		461,594		
Total Expenditure	2,637,243		2,416,512		2,037,508		
Total Net Surplus		\$ 10,000		\$ 10,000		\$	10,000
Additional Work :							
Income							
Action Plan Implementation							
Research Office							
Maori Business Support							
Less		-		-			-
Expenses							
Action Plan Implementation	121,531		122,867		124,218		
Research Office	128,433		129,717		131,014		
Maori Business Support	100,000		101,100		102,111		
	349,964		353,684		357,343		
Sub total Net Surplus		349,964		353,684			357,343
Total Net Surplus/Deficit		-\$ 349,964		-\$ 353,684		-\$	357,343
Notes							
FNDC & KDC funding unconfirmed							
Additional Work Stream income unconfirmed							

ISSUE: Harvesting of the 1985 Mt Tiger Forestry Block

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Alicia Jurisich, Property Officer

Date: 11 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	þ	Decision
Burnoso	Infrastructure Public service	þ	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function	an 🗌	Other
Significance:	Triggered b Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to seek councillors' approval to harvest the 1985 forestry block at Mt Tiger and give the Chief Executive Officer authority to decide when harvesting will commence.

Ian Jenkins of Chandler Fraser Keating Limited will be present at the meeting to answer any questions councillors may have.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Plan which was adopted in compliance with the decision making requirements of sections 76 to 82 of the Local Government Act 2002. In accordance with section 76 of the Local Government Act, this matter is not considered to be significant.

Recommendations:

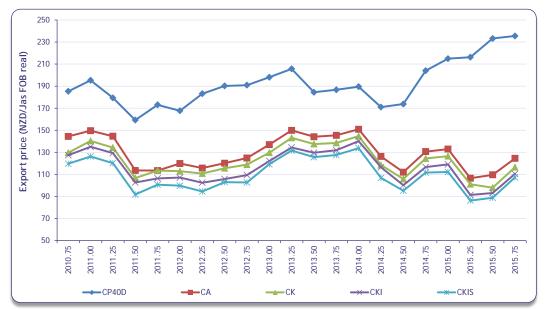
- 1. That the report 'Harvesting of the 1985 Mt Tiger Forestry Block' by Alicia Jurisich, Property Officer, and dated 11 April 2016, be received.
- 2. That councillors give approval to harvest the 1985 block.
- 3. That councillors give the Chief Executive Officer authority up until 31 August 2016 to make the final decision when to harvest.
- 4. That the harvest will be subject to market conditions, contractor availability, be undertaken in line with budget, and meet high Health, Safety and Employment and environmental standards.

Report:

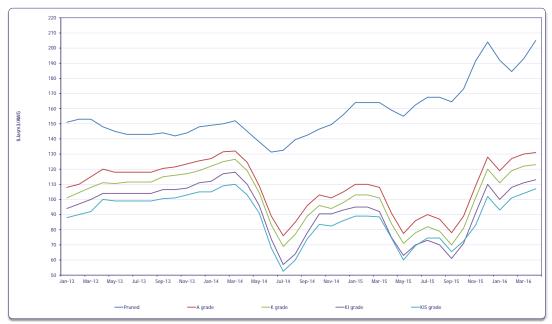
At the May 2015 Finance Committee Meeting, the Forest Management Plan 2015–2019 was adopted. A key point of the plan was that the 1985 block was scheduled for harvest over the 2015/16 summer, subject to market conditions and final approval by the Finance Committee.

The 1985 block consists of 16 hectares (8,000 tonne) of pruned radiata pine. Northland Forest Managers Limited (NFM) are presently contracted to provide harvesting and marketing services for the council's forest.

The timing of harvest had been delayed from 2014/15 due to contractor availability issues as well as uncertain market conditions, which did not improve to late 2015. Refer indicative export price graphs below.



Quarterly historic prices (NZ FOB) from the past five years (up to end 2015)



Monthly historic prices (MARSDEN AWG) from the past two years

At the time of writing this report, export log prices (NZD AWG) are at very good levels, particularly the price of pruned logs - which will comprise some 20% of the log output from the 1985 stand.

NRC has budgeted a net return of \$353K for this harvest. At current prices (April 2016) the net return is estimated around \$400K.

As outlined in previous forestry reports, as well as the harvest timing trying to optimise log prices, harvesting the 1985 area requires the contracting of cable hauler logging equipment. Given the 8,000 t harvest only represents some two months' work – sourcing a contractor has and is very difficult. We presently have this opportunity, but need to remain nimble to ensure we can grab the opportunity to get one into the forest as soon as possible.

Proposal

In August 2015 council's forestry consultant, Ian Jenkins of Chandler Fraser Keating Limited, gave NFM on behalf of council, instruction to provide a harvesting and roading proposal. After Ian Jenkins efforts, council eventually received NFM's harvesting and marketing proposal in January 2016, the main difficulty being in sourcing a cable hauler contractor. NFM proposed harvesting take place in July 2016 with preparation commencing as soon as possible. Part of the preparation was that a new skid and stub road be formed. This was completed in March while the weather was relatively dry.



New forest landing (April 2016)

The internal forest road to access the 1985 area (some 5 km) is in generally good condition. It has been agreed that extra aggregate should be laid on a 400m of road prior to it being used by logging trucks.

ITEM: 7.13

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Upon receipt of NFM's harvesting and marketing proposal in January 2016, council staff agreed that the final commitment to harvest would go to full council six weeks out from the proposed harvesting date. That way NRC would have a better idea on log prices and weather conditions. This information was given to the Economic Development Working Party in February 2016.

Decision to harvest

During the collation of this meeting's agenda, NFM advised Ian Jenkins that the cable hauler may become available sooner than expected – June 2016, and in any event it is likely the lead in time could be only several weeks.

If councillors are satisfied, council staff now seeks full council approval to proceed with harvesting. Further, council staff recommends that the Chief Executive Officer be given delegation to make the final decision when to harvest. It is desirable to have the internal authority to be flexible and accept the opportunity to harvest sooner if it arises.

ISSUE: Chairman's Report to Council

ID: A831224

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Bill Shepherd, Chairman

Date: 8 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	b Information	
Burnasa	Infrastructure	Public service	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function	Annual\Long Term Plan	D Other
Significance:	Triggered	b Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

This report is to receive information from the Chairman **(attached)** on strategic issues, meetings/events attended, and correspondence sent for the month of March 2016.

Legal compliance:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2015–2025 Long Term Plan and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76 to 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Recommendation:

That the Chairman's report dated 8 April 2016 be received.

Strategic issues:

The opening of the Hopua te Nihotetea detention dam, known colloquially as the Kotuku dam during its construction phase, on 9 April 2016 marks a significant milestone in the council's flood protection arsenal. At a final net cost of \$11,000,000 it is the largest flood protection engineering project undertaken by the Northland Regional Council. Whilst it is clearly a lot of capital, the average annual cost savings from flood damage in the Whangārei CBD is estimated at \$1.4 million per year. For an infrastructure project which will last at least 100 years, the project represents an amazingly good return on investment for the ratepayers in the targeted rate area. This detention dam adds to the successful Kaeo flood protection scheme completed a couple of years ago, the almost completed Whangatane Spillway in Kaitāia and the Kerikeri Spillway which is just in the very early stages of land procurement.

Another good news announcement for Northland is the announcement by Hawaiki Cable that the final funding partners for the new fast data internet cable connecting New Zealand with Australia and the United States have been obtained. The cable will come ashore somewhere in the southern part of Northland. Northland Inc. has been working closely with the promoters of the cable since the get go and have provided amazing assistance to the promoters. The level of assistance provided has been far in excess of that provided by any of the other landing places.

The reaching of agreement between Top Energy and the Parahirahi C1 Trust to a joint consent order to be filed with the Environment Court allowing the \$300,000,000 Ngāwhā geothermal extension to go ahead completes a trifecta of really good news for the Northland region.

As I write this report, work continues apace towards the creation of a Joint Roading Agency for Northland with partners the Kaipara District Council, the Whangarei District Council, the Far North District Council, the Northland Regional Council, and the New Zealand Transport Agency all working hard to make this 'shared services' initiative come to fruition. If we can reach agreement on the details for this agency it has the potential to be the most important step forward for roading in Northland in my lifetime.

Rail has been very much in the news in recent weeks with the mothballing of the railway line north of Kauri, and a large turnout for a public meeting in Whangārei organised by 'Grow Northland Rail.' Rail's role in the Northland freight scene does need to be kept in perspective however, with rail currently carrying less than 2% of Northland's export freight. So whilst the regional council does not build road or rail infrastructure, the council is taking a precautionary approach and has designated land for a corridor through to the port at Marsden Point should a rail link ever be built. The council has already purchased a small proportion of the land required.

The future of the region that we all love is looking particularly rosy going forward.

Meetings/events attended:

During the period I attended the following meetings/events/functions:

- Meetings attended with the council's CEO, Malcolm Nicolson:
 - Dr William Rolleston, President, and Graham Smith, CEO, Federated Farmers land and water issues.
 - Virginia McLaughlin, new Medical Officer of Health for Northland District Health Board introduction meeting.
 - Telephone conference with Leigh Auton update on progressing shared services in Northland.
 - Trustees of the Patuharakeke Te Iwi Trust Board along with Councillor Craig Brown and Abraham Witana, Kaiwhakahaere – Matauranga Māori – relationship building.
 - Sue Reed, Department of Conservation; Councillor Joe Carr; Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services; and Don Mckenzie, Biosecurity Manager – native forest possum control in Northland.
 - Snow Tane and Sonny Nesbit, Te Roroa; and Abraham Witana, Kaiwhakahaere – Matauranga Māori – relationship building governance meeting.
 - Briefing on Loop Road proposed roundabout with New Zealand Transport Agency representatives, Whangarei District Council representatives, and Councillor John Bain.
 - Audit New Zealand Karen MacKenzie, Audit Director, and Stephen Walker, Executive Director; along with Councillor David Sinclair, Independent Finance Committee member, Geoff Copstick (by phone); and Corporate Services Manager, Dave Tams – general audit issues.
- Attended Kaipara Moana Negotiations Working Party meeting in Orewa with Councillor Graeme Ramsey; Tony Phipps, Group Manager Customer Service/Community Resilience; and Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi – Matauranga Māori.
- Attended Northland Field Days in Dargaville.
- Sector workshop on Local Government Excellence Programme.
- Attending the turning of the first sod for Te Kakano at the Town Basin.
- Attended official opening of Te Mahi Hou at Refining New Zealand by Rt Hon. John Key.
- Attended Ballance Farm Environment Awards dinner along with Councillors Paul Dimery, Dover Samuels, Monty Knight, and Joe Carr, and our partners.
- Jeroen Jongejans marine reserve.
- Met with Dr Shane Reti, MP for Whangārei, along with Colin Dall, Group Manager Regulatory Services; and Justin Murfitt, Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager – marine reserve.
- Opening of new Hikurangi Fire Station.
- Attended the Tai Tokerau Advisory Group meeting.
- Mangere Catchment Group meeting.

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Attended the first meeting of the Te Oneroa-A-Tōhē Beach Board meeting along with Northland Regional Council representatives Councillors Dover Samuels and Monty Knight.

Correspondence:

During March 2016 I sent out the following correspondence:

Date	Addressed To	Subject
24.03.16	Sheryl Mai, Mayor, Whangarei District Council Dr Shane Reti	Invitation to attend official opening of Kotuku Dam
	MP for Northland Cr Craig Brown NRC Councillor	
	Rt Hon John Key Prime Minister	
	Hon Steven Joyce Minister for Economic Development	
	Hon Nathan Guy Minister for Primary Industries	
	Hon Nikki Kaye Minister of Civil Defence	
	Hon Te Uroroa Flavell Minister for Māori Development	
	Minister of Local Government Hon Peseta Sam Lotu-Iiga	
30.03.16	Craig and Suzanne Johnsen	Congratulatory emails to
	Dennis and Rachelle O'Callaghan	Ballance Farm Environment Awards prizewinners
	Dr Jason Smith	Awards prizewinners
	Heath and Eden Worsfold	
	John Craig, Anne Stewart, and Suzan Craig	
31.03.16	Jahnavi Shah – student	New Zealand's long fin eels

ISSUE: Chief Executive's Report to Council

ID: A828632

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Malcolm Nicolson, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 8 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	Þ	Information		Decision
Durnasa	Infrastructure		Public service		Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function		Annual\Long Term Plan	Þ	Other
Significance Policy:	Triggered	Not triggered			

Executive summary:

This report provides an overview of recent council organisation activity. It concludes with the recommendation that the report be received.

