

AGENDA

SUPPLEMENTARY

**Joint Climate Change Adaptation
Committee
Monday 30 May 2022 at 1.00pm**

Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee Supplementary/Tabled Agenda

Meeting to be held remotely via zoom link
on Monday 30 May 2022, commencing at 1.00pm

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

Item **Page**

2.0A Receipt of Supplementary (Tabled) Items

6.0 REPORTS

6.5 Submission to the National Adaptation Plan

This report provides the final submission into the draft National Adaptation Plan from the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee (the JCCAC). Submissions close with the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) on 3 June 2022. The Submission was drafted by staff from across the four (4) councils and was subject to a short but intensive review and feedback period with elected members and Tiriti partners.

The final submission as sent to MfE is attached for noting and endorsement.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia/Recommended actions

- 1. That the report 'Submission to the National Adaptation Plan' by Sarah Irwin, WDC - Infrastructure Planning Team Leader; Tom FitzGerald, Climate Change Manager; Katy Simon, KDC - Climate Change Manager; Bernadette Aperahama, WDC - Strategic Planning & Urban Design Manager; Roger Ackers, FNDC - Strategy Development Manager; Catherine Langford, FNDC - Engagement Lead; Emma Jelsma, WDC - Communications Adviser and Jan van der Vliet, Natural Hazards Advisor and dated 19 May 2022, be received.*
- 2. That the attached Submission be received and endorsed.*

Tuhinga/Background

The Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 introduced a number of new mechanisms to help us address the climate crisis. These include the introduction of the new Climate Commission, and the requirements for a national Emissions Reduction Plan (ERP) and a National Adaptation Plan (NAP). The final ERP was released in full on 16 May 2022.

A first draft of the proposed NAP was released for public consultation on 27 April 2022.

The NAP will have significant bearing and influence the way we can enable on-ground adaptation and deals with significant issues like roles and responsibilities, funding, and managed retreat.

Staff prepared a detailed submission that represents the key region-wide issues and opportunities with the proposed NAP.

The submission represents the views of members of the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee. Each member Council has undertaken their own internal consultation and approval process – including canvassing the views of relevant staff, Tiriti partners and elected members.

The final submission is attached.

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TITLE: Receipt of Supplementary/Tabled Report: Report Title

From: Nicky Hansen, PA to GM Community Resilience

Executive summary

This report provides the final submission into the draft National Adaptation Plan from the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee (the JCCAC). Submissions close with the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) on 3 June 2022. The Submission was drafted by staff from across the four (4) councils and was subject to a short but intensive review and feedback period with elected members and Tiriti partners.

The final submission as sent to MfE is attached for noting and endorsement.

Recommendation

That as permitted under section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 the following tabled/supplementary report be received:

- Submission to the National Adaptation Plan

Authorised by Group Manager

Name: Victoria Harwood

Title: Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience

Date: 26 May 2022



Appendix A

Kaipara District Specific Considerations

- In Kaipara District more than 250 square kilometres is exposed to coastal flooding under a 1.5 metre sea level rise future.
- Coastal flooding and fluvial (river) flooding have been identified as the priority, highest risk hazards to Kaipara District infrastructure. Kaipara's stop banks and other flood management infrastructure continues to be managed and maintained by Kaipara District Council. There are 29 drainage systems across the District.
- Residents cannot afford the investigation, design, and adaptation actions necessary to address coastal flooding and fluvial flooding risks.
- Dargaville, the only town and main service centre on the West Coast of the District, is significantly exposed to mid-century and late century river and coastal flooding. A first pass risk assessment has identified high risks to community and public infrastructure. Significant physical work to the stop bank system along Dargaville and Awakino Point is needed. This physical work is not affordable to Dargaville area residents, nor to all Kaipara District residents.
- Kaipara District has 13 of Northland's 28 closed landfill assets, which are exposed to fluvial flooding, coastal inundation and coastal erosion. This is identified as a high risk for Kaipara District. Council does not currently have a solution regarding affordability for residents to support the physical works necessary to address these risks.
- The Ruawai – Raupō area and Ruawai township are particularly exposed to increasing coastal hazards and increasing fluvial flooding. This area includes the North Kaipara Agricultural Delta, an area of highly productive soils that contributes to the 95% of New Zealand's kumara supply.
- Flood management for Ruawai's community, public infrastructure, agricultural hub and highly productive soils involves a complex system of 3.5-metre-high stop banks, flood gates and drains. This system is managed in partnership with Ruawai landowners through the Raupō Drainage Committee.
- Typically, flood protection infrastructure is managed and maintained by a regional council, however there is no catchment management plan, nor Northland Regional Council resourcing, for the Northern Wairoa River system and the 70 kilometres of stop banks along the river.
- Costs associated with maintaining and operating the stop banks and flood protection infrastructure are largely met by a targeted rate imposed on residents within the drainage districts, and these rates are increasing. Estimated costs from 2019 found that roughly \$78 million was needed to improve the Northern Wairoa stop bank system.
- The transport network faces significant exposure to coastal and fluvial flooding, both in Kaipara and across all of Te Tai Tokerau Northland. Northland Transport Alliance (NTA) is



