

Meeting of the Hawke's Bay Regional Council Māori Committee

Date: 6 November 2024
Time: 11.00am
Venue: Council Chamber
 Hawke's Bay Regional Council
 159 Dalton Street
 NAPIER

Agenda

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1.	Welcome/Karakia/Housekeeping/Apologies	
2.	Conflict of interest declarations	
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Information or Performance Monitoring		
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12.	Discussion of minor items not on the Agenda	

Parking

1. Paid parking is available on Vautier Street adjacent to the HBRC Building & on Raffles Street.
 2. There is free all-day parking further afield – on Munroe Street or Hastings Street by Briscoes.
 3. There are limited parking spaces (3) for visitors in the HBRC car park – entry off Vautier Street – it would be appropriate that the “visitors” parks be available for the members travelling distances from Wairoa and CHB.
- NB:** Any carparks that have yellow markings are NOT to be parked in please.

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

Māori Committee

6 November 2024

Item 3

Subject: Alternate member appointments

Reason for report

1. The Māori Committee Terms of Reference makes allowance for short term replacements (alternates) to be appointed to the Committee where the usual member/s cannot attend.

Recommendation

That _____ be appointed as a member of the Māori Committee for the meeting of 6 November 2024 as a short term replacement on the Committee for _____.

Authored by:

Leeanne Hooper
Team Leader Governance

Approved by:

Desiree Cull
Strategy & Governance Manager

Hawke’s Bay Regional Council

Māori Committee

6 November 2024

Subject: Call for minor items not on the Agenda

Reason for Report

1. This item provides the means for committee members to raise minor matters they wish to bring to the attention of the meeting.
2. Hawke’s Bay Regional Council standing order 9.13 states:
 - 2.1. “A meeting may discuss an item that is not on the agenda only if it is a minor matter relating to the general business of the meeting and the Chairperson explains at the beginning of the public part of the meeting that the item will be discussed. However, the meeting may not make a resolution, decision or recommendation about the item, except to refer it to a subsequent meeting for further discussion.”

Recommendations

That the Māori Committee accepts the following *minor items not on the agenda* for discussion as item 12.

Topic	Raised by

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

Māori Committee

6 November 2024

Item 6

Subject: Take Ripoata ā Takiwā – Taiwhenua representatives' updates

Reason for report

1. This item provides the opportunity for representatives of the four Taiwhenua (Te Whanganui-a-Orotū, Tamatea, Wairoa/Kahungunu Executive and Heretaunga) to table current issues of interest in their rohe for discussion.

Decision-making process

2. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision-making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the *Take ripoata ā takiwā – Taiwhenua representatives' updates*.

Authored by:

Leeanne Hooper
Team Leader Governance

Approved by:

Te Wairama Munro
Te Pou Whakarae

Attachment/s

- 1 Henare Mita - Wairoa Taiwhenua report Under Separate Cover

Subject: November 2024 Statutory Advocacy and Resource Management reform update

Reason for report

1. This item updates the status of reports on proposals forwarded to the Regional Council and assessed by staff acting under delegated authority as part of the Council's Statutory Advocacy project. This edition features a new-look style. Feedback on this new style is invited.
2. The Statutory Advocacy project centres on local resource management-related proposals upon which the Regional Council has an opportunity to make comments or to lodge a submission. These include, but are not limited to:
 - 2.1. resource consent applications publicly notified by a territorial authority
 - 2.2. reviews and changes to district plans overseen by a territorial authority
 - 2.3. non-statutory strategies, structure plans, registrations, etc prepared by territorial authorities, government ministries or other agencies involved in resource management.
3. From time to time, the Statutory Advocacy project also coordinates the Regional Council's feedback on resource management-related proposals from central government agencies such as Ministry for the Environment, Ministry for Primary Industries and Parliamentary Committees etc.
4. In all cases, the Regional Council is **not** the decision-maker, applicant nor proponent.
5. Copies of formal submissions made by the Regional Council on resource management-related proposals can be viewed online at www.hbrc.govt.nz (keyword #hbrcsubmissions).

Decision-making considerations

6. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision-making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the *November 2024 Statutory Advocacy and Resource Management reform update*.

Authored by:

Gavin Ide
Principal Advisor Strategic Planning

Nichola Nicholson
Acting Manager Policy & Planning

Approved by:

Katrina Brunton
Group Manager Policy & Regulation

Attachment/s

- 1↓ Statutory Advocacy Update October 2024
- 2↓ Letter from Minister Bishop re RM System reform progress - 14 Oct 2024

Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

The Statutory Advocacy Update centres on proposals forwarded to the Hawke’s Bay Regional Council and assessed by staff acting under delegated authority as part of the Council’s Statutory Advocacy project:

- Advocacy relates to the resource management-related proposals
- These are proposals where there is an opportunity to provide feedback or a submission
- HBRC is not the decision-maker, applicant nor proponent.

The following summary outlines those proposals that the Council’s Statutory Advocacy project is currently **actively** engaged in. **Green text** represents update since previous report in September 2024.

- | | |
|----------|--|
| National | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reforming the Resource Management System – Tranche One RMA amendments • Reforming the Resource Management System – Tranche Two RMA amendments etc. • Climate Change Adaptation Policy programme • Fast-track Approvals Bill |
| Regional | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Napier City Council Proposed District Plan • Hastings District Council Proposed Plan Change 6 – Lifestyle subdivision for displaced Category 3 owners • Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (MACAA) |
| Other | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Application for Water Conservation Order – Ngaruroro and Clive Rivers |

Inactive proposal for current reporting period (with date of previous report to Committee)

- | | |
|---|-----|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nil | Nil |
|---|-----|

Completed proposals (no further reporting)

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID19 Fast-track Consenting applications to the EPA | September 2024 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource consent application to Napier City Council for 59-lot development at Franklin Road, Bay View | September 2024 |



Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Subject	Reforming the Resource Management System – Tranche One RMA amendments
Type	Legislation
Owner / Lead	Ministry for the Environment (plus other Ministries)
Summary	<p>Proposed changes to the resource management system aim to give councils and consent applicants more certainty while the Government develops new legislation to replace the Resource Management Act (RMA).</p> <p>Previously, the Coalition Government had repealed both the Natural and Built Environment Act and Spatial Planning Act. The Government has also introduced several other Bills, including the following that will influence the wider resource management system:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fast-track Approvals Bill • Resource Management (Extended Duration of Coastal Permits for Marine Farms) Amendment Bill • Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Bill.
Update	<p>Resource Management (Freshwater and Other Matters) Amendment Act has completed the Parliamentary process and came into effect on 24 October 2024.</p> <p>Key changes proposed in the Act relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrictions on regional councils publicly notifying any new freshwater planning instruments any earlier than 31 December 2025. This means plan changes and/or RPSs and regional plans that give effect to the NPS-FM. • Paused rollout of the freshwater farm planning regulations across NZ until work to improve the system is finalised (although the regulations had not yet come into effect in HB). • Clarifying councils' ability to grant consents for discharges that would result in significant adverse effects, provided conditions can reduce effects over time. • Excluding the NPS-FM's hierarchy of obligations from consideration in resource consenting. • Repealing low slope map & related requirements from stock exclusion regulations. • Repealing permitted and restricted discretionary activity regulations for intensive winter grazing from the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F). • Aligning provisions for coal mining with other mineral extraction activities under the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity (NPS-IB), NPS-FM and NES-F. • Imposing a 3-year suspension of requirements under the NPS-IB for territorial authorities to identify new Significant Natural Areas (SNAs) in district plans. • Speeding up and simplifying process for preparing and amending national direction, including NESs, NPSs, national planning standards and the NZ Coastal Policy Statement.
Potential Impacts for HBRC	<p>The Amendment Act's implications on the Council's activities are currently being assessed given that the Parliamentary process has now been completed. The most obvious implications are that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timing of public notification of a new regional policy statement will be impacted by new restrictions on freshwater planning-related documents under the RMA before 31 Dec 2025. • Processing of resource consent applications will no longer be required to consider the NPS-FM's hierarchy of obligations (but many of the NPS-FM's other provisions still apply).
Actions arising	HBRC staff are reviewing the Amendment Act to understand potential implications for HBRC's work programmes and activities.

Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

	<u>Remain actively involved in various regional government sector working groups for potential collective implementation efforts.</u>
Important Date	<u>25 October 2024 – Date when Resource Management (Freshwater and other matters) Amendment Act 2024 came into force.</u>
Further Information	https://environment.govt.nz/acts-and-regulations/acts/rm-freshwater-and-other-matters-amendment/
HBRC Lead	Principal Advisor Strategic Planning - Gavin Ide



Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Subject	Reforming the Resource Management System – Tranche Two of RMA amendments, etc.
Type	Legislation
Owner / Lead	Ministry for the Environment (plus other Ministries)
Summary	<p>A second tranche of amendments to the RMA (and other legislation) has been foreshadowed in the Coalition Agreements and 2024 Quarter 3 work programme.</p> <p><u>The second RMA amendment bill will be accompanied by a number of changes to national direction. The changes can be grouped into four packages:</u></p> <p><u>The infrastructure and energy package will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Develop further national direction to enable a range of energy and infrastructure projects, including a new National Policy Statement for Infrastructure.</u> • <u>Provide a consistent approach to quarrying across the resource management system.</u> • <u>Extend the duration of port coastal permits by a further 20 years.</u> • <u>Change the National Environmental Standard for Telecommunication Facilities to keep up to date with technological developments and give telcos greater certainty and reduced consenting costs as they upgrade their infrastructure.</u> • <u>Give effect to the Government’s Electrify NZ reforms to make it easier to consent renewable energy.</u> <p><u>The housing package will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Enable the first pillar of the Government’s Going for Housing Growth policies.</u> • <u>Require councils to demonstrate compliance with the 30-year Housing Growth Targets.</u> • <u>Provide councils with the flexibility to opt out of the Medium Density Residential Standards.</u> • <u>Simplify heritage management.</u> • <u>Develop new national direction to enable granny flats and papakāinga.</u> <p><u>The farming and primary sector package will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Amend the National Policy Statement on Highly Productive Land to make it clear that indoor primary production and greenhouses are permitted on highly productive land.</u> • <u>Specify that farmers are allowed to build new specified infrastructure such as solar farms on highly productive land.</u> <p><u>The emergencies and natural hazards package will:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Provide a comprehensive, nationally consistent framework for addressing the risks posed by natural hazards, including risks from climate change, as a single instrument.</u> • <u>Include improved emergency provisions to better enable rapid responses to disasters.</u>
Update	<p>In recent weeks, various Government Ministers continue to make announcements about intended policy amendments (for example, in relation to aquaculture, energy, infrastructure, affordable housing, discharge consents, natural hazards, and others). Further details of most of those announcements is yet to be publicly released.</p> <p><u>The second RMA amendment bill is expected to be introduced to Parliament before the end of 2024 and be passed into law in mid-2025. The national direction package is expected to follow the same timeline. Consultation on these four packages of changes is expected to begin in early 2025.</u></p>

Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

	Refer to attached letter dated 14 October 2024 from Hon Chris Bishop as Minister Responsible for RMA Reform. That 10-page letter sets out progress to date, plus outlines amendments to come and also outlines key aspects of the new resource management system.
Potential Impacts for HBRC	There are likely to be significant looming impacts on workstreams across the council resulting from further RMA amendments. These will continue to be worked through as respective Bills work through Parliamentary processes and as more details of the proposed national direction instruments are confirmed.
Actions arising	No action from HBRC currently required. Actively engage in relevant preliminary proposals and opportunities for feedback to government officials as time and priorities suit. Remain actively involved in various regional government sector working groups.
Important Dates	The second RMA amendment bill expected to be introduced into Parliament in late 2024. No further dates are confirmed.
Further Information	Ministry for the Environment – Changes to resource management system
HBRC Lead	Principal Advisor Strategic Planning - Gavin Ide



Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Name	Climate Change Adaptation Policy programme
Proposal Type	National Framework
Owner / Lead	Ministry for the Environment (plus other Ministries)
Summary	<p>Multiple work programmes are running simultaneously in relation to climate adaptation. Key features of those initiatives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Climate Change Adaptation Framework intended to set out the Government’s approach to sharing the costs of adapting to climate change. The framework aims to cover ways to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minimise the long-term costs to NZ of adapting to the impacts of natural events. ○ Provide certainty for property owners and ensure any support is predictable, principled, and fair. This includes clarity about the Government’s response and the roles of insurers, local government, and other groups. ○ Improve the sharing of information so that everyone – individuals, communities, councils, and industries - can make informed decisions. ○ Contribute to maintaining efficient housing and insurance markets. ○ Ensure people have the ability and incentive to make decisions to reduce their risk where they can. • Parliament’s Finance and Expenditure Select Committee is conducting an Inquiry to develop and recommend objectives and principles for the design of an adaptation framework. The Inquiry is covering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nature of the climate adaptation problem New Zealand faces ○ Investment and cost-sharing ○ Roles and responsibilities ○ Climate risk and response information-sharing.
Update	<p>On 10 July 2024, the Government released its climate change strategy, setting out its approach to how it will deliver on New Zealand’s climate goals. More information here: Government releases new climate strategy Ministry for the Environment.</p> <p>On 1st October 2024, Parliament’s Finance and Expenditure Committee published its report and completed its inquiry into climate adaptation. The Committee’s recommendations cover a range of matters, including: objectives and principles for system design; inclusion of meaningful performance measures; Kaupapa Māori, data and information, and responses to key questions regarding ‘who does what; who pays for investment in climate adaptation and how are costs shared for residential property retreat.</p> <p>Previously, HBRC had made a joint submission with the Hawke’s Bay Regional Recovery Agency, Hastings District Council and Napier City Council. A submission was also made by the Clifton to Tangoio Coastal Hazards Strategy Joint Committee.</p>
Potential Impacts for HBRC	<p>There are likely to be significant looming implications on various workstreams across the council resulting from momentous legislation being prepared for tackling the challenges of climate change adaptation – challenges that are not unfamiliar to HB and HBRC.</p> <p>These will continue to be worked through as the Framework and Inquiry are translated into Bills and other central government policy packages where more details will inevitably emerge and be confirmed.</p>
Actions arising	None – submissions to the Select Committee Climate Adaptation Inquiry have been presented.
Important Dates	<p>~January 2025 (1 Oct 2024 + 60 working days)</p> <p>~ The Government has sixty working days to respond to the Select Committee’s report in writing.</p>

Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

	The Select Committee has written to Parliament’s Business Committee asking that it organise a special debate in the House. A date is yet to be confirmed.
Further Information	Ministry for the Environment – Climate Adaptation Framework New Zealand Parliament – Finance and Expenditure Committee Inquiry – media release
HBRC Lead	Principal Advisor Strategic Planning - Gavin Ide



Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Name	Fast-Track Approvals Bill 2024
Proposal Type	Legislation
Owner / Lead	Ministry for the Environment (plus other Ministries)
Summary	<p>The Fast-track Approvals Bill is an omnibus bill. It would enable a 'one-stop shop consenting and permitting scheme' for infrastructure and development projects that are considered to have significant regional or national benefits. Consenting and approvals are to be bundled under a range of different legislation including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • resource consents, notices of requirement, and certificates of compliance (Resource Management Act 1991) • concessions (Conservation Act 1987) • authority to do anything otherwise prohibited under the Wildlife Act 1953 • archaeological authority (Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014) • marine consents (Exclusive Economic Zone and Continental Shelf (Environmental Effects) Act 2012) • land access (Crown Mineral Act 1991) • aquaculture activity approvals (Fisheries Act 1996).
Update	<p>Public submissions on the Bill closed in April 2024. The Select Committee has heard a selection of submitters' presentations. The Select Committee is in deliberation and due to report back to Parliament in mid-October.</p> <p>Ministers have announced intentions to further modify Bill's proposals, including removing role of Ministers in making final decisions on Panel's recommendations.</p> <p><u>On 6 October, Ministers announced a list of 149 projects that will be included in the Bill when it is presented back to Parliament in the coming weeks. Of the total list of 149 projects, the following six projects are within Hawke's Bay:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Mana Ahuriri Holdings Limited – Ahuriri Station – Housing and land development</u> • <u>CDL Land New Zealand Limited – Arataki – Housing and land development</u> • <u>New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi – Hawke's Bay Expressway – Infrastructure</u> • <u>Tukituki Water Security Project – Tukituki Water Security Project – Infrastructure</u> • <u>Napier City Council – Taradale and Awatoto Borefields/Water Treatment Plans – Infrastructure</u> • <u>Eastland Generation Ltd – Waihi Hydroelectric Power Scheme Reconsenting – Infrastructure.</u>
Potential Impacts for HBRC	HBRC already has experience participating in two recent resource consent applications under the COVID-19 Fast-track consenting legislation, but the Fast-track Approvals Bill will inevitably bring its own nuances, details and challenges for HBRC to work through. Impacts on workstreams across the council will need to be assessed as the Bill progresses.
Actions arising	<p>No action from HBRC currently required.</p> <p>Remain actively involved in various regional government sector working groups to identify common implementation challenges and solutions.</p>
Important Dates	18 Oct 2024 – Due date for Select Committee report back to Parliament.

Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

	Bill is expected to be passed into law by late 2024.
Further Information	New Zealand Parliament website – Fast-track Approvals Bill New Zealand Parliament website – Fast-track projects list released Ministry for the Environment website – Fast-track Approvals Bill
HBRC Lead	Principal Advisor Strategic Planning - Gavin Ide



Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Name	Napier City Council Proposed District Plan
Proposal Type	Proposed Plan under RMA
Owner / Lead	Napier City Council (NCC)
Summary	<p>The Proposed District Plan (PDP) review was publicly notified on 21 September 2023. Public submission period closed 15 December 2023.</p> <p>The PDP provides a comprehensive framework for guiding land use, subdivision and development for Napier City, and includes policies and rules. Some (but not all) rules have immediate legal effect from the date of notification.</p> <p>NCC have indicated it intends to publicly notify 'Variations' to the PDP to introduce specific chapters and other provisions relating to natural hazards and indigenous biodiversity.</p>
Update	<p>The summary of submissions received and call for further submissions was notified in April 2024. An addendum summary was re-notified in June 2024. The closing date for making further submissions was 2 July 2024.</p> <p>HBRC made further submissions on original submissions made by others relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • subdivision, wastewater and stormwater management • highly productive land • earthworks • natural hazard risk and flood-free building platforms • regionally significant infrastructure. <p><u>NCC has yet to notify proposed variations to the PDP with respect to Hazards and Risks, and Ecosystems and Indigenous Biodiversity.</u></p> <p><u>The first tranche of hearings on Strategic Directions will be held on 4-6 November 2024, and further hearings are scheduled to continue through to mid-2025.</u></p>
Potential Impacts for HBRC	<p>The Proposed District Plan must give effect to the Regional Policy Statement.</p> <p>HBRC lodged submissions in relation to natural hazards and risk, indigenous biodiversity, climate change and transportation.</p>
Actions arising	<p><u>HBRC staff are currently preparing a statement to present on its submission points scheduled for the first hearing on the PDP's Strategic Directions.</u></p> <p>HBRC Policy team members continue ongoing discussions with NCC colleagues as NCC prepare Variations for natural hazards and indigenous biodiversity matters in the proposed district plan.</p>
Important Dates	<u>First hearing scheduled for 4-6 November 2024.</u>
Further Information	<u>https://www.napier.govt.nz/our-council/plans-strategies-reports/napiers-district-plan/proposed-district-plan/</u>
HBRC Lead	Senior Policy Planner – Dale Meredith

Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Name	Proposed Plan Change 6 (PC6) – Category 3 Lifestyle subdivision provisions for displaced owners
Proposal Type	Proposed Plan Change under RMA
Owner / Lead	Hastings District Council
Summary	<p>This is a change to Hastings District Plan proposing amendments to specific parts of the district plan to enable an easier pathway through the subdivision process for the creation of lifestyle sites within the Rural and Rural Residential Zones. PC6 will directly assist Category 3 landowners who have reached a voluntary buy-out agreement to achieve permanent replacement housing with allowing them to remain in the community from which they have been displaced.</p> <p>PC6 is to be processed through the Streamlined Planning Process as per the Severe Weather Emergency Recovery (Resource Management – Streamlined Planning Process) Order 2023.</p>
Update	<p>As required by the streamlined planning process, recommendations from HDC's hearing panel were forwarded for approval by the Minister for the Environment on 26 July 2024. The Minister's decision was issued on 17 September. HDC formally made PC6 operative from 28 September 2024.</p> <p>Previously, HBRC had lodged a submission in March 2024 generally supporting PC6's proposals. HDC held a hearing on 5 June 2024.</p>
Potential Impacts for HBRC	No known direct impacts as direct consequence of PC6 becoming operative.
Actions arising	No action by HBRC currently required.
Important Dates	No further important dates.
Further Information	Hastings District Council – proposed Plan Change 6
HBRC Lead	Principal Advisor Strategic Planning - Gavin Ide



Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Name	Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (MACAA)
Proposal Type	MACAA applications Customary Marine Title (CMT)
Owner / Lead	High Court; various applicants.
Summary	<p>Hawke's Bay has numerous overlapping applications for CMT that are in progress and have been heard or are being heard in blocks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ngāti Pāhauwera Development Trust, Maungaharuru Tangitū Trust, Ngāi Tāhū O Mohaka Waikare, Ngāti Parau Hapū (Waiohiki Marae Board of Trustees) have completed Stage 2 Hearings 23/05/2022. These applications are now in a procedural stage to align draft CMT orders and maps to the judgement. 2. Rongomaiwahine Iwi Trust and Ngāi Tamanuhiri Iwi are pursuing application through direct Crown engagement. Rongomaiwahine Iwi trust is engaging with overlapping applications in both High Court and Crown pathways. 3. Ngāti Kurupakiaka and Te Ruahina Marae and Hapu have overlapping claims. Engagement together has occurred. No hearing yet set. 4. Group M (Ngāi Tūmapūhia-a-Rangi Hapū) have overlapping jurisdiction into Hawke's Bay from Wairarapa. Stage 1A Hearing completed 4/09/2023. Stage 1B Hearing completed 19/02/2024
Update	<p>The Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) (Customary Marine Title) Amendment Bill was introduced to Parliament on 24 September 2024, then rapidly passed its first reading and then referred to a Select Committee under urgency. The Select Committee's report is due back to Parliament by 5 Dec 2024. The purpose of the Amendment Bill is to define the requirements for recognition of CMT. Namely, it proposes to insert a statement to overturn aspects of the Re: Edwards Decision regarding s58 "without substantial interruption" and s106 burden of proof tests. The Amendment Bill as proposed will not affect decisions made before 25 July 2024. The Edwards decision reasoned that the operation of tikanga may have been disrupted by the Crown's exercise of kawanatanga. Therefore, applicant groups do not need to demonstrate their intention or ability to exclude others from the area where that ability was effectively deprived by law. The Bill would return the burden of proof to the applicant group for exclusive use and occupation from 1840 to present day.</p> <p>Meanwhile, Group M Stage 1B decision paper is still pending. HBRC participation is limited to comment on draft orders, this process is expected to take place in late 2024. Group M wāhi tapu evidence hearings are scheduled for 17 February 2025 with expected closing of submissions 28-29 April 2025. Stage 2(b) hearing (to finalise Stage 1(b) and wāhi tapu submissions) is set for 18-20 August 2025.</p>
Potential Impacts for HBRC	A CMT would provide for rights in relation to the RMA and NZCPS, notably permission rights in relation to consents and permits, and the right to create planning documents which can be lodged with HBRC and may prompt a plan review process relating to the CMT area.
Actions arising	No action from HBRC currently required. Staff from HBRC's Policy, Consents and Māori Partnerships teams are currently proactively working on a process for HBRC's receipt and review of CMT planning documents.
Important Dates	<p>17 Feb 2025 - Group M Wāhi tapu hearing.</p> <p>18-20 August 2025 - Group M Stage 2(b) hearing.</p>



Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Further Information	Judgement of Churchman Re Ngati Pahauwera Judgement of Gwynn Group Re Ngai Tumapuhia a Rangi Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) (Customary Marine Title) Amendment Bill 83-1 (2024), Government Bill Explanatory note – New Zealand Legislation
HBRC Lead	Policy Planner – Shelley King



Statutory Advocacy Update

October 2024

Name	Application for Water Conservation Order – Ngaruroro and Clive Rivers
Proposal Type	Water Conservation Order (WCO)
Owner / Lead	Applicants for WCO are jointly: New Zealand Fish and Game Council, Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Council, Ngati Hori Ki Kohupatiki, Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of NZ, Whitewater NZ.
Summary	<p>In 2017 six parties lodged an application for a water conservation order for the Ngaruroro and Clive rivers with the Minister for the Environment seeking protection of the entire length of the Ngaruroro River including the tributaries and hydraulically connected groundwater and the 7 km long Te Awa o Mokotūāraro (formerly known as the Clive River).</p> <p>In 2019 the Special Tribunal for the Water Conservation Order application recommended that the WCO be granted for the upper part of the Ngaruroro River and declined for the lower part of the Ngaruroro River (including Clive River).</p> <p>In 2022 the Environment Court recommended a WCO be granted for both the upper and lower Ngaruroro River (excluding Clive River) and issued a draft WCO.</p>
Update	<u>October 2024 – The last remaining point of law on the definition of damming in the lower Ngaruroro River has been finalised without further formal High Court proceedings. A mediation agreement was reached between both Forest & Bird and HBRC and this has now been referred back to the Environment Court for reconsideration.</u>
Potential Impacts for HBRC	<p>If/when the WCO comes into legal effect, RMA regional planning documents will need to incorporate the WCO to the extent relevant as required by the RMA.</p> <p>NB: After conclusion of all court proceedings, the application will be referred back to the Minister for the Environment who will consider whether or not to make an order for the WCO (i.e. conclusion of court proceedings is not the final step before a WCO comes into legal effect).</p>
Actions arising	No action currently required.
Important Dates	<u>To be determined</u> – report back to the Environment Court on joint-party resolution, including agreements on damming definition matters.
Further Information	<u>https://www.epa.govt.nz/public-consultations/decided/water-conservation-order-ngaruroro-and-clive-rivers/</u>
HBRC Lead	Intermediate Policy Planner – Saul Gudsell