Compliance with decision making processes:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2015–2025 Long Term Plan, and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76 to 82 of the Local Government Act 2002. While some of the activities discussed in this report are significant, the nature of the report is simply to provide information and updates. It does not therefore trigger any elements of the council's significance policy.

Recommendation:

That the Chief Executive Officer's report dated 8 April 2016 be received.

8.2.1 CROSS DISCIPLINARY PROJECTS

Customer Feedback

The following feedback from a community group assisted by a staff member was recently received:

"...my committee has asked me to pass on an expression of our thanks for the sterling work done on our behalf of one of your staff... I am so please to note that the other applications sponsored by him met with success, a further tribute to his acumen."

Shared Services

Later this month all Chief Executives will be signing the relationship agreement with the Local Government Commission now that all Northland councils have given approval.

Chief Executives have given conditional approval to the business case for the Northland Roading Shared Services Business Unit, refer to item 10.7 of the agenda.

The study into 'Waters' infrastructure (supply, sewerage and the treatment and disposal of sewage, stormwater drainage, and flood protection and control works) has been awarded to SPN Assets Ltd and is underway.

Waiora Northland Water

Catchment	March topics	April topic	April/May topics	May meeting
Doubtless Bay Waitangi	Ecosystem health, water quantity, estuarine/coastal water quality.	n/a	Water quality, nutrients, sediment and erosion management, water allocation, ecosystem health	Confirm recommendations for draft catchment plan; Communicating the plan with communities of
Whāngārei	Ecosystem health, water quantity, estuarine/coastal water quality.	Water allocation	Water quality, nutrient management, sediment and erosion management, cultural/heritage sites	interest; Implementation plan (actions)
Mangere	Ecosystem health, water quantity	n/a	Water quality, nutrients, sediment and erosion management, water allocation, ecosystem health	
Poutō	Ecosystem health, water quantity	n/a	Water quality, nutrient management	
Ngunguru	Forestry fieldtrip	n/a	n/a	Catchment description; water quality challenges

The Waiora Northland Water update, agenda item for the 26 April 2016 Environmental Management Committee meeting provides more detail about the project.

Local Government Official Information (LGOIMA) Requests

During months March 2016	
Number of LGOIMA requests received	10
Number of LGOIMA requests completed ≤ 20 working days	12
Number of LGOIMA requests not completed ≤ 20 working days	1

 Detail on the request, REQ.579518, regarding council's decision to cancel a fee waiver agreement, which was not completed within 20 working days was included in the March council agenda.

8.2.2 RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

New Regional Plan

The Regional Policy Committee continues to progress the preparation of the draft new Regional Plan through a series of workshops – 18 of an estimated 21 workshops have been completed. The remaining workshops will focus on water quality management and Maori issues.

The draft new Regional Plan is scheduled to be released for public feedback on 8 August 2016.

For further information regarding the proposed Regional Policy Statement and Plan Change 4 (Aquaculture) refer to item 7.7 of this agenda.

Next Steps for Freshwater – Consultation Document

Refer to item in this agenda for further information regarding councils draft submission on the *Next Steps for Freshwater* public discussion document.

Council has also received correspondence from Hon Dr Nick Smith, Minister for the Environment, clarifying the Government's position on who owns water. Minister Smith commented that:

"The Government has made plain that no-one owns water, that there will be no generic share provided to iwi across the country and that fresh water needs to be managed at a local level catchment by catchment. However, the Government has acknowledged that iwi have rights and interests in fresh water."

Other Resource Management Issues

Whangarei District Council

Whangarei District Council (WDC) has released proposed Plan Change P4(B) – Papakainga. The plan change proposes to amend provisions relating to papakainga developments in Whangarei district. The key feature is a 'permitted' activity status for papakainga developments on Māori freehold land if a development plan is submitted and certain controls are met. Staff are still assessing the plan change. Submissions close 31 May 2016.

Far North District Council

The Far North District Council released a draft solid waste bylaw (Council lodged a submission seeking removal of provisions in the draft bylaw that conflicted with provisions in the Regional Water and Soil Plan). A hearing is scheduled for 14 April 2016.

Land use and subdivision applications

During March 2016, 14 non-notified resource consent applications were received from district councils. No comments were raised.

Consents

Consents in Process

During March 2016, a total of 56 Decisions were issued. These decisions comprised:

- 1 Moorings
- 22 Coastal Permits
- 1 Air Discharge Permits
- 3 Land Discharge Permits
- 3 Water Discharge Permits
- 18 Land Use Consents
- 4 Water Permits
- 4 Bore Consents

The processing timeframes for the March 2016 consents ranged from:

- § 258 to 3 calendar days, with the median time being 31 days;
- **§** 167 to 1 working days, with the median time being 20 days.
- 39 Applications were received in March 2016.

Of the 141 applications in progress at the end of March 2016:

- 64 were received more than 12 months ago (most awaiting further information);
- 23 were received between 6 and 12 months ago (most awaiting further information);
- 54 less than 6 months.

Appointment of Hearing Commissioners

No commissioners were appointed in March 2016:

Consents Decisions and Progress on Notified Applications in Process, Objections and Appeals

The current level of notified application processing activities at the end of March 2016 is (by number):

§	Applications Publicly/Limited Notified During Previous Month	0
§	Progress on Applications Previously Notified	6
§	Hearings and Decisions	0
§	Appeals/Objections	2

Environmental Monitoring

Compliance and State of the Environment monitoring

The results of compliance monitoring for the period 1– 31 March 2016 are summarised in the table and discussion below. Further details for this period will be reported to the Environmental Management Committee (EMC) on 26 April 2016.

Activity	No. of Assessments	No. Fully Compliant	No. Non- Compliant	No. Significantly Non- Compliant	Not exercised during period
Air Discharges	20	16	4	0	0
Coastal	20	15	2	0	3
Land Use	70	64	2	0	4
Discharges to Land or Water	129	94	21	0	14
Total	239	189 (79%)	29 (12.1%)	0	21 (8.7%)

Air discharges

A total of 17 air quality related environmental incidents were received, most (12) of which related to burning and smoke nuisance.

Continuous ambient air quality monitoring results for the Whangārei, Marsden Point and Kerikeri airsheds showed that all those sites met the air quality National Environmental Standards for the contaminants monitored.

Coastal

Consent monitoring comprised mostly of coastal discharges (treated municipal sewage, industrial, and stormwater), including water quality sampling of coastal sites around the refinery.

Staff continued to 'oversee' the ongoing works associated with the Ōpua marina expansion. A number of site visits were undertaken during the reporting period and weekly meetings were attended.

The Whangārei, Bay of Islands and Kaipara Harbour (monthly) water quality sampling runs were undertaken during the reporting period. Results are pending.

Sediment plates, measuring current sedimentation rates, were measured at monitoring sites in the Kerikeri estuary.

A one-off estuary study under the Estuary Monitoring Programme was carried out at 21 sites throughout the Ngunguru estuary, along with thorough mapping of habitat types. This involved sampling of the biological communities, physical (sediment particle size) and chemical properties (nutrient and metal contaminants) of the sediment. This programme assesses the ecological health of our estuaries and its relationship with sediment quality. The results will be reported later this year.

Hazardous Substances

- One hazardous substances incident was received in relation to drums of chemicals stored on a property where a fire had taken place. The incident was investigated by WorkSafe New Zealand in conjunction with council staff and satisfactorily resolved.
- Two enquiries regarding contaminated land were received and responded to.
- The collection of hazardous substances continued during the reporting period.

Discharge and Land Use monitoring

Council staff attended the following meetings during the reporting period:

- A meeting with FNDC staff to discuss compliance with their wastewater treatment plant resource consents.
- A meeting with KDC staff to discuss compliance with their wastewater treatment plant resource consents.

Farm dairy effluent (FDE) monitoring

Staff are currently undertaking additional visits (advisory) to approximately 100 farms with a view to encouraging farmers to empty their effluent ponds prior to winter. The visits have been well received.

Enforcement

Abatement Notices

There were nine abatement notices issued during March. These were for:

Discharge to CMA from boat maintenance activities	3
Sewage discharge	2
Groundwater take	2
Mangrove cutting	1
Vessel anchoring	1

Infringement Notices

There were three infringement notices issued during March. These were for:

Introduction of fanworm on a vessel	1
Oil discharge	1
Non-compliance with an abatement notice	1

Prosecutions

Chemical discharge in Ruakākā

The defendants have now entered guilty pleas to amended charges. A court date is scheduled for June 2016.

Earthworks and forestry harvesting in Ngāwhā

Guilty pleas have now been entered for some of the charges. The defendants are seeking expert advice regarding the remaining charges before they decide whether they are going to plead guilty or defend them. The next court date is 23 May 2016.

Farm dairy effluent discharges in Okahu

Five charges against two defendants (one company and one individual) have been filed for alleged illegal FDE discharges which occurred in September 2015. No pleas have been entered. A court date is scheduled for 18 April 2016.

Farm dairy effluent discharges in Pukehuia

Six charges against two defendants (one company and one individual) have been filed for alleged illegal FDE discharges which occurred in September 2015. The first court date is scheduled for 18 April 2016.

Appeal

The appeal on a Land Drainage Act notice, which was served on a landowner requiring the removal of an obstruction from a watercourse located near Maungatepere, is proceeding to the District Court for a hearing. The timetabling for the appeal is yet to be confirmed.

LAND MANAGEMENT

Environment Fund Update

The current status of the Environment Fund allocation year to date is shown below.

Delegated Authority	Land/	NO of	Allocation \$	Budget \$
Delegated Authonity	Biosecurity	Projects	Anocation \$	Buuget a
1 – June 2015	Land	22	114,380.67	
2 – June 2015	Biosecurity	44	138,166.00	
3 – July 2015	Land	42	171,613.60	
4 – August 2015	Land	28	143,593.50	
5 – September 2015	Land	18	98,464.30	
6 – October 2015	Land	21	188,541.03	
7 – October 2015	Land	5	18,893.00	
8 – Wild Cat Traps	Biosecurity		13,000.00	
9 – March 2016	Land	1	2090.00	
Funded from Land Management Reserve				13,000.00
Soil Conservation 25,000.00				
Allocation to date			\$913,742.10	
Budget	Land			825,000.00
	Biosecurity			75,000.00
Total Budget	913,000.00			
Withdrawal Amount	19,927.00*			
Total Budget Amount (i	932,927.00			
Allocation to date				913,742.10
Balance Remaining				\$19,184.90

Environment Fund funding allocation for 2015/16

*Reasons for withdrawals and withdrawal amounts are provided below.

	Amount \$
Two projects were withdrawn due to financial reasons	9462.00
One project withdrawn due to time constraints	465.00
One project withdrawn due to selling the farm	10,000.00
Total (withdrawal amount)	19,927.00

Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans (FWQIP) 1 July 2015 to 31 March 2016

Year to date a total of 98 FWQIP's have been commenced, 76 FWQIP's have been completed, with a further 52 in progress.

Status of FWQIP	Farm Type	Far North	Kaipara	Whāngārei	Total
Plans	Dairy	3	2	5	10
commenced :	Drystock	24	23	14	61
1 July 2015 to 31	Lifestyle	10	3	11	24
March 2016	Other	0	3	0	3
		37	31	30	98
	Dairy	4	6	4	14
Plans completed:	Drystock	15	16	11	42
1 July 2015 to 31	Lifestyle	7	1	11	19
March 2016	Other	0	1	0	1
		26	24	26	76
	Dairy	2	0	3	5
	Drystock	12	14	10	36
Plans still in progress	Lifestyle	5	2	2	9
	Other	0	2	0	2
		19	18	15	52

Kaipara Hill Country Erosion Project

Since beginning the hill country project in late February, staff have been assessing the Kaipara catchment area with Bob Cathcart to understand the soils and geology. Field visits to various soil conservation schemes were included and a questionnaire has been formatted for farmers. Staff have also been working on a document which can be distributed to farmers, detailing issues within the Kaipara and future goals staff are working toward. Historic soil conservation schemes are being recorded and documented in GIS.

For the month ahead staff aim to visit a range of previous soil conservation projects on various soil types and liaise with farmers to run through the questionnaire staff have created. By assessing various schemes on various soil types, and communicating with farmers, we aim to improve the application of soil conservation methods.

