

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Agenda

For meeting to be held in the Council Chamber,
36 Water Street, Whangārei, on Tuesday 20 March 2018,
commencing at 10.30 am

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

OPEN MEETING

Item		Page
	Housekeeping	
1.0	APOLOGIES	-
2.0	DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	-
3.0	PRESENTATIONS	
	3.1 Landcare Research – LIDAR and Land Capability	1
4.0	HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT	2
5.0	COUNCIL MINUTES/ACTION SHEET/COUNCIL WORKING PARTY AND WORKING GROUP UPDATES	
	5.1 Confirmation of Minutes of the Council Meeting – 20 February 2018	4
	5.2 Receipt of Action Sheet	12
	5.3 Council Working Party Updates and Chairpersons’ Briefings <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning Working Party	14
	5.4 Council Working Group Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whangārei Harbour Catchment Working Group• Waitangi Catchment Working Group	15
6.0	FINANCIAL REPORTS	
	6.1 Financial Report to 28 February 2018	17
	6.2 Regional Software Holdings Limited Report to Shareholders for the Six Months to 31 December 2017	21

6.3	Externally Managed Funds – Adjustment to the Community Investment Fund SIPO	22
6.4	Regional Rates Collection – Update to 31 December 2017	25
6.5	Northland Inc. Limited – Six Month Financial Report and Reporting Against Statement of Intent (SOI) for 2017–2020	27

7.0 DECISION MAKING MATTERS

7.1	Northland Inc. Limited – Draft Statement of Intent 2018–2021	30
7.2	Biosecurity Operational Plan 2017–2027	33
7.3	Proposed Regional Plan Hearings – GMO Submissions	36
7.4	2018 Local Government New Zealand Conference	40
7.5	Support for Implementation of the New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code in Northland	42
7.6	Appointment of Regional On Scene Commander – Marine Oil Spill Response	46
7.7	Revised National Policy Statement for Freshwater Progressive Implementation Programme	49
7.8	Submission on Conservation (Infringement System) Bill	58
7.9	Submission on Auckland Council’s Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan	63
7.10	Draft Regional Swimming Water Quality Targets	66
7.11	Appoint Councillors to Environmental Leaders’ Funding Panel	75
7.12	Adoption of the Liability Management Policy and Investment Policy	77
7.13	Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party: Reconvening the Māori Technical Advisory Group	78

8.0 OPERATIONAL REPORTS

8.1	Chairman’s Report to Council	81
8.2	Chief Executive Officer’s Report to Council	84
8.2.1	Highlights	84
8.2.2	CEO’s Office	84
8.2.3	Corporate Excellence	85
8.2.4	Regulatory Services	85
8.2.5	Environmental Services	89
8.2.6	Governance and Engagement	95
8.2.7	Customer Service – Community Resilience	99

8.3	Regional Software Holdings Limited Statement of Intent 2019–2021	106
8.4	CityLink Whangārei	108
9.0	RECEIPT OF COMMITTEE MINUTES	110
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Transport Committee – 7 February 2018 Property Subcommittee – 7 February 2018 Investment Subcommittee – 28 February 2018 	
10.0	BUSINESS WITH THE PUBLIC EXCLUDED	111
10.1	Confirmation of Confidential Council Minutes –20 February 2018	113
10.2	Receipt of Confidential Committee Minutes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Property Subcommittee – 7 February 2018 	117
10.3	Human Resources Report	118
10.4	Bells Hill Landslip Mitigation Works – Update on Budget and Estimated Costs	122
10.5	Appointment of Northland Inc. Directors	124
10.6	CityLink Whangārei Ticketing and Fares	127

<p>ACC - Accident Compensation Corporation</p> <p>AHB - Animal Health Board</p> <p>ALGIM - Association of Local Government Information Management</p> <p>AMA - Aquaculture Management Area</p> <p>AMP – Asset Management Plan/Activity Management Plan</p> <p>BOI - Bay of Islands</p> <p>BOPRC - Bay of Plenty Regional Council</p> <p>CAPEX - Capital Expenditure (budget to purchase assets)</p> <p>CBEC - Community, Business and Environment Centre</p> <p>CDEM - Civil Defence Emergency Management</p> <p>CEG - Co-ordinating Executive Group – Northland Civil Defence management team</p> <p>CEO - Chief Executive Officer</p> <p>CIMS - Co-ordinated Incident Management System (emergency management structure)</p> <p>CMA - Coastal Marine Area</p> <p>CPCA - Community Pest Control Areas</p> <p>CRI - Crown Research Institute</p> <p>DHB - District Health Board</p> <p>DOC - Department of Conservation</p> <p>DOL - Department of Labour</p> <p>DPMC - Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet</p> <p>ECA - Environmental Curriculum Award</p> <p>ECAN - Environment Canterbury</p> <p>EE - Environmental Education</p> <p>EECA - Energy Efficiency Conservation Authority</p> <p>EEZ - Exclusive Economic Zone</p> <p>EF - Environment Fund</p> <p>EMA - Employers and Manufacturers Association</p> <p>EMC - Environmental Management Committee</p> <p>EOC - Emergency Operations Centre</p> <p>EPA - Environmental Protection Authority</p> <p>FDE - Farm Dairy Effluent</p> <p>FNDC - Far North District Council</p> <p>FNHL - Far North Holdings Limited</p> <p>FPP - First Past the Post – voting system for NRC elections</p> <p>GE - Genetic Engineering</p> <p>GIS - Geographic Information System</p> <p>GMO - Genetically Modified Organism</p> <p>HSNO - Hazardous Substances & New Organisms Act</p> <p>HBRC - Hawke's Bay Regional Council</p> <p>HEMP - Hapū Environmental Management Plan</p> <p>Horizons - Brand name of Manawatu-Wanganui Regional Council</p> <p>HR - Human Resources</p> <p>HSWA - Health and Safety at Work Act 2015</p> <p>IEMP - Iwi Environmental Management Plan</p> <p>IPPC - Invited Private Plan Change: a process to allow Aquaculture Management Areas to be established</p> <p>IRIS - Integrated Regional Information System: new computer system being developed collaboratively with other Regional Councils</p> <p>KDC - Kaipara District Council</p> <p>KPI - Key Performance Indicator</p> <p>LATE - Local Authority Trading Enterprise</p> <p>LGA - Local Government Act 2002</p> <p>LGNZ - Local Government New Zealand</p> <p>LGOIMA - Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987</p> <p>LGOL - Local Government Online</p> <p>LTP - Long Term Plan</p> <p>LTFS - Long Term Financial Strategy</p> <p>MCDEM - Ministry of Civil Defence & Emergency Mgmt</p> <p>MFE - Ministry for the Environment</p> <p>MHWS - Mean High Water Springs</p> <p>MMH - Marsden Maritime Holdings</p> <p>MNZ - Maritime New Zealand</p>	<p>MOH - Ministry of Health</p> <p>MOT - Ministry of Transport</p> <p>MPI – Ministry for Primary Industries</p> <p>MSD - Ministry of Social Development</p> <p>NCMC - National Crisis Management Centre</p> <p>NES – National Environmental Standards</p> <p>NDHB - Northland District Health Board</p> <p>NZRC - New Zealand Refining Company (Marsden Point)</p> <p>NGO - Non-Governmental Organisation</p> <p>NIF - Northland Intersectoral Forum</p> <p>NIWA - National Institute of Water and Atmosphere</p> <p>NORTEG - Northland Technical Advisory Group</p> <p>NZCPS - New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement</p> <p>NZTA - New Zealand Transport Agency</p> <p>NZQA - New Zealand Qualifications Authority</p> <p>NZWWA - New Zealand Water and Wastes Association</p> <p>OFI - Opportunity for Improvement</p> <p>ORC - Otago Regional Council</p> <p>OSH - Occupational Safety & Health (now Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment)</p> <p>PCBU – Person Conducting Business or Undertaking</p> <p>PDF - Portable Document Format</p> <p>PPE - Personal Protective Equipment</p> <p>RAP - Response Action Plan</p> <p>RAQP - Regional Air Quality Plan</p> <p>RCP - Regional Coastal Plan</p> <p>RFI - Request for Information</p> <p>RFP - Request for Proposal</p> <p>RTC - Regional Transport Committee</p> <p>RLTS - Regional Land Transport Strategy</p> <p>RMA - Resource Management Act 1991</p> <p>RMG - Resource Managers Group (Regional Councils)</p> <p>RMZ - Riparian Management Zone</p> <p>ROI - Return on Investment</p> <p>RPMS - Regional Pest Management Strategy</p> <p>RPS - Regional Policy Statement</p> <p>RSG - Regional Sector Group</p> <p>RTO - Regional Tourism Organisation</p> <p>RWASP - Regional Water and Soil Plan</p> <p>SITREP - Situation Report</p> <p>SMF - Sustainable Management Fund</p> <p>SOE - State of Environment (or) State Owned Enterprise</p> <p>SOLGM - Society of Local Government Managers</p> <p>SPARC - Sport & Recreation New Zealand</p> <p>SRC - Southland Regional Council (Environment Southland)</p> <p>STV - Single Transferable Vote</p> <p>SWAG - Surface Water Allocation Group</p> <p>SWPA - Sustainable Water Programme of Action</p> <p>TA - Territorial Authority: City & District Councils</p> <p>TAG - Technical Advisory Group</p> <p>Tier 1 - Site level plan or response for an oil spill</p> <p>Tier 2 - Regional level plan or response to an oil spill</p> <p>Tier 3 - National level plan or response to an oil spill</p> <p>TLA - Territorial Local Authority – City & District Councils</p> <p>TMP - Treasury Management Plan</p> <p>TOR - Terms of Reference</p> <p>TPK - Te Puni Kōkiri (Ministry of Maori Development)</p> <p>TRAION - Te Rūnanga a Iwi o Ngāpuhi</p> <p>TRC - Taranaki Regional Council</p> <p>TROTR - Te Rūnanga o Te Rarawa</p> <p>TUANZ - Telecommunications Users Association of NZ</p> <p>WCRC - West Coast Regional Council</p> <p>WDC - Whangarei District Council</p> <p>WHHIF - Whangarei Harbour Health Improvement Fund</p> <p>WRC - Waikato Regional Council</p> <p>WSMP – Workplace Safety Management Practices</p> <p>WWTP - Wastewater Treatment Plant</p>
---	---

TITLE: Presentation

ID: A1044884

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager

Date: 12 March 2018

Executive summary

The following presentation will be presented to council:

3.1 Landcare Research – LIDAR and Land Capability.

Recommendation

1. That the presentation be received.

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Jonathan Gibbard

Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement

Date: 12 March 2018

TITLE: Health and Safety Report

ID: A1042554

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Tracey Warboys, Health and Safety Specialist

Date: 5 March 2018

Executive Summary

This report provides an update from the Health and Safety Specialist for the month of February 2018.

There was a marked increase of reporting. This is in part due to H&S Reps being encouraged to report hazards. One serious near miss with high risk potential.

There were a total of 27 reported events but these were of low risk with one medium and one high risk.

Recommendation

That the Health and Safety Report by Tracey Warboys, Health and Safety Specialist, dated 5 March 2018 be received.

Background

Reports on council's Health and Safety activities for the month of February 2018.

Report

Summary of Events (items of note)

Total of 27 reports for the period – major increase in reporting against previous months. This is in part due to the H&S Reps being encouraged to report and action hazards.

- ***Discomfort, Pain and Injury (5)***
 - Assessments undertaken with no further issues.
- ***Incidents (4)***
 - Forklift marked defective and taken out of service as loss of power under drive
 - Superficial injury to head when employee walked into wing mirror of vehicle
 - Minor car accident when employee swerved to avoid a cat
 - Water leak in Consents area
- ***Lost Time Injury (1)***
 - Employee misjudged distance from step-board into a vehicle resulting in a severe knock to the head. Diagnosed with concussion and contusion with 21 days lost. Not reportable to WorkSafe as no memory impairment or hospitalisation. Duty of care conducted throughout and a return to work plan developed. Employee recovering and managing well.

ITEM: 4.0

Page 2 of 2

- ***Near Miss (1)***
 - Serious incident where show trailer detached during transit. Level 2 investigation undertaken. Actions undertaken to repair and reinforce bracing between A-frame trailer and show trailer. From a risk perspective, repair is to an accepted industry standard and has lowered the risk of a repeat occurrence from high to low.
- ***Hazards (16)***
 - Much better reporting of hazards by H&S Reps.
 - Items of note, three reports of musty/mould smell in Finance area after severe rain. Mould/spore testing to be undertaken.
 - Three reports of stress/fatigue attributed to peak workloads. Employees counselled and monitored.

Internal policy review

- Drug and Alcohol Policy - final recommendations to be incorporated.
- Lone Worker - documentation to be updated once Lone Worker training undertaken. Lone Worker feedback will also be incorporated into policy.
- Ninety H&S Promapp processes developed and under review.
- Hazardous Substances gap analysis underway (to ensure compliance with new Hazardous Substances Regulations).
- Review of contractor management documentation to remove some complexity.

Health and Safety Committee

- Developing well, nil issues. Next meeting scheduled April 2018. Combined effort of reps and management to workshop a Health and Safety Strategy (in March).
- Well-being - team analysing stress survey results.

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

- 2018 flu vaccination programme to be planned.
- Asbestos management survey complete. Emergency management plans to be developed where asbestos had been identified.
- Site visits/events - nil issues.

Authorised by:**Name:** Dave Tams**Title:** Group Manager – Corporate Excellence**Date:** 5 March 2018

TITLE: Confirmation of Council Minutes – 20 February 2018

ID: A1043188

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager

Date: 9 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to present for confirmation the minutes of the council meeting held on 20 February 2018.

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 20 February 2018 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Attachment

- *Ordinary Council Minutes – 20 February 2018*

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Jonathan Gibbard

Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement

Date: 12 March 2018

NORTHLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Minutes of the ordinary meeting of the council
held in the Council Chamber, 36 Water Street, Whangārei,
on Tuesday 20 February 2018, commencing at 10.30 am

Present:

Chairman, Bill Shepherd

Councillors:

David Sinclair
John Bain
Paul Dimery
Mike Finlayson
Penny Smart
Rick Stolwerk
Joce Yeoman

In Attendance:**Full Meeting**

Chief Executive Officer
GM – Corporate Excellence
Governance Support Officer

Part Meeting

Northland Inc. Limited David Wilson
Northland Inc. Limited Vaughan Cooper
Northland Inc. Limited Codie McIntyre
Northland Inc. Limited Karleen Everitt
GM – Governance and Engagement
GM – Regulatory Services
Farm Compliance Monitoring Manager
Compliance Monitoring Manager
Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager
Economist
Finance Manager
Financial Accountant
Finance Consultant
Strategic Projects Manager
Property Officer
Policy Specialist

The Chairman declared the meeting open at 10.30 am.

Apologies (Item 1.0)**Moved (Bain/Stolwerk)**

That the apologies from Councillor Blaikie for non-attendance be received.

Carried

Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (Item 2.0)

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

Presentations (Item 3.0)

ID: A1033484

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor

Moved (Sinclair/Yeoman)

That the presentation from Group Manager – Regulatory Services, Colin Dall; and Compliance Monitoring Manager, Tess Dacre, on FDE Compliance be received.

Carried

Health and Safety Report (Item 4.0)

ID: A1032000

Report from Health and Safety Specialist, Tracey Warboys

Moved (Dimery/Yeoman)

That the 'Health and Safety Report' by Tracey Warboys, Health and Safety Specialist, dated 26 January 2018 be received.

Carried

Confirmation of Council Minutes – 12 December 2017 (Item 5.1)

ID: A1026450

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor

Moved (Finlayson/Stolwerk)

That the minutes of the council meeting held on 12 December 2017 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Carried

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 5.2)

ID: A1026617

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor

Moved (Sinclair/Dimery)

That the council action sheet be received.

Carried

Council Working Party Updates and Chairpersons' Briefings (Item 5.3)

ID: A1025499

Report from Group Manager – Governance and Engagement, Jonathan Gibbard

Moved (Finlayson/Bain)

That the report 'Working Party Updates and Chairpersons' Briefings' by Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager – Governance and Engagement, and dated 2 February 2018, be received.

Carried

Council Working Group Updates (Item 5.4)

ID: A1025513

Report from PA/Administrator – Environmental Services, Nola Sooner

Moved (Sinclair/Smart)

That the report 'Council Working Group Updates' by Nola Sooner, PA/Administrator – Environmental Services, and dated 2 February 2018, be received.

Carried

Financial Report to 31 December 2017 (Item 6.1)

ID: A1015015

Report from Financial Accountant, Vincent McColl

Moved (Sinclair/Bain)

That the 'Financial Report to 31 December 2017' by Vincent McColl, Financial Accountant, and dated 1 February 2018, be received.

Carried

Funding for Improving Awanui Flood Scheme Emergency Preparedness (Item 7.1)

ID: A1014027

Report from Group Manager – Environmental Services

Moved (Finlayson/Smart)

1. That the report 'Funding for Improving Awanui Flood Scheme Emergency Preparedness' by Bruce Howse, Group Manager – Environmental Services, and dated 28 January 2018, be received.
2. That council is advised that the CEO, in accordance with delegated authority, has approved \$70,000 of unbudgeted expenditure in the Environmental Services Group to be used to accelerate works to improve the emergency preparedness of the Awanui Flood Scheme, Kaitāia.
3. That council approves a further \$136,000 of unbudgeted expenditure in the Environmental Services Group, with up to \$60,000 allocated to the 2017/18 financial year, and up to \$76,000 allocated to the 2018/19 financial year to accelerate works to improve the emergency preparedness of the Awanui Flood Scheme, Kaitāia.

Further moved (Smart/Yeoman)

4. That \$57,824 of the unbudgeted expenditure is funded from the Land Management Reserve, with the balance of \$148,176 funded from the equalisation reserve, unless there is sufficient year end surplus.

Carried

Secretarial note: It was noted that the LTP and CD documents have gone through the auditing process with flying colours and that the auditors were extremely happy. Congratulations were given to all those involved.

Principles for Establishing Collaborative Community Engagement Groups (Item 7.2)**ID: A1014724****Report from Group Manager – Environmental Services, Bruce Howse****Moved (Stolwerk/Finlayson)**

1. That the report 'Principles for Establishing Collaborative Community Engagement Groups' by Bruce Howse, Group Manager – Environmental Services, and dated 25 January 2018, be received.
2. That council approves the proposed principles for establishing Collaborative Community Engagement Groups (CCEG), where those CCEG are to be subject to terms of reference, these principles being: purpose, engagement, delivery, alignment, efficiency, effectiveness, resourcing and lifetime.
3. That the formation of new CCEG (those that are to be subject to terms of reference) be approved by council resolution, with the reporting officer to provide an analysis of the CCEG principles to council.

Carried**Investment and Growth Reserve – Changes to the Criteria and Procedures for the Allocation of Funding (Item 7.3)****ID: A1006970****Report from Economist, Darryl Jones; and Group Manager – Governance and Engagement, Jonathan Gibbard****Moved (Bain/Stolwerk)**

1. That the report 'Investment and Growth Reserve – Changes to the Criteria and Procedures for the Allocation of Funding', by Darryl Jones, Economist; and Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager – Governance and Engagement, and dated 1 February 2018 be received.
2. That council approve the new criteria and procedures for the allocation of funding from the Investment and Growth Reserve contained in Attachment 3 pertaining to Item 7.3 of the 20 February 2018 council agenda.

3. That council delegate to Northland Inc. Limited the authority to allocate business case development funding, as prescribed in Attachment 3 (Investment and Growth Reserve: Criteria and procedures for the allocation of funding) pertaining to Item 7.3 of the 20 February 2018 council agenda.
4. Adopted with the insertion of 11b as 5d.

Carried

Audit and Finance Working Party (Item 7.4)

ID: A1032087

Report from Group Manager – Corporate Excellence, Dave Tams

Moved (Sinclair/Yeoman)

1. That the report 'Audit and Finance Working Party' by Dave Tams, Group Manager – Corporate Excellence, and dated 1 February 2018, be received.
2. That the draft Terms of Reference (as outlined in the attachment pertaining to Item 7.4 of the 20 February 2018 council agenda) are promulgated.
3. That the title of the working party be 'Audit and Finance Working Party'.

Carried

Investment Recommendations from the Investment Subcommittee (Item 7.5)

ID: A1032081

Report from Group Manager – Corporate Excellence, Dave Tams

Moved (Bain/Sinclair)

1. That the report 'Investment Recommendations from the Investment Subcommittee by Dave Tams, Group Manager – Corporate Excellence, and dated 1 February 2018, be received.
2. That council approves the subcommittee recommendation to introduce the Quay Street Income Fund into the WCF, and transfer \$1.5m to this fund from the WCF Milford Diversified Income Fund.
3. That council approves the subcommittee recommendation to remove Blackrock Fixed Income and Global Opportunities Fund from the WCF.
4. That council approves the removal of the AMP Short Duration Fund from the WCF.
5. That council approves the addition of Harbour Income Fund in place of BlackRock in the WCF.
6. That council approves the WCF Statement of Investment Policy and Objectives as outlined in the attachment pertaining to Item 7.5 of the 20 February 2018 council agenda.
7. That council approves the subcommittee recommendation that the monies to repay the \$3m Fixed Rate Note with ANZ Bank come from the Working Capital Fund.

Carried

Chairman's Report to Council (Item 8.1)

ID: A1022871

Report from Chairman, Bill Shepherd

Moved (Shepherd/Sinclair)

That the report 'Chairman's Report to Council' by the Chairman, Bill Shepherd, and dated 2 February 2017, be received.

Carried

Chief Executive's Report to Council (Item 8.2)

ID: A1025253

Report from Chief Executive Officer, Malcolm Nicolson

Moved (Shepherd/Sinclair)

That the report 'Chief Executive's Report to Council' and dated 2 February 2018, be received.

Carried

Receipt of Committee Minutes (Item 9.0)

ID: A1026647

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor

Moved (Finlayson/Bain)

That the unconfirmed minutes of:

- Civil Defence Emergency Management – 5 December 2017;
- Property Subcommittee – 5 December 2017
- Regional Transport Committee – 6 December 2017; and
- Investment Subcommittee – 31 January 2018

be received.

Carried

Business with the Public Excluded (Item 10.0)

ID: A1025768

Report from Governance Support Manager, Chris Taylor

Moved (Shepherd/Sinclair)

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.	Item Issue	Reason\Grounds
10.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes – Council Meeting 12 December 2017	The reasons for excluding the public are as stated in the minutes of the open section of the meeting.
10.2	Receipt of Confidential Committee Minutes – Property Subcommittee – 5 December 2017	The reasons for excluding the public are as stated in the minutes of the open section of the 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	Sale of Council's Lessor's Interest to Freehold CBD Property	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities 7(2)(h).
10.5	Purchase of Kaitāia and Whangārei Properties for Flood Control Works	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities 7(2)(h).

3. That the Independent Financial Member be permitted to stay during business with the public excluded.

Carried

CONCLUSION

The meeting concluded at 1.29 pm.

TITLE: Receipt of Action Sheet
ID: A1043245
To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018
From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager
Date: 9 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to enable the council to receive the current council action sheet.

Recommendation

That the council action sheet be received.