Hon Chris Bishop

Minister of Housing
Minister for Infrastructure
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform
Minister for Sport and Recreation
Leader of the House
Associate Minister of Finance



CB-COR0836

14 October 2024

Tēnā koe,

I am writing to inform you of the progress we have made to improve the resource management system and meet the Coalition Government's objective for a faster growing, more productive economy.

It is widely accepted that the resource management system is not fit for purpose. Consensus on that point was reached almost a decade ago. We need a resource management system that protects the environment not by resisting growth but by setting clear rules, so growth occurs within limits.

Progress to date

I would like to update you on the progress we have made over the last year.

We have divided our reform into three phases.

The first phase, repealing the Natural and Built Environment Act and Spatial Planning Act, was completed in December 2023. We did not take the decision to repeal those Acts lightly, but they would not have achieved the objectives needed for New Zealand to grow and thrive.

The goal of Phase Two is to improve the performance of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) by removing unnecessary regulations for primary industries and barriers to investment in development and infrastructure while maintaining environmental protections.

Phase Two includes:

- The *Fast-track Approvals Bill* to create a one-stop shop for approvals, consents and permissions to speed up the delivery of regionally and nationally significant projects. This Bill is currently in front of the select committee and we expect it to be passed into law by the end of 2024. You can find more information about this process here - [Fast-track Approvals Bill | Ministry for the Environment](#)
- Targeted amendments to the RMA will relieve the most significant issues in the Act through the:
 - *Resource Management (Extended Duration of Coastal Permits for Marine Farms) Amendment Bill*
 - *Resource Management (Freshwater and other Matters) Amendment Bill* which includes changes to freshwater management, stock exclusion and winter grazing rules, marine farming consents, and Significant Natural Areas. This Bill also streamlines the process for changes to national direction. It is currently before select committee, and we also expect it to pass by the end of this year.
 - *Resource Management Act Amendment Bill (RMA Amendment Bill Two)* is currently in development. We expect to introduce it before the end of 2024 and passed into law by mid-2025.

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- A package of National Direction – including amendments to 14 current National Policy Statements (NPS) and National Environmental Standards (NES), as well as seven new national direction instruments. We will consult on these in early 2025 and along with the second Bill they are expected to be passed into law in mid-2025.

We have focused our changes to the RMA on the things that will have the largest impact in the short term and contribute to the Coalition Government's priority programmes: Electrify NZ, Infrastructure for the Future, Going for Housing Growth and the Primary Sector Growth Plan.

The second RMA amendment bill and the new national direction package gives effect to these coalition commitments and changes to the RMA will unlock development and drive a more efficient and effective resource management system. These changes will transition into the new system once it is in place.

The changes can be grouped in four distinctive packages. These are:

- Infrastructure and Energy
- Housing
- Farming and primary sector
- Emergency response and natural hazards

Infrastructure and Energy

This package will develop further national direction to enable a range of productivity-boosting energy and infrastructure projects, including a new NPS-Infrastructure. It will also provide a consistent approach to quarrying and extend the duration of port coastal permits by a further 20 years. Changes to the NES-Telecommunications Facilities will keep up to date with technological developments and give telcos greater certainty and reduced consenting costs as they upgrade their infrastructure. The Government's Electrify NZ reforms will make it easier to consent and re-consent renewable energy.

More information on our Electrify work programme is available here - [Next steps on Electrifying New Zealand | Beehive.govt.nz](#).

Housing

The housing package will contain reforms needed to enable the first pillar of the Government's Going for Housing Growth policies. These changes will require councils to provide for 30-years' worth of housing growth while providing flexibility for councils to opt out of the Medium Density Residential Standards. Changes are also being made to the National Policy Statement on Urban Development and the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land, along with guidance for effective heritage management and developing new national direction to enable granny flats and papakāinga housing.

More information on our Going for Housing Growth work programme is available here - [Going for Housing Growth speech | Beehive.govt.nz](#)

Farming and the Primary Sector

The primary industries package will contain changes to drive primary sector productivity. This package will mainly give effect to National Party Manifesto promises and coalition agreements. We are amending the National Policy Statement for Highly Productive Land to make it clear that indoor primary production and greenhouses are permitted on highly productive land, as well as specifying that farmers are also allowed to build new specified infrastructure such as solar farms on that land.

More information on our Farming and the Primary sector work programme is available here - [Government confirms RMA reforms to drive primary sector efficiency | Beehive.govt.nz](#)

Emergency Response and Natural Hazards

This package provides a comprehensive, nationally consistent framework for addressing the risks posed by natural hazards, including risks from climate change. Rather than a two-step process as previously intended, we have decided to progress this work as a single instrument. This will provide direction to councils on how to identify natural hazards, assess the risk they pose, and how to respond to that risk through planning controls. The RMA Amendment Bill Two will include improved emergency provisions to better enable rapid responses to disasters.

A list of specific items under these four areas is available in Appendix One. You can find out more about Phase Two in my recent [Speech to the Local Government New Zealand Conference | Beehive.govt.nz](#).

Replacing the RMA

The reforms of Phase Two will carry over into the long-term replacement for the RMA which is the focus of Phase Three of the RM Reform programme. This phase advances the Coalition Government's commitment to replace the RMA by a new system that will be rules-based and embed respect for property rights and the rule of law.

