



MINUTES Policy & Planning

Date 20 July 2021, 10.30am

Venue: Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford

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Members	Councillor	C L Littlewood	Committee Chairperson
	Councillor	N W Walker	Committee Deputy Chairperson
	Councillor	M G Davey	
	Councillor	M J McDonald	
	Councillor	D H McIntyre	
	Councillor	C S Williamson	
	Councillor	E D Van Der Leden	(via zoom)
	Councillor	D N MacLeod	ex officio

Representative

Members	Councillor	G Boyde	Stratford District Council
	Councillor	S Hitchcock	New Plymouth District Council
	Councillor	C Young	South Taranaki District Council
	Ms	L Tester	Iwi Representative
	Mr	P Muir	Federated Farmers Representative

Attending	Councillor	D L Lean		
	Mr	S J Ruru	Chief Executive	
	Mr	M J Nield	Director - Corporate Services	
	Mr	A D McLay	Director - Resource Management	
	Ms	A J Matthews	Director - Environment Quality	
	Mr	D N Harrison	Director - Operations	
	Mr	C Spurdle	Planning Manager	
	Mr	R Phipps	Science Manager - Hydrology/Biology	
	Ms	V McKay	Science Manager - Chemistry	
	Mr	C Wadsworth	Strategy Lead	
	Mr	P Ledingham	Communications Officer	
	Miss	L Davidson	Committee Administrator	
		One member of the media.		

Apologies Apologies were received from Councillor M P Joyce, Ms B Bigham, Iwi Representative and Mr P Moeahu, Iwi Representative.

Notification of Late Items Government's Farm Plan proposal.

1. Confirmation of Minutes – 8 June 2021

Resolved

That the Policy and Planning Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) takes as read and confirms the minutes and resolutions of the Policy and Planning Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on 8 June 2021 at 10.30am
- b) notes the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on 29 June 2021.

MacLeod/Hitchcock

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Freshwater Programme Update

- 2.1 Mr C Wadsworth, Strategy Lead, spoke to the memorandum providing an update on the freshwater implementation project.
- 2.2 Committee members raised concerns around the implementation of the Government's freshwater programme, particularly around the definition of a wetland. The sector also had concerns and these were being raised at multiple levels.
- 2.3 It was requested that any changes by the Government be included in the updated programme be reported with the implementation monitoring report.
- 2.4 A submissions on the Government's Farm Plan proposal will be brought to the next meeting.
- 2.5 A communications plan has been developed and covers different methods of communication and different types of messaging, for different communities.
- 2.6 Engagement with tangata whenua is strong and will continue through the consultation programme that includes iwi leaders and Wai Māori group.
- 2.7 Officers were congratulated for the work on this update.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the update on Freshwater implementation programme.

Young/Walker

3. Taranaki Catchments Communities

- 3.1 Mr D R Harrison, Director – Operations, spoke to the memorandum informing Members of the Taranaki Catchment Communities (TCC) Sustainable Land Use Project and the contribution the Taranaki Regional Council is making in meeting the objectives of TCC, and introduced Ms D Cram, Chairperson of TCC.
- 3.2 Ms D Cram spoke to the Committee regarding what the TCC has been working on and answered questions arising. The project included more than just environmental management, which complemented what the Council was doing, and includes economic and community elements.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum entitled *Taranaki Catchment Communities*
- b) acknowledges the central government funding provided to assist communities dealing with the major changes that they have initiated
- c) notes that objectives of the TCC align with and complements Council's environmental approaches.

McDonald/Boyde

4. Update on the Proposed Coastal Plan for Taranaki and Appeals to the Environment Court

- 4.1 Mr C Spurdle, Policy Manager, spoke to the memorandum updating Members on progress with Environment Court process for appeals to the *Proposed Coastal Plan for Taranaki* (the Proposed Plan). In particular, to inform Members that on 17 May 2021, the Taranaki Regional Council was advised that all matters relating to appeals on the Proposed Plan were resolved, excluding those matters related to oil and gas.
- 4.2 Officers were congratulated for the work undertaken to get to this important point and the input of Ms G Marcroft acknowledged.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum entitled *Update on the Proposed Coastal Plan for Taranaki and Appeals to the Environment Court*
- b) notes that the mediation process for resolving appeals to the Proposed Plan lodged with the Environment Court has largely been successful
- c) notes that a hearing will be required to resolve the three outstanding appeals
- d) notes that officers will prepare an interim version of the *Proposed Coastal Plan Council's Decisions Version*, which incorporates decision from the mediation process.

Walker/Williamson

5. Key Native Ecosystems Programme Update

- 5.1 Mr D R Harrison, Director - Operations, spoke to the memorandum presenting for Members' information an update on the identification of eighteen new Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) sites.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum and the attached inventory sheets for Moir Forest and Wetlands, Waiongana Flats Ltd, Waiongana Flats Ltd B, Ryan Forest Remnant, Monk Road Bush, Wells Cross Rd, Wellington Bush, Larcom's Homestead, The Ram Paddock (Larcom), Katikara (TPOL), PARGus & CarLoom Bush Blocks, Tersana, Cathie Native Bush, Makara Farms, Lark's Rest, Te Ngahere o Manu, Raurimu, Kintyre Bush.

- b) notes that the aforementioned sites have indigenous biodiversity values of regional significance and should be identified as Key Native Ecosystems.
Walker/Davey

6. Submissions to Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure Commission

- 6.1 Mr C Wadsworth, Strategy Lead, spoke to the memorandum informing the Committee of two submissions, to enable the Committee to provide feedback. The submissions had been previously circulated to members. The two submissions are:
- Transport Emissions – Pathways to Net Zero by 2050, which was submitted to Ministry of Transport on 26 June 2021
 - Infrastructure for a Better Future, which was submitted to the Infrastructure Commission on 2 July 2021.
- 6.2 No additional feedback on the submissions was provided.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum
- b) adopts the submission on Transport Emissions – Pathways to Net Zero by 2050
- c) adopts the submission on Infrastructure for a Better Future
- d) determines that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2002*
- e) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the *Local Government Act 2002* to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

MacLeod/Williamson

7. Natural and Built Environments Bill Exposure Draft - Key Themes for Consideration

- 7.1 Mr C Wadsworth, Strategy Lead, spoke to the memorandum and provided a presentation advising of the content of the Natural and Built Environments Bill Exposure Draft ("the Exposure Draft") and points of contention. This provided Members an opportunity to provide comment on issues which they would like to see addressed in a Council submission.
- 7.2 There was considerable lack of detail with the material provided by Government and it was very difficult to establish exactly what the proposal embodied. The devil was in the detail and there wasn't much detail provided to allow proper consideration. Members noted the proposal was moving at pace and that this wasn't prudent for a successful outcome.
- 7.3 It was noted that it would be beneficial for all Councils in the region to work together and agree on matters in support and of concern, given the transformational context of the proposal.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this Memorandum
- b) advises of the issues and comments that the Committee wish to see presented in a formal submission to the Government on the Exposure Draft
- c) determines that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the *Local Government Act 2002*
- d) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the *Local Government Act 2002* to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Williamson/Boyde

There being no further business the Committee Chairman, Councillor C L Littlewood, declared the meeting of the Policy and Planning Committee closed at 11.47am. The meeting closed with a karakia.

Confirmed

Policy and Planning

Chairperson: _____

C L Littlewood

31 August 2021