

Date 7 June 2022, 10.30am

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

Document: 3072900

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	
	Councillor	M P Joyce	<i>ex officio</i>
Representative			
Members	Councillor	S Hitchcock	New Plymouth District Council
	Councillor	C Young	South Taranaki District Council
	Councillor	G Boyde	Stratford District Council
	Ms	B Bigham	Iwi Representative <i>zoom</i>
	Ms	L Tester	Iwi Representative
	Mr	P Moeahu	Iwi Representative
	Mr	P Muir	Federated Farmers
Attending	Councillor	D L Lean	Taranaki Regional Council
	Mr	S J Ruru	Chief Executive
	Mr	A D McLay	Director - Resource Management
	Ms	A J Matthews	Director - Environment Quality <i>zoom</i>
	Mr	D R Harrison	Director - Operations
	Mr	M Nield	Director - Corporate Services
	Mr	C Spurdle	Planning Manager
	Mr	S Tamarapa	Iwi Communications Advisor
	Ms	V McKay	Science Manager
	Mr	C Wadsworth	Strategy Lead
	Ms	K Holland	Communications Adviser
	Mr	C Vicars	Team Leader, Hill Country
	Mr	S Ellis	Environment Services Manager
	Mrs	L Miller	Team Leader, Environmental Assurance
	Ms	L Honnor	Programme Lead - Biodiversity
	Mrs	J Hyland	Team Leader, Riparian
	Miss	R Sweeney	Governance Administrator
	Mrs	J Mack	Governance Administrator

Apologies	Apologies were received and sustained from Councillor D N MacLeod McIntyre/Van Der Leden
Notification of and Late Items	Due to the LGNZ Conference 2022 coinciding with the July Policy and Planning Committee, an alternative date will need to be set.

1. Confirmation of Minutes - 26 April 2022

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 Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 26 April 2022 at 10.30am
- b) notes the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on Tuesday 17 May 2022.

McIntyre/Van Der Leden

Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Climate Change projections and impacts for Taranaki

- 2.1 Ms V McKay, Science Manager, spoke to the memorandum on the findings and recommendations of a recent report on climate change projections and impacts for Taranaki, commissioned by Council and undertaken by the National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research.
- 2.2 Councillor E Van Der Leden suggested that a media release of the findings be organised by the Council to notify the community.
- 2.3 Members of the Committee enquired how the report would impact the Council. Officers responded that the effects of greenhouse gases will be a Government requirement within consenting later in the year. Climate change is also a matter for consideration in the development of the Council's Natural Resources Plan. Further information will be passed to the Committee as it arises.
- 2.4 Mrs A J Matthews advised the Committee that work in collaboration with Taranaki Emergency Management Office and Venture Taranaki, along with the territorial authorities, was an opportunity to help us plan ahead and make the most of any opportunities.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum
- b) notes the findings and conclusions of the Climate change projections and impacts for Taranaki report, as outlined in the memorandum
- c) notes the report will be made available to the public.

Joyce/Muir

3. Essential Freshwater Implementation Review

- 3.1 Mr C Wadsworth, Strategy Lead - Resource Management, spoke to the memorandum to provide the Committee with a Freshwater implementation programme update.
- 3.2 Mr D R Harrison, Director – Operations, provided an update on the riparian field monitoring device test phase. He noted some technical issues were being addressed and it will be operational in the near future.
- 3.3 Councillor N W Walker advised that the Ministry for Primary Industries are in the process of setting up an entity called ‘integrated farm planning’ that will assist farmers to meet their freshwater and greenhouse gas requirements by 2025.
- 3.4 Mr M J Nield gave further details surrounding the Waitara Catchment fund (currently \$19.6m) which is currently held in trust. To date the only funds that have been spent are for bank fees. The establishment of the Committee is progressing well with consultation with iwi taking place.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the Memorandum on Freshwater implementation programme.

Walker/Van Der Leden

4. Key Native Ecosystems Programme Update

- 4.1 Mr D R Harrison, Director – Operations, spoke to the memorandum to present, for Members’ information, an update on the identification of sixteen new Key Native Ecosystem (KNE) sites.
- 4.2 Councillor N W Walker requested a media release be prepared to highlight the amount of land that will be preserved and that the Council finds an appropriate way to celebrate the success of the programme.
- 4.3 Mr D R Harrison, advised Mr Walker that all KNE’s were listed on the Council’s website. However, further consideration will be given to how to further acknowledge the efforts.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum and the attached inventory sheets for Patui, Barrel's Creek, Morrison's Bush (QEII 5/06/358), Pukekotahuna Headwaters Reserve, Whare Piwakawaka, NERGE Orchid Haven and Swamp Forest, Middle Bush, Cool Acres, Sunman Farms QEII Covenant, Gillett Family Bush, Patea Saltmarsh Estuary, Fangorn and Forbidden Forest, Ben's Block, Bruce's Bush & Danny's Pond, Mangamaio, Manui Farm QEII Covenants
- b) notes that the aforementioned sites have indigenous biodiversity values of regional significance and should be identified as Key Native Ecosystem sites.