Nursery Update

Flyger Road Poplar and Willow Nursery

The wet conditions experienced since December 2015 have resulted in excellent growth with each of the three blocks at Flyger Road. March saw the pruning completed for block 1 and block 2. Final counts of pole numbers are being confirmed in terms of what grades of material will be on offer for 2016. The target of 5000 3m poles should be met along with reasonable sub 3m pole grades also available.



Block 1 Flyger Road pruned poplars 2016 crop [March 2016]



Block 2 poplars following pruning - 2017 crop [March 2016]

Block 2 is showing excellent growth rates which should result in optimal pole specifications for 2017. Pruning was brought forward and undertaken with block 1 due to this.

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Block 3 winter 2015 plantings growing well - 2018 crop [February 2016]

Block 3 (winter 2015 plantings) have had a great strike with the wet conditions ensuring that these have fared well through the usual dry months of December-March.

Northland Regional Council (NRC) has been asked to host the next poplar and willow nursery managers' meeting due in early February 2017.

Ngunguru Catchment

The Ngunguru Catchment working group has met once this year with a field trip to Glenbervie Forest to view Matariki/Rayonier forestry operation. This was held on the 30 March and group members were taken on a tour of the forest that is a part of the Ngunguru Catchment. The group was able to view sediment mitigation measures used by the company, such as hydro-seeding and bunding of roads and sediment traps. Riparian setbacks and indigenous forest remnants were viewed and a bridge crossing of the Ngunguru River. The group's second meeting will be held 18 May 2016. This date was moved from the 13 April to allow for some relevant reporting on estuarine health from the coastal monitoring team.

Hātea Water Quality Project Update

Land management staff intend to apply to the Ministry for the Environment 'Community Environment Fund' for funding over a three year period for fencing, planting and stock water infrastructure in the upper Hātea catchment. The application's main objectives are to see improving water quality trends at the Hatea Falls. If this application is successful, funds allocated would support and extend NRC's Environment Fund in the area. A draft application has been forwarded to MFE for comment, with the final application due between 18 April and 2 May.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSETS

CoastCare

The CoastCare Co-ordinator attended the annual conference of the Dune Restoration Trust of New Zealand and presented an update on CoastCare Northland activities.

Biodiversity

An inspection of Stanners Road Lake was undertaken to advise landowners on methods for protecting water quality, biosecurity issues and improving biodiversity

within and surrounding the lake. Fifteen landowner representatives attended the visit. A FWQIP/biodiversity plan will be produced for the lake and its margins which may lead to the formation of a Landcare Group and CPCA.

Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG) and Pouto Catchment Group

The Terms of Reference with Fonterra and Ngā Kaitiaki O Wai Maori to incorporate Fonterra Northland processing plants into the IKHMG flagship site programme was signed by representatives from each of the parties. The involvement of Ngā Kaitiaki O Ngā Wai Maori increases the level of engagement in the upper catchment that is outside the rohe of Te Uri O Hau. Any field days and restoration works carried out at the Kauri plant or the adjoining farm will be in conjunction with Ngā Kaitiaki O Wai Maori.

A water quantity and ecological values workshop was help by the Pouto Catchment group in March. Presentations were given by NRC staff outlining the approach that the new Regional plan will possibly take with regard to water takes and allocation and the group was given the opportunity to make suggestions on any changes they would like to see incorporated into the catchment plan for the Poutō dune lakes. They have requested that NRC relook at the volumes of water takes proposed as a permitted activity and also if it would be possible to use lake volume rather than lake depth as the parameter that determines the level of water take allowed from the different lakes.

BIOSECURITY

Landcare Trust celebrates large scale pest control

Biosecurity staff attended an event hosted by the Landcare Trust and Tutukaka Landcare coalition to showcase the vast extent of pest control which is occurring along Northlands eastern seaboard. The total area now encompasses tens of thousands of hectares and biosecurity staff have worked alongside Landcare Trust, DOC and many pest control groups to help set trapping and poisoning programmes up. More information is available through the following link: http://www.kiwicoast.org.nz/wwf-new-zealand-visit-the-kiwi-coast/

Kauri dieback

Kauri dieback data and soil sampling has continued through funding provided to Northland Regional Council by the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). Approximately \$50,000 of additional funding was applied for in late 2015 to carry out additional ground truthing and soil sampling of potential kauri dieback sites located through aerial surveillance and 41 potential sites on private land were identified.

Twenty eight sites have so far been inspected and 12 of these were found to have kauri trees with symptoms of infection. Further soil sampling confirmed four positive results for kauri dieback disease from the Oneriri Peninsular and one from McLeod's Bay. The total number of positive kauri dieback sites on private land is now 15; this is predicted to increase as more soil sampling is completed. Staff are working with land owners to reduce risk of the disease spreading from these sites which includes fencing off some areas of forest.

Site led Projects (CPCA's, E-fund)

Biosecurity staff are working with community and iwi groups throughout Northland to progress new Community Pest Control Areas (CPCAs). There has been pest control interest expressed for Russell forest with the aim of developing long term pest management plans on private and conservation land. Staff have attended several iwi led meetings to help develop suitable action plan such as a CPCA to get work started. Other potential CPCAs are also being discussed with community groups around Whangaroa, Purua, Tangihua forest, Pataua North to Ngunguru, Houtu North and South, and Trounson. These projects are planned to begin during the latter half of 2016 or early 2017.

Biosecurity staff are also working with Te Rarawa and Department of Conservation to develop a ground based control programme to protect the endangered Rifleman in Warawara forest as a follow on from the 1080 possum control. A long term management plan is also being discussed to ensure ongoing forest and species protection throughout the co- governed and privately owned lands.

Sixty registrations of interest have so far been received for pest control materials from the Environment Fund for next year and these agreements will be drafted over the next few months. Demand for pest control by private groups is increasing and applications will have to be prioritised to meet the current funding.

Velvet Leaf Incursion

In early March, the Ministry for Primary Industries initiated an Urgent Measures Response following the confirmed presence of Velvet Leaf (*Abutilon theophrasti*) on several farms in the South Island. Asure Quality and Regional Councils are now coordinating the response operation along with other members of the National Biosecurity Capability Network. Velvet Leaf is an Unwanted Organism and is a serious agricultural weed; it is one of the worst broadleaf weeds of maize and soya bean in the USA. This incursion is linked to the importation of two lines of fodder beet seed found to be contaminated with Velvet Leaf seed from Italy. These seed lines have since been sown on over 400 properties throughout Southland, Otago, Canterbury, Horizons Manawatu, Hawkes Bay, Bay of Plenty and Waikato.

Currently, operational response priorities are to:

- Trace seed distribution via retailers and Case associated properties;
- · Identify presence/absence of Velvet Leaf on properties;
- · Limit seed dispersal;
- · Gather Farm data; and
- Develop Farm management plans (Dairy NZ/AgResearch/FAR/Seed Industry/Beef and Lamb NZ/Federated Farmers/MPI/AQ and Regional Councils).

Biosecurity staff have provide relevant links to the public through social media and other communication channels directing any enquiries back to MPI. All reports should go to MPI on **0800 80 99 66.**



Moth plant

A rust fungus and a beetle from Argentina which eats the moth plant seed are two biological control agents which have been approved by the Environmental Protection

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Agency (EPA) for release in New Zealand to combat moth plant. However the project is dependent on obtaining live samples from Argentina and there has been considerable delay. Landcare Research are leading the transfer and they hope a recent change of government in Argentina will now make it possible to secure long awaited export permits allowing releases of these new agents in New Zealand to get underway.

Spartina

The Portland Spartina site was also surveyed over two days with three significant 'patches' located along the peninsula. The majority of the peninsula was surveyed and staff are confident that all the Spartina has been located and sprayed this year.

Field day reports of pest species

Eleven biosecurity staff attended the Northland Field Days and several reports of pest species made by the public were recorded. Included were potential koi carp and Red Eared Slider turtle sightings. All reports are currently being followed up.

Project Mustelid

Project Mustelid began with its first intake of approximately forty students from six different secondary schools throughout Northland. Based upon the template of project possum; it is designed to equip students with knowledge and skills around mustelid control, starting with the biology of the three mustelids and their impacts on biodiversity, and as vectors for bovine tuberculosis through to the different toxins and traps used in their control. The students will return later in the year to complete a written and practical assessment and a pass is worth 22 NCEA level 3 credits.

The students are largely from rural backgrounds and will use these skills to seek employment with pest control agencies or as contractors and also have the opportunity to share their new found knowledge with local communities.

Marine Hull Surveillance

The summer hull surveillance is complete for this financial year. To date, 1008 hulls were checked and 114 were found to have a marine pest on their hull; 32 of these vessels were carrying fanworm and were issued Notices of Direction, however other marine pests such as sea squirts and undaria were also found. A meeting is scheduled in the second week of April to meet with the dive contractors to review the programme, discuss any issues and plan surveillance in the next financial year.

Mediterranean fanworm

A public meeting took place on 7 April to inform mooring owners, stakeholders and members of the public of the current status of fanworm in Whangarei harbour. Biosecurity staff presented to attendees information on marine pests that threaten Northland and what can be done to reduce the risk of spread. The meeting was well attended by members of the public.

Marsden Cove Marina

Staff were requested by Marsden Cove management to review the Notice of Direction (NOD) in place in stage 2 of Marsden Cove marina in a meeting held at Marsden Maritime Holdings on 1 March. Council has sought legal advice and have reviewed the current work being undertaken by Marsden Cove management and has decided it is not appropriate to lift the NOD at present.

A next round of surveillance in Tutukaka marina has been scheduled in for June 2016; this will provide an updated statement of the current status of fanworm in this marina.

Other Marine pests

In December 2014 a member of the public reported catching nine large Japanese paddlecrabs in the entrance to Ngunguru estuary to MPI and a recent survey has shown numbers are quite high within the estuary. The major prey items of Japanese paddlecrabs are bivalve shellfish and with the shellfish stocks already in decline in Ngunguru estuary it is timely to advise stakeholders of this potential additional pressure on the stocks.

Biosecurity staff have two projects planned over the next two months to examine the diet and number of paddle crabs in the estuary, and to see if a trapping programme would be successful in minimising impacts. There has been a high level of interest in this project from media, the local rate payers association and local iwi.



Foot and Mouth

On 18 April staff will be attending a Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) Workshop on planning for emergency mass carcass disposal. This workshop, to be held in Wellington, is part of the Ministry of Primary Industries 'FMD Preparedness programme'. This workshop aims to test the Carcass Disposal Operational Plan and the Foot and Mouth Disease GIS Database.

The workshop will cover:

- the carcass disposal methods available in New Zealand;
- the process of planning carcass disposal for a farm;
- what disposal options are most likely to be suitable for our region; and
- risks to the environment and public health and how these are addressed in the plan.

As Regional Councils would be required to play an integral part in any potential FMD outbreak in New Zealand, it is important that Northland Regional Council staff are familiar with the key aspects of the Ministry of Primary Industries 'FMD containment plans.

Regional Pest Management Strategy

A workshop was held with councillors on the Regional Pest Management Strategy review on 16 March. Topics of discussion included the new requirements of the National Policy Direction and the Biosecurity Act, site-led programmes and how they might look in the future, and potential changes to rules for some species. The Biosecurity Act now provides for managing the pathways through which pests can spread as well as the species themselves, and a marine pathways plan is currently being developed.

8.2.3 RIVER MANAGEMENT

RIVERS

Whangarei

The Kotuku Street detention dam was officially opened on 9 April, the dam was blessed by local Whangarei kaumatua in a small dawn ceremony. The official name of the dam was unveiled to the public - *'Hopua te Nihotetea'* for the first time. A civic ceremony followed was attended by dignitaries, councillors and staff, tangata whenua, local residents and other members of the public.

River/stream cleaning of sections under the bridges in Urban Whangarei is ongoing.

The Whangarei Urban Rivers Liaison Committee meeting is scheduled for 12 April 2016.

Awanui

Modification of the Whangatane Spillway Weir is complete.



Pile driving for the Mathew's stock bridge is expected to start 31 March. Enabling works consisting of realignment of raceways and general bank maintenance that was not part of the bridge contract have been completed.

The annual scheme maintenance work is approximately 90% complete with the remaining work progressing on the Whangatane Spillway bank maintenance and grade control along the Awanui River near Bell's Hill.

The Awanui River Management Liaison Committee meeting is scheduled for 15 April 2016.

Kaeo-Whangaroa

Tree and sediment removal along the Tauranga Bay stream where there is roadway flooding has been scheduled and will be done in conjunction with FNDC.