Attachment

- *Council Action Sheet*

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Jonathan Gibbard
Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement
Date: 12 March 2018

Council Actions new

IRISID	Current Status	Request Date	Current Officer Responsible	Reso/Req	Description	Request Details	Note Text	Date of Note	Requested By
REQ.587167	Closed	21 Nov 2017	Dave Tams	REQ	Marsden Maritime Holdings - financial reporting	That the Audit Working Party considers council's 'position' regarding the recording of council owned shares in MMH in its financial statements (potential alternatives to historical cost).	Closed.	07 Feb 2018	Council
REQ.587169	Closed	21 Nov 2017	Christine Taylor	REQ	FDE Workshop	That a council workshop be scheduled for the New Year to progress council's intent to address FDE non compliance.	A presentation was provided at the February 2018 meeting.	06 Mar 2018	Council
REQ.587570	Closed	12 Dec 2017	Dave Tams	REQ	Health and Safety reporting	That consideration be given to council's reporting of Health and Safety to ensure legislative compliance.	Closed.	07 Feb 2018	Council

TITLE: Council Working Party Updates and Chairpersons' Briefings
ID: A1039002
To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018
From: Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager – Governance and Engagement
Date: 9 March 2018

Recommendation

That the report 'Council Working Party Updates and Chairpersons' Briefings' by Jonathan Gibbard, Group Manager – Governance and Engagement, and dated 9 March 2018, be received.

Planning Working Party (Chair Councillor Yeoman)

The working party met on 7 February 2018. The (unconfirmed) Record of Actions for the meeting lists the topics for discussion as:

- An update / standing item on submissions council has made to other organisations / central government to be provided at each meeting
- Proposed Regional Plan – progress update, approach to hearings & next steps
- Draft Regional Swimming Targets – update
- Review of council's NPS Freshwater implementation programme – update
- Update on central government signals/proposals
- Working with district councils - update

Following discussion, the working party provided advice on the following next steps:

- For staff to provide various reports to council workshops and councillors.

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Jonathan Gibbard
Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement
Date: 12 March 2018

TITLE: Council Working Group Updates
ID: A1039021
To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018
From: Nola Sooner, PA/Administrator – Environmental Services
Date: 06 March 2018

Recommendation

That the report 'Council Working Group Updates' by Nola Sooner, PA/Administrator – Environmental Services, and dated 6 March 2018, be received.

Whangārei Harbour Catchment Working Group

The Whangārei Harbour Catchment Working Group met on 21 February 2018. Topics for discussion included:

- Hātea River clean-up
- Otaika Creek inanga spawning site project
- Million Metres funding potential
- Group submission to WDC & NRC LTPs

Following discussion, it was agreed:

- The final report will be circulated to the group;
 - The final proposal will be circulated to the group and funding sources to remove willows from the identified spawning site would be investigated;
 - The group would discuss potential projects to annex to Million Metres funding at the next meeting; and
 - A sub-group was established to identify key areas of both LTPs for the wider group to write submissions on at the next meeting.
-

Waitangi Catchment Working Group

The Waitangi Catchment Working Group met on 22 February 2018. Topics for discussion included:

- NRC facilitated a meeting discussing the future structure of the group and how the Waitangi Catchment Group will operate in the future;
- Each member had an opportunity to highlight what they want to do and what parts of the catchment plan interested them and also what they would like to be achieved over the next few years;
- The topic of terms of reference, submission on regional plans and long term plans and the selection of a new chairperson for the group was discussed; and
- The spend of the allocated \$10K budget.

Following discussion, it was agreed:

- There was a strong commitment from the group to progress various priority work streams in the catchment plan. There was recognition of the merits of sub or topic based committees to investigate and discuss recommendations for presentation to the whole group to approve;

- The group agreed at the meeting held on 12 April to formalise the terms of reference for the group and finalise pre-circulated submission points on the Regional Plan and Long Term Plan;
- The group agreed four meetings each year would be appropriate and that a chair should be appointed once the structure and terms of reference are formalised. Until then NRC staff lead will continue to facilitate the meetings; and
- It was agreed that the \$10K should go to Waitangi catchment schools in support of their tree nursery and tree growing/planting initiatives. Group members will pursue opportunities at the various schools and NRC will assist via Enviroschools staff.

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Bruce Howse
Title: Group Manager – Environmental Services
Date: 06 March 2018

TITLE: Financial Report to 28 February 2018

ID: A1042836

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Vincent McColl, Financial Accountant

Date: 8 March 2018

Executive summary

This report is to inform council of the year to date (YTD) financial result to February 2018. Council has achieved a YTD surplus after transfers to and from reserves of \$2.05M. This compares to the budgeted surplus after reserve transfers of \$1.77M favourably by \$277K. This represents a reduction in net surplus of \$15k from last month

Recommendation

That the 'Financial Report to 28 February 2018' by Vincent McColl, Financial Accountant, and dated 8 March 2018, be received.

Report

SUMMARY OPERATING RESULTS			
	000's ACTUAL YTD	000's BUDGET YTD	000's VARIANCE YTD
Revenue (including other gains)	\$ 25,840	\$ 24,508	\$ 1,332
Expenditure	\$ 21,341	\$ 22,974	\$ 1,634
NET (COST)/SURPLUS BEFORE TRANSFERS FROM/(TO) RESERVES	\$ 4,500	\$ 1,534	\$ 2,966
Transfer From (To) Special Reserves	\$ (2,452)	\$ 237	\$ (2,689)
NET (COST)/SURPLUS AFTER TRANSFERS FROM/(TO) RESERVES	\$ 2,048	\$ 1,771	\$ 277

Revenue

Year to date revenue is \$25.84M which is \$1.33M or 5.4% above budget.

YTD REVENUE VARIANCE INDICATORS BY REVENUE TYPE			
	FAV / (UNFAV)		Commentary
	\$	%	
Rates	\$46,392	0.3%	
User Fees and Sundry	(\$160,377)	(4.5%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower than budgeted consent application fees of \$177K • Lower than budgeted bus fair box revenue of \$112K Offset by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unbudgeted prosecutions income of \$69K • Unbudgeted income for the Marsden pipeline response of \$44K offsetting costs incurred • Income for the regional sector group tour of \$27K offsetting costs incurred for the tour
Grants and Subsidies	\$149,905	13.0%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unbudgeted MFE subsidies for the Kaipara Harbour Sediment Study of \$75K offsetting costs in this project • Unbudgeted subsidies for the Dune lakes and Freshwater NPS programmes of \$28K • Subsidy for the Myrtle Rust Incursion of \$33K • Unbudgeted subsidy for the Transport ticketing capital project of \$27K offset with reserve movements
Investment Interest Income	\$217,676	42.0%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working capital fund gains \$143K above budget due to a higher average value in the fund than budgeted • Higher term deposit interest of \$69K due to some term deposits having compounding interest but were budgeted as not compounding.
Investment Property Income	\$28,271	1.8%	
Dividend Income	\$435	0.0%	
Property Reinvestment Fund	\$401,019	38.2%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual YTD returns of 7.1% are greater than the budgeted 4.4%. All gains derived from our PRF, CIF, and IIF greater than budget have been reinvested (transferred to reserve) ensuring there is no favourable impact on the net surplus after transfers to reserves.
Community Investment Fund	\$324,327	56.3%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual YTD returns of 6.6% are greater than the budgeted 4.6%. This includes some beneficial NZD/AUD cross rate currency movements.
Infrastructure Reinvestment Fund	\$324,286	147.7%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actual YTD returns of 6.1% are greater than the budgeted 3.6% and the fund value is higher than budgeted from the additional \$2.8M of borrowing being invested here. This includes some beneficial NZD/AUD cross rate currency movements.
Total	\$1,331,935	5.4%	

Expenditure

Year to date expenditure is \$21.34M, which is \$1.63M or 7.1% below budget.

YTD EXPENDITURE VARIANCE INDICATORS BY COUNCIL ACTIVITY			
	FAV / (UNFAV)		Commentary
	\$	%	
Regulatory Services	(\$46,759)	(0.9%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater than budgeted legal fees for environmental incidents (including the Marsden pipeline oilspill) of \$51K. These costs are usually recovered.
Environmental Services	\$832,192	11.5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some labour budgeted here is being coding via timesheeting to customer services due to a structure change*. A review of the labour allocations for the 2018/19 budget will occur in March. LIDAR work is running later than expected due to weather issues of \$220K. This is offset with lower revenue and reserve movements River stopbank maintenance and clearance work running behind YTD budget of \$188K. This is offset with lower reserve movements.
Strategy and Engagement	\$826,435	14.7%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lower Northland Inc projects and promotions funding than budgeted YTD of \$902K offset by lower reserve movements Offset by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More labour charged via timesheeting to Community Representation of \$97K*
Customer Service and Community Resilience	(\$221,821)	(4.8%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More labour charged to the customer services department via timesheeting of \$97K* Redundancies paid of \$39K
Corporate Excellence	\$14,290	0.4%	
CEO Office	(\$126,050)	(9.1%)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> More labour charged to the CEO department than budgeted of \$136K*
Internal Transfers	\$355,527	(8.0%)	
Total	\$1,633,813	7.1%	

*While there are various labour charged variances across the organisation, the actual overall salary cost is running below budget by \$96K YTD.

Transfers to reserves

Year to date transfers to reserves are \$2.69M more than budget. This is due to lower reserve funding being required for IGR projects and feasibility studies that have not occurred as planned and more transfers for externally managed funds where the PRF, IIF, and CIF have achieved greater gains than budget.

Also, as mentioned above, \$1.05M of greater than budget gains have been transferred (representing reinvestment) to each reserve as follows:

- PRF \$401K
- IIF \$324K
- CIF \$324K

Capital expenditure

A \$31K overspend has occurred in harbour safety and navigation, where a project from the 2016/17 year not carried forward has incurred expenditure in 2017/18. Unbudgeted capex has occurred of \$31K for the lone worker solution (In Reach) project and additional costs for training are still to come. At this stage of the year the mid north customer service centre fit out is \$13K greater than the full year budget and more costs may occur before the end of the year.

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Dave Tams

Title: Group Manager – Corporate Excellence

Date: 8 March 2018

TITLE: Regional Software Holdings Limited Report to Shareholders for the Six Months to 31 December 2017**ID:** A1039710**To:** Council Meeting, 20 March 2018**From:** Simon Crabb, Finance Manager**Date:** 27 February 2018

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide council with the Regional Software Holdings Limited (RSHL) Shareholders report for the six-month period ended 31 December 2017. This report is attached as **Attachment 1**.

Recommendation

That the report 'Regional Software Holdings Limited Report to Shareholders for the Six Months to 31 December 2017' by Simon Crabb, Finance Manager and dated 27 February 2018, be received.

Report

RSHL is a council controlled organisation owned by Waikato Regional Council (32.75%), Northland Regional Council (16.75%), Horizons Regional Council (15.50%), Taranaki Regional Council (15.50%), Southland Regional Council (15.50%), and West Coast Regional Council (4.00%).

RSHL was incorporated on 17 October 2012 to develop, maintain and license Software Intellectual Property to its shareholders and other customers. The current flagship of RSHL is the Integrated Regional Information System (IRIS).

Council's Chief Executive Officer, Malcolm Nicolson, is one of the six RSHL directors.

RSHL is making good progress in achieving their 2017/18 non-financial performance measures, with only the 'user participation' measure not tracking to target at the end of December 2017. The six-month financial performance result is ahead of budget predominantly due to 75% of the annual members' contribution revenue being recognised in the six-monthly accounts. RSHL's cashflow is expected to be largely in line to budget at year-end.

Attachments

1. Regional Software Holdings Limited Six Month Report to Shareholders 31 December 2017 (included in the Supporting Information)

Authorised by Group Manager**Name:** Dave Tams**Title:** Group Manager – Corporate Excellence**Date:** 27 February 2018

TITLE: Externally Managed Funds – Adjustment to the Community Investment Fund SIPO

ID: A1040100
To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018
From: Simon Crabb, Finance Manager
Date: 28 February 2018

Executive Summary

A summary of the returns and target objectives for the period ending 31 January 2018 for each externally managed fund is presented below, with the supporting detail and fund performance for longer periods contained in **Attachment 1**:

7 Month to 31-Jan-18 (not annualised)	CIF	PRF	IIF	WCF
Fund Return %	6.4%	6.6%	6.2%	7.5%
Fund Objective	2.9%	3.9%	3.3%	2.2%
Fund Over / Under Performance	3.5%	2.7%	2.9%	5.3%

It is recommended that council adopt Jonathan Eriksen's recommendation to introduce the Continuity Capital Private Equity No. 4 Fund into the SIPO of the Community Investment Fund.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Externally Managed Funds – Adjustment to the Community Investment Fund SIPO' by Simon Crabb, Finance Manager, and dated 28 February 2018, be received.
2. That the Continuity Capital Private Equity No. 4 Fund be introduced into the CIF SIPO with a capital commitment of \$1 million, and fund the initial call from the CIF Milford Income Fund.

Report

1. Community Investment Fund (CIF)

At 31 January 2018, the CIF had a market value of \$13.8M and had performed as follows:

CIF	1 month		Quarter		YTD		1 year		Since inception	
	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective
	0.3%	0.4%	1.6%	1.2%	6.4%	2.9%	10.7%	5.0%	8.1%	5.0%

After discussions with Jonathan Eriksen following January's subcommittee meeting and council workshop, it was recommended that a \$1 million capital commitment is made to Continuity Capital Private Equity No. 4 Fund, with the initial investment of \$100K coming from the CIF Milford Income Fund.

The Continuity Capital fund manager is the same fund manager currently contained in the PRF.

Council's overall exposure to private equity (including this \$1M recommendation) will become \$5M. This represents 9.63% of the total funds under management and is largely in line with Eriksen's recommendation of 10%. Although the exposure will be less initially because the capital is called down progressively over time, not all at once.

Risk: Return

As a result of this recommendation, the CIF SIPO will remain unchanged with the private equity exposure rising closer to its target. The overall return benchmark will remain in line with the current return benchmark of CPI + 4% pa (currently 5%) and the overall risk profile will also remain the same (currently one year in five).

2. Property Reinvestment Fund (PRF)

At 31 January 2018, the PRF had a market value of \$22.9M and performed as follows:

PRF	1 month		Quarter		YTD		1 year		Since inception	
	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective
	0.3%	0.6%	2.2%	1.7%	6.6%	3.9%	11.2%	6.7%	9.2%	7.2%

3. Infrastructure Investment Fund (IIF)

At 31 January 2018, the IIF had a market value of \$9.3M and performed as follows:

IIF	1 month		Quarter		YTD		1 year		Since inception	
	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective
	0.4%	0.5%	1.3%	1.4%	6.2%	3.3%	9.5%	5.8%	5.1%	5.8%

4. Working Capital Fund (WCF)

At 31 January 2018, the WCF had a market value of \$5.9M and performed as follows:

WCF	1 month		Quarter		YTD		1 year		Since inception	
	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective	Return	Objective
	0.5%	0.3%	1.5%	0.9%	7.5%	2.2%	10.2%	3.8%	6.3%	3.8%

Considerations

1. Options

	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Introduce the Continuity Capital Private Equity No. 4 Fund into the Community Investment Fund and transfer the initial call from the Milford Diversified Income Fund.	<p>A commitment of \$1M to the CIF Continuity Capital Private Equity Fund will increase council's exposure to private equity to approximately 10%, which is the level recommended by Eriksen's Global.</p> <p>In addition, a \$100K transfer out of the Milford Diversified Income Fund reduces council's overall risk exposure to Milford and helps progress towards a 20% target.</p>	<p>There is a risk that the Milford Diversified Income Fund outperforms Continuity Private Equity Fund in the future and consequently any marginal increase in gains is foregone. However, the expected returns from Continuity are more than double Milford.</p>

2	Status Quo	Maintain the current level of investment in the Milford Income Fund, that has historically outperformed all other income fund managers.	Continue to have a larger than desirable exposure to Milford Income Fund.
---	------------	---	---

Staff's recommendation is Option 1.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is considered to be of low significance because it is part of council's day-to-day activities and is in accordance with the approved Treasury Management Policy.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

The activities detailed in this report are in accordance with council's Treasury Management Policy, the 2015–25 Long Term Plan both of which were approved in accordance with council's decision-making requirements of sections 76–82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Further considerations

4. Community views

The impact investing in externally managed funds has been consulted on with the community through the 2015–25 Long Term Plan consultative procedure in accordance with s82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

5. Māori impact statement

Targeted consultation on the council's intention to invest in externally managed funds was undertaken with iwi as part of the 2015–25 Long Term Plan consultation process using existing relationship channels.

6. Financial implications

Investment strategies carry different risk profiles and are subject to different return volatilities. The returns from managed funds can fluctuate over a given time and period; and historical returns do not necessarily form the basis for forecasted future returns.

7. Implementation issues

There are no implementation issues that council needs to be aware of.

Attachments:

1. Eriksens Global Investment Review for the month ending 31 January 2018 (included in the Supporting Information)
-

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Dave Tams
Title: Group Manager – Corporate Excellence
Date: 28 February 2018

TITLE: Regional Rates Collection – Update to 31 December 2017

ID: A1040009

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Simon Crabb, Finance Manager

Date: 8 March 2018

Executive Summary

The three district councils administer the collection of the regional council rates on our behalf. The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the collection of this year's current rates and the rate arrears owing to the regional council by each district council.

Recommendation

That the report 'Regional Rates Collection – Update to 31 December 2017' and its attachment, by Simon Crabb, Finance Manager, and dated 8 March 2018, be received.

Report

Table one over the page presents a full reconciliation of the NRC 2017/18 current rates and rate arrears that have been collected by each council in the six months to 31 December 2017, and the outstanding amounts that remain to be collected.

Far North District Council

The Far North District Council has collected 48.8% of our current year rates (2016/17 comparative 48.5%). \$204,034 of rate arrears have also been collected resulting in a closing rate arrears balance still to be collected of \$3,071,935.

Kaipara District Council

At the time of writing this report, the rating information required from KDC has not been received. When making enquiries as to when this information might be available, KDC have responded that "due to conflicting deadlines and priorities", they have been unable to supply the information by the previously agreed deadline for this report.

Whangarei District Council

The Whangarei District Council has collected 59.1% of our current year rates (2016/17 comparative 58.7%). \$113,129 of rate arrears have also been collected resulting in a closing rate arrears balance of \$232,137.

Attachment One is the regular report provided by Far North District Council on the actions they have in place to collect current rates and rate arrears.

Table one. Dec 2017	Far North District Council	Kaipara District Council	Whangarei District Council	TOTAL
Current Year Rates				
Full Year Rate Strike	\$8,308,520		\$12,645,032	\$20,953,552
plus penalties added	\$21,159		\$29,435	\$50,594
less write offs				\$0
less postponed rates			-\$14,328	-\$14,328
less rates remissions	-\$197,167		-\$238,041	-\$435,208
less penalty remissions			-\$6,514	-\$6,514
plus other adjustments	\$1,312			\$1,312
Total Current Year Rates	\$8,133,824	\$0	\$12,415,584	\$20,549,408
Current Year Rates Collected (YTD)				
Current rates collected	-\$3,972,629		-\$7,328,374	-\$11,301,003
Current rate penalties collected			-\$5,941	-\$5,941
Plus other current rate adjustments				\$0
Total Current Year Rates Collected	-\$3,972,629	\$0	-\$7,334,315	-\$11,306,944
Current Rates YTD Collection Rate	48.8%	#DIV/0!	59.1%	55%
Balance of Current Rates remaining to be collected during year	\$4,161,195	\$0	\$5,081,269	\$9,242,464
Rate Arrears				
Opening Rate Arrears	\$3,339,391		\$327,268	\$3,666,659
less rate arrear write offs	-\$63,422		-\$255	-\$63,677
plus rate arrear penalties added			\$21,245	\$21,245
less rate arrear remissions				\$0
less rate arrear penalty remissions			-\$2,992	-\$2,992
Total Rates Arrears	\$3,275,969	\$0	\$345,266	\$3,621,235
Rate Arrears Collected (YTD)				
Rate arrears collected	-\$204,034		-\$106,255	-\$310,289
Rate arrear penalties collected			-\$6,874	-\$6,874
Total Rate Arrears Collected	-\$204,034	\$0	-\$113,129	-\$317,163
Rate Arrears YTD Collection Rate	6%	#DIV/0!	33%	9%
Balance of Rate Arrears outstanding and remaining to be collected	\$3,071,935	\$0	\$232,137	\$3,304,072

Attachment

1. FNDC Revenue and Collections Quarterly Report 31 December 2017 (included in the Supporting Information)

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Dave Tams
Title: Group Manager - Corporate Excellence
Date: 27 February 2018

TITLE: Northland Inc. Limited – Six Month Financial Report and Reporting Against Statement of Intent (SOI) 2017–2020

ID: A1041198

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Simon Crabb, Finance Manager; and Darryl Jones, Economist

Date: 7 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to present Northland Inc. Limited's financial results and progress against its Statement of Intent (SOI) 2017–2020 for the six months to 31 December 2017. Representatives from Northland Inc. Limited will be available to speak to the report. A copy of the interim report is available on the web at: www.nrc.govt.nz/Your-Council/Economic-development/northland-inc/.

Recommendation

That the report 'Northland Inc. Limited – Six Month Financial Report and Reporting Against Statement of Intent (SOI) for 2017–2020' by Simon Crabb, Finance Manager; and Darryl Jones, Economist, and dated 7 March 2018, be received.

Financial report

The Northland Inc. financial performance year to date result as at 31 December 2017 is tracking slightly ahead of budget, with a favourable operating surplus variance for the year to date of \$41,450. The forecasted year end operating surplus is \$111 which is slightly less than the year-end budgeted surplus of \$5,315.

Northland Inc. Limited's cash position at 31 December 2017 was \$464,044 which is largely in-line with its December 2017 forecasted financial position of \$426,910. There are no foreseen cash-flow management issues during the forecasted period to 31 March 2018.

Key performance reporting

Staff have reviewed the material supplied and confirm that all 14 key performance indicators (KPIs) set out in section 9 of Northland Inc. Limited's SOI 2017–2020 (www.northlandnz.com/resources/about-northland-inc) are listed.

The following table details the results to date and shows that the majority are on target to be met, while some are still being worked on.

Measure / Target	Comment on half year performance
Growth in Northland businesses engaged with Northland Inc. measured through an increase in:	
Aggregate turnover by 5% per annum	On track (46%)
25% of RBP active companies are research active	On track (34%)
Orchard achieves 30% occupancy rate	On track (63%)
Generic investment proposals	
Develop two investment ready proposals	On track (two remain in the pipeline)
Northland Inc. Board recommendations made to the NRC Investment and Growth Reserve	
One project for debt or equity funding per annum	None to date (but with change in the IGR criteria this measure is no longer relevant)
One project for impact investment funding per annum	On track (one in December quarter)
Promotion of Māori economic development measured by:	
Two new projects partnering with Māori on economic development funded and underway	None to date (three remain in pipeline)
30 active Māori businesses in CRM	On track (currently 34 Māori businesses)
Promotion of the region measured by:	
Industry investment of \$300,000 per annum in regional promotions activity	On track (\$132,005)
An equivalent advertising value of \$15M per annum achieved from destination media coverage	On track (\$10.3M)
10% increase in traffic on social media channels	On track (11%)
Website traffic growth exceeds growth in visitor spend by 10%	On track (website traffic in first six months of 2017/18 is 11% higher than first six months of 2016/17; Monthly Regional Tourism Estimates spend in Northland is 5% higher)
Implementation of the Action Plan measured by:	
Total value of investment in Action Plan projects	On track (cumulative total of \$102M)
Projects/actions successfully completed	On track (19 actions listed)

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Jonathan Gibbard

Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement

Date: 7 March 2018

TITLE: Northland Inc. Limited – Draft Statement of Intent 2018–2021

ID: A1041189

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Darryl Jones, Economist

Date: 7 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to enable council to receive Northland Inc. Limited's Draft Statement of Intent (SOI) 2018–2021. Due to time constraints, it is recommended that council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to provide feedback to Northland Inc. on its draft SOI.