Cabinet has agreed the new resource management system will have three core tasks:

- unlocking development capacity for housing and business growth
- enabling delivery of high-quality infrastructure for the future, including doubling renewable energy
- enabling primary sector growth and development (including aquaculture, forestry, pastoral, horticulture, and mining)

It must achieve these objectives while also:

- safeguarding the environment and human health
- adapting to the effects of climate change and reducing the risks from natural hazards
- improving regulatory quality in the resource management system
- upholding Treaty of Waitangi settlements and other related arrangements

There are ten principles that underpin the new system. These will be tested and refined by a Resource Management Expert Advisory Group (EAG). The EAG will develop a blueprint of the new system over the next three months – a workable and practical plan that officials can quickly turn into new legislation. This blueprint is due back to me before Christmas.

The EAG will bring fresh thinking, expertise and practical knowledge, working closely with officials from across government to make sure Ministers can make the decisions needed to draft the new legislation as quickly as possible. It will be chaired by Janette Campbell and comprises experts with relevant technical knowledge ranging from resource management law to planning and te ao Māori. Members are Christine Jones, Paul Melville, Rukumoana Schaafhausen, Kevin Counsell, Gillian Crowcroft and Mark Chrisp.

Public consultation on the proposals will occur primarily through the select committee process.

Key aspects of the resource management system

Principles guiding the development of the new system are the following:

- narrow the scope of the resource management system and the effects it controls
- establish two Acts with clear and distinct purposes – one to manage environmental effects arising from activities, and another to enable urban development and infrastructure
- strengthen and clarify the role of environmental limits and their development
- provide for greater use of national standards to reduce the need for resource consents and to simplify council plans, such that standard-complying activity cannot be subjected to a consent requirement
- shift the system focus from consenting which happens before the event to strengthening compliance, monitoring and enforcement
- use spatial planning and a simplified designation process to lower the cost of future infrastructure
- realise efficiencies by requiring councils to jointly prepare one regulatory plan for their region
- provide for rapid, low-cost resolution of disputes between neighbours and between property owners and councils
- uphold Treaty of Waitangi settlements and the Crown's obligations
- provide faster, cheaper and less litigious processes within shorter, less complex and more accessible legislation.

I have instructed my officials to test these principles with key partners and stakeholders in parallel with the EAG and I will report back to Cabinet on this feedback too.

Key aspects of the new resource management system will go to Cabinet for agreement at the beginning of 2025, and legislation will be introduced and passed before the next election.

You can find out more about these principles in the [Speech on replacing the Resource Management Act](#) and [Replacement for the Resource Management Act takes shape | Beehive.govt.nz](#).

Looking forward

I know our timeline is ambitious, but we have critical issues to solve if we are to turn New Zealand's economy around, increase productivity and make things easier to do. I am acutely aware of the need to reset the resource management system in a way that is pragmatic and targets the most significant issues first.

The instruments from Phase Two, and other important elements of the existing system such as plans will transfer over, with a "switching off" of any elements incompatible with the new system.

This is critical to accelerate and smooth the transition, lightening the load on councils and those who use the resource management system, and avoiding long implementation times. Some RMA settings will be retained for this work to be carried forward with minimal disruption, and to uphold Treaty settlements.

The proposed Phase Three changes will be designed to be implemented as quickly as possible and to minimise disruption on those who use the system. By limiting scope and targeting council effort to more complex issues, the replacement system will deliver reduced costs to both councils and ratepayers.

Our goal is to replace unnecessary regulation with clear rules to unlock the double dividend of higher growth and better environmental outcomes.

By redirecting only a fraction of the resources consumed by RMA processes, we can protect the environment and provide clear pathways for investment and growth within environmental limits.

We look forward to your working with you as we do this.

Yours sincerely



Hon Chris Bishop
Minister Responsible for RMA Reform

Appendix One: Detailed items under RMA Amendment Bill 2 and the National Direction Package

The national direction policy proposals described below are still in development. We have provided this content to support engagement and to seek your initial thoughts on the direction of travel. We expect to formally consult on more detailed policy proposals in early 2025.

RMA Amendment Bill 2
Fisheries Act and RMA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce regulatory overlap between the RMA and the Fisheries Act 1996 to provide certainty for fishers
Port permits
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extension of port permits duration – section 384A of the RMA
Consenting
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend the RMA to require renewable energy generation consents (excluding hydro and geothermal) to be decided within one year of application. • Establish a one-year limit to re-consent existing renewable electricity generation assets • Require resource consents for wood processing facilities to be decided within one year • Improve flexibility and encourage innovation for existing marine farms by providing more certainty for change of consent conditions • Enable Councils to recover cost for reviewing consent conditions when the review is a result of national direction • Amendments to provide greater clarity on the scope of further information requests and requirements for consents • Progress default 35-year consent durations for renewable energy and long-lived infrastructure • Increase the lapse period for designations from 5 to 10 years to provide more time to progress infrastructure projects • Increase the default lapse period so the time to give effect to a renewable energy consent is 10 years or longer • Provide certainty for discharge rules under section 70
Housing Growth
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ratification vote and allowing relevant councils to opt-out of the Medium Density Residential Standards (MDRS), provided they demonstrate 30 years' worth of housing growth • Intervention powers to ensure compliance with National Direction

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning change processes for opting out of the MDRS and for councils still undertaking intensification streamlined planning processes (including Auckland Council)
<p>Heritage management</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage management (focusing on approaches to listing and de-listing heritage buildings)
<p>System improvements</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend part 9A of the RMA to provide more flexibility for farm plan regulations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements to compliance regime, including increased penalties and limiting access to insurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technical improvements to DOC functions to manage discharges, compliance and enforcement
<p>Natural Hazards and Emergency Response</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvement to emergency provisions, including a new regulation-making power for emergency responses and clarification of notification of entry requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to decline land-use consents, or attach conditions, where there are significant risks of natural hazards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New plan rules relating to natural hazards have immediate legal effect from notification
<p>Integrated National Direction Package</p>
<p>Infrastructure and Energy</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NES Telco Facilities • Update the maximum pole heights in residential areas to reflect requirement for Medium Density Residential Development through the NPS-UD • Update cabinet sizes in residential areas to support infrastructure resilience and the roll out of 5G technology • Update antenna dimensions (eg, size and height) to reflect 5G technological developments and to avoid larger radio frequency fields from entering the public domain • Consider the expansion or amendment of some permitted activities under the NES-TF, in particular to accommodate temporary facilities or emergency activities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Infrastructure (new) • NPS to provide consistent consenting pathways for enabling the development, operation, maintenance and upgrade of infrastructure while managing its effects across a range of natural environments • The interface between infrastructure activities and other activities and people, including in the built environment.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Renewable Electricity Generation • NPS Electricity Transmission