Kerikeri-Waipapa

The second mediation date for the appeals on the resource consent and land acquisition for the Kerikeri spillway scheme is set for 13 April and staff have met with the appellants' valuer and engineer regarding the spillway and likely effects.

In March 2016, the NRC hydrology team were able to undertake low level gaugings at the new Kerikeri SH10 gauge site. The results of the gaugings require some further investigation in relation to the channel roughness settings in the flood model at this site. Catchment model calibration in this reach was based primarily on surveyed flood levels, which have been established with confidence. There was no flow velocity data available for this reach at the time of calibration, and so there is potential for model flow to be higher based on the same flood levels with lower channel roughness settings. The site is still a high priority for the hydrology team to obtain some higher flood level gaugings which will help clarify the situation.

Kawakawa – Taumarere

The inaugural meeting of the Taumarere Flood Management Liaison Committee is scheduled for 22 April 2016.

Kaihu

Tree removal and long reach digger works are complete, leaving only rice grass spraying and rock protection work at Kaihu Woods Road Bridge remain to complete the annual maintenance contract.

Staff have requested quotes for a boundary survey to be undertaken at the Rugby Club near Kaihu Woods Road bridge. After this is staked out, staff intend to get feedback from the community to determine the final location of the fence.

Minor Rivers Works

The table of minor river works for 2015/16 is shown below.

River	Description of Minor River Work Programmed for Current Season	Status
AWANUI	Awanui - Bells Hill Drain installation + Drain Cleaning	Completed
AWANU	Awanui - Bells Hill Modelling revision and management option report	Completed
WAITANGI	Waitangi - Lilly Pond Large Pines, Puriri	April
	Waitangi –Bank protection planting on Waiaruhe River Bank u/s SH 10 Bridge	Completed
WAIARUHE	Waiaruhe - Tree Removal adjacent to Puketona junction near Top Energy depot	Completed
WAIOMIO	Waiomio - Willows/Debris Removal	Completed
OTIRIA/ MOEREWA	Otiria/Moerewa - Willow removal upstream Pokapu Bridge - mulch/prune sides of high level by- pass spillway	Completed
MOEREWA	Otiria/Moerewa - Bund and vegetation removal (KiwiRail and Forest Loaders)	2 nd week in April
OHURI	Ohuri - Machine clean weeds 300 meters downstream of Duddy's Road to reduce road flooding	Completed

MANGANUIOWAE	Manganuiowae - Slip Control Work (Gravel Management) at Broadwood A&P Society	Completed
MANGATOA & KAIKOHE	Mangatoa - Timber Extraction along SH 12 breaching roadside stopbanks Kaikohe - Willow Blockage Removal at 42 Guy Road.	Completed
WAIMA	Waima - Open Left Span of SH Bridge	2 nd week in April
OMANAIA STREAM	Omanaia Vegetation Removal	Completed
AWAPOKANUI	Awapokanui - Weed Spraying	Completed
NGUNGURU	Ngunguru - Willows/Debris Removal	Completed
ΟΤΑΙΚΑ	Otaika - Willows/Sediment Removal	Completed

Waipu River Groyne

A joint request with the WDC has been made to the Local Government Commission to determine ownership of the Waipu Groyne structure. This matter had previously been workshopped with Council, with Council indicating a preference for the Commission to make a determination as to ownership. The timeframe for the Commission's decision has not yet been established.

Natural Hazards

Flood Mapping

Kaihu updated flood model outputs have been delivered together with a draft report. The model extension incorporates new 2015 LIDAR and will expand the model across the whole Dargaville CBD and into the Awakino flood plain. A further set of model runs has been commissioned to produce a more refined assessment of coastal flood hazard mapping for the Dargaville area.

Scoping for the channel survey required for the Waipu River flood model build was commenced.

Regional LIDAR Project

Funding is still being finalised for this project. The Te Tai Tokerau Action Plan includes a Northland Regional LIDAR survey as an "enabler" project. Staff are now working on a project charter in order to progress towards Central Government agency funding contributions.

A pilot LIDAR project funded by LINZ is being scoped for the northern Whangarei harbour, from Waikaraka to Ocean Beach, and for the Marsden Cove – Marsden Point areas. This project is primarily to demonstrate the worth of a higher quality LIDAR data set.

Coastal Hazard Assessments

The final draft mapping from Tonkin & Taylor has been largely delivered. It is proposed to release the mapping outputs as draft in May - June 2016, and will invite comment from affected property owners.

HYDROLOGY Rainfall

March was a variable month for rainfall. The abnormal pattern of blocking highs out to the east continued throughout March, which resulted in low pressure systems stalling over New Zealand, which is unusual for an El Nino event. The month began with a moderate weather event followed by 10-12 days of minimal rain, see figure 1 below:

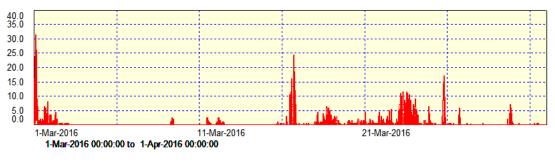


Figure 1: Hourly rainfall totals for March 2016

On 21 March, another weather system tracked in from the Tasman, delivering gale force winds up to 146 kph recorded at Cape Reinga. Rainfall amounts of 150mm were predicted by the MetService. The heaviest rain was recorded in the Waitangi catchment which received rainfall totals of up to 140mm. There were no major flooding issues from the event which was monitored by the hydrology team throughout the night.

In contrast the coastal regions, in particular the Pouto Peninsula up to South Hokianga, had a very dry March. The rain gauges at Pouto and Tutamoe recorded only 30% of the expected rainfall amount for March. See figure 2 below:

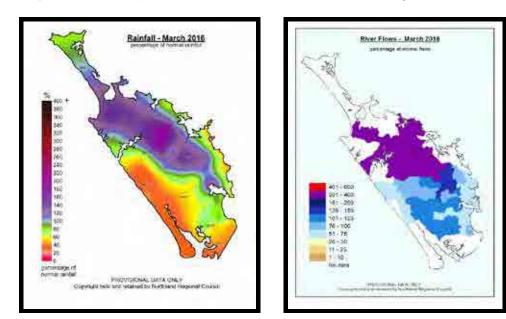


Figure 2: Rainfall Map March 2016

Figure 3: Flow Map March 2016

River Flows

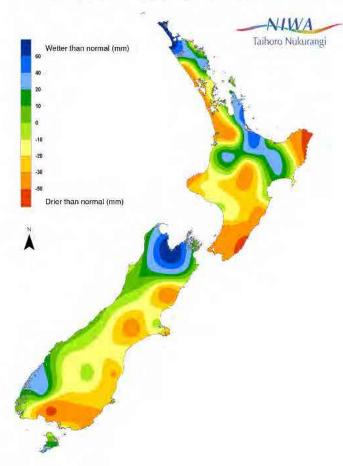
River flows across Northland were generally average to above average. See figure 3 above. Due to the two rainfall events over March most sites are well above mean annual low flow (MALF). The Kaihu predicted to reach MALF by 10 March, see table 1 below.

Water Level recorder	Days to reach	Days to reach
	Mean Annual Low Flow	1 in 5 year low flow
	(MALF)	
Awanui at School Cut	-	-
Kaihu at Gorge	10	11
Maungaparerua at Tyrees Ford	-	-
Ngunguru at Dugmores Rock	45	14

Table 1: Predicted River flows for Northland (assuming no rainfall from this point onwards, a dash indicates high river levels).

Soil Moisture

The soil moisture levels paint a very similar picture to the rainfall map, refer to figure 4 below. In summary, soil moisture levels are below average on the west coast from Pouto up to Opononi, and above average through the central regions.



Soil moisture anomaly (mm) at 9am on 03/04/2016

Figure 4: Soil moisture anomaly.

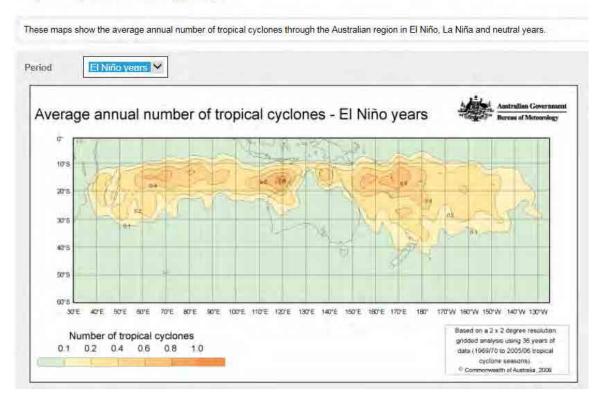
Groundwater

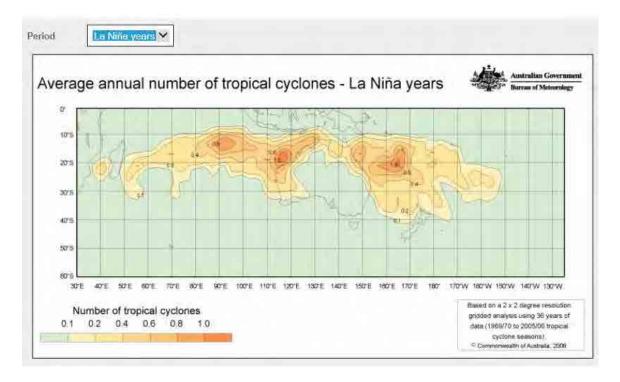
Mangawhai	Groundwater levels increased at majority of the monitoring sites at Mangawhai in March. However, levels at most of the sites were below the long term monthly mean.
Whangarei GW	Groundwater levels decreased at majority of the monitoring sites around Whangarei. Levels at most of the sites were lower than normal for the time of year.
Taipa GW	Groundwater levels at majority of the monitoring sites at Taipa were at or slightly above the monthly mean for March.
Kaikohe GW	Groundwater levels increased at all the monitoring sites during March except the town bore in Kaikohe. Levels at all the monitoring sites were above the average for the month of March.
Russell GW	Groundwater levels at majority of the monitoring bores at Russell were at or slightly above the long term monthly mean for March.
Maungakaramea Nitrate Study	All three sites were sampled for nitrate nitrogen concentration in Maungakaramea on 23 March 2016.
	Results of 23 February 2016 sampling indicate that Nitrate levels at all three sites are compliant with the drinking water guideline value of 11.3 mg/l-N. The highest Nitrate concentration of 7.0 mg/l-N was recorded at the Ken Walker site, while the lowest nitrate concentration of 3.1 mg/l-N was recorded at the Rob Walker site.
Whatitiri Nitrate Study	On 23 March 2016, all four sites, LOC 109244, 109246, 109245 and 109655 were sampled for nitrate concentrations at Whatitiri.
	Results of 23 February 2016 sampling indicated that nitrate levels are compliant with the drinking water guideline value of 11.3 mg/L N. The highest Nitrate concentration of 7.3 mg/l-N was recorded at the Brown site, while the lowest nitrate concentration of 4.3 mg/l-N was recorded at the Martin site.
Mangawhai Nitrate Study	In March, all four sites were sampled for nitrate concentration in the Mangawhai Golf club area.
	Results of 18 February 2016 sampling indicated that Nitrate levels in all the sites are compliant with the drinking water guideline value of 11.3 mg/l-N. The highest Nitrate concentration of 2.3 mg/l-N was recorded at the Golf Club SOE bore site, while the lowest nitrate concentration of 0.99 mg/l-N was recorded at the Golf Club bore 2 site.

Climate Outlook

There is no climate update available from NIWA or the Met Service. Most climate models show El Nino will continue to weaken over the coming months. The models are split as to whether El Nino will move into a neutral or La Nina phase. Below is an extract from the Australian Bureau of Meterology mapping the affect El Nino and La Nina have on tropical cyclone frequency:

Tropical cyclone climatolgy maps





Water Use records/ Compliance

Mark Rogers from Hilltop was at NRC for two days to set up the data transfer process between the Water Use Record System (WURS) and the IRIS database. The Hydrology Groundwater Monitoring Officer is scheduled to finish the initial testing phase of the WURS by mid April 2016. Reminder letters for water use records will be sent out on 11 April 2016. See table 2 below for schedule details:-

Letters to be sent out	Records due 1 May	Records due 31 July
Friendly reminder	11 April	4 July
1 st Reminder	30 May	1 August
2 nd Reminder	20 June	29 August
Phone call to let CH know a monitoring officer will come to take a meter reading and that the time will be charged to them.	1 st week of July	Mid-September
Monitoring officer site visit	July-August	October

Table 2: Schedule for Water Use Record reminder letters.