Recommendation(s)

1. That the report 'Northland Inc. Limited – Draft Statement of Intent 2018–2021' by Darryl Jones, Economist, and dated 7 March 2018, be received.
2. That the 'Northland Inc. Limited Draft Statement of Intent 2018–2021' 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 2018–2021 by 31 March 2018.

Background

Northland Inc. Limited has submitted to council their draft SOI for the three-year period 2018–2021 (**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 2018. A review of the document confirms it includes the necessary statutory components as per Schedule 8(9)(1) of the LGA 2002.

Council has held workshop sessions on Northland Inc. Limited's SOI on three occasions over the past five months: 27 November 2017, 13 December 2017 and 27 February 2018. Following the 27 November workshop, a letter of expectations was sent by council to Northland Inc. in early December. A number of the changes and suggestions proposed in that letter have been incorporated by Northland Inc. into the draft SOI received by council. A further workshop with Northland Inc. will be held in mid-March.

The key issues on which council will provide feedback to Northland Inc. on include:

- Comment on the additional objectives proposed (section 4)
- Suggested rewording of a few of the activities undertaken (section 6)
- Request for further work on refining the key performance measures (section 9) including the provision of a methodology for each measure and appropriate targets set;
- Clarification on the Prospective Statement of Financial Performance (section 16 Appendix B) including the 'NRC Regional Promotions' budget and the budgeted annual loss.

In order to align Northland Inc. Limited's SOI 2018–2021 and the Long Term Plan 2018–2028, council has requested that it receive the final Board approved SOI by Friday 27 April 2018. This will allow time for it to be considered during LTP deliberations in May, and ensure that the LTP and SOI documents are as closely aligned as possible. To assist this shortened timeframe council has given an undertaking to provide its feedback on the draft SOI by 31 March 2018.

Considerations

1. Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Delegate authority to CEO to provide a response to Northland Inc. Limited on the draft SOI by 31 March 2018	Council clearly conveys its expectations to its council-controlled organisation for the next three years. Allows for the alignment of SOI and LTP decision making processes.	Not provide council with an opportunity to formally sign-off feedback.
2	Don't delegate authority to the CEO to provide a response	Would allow council time for formally sign-off feedback (i.e. at April meeting).	Potentially miss an opportunity to align SOI and LTP decision making processes. For council to provide input and direction to its council-controlled organisation is missed

The staff's recommended option is Option 1. Before providing the response to Northland Inc, the Chief Executive Officer will consult with council Chairman and Deputy Chairman. Staff will also ensure that the content of the response is workshopped with councillors prior to the Chief Executive sending the feedback.

2. Significance and engagement

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. While this is an important matter for council, the matter does not trigger council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and no further public consultation is required for council to make the decisions detailed in this report.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

Schedule 8(2) of the LGA 2002 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. According to Schedule 8(3), council has until the end of April to provide comment back to Northland Inc. on the draft SOI, and the Board of Northland Inc. must deliver a completed SOI back to council by 30 June. The timeframe discussed above meets the legislative requirements and allows alignment between the LTP and SOI processes.

Being a purely administrative matter, community views, Māori impact statement, financial implications and implementation issues are not applicable.

Attachments:

- Attachment 1: Northland Inc. Limited Draft Statement of Intent 2018–2021 (included in the Supporting Information)

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Jonathan Gibbard
Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement
Date: 7 March 2018

TITLE: Biosecurity Operational Plan 2017–2027

ID: A1038192

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Don McKenzie - Biosecurity Manager

Date: 1 March 2018

Executive summary

Operational plans for regional pest and pathway plans are a statutory requirement of the Biosecurity Act 1993. This agenda item describes the operational plan for the Northland Pest and Pathway Management Plan 2017–2027.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Biosecurity Operational Plan 2017–2027 by Don McKenzie – Biosecurity Manager, and dated 1 March 2018, be received.
2. That council confirms the content of the Operational Plan.

Background

The Northland Pest and Pathway Management Plan 2017–2027 was adopted in part during December 2017. Rules concerning kauri dieback and the Marine Pathways plan were appealed and mediation settlements for these are expected to be confirmed by the court in several months.

Having made the plan, and in accordance with section 100B of the Biosecurity Act 1993, a management agency (the council) must:

- (a) prepare an operational plan within three months after the commencement date of the Regional Pest Plan;
- (b) review the operational plan annually;
- (c) decide on appropriate amendments to the operational plan, if necessary; and
- (d) make copies of the operational plan and every amended version available to the public at cost.

The attached **Appendix 1** sets out a high level operational plan of how the Northland Pest and Pathway Plan 2017–2027 will be implemented and reported upon.

Considerations:
1. Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Confirm the contents of the Biosecurity Operational Plan 2017–2027	Satisfies the statutory requirements of section 100B of the Biosecurity Act.	Nil
2	Delay confirming the Operational Plan	Nil	Fulfilling the statutory requirements of the Biosecurity Act will be delayed along with operational activities associated with implementing the plan.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is considered to be of low significance when assessed against council's significance and engagement policy because it is for the purposes of confirmation.

This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that council is able to make decisions relating to this matter without undertaking further consultation or engagement.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

Consideration of the factors outlined in this report will achieve compliance with section 100B of the Biosecurity Act 1993.

Further considerations**4. Community views**

Communities were consulted as part of the Pest and Pathway Management Plan process and community engagement is an integral part of implementing the regulatory and non-regulatory parts of the operational plan.

5. Māori impact statement

Ongoing consultation with Māori is a requirement of the plan and project activities.

6. Financial implications

The operational plan costs are based on current budget and reviewed on an annual basis.

7. Implementation issues

It is not anticipated that there will be any implementation issues.

Attachments

- Appendix 1: Northland Regional Pest and Marine Pathway Management Plan 2017–2027 – Operational Plan 2017–2027 (included in the Supporting Information)

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Bruce Howse

Title: Group Manager – Environmental Services

Date: 6 March 2018

TITLE: Proposed Regional Plan Hearings – GMO Submissions

ID: A1039675

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Ben Lee, Policy Development Manager

Date: 2 March 2018

Executive summary

When council notified the Proposed Regional Plan in September 2017, its intention was to delay considering the inclusion of provisions for genetically modified organisms (GMO) in the Plan. However, council is now in a position where submissions were made requesting GMO provisions which must (though not legally conclusive) be heard and decided on.

At its 30 August 2017 meeting, council delegated authority to a hearing panel of three members made up of one regional councillor and two independent commissioners, to conduct the hearing into submissions on the Proposed Regional Plan.

This item seeks council approval to withdraw the authority delegated to the hearings panel for hearing and making recommendations on the GMO submissions. This will mean that the full council will hear and decide on the GMO submissions.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Proposed Regional Plan Hearings – GMO Submissions' by Ben Lee, Policy Development Manager, be received.
2. That council withdraw the authority delegated on 30 August 2017 under section 34A of the Resource Management Act 1991, to a hearing panel of three members made up of one councillor and two independent commissioners, to conduct the hearing into submissions on the 'Proposed Regional Plan for Northland' that seek the addition of provisions for genetically modified organisms.

Background

The Proposed Regional Plan was approved by council for notification at its 30 August 2017 meeting and subsequently notified on 6 September 2017.

The notified version of the Proposed Regional Plan didn't include provisions to regulate the use of GMOs¹. The following statement was included in the Proposed Regional Plan's introduction:

Note - the regional council has reserved its decision on including provisions in the Plan on regulating genetically modified organisms (GMOs). At the time of notification, there were still active appeals on the proposed GMO provisions in the Regional Policy Statement for Northland. The regional council wants the legal and

¹ Policy D.1.1 refers to GMOs but it does not regulate their use.

planning context to be clear before proceeding. The regional council will review whether it will proceed with a plan change to include provisions regulating GMOs once the appeals have concluded.

There were 315 submissions on the Plan, with over 80 submissions requesting the addition of provisions for GMOs (the GMO submissions).

As outlined in the quote from the Proposed Regional Plan above, it was not council's intention to consider the addition of GMO provisions as part of the current Proposed Regional Plan process. However, initial legal advice is that even though council actively decided to reserve its decision on GMO provisions, the GMO submissions must be heard and a decision made on them. The legal advice is not conclusive on this matter and council may wish to consider obtaining a declaration from the Environment Court for a definitive answer. Staff recommend that council decide on whether to seek a declaration after considering further submissions as this may provide more information to inform the decision (further submissions close on 26 March 2018).

At its 30 August 2017 meeting, council delegated authority to a hearing panel of three members made up of one regional councillor and two independent commissioners, to conduct the hearing into submissions on the 'Proposed Regional Plan for Northland'.

Obviously, council has had no discussions about the inclusion of specific GMO provisions – unlike the rest of the content of the Proposed Regional Plan, which council spent a lot of time preparing in consultation with many people.

In summary, council is now in a position that:

- it actively reserved its decision to proceed with GMO provisions but now finds itself in the position that the GMO submissions must be heard and decided on;
- council has had no opportunity to be involved in the formation of GMO provisions; and
- it will be up to the three-person hearing panel to hear the GMO submissions and make recommendations to council.

There is a risk that the hearing panel will arrive at a recommendation that council does not agree with². This risk is significantly higher than recommendations the hearing panel will make on other provisions in the plan because there are existing provisions in the Proposed Regional Plan. In other words, the hearing panel already knows what council's position (prior to submissions) is on the other provisions, but for GMOs the hearing panel has no knowledge of what council's position might be.

For these reasons, it is recommended that full council hear the GMO submissions and decide on them. This will require withdrawing the authority delegated to the hearings panel for hearing and making recommendations on the GMO submissions.

² There are significant legal constraints on the council's ability to reject or otherwise depart from the hearing panel's recommendations. Council would either need to refer the matter back to the hearing panel for consideration, or rehear all evidence and submissions considered by the hearing panel on those matters. To reject or otherwise depart without rehearing all evidence and submissions considered by the hearing panel would infringe on the principles of natural justice and fairness. There would be a high risk of legal challenge, and a real risk that the challenge would be successful.

Considerations

1. Options

The options are:

1. The three-person hearing panel hears the GMO provisions and makes recommendations to council on what GMO provisions (if any) are included in the Proposed Regional Plan; or
2. Council hears the GMO provisions and decides what GMO provisions (if any) are included in the Proposed Regional Plan.

The following table assesses the main advantages and disadvantages of the options:

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Hearing panel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Less cost (about \$11k). • Some GMO submitters may prefer having independent commissioners involved. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High risk of council not agreeing with recommendation. • Risk that council has to re-hear GMO submissions and associated costs.
2	Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council in full control of decision. • Some GMO submitters may prefer full council hearing and deciding. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some disruption to submitters that submitted on GMO provisions and other provisions – will likely need to attend two separate hearings. • Greater administrative costs and hassle (organising two separate hearings vs one).

Staff recommend Option 2. Considerable weight is given to the fact that if council hears the submissions then it is in full control of the decision.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is of low significance when assessed against council's Significance and Engagement Policy because it has previously been consulted on and provided for in council's 2015 – 2025 Long Term Plan (refer 2.4). This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that council can make decisions relating to this matter without undertaking further consultation or engagement.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

The delegation of authority (and the withdrawal of the authority) to the hearings panel is subject to various sections of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), including sections 34A, 39A, and 39B. The decisions being recommended are consistent with the relevant sections of the RMA.

Further considerations

4. Community views

The community has not been asked its views on the withdrawal of the delegation of authority to the hearing panel (and nor is council legally required to do).

It is not known what views the community may have on the matter, but given it is a procedural matter it is not anticipated that there would be any strong views either way.

Some GMO submitters may have a view on the matter. It is difficult to anticipate what the views might be but it is assumed there will be some who would prefer to be heard by council and some that would prefer to be heard by the hearing panel.

5. Māori impact statement

Māori have not been asked their views on the withdrawal of the delegation of authority to the hearing panel. There is no legal obligation to do so.

Māori have a significant interest in the management of GMOs.

It is not known what views Māori may have on the withdrawal of the delegation of authority to the hearing panel, but given it is a procedural matter it is not anticipated that Māori would have a strong view either way.

6. Financial implications

There are additional costs if full council hear and decide on the GMO submissions (see Options section above). These costs are within existing budgets.

7. Implementation issues

There are no implementation issues.

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Colin Dall
Title: Group Manager – Regulatory Services
Date: 8 March 2018

TITLE: 2018 Local Government New Zealand Conference

ID: A1041496

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Bill Shepherd, Council Chairman

Date: 9 March 2018

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.

Recommendations

1. That the report '2018 Local Government New Zealand Conference' by Bill Shepherd, Council Chairman, dated 9 March 2018, be received.
 2. That the Chairman, Chief Executive and Councillor Smart represent the Northland Regional Council at the 2018 LGNZ Conference.
-

Background:

The LGNZ Conference (<http://www.lgnz2018.co.nz/lgnz18>) is being held 15 July–17 July 2018 in Christchurch.

The theme of the conference is **We are firmly focused on the future: Future-proofing for a prosperous and vibrant New Zealand**. The local government sector is focused on leadership and addressing the challenges facing New Zealand and its communities including climate change, sustainability, localism, and the health and wellbeing of our communities.

The conference is a chance for delegates to listen to fresh thinking from local and international speakers, take part in valuable, hard-hitting discussions and network within the sector.

Considerations:**1. Options**

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	That council nominates a number of councillors to attend the LGNZ conference.	Councillors will have exposure to top class speakers, be able to participate in valuable discussions/interactive sessions as well as make the most of networking opportunities.	There is substantial cost for each councillor to participate.
2	Council elects not to have representation at the LGNZ conference.	Saving of costs for council.	Potentially a lost opportunity for councillors.

The staff's recommended option is 1: that council nominates a select number of councillors to attend the LGNZ conference.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is considered to be of low significance when assessed against council's significance and engagement policy as it is a matter of day to day operations provided for in the council's Long Term Plan.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

The report complies with the council's decision making process and sections 76 to 82 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Being a purely administrative matter, community views, Māori impact statement, financial implications and implementation issues are not applicable.

Authorised by Council Chairman:

Name: Bill Shepherd
Title: Council Chairman
Date: 12 March 2018

TITLE: Support for Implementation of the New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code in Northland

ID: A1044222

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Jim Lyle, Regional Harbourmaster; and Tony Phipps, Group Manager Customer Service/Community Resilience

Date: 8 March 2018

Executive summary

This report provides background and an update on the implementation of the New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code (the Code) and recommends continued council support for implementation of the Code and Code compliant marine safety management systems for Whangārei Harbour and the Bay of Islands.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Support for Implementation of the New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code in Northland' by Jim Lyle, Regional Harbourmaster and dated 8 March 2018, be received.
 2. That Council continues to support the maintenance and implementation of New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code compliant marine safety management systems for Whangārei Harbour and the Bay of Islands.
-

Background

New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code

<https://www.maritimenz.govt.nz/commercial/ports-and-harbours/port-and-harbour-safety-code.asp>

The New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code (the Code) provides national best practice guidance to port operators and councils to manage the safety of marine activities in their ports and harbours. The Code is a voluntary national standard. It supports national and local legislation.

The objective of the Code is to *"provide for the safe management of vessels in New Zealand ports and harbours, including prevention of human injury or loss of life, and avoidance of damage to the environment, in particular to the marine environment and to property"*.

The stated safety management objectives of the Code are:

- To provide for safe practices in port operation and a safe operating environment in the harbour; and
- To identify all risks and establish safeguards to ensure that all identified risks are kept as low as reasonably practicable; and
- To continuously improve safety management skills of all personnel, including preparation for emergencies related both to safety and environmental protection.

The harbour safety management system will:

- Ensure compliance with mandatory rules and regulations; and
- Ensure that applicable codes, guidelines and standards recommended by Maritime NZ are taken into account.

The New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code was established in 2004 by Maritime NZ to provide a quality standard of practice for risk assessment and safety management in ports and harbours. The voluntary Code was adopted by regional councils, Maritime NZ and port operators.

Following amendments to the Maritime Transport Act 2013 and to assess the effectiveness of the Code following 10 years of implementation, an extensive review of the Code was undertaken in late 2013. As a result of this review the Code objectives were confirmed and a revised Code was adopted in 2016 that embraced a partnership approach between the three primary stakeholders, Maritime NZ, port operators and regional councils. It was agreed that achieving the Code objective was a joint responsibility and working collaboratively was the most effective way to attain consistency in the application of the Code on a national basis. To reinforce the commitment of the partners a tripartite Memorandum of Understanding was signed in 2016 that also set up a new governance structure supported by a dedicated Secretariat.

Commercial port operators, regional councils and Maritime NZ jointly have undertaken to:

- Ensure they comply with all legislation as it applies to them;
- Identify the areas where they should apply the standards in the Code, taking into account the risks to navigation safety, and keeping this under review as necessary; *and*
- Develop and operate a safety management system (SMS) for those areas supported by a formal risk assessment.

Code implementation in Northland

Northland Regional Council, along with North Port, were early adopters of the Code in 2006, resolving to implement Code compliant safety management systems for Whangārei Harbour and the Bay of Islands. These two major Northland commercial ports and marine pilotage areas are subject to significant operational risks that require active safety management systems.

Working with key stakeholders, risk assessments were carried out and Code compliant safety management systems developed, which were audited and approved by Maritime NZ in April 2008. A cycle of subsequent reviews, updates and audits have been carried out.

The Code partners now work in a collaborative manner, with a national steering group providing governance, a working group organising and coordinating implementation, and a paid secretariat to keep the system running. Safety management systems are now formally peer reviewed by panels drawn from within the ports, harbourmasters and Maritime NZ. The formal peer review of the Whangārei and Bay of Island safety management systems is scheduled for March 2018.

As well as the formal peer reviews the Code requires councils and port operators to undertake annual self-assessment of the implementation their safety management systems and Code compliance.

Northland Regional Council staff have been actively involved in the above work at all levels nationally and locally.

Whangārei and Bay of Islands Harbours Marine Safety Management Systems – changes and improvements

The **Bay of Islands** has seen a large increase in cruise ship visits, from 10 in 2003/4 to 63 in 2017/18, with a further increase to mid 70s next season. Changes have also been made to accommodate both significantly larger ships, now up to 345m long, and up to three ships at once.

Over this period the main entrance navigation lights and inner harbour lights were upgraded with the latest technology LEDs. NRC staff worked with Far North Holdings around infrastructure upgrades to wharfs and tender facilities. The Bay of Islands has had hydrographic surveys to the latest standards over the last few years and improvements made to the NRC pilot vessel/work boat Waikare to keep her fit for purpose for increased pilot work including significant upgrades to powered steering, electronics and propellers.

Future improvements planned include Automatic Identification System (AIS) allowing tracking of commercial vessels and installation of a wave-rider buoy for live feed of wave and sea conditions. This will be useful to the harbourmaster, the cruise ships, local commercial vessels and recreational craft, improving safety through the provision of up-to-date information. Other benefits such as scientific data acquisition will also be able to be accessed.

The Whangārei Harbour Code compliant safety management system is overseen by a harbour safety group that meets on a regular 6 weekly schedule discussing and agreeing any key changes, adaptations or improvements. The group is chaired by the NRC harbourmaster, and composed of the key commercial stakeholders at Marsden point, Port Whangārei and Portland.

The Whangārei safety management system includes a substantial network of navigation lights, buoys and beacons (North Port and NRC), and North Port operated dynamic underkeel clearance system (DUKC), 'wave rider' buoys, and a manned Local Port Service to provide information and monitor ship movements, and live weather data provided to all port users.

The harbour safety group has also recently worked with the Portland cement operators during the building and commissioning of a new larger cement vessel (MV Aotearoa Chief) to ensure compatibility and develop and improve the safety management system including channel design modifications, aids to navigation upgrades and dredging. This provided the companies concerned with clear direction and swift decision making allowing a smooth implementation.

Plans to bring deeper draft vessels to the refinery utilised the harbour safety group to examine the safety aspects of the plan, and provide advice to the consent applicants. As part of that process opportunities arose to look at related safety aspects such as tug capabilities, and channel design, with international technical experts providing external and peer reviewed advice, along with risk workshops to ensure vital safety components were not missed.

The safety systems have also benefited the upper harbour, with a defined dredged channel to the town basin implemented through a shared funding and targeted rate arrangement between NRC and the Whangarei District Council. Dredging is required in the reach to the commercial ship repair facilities, and plans are just being developed for a defined dredged channel or the upper Kioreroa channel linking the Hātea river channel to the town basin. This will provide assurance of access to those facilities, as well as future developments such as the proposed bridge marina.

The marine environment is a dynamic one, with constantly changing demands and technology requiring an active safety system to keep on top of changes. Staff believe the present systems are effective, and recommend that council continue to support "Code" compliant marine safety management systems, and provide the necessary resources for implementation.

Considerations

1. Policy and legislative compliance

The recommendations promote and support policy and legislative compliance through support and implementation of the New Zealand Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code.

2. Financial implications

The resourcing required to continue this work and implement the recommendations is included in the current budget and draft LTP.

3. Implementation issues

No implementation issues have been identified. The work is programmed as part of current and future operations.

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Tony Phipps

Title: Group Manager – Customer Service/Community Resilience

Date: 8 March 2018

TITLE: Appointment of Regional On Scene Commander – Marine Oil Spill Response

ID: A1032075

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Jim Lyle, Regional Harbourmaster

Date: 31 January 2018

Executive summary

Pursuant to section 318(1) of the Maritime Transport Act 1994 (MTA), every regional council is required to appoint:

- (a) a regional on-scene commander for its region; and*
- (b) a person or persons, who shall perform the functions and duties and may exercise the powers of a regional on-scene commander, if the office of regional on-scene commander is vacant or the regional on-scene commander is absent, for so long as that vacancy or absence continues.*

Currently, the position of designated Regional On Scene Commander – marine oil spill response (ROSC) for Northland is held by Jim Lyle, who is also a National On Scene Commander and the Regional Harbourmaster, head of the maritime department. We have two alternative ROSC's, Peter Thomas, Maritime Manager Ōpua; and Peter Weissing, Area Manager Kaitiāia.

Peter Thomas was appointed alternative ROSC by council in 2015. He has 17 years' experience of oil spill response, including national responses such as the oil spill from RENA, and he is currently a member of the National Oil Spill Response Team in operations.

The ROSC role includes not only response during a spill, but also organising training exercises, ensuring equipment is maintained, ensuring sufficiently trained regional responders are available, and liaison with Maritime NZ's Maritime Pollution Response Services. All costs for training and exercise are borne by Maritime NZ through the Oil Pollution Fund.

The proposal is to change roles so that Peter Thomas takes on the role of designated ROSC, with Jim Lyle and Peter Weissing being the alternative ROSCs. This will both provide development opportunities to staff, and provide diversity in roles rather than have too many roles sitting with one person.

In all matters Peter Thomas will continue to receive the full support of Jim Lyle as his direct manager and alternative ROSC, and Peter Weissing as the alternative ROSC.