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New content for National Policy Statement for Renewable Electricity Generation (NPS-REG) • New content for National Policy Statement for Electricity Transmission (NPS-ET) • These amendments will create more directive and enabling national direction for renewable electricity generation, transmission and distribution. • Work on national environmental standards for renewable electricity generation, electricity transmission and distribution will follow the national policy statements. The national environmental standards will include nationally consistent rules for these activities, such as specifying activities that can be undertaken without consent, provided the standards are met. • The standards will replace the rules in Regional and District Council, meaning that consent processes will be more certain, and due to the enabling nature of the standards, be more likely to gain approval.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NES Electricity Transmission Activities • Amendments to NES-ETA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NZ Coastal Policy Statement • Targeted review of policies 6, 8, 11, 13 and 15
<p>Housing and Urban Development</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Highly Productive Land • Amend the NPS to free up land for urban development and remove unnecessary planning barriers, while managing HPL. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing the definition of HPL as part of the Going for Housing Growth work programme. • Ease the urban rezoning tests. • Other changes to the NPS-HPL are being considered as part of the wider national direction amendment package (definition of Specified Māori Land, and consistency in mineral extraction and quarrying pathways).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Urban Development • Set requirements for housing growth targets • Enable better spatial planning by aligning Future Development Strategy requirements with housing growth objectives • Change the responsiveness policy to better enable developers to bring forward areas of growth • Strengthen the intensification provisions • Better enable mixed use development • Better manage outcomes for heritage buildings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling granny flats

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direction on enabling 'granny flats' (up to 60m²)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling Papakainga • New national direction for Papakāinga
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Direction on Heritage • Better manage outcomes for heritage buildings
<p>Farming and the Primary Sector</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS NES Freshwater • Scope of amendments to National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) and National Environmental Standards for Freshwater (NES-F) to be confirmed. Expect targeted amendments to be completed through this combined national direction package and further work may follow • Enable on-farm water storage (ie, as a permitted activity under the RMA, or otherwise)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stock exclusion regulations • Tie stock exclusion rules to local conditions to limit unintended consequences • Replace nationwide low-slope maps with catchment-level rules that are more consistent with local conditions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NES Drinking Water • Amending clauses 7, 8 and 10 and two new rules for mapping requirements and targeted activity controls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NPS Indigenous Biodiversity • Applying consistent and defined tests for extractive activities across the NPS-FM, NPS-HPL and NPS-IB • Amendments to significant natural areas (SNA) provisions in the NPS-IB
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NES – Commercial Forestry • Reverse changes that increased council discretion for afforestation • Repeal National Environmental Standards for Commercial Forestry (NES-CF) clauses (6)(1)(a) and (6)(4)(a) • Review of slash settings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NES Marine Aquaculture • Amend to increase flexibility to innovate, improve management of existing marine farms and make minor and technical amendments
<p>Natural Hazards and Emergency Response</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Hazards National Direction • Develop new direction for natural hazards that applies to all natural hazards. It may consist of National Policy Statement and National Environmental Standards.

- The objective is to reduce the risk from natural hazards to people, property and infrastructure by providing direction on: identifying natural hazards, and assessing and responding to the risks they pose in a consistent way.

Subject: Development of HBRC's Annual Plan 2025-2026

Reason for report

1. This information item provides the Māori Committee with an update on the development of Council's Annual Plan 2025-2026.
2. The 2025-2026 financial year is Year 2 of the Three-Year Plan 2024-2027. An average 18.3% rates increase is forecast for Year 2. At Council's request, the Executive Leadership Team is working on options to reduce this increase while still delivering on cyclone recovery commitments.

Background

3. Annual plans are prepared and adopted under section 95 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA). Council is required to produce an annual plan in the years between long-term plans (LTPs).
4. An annual plan provides an opportunity for small adjustments or variances from the LTP to be reflected in the plan for the year. The starting point for an annual plan is the relevant year of the current LTP.
5. If the proposed annual plan includes significant or material differences from the content of the long-term plan for that financial year, Council must consult under the principles of consultation under section 82 of the LGA.
6. As per the LGA, the purpose of an annual plan is to:
 - 6.1. contain the proposed annual budget and funding impact statement for the year to which the annual plan relates
 - 6.2. identify any variation from the financial statements and funding impact statement included in the local authority's long-term plan in respect of the year
 - 6.3. provide integrated decision making and co-ordination of the resources of the local authority
 - 6.4. contribute to the accountability of the local authority to the community.
7. Part 2, schedule 10 of the LGA specifies the information an annual plan must contain.
8. The LGA also requires that an annual plan be adopted before the commencement of the year to which it relates.

Development of Annual Plan 2025-2026

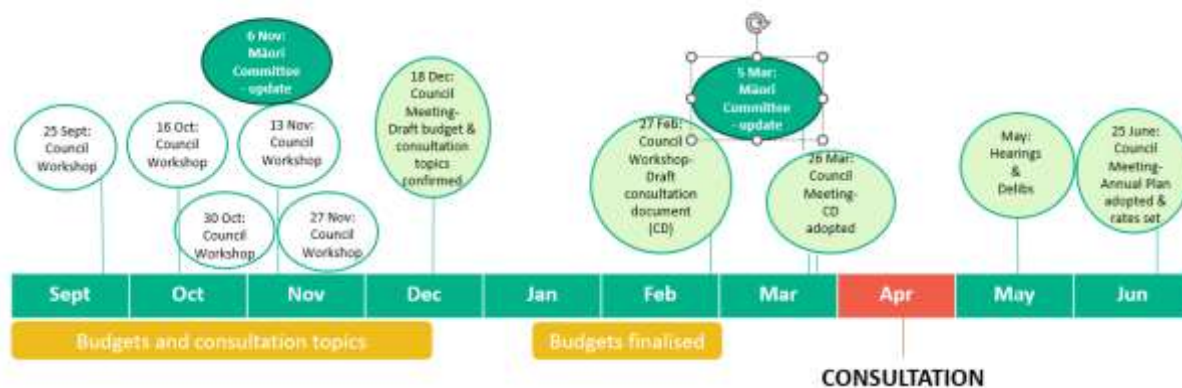
9. A project team was established in September 2024 to progress the development of the annual plan.
10. The first step is for Council to review its budget for 2025-2026 set out in the Three-Year Plan 2024-2027.
11. At Council's request the Executive Leadership Team has identified options to reduce the average forecast rate increase of 18.3%. Council is considering these with the aim to have a draft budget confirmed before the Christmas break.