Water Measuring and Reporting National Regulations

Under the Water Measuring and Reporting National Regulations, water takes from 5-10 l/s will be required to install water meters. A letter was sent out on 1 December 2015 informing the water users of their obligations under the regulations and another reminder letter is scheduled for July 2016.

Below is a summary of the non-compliance related to the two previous phases of the water metering regulation, 20l/s plus: due in Nov 2013, 10-20 l/s: due in Nov 2014. Currently there are 2 outstanding meter installations. Refer to table 3:

Consent	Status	Notes
REG.018368.01	Non-compliant	Site visit completed late March 2016, owner will be installing a meter within 3 months.
REG.007321.03	Non-compliant	Consent Holder negotiated a conditional agreement with NRC not to have a meter installed; an abatement notice was in the process of being issued as the terms of the agreement were not adhered to. The farm recently changed ownership. NRC advised the new owner to install a water meter, which was agreed to, installation to be completed within 3 months.

Table 3: Current compliance status regarding water meter installations.

Water Resources Team Work Programme

- The main focus has been on providing updated allocation and minimum flow information to collaborative stakeholder groups and the planning team.
- The water allocation tool has been further developed to show the streams affected by minimum flow conditions across Northland. In April, consent data will be reviewed to improve the accuracy of water allocation reporting. Following the review updated maps will be produced to show accumulated allocation and minimum flow impacts within each catchment. These maps will help to inform decisions on allocation and minimum flow limits required to be set in accordance with the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.
- NRC's Groundwater Management Specialist will produce a non-technical summary report on the Waipao catchment, including surface quality and flows and the groundwater quality, levels and modelling, with recommendations for future monitoring and actions.

 Scoping work for the location for the Sweetwater monitoring bores in the Far North was completed. Consultation has begun with local iwi Te Rarawa. Once the location/access are confirmed, the drilling contract and pump test will be put out for tender.

8.2.4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Northland Economic Quarterly

The eleventh issue of the Northland Economic Quarterly (NEQ) newsletter was published on Wednesday 23 March. The annual and spotlight sections both feature some of the data available in the Northland Region Economic Profile. The annual section analyses developments in economic activity in Northland as measured by GDP, how it compares with other regions, how it differed within the region, and what contributed to the rise. The spotlight section looks at changes in the structure of employment over the past 10 years, showing changes by industry, occupation, skills and field of study. The current and past issues can be found on the NRC website at www.nrc.govt.nz/resources

Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan

Representation on the TTNEAP Working Group (formally named the Steering Committee) has been expanded to include representatives from NZTA, Tertiary Education Commission (TEC), the Northland Agricultural Forum, and Maori interests in forestry, farming and tourism sectors. This has been done to bring on to the Working Group representatives from organsiations that have leadership roles in implementing key projects on the TTNEAP. Work is being undertaken to develop appropriate documentation for the reporting of progress in implementing the actions and the regional level outcomes set out in the TTNEAP.

Investment Project	Work in March	Future
		developments/reporting
Northland Strategic	Final report discussed at a	Recommendations on next
Water Infrastructure	council workshop on 1	steps to be presented to the
Study	March.	May council meeting.
Resource Enterprise	MMHL have asked REL to	Annual financial reporting from
Limited (REL)	submit a written request	REL due to be received by 30
	detailing the concreting	June as per loan conditions.
	requirement and what	
	tangible benefits would flow	
	to the port and MMHL.	
Twin Coast	Reviewed report for the six	Next report for the six months
Discovery	months ended February	ended August 2016 due in
Revitalisation	2016.	October 2016.
Twin Coast Cycle		Prepare memo for CEO.
Trail		
Regional Promotion		Second report for the six
		months ended June 2016 due in
		August.
Kawakawa	Application for IGR	
Hundertwasser	business case development	
	received – see separate	
	agenda item.	

Investment and Growth Reserve

8.2.5 HAZARD MANAGEMENT

Civil Defence Emergency Management

Warnings and activations

Date	Event	CDEM Action
1 March 2016	Metservice Weather Warning - 60 – 90 mm in 9 hours	Monitored
22 -23 March 2016	Metservice Wind and Rain warning – gales 120 – 130 kph, 100 to 150mm in 18 hours	As per SOP.

Work Programme

An agenda item was prepared and presented to the Regional Land Transport Committee meeting held on 6 April to seek approval for the establishment of a sub group consisting of representatives of the various roading authorities, together with the NRC Transport and CDEM staff to review the existing Regional Land Transport Plan 2016-2021 and Northland CDEM Group Plan in an effort to align the various roading and work programmes into a single regional road network resilience plan.

Lifelines Utility Group

The Northland Lifelines Utility Group held its quarterly meeting on 6 April. It agreed to establish the sub group to referred to above. The group also agreed to develop an Air Operations Plan, assist with the development of a Logistics Plan, participate in Exercise Tangaroa, carry out a Resilience bench marking assessment using a MCDEM tool and agreed to review the existing Lifelines Tsunami Plan. The meeting was attended by 34 personnel from across a wide range of agencies. The newly appointed MCDEM National Lifelines Coordinator also attended.

Exercise Tangaroa

Exercise Tangaroa 2016 aims to test New Zealand's arrangements for preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a national tsunami impact. The Northland CDEM Group and partner agencies are working through the exercise planning. In addition the Northland CDEM Group work programme has been agreed for the exercise and focuses upon readiness arrangements including reviews of existing plans. The Northland Tsunami Evacuation maps will also be reviewed with a contract being agreed with GNS to deliver the updated maps prior to the exercise.

Alerting Technology

The Northland CDEM Group – along with other regions – has now introduced the Red Cross Hazard app. At least 12 of the 16 regions are engaged with Red Cross and at some stage of evaluating the possible use of the app. Use of the OPTN service is being wound down.

Youth and Emergency Services Programme (YES)

The Bream Bay YES programme has now been completed with the multi-agency exercise involving, NZ Fire Service, Rural Fire, Coastguard, NZ Police, Ruakaka Surf Life Saving, St John and NZ Red Cross held on Limestone Island in the Whangarei Harbour. The exercise was supported by NEST and Skyworks providing air support for the various scenarios. The full day exercise enabled the young people to further learn about the various agencies and to apply learning's from the earlier one day

sessions. A graduation dinner for YES members, their families, representatives from the participating agencies and local dignitaries was held at the NZ Refinery on 8 April. This is the third YES programme completed in Northland.

The arrangements for the second YES programme for 2016 in the Hokianga are well advanced with selection of the young people for the programme underway. The Hokianga YES will commence on 7 May and is to be based out of the Rawene Volunteer Fire Station. The programme will follow the model used in the three earlier programmes.

Until now the programme has been funded nationally through Youth Services, Ministry of Youth Development. No indication has yet been received regarding the availability of funding to continue the programme in 2017.

Marae Preparedness

The delivery of the marae preparedness project has commenced. A number of marae have expressed an interest in the programme and arrangements are underway to commence the delivery of the programme.

Electronic Community Response Plans (eCRP's)

To date there are 28 eCRP's uploaded to the website with a further 10 in various stages of review and development. New plans have been developed recently in Totara North, Waikare, Russell, Mangakahia and Ngati Hau.

National Resilience Strategy

The Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Management is reviewing the current National Civil Defence Emergency Management Strategy. The review will result in a new National Disaster Resilience Strategy.

The National CDEM Strategy is New Zealand's vision for civil defence emergency management (CDEM). It sets out principles and goals that guide all CDEM stakeholders (including government departments, local authorities, lifeline utilities, and emergency services) in working towards the vision of a 'Resilient New Zealand'.

Due to strong interest from across the CDEM sector in Northland MCDEM have agreed to hold a workshop in Northland in mid-May to facilitate the development of the strategy. (Workshops are also occurring in Tauranga, Wellington and Christchurch).

8.2.6 TRANSPORT

National Integrated Ticketing System

The NZ Transport Agency (NZTA), regional councils and Auckland Transport continue to work closely to develop and implement a nationally integrated ticketing system for New Zealand.

However, since the commencement of this project three years ago, extensive changes in ticketing technology prompted the NZTA to re-evaluate its original stance on the system and hardware to be purchased and the procurement method to be used. This has led to a number of delays which have in turn adversely affected a number of regional councils who were operating aged software and hardware and who are experiencing increasing problems. NRC is not one of these councils.

The time period for the full implementation of the nationally integrated ticketing system has been estimated at 3 to 5 years. This further delay has resulted in all parties agreeing to seek an interim solution for the 3 to 5 year period.

As previously reported to council, 9 regional councils agreed to form a "consortium" to address both the national and interim issues that had arisen, and to seek solutions that would be fit for purpose for the various councils. One of the recommendations made by the Consortium was to tender for the interim solution as a united body in order to achieve economies of scale.

Council presently uses the Snapper Electronic Ticketing System (Snapper) on the CityLink Bus Service in Whangarei. With the approval to extend the contract period of this service for an additional 12 month period to 1 July 2017, it was deemed appropriate to retain the Snapper system during this period. Council will realign with the National Ticketing Programme (and the new electronic ticketing system) at the appropriate time.

The Consortium has been advised of this at recent meetings.

SuperGold card Proposed New Funding Scheme

Through previous reports, council had been notified that the government's decision to make changes to the funding of the SuperGold card scheme raised real concerns for local government, not least of which was the potential to transfer costs to ratepayers.

The Ministry of Transport (MoT) and NZTA undertook to set up a collaborative approach with Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) to ensure an equitable implementation of the planned changes, the corner stones of which would be the continuation of access to the service for SuperGold cardholders and avoiding the transfer of risk and cost to ratepayers.

The first step in this collaborative approach has been the agreement to set up a cross sector Governance Group to oversee the implementation of changes and agreement on the objectives for the changes which are:

- Understanding the actual cost of providing SuperGold free off-peak travel on public transport services, including the tipping point between revenue and cost, as well as the benefits of carrying SuperGold cardholders;
- Getting value for money from services for taxpayers and users of the scheme, without transferring costs and risks to ratepayers; and
- Getting to a position where regional councils are better able to manage the costs of carrying SuperGold cardholders as regional councils increasingly transfer from net contracts to PTOM (partnering) contracts.

The first meeting of the Governance Group was on 14 March 2016. At this meeting, the following was agreed:-

- 1. Terms of Reference for the Governance Group;
- 2. Appointment of a Programme Director and the Terms of Reference for the position;
- 3. How to jointly manage costs down where possible during the transition period to gross partnering contracts. Examples of how this could be achieved are:
 - A target for each regional council (in nearly all cases not less than for 2015/16);
 - Individual transition plans for each regional council as appropriate; and/or
 - A moratorium on fare increases post 2015 translating into higher SuperGold payments (no effect on fare increases for fare paying passengers).

In addition the Governance Group covered the challenge of achieving a consistent approach between councils to establish the actual cost for providing the SuperGold service under gross partnering contracts, and the extent to which national guidance or principles may be needed to assist in achieving this outcome

Previous reports to council indicated that the proposed funding method allows council to retain existing funding levels but does not allow for new services. This matter is being raised with NZTA at a meeting being held on 4 April 2016

Upgrade 10 Northland One Way Bridges in Northland

The RTC approved that a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Transport querying if he was comfortable with the limited progress made on the upgrade of the bridges. A reply received from Minister Bridges on 31 March 2016, see attachment 1.

2018/2021 Regional Land Transport Plan

A meeting was held between a Reference Group (RG) made up of elected Regional Transport Officers and the NZ Transport Agency (NZTA) over the Business Case Approach (BCA) required for the compilation of the 2018/2021 Regional Land Transport Plans (RLTP). NRC is a member of the RG.

This group has been formed in order to ensure that the BCA's required for the compilation of the RLTP and the projects contained therein are "fit for purpose" and that the required administrative input is relative to the required output.

Further workshops have been planned for later in the year to progress this issue.

Passenger Transport Administration

Total Mobility

Total Mobility figures are reported one month in arrears, as the information is not available in time to meet the agenda deadline.

	Total clients	Monthly Actual Expend	Monthly Budget Expend	Variance	Year/Date Actual Expend	Year/Date Budgeted Expend	Variance
February 2016	1148	\$11,716	\$16,666	-\$4,950	\$103,352	\$133,328	-\$29,976

Total Mobility Survey

In the February 2016 report to council, it was stated that the Total Mobility Working Group was to undertake a survey of existing clients in an effort to ascertain why trips taken had continued to remain low. The draft survey form was presented to the Total Mobility Working Group for their comments and input on 11 March 2016.