Recommendations:

1. That the report 'Appointment of Regional On Scene Commander – Marine Oil Spill Response' by Jim Lyle, Regional Harbourmaster, dated 31 January 2018, be received.
 2. That council confirm the appointment of Peter Thomas as Regional On Scene Commander.
 3. That council confirm the appointment of Jim Lyle and Peter Weissing as alternative Regional On Scene Commanders.
-

1. Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Appoint a new Regional On Scene Commander	Gives a better spread of responsibilities, and develops staff.	Period of development of new ROSC.
2	Maintain status quo	No period of change.	In major event harbourmaster is also ROSC.

The staff's recommended option is Option 1.

2. Significance and engagement

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.

3. Policy and legislative 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 LGA 2002.

Further considerations**4. Community views**

For the community, it makes no difference as long as the position is filled.

Maritime pollution response services at Maritime NZ have been consulted and are happy with the decision.

5. Māori impact statement

Nil.

6. Financial implications

Already existing staff and just a change of responsibilities.

7. Implementation issues:

No implementation issues are envisaged. It is likely that the planned changes will improve the ability to deliver services overall in maritime operations through better sharing of responsibilities and roles.

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Tony Phipps

Title: Group Manager- Customer Service and Community Resilience

Date: 31 January 2018

TITLE: Revised National Policy Statement for Freshwater Progressive Implementation Programme

ID: A1035798

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Justin Murfitt – Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager

Date: 6 March 2018

Executive summary

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) requires council to publicly notify a staged implementation programme if it is impracticable for council to fully implement it by 31 December 2015. Council had not fully implemented the NPS-FM by this date and therefore notified its NPS-FM implementation programme in November 2015. The programme stated that council intended to largely implement the NPS-FM through its Proposed Regional Plan to be notified in 2017.

While council has made significant progress in delivering on the 2015 programme, changes to the NPS-FM in August 2017 meant that the water quality related provisions which were intended to be included in the Proposed Regional Plan were no longer consistent with the NPS-FM as amended. This means the 2015 implementation programme is no longer consistent with either the NPS-FM as amended in 2017 or the Proposed Regional Plan.

While the amended NPS-FM allows council until 31 December 2018 to review and revise its implementation programme, staff recommend that a revised NPS-FM implementation programme be adopted prior to hearings on the Proposed Regional Plan. This for reasons of clarity, transparency and consistency between the two documents and the amended NPS-FM.

Staff reviewed and revised the 2015 programme and recommend council adopt a revised programme to implement the NPS-FM that aligns with both the Proposed Regional Plan content and reflects requirements of the amended NPS-FM. A draft revised NPS-FM implementation plan is attached (**Appendix 1**) for consideration by council. The main change to the programme is an amendment to the regional plan scheduled for circa 2021 to address outstanding water quality matters (this is a valid option given councils have until 2025 to implement the NPS-FM). The 2021 plan change could also address any further changes to the NPS-FM that have been signalled by the Minister for the Environment.

It is recommended that the revised NPS-FM implementation programme be publicly notified on or before 31 March 2018 so that it is available well before hearings on the Proposed Regional Plan.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Revised National Policy Statement for Freshwater Progressive Implementation Programme' by Justin Murfitt – Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager and dated 20 February 2018, be received.

2. That subject to any directed amendments, council adopts the Revised National Policy Statement for Freshwater Progressive Implementation Programme in Appendix 1.
 3. That council authorises public notification of the Revised National Policy Statement for Freshwater Progressive Implementation Programme on or before 31 March 2018.
-

Background

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM) requires council to publicly notify a staged programme for implementing the NPSFM because it was impracticable for council to fully implement it by 31 December 2015. Council last notified an implementation programme in November 2015, which stated that council intended to largely implement the NPS-FM through its Proposed Regional Plan to be notified in 2017.

In August 2017, just prior to public notification of the Proposed Regional Plan (on 7 September 2017), the previous Government amended the NPS-FM. This meant some of the water quality content in the Proposed Regional Plan was no longer consistent with the 2017 amendments to the NPS-FM in two major areas.

First, the objectives for *E.coli* in the Regional Plan that was about to be notified were inconsistent with the new attribute states for *E.coli* in the amended NPS-FM. What is more, the amended NPS-FM now requires council to set regional targets for the indicator bacteria and to improve the quality of fresh water in specified rivers and lakes by December 2018. It also requires council to change its Regional Plan to the extent to ensure that it, among other things, includes provisions to improve the quality of fresh water in specified rivers and lakes¹ and primary contact sites² so that they are suitable for primary contact more often.

Second, the amended NPS-FM directs council to at least set appropriate instream concentrations and exceedance criteria for dissolved inorganic nitrogen (DIN) and dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP) for the purposes of achieving objectives for periphyton biomass, and where there are nutrient sensitive downstream receiving environments, criteria for nitrogen and phosphorus.

Rather than significantly delay notification of the plan to address the new policy directives, council chose to remove the objectives for *E.coli* and periphyton and reconsider its approach to freshwater quality management units generally³. These matters would then be addressed more robustly in a future plan change (this is a valid option given councils have until 2025 to implement the NPS-FM).

Given the above, it is recommended that council review and revise its progressive implementation programme to reflect these changed circumstances. A draft revised implementation programme is attached (**Appendix 1**) for consideration by council. The key

¹ "Specified rivers and lakes" means: (a) rivers that are fourth order or above, and (b) lakes with a perimeter of 1.5 kilometres or more.

² "Primary contact site" means: (a) any part of a specified river or lake that a regional council considers is used, or would be used but for existing freshwater quality, for primary contact recreation, and (b) any other site in any other river or lake that a regional council has determined should be managed for primary contact recreation.

³ Unlike most other regions in New Zealand it is difficult to develop a river classification that differentiates Northland's rivers according to variation in catchment characteristics and land uses. This has made identifying freshwater quality management units for rivers very challenging.

difference between the two is a further plan change to the Regional Plan in (circa) 2021 to address the gaps relating to water quality (primarily relating to *E.coli* and periphyton noted above and the establishment of freshwater quality management units). This plan change could also address any other additional NPS-FM requirements that may arise in the meantime and signals that council still intends to meet the 2025 deadline to implement the NPS-FM. The draft revised programme also provides an outline of progress to date (as at December 2017).

It should be noted that like the 2015 implementation programme, the revised programme includes reference to non-regulatory initiatives. While not required, this helps to provide a fuller picture of council's efforts to improve water quality. However, it is recommended that a note be added to the effect that these are subject to 2018–2028 LTP decisions. It is recommended that the revised NPS-FM implementation programme be adopted and publicly notified prior to hearings on the Proposed Regional Plan for reasons of clarity, transparency, and consistency between the two documents. Once adopted council must then notify the revised programme (but no consultation or statutory process is required).

Considerations

Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Do not revise the 2015 NPS-FM implementation programme	No costs of public notice incurred (costs are minor).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inconsistency between council's NPS-FM implementation programme and the Proposed Regional Plan and NPS-FM as amended in 2017. No clear programme to address new requirements of the NPS-FM as amended in 2017.
2	Adopt a revised NPS-FM implementation programme late 2018 (after LTP decisions and Proposed Regional Plan hearings)	The revised programme could reflect LTP decisions (Note: not a NPS-FM requirement).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor costs of public notice. No clarity / transparency for submitters / hearing panel on programme to address new requirements of the NPS-FM as amended in 2017. Possibility the programme may need revision following decisions on the Proposed Regional Plan.

3	Adopt a revised NPS-FM implementation programme as soon as practicable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alignment between NPS-FM, Proposed Regional Plan and implementation programme. Council's intentions re NPS-FM implementation clear and transparent. Council shows it intends to meet the 2025 NPS-FM deadline. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minor costs of public notice. Possibility the programme may need revision following decisions on the LTP/Proposed Regional Plan.
---	--	--	---

Staff recommend option three, noting that council has discretion to amend its implementation programme at any time without undertaking consultation or statutory process.

1. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is considered to be of low significance when assessed against council's significance and engagement policy because it is part of council's day to day activities. This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that council is able to make decisions relating to this matter without undertaking further consultation or engagement. It should also be noted that any substantive statutory proposals (such as future plan changes) related to NPS-FM implementation will be subject to robust engagement and consultation processes.

2. Policy and legislative compliance

The decision to adopt a revised NPS-FM implementation programme is consistent with requirements of Policy E1 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and the legislative requirement of section 55 of the Resource Management Act 1991 to give effect to national policy statements.

Further considerations

3. Community views

While the community has an interest in water quality and NPS-FM implementation generally, the subject matter relates to the timing of council implementation of the NPS-FM rather than any substantive regulatory or financial initiatives with material effect on Northland communities. Council also has little choice but to meet the requirements of national policy statements. Therefore, no consultation in relation to this matter is proposed or required by the NPS-FM or relevant legislation.

4. Māori impact statement

While Māori have an interest in water quality and NPS-FM implementation generally, the subject matter relates to the timing of council implementation of the NPS-FM rather than any substantive regulatory or financial initiatives with material effect. Council also has little choice but to meet the requirements of national policy statements. Therefore, no consultation in relation to this matter is proposed or required by the NPS-FM or relevant legislation.

5. Financial implications

The adoption of the revised NPS-FM implementation programme in itself has no significant financial implications. The resourcing of NPS-FM related plan change in 2021 has been accounted for in the 2018–2028 Long Term plan and if necessary adjusted through Annual Plan processes.

6. Implementation issues

The adoption of the revised NPS-FM implementation programme in itself has no significant implementation issues. The implementation of substantive NPS-FM requirements can be planned and resourced through annual and long term plan processes.

Attachments:

- Draft Revised NPS-FM implementation programme

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Colin Dall
Title: Group Manager – Regulatory Services
Date: 9 March 2018

Programme for implementing the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management – Northland Regional Council

March 2018

Purpose

This document sets out Northland Regional Council's staged programme for implementing the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2014 (NPS-FM), pursuant to Policy E1 of the policy statement. It supersedes the council's previous implementation programmes, which were publicly notified in 2012 and 2015.

Policy E1 states that if it is impractical for a regional council to fully complete implementation of the NPS-FM by 31 December 2015 then it may implement it by a programme of defined time-limited stages by which it is to be fully implemented by 31 December 2025 or 31 December 2030 (if certain circumstances apply). It also states that any programme adopted under the 2011 and 2014 versions of the NPS-FM must be reviewed, revised if necessary, and formally adopted by the regional council by 31 December 2018, and publicly notified.

The council reviewed its previous 2015 implementation programme and remains of the view that it is unlikely to be able to fully implement the NPS-FM before 31 December 2025, and therefore has adopted a revised programme which is presented in the table below. Please note that it is not open for submissions.

Progress to date (to December 2017)

- 2013: Decisions on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for Northland released (includes direction on freshwater management and NPS-FM implementation).
- 2013-2014: Five collaborative catchment groups established and tasked with recommending fresh and coastal water management measures to council (and additional monitoring sites added for each catchment).
- 2014: Review of operative regional plans completed (identified gaps in NPS-FM delivery).
- 2016: Regional Policy Statement made operative (in part).
- 2016: Draft regional plan released for public feedback.
- 2016: Draft catchment plans for Waitangi, Doubtless Bay, Mangere, Whangārei Harbour and Poutō catchments released for public feedback.
- 2017: Five catchment plans Waitangi, Doubtless Bay, Mangere, Whangārei Harbour and Poutō catchments adopted by council.
- 2017: Proposed Regional Plan publicly notified (includes regulatory elements of Waitangi, Doubtless Bay, Mangere, Whangārei Harbour and Poutō catchment plans - see below for more detail).

Progressive NPS-FM implementation programme 2018

	Regional planning initiatives Note: Objective and Policy references relate to the NPS-FM as amended 2017	Site specific / Catchment-specific¹ initiatives	Other non-regulatory initiatives (note: subject to 2018-28 LTP decisions)
2017	<p>Proposed Regional Plan notified under Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act. The Proposed Regional Plan (as notified) includes the following NPS-FM requirements:</p> <p>Freshwater quantity</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freshwater quantity management units (FMU) for rivers, lakes and aquifers (refer Policy CA1). • Freshwater quantity objectives (refer Policy B1). • Freshwater quantity limits (minimum flows and allocation) for each water quantity FMU, except for minimum levels for aquifers and allocation limits for lakes (refer Policy B1). • Policy and rules to improve and maximise the efficient allocation and efficient use of water (refer Policies B2, B3 and B4). • Policy and rules to avoid over-allocation (refer Policy B5). <p>Freshwater quality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitional Policy A4 of the NPS-FM. • Water quality standards for nitrate and ammonia toxicity in rivers. • Freshwater quality management units for lakes. • Water quality standards for lakes (phytoplankton, total nitrogen, total phosphorus and ammonia toxicity). • Policy to maintain overall water quality. • Provisions to manage discharges to land and water, including rules requiring the adoption of the best practicable option to manage discharges of contaminants (refer Policy A3). • Provisions to manage the disturbance to the beds of lakes, rivers and certain uses of land. • Livestock exclusion rules. <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regulatory provisions of the Waitangi, Doubtless Bay, Mangere, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catchment plans for Waitangi, Doubtless Bay, Mangere, Whangārei Harbour and Poutō catchment adopted by Council • Ongoing surveillance monitoring of <i>E.coli</i> at primary contact sites (in accordance with Appendix 5 NPS-FM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of non-regulatory elements of Waitangi, Doubtless Bay, Mangere, Whangārei Harbour and Poutō catchment plans. • Assistance, advice and funding for water quality improvement through Councils Environment Fund

¹ See Waiora Northland Water for more detail and function of these groups: www.nrc.govt.nz/waiora

	Regional planning initiatives Note: Objective and Policy references relate to the NPS-FM as amended 2017	Site specific / Catchment-specific¹ initiatives	Other non-regulatory initiatives (note: subject to 2018-28 LTP decisions)
	<p>Whangārei Harbour and Poutō catchment plans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provisions to protect the significant values of wetlands and identified outstanding freshwater bodies (refer Objective A2a) and b) and Objective A4) Provisions for management of sites of significance to tangata whenua (in waterbodies) 		
2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publicise draft and finalised regional targets for improving water quality for swimming (refer Policy A6). Update and implement the council's monitoring plan (refer Policies CB1, CB2, CB3 and CB4) and freshwater quality and quantity accounting systems (refer Policies CC1 and CC2) to address the 2017 amendments to the NPS-FM Develop measures to give effect to the requirements for incorporation of matauranga Maori, health of indigenous flora/fauna and macroinvertebrates into monitoring plans. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the need for/establish further collaborative catchment planning processes and establish groups if required. Ongoing surveillance monitoring of <i>E.coli</i> at primary contact sites (in accordance with Appendix 5 NPS-FM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refine and implement targeted soil conservation programme. Freshwater Improvement Fund projects for dune Lakes and Northern Wairoa River commenced, with the focus being on water quality improvement. Assistance, advice and funding for water quality improvement through Councils Environment Fund
Circa 2021	<p>Freshwater quality Notify a change to the regional plan to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify freshwater quality management units for rivers (refer Policy CA1). Include numeric freshwater quality objectives for rivers using the water quality attributes in Appendix 2 of the NPS-FM (refer Policy A1) Include in-stream concentration standards and exceedance criteria for dissolved inorganic nitrogen and dissolved reactive phosphorus in rivers for the purposes of achieving numeric freshwater quality objectives for periphyton (refer Appendix 2). Include relevant nitrogen and phosphorus criteria (instream concentrations or loads) for sensitive estuaries (refer Appendix 2). Include relevant freshwater quality limits (refer Policy A1). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional catchment plans adopted (as needed) Refine/adjust existing catchment plans (if needed). Ongoing surveillance monitoring of <i>E.coli</i> at primary contact sites (in accordance with Appendix 5 NPS-FM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing implementation of targeted soil conservation programme. Freshwater Improvement Fund projects. Progressive implementation of operational measures to improve swimming water quality. Assistance, advice and funding for water quality improvement through Councils Environment Fund

	Regional planning initiatives Note: Objective and Policy references relate to the NPS-FM as amended 2017	Site specific / Catchment-specific¹ initiatives	Other non-regulatory initiatives (note: subject to 2018-28 LTP decisions)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Include methods to avoid over-allocation (refer Policy A1). Potentially, include targets and methods to improve water quality to achieve freshwater quality objectives (refer Policy A2). Include rules requiring the adoption of the best practicable option to manage discharges of contaminants (refer Policy A3). Identify specified rivers and lakes and primary contact sites and associated targets/measures to improve water quality for swimming (refer Policy A5). <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify / manage priority freshwater biodiversity sites. Any issues with/gaps in the regional plan. Any additional catchment-specific regulatory methods. Other requirements as a result of further changes to the NPS-FM. <p>Note: the timing of this plan change may depend on the availability of practical methods and tools for water quality management.</p>		
2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regulatory implementation complete 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Finalise and implement any further catchment plans commenced in 2021. Ongoing surveillance monitoring of E.coli at primary contact sites (in accordance with Appendix 5 NPS-FM) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementation of operational measures to improve swimming water quality Ongoing implementation of non-regulatory measures. Assistance, advice and funding for water quality improvement through Councils Environment Fund

Working with the community

Council has involved tangata whenua, stakeholders and interested parties in implementation of the NPS-FM to date. This has occurred through representation of various interests on collaborative catchment planning groups and participation in the regional plan development process by industry / stakeholder liaison groups and the Te Taitokerau Maori and Council Working Party. Opportunity for wider community / landowner participation has also been provided through the release of draft catchment plans and a draft regional plan for feedback in 2016 and a proposed regional plan in 2017. Council anticipates these forms of participation (and potentially others such as Mana Whakahono a Rohe agreements) will continue to inform ongoing implementation of the NPS-FM.

TITLE: Submission on Conservation (Infringement System) Bill

ID: A1041840

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Justin Murfitt, Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager

Date: 5 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to seek that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to approve a submission on the Conservation (Infringement System) Bill. This Bill proposes amendments to conservation-related legislation to provide a more proportionate infringement system in relation to public resources. While the intent of the Bill is supported there are potential issues for council in terms of operational activity and plans developed under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). Submissions on the Bill close 6 April 2018. Staff have yet to fully assess the implications of the Bill and are unable to present a full submission to council by the agenda deadline. Therefore, approval for the submission to be authorised and lodged under delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer is sought. Nevertheless, it is proposed that the draft submission will be circulated to councillors with an opportunity to provide feedback at the 3 April 2018 council workshop.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Submission on Conservation (Infringement System) Bill' by Justin Murfitt, Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager, and dated 5 March 2018, be received.
2. That council authorises a draft submission on the Conservation (Infringement System) Bill be approved and lodged under authority delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

Background

The Conservation (Infringement System) Bill is currently before the Environment Select Committee which has called for public submissions. The wider objective of the Bill is to improve the effectiveness of enforcement of conservation laws and in particular to:

- Ensure that penalties for offences are commensurate with the seriousness of the offence.
- Ensure that people do not unnecessarily risk criminal convictions if they commit minor offences.
- Make the treatment of offences consistent with those in similar regimes, such as fisheries.
- Remove unnecessary costs to the court system.
- Contribute to the Government's objectives of improving government interaction with New Zealanders and delivering better public services for less cost.

These objectives are a response to problems arising in implementing the current compliance system – namely the very limited enforcement / penalty options. Offenders who commit minor offences are either warned or prosecuted in the courts. Issuing warnings is not always effective as a deterrent to future offending, and can be seen by the other users of the affected conservation value as ineffective and unfair.

Equally, prosecutions can be a disproportionate response to less serious offending, as it risks the offender getting a criminal record for a comparatively minor offence. This is compounded in that the penalties for nearly all conservation related offences are designed to deter serious crimes. There are also associated issues related to unjustifiable costs of enforcement by the Department of Conservation, local authorities and the courts.

In response to these issues the Bill seeks to introduce an infringement system, which is a generally accepted approach for dealing with less serious offending in relation to public resources. It would allow a range of enforcement actions including: issue of a warning, an infringement notice or a prosecution to be taken, with the choice depending on the seriousness of the case (a similar approach is used for traffic offences). The Bill would amend the following Acts to this effect:

- Conservation Act 1987
- Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978
- Marine Reserves Act 1971
- National Parks Act 1980
- Reserves Act 1977
- Trade in endangered Species Act 1989
- Wild Animal Control Act 1977
- Wildlife Act 1953.

The Bill is available online here:

<http://www.legislation.govt.nz/bill/government/2017/0241/latest/DLM7116144.html>

Implications

This concept is supported and staff consider a similar amendment to the Biosecurity Act 1993 would be beneficial as the same problem with a lack of enforcement tools is apparent. However, there appear to be some potential issues for council if the Bill progresses on the current wording. These issues are likely to arise under several acts listed above but the Conservation Act 1987 is used as an example below. The issues relate to the fact there appear to be no exemptions from offences under the Conservation Act for activities either undertaken by council staff or authorised under the RMA by council permitted activity rules or resource consents.

For example, the Bill states the following activities¹ (without a permit or an authority under the Conservation Act 1987) are subject to infringement offences:

- (a) Disturb or damage the spawning ground² of any freshwater fish
- (b) A person must not, for the purpose of taking or destroying freshwater fish, use in any water a hazardous substance, narcotic substance, or electric fishing device (an

¹ Clause 51F Offences relating to spawning fish, and Clause 51L Using hazardous substances, etc., to take or destroy fish.

² Unfortunately, spawning ground is not defined in the principle Act or the Bill, but could potentially apply to large areas of Northland.

exemption is provided for warranted officer or a fish and game ranger and persons authorised in writing for the purpose by the Director-General, the Director, or the appropriate Fish and Game Council).

It appears these activities have been offences under the Conservation Act 1987 since its inception³ but seem not to have been actively enforced. Staff are not aware of any clause limiting the scope of these offences to the Department of Conservation estate or reserves, nor are we aware of any generic 'exemptions' for local government for Biosecurity Act/RMA purposes – in which case, there appear to be implications for a range of council activities.

Council's biosecurity staff often undertake the control of aquatic pest species using methods that include toxic agents or disturb spawning grounds of freshwater fish. Council's State of the Environment monitoring team also use electric fishing and/or other catch methods to determine species presence and abundance of fish for the purpose of assessing ecological health. Council staff are not warranted under the Conservation Act and exemptions for these activities by regional council staff do not appear to have been contemplated in the Bill and as it stands such activity would appear to require prior 'authorisation'.

Council is also a regulatory body and authorises a range of activity through either permitted activity rules or resource consents under the RMA that may disturb spawning grounds (e.g. permitted activity rules for river bank protection works, culverts and to maintain free flow of water). Regional councils also administer/authorise flood control schemes, which could be similarly affected. Again, there would appear to be a requirement for prior authorisation before these activities could occur. A submission on the Bill presents an opportunity to highlight this situation and provide appropriate exemptions for legitimate activity.

Recommended submission points

Exemptions for council biosecurity and monitoring activity

It is recommended that council lodge a submission seeking the Bill be amended to exempt activity undertaken by regional councils in relation to the control of pests/unwanted organisms under the Biosecurity Act and for purposes of monitoring the environment. This is because both are statutory functions where council has:

- Expertise and knowledge; and
- A mandate and statutory basis for the activity (e.g. councils are required under s35 RMA and the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management to monitor freshwater resources and to implement pest plans developed under the Biosecurity Act).

There appears no reason why Fish and Game officers are exempt, while local government (particularly regional councils given their water related functions) are not. It is therefore recommended that a submission seek amendments to the Conservation Act (and other acts where the same situation arises) and the offence provisions of the Bill be amended to exempt regional councils from the following clauses:

- Clauses 26ZJ and 26ZR of the Conservation Act 1987 (and other acts as relevant);
- Clauses 51F and 51L of the Conservation (Infringement System) Bill; and
- Any other remedies to achieve the same or consequential amendments as required to give effect to the above.