Williamson/Young

5. Submission on Space Invaders: A review of how New Zealand manages weeds that threaten native ecosystems

- 5.1 Mr D R Harrison, Director – Operations, spoke to the memorandum to introduce the Council's submission. This was prepared in response to the report and recommendations made by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment, on Space invaders: A review of how New Zealand manages weeds that threaten native ecosystems.
- 5.2 Mr D R Harrison further noted that uncertainty surrounding leadership and responsibilities still exists and requires clarification. Weeds located on conservation land will need to be handled by the Department of Conservation.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum entitled Submission on Space invaders: A review of how New Zealand manages weeds that threaten native ecosystems
- b) endorses the attached submission.

Muir/Hitchcock

6. Weedbusters Taranaki Guide

- 6.1 Ms L Honnor, Programme Lead - Biodiversity, spoke to the memorandum to introduce the Taranaki Regional Council's newly published *Weedbusters Taranaki* guide.
- 6.2 Councillor C L Littlewood suggested that before the mid period review of the Pest Management Plan, a workshop be held that allowed an in-depth review on why certain plants are or are not within the Pest Management Plan.
- 6.3 Councillor E D Van Der Leden requested the engagement statistics for the Weedbusters email and social media relating to this.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum entitled Weedbusters Taranaki guide
- b) notes that the *Weedbuster Taranaki* guide is available to the community online or for free as a hard copy upon request to the Council.

Davey/McDonald

7. Towards Predator-Free Taranaki Project

- 7.1 Mr S Ellis, Environment Services Manager, spoke to the memorandum to present for Members' information a quarterly update on the progress of *Taranaki Taku Tūrangā Our Place - Towards Predator-Free Taranaki* project.
- 7.2 Mr S Ellis, provided an update on scheduled 1080 drops noting that the National Park is on a rotational cycle which will be due next year. Works with Taranaki Mounga Project and conservation groups are under way.
- 7.3 An update on the programme's timeline, productivity and budget was provided. In summary the programme is in year four out of five year funding commitment from the Government. The complete eradication of possums has ended up costing more

than what was budgeted for, however other portions such as rural rollout has come in under budget, so reallocation of funds has been able to take place.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum Taranaki Taku Tūranga Our Place - Towards Predator-Free Taranaki project
- b) notes the progress and milestones achieved in respect of the urban, rural and zero density possum projects of the *Taranaki Taku Tūranga Our Place - Towards Predator-Free Taranaki project*
Davey/Van Der Leden

8. Hill Country Sustainable Land Management Programme

- 8.1 Mr C Vicars, Team Leader – Hill Country, spoke to the memorandum to provide Members an overview of Council’s hill country sustainable land management programme. This included what it had achieved to date and provide insight on the future work planned to meet the requirements of Government's Essential Freshwater reforms.
- 8.2 Mr C Vicars advised the Committee that the performance of the additional resources is being measured by two monitoring regimes. Firstly, an in house hill country monitoring app has been developed and background work feeding into this has occurred to address data accuracy. The second, is state of environment monitoring
- 8.3 Mr C Vicars responded to a statement made about the proposal to restrict exotic forestry advising it is appropriate to make sure that the right trees are planted in the right place and central Government was aware of the impacts of carbon farming impacting traditional land uses.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum on the Council’s current hill country sustainable land management programme
- b) notes the progress that the sustainable land management programme has achieved and the focus areas for future work.

Williamson/Young

Councillor S Hitchcock left at 12.05pm

9. Riparian Programme and Public Waterways and Ecosystem Restoration Fund Achievements.

- 9.1 Mrs J Hyland, Team Leader - Riparian, spoke to the memorandum to provide the Members with an overview of the Council's riparian programme and the delivery of the Ministry for the Environment’s Public Waterways and Ecosystem Restoration Fund.

- 9.2 The Committee gave thanks to those involved, including farmers, for achieving the large target.
- 9.3 Clarification surrounding suitable planting and use within the riparian buffer zone was provided.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- 9.4 notes the recent completion of the Transforming Taranaki PWER funding project and its achievements, and the focus areas for future work.

Davey/Boyde

10. General Business

19 July 2022 Policy and Planning Committee Date

Due to the Local Government New Zealand regional tour coinciding with the 19 July 2022 Policy and Planning Committee, a resolution was passed unanimously to delegate authority to the Chief Executive and Chairperson to formally assign an alternative date.

McIntyre/Van Der Leden

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, Councillor C L Littlewood, declared the meeting of the Policy and Planning Committee closed at 12.17pm. The meeting closed with a karakia.

Confirmed

Policy and Planning

Chairperson: _____

C L Littlewood

26 July 2022