The survey forms were sent out to all registered clients 30 March 2016. The deadline for feedback is Friday 22 April 2016.

City Link Whāngārei

	Actual	Budget	Variance	2014/2015 Actual
March 2016				
Passenger numbers	28,232	31,097	-2,865	28,293
Farebox revenue (GST exc)	\$56,798	\$65,897	-\$9,099	\$60,547

The operator is reporting continuing delays to most peak trips (morning and afternoon) of up to 8 minutes per trip. This is mostly attributed to the road works on Riverside Drive. As buses service more than one route, any delay to one trip will have a ripple effects through the rest of the service. This can escalate to the point where entire trips at the end of the peak are missed.

The works at Kensington are expected to impact in a similar way for the remainder of the year. The operator has been asked to advise Council staff if delays get so great that they are required to drop trips in order to avoid having buses "stuck" out on the route. The travelling public will be advised if this needs to occur. In an effort to warn passengers of these continuing delays, a number of radio advertisements have been released.

SuperGold Card Scheme

SuperGold Card Passengers				2014/2015
carried	Actual	Budget	Variance	Actual
March 2016		5,682		5,290

Mid North Bus Service Trial

Twelve Expressions of Interest for the up-coming workshops were received from operators at the close of Friday 11 March 2016. These workshops have been arranged in the school holidays when operators are less busy. They will be held on Tuesday 26 April 2016 in Kerikeri and Wednesday 27 April 2016 in Kaikohe. There will be open public sessions in the morning, and closed afternoon sessions for those operators who registered. These will be informal workshops to engage and seek feedback from the community and operators on what is needed, and how best the service(s) might be provided in a cost effective manner.

Hokianga Link

This service continues to be supported by a number of regular clients. There is currently an average of 3.5 passengers per trip. Trips have been running twice weekly from December to the end of March, and will reduce to once a week from 1 April 2016.

Passenger numbers have unfortunately not increased as was expected. Opportunities to raise the service's profile for this coming summer will be discussed with both the operator and the Ratepayer Association in the coming months. Staff will be recommending that this service should continue as it stands for the 16/17 financial year, to provide certainty to residents and to allow staff pursue the feasibility of linking it with the Mid North Service.

BusAbout Kaitaia

NZTA have approved subsidy of \$70,000 per annum for BusAbout Kaitaia for the 2015/2018 funding period. This has been provided on the understanding that CBEC and NRC will work towards having the service meet the full NZTA required funding criteria prior to any further subsidy being approved.

Meeting the funding criteria is inherently difficult for rural services as it is directed mainly toward the alleviation of traffic congestion in larger urban areas. NRC staff will continue to advocate for a variation to the present criteria to allow for greater recognition of varied social circumstances.

Passengers numbers have been declining slightly, which matches the trend being experienced by other regions, and can be mostly attributed to the low petrol prices.

Road Safety update National Road Toll - 2016

The road toll for 2016 is 94 deaths involving 83 fatal crashes. In comparison, in 2015 there were 83 road deaths from 75 fatal crashes and for 2014 there were 72 road deaths.

Northland Road Toll – 2016 Year to Date

The Northland road toll presently stands at 9 as at 31 March 2016.

- This figure is made up of :-
 - Far North = 2;
 - Whangarei = 4; and
 - Kaipara = 3

For the same period in 2015 the road toll stood at six.

Northland Road Safety Issues 2011-2015

Preliminary key figures for the 'Northland Road Safety Issues 2011-2015' document updating the previous 2010-2014 document, showing the crash proportions for: -

- Open road crashes reducing from 68.9%. to 68%
- Loss of Control on Bends reducing 49.9% to 49%
- Hitting Roadside Objects reducing 32.4% to 31%
- Crashes During Summer reducing 29% to 27%
- Fatal & Serious Crashes increasing from 25.8% to 27%
- Young Drivers (Age 15 to 24) at Fault or part at fault increased from 25.6% to 30%
- Driving too fast for the conditions increased from 23.2% to 25%
- Driver with excess alcohol remained same at 22%
- Motorcycles increasing from 9.4% to 10%.

Regional Road Safety Action Plan

Northland's Road Controlling Authority partners have been meeting with NRC, Police, ACC to share information regarding key issues for motorists on Northland roads. The group continues to discuss further development of a Regional Road Safety Action Plan 2015 to 2018. This planning document will be used to help inform our partners and representatives as to identified issues and what is being put in place to address the issues. It will be a living document which will be updated quarterly when required.

Navigation, Safety and Maritime Operations

Oil Spill Preparedness and Response

The harbourmaster attended a national oil spill exercise during this period. The maritime programme manager also attended a national response team training session. A local oil spill exercise based in the upper Whangarei harbour has been planned for the end of April.

One minor oil spill was reported and was allowed to disperse naturally.

Port and Harbour Safety

Six cruise ships were piloted safely into the Bay of Islands. Six hot work applications were received. One bunkering operation and three immobilisation requests from ships were also approved during this period. The harbourmaster is working through a number of pilotage exemption applications.

Maritime Incidents, Enforcement and Safety

Staff responded to 21 maritime incidents during this period.

A large private vessel caught fire near the Marsden Cove marina entrance. Emergency services responded initially and harbourmaster staff later dealt with the navigation safety aspects of the incident, including marking the wreck with a buoy. The owner later arranged salvage and removal of the wreck. Police, who are responsible for search and rescue, and the Fire Service later arranged a debrief to discuss response options in case a similar incident occurs again.

A fishing boat that has been left abandoned and wrecked in the Taiharuru estuary for several months was salvaged by staff and towed to Whangarei, where it was demolished and disposed of.

The harbourmaster worked closely with national agencies after being notified of a cargo ship that was disabled off the Whangarei coast and was drifting towards shore. The incident was resolved when a tug arrived and towed the ship to Auckland. Maritime New Zealand will follow up on actions necessary.

An accident occurred on the Mangawhai bar when a small vessel reportedly lost power and capsized. They had been advised not to attempt the crossing. All persons on board were rescued by local agencies – the vessel and debris were removed from the water later. A written warning has been issued to a yacht owner for prolonged anchoring off the Marsden Cove marina channel and leaving the vessel unlit, causing a potential hazard. Warnings are also to be issued to owners of two unregistered jet skis.

Staff looked into reports of a fishing net frequently being deployed obstructing a small channel in the Tinopai area. The local fisheries officer confiscated the net. The harbourmaster issued a verbal warning to the skipper of a small vessel for crossing in front of a moving cruise ship. Two verbal warnings were issued for navigational near misses caused by poor lookout and lack of knowledge of rules – one of these was issued to the original incident reporter after it became obvious that he did not know that he should have given way in a crossing situation.

An infringement notice issued previously for a dangerous wake caused by a launch has been challenged. Legal advice was taken, following which charging documents have been filed in court. An abatement notice issued to a fishing vessel owner in Houhora was complied with, and then followed up with a harbourmaster direction and bylaw enforcement for following offences.

Aids to navigation:

Maintenance of navigation aids continued this month in Ngunguru, Mangonui, Houhora and Whangarei harbours.

Annual survey of navigation lights on the Hatea river bridge also completed. The Tinopai Special Marker buoy was reported as out of position, it is currently undergoing repairs and will be reinstated into position once repairs have been completed.

New 5 knot signs were installed at the Opua Marina entrance following concerns raised about speed of vessels in the area.

Moorings

Staff site visits to mooring areas in Whangaroa and Mangonui were completed before the arrival of the mooring contractor to these harbours. This proactive work by staff was carried out to facilitate various mooring upgrades, relocations and removals that are pending for these harbours. Staff are also using coloured tags and stickers to mark moorings that are unserviceable and vessels that are required to contact staff for various reasons (for example, poor condition, safety concerns, not suitable for mooring, etc.).

Administrative efforts to improve compliance with mooring service requirements continue. Decision group meetings were held during which it was decided that 5 mooring licences are to be cancelled due to long term non-compliance with service requirements.

A review of all pile moorings in Northland has started with a survey of pile moorings in Kerikeri.

Others:

Skipper assistance was provided to other departments for water quality, coastal, fan worm inspections and sediment sampling in the Bay of Islands, Kerikeri, Dargaville, Mangonui, Ngunguru, Kaipara and Whangarei harbours.

A health and safety audit was carried out at the Reyburn Street shed, with only minor items noted for rectification by maritime staff.

The deputy harbourmaster and council's lawyer attended a mediation involving a vessel owner's dispute with a mooring licensee and council. The dispute was not resolved and will likely end up in court.

The deputy harbourmaster and the maritime programme manager attended an Exercise Writing course that was organised by Civil Defence staff. Staff also attended first aid revalidation training as required. Applications for maritime events including the Powerboats race and the Bath Tubs race to be carried out in the Bay of Islands in April were processed.

8.2.7 SUPPORT SERVICES

Public communications

Media releases

- 'Hands-on emergency services opportunity for youth' (issued on behalf of the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group)
- 'Northland tsunami siren network testing early April' (issued on behalf of the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group)
- · 'Public meeting on Whangarei Harbour marine pest spread' (authorised by and quotes Bill Shepherd)
- "Project Mustelid' training launched' (authorised by and quotes Joe Carr)
- 'Whangarei Harbour the focus of emergency services exercise' (issued on behalf of the Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group)
- Feedback sought on Annual Plan 2016/17 (authorised by and quotes Bill Shepherd).

Councillor constituency columns and photographs

The following columns have been published/completed since the previous report: • Coastal Central (Whangarei Leader).

Publications

Council's 'Regional Report' newsletter was produced for distribution to more than 60,000 properties Northland-wide beginning immediately after the Easter break to coincide with the start of the official feedback period on the Annual Plan 2016/17. Items included '*Big year ahead for North flood protection'*, '*Have your say – Annual Plan 2016/17'*, '*Northland Field Days 2016*' (a photo spread), '*Exercise planned for 'local source' tsunami'*, '*New app for official hazard alerts*' and '*Local elections 2016*'.

The Annual Plan 2016-2017 Consultation Document and Supporting Information were produced this month for distribution and online use during the April consultation period. Proofing of the draft Regional Plan continues as sections of the document are made available. Feedback was also provided on the community engagement plan for the coastal hazard mapping project with further publication requirements ongoing for the project. Work also continued to update the Boating in Northland publication.

The latest issue of the Economic Quarterly newsletter was proofed. The CoastCare newsletter was also proofed with it being distributed in an e-newsletter format for the first time this issue.

Other work-streams that required publications/communication input and ongoing work during March included:

- · Catchment management plans;
- Regional pest management plan; and
- State of the Environment Report.

Online channels highlights *Facebook advertising trial*

During March the Online Services team implemented a trial using Facebook advertising to grow our number of fans and the reach of our posts. For the six month period up to Feb 2016 the average increase in Likes was 4.5%. During the trial month this was more than doubled to 11%. Based on this successful result, the team will be utilising this channel further to increase reach and engagement.

One of the posts that was trialled during the promotion was the Parua Bay Public meeting event about fanworm. The post reached 6,547 people and was shared 38 times. Discussion was robust and assisted staff in planning for the meeting to be held on 7th April.

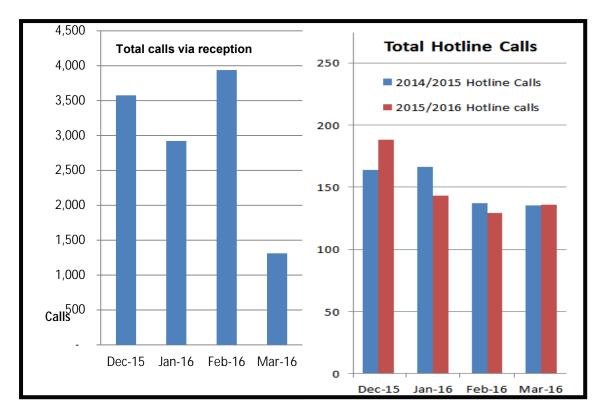


Visits to the NRC website (compared to the same period last year):

# Visits to the NRC website (compared to the same period last year):	# Visits to the NRC websit	e (compared to the same	period last year):
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Key Performance Indicators	Nov-15	Dec-15	Jan-16	Feb-16	Mar-16
WEB					
E-payments made	6	6	4	16	6
GIS Service - Number of unique visitors	917	964	1,294	972	1,024
GIS Service - Number of visits	1,149	1,315	1,626	1,202	1,345
# subscription customers (cumulative)	1,040	1,054	1,057	1,077	1,078
SOCIAL MEDIA (cumulative)					
# Twitter followers	1,011	1,019	1,025	1,042	1,058
# NRC Facebook fans	906	960	989	1,031	1,146
# NRC Overall Facebook Reach	17,846	19,780	17,064	23,323	47,051
# CDEM Facebook fans	5,717	6,143	6,324	6,497	6,842
# CDEM Overall Facebook Reach	15,391	51,879	61,139	23,314	37,485
# CoastCare Facebook fans	165	171	175	175	176
#CoastCare Overall Facebook Reach	68	120	323	94	26

** New Subscription system (MailChimp) Data was "cleaned" i.e. bounced emails were deleted so numbers will be different)



* March Total Calls data incomplete due to Spark reporting issues.