³ Conservation Act 1987: Clause 26ZJ(a) Offences relating to spawning fish and Clause 26ZR(1) Using hazardous substances to catch or destroy fish.

Exemptions for RMA authorisations

It appears the Bill (and indeed the current Conservation Act) would require authorisation prior to the exercise of a permitted activity or resource consent to disturb or damage the spawning ground of any freshwater fish – in Northland this could apply to numerous activities in numerous waterways (and could in many cases also apply to drains). While multiple authorisations for a single activity can be a requirement of different acts (e.g. resource consent and building consent for the same structure), it is unclear whether the Conservation Act was intended to apply in addition to permissions under the RMA. If so there is the potential for additional process costs and it is unlikely that the Department of Conservation or Fish and Game are resourced for this purpose (given a lack of historical enforcement). It could also mean an activity permitted by a regional rule could not be exercised if a permit to disturb a spawning ground was declined by the Department of Conservation (noting spawning grounds are likely very extensive but definitive information is scanty). It is therefore recommended that council make the following submission points:

- That the Government clarify whether disturbance or damage of spawning grounds authorised under the RMA rules/consents are also subject to permission/penalty under the Conservation Act or other acts (on the face of it this seems to be the case);
- If so, that the Government revisit the Regulatory Impact Statement to better identify the costs and benefits of these requirements; or
- Amend the Conservation Act, the Bill, and other acts as needed to exempt regional council activities and activity authorised under RMA plans/resource consents.

Consequential amendments to other Acts

This situation may arise in other acts (e.g. Wildlife Act). It is suggested that where the issues outlined above arise in relation to other Acts covered by the omnibus Bill, consequential amendments are also made to those acts to reflect the relief sought.

It is recommended that staff undertake further investigation in preparing the draft submission. It is also recommended that the submission be approved under authority delegated to the Chief Executive Officer prior to being lodged.

Considerations

1. Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Do not lodge a submission	Less staff time required.	None
2	Lodge a submission	The potential for duplication/unnecessary process costs is not identified.	Staff time/resource required.

The staff's recommended option is option two, that a submission on the Bill be lodged making the points outlined above.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is considered to be of low significance when assessed against council's significance and engagement policy because it is part of council's day to day activities. This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that council is able to make decisions relating to this matter without undertaking further consultation or engagement.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

While the matter relates to conservation and resource management law, there are no policy or legislative constraints relevant to this issue and the decision being made.

Further considerations

4. Community views

While the community is likely to have an interest and views on the matter, consultation has not been undertaken nor is there considered any requirement or need to do so as council submitting on the matter is unlikely to have material implications.

5. Māori impact statement

While tangata whenua are likely to have an interest and views on the matter, consultation has not been undertaken nor is there considered to be any requirement or need to do so as council submitting on the matter is unlikely to have material implications for Māori.

6. Financial implications

None

7. Implementation issues

None

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Colin Dall
Title: Group Manager – Regulatory Services
Date: 12 March 2018

TITLE: Submission on Auckland Council's Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan

ID: A1043811

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Don McKenzie – Biosecurity Manager

Date: 8 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to seek that authority be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer to prepare and lodge a submission on the Auckland Council's Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan (the Plan). While staff have some initial views on points that could be made in a submission on the Plan, they have yet to fully assess the Plan or draft a full submission for consideration by council. The submission period closes on 28 March 2018 and therefore approval is sought for the submission to be prepared and lodged under delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Submission on Auckland Council's Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan' by Don McKenzie – Biosecurity Manager and dated 8 March 2018, be received.
2. That council delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer to prepare and lodge a submission on the Auckland Council's Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan.

Background

Auckland Council has prepared and publicly notified a Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan under the Biosecurity Act 1993 (the Plan). The Plan includes provisions to manage a range of plant, animal and pathogens and adopts the nationally accepted approach to classifying each listed pest. It is similar in structure to the Regional Pest Management Plan for Northland recently developed by council. However, unlike the approach adopted in Northland, it does not include any marine pests nor has Auckland Council developed a Marine Pest Pathway Management Plan (they do however include controls on biofouling in the relevant sections of the unitary plan developed under the Resource Management Act 1991). The Plan is available online here: <https://www.aucklandcouncil.govt.nz/have-your-say/topics-you-can-have-your-say-on/regional-pest-management-plan/Documents/proposed-regional-pest-management-plan.pdf>.

Recommended submission points

Staff have yet to fully assess the Plan, however, there are several issues that are apparent at this stage and likely to warrant a submission by council in the interests of promoting a coordinated and consistent approach across adjoining regions. These include:

- That Auckland and Northland face very similar issues in relation to pests given climate and proximity. This is particularly the case for marine pests as the two regions combined would represent a very large proportion of the recreational fleet and there is

ITEM: 7.9

Page 2 of 3

a high degree of 'connectivity' (vessel movements) between the two. Therefore there is a real risk that pests established in one region will spread given the vectors and similar climatic conditions – in which case there is all the more reason for a coordinated approach.

- That the absence of marine pest species in the Proposed Pest Management Plan is considered a weakness. While Auckland's unitary plan includes RMA controls on biofouling, there is merit in applying additional tools available under the Biosecurity Act to combat the threat of marine pests (i.e. rules relating to individual marine pests). It is therefore recommended the submission seek that the Plan include marine pests in the list of pest organisms and that these be classified according to the approach to be adopted (e.g. exclusion, eradication, containment, site-led).
- The council submission suggests that Auckland Council consider applying a risk based approach – namely, that the Plan include provisions to identify/define high risk activity and sites for marine pests and that once identified these sites are required to develop a management plan to address the spread of marine pests (this approach has been adopted in Northland).
- That council supports the inclusion of Kauri Dieback pathogen as a pest species.

There may well be other matters that arise as staff undertake further investigation in preparing the draft submission on the Plan.

The submission period closes on 28 March 2018 and therefore approval is sought for the submission to be prepared and lodged under authority delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

Considerations

1. Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Do not lodge a submission	Less staff time required.	The opportunity for greater consistency across regions is missed.
2	Lodge a submission	Council has an opportunity to influence Auckland Council's Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan.	Staff time required.

The staff's recommended option is option two, that a submission be lodged making the points outlined above.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is considered to be of low significance when assessed against council's Significance and Engagement Policy because it is part of council's day to day activities. This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that

council is able to make decisions relating to this matter without undertaking further consultation or engagement.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

While the matter relates to the Biosecurity Act 1993, there are no policy or legislative constraints relevant to this issue and the decision being made.

Further considerations

4. Community views

While the community is likely to have an interest and views on the matter, consultation has not been undertaken nor is there considered any requirement or need to do so as council submitting on the matter is unlikely to have material implications.

5. Māori impact statement

While tangata whenua are likely to have an interest and views on the matter, consultation has not been undertaken nor is there considered to be any requirement or need to do so as council submitting on the matter is unlikely to have material implications for Māori.

6. Financial implications

None

7. Implementation issues

None

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Bruce Howse

Title: Group Manager – Environmental Services

Date: 12 March 2018

TITLE: Draft Regional Swimming Water Quality Targets

ID: A1041221

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Justin Murfitt, Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager

Date: 5 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to seek council adoption of draft regional swimming water quality targets for the Northland region. The draft targets are a requirement of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) as amended in August 2017. Policy A6 of the NPS-FM requires council to make draft regional swimming water quality targets publicly available by 31 March 2018.

A governance group and taskforce comprising MfE and MPI officials and staff from regional councils were set up to help councils meet this obligation. The taskforce has compiled information on work committed or underway in each region to improve water quality for swimming, and the likely associated costs. This information for each region is presented in a report (Regional information for setting draft targets for swimmable lakes and rivers) that will be made publicly available before 31 March 2018 – the section of the report on Northland is currently under review as a result of feedback from staff and at the time of writing the revised version was not available.

Councils have not had the opportunity to consult with their communities about what rivers and lakes they should focus on for improvements and within what timeframes, and so most are intending to use the results in the report as their draft targets and as a starting point for discussion.

A document setting out draft regional swimming water quality targets for Northland is attached (**Attachment 1**) and fulfils the reporting requirements under the NPS-FM. The report recommends that council adopt the draft regional swimming water quality targets as set out in Attachment 1 subject to any revision required as a result of the review of the Northland section by MfE.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Draft Regional Swimming Water Quality Targets' by Justin Murfitt, Resource Management Planning and Policy Manager and dated 5 March 2018, be received.
2. That, subject to any changes required as a result of the revision of the Northland section of the report "Regional information for setting draft targets for swimmable lakes and rivers", council adopts a draft regional swimming water quality target for the Northland region of 25.5% or more of fourth order (and larger) rivers (by length) and more than 66 of lakes are to be 'swimmable' by 2030.

3. Subject to any changes required as a result the final revision of the Northland section of the report "Regional information for setting draft targets for swimmable lakes and rivers", Council authorises the targets document as set out in Attachment 1 being made publicly available on or before 31 March 2018.

Background

In August 2017, the then Government confirmed a national swimming water quality target 'to increase the proportion of specified rivers and lakes that are suitable for primary contact to at least 80% by 2030, and 90% no later than 2040'. Specified rivers and lakes are defined in the NPS-FM as rivers that are fourth order or above and lakes with a perimeter greater than 1,500 metres.

The national targets were complemented by a change to the NPS-FM (Policy A6) NPS-FM requiring regional councils to develop draft regional swimming water quality targets – the regional targets are to contribute to the national targets and are to be publicly available by 31 March 2018.

Some regional councils have raised concerns about the national targets. These include:

- The target's focus on E.coli and cyanobacteria (human health attributes in the NPS-FM) as measures of suitability for swimming. However, in some regions, other contaminants such as nitrogen, phosphorus or sediment may be a higher priority.
- There is a risk that prioritising actions to achieve the national swimming targets for the 'specified' rivers and lakes will divert focus away from other waterbodies that are popular for swimming and/or affect the process of identifying other community values.
- The method of assessing and reporting E.coli takes no account of seasonal effects that influence when people swim, or whether there is any public access to the rivers and lakes that are subject to the target.

Draft regional targets

In accordance with Policy A6 NPS-FM, draft regional targets for Northland are set out in the attached document (**Appendix 1**) for consideration by council. The draft targets are based on modelling work by a governance group and taskforce comprising MfE and MPI officials and regional council staff. The modelled improvements relate only to improvements in *E.coli* concentrations (a measure of the risk to human health) in rivers. They do not relate to improvements in lake water quality (due to modelling limitations) so a narrative rather than numeric target is applied to lakes in Appendix 1. The modelling has been set out in a report 'Regional information for setting draft targets for swimmable lakes and rivers'. This report indicates modelled improvements equate to a draft regional swimming water quality target for Northland of 25.5% or more of fourth order (and larger) rivers (by length).

Estimations of the costs of the committed work have been modelled by Professor Graeme Doole of Waikato University. The modelled results of water quality improvements in rivers and their associated costs are presented in the taskforce's report 'Regional information for setting draft targets for swimmable lakes and rivers'. The assumptions and limitations of the modelling approaches taken are described in the report.

Appendix 1 sets out the draft regional targets for Northland but also include information on council's wider water quality programme and water related priorities – this is to provide

context and ensure readers understand that the draft targets do not represent council's much broader aspirations for improving freshwater quality and associated cultural and biodiversity values.

The document also states that prior to finalising the targets by 31 December 2018, public feedback will be sought on swimming water quality to establish what additional work programmes may be necessary to set realistic final targets for 2030 and 2040.

As noted, the Northland section of report 'Regional information for setting draft targets for swimmable lakes and rivers' has yet to be finalised – this may mean changes are required to the targets document in Attachment 1. The recommendations in this report therefore seek some flexibility for this to occur. In the event changes are required, these can be tabled on the day of the meeting.

Considerations

1. Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Council does not set draft regional targets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Less potential uncertainty/concern over the targets and their implications. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council does not comply with Policy A6 of the NPS-FM. Associated reputational risk.
2	Council sets draft regional targets by 31 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliant with NPS-FM Policy A6 requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential for uncertainty over council's priorities and implications of the targets.

The staff's recommended option is option 2. The disadvantages of this option (potential for uncertainty over council's priorities and implications of the targets) can be mitigated by including context and thorough background in the targets document.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is considered to be of low significance when assessed against council's significance and engagement policy because it is part of council's day to day activities. This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that council is able to make decisions relating to this matter without undertaking further consultation or engagement. This is because the targets are in draft form and at this point do not have significant implications in terms of council resources or impact on particular communities.

Also, there will be further opportunity for engagement on the matter before targets and associated planning provisions are finalised.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

The subject matter/decision is consistent with policy and legislative requirements of both the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and the Resource Management Act 1991.

Further considerations

4. Community views

While there are known community interests in swimming water quality, there has not been an opportunity to seek views on the matter, however there will be further opportunity for engagement before targets and associated planning provisions are finalised.

5. Māori impact statement

While there are known tangata whenua interests in swimming water quality, there has not been an opportunity to seek their views on the matter. At this point, the material implications of draft regional swimming water quality targets for tangata whenua are considered minor. This is because the targets are in draft form and at this point do not have significant implications in terms of council resources or impact on Māori to any greater extent than other Northland communities or individuals. Also, there will be further opportunity for engagement on the matter before targets and associated planning provisions are finalised.

6. Financial implications

The financial implications of council setting draft regional swimming water quality targets are not considered significant given the targets largely reflect proposals set out in the Proposed Regional Plan (such as livestock exclusion rules) and that the targets have yet to be finalised.

7. Implementation issues

The targets are in draft form and therefore implementation has yet to be determined. In addition, the targets are based largely on proposals already initiated in the Proposed Regional Plan (e.g. livestock exclusion rules).

Attachments:

- Draft regional swimming water quality targets

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Colin Dall
Title: Group Manager – Regulatory Services
Date: 8 March 2018

Appendix 1: Draft Regional Swimming Targets for Northland

Introduction

The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) as amended in August 2017 directs all regional councils (including unitary authorities) to improve the quality of fresh water so it is suitable for primary contact more often. "Primary contact" includes swimming, and means people's contact with fresh water that involves immersion in the water. For the purposes of the NPS-FM, being suitable for primary contact more often means an improvement in water quality (as measured by *E.coli* in rivers and cyanobacteria and *E.coli* in lakes) from one "state" to another. The states are: Excellent (blue), Good (green), Fair (yellow), Intermittent (orange) and Poor (red). The minimum state deemed suitable for primary contact is 'Fair'. The measures used to define each state are set out in Appendix 2 of the NPS-FM.

The NPS-FM also requires regional councils to set draft regional targets to improve the quality of freshwater in 'specified' rivers and lakes by 31 March 2018 – these are to be finalised by 31 December 2018. Specified rivers and lakes are defined in the NPS-FM as: fourth order (or larger) rivers and lakes with a perimeter of 1.5km or more - these waterbodies have been identified and categorised in terms of their 'swimming state' by the Ministry for the Environment: see: <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/fresh-water/about-freshwater/northland>

All regional councils have worked together to use the best information available to identify:

- For each region (including Northland) the improvements that will be made to water quality in rivers and lakes under programmes that are planned or underway
- When the anticipated water quality improvements will be achieved
- The likely costs of all interventions, and where these costs will fall

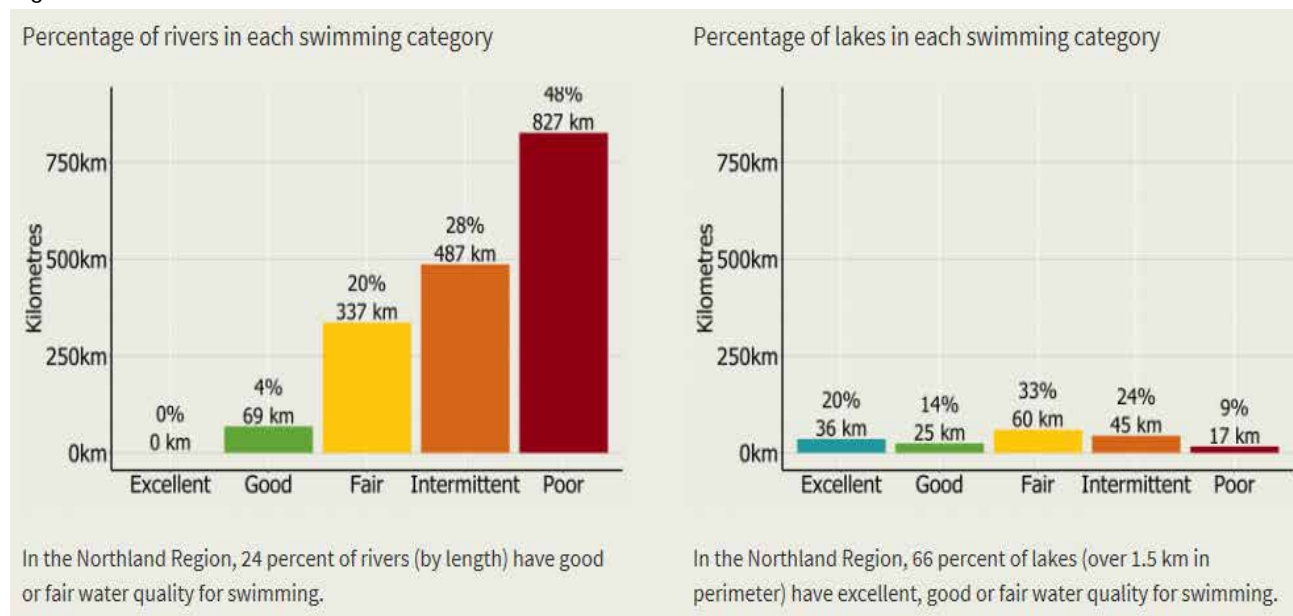
A report on these theoretical improvements and costs, presented region by region, is available [here](#) [INSERT LINK – MFE TO PROVIDE]. The assumptions and limitations of the modelling approaches taken are described in the report. The report has been used by regional councils as the basis for setting draft regional targets.

Regional context and focus

The main factors that affect swimming water quality in Northland are faecal contamination (as measured by *E.coli*) and sediment / water clarity in rivers and cyanobacteria in lakes. The main sources of *E.coli* are ruminants (grazing mammals), wildfowl and to a lesser degree humans and plants. There is also some evidence of 'naturalised' *E.coli* occurring in Northland rivers (that is *E.coli* may be able to persist in the environment independent of faecal inputs). Sediment sources are predominantly from highly erodible land and streambanks. Cyanobacteria blooms often occur when there is a combination of suitable conditions influenced by nutrient concentrations, temperature, light, and water clarity. These factors can be exacerbated by Northland's warm climate, high rainfall and geology.

The overall state of the Northland region's specified rivers and lakes in terms of NPS-FM swimming water quality measures (*E.coli* in rivers and cyanobacteria in lakes) has been modelled by the Ministry for the Environment – See Figure 1 below.

Figure 1



For more information and related maps showing Northland's modelled swimming water quality please see the Ministry for the Environment website: <http://www.mfe.govt.nz/fresh-water/about-freshwater/northland>

Regional priorities for improving water quality in Northland's rivers and coastal waters are to reduce the amount of faecal pathogens and sediment that enter them. For lakes, our focus is to reduce sediment and nutrients inputs. Council also seeks improvement in the biodiversity and cultural values of water bodies generally with a particular focus on dune lakes and wetlands.

We therefore have a freshwater improvement programme that has a broad focus and is not limited to contact recreation. The programme takes a strategic approach to addressing the priorities above and to meeting community aspirations for freshwater. Resources are prioritised to those actions that make the biggest difference to the issues that matter most in Northland. Our strategic approach is informed by science and investigations that are specific to Northland and include detailed cost-benefit assessments to ensure actions are well targeted (recent examples include the Kaipara Harbour Sediment Mitigation Study¹ and Managing Sediment and *E. coli* in the Whangarei Harbour Catchment²).

In delivering its freshwater improvement programme, council uses both regulatory methods (e.g. rules in regional plans developed under the Resource Management Act 1991) and operational programmes. Regulatory methods are primarily delivered through policies and rules in regional plans. The council has recently developed a new regional plan – the Proposed Regional Plan for Northland - which includes the following water quality related provisions:

- Water quality standards for nitrate and ammonia toxicity in rivers

¹ <http://www.knowledgeauckland.org.nz/search/?Keywords=%22KHSMS%22>

² See: <https://www.bing.com/search?q=MPI+Technical+Paper+No%3A+2016%2F67&src=IE-TopResult&FORM=IETR02&conversationid=>

- Water quality standards for lakes (phytoplankton, total nitrogen, total phosphorus and ammonia toxicity)
- Policy to maintain overall water quality
- Rules to manage discharges to land and water, including rules requiring the adoption of the best practicable option to manage discharges of contaminants
- More stringent rules for managing dairy effluent (including requirements for greater effluent storage capacity in wetter months, separation of stormwater from effluent systems and setbacks from water for land disposal)
- Rules to manage the disturbance to the beds of lakes and rivers
- Rules to manage the access of livestock exclusion to freshwater bodies and the sea
- Rules to manage sediment discharges from land disturbance activities (e.g. earthworks, cultivation and vegetation clearance) and tighter controls in areas mapped as highly erodible land
- Rules to protect the significant values of wetlands and outstanding freshwater bodies
- Rules specific to the Waitangi, Doubtless Bay, Mangere, Whangārei Harbour and Poutō catchments (including more stringent rules to exclude livestock from waterways and to target erosion)

Council also undertakes compliance monitoring in relation to a range of discharge consents to ensure conditions are met. We also monitor effluent systems on all dairy farms in Northland annually and do follow-up visits to significantly non-complaint effluent systems.

While regulatory methods are important, they tend to be preventative rather than proactive. Council therefore places a great deal of emphasis on the non-regulatory / operational elements of the water quality improvement programme. These include:

- Monitoring popular swimming sites during the bathing season and investigation where necessary and undertaking actions to improve water quality at these sites.
- An extensive soil conservation programme aimed at reducing sediment loads to fresh and coastal waters. This includes The Kaipara Hill Country Erosion Project - a four-year, \$ 3.5 million land-based initiative (comprising central government, Northland Regional Council and land owners' contributions) aimed at reducing sedimentation in the Kaipara Harbour. This project will be re-applied for in 2019, early indications from central government is that this fund will be similar or larger to meet the billion trees objective.
- We also have developed our own poplar and willow nursery to provide landowners with planting material to reduce soil erosion.
- Northern Wairoa Freshwater Improvement Project – a project aimed at reducing sediment and pathogens (a \$2.85 million-dollar five-year project with nine partners made up of Iwi, hapū groups, industry and research bodies with 45% funding support from the Freshwater Improvement Fund).
- Northland Dune Lakes Strategic Water Quality Improvement project, aimed at reducing nutrient levels, pest impacts and improving biodiversity values (a \$1.6 million-dollar project supported by the Freshwater Improvement Fund)
- Otuihau-Hatea water quality improvement project – aimed at improving water quality at the iconic swimming spot Whangarei Falls (a \$400,000-dollar three-year project co-funded by NRC and the government's Community Environment Fund).
- Implementation of the non-regulatory elements of priority catchment plans - most of which target sediment, pathogens and the ecological health of fresh waterbodies.

- Farm water quality improvement plans – a free council service to assist landowners improve water quality.
- Protection and enhancement of wetlands.
- Council's Environment Fund which provides advice and financial assistance for landowners to improve water quality (the fund varies annually but over the last 2 years has averaged around \$1 million dollars). Note: the Environment Fund can also contribute to other projects outlined above.