responsible for the transport network across the region. To date, there has been no engagement from Waka Kotahi, despite both SH12 and SH14 with mapped significant exposure to flooding and despite the reliance on these state highways for the rest of the NTA road network.

- Mangawhai, on Kaipara District's East Coast, is one of the fastest growing areas in the country, where median house prices have more than doubled in past ten years.
- Mangawhai is exposed to both coastal erosion and coastal flooding. Council is working through the difficulties of managing risk to coastal hazards for developed areas along the coastline, while also managing increasing numbers of resource and building consent applications.



National Adaptation Plan consultation
Ministry for the Environment
PO Box 10362
Wellington 6143

2 June 2022

Re: Te Tai Tokerau Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee Submission on The Draft National Adaptation Plan

Tēna koe

In 2021 the Councils of Te Tai Tokerau Northland, with the agreement of tangata whenua representatives, formed the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee (the Committee). The Committee comprises equal representation of Elected Members from each of the Northland Councils and nominated tangata whenua representatives from within the respective Council boundaries. The Committee is a joint standing committee of Council under Clause 30(1) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and operates in accordance with the provisions of Clause 30A of the LGA.

As per its Terms of Reference the Committee has a responsibility to 'Act collectively as an advocate for climate change adaptation generally and within the individual bodies represented on the Committee.'

The Committee thanks the Ministry for the Environment (the Ministry) for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft National Adaptation Plan (NAP). Please accept this joint submission on behalf of the Committee and the Northland Councils (the Councils):

- Northland Regional Council
- Far North District Council
- Whangarei District Council
- Kaipara District Council

We acknowledge the work involved in collating the vast extent of climate change adaptation initiatives across all of government and we welcome the added value that this delivers. As a result, the draft plan is comprehensive and requires considerable time investment to accurately evaluate its content.

The limited time to prepare submissions has constrained the ability of the Council's elected representatives and staff to substantively engage with tangata whenua and the Councils' constituents and participate in informed debate over the content of the draft plan and its potential implications for the residents and ratepayers of Te Tai Tokerau. This is an unsatisfactory outcome considering the importance of a National Adaptation Plan to Aotearoa New Zealand communities.



The Committee appreciates that the draft NAP is a big step towards setting an 'adaptation vision.' It is ambitious in scope and lays out a substantial work programme across a broad field, touching on many government departments.

Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy has been adopted by the Councils and endorsed by the Committee. As such, the Councils are already determining their own roles and responsibilities when it comes to adapting to climate change including how to support tangata whenua to undertake their roles and responsibilities.

The Councils are aligned in our strategic and implementation planning on climate change adaptation.

Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy is principled on working collaboratively with tangata whenua, demonstrating the principles of partnership, participation and protection.

The Committee requests that the Ministry, through the consultation process, review and consider Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy: catt.org.nz

Staff from across the Councils contributing to this submission compared the draft NAP and the consultation document on Managed Retreat with Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy, asking:

- Does the draft plan support resilience in Northland?
- Does the draft plan enable preemptive actions to reduce risk?

The following items cover the key areas of feedback we want to emphasise from a Te Tai Tokerau perspective. Please also refer to our question-by-question response for our detailed submission.

Consultation process and method

The layout of the consultation documentation across two documents and how the managed retreat content was included, was confusing even for staff well-versed in policy making. It is unlikely to be accessible to the public.

The consultation document and the draft plan does not meet the principles of clear drafting.¹

The purpose of the managed retreat consultation is also confusing and slightly derailing because it is not included in the plan as a section. The overall consultation process felt somewhat ad hoc and underdeveloped.

Ambiguity and lack of a substantial plan

The draft plan leaves room for too much flexibility. It runs the risk of continued ad-hoc and unaligned adaptation actions. Too many actions rely on a new plan or new policy being developed by the government, meaning it is difficult to see the complete picture. This issue is most pronounced in the System-wide actions section, where the draft plan reads like a summary of

¹ Parliamentary Counsel Office Drafting Manual, Chapter 3: <http://www.pco.govt.nz/clear-drafting/>