Events

Northland Agricultural Field Days (Thursday 3 – Saturday 5 March)

Once again our theme at field days was 'working together' and 'taking action'. Our displays focused on providing practical advice and demonstrations on what actions people can take to help improve Northland's environment. The idea to focus on actions and commitments originated from the ideologies of Community-Based Social Marketing. We wanted to encourage people to take action and change behaviour by including more interactive hands on displays rather than just information intensive displays. To encourage people to take action we had a play your part photo booth where visitors wrote an action and had their photo taken. The images were then posted on council's Facebook page which generated further engagement.

We had a large kauri dieback display in the centre of the marquee which was very popular and reinforced the working together theme as we had the Mita Harris, Chairman of the Northland Conservation Board attend. The pest animal's display was outside and attracted a large number of visitors. Once again we sold a small range of traps which increased our customer service.

Other displays included a weeds garden, aquatic pests display, soil conservation, poplar and willow displays, farm dairy effluent and wetland. This year we also had maritime attend which proved popular with the public.

We had approximately 2000 people through our display over the three-day event. We received lots of positive feedback with over 100 people completing our online feedback surveys on iPad's at the event.

Customer services

New Zealand Dairy Industry Awards Dinner (Saturday 12 March)

Councillor Carr presented the Northland Regional Council Leadership Award to J Horsford at the 2016 Northland Dairy Industry Awards. Council has been a long supporter and sponsor of these awards. Unfortunately numbers at this year's awards dinner were lower than previous years due to recent events within the dairy industry.

Ballance Farm Environment Awards Dinner (Wednesday 16 March)

The Ballance Farm Environment Awards Dinner celebrated the success of a number of great farmers in the region. Councillor Carr presented the Northland Regional Council Water Quality Enhancement Award to John Craig, Anne Stewart and Suzan Craig, Green Inc and Tahi Estate Ltd, Pataua North, Whangarei. Tahi Estate also won the Farm Stewardship Award. The 2016 Supreme Award Winners were Dennis and Rachelle O'Callaghan.

Event	Date	Location	Description	Staff contact
Мау				
Enviroschools WaiRestoration project: WaiFencing skills workshops	03, 04 and 05	Trefoil Park, near Kaikohe	Three, one-day workshops based on NCEA Unit standards covering fencing skills and protecting waterways.	Susan Karels
Ballance Farm Environment Awards Supreme Winners field day	05	Таіра	A field day to be hosted at sheep and beef farmers Dennis and Rachelle O'Callaghan.	Natasha Stubbing
Enviroschools Project Mustelid assessment workshop	24	Trefoil Park, near Kaikohe	A workshop assessing students on NCEA Unit Standards covering mustelid pest control, biology and environmental impact.	Susan Karels
June			·	
Ballance Farm Environment Awards National Showcase	22	Copthorne Waitangi	Supreme winners from across New Zealand compete for the Gordon Stephenson Trophy and title of 2016 National Award Winner.	Natasha Stubbing

Enviroschools

Bream Bay College achieves Enviroschools Bronze status

On 21 March, an Enviroschools Bronze sharing and decision-making session was held with Bream Bay College. The school successfully provided evidence to show its commitment to the Enviroschools journey and that foundations have been laid to becoming a sustainable school community. A celebration, including a Regional Councillor, will be organised for the new school term in May.

Seaweek statistics

Enviroschools and CoastCare together provided Council's response to the nation-wide Seaweek by equipping schools and community groups with free beach clean-up kits. As a result, over 2,100 people cleaned up Northland beaches – 800 more than last year. The district councils provided associated free waste disposal.

Facilitation of Enviroschools communities

The following school communities were visited during March: Bay of Islands Academy, Bream Bay, Dargaville High, Hukerenui, Kaikohe West, Kaitaia Intermediate, Kamo High, Kamo Intermediate, Kohukohu, Ohaeawai, Okaihau Primary, Onerahi, Oromahoe, Oruaiti, Otaika, Otangarei, Oturu, Parua Bay, Rawene, Ruakaka, Russell, Springbank, Tangowahine, Tauraroa, Tautoro, Te Kura o Hato Hohepa Te Kamura, Whangarei Boys High, Whangarei Intermediate and Whangarei Primary.

Governance Support

Clarification was sought on behalf of council regarding depreciation of the Northland Events Centre. It has been advised that CAPEX (rate funded) is included in the WDC Long Term Plan for the next two years to renew floor coverings (\$80k), exterior general renewals (\$20k) and interior general renewals (\$20k).

There are a number of assets relating to Events Centre 'fit outs' over the years. The largest one has a cost of \$15.997m with accumulated depreciation of \$2.294m and a WDV (written down value) of \$13.704m. Annual depreciation is 2.5% straight line (~\$400k per annum). Additional 'fit outs' done to the building to a total value of \$700k are depreciating at 10% per annum.

Finance and IT

Fraud declaration

Fraud is an intentional act by one or more individuals among management, those charged with governance, employees, or third parties, involving the use of deception to obtain an unjust or illegal advantage. The Finance team continue to undertake a comprehensive review of financial processes, which includes an assessment of our capabilities and processes in relation to Fraud detection.

Finance

The council year to date (YTD) report shows a net operating surplus of \$3.74M against a budgeted net surplus of \$2.91M, resulting in an overall favourable variance for the year to date of \$834K before transfers to or from special reserves. This favourable variance includes \$591K relating to three Northland Inc projects. The full year budget for these three projects is \$1.60M and to date we have spent \$95K. After transfers to reserves the council has favourable variance of \$358K to budget.

Please refer to the full finance report for more detail on year to date financial variances.

Council Property Update

Residential

- 14 Kotuku Street has sold.
- A further Kotuku Street property has now been listed on TradeMe.

Commercial

- Sale agreements on two commercial properties have received Ministerial approval and await due diligence confirmations by the purchasers.
- Negotiations on a large freehold commercial property are ongoing.

ATTACHMENT 1



Council Meeting 19 April 2016 Office of Hon Simon Bridges

> **MP for Tauranga** Minister of Energy and Resources Minister of Transport Deputy Leader of the House

Associate Minister for Climate Change Issues Associate Minister of Justice

Associate minister of just

2 9 MAR 2016

John Bain Chairman Regional Transport Committee Northland Regional Council Private Bag 9021 WHANGAREI 0148



Dear John John,

Thank you for your letter of 2 March 2016 regarding the replacement of one-lane bridges in Northland.

As you are aware the announcements about the bridges maintained the intention of construction over a six year time period.

I am pleased to advise that the New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) has confirmed it is making significant progress on the four bridges identified in the 2015/18 National Land Transport Programme (NLTP).

Investigations are being completed on an Indicative Option for the realignment of the State Highway through Matakohe, which will avoid the current one-lane bridges and sections of sub-standard alignment.

Investigations have also commenced to address safety, resilience and traffic concerns at the Taipa and Kaeo Bridges on State Highway 10. The resilience of the State Highway 10 corridor will be increased through these and other projects aimed at reducing the impact of extreme weather events.

State Highway corridor plans will commence later this year to identify improvements which support the tourism and freight function of the network as well as addressing safety and resilience issues. This will encompass the locations of the other six bridges on the State Highway network.

Projects emerging from this process will be considered for inclusion in future programmes of investment. Therefore, within the six years of the 2015/2018 and 2018/2021 NLTP's, all of the bridges will have been progressed.

Further information on programmes underway, as well as future works on the Northland network is available through NZTA's website at: <u>www.nzta.govt.nz/projects/regions/1203</u>, and through the recently launched Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan, which can be found online on Northland Inc's website: <u>www.northlandnz.com/ttneap</u>.

I have asked the NZTA to keep me briefed on the progress of the respective programmes of work it is responsible for in Northland and how those works are delivering on the issues identified by the Regional Land Transport Plan and the Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan.

If you would like to discuss this matter further with the NZTA you are welcome to contact Ernst Zöllner, Regional Director Auckland and Northland, at: <u>ernst.zollner@nzta.govt.nz</u> or on (09) 969 9553.

Yours sincerely

Hon Simon Bridges Minister of Transport

ISSUE: Freshwater Improvement Fund

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services

Date: 5 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	þ	Information		Decision
Durnoso	Infrastructure		Public service		Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function		Annual\Long Term Plan	þ	Other
Significance:	Triggered	þ	Not Triggered		

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to brief council on the Government's proposal for the Freshwater Improvement Fund as announced in the Ministry for the Environment February 2016 *Next steps for fresh water: Consultation document*.

Legal compliance and significance assessment:

The activities detailed in this report are provided for in the council's 2015–2025 Long Term Plan, and as such are in accordance with the council's decision making process and sections 76–82 of the Local Government Act 2002. As this report is only provided for information it does not trigger council's Significance Policy.

Recommendation:

That the report 'Freshwater Improvement Fund' by Bruce Howse, Group Manager Environmental Services, and dated 5 April 2016, be received.

In February 2016 the Ministry for the Environment released the *Next steps for fresh water: Consultation document*. The document contains the next steps the Government proposes to improve the management of fresh water in New Zealand, including a proposal for the Freshwater Improvement Fund (FIF).

The proposed FIF is described in the consultation document as follows:

In 2014, the Government announced that it would allocate \$100 million over 10 years to buy and retire selected areas of farmland next to important waterways to create an environmental buffer that helps improve water quality.

The Government proposes to retain the intent of this funding commitment, but to broaden the focus of the funding to include other initiatives beyond purchasing land for retirement.

The new fund will focus on supporting projects that will help water users move to managing within environmental limits. In environmentally vulnerable areas, funding will help ensure desirable water quality and quantity limits will be achieved faster, or there will be lower transitional costs imposed on users to achieve imposed limits. This focus for the fund recognises that changes in water use to manage within quality and quantity limits are necessary, and may be profitable over time, but also that change carries costs.

The fund will focus on projects that deliver clear environmental benefits. This means that the economic benefits of irrigation projects will not be funded but it is recognised that some irrigation schemes can be designed to provide significant environmental benefits. Currently, the cost of providing environmental benefits through irrigation schemes is largely born by private individuals, which can increase the cost of irrigated water and reduce the financial viability of irrigation schemes.

Proposal

- 4.1 The Government proposes that eligible projects will need to meet the following criteria:
 - only projects that support users to move to managing within quality and quantity limits will be considered
 - projects will need to demonstrate that they produce environmental benefits
 - projects will be considered if the overall public and private benefits are clearly demonstrated to be greater than the public and private costs
 - irrigation projects will be eligible for funding only commensurate with any environmental benefits that would not be achieved by the funding available from other sources
 - any legal entity will be eligible for funding
 - changes in resource use or other business practices, or installed infrastructure, will all need to be sustainable beyond the length of the project without ongoing Government funding

- extension programmes will only be funded where there are clearly public benefits and the barriers to success are about adaption and roll out at scale. These projects must continue to meet the initial objectives after the extension funding has stopped
- if comparable projects achieve similar economic and environmental objectives costefficiently, preference will be given to projects that achieve co-benefits, such as improvements in ecosystem health, conservation and climate change
- government funding should reflect the public benefits of each project and be limited to a maximum of 50 per cent of the cost of any project. Other sources of government funding will not count towards the co-funding requirement. Priority will be given to projects with funding sourced from either business or philanthropic funds, in addition to funding sources from local government
- the minimum government contribution for projects will be \$250,000. There will be no maximum contribution.

The funding criteria sets a clear expectation from Government that priority will be given to projects with funding sourced from either business or philanthropic funds, in addition to funding sources from local government.

Consideration should be given to the development of a shortlist of potential projects in anticipation of the FIF. Pending this, consideration could then be given as to how council may choose to participate in the fund.

Council has no prescribed fund or criteria for funding high-value projects of this nature, and consideration should be given to determining if council, through an Annual Plan/LTP process, establishes a fund and/or criteria for this purpose and/or amends the council significance and engagement policy via an Annual Plan/LTP. This would enable council to fund projects without significant delay and risk of lost opportunities.