The benefits of these operational programmes on water quality for swimming (and water quality generally) have not been estimated due to the complexity of such modelling. They are therefore not reflected in the draft regional targets (see below) but will provide additional water quality improvements and related aquatic biodiversity and cultural benefits. Council also proposes substantial additional resourcing for our freshwater improvement programmes in its 2018-2028 Long Term Plan – it is proposed to increase our annual spend on water related work over the next three years with an extra \$1.2 million dollars in 2018/19 rising to \$2.2 million dollars by 2021/22.

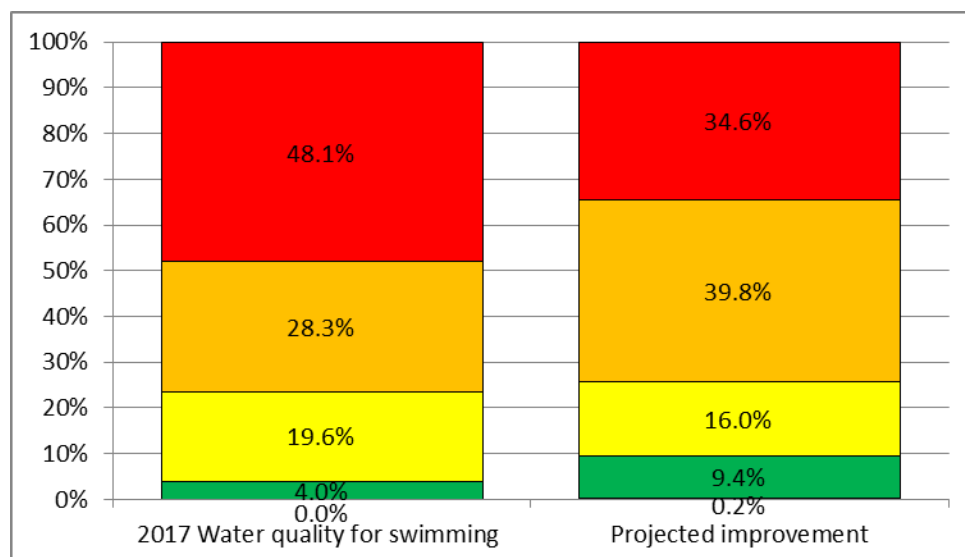
Draft regional targets

The council in conjunction with central government has developed draft primary contact targets for Northland's rivers. These targets do not represent council's wider aspirations for improving water quality and are limited to the modelled effect of livestock exclusion rules on water quality for primary contact recreation (e.g. swimming) in larger rivers. The effect of livestock exclusion rules and efforts to manage cyanobacteria in lakes were not able to be modelled, therefore a narrative (rather than numeric) target is applied to lakes.

Draft regional target for rivers

The draft regional targets for Northland based on the modelling of programmes underway, are 25.5% or more rivers (by length) that are fourth order or larger to be in the blue, green or yellow category in terms of *E. coli* by 2030³ during normal flow conditions (that is 25.5% or more will meet the swimming standard). The modelled improvement also estimates a 13.5% reduction of rivers in the 'poor / red' category. See Figure 2 below.

³ 2030 is the date by which all beef cattle, deer and dairy support cattle must be excluded from all permanently flowing streams and drains in lowland areas in Northland as required by the livestock exclusion rules in the Proposed Regional Plan



Note: this target is based solely on the modelled effect of livestock exclusion rules on *E.coli* in Northland's fourth order (and larger) rivers. It is likely that improvements in contact recreation in the lower order streams will also occur as a high percentage of Northland's streams are small but would still be subject to livestock exclusion rules (the effect on lower order streams has not however been modelled).

The cost to the region to exclude livestock from waterways to meet this target has been estimated at \$4.86 million dollars per annum over 25 years (\$121.5 million)⁴.

[INSERT MAP / LINK TO MODELLED IMPROVEMENTS – MFE TO PROVIDE]

Draft target for lakes

Risk of cyanobacteria exposure is reduced so that more than 66% of lakes with a perimeter greater than 1.5km are within the fair (swimmable) category by 2030.

Regional process from here

The NPS-FM requires that the draft regional targets for swimming water quality outlined above are to be finalised by 31 December 2018. Council intends to seek community feedback on swimming water quality later in 2018. The feedback will be used to finalise the regional targets which will then be made publicly available by 31 December 2018. Once finalised, provisions will be included in the regional plan to give effect to the regional targets. We expect this to occur by way of a plan change around 2021 – this will include formal consultation and submissions processes to ensure people can have their say.

⁴ Progress on Swimmability Report: a joint taskforce of central and local government representatives 2018

TITLE: Appoint Councillors to Environmental Leaders' Funding Panel

ID: A1042105

To: Council Meeting, Tuesday 20 March 2018

From: Suzanne Takiwa, Communications Manager

Date: 7 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to update councillors on the 2018 Environmental Leaders' Fund application process, including a new pest control allocation of materials/funds; and to request two councillors, who are available at 7.30am Tuesday, 29 May 2018, be appointed to the panel to consider applications and confirm the allocation of funding.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Appoint Councillors to Environmental Leaders' Funding Panel' by Suzanne Takiwa, Communications Manager, and dated 5 March 2018, be received.
2. That council appoint Councillors Rick Stolwerk and Justin Blaikie to participate on the judging panel responsible for making funding decisions.

Background

Council provides \$20,000 annually for the Environmental Leaders' Fund (ELF). The fund supports practical, hands-on projects or initiatives by Northland schools and students which increases their environmental knowledge and practice and have a positive impact on Northland's environment.

Application process

The applications are judged by a panel of four, being two councillors and two officers, based on a set of agreed criteria. Schools can apply for a maximum of \$2,000 per project. In previous years the fund has been oversubscribed and not all applications have received funding, others have been part-funded.

Applications for the 2018 funding round will open on 9 April and will close on 22 May 2018. To accommodate councillor availability, we propose the funding panel session be held at 7.30am on Tuesday 29 May 2018.

Pest control

This year, the biosecurity team will also be seeking applications for additional support and funding (maximum of \$10,000 from the 2018/2019 biosecurity environmental fund) through the ELF funding process. The pest control component will be publicised as part of the ELF promotions.

This support and funding is specifically for schools undertaking pest control projects and includes providing equipment such as traps or monitoring equipment; or other materials directly related to the control or eradication of pest plants and animals.

Successful projects will be identified by the panel; however, the exact level of support and funding will be arranged by biosecurity staff directly with schools who successfully complete the application and allocation process.

Biosecurity staff will also provide advice and support where required, to ensure the safe and effective use of the materials provided.

Considerations

Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Appoint two councillors to the 2018 ELF panel.	Status quo. Governance input into council funding.	Time required by councillors to take part in this process.
2	Appoint more councillors to the panel.	More input by governance into council funding.	Time required from councillors to take part in the process.
3	Appoint less councillors to the panel.	Less time required by councillors to take part in the process.	Less input from governance into council funding.

Staff recommend Option 1: Retain the status quo and appoint two councillors to the judging panel.

1. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this matter is part of the normal day-to-day operations of council and hence deemed to be of low significance under council policy.

2. Policy and legislative compliance

There are no policy or legislative requirements relevant to this decision.

Further considerations

Being a purely administrative matter, community views, Māori impact statement, financial implications and implementation issues are not applicable.

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Jonathan Gibbard

Title: Group Manager, Governance and Engagement

Date: 7 March 2018

TITLE: Adoption of the Liability Management Policy and Investment Policy

ID: 1044930

From: Bree Torkington, Assistant Management Accountant.

Executive summary

This document acts as a 'placeholder' for the report 'Adoption of the Liability Management Policy and Investment Policy' which is being considered at the Audit and Finance Working Party on 13 March 2018 prior to going to council.

The report will be sent out to councillors under separate cover.

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Dave Tams

Title: Group Manager – Corporate Excellence

Date: 12 March 2018

TITLE: Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party:
Reconvening the Māori Technical Advisory Group

ID: A1043819

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi Kaupapa Māori, Specialist Advisor – Māori

Date: 8 March, 2018

Executive summary

This paper seeks endorsement for the reconvening of the Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party's (TTMAC) Māori Technical Advisory Group (MTAG) for the purpose of:

- Reviewing council's process of advising tangata whenua of resource consent applications; and
- To provide council advice about Mana Whakahono a Rohe and hapū engagement.

It is proposed that three meetings of MTAG will be required to inform these processes.

In order to comply with council's Appointed Members' Policy a resolution of council is required for the purpose of reconvening MTAG.

Recommendations

1. That the report 'Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party: Reconvening the Māori Technical Advisory Group' by Rachel Ropiha, Kaiarahi Kaupapa Māori, Specialist Advisor, Māori and dated 8 March, 2018, be received.
2. That council resolve to reconvene the Māori Technical Advisory Group for the purposes outlined in this agenda item of 20 March 2018.
3. That the following non-elected members of Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party be confirmed as the members of the Māori Technical Advisory Group,

J Chetham	P Hohepa	H Murphy	M Norris
N Rameka	R Tautari	B Waitai	
4. That non-elected members Hakaraia and Sadler be co-opted onto the Māori Technical Advisory Group for this project only.

Background

At its meeting of 8 March 2018, TTMAC received the fourth in a series of presentations on the decision making process under the Resource Management Act 1991. Specifically the presentation covered the non-notified consent process. As part of this there was a general discussion about council's process of engaging Māori in this process in order to inform the decision to notify or not, an application.

ITEM: 7.13

Page 2 of 3

It was noted that there may be opportunities for improvements and/or refinement of the process, and that this be a topic for debate by MTAG who would then report findings back to TTMAC for consideration and/or recommendation back to council.

Further, council had previously agreed at its December 2017 meeting to support TTMAC non-elected members to consider further the development of hapū based Mana Whakahono a Rohe arrangements with the intent of providing advice to council.

To ensure MTAG operates in line with council's Appointed Members' Policy both the membership of the subordinate working party and schedule of meetings needs to be approved by council. As such this report seeks endorsement for the reconvening of MTAG with the following membership for three meetings (dates yet to be confirmed).

Juliane Chetham	Patu Hohepa	Henry Murphy	Mira Norris
Nora Rameka	Rowan Tautari	Bundy Waitai	

It is further recommended that non-elected TTMAC members Shirley Hakaraia and Fred Sadler be co-opted onto MTAG for the purpose of this programme of work only.

Considerations:
1. Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Do not endorse recommendations	Nil	Council would not receive the advice sought as confirmed at its December 2017 meeting.
2	Endorse the recommendations	Council is providing the mechanism in order to fulfil the required resolution from its December 2017 meeting of seeking advice on Mana Whakahono a Rohe and Hapū Engagement.	Nil

The Local Government Act 2002 has specific provisions placing responsibilities on council to provide for the contribution of Māori to its decision-making. With this in mind, staff recommend option two as the preferred option

Endorsing this option will also ensure council is complying with the Terms of Reference for TTMAC and consistent with one of the key purposes for establishing TTMAC Working Party, to inform council processes and plans.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this agenda item does not trigger council's Significance and Engagement Policy because it has previously been consulted on and provided for in council's Long Term Plan. This agenda item looks to reinforce a previous decision of council.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

This is an administrative decision to ensure council's decision complies with its Appointed Members' Policy.

The decision also recognises and advances council obligations to Māori contained in the Local Government Act 2002 and is consistent with the Terms of Reference and intent of TTMAC Working Part.

The decision is also consistent with council's key focus area of 'enduring relationships with tangata whenua'.

4. Further considerations

This decision is relatively minor and consistent with previous decisions of council therefore community views, Māori impact statement and implementation issues have not been discussed in detail.

5. Financial implications

The establishment and ongoing funding of an annual programme of work for the MTAG has previously been considered by council with funding previously budgeted to support MTAG. Therefore, this work can be accommodated within existing budgets.

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Jonathan Gibbard
Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement
Date: 9 March 2018

TITLE: Chairman's Report to Council

ID: A1040864

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Bill Shepherd, Chairman

Date: 9 March 2018

Executive summary

This report is to receive information from the Chairman on strategic issues, meetings/events attended, and correspondence sent for the month of February 2018.

Recommendation

That the report 'Chairman's Report to Council' by the Chairman, Bill Shepherd, and dated 9 March 2018, be received.

Strategic issues

CouncilMARK

In 2016 Local Government New Zealand introduced a council measuring tool called CouncilMARK. This measuring tool is designed to assist councils to ensure that they use best practice for all of their operations and administration and to give their communities confidence that their councils are being operated efficiently and delivering value for money.

As I have noted before the Northland Regional Council has delivered business as usual for four years in a row at a zero-percentage rating increase. Entering the CouncilMARK programme is the next step to improving our internal efficiencies. So, over the next few months our team will be working hard to ensure that we are matching 'best practice'.

Kaipara has a new Mayor

Dr Jason Smith has been elected as Kaipara's new Mayor to replace Greg Gent who resigned towards the end of last year. As Chairman of the Mayoral Forum I will be working hard, along with my colleagues, to ensure that Jason is welcomed into the Northland Mayoral Forum family and given every assistance to help him come up to speed with the collaborative programmes that our councils are jointly running.

For his part, Jason has assured us that he is very keen on collaboration and working with his fellow councils for the betterment of Northland.

Provincial Growth Fund

The councils of Northland are working together to ensure that projects that receive funding from the Provincial Growth Fund will make a difference to the economy and communities of Northland.

ITEM: 8.1

Page 2 of 3

The Taitokerau Northland Economic Action Plan that was launched in 2015 is a great starting point. However, hopefully, there will be other projects that come directly from local government that will tie in with the new government's objectives, that will receive funding in the April or subsequent rounds.

Meetings/events attended

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

- Meetings attended with the council's CEO, Malcolm Nicolson:
 - The Northland Mayoral Forum Mayors/Chair and CEOs met prior to the meeting with the Prime Minister to agree a strategy for the meeting.
 - The Northland Mayoral Forum Mayors/Chair and CEOs attended lunch at Waitangi with the Prime Minister, and seven other Ministers.
 - Barry Trass, Ben Tomason, Tony Jelas and Trevor Griffiths, Northland Development Corporation - hotel development. Councillors David Sinclair and John Bain also attended.
 - Northland Mayoral Forum hosted by Whangarei District Council.
 - Meeting with Kiwirail (Peter Reidy, CEO; Alan Piper, Group GM Sales and Commercial; David Gordon, Group GM Asset Management; and Andrew Norton, Group GM Human Resources). Phil Heatley, Strategic Projects Manager, also attended.
 - An independent consultant worked with us to finalise an annual performance agreement with KPI's for the CEO role. Councillor David Sinclair attended for part of the meeting.
 - Telephone conference call with Peter Winder and Peter Tynan, Kaipara District Council – Rogan case. Dave Tams, Group Manager – Corporate Excellence also attended.
- Regular Mayoral teleconference calls.
- Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan Advisory Group.
- Powhiri for Kelvin Davis, Karetu Marae, Kawakawa.
- Sue and I attended the following Waitangi Day celebrations held at the Waitangi Treaty Grounds:
 - Beat and Retreat and Ceremonial Sunset Ceremony; and
 - Function celebrating the Waitangi Festival 2018.
- David Wilson, Vaughan Cooper, and Luke Beehre, Northland Inc. – Extension 350 Project Update.
- Filming of LTP video.
- Attended a meeting in Wellington arranged by the LGNZ Regional Sector with Hon Damien O'Connor, followed by Hon David Parker.
- Tony Phipps, Group Manager – Customer Service/Community Resilience and I attended the LGNZ Regional Sector Group meeting in Wellington.
- Dr Jason Smith, Mayor, and Peter Tynan, Acting CEO, Kaipara District Council, and Phil Heatley, Strategic Projects Manager – Kaipara Community Hub.

ITEM: 8.1

Page 3 of 3

Correspondence

During February 2018 I sent out the following correspondence:

Date	Addressed to	Subject
01.02.18	Hon Nanaia Mahuta Minister of Local Government	Rogan case
07.02.18	Greg McManus CEO Waitangi Trust	Waitangi Festival
15.02.18	Far North District Council	Far North Holdings Limited Consultation
15.02.18	Northland Emergency Services Trust	Letter of support from Northland Regional Council
22.02.18	Hon Dr Megan Woods Minister of Energy and Resources	Invitation to officiate at electric vehicle launch event 3 April 2018
22.02.18	Hon Julie Anne Genter Associate Minister of Transport	Invitation to attend electric vehicle launch event 3 April 2018
27.02.18	Hon Nanaia Mahuta Minister of Local Government	Acknowledging receipt of letter containing contact details of staff in the Minister's office
27.02.18	Karleen Everitt Chair Northland Inc.	Investment and Growth Reserve criteria, workshop notes and regional promotions
27.02.18	Dame Rangimarie Naida Glavish Chair Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua	Congratulatory letter on appointment as Chair of the Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua Board

TITLE: Chief Executive's Report to Council

ID: A103 8978

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Malcolm Nicolson, Chief Executive Officer

Date: 9 March 2018

Executive summary

To update the council on recent activities and progress on achieving council priorities.

Recommendation

That the report 'Chief Executive's Report to Council' and dated 9 March 2018, be received.

8.2.1 HIGHLIGHTS

- Coordinated by the Wellbeing Committee, the council participated in the 2018 Aotearoa Bike Challenge. They were challenged by Whangarei District Council, and with a total of 2,549km cycled, beat them by over 500km for the month of February.
- Peter Gulliver from Deloitte's auditors sent an email acknowledging the LTP team. He wrote 'your team have done an excellent job of pulling the CD and supporting information together.' He also acknowledged the wider team, saying 'thanks for their co-operation and assistance provided to us during the process.'

8.2.2 CEO'S OFFICE

SHARED SERVICES

Northland councils are working together on applications for the Provincial Growth Fund a part of the Northland Forward Together's advocacy program 'One Voice'. A working party comprising of the four councils, Northland Inc. and NTA has been established.

COUNCIL PROPERTY UPDATE

Commercial

The purchaser of a Council CBD property has completed due diligence and is satisfied.

The building of the storage facility in Union East Street is complete both on time and on budget. Blessing and opening was Friday 2nd March.

8.2.3 CORPORATE EXCELLENCE

FINANCE

Fraud Declaration

I am not aware of any fraud nor am I investigating any incidence or suspected incidence of fraud at this time.

8.2.4 REGULATORY SERVICES

PLANNING AND POLICY

Proposed Regional Plan

A summary of decisions requested by submitters was notified for further submissions on 10 March 2018. The close off date for further submissions is 26 March 2018.

Regional Policy Statement – Genetically modified organisms (GMOs)

The Court has agreed to a process which involves each of the parties providing legal submissions and for the judge to make a decision 'on the papers' (without a hearing). All the relevant paperwork was lodged with the Court by 16 February 2018.

District Council Plan Changes

Whangarei District Council Proposed Plan Changes 85, A-D, 86A and B, 87, 102 and 114

As reported last month, Whangarei District Council has accepted the Hearings Panel's recommendations on their suite of Proposed Plan Changes, which includes Landscapes (114), Minerals (102) and Coastal Areas (87). The date for lodging appeals to the Environment Court was 1 March. While council did make submissions, it has not lodged any appeals. However, appeals have been lodged by other parties. At the time of writing, staff are continuing to follow the process to see what aspects of the decisions are subject to appeal and whether there is a need to join any such appeals (as a s274 party). This must be done within 15 working days after the original appeal period ends.

Land use and subdivision applications

During February 2018, 16 resource consent applications were received from the district councils (15 non-notified and 1 notified). At the time of writing, no comments or submissions had been lodged/raised.

CONSENTS

Consents in Process

During February 2018, a total of 43 Decisions were issued. These decisions comprised:

- 3 Moorings
- 8 Coastal Permits
- 1 Air Discharge Permits
- 4 Land Discharge Permits
- 3 Water Discharge Permits
- 17 Land Use Consents
- 2 Water Permits
- 5 Bore Consents

The processing timeframes for the February 2018 consents ranged from:

- § 315 to 2 calendar days, with the median time being 49 days;
- § 107 to 2 working days, with the median time being 20 days.

37 Applications were received in February 2018.

Of the 99 applications in progress at the end of February 2018:

- 40 were received more than 12 months ago (most awaiting further information);
- 8 were received between 6 and 12 months ago (most awaiting further information);
- 51 less than 6 months.

Appointment of Hearing Commissioners

No commissioners were appointed in February 2018.

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

The current level of notified application processing activities at the end of February 2018 is (by number):

§ Applications Publicly/Limited Notified During Previous Month	1
§ Progress on Applications Previously Notified	4
§ Hearings and Decisions	2
§ Appeals/Objections	2

COMPLIANCE AND STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT MONITORING

The results of compliance monitoring for the period 27 January – 28 February 2018 (and year-to-date figures) are summarised in the following table and discussed below.

Classification	Total	Full compliance	Non-compliance	Significant non-compliance	Not exercised during period
Air Discharges	16	12	2	0	2
Coastal permit	89	66	12	4	7
Discharge permit	91	66	15	5	5
Land use consent	30	24	6	0	0
Water permit	196	141	46	0	9
Total	422	309	81	9	23
Percentage		73.22%	19.19%	2.14%	5.45%
YTD	3837	2704	667	243	223

Air discharges

A total of 45 air quality related environmental incidents were received, 27 of which related to burning and smoke nuisance and 10 to odour nuisance.

Continuous ambient PM₁₀ monitoring results for January 2018 for the Whangārei, Marsden Point and Dargaville airsheds showed that compliance was met with the National Environmental Standards. PM_{2.5} monitoring results for Whangārei were within the Ambient Air Quality Guideline value.

Coastal

The majority of consents monitored during the reporting period related to coastal discharges (treated municipal sewage) and coastal structures. Water quality in marinas was also sampled.

Routine water quality sampling of the Whangārei, Bay of Islands and Kaipara harbours and southern estuaries (Mangawhai, Waipū and Ruakākā) was carried out.

Sediment plates at sentinel estuary monitoring sites were measured to assess sedimentation rates.

Hazardous Substances

- 735.4 kg of hazardous wastes was disposed of.
- Three incidents involving the discharge of hazardous substances and 25 enquiries regarding contaminated land were received and responded to.

Discharge and Land Use monitoring

Routine compliance monitoring of discharge and land use consents continued during the period.

Council staff attended a Hikurangi Swamp Working Group meeting hosted by WDC. No issues for NRC were raised.

Summer Recreational Bathing Water Quality Surveys 2017-18

The recreational bathing programme commenced on 4 December 2017 and will conclude on 6 March 2018, with up to 46 coastal and 14 freshwater sites sampled on a weekly basis. The following table shows the number of sites which had “unsuitable for swimming” results over the reporting period.

Sites	Week 1 04/12	Week 2 11/12	Week 3 18/12	Week 4 25/12	Week 5 01/01	Week 6 08/01	Week 7 15/01	Week 8 22/01	Week 9 29/01	Week 10 05/02	Week 11 12/02	Week 12 19/02	Week 13 26/02
Coastal	2	0	0	1	6	0	2	2	2	0	20	3	1
Freshwater	1	2	3	2	3	3	1	6	3	5	9	3	2

Environmental Incidents

There were no incidents recorded during the reporting period which resulted in a significant environmental impact.