Council consulted in the 2015–2025 LTP on a criteria for purchasing land for environmental benefit (the criteria was not adopted), noting that this type of unbudgeted financial transaction is limited to 5% of the combined targeted land management rate and council services rates revenue in the year of decision (approx. \$714k in 2015/16) under the council significance and engagement policy. Criteria for purchase of land for environmental benefit could be reworked, and broadened to encompass funding opportunities (not just land purchase) like the FIF, and consulted on through an Annual Plan/LTP in light of the opportunities that the FIF may be able to assist with.

It is not clear as to when the FIF will be open for project applications, and the FIF criteria are still subject to change.

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ISSUE: Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board: Inaugural Meeting

ID: A833887

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi Mātauranga Māori

Date: 7 April 2016

Report Type:	Normal operations	b Information	Decision
Durnoco	Infrastructure	Public service	Regulatory function
Purpose:	Legislative function	Annual\Long Term Plan	b Other
Significance:	Triggered	Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

This purpose of this paper is to provide feedback to council in regards to the inaugural meeting of the Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board established through the collective settlement redress for Te Rarawa, Te Aupouri, Ngāti Kuri and NgāiTakoto for the management of Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē (90 Mile Beach).

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.

The Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board is created under the respective settlements for the aforementioned Te Hiku iwi and therefore recognises the spiritual, cultural and historical relationship of these iwi to the beach area. Therefore this paper may be significant for Te Hiku iwi.

Recommendation:

That the report 'Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board: Inaugural Meeting' by Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi Mātauranga Māori, and dated 7 April 2016, be received.

Report:

The inaugural meeting of the Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board (the Board) was held 30 March 2016 at Te Ahu Kaitāia. Councillors Samuels and Knight as council representatives attended the first meeting of the Board, supported by council Chairman Bill Shepherd, and staff.

As prescribed within the respective settlement Acts, at the first meeting of the Board it was required to:

- Establish membership of the committee.
- Elect a Chair and Deputy Chair.
- Confirm a schedule of meetings
- Adopt a set of Standing Orders (including relevant standards from the Acts).

Further to this, the Board is required to have commenced the development of the beach management plan within three months of the first meeting.

Inaugural meeting of the Board

All four iwi and both councils were in full attendance at the first meeting of the Board with the following membership confirmed¹:

Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa Te Manawa o Ngāti Kuri Trust Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupouri Trust Te Rūnanga o NgāiTakoto Northland Regional Council

Far North District Council

Haami Piripi Graeme Neho Waitai Petera Rangitane Marsden Councillor Dover Samuels Councillor Monty Knight Mayor Hon. John Carter Councillor David Collard

The Board also endorsed, by majority vote of iwi members, as prescribed in respective Acts, Haami Piripi to the role of Chairman. Councillor Dover Samuels was elected - by majority vote of the full Board membership - as Deputy Chair.

A schedule of meetings was also agreed to at the meeting being bi-monthly formal meetings of the Board with workshops in alternate months and as/when required. The following schedule was confirmed with formal meetings being at Te Ahu Kaitāia:

- 28 April workshop
- May formal meeting
- June formal meeting
- August formal meeting
- September formal meeting
- November formal meeting.

¹ While membership is for a three year term, it was noted that elected members will only be in place up until the 2016 elections. Following the elections councils will reaffirm their respective memberships.

ITEM: 8.4

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The respective Acts also prescribe that a set of Standing Orders needed to be adopted but must include those standards applicable to the Board (as prescribed in the settlement Acts) and is consistent with the requirements of local government legislation² and Tikanga Māori.

With this in mind a set of standards was adopted with the intent that these be debated further at the first workshop of the committee (being 28 April). Further to this, the Board confirmed that a draft Terms of Reference might also be appropriate and assist to further enhance the joint understanding of Board members around how the Board will operate and reconcile the requirements of local government legislation with that of Tikanga Māori.

Over and above the requirements of the first meeting, the Board also discussed remuneration of members. It was reported and noted that elected members receive remuneration via the Remuneration Authority and with this in mind, and noting current council policy, they were not able to claim for their time and attendance at Board meetings. It was further noted that iwi participants on the Board were expecting to be remunerated from those funds provided by central government for both attendance and travel allowance.

Other points raised during discussion related to:

- True and actual costs of administration and plan development;
- · Advice (legal or other);
- Independent contractors;
- · Actual cost to councils once the one off funding is exhausted;
- Applying a financial formula to assess costs in order to seek further funding from central government; and
- Other possible forms of income to support the Board in the long term (other than rates).

Following discussion, staff were instructed to prepare a budget forecast which includes expected costs (including staff time) of administering the Board, plan preparation, remuneration and other relevant costs to enable a more informed decision as to possible dispensing of funds.

Next steps

The Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board meets again informally on 28 April 2016 at Te Ahu Kaitāia to which FNDC has taken the lead in preparing the draft budget forecast for the Board's consideration. Given the Board is operating under new and untested legislation, staff have been instructed to seek legal advice on a number of matters, including the payment of board members' meeting fees, to ensure legislative compliance.

Further reports will be provided to council as and when requested to ensure the full council is kept informed as the Board progresses and provide an opportunity for wider council consideration of council position on matters as they arise.

Additional background information surrounding the formation, role and function of the Board is provided in **Attachment 1**.

² Local government legislations means – the Local Authorities (Members Interests) Act 1968, Local Government Act 2002, Local Government Act 1974, and Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Attachment 1

Te Rarawa, Te Aupouri, Ngāti Kuri and NgāiTakoto have settled their historical Treaty of Waitangi grievances against the Crown, with their Deeds of Settlements (DoS), enacted September 2015.

The collective redress of these settlements that relates to the regional council is the establishment of the Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board (the Board) as a statutory body. The Board is established as a joint committee of both the Northland Regional Council (NRC) and Far North District Council (FNDC) via clause 30(1)(b), Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002. It is established as a permanent committee and cannot be discharged unless agreement is reached by all parties³.

Purpose and function of the Board

The purpose and function of the Board is clearly set out in statute:

The purpose of the Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board is to provide governance and direction to all those who have a role in, or responsibility for, the Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē management area, in order to protect and enhance environmental, economic, social, cultural and spiritual well-being within that area for the benefit of present and future generations⁴.

The primary function of the Board is to achieve the purpose (aforementioned) while operating in a manner that is both consistent with Tikanga Māori and acknowledges the shared responsibilities, authority and aspirations of both Te Hiku iwi and councils. In addition, the Board must prepare and approve a beach management plan that identifies a vision, objectives and desired outcomes for the Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē management area (refer **Attachment 1** for a map of the beach management area).

The Board will also be responsible for appointing commissioners to panels to hear and determine resource consent applications that relate in whole or partially to the beach management area.

Board membership and chair

Membership of the Board is clearly defined in the respective Acts. Each of the four⁵ iwi will have one representative elected and mandated by that iwi (amounting to four iwi members). Two members each are then appointed by both the FNDC and NRC (amounting to four local government members). The latter representatives must be elected members of councils with the Mayor identified as having to be one of the representatives for the Far North District Council.

The collective settlement also provides for the interim participation of Ngāti Kahu should they choose to join - after receiving an invitation from the Minister of Treaty Settlements. If Ngāti Kahu does decide to join the Board, then one further member is appointed by the Te Hiku Community Board (of FNDC).

³ Te Rarawa, Te Aupouri, Ngāti Kuri, NgāiTakoto, Northland Regional and Far North District Councils.

⁴ Te Aupouri Claims Settlement Act, Part 2, s 65

⁵ Te Rarawa, Te Aupouri, Ngāti Kuri and NgāiTakoto

ITEM: 8.4

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Further the Acts dictate the process of electing both a chair and deputy chair. With the chair being an iwi member whereas the deputy can be either an iwi or council representative.

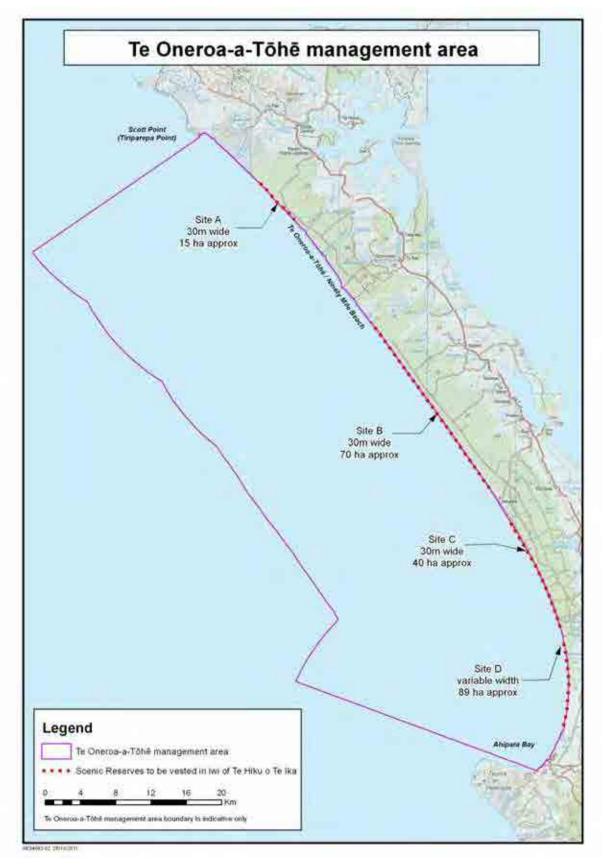
Administration and operation of the Board

As prescribed in the Acts the councils (FNDC and NRC) are jointly responsible for the administration and technical support for the Board. To simplify the process, FNDC has agreed to administer the Board for the first year, or until such time as the councils agree otherwise. This will allow for one point of contact and streamlining work programmes and/or correspondence on behalf of the Board.

The one off financial contribution by the Crown to support the day to day operation of the Board (\$150,000) and development of the beach plan (\$250,000) has been invoiced and received by the regional council. Separate budget lines were created to receive these funds which will be expended upon decisions of the Board.

Once this one off contribution has been exhausted, councils are expected to normalise the ongoing costs associated with the Board into their respective budgets.

ITEM: 14.0 ATTACHEMENT 1



ISSUE: Receipt of Committee Minutes

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager

Date: 5 April 2016

Report Type:	þ	Normal operations		Information	Decision
Burnoso		Infrastructure		Public service	Regulatory function
Purpose:	þ	Legislative function		Annual\Long Term Plan	Other
Significance		Triggered	þ	Not Triggered	

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to acknowledge the unconfirmed minutes of the following committees:

- Environmental Management Committee 29 February 2016;
- · Civil Defence and Emergency Management 1 March 2016; and
- Organisational Performance Committee 29 March 2016.

The minutes for each committee will be circulated under separate cover.

Legal compliance:

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

Recommendation:

That the unconfirmed minutes of the:

- Environmental Management Committee 29 February 2016;
- Civil Defence and Emergency Management 1 March 2016; and
- Organisational Performance Committee 29 March 2016

be received.

ISSUE: Business with the Public Excluded

To: Council Meeting, 19 April 2016

From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager

Date 5 April 2016

Executive summary:

The purpose of this report is to recommend that the public be excluded from the proceedings of this meeting to consider the confidential matters detailed below for the reasons given.

Recommendations:

- 1. That the public be excluded from the proceedings of this meeting to consider confidential matters.
- 2. That the general subject of the matters to be considered whilst the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to this matter, and the specific grounds under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution, are as follows:

Item No. 10.1	Item Issue Confidential Minutes of the Council Meeting – 15 March 2016	Reason\Grounds The reasons for excluding the public are as stated in the minutes of the open section of that meeting.
10.2	Receipt of Confidential Minutes	The reason for excluding the public from the Economic Development Working Party (1 March 2016) is the public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in the disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to allow the council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) 7(2)(i).
		The reason for excluding the public from the Organisational Performance Committee meeting (29 March 2016) is as stated in the minutes of the open section of that meeting.

10.3	Human Resources Report	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons $7(2)(a)$.
10.4	Progressing the Strategic Plan for Industrial Area	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to allow the council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities 7(2)(h)).
10.5	Compensation for 8 Kensington Avenue Carparks	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to allow the council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities 7(2)(h)).
10.6	Appointment of Northland Inc. Limited Directors	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons $7(2)(a)$.
10.7	Northland Transport Collaboration Opportunities Business Case	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons $7(2)(a)$.