EnforcementAbatement Notices

There were 15 abatement notices issued during the period. These were for:

Farm dairy effluent discharge	1
Burning & smoke nuisance	3
Earthworks	4
Water take	2
Structure in CMA	2
Anchoring >14 days	1
Structure in river	1
Chemical storage	1

Infringement Notices

There were 11 infringement notices issued during the period. These were for:

Farm dairy effluent discharge	1
Structure in CMA	2
Earthworks	4
Discharge of sewage	1
Burning & smoke nuisance	1
Culvert	2

Other EnforcementSpray damage to significant indigenous wetland

Charges have been laid against a land owner and the contracting company for spray damage to a significant indigenous wetland adjacent to Basin Road, Baylys Beach. A disputed facts hearing has been set down for the Whangārei District Court on 23 and 24 April 2018.

Dumping and burning of demolition waste

Charges have been laid against two companies, two individuals (associated with the two companies) and a land owner for the dumping and burning of demolition waste near Kaikohe. Full disclosure was completed on 22 February 2018. No court dates have been set.

Abatement notice appeals

An abatement notice issued for the discharge of odour and dust from a trade and industrial premise in Whangārei has been appealed. Mediation was originally scheduled for 9 February 2018 in Whangārei, however this has been deferred (no date yet set).

ISO 9001 Audit

The council's resource consent monitoring and environmental incident functions were externally audited to check for compliance with ISO 9001:2015. There were no non-conformances identified and the auditor was impressed with the professionalism of staff.

8.2.5 ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

LAND MANAGEMENT

Environment Fund Update

Year to date 197 projects totalling \$864,361.80 have been approved.

Farm Water Quality Improvement Plans (FWQIP) 1 July 2017 to 28 February 2018

Year to date 95 FWQIP's have been commenced, 133 have been completed, with a further 118 in progress.

Kaipara Hill Country Erosion Project

A further six properties with areas of high erosion risk have had farm plans initiated or completed since 22 November 2017 (new milestone period), covering a total land area of 2,301 ha within the Kaipara catchment. This brings the total number of properties covered by farm plans since the beginning of the Kaipara hill country erosion project to 77.

A further \$30,904.25 of the Environment Fund has also been allocated toward projects within the Kaipara catchment, bringing the total to \$328,289.85 for the 2017/18 financial year.

As part of the Kaipara Hill Country Erosion Project, funding is allocated for poplar/willow trials and research. The latest part to this research has involved milling some older poplar trees that were felled at the Flyger Road nursery. Staff are now looking at treating some of the timber and using the timber for various uses to highlight the potential for poplar timber as well as providing economic data for the cost of milling, treatment etc. A photo of some of the poplar timber is below.



The hill country land management advisors recently went to a national meeting with MPI to discuss recent MPI developments, including the billion trees programme and the hill country erosion fund (HCEF). MPI indicated the HCEF may increase in budget, and applications for the next round would open at the end of 2018. Ideas on NRC's next application to the HCEF are currently being developed.

Hātea project

Year to date 15 NRC Environment Fund projects for 4188m of fencing have been approved, totalling \$16,243. One project also had NRC's fencing fund matched by MFE money (\$1,199.00 each agency) to provide an incentive to the landowner and make his overall fencing 'burden' of 4.5kms more equitable. There have also been 21 troughs (\$5,250) and 1140 plants (\$5,700) funded through MFE funding.

NRC staff and Northland District Health Board staff will again be running an information stand at the "Whanau at the Falls" open day on 17 March, promoting the Hātea project and water quality issues. A survey to gauge community understanding of water quality issues at the Falls was undertaken in December 2017. It shows a wide range of understandings, which will be addressed at the open day.

Northern Wairoa Freshwater Improvement Fund (FIF) Project

The deed of funding for the project has been signed by NRC and is back with MfE. Recruitment of the 2 FTE project staff is almost complete. The project will begin in March and has a challenging but exciting first milestone of \$45,000 to spend on planting and fencing before July 2018.

Northland Soil Factsheets

The NRC developed soil factsheets (30 in Number) have been prepared and presented to the public for the first time at the 2018 Northland Field Days. These factsheets will soon be available, and GIS linked to parcel boundaries, on the NRC website. These soil factsheets provide basic information about the characteristics, properties and management of Northland soils, specifically around drainage and structure, erosion management and nutrient management.

The soil factsheets have been painstakingly developed in-house by NRC staff, and provides the biggest leap in dissemination regarding soils information and their management in Northland for more than 20 years.

BIODIVERSITY**Check Clean Dry**

During February, Northland Check Clean Dry (CCD) advocates undertook freshwater site advocacy and attended events including the Avoca Kai Iwi Lakes Triathlon and Waitangi Day. In total, approximately 800 people were spoken to, 600 CCD packs handed out and 80 surveys completed.

Lakes Freshwater Improvement Fund (FIF) Project

The Biodiversity Manager and Lakes Catchment Advisor attended the 15th International Symposium of Aquatic Plants in Queenstown which centred on lake restoration around the globe and provided many useful contacts for NRC relevant to FIF Dune Lakes and wider biodiversity/biosecurity work.

Recruitment for the 1 FTE role for FIF Dune Lakes is ongoing. A draft strategy for engagement with seven iwi has been formed through the use of local iwi co-ordinators fostering marae-level consultation and trust-building.

Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group

Staff are assisting with writing a three-year business plan for the Integrated Kaipara Harbour Management Group (IKHMG) as the previous plan expired in 2017. This three-year plan will carry through to the end of the current 10-year strategic plan and will reflect a transition period with current negotiations around co-governance of the harbour and future roles of the IKHMG post-settlement.

Te Arai Nursery

Biodiversity staff are working with Te Arai Nursery to develop a plan that integrates eco-sourced seed collection with demand from upcoming projects in different areas. Staff are assisting the nursery to develop a biosecurity plan for material coming into and leaving the nursery. Te Arai Nursery can provide 300,000 native plants annually, free of charge for projects within the Kaipara catchment (including Auckland region), including the FIF Northern Wairoa and Dune Lakes projects.

Seed banking for myrtle rust susceptible species

Staff attended a Department of Conservation training workshop on collection and storage of seed from native plants susceptible to myrtle rust. The course content is also relevant to seed collection for restoration projects the council is involved with. There is a nationwide programme underway to gather genetic material from around the country and store in a seedbank in Palmerston North including three Northland collections which staff are assisting with.

BIOSECURITY**Biosecurity Threats/Incursions**

The recent report of 'mermaids hair' a potentially invasive seaweed reported from the Bay of Islands has been analysed by the Ministry for Primary Industries staff and found to be a different species, thankfully non-invasive and no risk to Northland.

Kauri Dieback

The kauri dieback (KDB) programme has almost completed the latest round of aerial surveillance in Northland, with the remaining area in the far north scheduled for April. The survey has found over 190 sites with symptomatic trees in the Whangarei and Kaipara Districts. Combined with the previous aerial surveillance completed in mid-2017, the total number of symptomatic trees on private land now exceeds 300. Staff have also completed several site visits throughout Northland as a response to an increased number of public enquiries not related to the recent aerial survey.

Mycoplasma bovis

In July 2017, the bacterial infection *Mycoplasma bovis* was found in cattle in the Oamaru area of the South Island. With the support of farmers, industry bodies and local communities, Ministry for Primary Industries is working hard to control the spread of the disease and, if possible, eradicate it from New Zealand. This is the first time it has been found in New Zealand and the bacteria is listed as an Unwanted Organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993. It does not infect humans and presents no food safety risk but is a significant animal welfare and productivity issue.

Farmers are being urged to improve and practice good on-farm biosecurity to prevent any further spread. A national surveillance programme is currently being carried out in dairy herds throughout the country which will help to inform the next options in the response.

Only one detection of the disease has been found in the North Island in the Hawkes Bay region.

More information:

<https://www.mpi.govt.nz/protection-and-response/responding/alerts/mycoplasma-bovis/>

Marine Hull Surveillance Programme

Council contractors have carried out vessel hull inspections during February in the Whangaroa Harbour. There have been no new incidents of marine pests reported from hull surveillance from Whangaroa Harbour. Over 1250 hull inspections have been completed to date in Houhora, Mangonui, Whangaroa, Bay of Islands, Tutukaka and Whangarei Harbours. The average level of fouling on the hull areas was 2.4 and keels were 3.2 indicating that vessel hulls surveyed have been generally clean however the niche areas like the keels are still risk zones for biofouling.

Marine Pest Incidents

Mediterranean fanworm was reported by a member of the public from Mangawhai Harbour. This was of concern as fanworm had not previously been reported in this harbour. Following an investigation by biosecurity staff the report was confirmed as a mis-identification, however the increase in public reporting of suspect marine pests is a positive shift in public awareness and ownership.

One commercial tug reported having a self-directed biosecurity inspection as it was a high-risk vessel and was planning on travelling up to the Far North Harbours. A juvenile styela sea squirt was found and removed but otherwise it was free of any other pests. This is a positive shift in accountability from commercial vessels.

There was a report of a Mediterranean fanworm found on a mooring in Whangaroa Harbour by Moorings Northland. This was followed up with Moorings Northland and the mooring and two other nearby moorings were checked by council dive contractors. A single parchment tube worm casing was found on the mooring and it was determined a possible mis-identification. Training on identification and reporting responsibilities will be undertaken with Moorings Northland by council staff.

Two marine pests, styela sea squirt and undaria seaweed were reported, to be present on mussels being sold at Pak n Save Whangarei. The supermarket staff have been made aware of the issue and provided with resources to help with identification of marine pests. Foodstuffs will contact the supplier to discuss and prevent further transportation and sale of marine pests. This will be followed up with a further inspection of the mussels this week.

Biosecurity Partnerships

Russell Forest (Seven in ten forests)

Staff are continuing to liaise and support the roopu Governance Group for the Russell State Forest (RSF) who are developing a 20-year restoration plan. The roopu's key vision is "Returning what was Lost" to the forest; with various goals for the nine hapu living around the forest. RSF is part of DOC's "battle for birds" restoration plan and council staff are working with the roopu governance group and DOC to maximise the effectiveness of any pest control operation. Council staff are looking for opportunities to work in with new and existing landowner groups adjacent to Russell for pest suppression as part of the 20-year plan.

Whangarei kiwi translocation

Biosecurity staff have continued to provide advice and support to the Pukenui Western Hills Forest Trust for an upcoming kiwi translocation project. This release of around 12 birds will be one of New Zealand's first kiwi translocations into an urban forest environment that is not behind a predator proof fence.

Rabbit Virus

Over the last month biosecurity officers have received several calls with reports of rabbits around Northland dying quickly and en-mass. The rabbit haemorrhagic disease (RHD) is present in wild populations of rabbit in Northland and is the most likely cause of death at this time of year. A new strain of the disease (RHVD1-K5) will be released in the South Island during March and April and North Island releases are also planned. There are currently no plans to release the new strain of the virus in Northland, however staff do expect the new virus will spread to cover Northland and the rest of New Zealand within a short time matching the spread of the current one.

Pest Plant Biosecurity – Eradication Plants**Spartina**

Control of spartina has been carried out by summer students and staff around the Kaipara Harbour. To date, sites have been controlled at Matakohē, Paparoa, Tinopai, Takahoa Bay and Oneriri. Historic spartina sites have been re-checked, with a large infestation discovered at Petley Road, Paparoa.

RIVERS

Priority Rivers	Work	General Status	Comments
Awanui	OpEx	30% complete	Wet weather days restricted works however, the contractor is scheduled to accelerate works.
Awanui	CapEx	77% complete	Wet weather days restricted works however, the contractor is scheduled to accelerate works.
Kāeo - Whangaroa	OpEx	60% complete	Work is underway in Matangirau and Pupuke Catchments.
Kerikeri – Waipapa	OpEx	30% complete	Spraying complete, tree removal scheduled for March.
Kawakawa – Taumārere	OpEx	50% complete	Scheduling with Kiwi Rail for work on Spillway under rail bridge.
Whangarei	OpEx	32% complete	Tree & gravel extraction scheduled for March.
Kaihu	OpEx	18% complete	1 st Spraying complete, tree removal for March.
Minor Rivers	OpEx	35% complete	Various work streams underway.

NATURAL HAZARDS

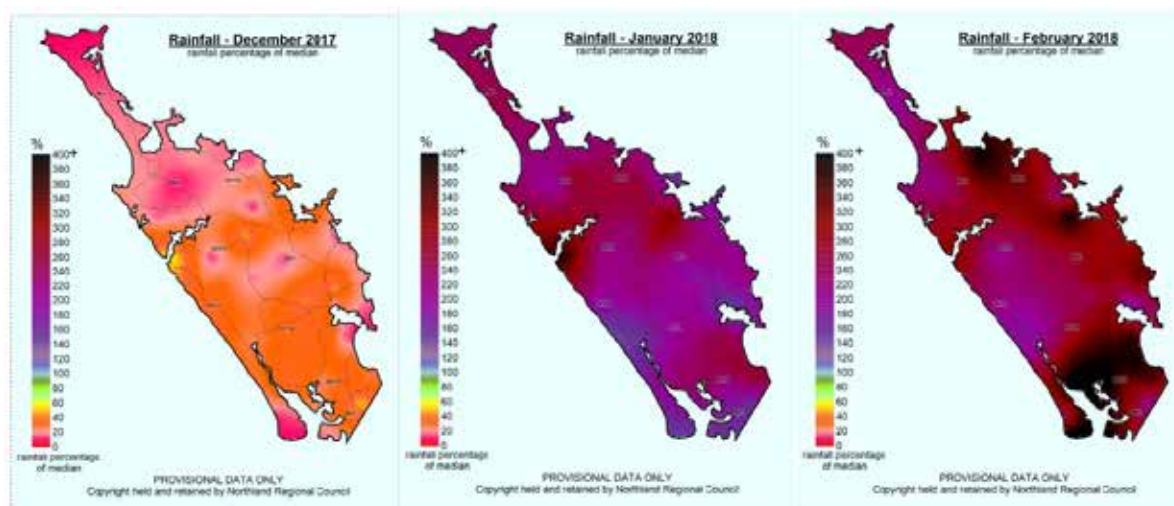
Work Streams	% complete	Comments
Regional LiDAR Project	4%	The Awanui catchment is 75% surveyed as of February and expected to be complete in March. Cloud cover has delayed survey. In February the aircraft returned to Australia for maintenance, and is now ready to deploy back to New Zealand.

Coastal Hazard Maps	100%	Coastal hazard maps and reports were released on the NRC website prior to an NRC media release on 14 February. Local Northland papers have picked up and re-printed the news.
Priority Rivers Flood Hazard Maps	75%	Flood mapping updates are in progress for the Kaihū-Awakino, Kerikeri and Kāeo catchments, and new flood extents are being assessed for Waipū and Paparoa catchments. The flood mapping shown on our online viewer is due to be updated in mid-2018. Flood models are to be progressively updated with a 1.0m allowance for sea level rise.
Awanui Flood Model	5%	The modelling contract has been awarded to DHI New Zealand / Macky Fluvial Consulting. Data transfer has been initiated but the model re-build will not get underway until the catchment LIDAR survey has been completed and processed.
Waipū and Paparoa Flood Model Builds	60%	Flood model calibration for Waipū and Paparoa rivers is progressing and staff are expecting preliminary results to review. This project was scheduled to be completed in April 2018, but may be extended to May.

HYDROLOGY

Hydrology Team & Water resources Work Programme:

- New scripting has been developed that allows real-time rainfall maps to be created. Previously it was a one hour process to produce a map, now a push of the button and the maps appear. The maps will be a valuable new tool to improve the hydrology teams flood forecast reports to CDEM.
- Tenders for the Hydrometric health and safety remediation work have been received and are currently under review.
- A large data request to NIWA has been completed, as part of the drought analysis of the western catchments, this has been commissioned to feed into the drought warning system under development by NRC. The Water Resource Scientist has completed a [report](#) on the dry period Northland experienced over 2017/18.
- The Whakapara webcam was stolen during January 2018. This is the second theft of a NRC webcam. Whangarei District Council (WDC) was approached to detail possible alternate set-ups that may deter future thefts. A meeting between Hydrology, CDEM and the river team is scheduled for early March 2018 to decide on future options. The contract with Snapit IT is currently on hold, the provider owns and insures the hardware as per the contractual agreement.
- Summer this year was a combination of a particularly dry December followed by a wet January and February.
- Everywhere reached expected summer rainfall totals with the region getting about 160% of average. Wettest areas were around Taipa, Hokianga, Bay of Islands and Bream Bay/Brynderwyn/Paparoa south of Whangarei. Less wet areas were the Far North above the Mangamukas including Kaitaia, Whangarei Heads/Marsden Point and the southern West Coast including Dargaville.



8.2.6 GOVERNANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Investment and Growth Reserve

Project	February update	Future developments/ reporting
Extension 350	None	Third quarter 2017/18 report due in April.
Resources Enterprise Limited (REL)	Requested again financial report for the year ended March 2017 which is overdue.	Further meeting with Directors postponed to March.
Hundertwasser Art Centre (Whangārei)	None	Awaiting provision of project plan and other conditions associated with first payment.
Kawakawa Hundertwasser Park Centre (Te Hononga)	Received request for letter of support from project facilitator.	Prepare funding agreement with Kawakawa Hundertwasser Park Centre Trust.
Regional Promotion	Report for the six months ended December 2017 received and reviewed.	Report for the six months ended June due in mid-August 2018.
Twin Coast Discovery Revitalisation	Report for the six months ended December 2017 received and reviewed.	Project has now finished.
Twin Coast Cycle Trail (TCCT)	None	Awaiting further progress reports and associated invoices to complete funding commitment.
Demand assessment for new water storage	Application made to Crown Irrigation Investment for Funding. Subsequently informed need to apply to the Provincial Growth Fund (PGF). Tender closed for	Application to the PGF.

Project	February update	Future developments/ reporting
	responses to Request for Proposal tender document	

Other activities undertaken included:

- Northland Inc SOI 2018-2021: Workshop discussion with councillors on draft SOI.
- Tai Tokerau Northland Economic Action Plan: Provided update measures for monitoring progress.

COMMUNICATIONS**Publications**

- Pest plant brochures updated and reprinted – trees and shrubs, climbing plants, ground cover
- Created new A5 flyer for Coastal marine monitoring

ONLINE CHANNELS**Highlights**

- **Webcams** – The Kaeo webcam was viewed more than 7000 times with other webcams monitoring flooding around the region viewed almost 3000 times during a rain event on 13 February.
- **Most popular post on Facebook this month** – A video featuring Enviroschools and CoastCare Coordinators introducing the launch of Seaweed in Northland.

Key Performance Indicators	Oct-17	Nov-17	Dec-17	Jan-18	Feb-18
WEB					
# Visits to the NRC website	21,600	22,930	23,700	28,100	34,400
E-payments made	15	9	2	3	11
# subscription customers (cumulative)	1,158	1,168	1,165	1,167	1,181
SOCIAL MEDIA (cumulative)					
# Twitter followers	1,326	1,335	1,354	1,362	1,369
# NRC Facebook fans	5,145	5,377	5,724	5,812	5,914
# NRC Overall Facebook Reach	119,700	135,800	113,000	114,200	72,000
# CDEM Facebook fans	14,500	14,700	14,900	15,300	15,400
# CDEM Overall Facebook Reach	112,300	141,900	137,700	338,300	103,800
# Instagram followers	108	126	176	199	223

ENVIROSCHOOLS/EDUCATION**Events**

On 7 February, Councillor David Sinclair officiated at the Enviroschools Bronze celebration at Whangarei Girls' High School;

On 12 February, schools and community groups began registering for Seaweed beach clean-up kits. By 2 March, 46 beach clean-ups had been registered involving over 1,800 people. This is a CoastCare and Enviroschools joint project;

On 26 February, staff attended the Enviroschools in the early years strategic and professional development day hosted by the Northland Kindergarten Association (NKA) and led by Toimata Foundation.

School communities facilitated

During February, 25 school communities were visited by Enviroschools facilitators.

MARKETING AND ENGAGEMENT

Videos

Staff and community members were filmed by Channel North over the past few weeks to create twelve short 'what we do' video as part of the next phase of the True North campaign. These videos will be interactive and hyperlinked on the new 'What we do' diagram.

Signage

A significant amount of new signage was created in-house for the field days including Coastal Monitoring, Long-Term Plans, Biosecurity, Biodiversity and Land Management.

EVENTS

Kai Iwi Lakes open day (Saturday 27 January)

This event focuses on showcasing the uniqueness of Kai Iwi lakes and why it is important for people to help protect them. Council had a specific check, clean dry station teaching people how to correctly do these actions when entering and exiting the lakes. We also had information and advice on wetlands, dune lakes and pests and weeds. Staff received over 80 enquiries relating to biosecurity and pest management. The Deputy Harbourmaster attended to inform people about the specific Kai Iwi Lakes bylaw.



North Kaipara A and P Show (Saturday 3rd February)

Staff attended this medium sized agricultural show in Paparoa. We had displays and information on pests and weeds, kauri dieback and land management.

Kaitaia A and P show (Saturday 24 February)

Our Kaitia staff, Deputy Harbourmaster and Councillor Finlayson attended this event to showcase how we can help people to take action to eradicate pests and weeds. We also had information about land management, water quality and new the Navigation Safety Bylaws.

Northland Agricultural Field Days (1 – 3 March)

Council had a busy and positive three days at the recent field days. This year the theme was 'Our True North' and council's Long-Term Plan, with a focus on freshwater and pest management. Displays included pests and weeds, maritime, Enviroschools, land management, biodiversity and an interactive water quality display. We also had representatives from IKHMG, Dargaville Intermediate School, Ruawai College and council's entomologist join us for the event.

This year council partnered with NorthTec to produce and serve the wattle seed ice-cream. The partnership was a real success, which we hope to continue in the future.

We received lots of positive feedback from staff, the public and other agencies and had 140 members of the public complete our feedback survey. Staff interacted with around 2000 people over the three-day event and answered a range of queries. In addition to conversations at field days and cards handed out, we received 100 queries to follow up on after field days including farm plans, and biosecurity funding.

IWI LIAISON

A meeting of Te Oneroa-a-Tōhē Board during February resulted in an invitation to the Minister of Treaty Settlements, Crown/Māori Relations and Forestry to meet with the Board to discuss progress.

Office of Treaty Settlements Deputy Secretary and Lead Negotiator, Nigel Fyfe, along with senior Ministry staff, Ministry for the Environment, and Crown counsel, Paul Beverly met with Ngāti Whātua Treaty settlement negotiators and the Kaipara Moana Working Party. This was the first meeting of the three parties to discuss the settlement for the Kaipara harbour. The meeting was followed with a council workshop to discuss the envisaged settlement process. Senior staff met with the Chief Executive Officers of Te Rūnanga Nui o Te Aupouri and Te Rūnanga o Whaingaroa to discuss relationship building. The meeting was positive with a commitment to continue discussions.

Council officially opened its Union East Street storage facility. Kaumatua from Te Parawhau opened the facility with a blessing ceremony attended by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman, Chief Executive, managers and staff.

CORPORATE PLANNING**Governance Support****Local government official information (LGOIMA) requests**

Month	LGOIMA requests received 2016/17	LGOIMA requests received 2017/18
July	7	7
August	5	10
September	10	15
October	11	16
November	10	12
December	10	14
January	7	13
February	11	13
March	18	
April	12	
May	8	
June	7	
Total LGOIMA requests received	116	100
Total LGOIMA requests not responded to ≤ 20	9	7

In February 2018, there were three LGOIMA requests that exceeded 20 working days' response:

- REQ.587228 requesting all water quality data throughout Northland was reported on last month and is now closed.
- REQ.586891 is a request for companies with air discharge and water related consents with ongoing monitoring and is now closed.
- REQ.588028 is a request for meeting information from the Have Your Say meeting held 15 January 2018.

8.2.7 CUSTOMER SERVICE – COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**Warnings and activations**

There have been several weather watches and warnings issued in the past month. Overnight 12 and 13 February 2018, high intensity short duration rainfall (up to 20mm per hour in some places) occurred in eastern parts of Northland. No MetService warning had been issued, although on the morning of 13 February a warning for severe rainfall in eastern parts of Northland was issued. 40 to 60 mm of rain had accumulated in some places, and totals for a 12-hour period reach up to 85mms. Due to rainfall in some catchments earlier in the week some flooding occurred. The situation was closely monitored, regular updates were circulated to key agencies. Of note is that in February 60-100mm is a usual amount of rainfall

but by the 14 February the Far North, Eastern Hills had already had 250-300mm of rainfall. Ex Tropical Cyclone Gita was widely reported in the media. No significant impacts occurred from this weather system for Northland.

CDEM and CEG Meetings

The quarterly CDEM Group and CEG meetings were held on 6 March, and the Lifelines Utility Group meeting was held on the afternoon of 6 March.

Resilience Fund

The Director of MCDEM has advised that at the end of last year the 2018/2019 Resilience Fund application process was carried out and the approved projects were allocated funds to carry out the proposed work. A total of \$121,530 was unallocated and an application has been made to support Recovery management in the region for \$35,000.

Strengthened Shared Services

At the December 2017 CDEM meeting the group resolved that the delivery of CDEM services by the four contributing councils be through a fully integrated strengthened shared service model. The FNDC has agreed to this proposal and the details of a shared services arrangement is now being finalised.

In addition, progress has been made to review and streamline on call arrangements for the CDEM Duty Officer and PIM. A controller's workshop is planned to review controllers on call rostering.

Recovery

The NRC is progressing the appointment of a Group Recovery Manager. Applications for this position closed on 7 March.

The Northern CDEM Alliance, made up of Northland, Auckland, Waikato and Bay of Plenty planned Recovery Workshop on 22 February, where MCDEM officials were to provide an overview on the new Strategic Recover Guideline had to be postponed due to ex Tropical Cyclone Gita. A new date is being scheduled.

MCDEM Documents

MCDEM have released a series of Fact Sheets and Quick guides on declaring a state of local emergency and giving notice of local transition period. The documents follow on from a Webinar for Mayors and other documents relating to declarations being made available by MCDEM in late 2017.

TRANSPORT

Regional Land Transport Planning

Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/21 – Three-Year Review (RLTP)

The consultation period for the Draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2015/21 – Three Year Review (RLTP) closed on 31 January 2018. A total of 118 submissions were received.

When analysing the feedback from both the "Have Your Say" sessions and the written submissions received, the main areas of concerns have been noted as:

- State Highway resilience and improvement;
- Dust from unsealed roads;
- Road safety related issues;
- Support for a rail link to Marsden Point and the upgrade of the Northland/Auckland line;

- Local road resilience and improvement.

On Monday 26 February 2018, the RTC held a closed workshop to discuss and agree on the proposed revised State Highway Improvement Regional Rankings. This was followed by the deliberation sessions on the submissions received.

Staff are in the process of amending the draft RLTP as directed for consideration for approval at the April 2018 RTC meeting.

Draft Government Policy Statement

The new government has yet to release their draft Government Policy Statement (GPS). The latest information received is that a high level GPS1 will be released at the end of March 2018 for consultation in April 2018. It is planned to have this GPS1 adopted at the end of June 2018.

In addition to the above, the government is planning to release a GPS2 toward the end of the year. This GPS will provide more detailed information as to where the government will direct available funding and provide the upper and lower limit funding per category.

PASSENGER TRANSPORT ADMINISTRATION

Total Mobility

Total Mobility (TM) figures are reported one month in arrears, as the information is unavailable at the agenda deadline.

	Total clients	Monthly Actual Expend	Monthly Budget Expend	Variance	Year/Date Actual Expend	Year/Date Budgeted Expend	Variance
January	1289	\$12,749	\$25,000	- \$12,251	\$101,827	\$175,000	-\$ 73,173

Total Mobility Health and Safety meeting – 21 February

Health and Safety Plans has been reviewed from the proposed two additional Transport Operators (TO) wishing to join the Total Mobility Scheme. Both TO's will however have to make some changes to the required plans in order to comply with council requirements prior to final approval being given.

Contracted Bus Services

Operational Statistics

<u>January 2018</u> <u>(revenue ex GST)</u>	Actual	Budget	Variance	Year/Date Actual	Year/Date Budgeted
City Link Passengers	17,008	17,689	-681	169,679	176,494
City Link Farebox Revenue	\$35,259	\$37,090	-\$1,831	\$334,184	\$352,362
Mid North Link Passengers	333	426	-93	1,800	2,934
Mid North Link Farebox Revenue	\$1,467	\$2,778	-\$1,311	\$7,311	\$19,130
FarNorth Link Passengers	363	561	-198	2,713	3,474

FarNorth Link Farebox Revenue	\$1,007	\$1,232	-225	\$9,190	\$ 10,117
Hokianga Link Passengers	46	-	-	179	-
Hokianga Link Farebox Revenue	\$534	-	-	\$2,490	-

Regional Integrated Ticket System

Marketing – Brand (The BEE Card) has been selected and the purchase and set up of the website, page, www.beecard.co.nz and 0800 number (0800 233 227) are being progressed. The NRC Comms team have been assisting with the necessary details and are on schedule.

Fares/Tariffs & Routes – Staff have completed this section of the new electronic ticketing system.

Number of Smart Cards Required - Originally 1500 were ordered however with the need for all SuperGold users to have a Bee Card, we have increased this order to 5000 cards

On Board Devices required – On-Bus Ticket machines (Bus Driver Consoles and Fare Paying Devices) have been increased from the original order due to an increase in the fleet required to deliver the new services from May 2018.

Total now required for Ticketing Operations

Bus Driver Console / Fare Paying Device (on Bus)	Retail Device (Off Bus Sales) (ISITES, Retailers etc)	Mobil Retail Device (Visit schools etc selling and topping up cards)	Customer Service workstation (NRC and Rose St Office)	Mobile Checking Device Onboard auditing device
14 / 28	5	1	2	1

Training – Training dates have yet to be confirmed. Staff are re-evaluating numbers needed to be trained and a possible “Train the Trainer” option. Training dates are yet to be confirmed.

A full operational update will be presented to the March 2018 Council meeting.

Road Safety Update

Regional Road Toll Statistics – 2018 & 2017 Comparison

<u>Location</u>	<u>YTD 2018</u>	<u>YTD 2017</u>
Far North	2	4
Whangarei	6	3
Kaipara	1	1
Northland	9	8

National	67	64
----------	----	----

The above statistics include five drivers, two passengers & two motorcyclists.

The ages of those involved in the death related crashes are:

0 – 14yrs	1
15 – 19yrs	0
20 – 24yrs	1
25 – 39yrs	2
40 – 59yrs	3
60 + yrs	2

Staff are continuing with the projects as listed in the Regional Road Safety Action Plan. This Plan may have to be reviewed following the release of the new governments GPS.

NAVIGATION, SAFETY AND MARITIME OPERATIONS

Fourteen cruise ships were safely piloted in and out of the Bay in February 2018. Weather conditions were not ideal but timing was relatively lucky with the worst storm days on non-shipping days. The deputy Harbourmaster is continuing his training for a pilot's license for the Bay of Islands.

Thirty-one incidents were dealt with, with 2 infringement notices were issued for a non-registered jet ski, and no lifejackets carried.

Staff attended the Kai Iwi lakes have your say event, with the consultation period now closed regarding the 5 knot speed limit and distance from shore. The deliberations report is now being prepared for consideration by the hearings panel.

Staff attended the field day at Kaitaia providing education on boating safety. Summer safe ambassadors provided education at boat ramps on bylaw issues such as dive flags and lifejackets.

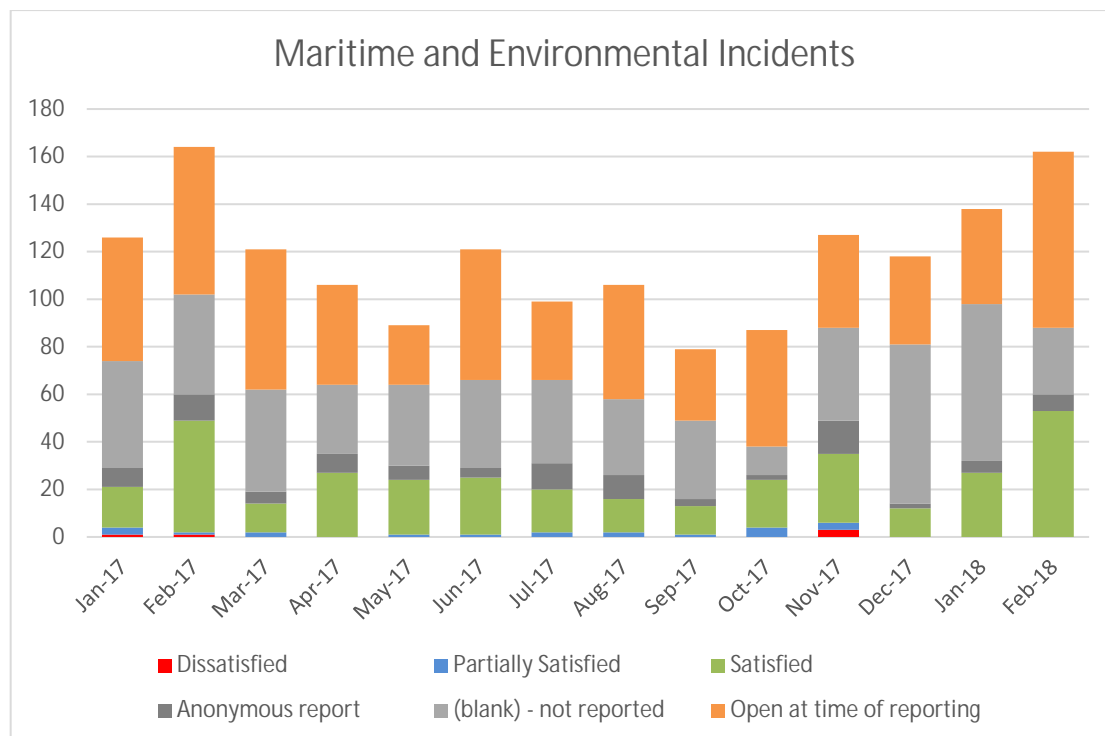
Internal audits were completed on oil spill response, with no non-conformities. Preparations are under way for a safety management system audit by a peer review panel for the Bay of Islands and Whangarei harbours. This will include key stakeholders Northport, Northtugz, refining NZ and Golden Bay cement.

The harbourmaster is working with Navigatus consultants on a national risk insurance liability study funded by all the councils. He also attended the council special interest group (SIG) plenary meeting in Wellington as chair of the harbourmaster's SIG. Staff took commissioners out on an on-water trip to view onsite the proposed channel deepening for the refinery consent.

CUSTOMER SERVICES**Performance Statistics****Telephones**

With over 3000 inbound calls per month, call volumes in call January and February were up on the comparable months in 2017.

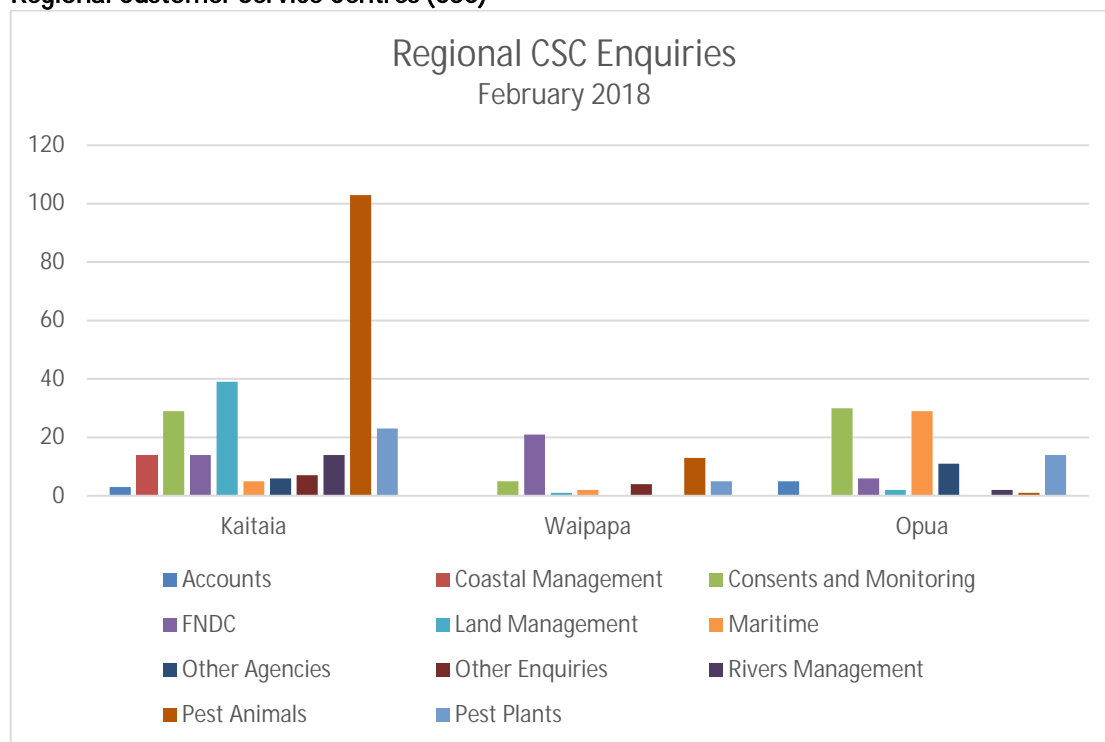
Call conversion rate for January and February was 98.9%.

Hotline and Incident Responses

January and February were busy months and all surveyed customers were at least partially satisfied with our response.

ACTIVITY**Water Street Office**

Trialling of customer relationship management software is still in progress to test that the system will seamlessly integrate with phones and social media.

Regional Customer Service Centres (CSC)

Kaitiāia Office - Work is about to start to on a refresh the Kaitiāia office. The initial focus will be on improving signage and street frontage and modernising the reception area. Stage two, if approved, will include revamping the meeting room, interview room and offices.

Dargaville Office – During March our Dargaville based staff will be relocating their office within the KDC building. Their new office offers better privacy and is located directly behind reception which will give better access to customers and the KDC service staff.

Resident Survey

Preparation is underway for the 2018 survey. The survey will be conducted mid-late April with the results available by June.

Feedback Cards, Compliments and Complaints

Of the seven feedback cards received, six were positive. The one negative response appears to have had a problem with their monitoring results and this has been resolved.

Over January and February, we received four complaints and sixteen recorded complements. Of the complements, ten related to consents team commenting on the helpfulness of staff and quality of information and advice being provided.

TITLE: Regional Software Holdings Limited – Statement of Intent 2019–2021

ID: A1043451

To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018

From: Dave Tams, Group Manager – Corporate Excellence

Date: 5 March 2018

Executive summary

Regional Software Holdings Limited (RSHL), in which council has a 16.75% shareholding, updates its Statement of Intent annually. The 2019–2021 Statement of Intent is presented for review.

Recommendation

That the report 'Regional Software Holdings Limited – Statement of Intent 2019–2021' by Dave Tams, Group Manager, Corporate Excellence and dated 5 March 2018, be received.

Background

RSHL submitted their draft Statement of Intent (SOI) to council for review.

The main changes to the previous SOI are:

- In line with its strategic direction, RSHL is seeking to provide a broader shared service for the regional council sector. The opportunity is for RSHL to sponsor collaboration through the regional council special interest groups and provide a 'vehicle' for delivering shared services and solutions to the sector. This direction is reflected in the revised Vision and Mission statements that are presented in the draft SOI.
- This intention to provide a broader shared service for the sector is also reflected in the Statement of Financial Performance. An estimated income of \$500,000 is shown in the statement for Regional Sector Shared Services, which is made up of the contributions to be collected from the participating councils, along with a corresponding expenditure line of \$500,000 as the costs associated with delivering the services.
- RSHL is committed to ensuring that the IRIS software solution is based on a fully supported and future-facing technology platform. As part of this commitment, RSHL is intending to invest in a technology refresh programme that will see capital investment shifting from the current platform towards the design and delivery of a future technology platform. As the roadmap for this technology refresh is developed the investment profile and level of member contributions will be reviewed and reflected in the next SOI.
- The draft SOI has not assumed any additional contributions from potential new customers. Indications are that other regional councils are likely to use IRIS in the future.
- Minor updates to the financial statements.

Considerations

1. Options

No.	Option	Advantages	Disadvantages
1	Adopt the revised RSHL Statement of Intent	Compliant with legislative requirements. Revised SOI has the potential to create additional value to council's investment.	No material disadvantage.
2	Do not adopt the revised RSHL Statement of Intent	No advantage through not adopting the SOI.	Not compliant with legislative requirements. Potentially destroys council's value in our CCO.

The staff's recommended option is Option 1.

2. Significance and engagement

In relation to section 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this decision is considered to be of low significance when assessed against council's Significance and Engagement Policy because it has previously been consulted on and provided for in council's Long Term Plan. This does not mean that this matter is not of significance to tangata whenua and/or individual communities, but that council is able to make decisions relating to this matter without undertaking further consultation or engagement.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

Schedule 8(2) of LGA 2002 requires a draft SOI to be delivered to shareholders on or before 1 March each year.

Further considerations

Being a purely administrative matter, community views, Māori impact statement, financial implications and implementation issues are not applicable.

Attachments

1. Regional Software Holdings Limited DRAFT Statement of Intent 2019–2021 (included in the Supporting Information)

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Dave Tams
Title: Group Manager – Corporate Excellence
Date: 5 March 2018

TITLE: CityLink Whangārei
ID: A1044201
To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018
From: Dean Mitchell, Transport Projects Officer
Date: 8 March 2018

Executive summary

This agenda item serves to update council on two operational matters relating to City Link Whangārei, the first matter being the commencement date for the new operating contract, and the second being the Whangārei Public Transport Working Party.

This item should be read in conjunction with Item 10.6 which is commercially sensitive and subject to a regional consortium confidentiality agreement, and will appear in the public excluded section of the agenda.

Recommendation

That the report 'CityLink Whangārei' by Dean Mitchell, Transport Projects Officer, and dated 8 March 2018, be received.

Background:

CityLink Whangārei new contract implementation

As previously advised at the 29 August 2017 Council workshop, the CityLink Whangārei contract was re-tendered in 2017, and was awarded to the incumbent operator, Ritchies. The new contract takes effect from 1 May 2018, and will see a number of improvements introduced, including extra buses during peak to improve running times, a new route to Gumdigger Place and the Port Road/Hewlett Road industrial area, Saturday afternoon services extended from the current 1.00pm to around 4.00pm, and an extension of the Fairway Drive route to include Winger Crescent. These improvements were requested by the public in the CityLink review undertaken in 2014. The fleet will also have bike racks capable of carrying two adult sized bikes fitted to each vehicle.

The operator is required to have the full fleet repainted and decaled (stickered) with the updated branding guidelines prior to the 1 May 2018 start date, and staff have been advised that passengers will shortly see the first of the refreshed buses out in service. Positive passenger feedback has recently been received on the updated interiors already being seen in service.

For ease of implementation, noting that the two weeks prior to 1 May are school holidays, and that the 1 May 2018 is a Tuesday, the operator has suggested we should implement the new timetable from Monday 30 April 2018. This one extra day of operation will cost an additional \$900.

ITEM: 8.4

Page 2 of 2

As there is sufficient allocation in the current year's budget, and in order to reduce any potential confusion at the start of a school term, staff have agreed to implement the new contract as of Monday 30 April 2018.

Staff are at present working on updating the website to reflect the new-look branding and timetable, and add the additional routes, times and bus stops. Timetables are expected to be printed in late March. Bus stop timetable information will be updated the weekend of 28 and 29 April once service hours finish at 1.00pm.

Staff will soon start advising schools and other regular users of the upcoming changes via email and through radio advertisements and school newsletters, as well as posters on all vehicles, and at Rose Street Bus Terminus. The guard at the Rose Street office will also be informed of the upcoming changes. Terms of use and conditions of carriage are also being updated, particularly in relation to the loading and carrying of bikes.

A key message for passengers will be in relation to the ticketing system, further detail on this is provided in Item 10.6.

Whangārei Public Transport Working Party

It was agreed with Whangarei District Council last year to set up the Whangārei Public Transport Working Party. The detail of which can be found in the paper to the council meeting of 24 October 2017 (A992821). Councillors Bain, Dimery and Sinclair are Northland Regional Council's representatives on this working party.

A full schedule of councillor and staff commitments to the LTP, RLTP and Passenger Transport Programme Funding Application has meant that a meeting has not yet been held. Staff are looking to arrange a Whangārei Public Transport Working Party meeting in April, depending on councillor availability.

Authorised by Group Manager:

Name: Tony Phipps

Title: Group Manager - Customer Service/Community Resilience

Date: 8 March 2018

TITLE: Receipt of Committee Minutes
ID: A1044105
To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018
From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager
Date: 9 March 2018

Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to acknowledge the unconfirmed minutes of:

- Regional Transport Committee – 7 February 2018;
- Property Subcommittee – 7 February 2018; and
- Investment Subcommittee – 28 February 2018.

The minutes will be circulated under separate cover.

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

Recommendation

That the unconfirmed minutes of:

- Regional Transport Committee – 7 February 2018;
- Property Subcommittee – 7 February 2018; and
- Investment Subcommittee – 28 February 2018

be received.

Attachments

- *Regional Transport Committee – 7 February 2018* (included in the Supporting Information)
 - *Property Subcommittee Minutes – 7 February 2018* (included in the Supporting Information)
 - *Investment Subcommittee Minutes – 28 February 2018* (included in the Supporting Information)
-

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Jonathan Gibbard
Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement
Date: 12 March 2018

TITLE: Business with the Public Excluded
ID: A1045058
To: Council Meeting, 20 March 2018
From: Chris Taylor, Governance Support Manager
Date: 13 March 2018

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.	Item Issue	Reason\Grounds
10.1	Confirmation of Confidential Council Minutes –20 February 2018	The reasons for excluding the public are as stated in the minutes of the open section of the meeting.
10.2	Receipt of Confidential Committee Minutes – Property Subcommittee – 7 February 2018	The reasons for excluding the public are as stated in the minutes of the open section of the 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	Bells Hill Landslip Mitigation Works – Update on Budget and Estimated Costs	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities 7(2)(h).

ITEM: 10.0

Page 2 of 2

10.5	Appointment of Northland Inc. 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).
10.6	CityLink Whangārei Ticketing and Fares	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities 7(2)(h).

3. That the Independent Financial Member be permitted to stay during business with the public excluded.

Considerations**1. Options**

Not applicable. This is an administrative procedure.

2. Significance and engagement

This is a procedural matter required by law. Hence when assessed against council policy is deemed to be of low significance.

3. Policy and legislative compliance

The report complies with the provisions to exclude the public from the whole or any part of the proceedings of any meeting as detailed in sections 47 and 48 of the Local Government Official Information Act 1987.

4. Other considerations

Being a purely administrative matter; community views, Māori impact statement, financial implications, and implementation issues are not applicable.

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Jonathan Gibbard
Title: Group Manager – Governance and Engagement
Date: 5 February 2018