12. The community will have an opportunity to provide feedback on proposed service delivery changes through consultation planned for April 2025.
13. At this stage potential consultation topics include:
 - 13.1. The rating model for the local share of funding for Havelock North Streams and dams following Cyclone Gabrielle. HDC is responsible for the asset management of the streams and is undertaking the resilience work to enable category 2 properties to move to 1. Regional Council has agreed to apply a special rate on Hastings District ratepayers using HDC's rating method to secure the local share. This requires an amendment to HBRC's Revenue and Financing Policy.
 - 13.2. Further adjustments to two targeted rates. Council made a number of resolutions during its deliberations on the Three-year Plan 2024-27 to further review and/or investigate changes it made to its Revenue and Financing Policy in early 2024. The targeted rates it is reviewing are Public Transport and the Upper Tukituki Flood Control Scheme.
 - 13.3. The Regional Public Transport Plan 2025-2035. Consultation on this is planned to run concurrently with the Annual Plan 2025-26.
14. Council's revised budget may mean there will be additional topics or proposals to consult on.

Next steps

15. The timeline aims to have the draft budget, including the average rates increase and consultation topics, confirmed before the Christmas break. This is important as it enables staff to finalise detailed budgets and produce a quality consultation document.
16. The timeline is outlined below. Council meetings are shaded in green. Staff will provide a further update to the Māori Committee at its next meeting in March 2025.

Annual Plan 2025-26 Timeline



Decision-making considerations

17. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the *Development to HBRC's Annual Plan 2025-2026* staff report.

Authored by:

Mandy Sharpe
Senior Corporate Planner

Desiree Cull
Strategy & Governance Manager

Approved by:

Te Wairama Munro

Te Pou Whakarae

Attachment/s

There are no attachments for this report.

Subject: Update on the regional climate change risk assessment

Reason for report

1. This paper updates the Māori Committee on the regional climate change risk assessment project being overseen by the Climate Action Joint Committee.

Executive summary

2. The Climate Action Joint Committee (the Joint Committee) has directed the Climate Action Technical Advisory Group (TAG) to develop a regional climate change risk assessment, with a public-facing report published, this triennium.
3. This work began in September 2024 and brings together existing datasets and information to build a common understanding about our exposure to the impacts of climate change. The report will include regional and district-level risk assessments across several domains: Natural Environment, Built Environment, Human, Economic, and Iwi/Māori.
4. The climate risk assessment intends to produce a public evidence base and source of information that will support people and councils to consider climate change when making long term investments and decisions.
5. The project will progress in two phases, the first phase is a desktop exercise to collect and consolidate data, this is being carried out by Urban Intelligence. The second phase is community engagement relating to the risk assessment with a focus on risk prioritisation and adaptation planning.
6. Both the Joint Committee and the TAG have recognised a need for Te Ao Māori, Mātauranga Māori and engagement with Māori to be prioritised in this project. The Māori Partnerships Roopu and Tangata Whenua representatives on the Joint Committee have been invited to contribute a Te Ao Māori perspective into phase one at a workshop on 4 November 2024. The invitation has also been extended to the Māori Units of the territorial authorities, this cross-council involvement strengthens the collaborative approach and aligns with the intent to incorporate diverse Māori perspectives.

Strategic fit

7. This initiative aligns with Council goals to achieve better outcomes for Māori through climate action and community engagement, particularly by incorporating mātauranga Māori and a Te Ao Māori worldview into climate resilience strategies. By involving Māori partnerships, the project contributes to council's overarching objectives of equitable and sustainable development.

Background

8. The Climate Action Joint Committee (the Joint Committee) was established by the five Hawke's Bay councils in 2023. The Joint Committee includes appointed representatives from the Māori Committee and PSGEs (see current membership list at Attachment 1).
9. At the Māori Committee meeting on 6 March 2024, Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) Climate Action Ambassador Pippa McKelvie-Sebileau provided an update on the establishment and progress of the Joint Committee to date. The Joint Committee has only met once since then, in August 2024.

10. At this meeting the Joint Committee endorsed a work programme for the remainder of the triennium. They directed the TAG to prioritise undertaking a regional climate change risk assessment, with the aim of producing a public-facing risk assessment report this triennium. Overseeing the development of a regional climate change risk assessment is one of the objectives in the Joint Committee's Terms of Reference.
11. Joint funding for this project has been confirmed by four of the five councils, with the Joint Committee directing majority of this financial year's funding be prioritised for the assessment. The aim is to finalise the assessment and produce a public-facing report in March 2025.

Discussion

Project progress to date

12. The regional climate change risk assessment project started in September 2024. The TAG has engaged technical specialists Urban Intelligence to lead this work, leveraging existing data and information to produce a risk assessment report in phase one.
13. The focus in the last month has been collating existing datasets to undertake the assessment. This includes national and local public datasets, such as layers on Pātaka and Council Open Data, and internally held data (such as location of built assets) from the five councils.
14. The report will bring together existing information into one place, assess a wide range of risks for Hawke's Bay posed by a changing climate, and make clear where we have significant data gaps. The report will not go as far as prioritising risks for adaptation planning. It will also not contain a set of recommendations for councils. This project is working to tight timeframes and budget.
15. In August, the Joint Committee directed that community engagement for risk prioritisation and adaptation planning should occur during the second phase of work, following the risk assessment report being published. It was highlighted that tangata whenua involvement be prioritised to ensure the risk assessment incorporates a Te Ao Māori lens.

Māori Partnerships advice and support

16. The Climate Action TAG is collaborating with staff across the five councils to support the Joint Committee in this project. Prior to the August meeting, the TAG identified Māori Partnerships staff involvement as essential to the project's success and proposed close collaboration to establish next steps for tangata whenua participation.
17. This project marks the first time the Joint Committee has actively sought tangata whenua involvement beyond committee discussions. To strategically manage capacity and maximise in-house resources, Māori Partnerships staff have been engaged in phase one to support a thorough desktop assessment. This approach leverages internal expertise and builds a foundation for deeper involvement in the next phases.
18. The TAG has invited all tangata whenua members of the Joint Committee to participate in a workshop on 4 November to provide input and perspectives on key themes and emerging risks in the draft assessment. Māori Partnerships staff will also attend, contributing a Te Ao Māori perspective and integrating mātauranga Māori. Staff recommend that Māori Partnerships representatives from the five councils continue their active involvement to ensure a sustained Te Ao Māori perspective throughout the project.

Next steps

19. On 4 November, workshops will be held to review and gather input on the draft findings and key themes emerging from the risk assessment. Māori Partnerships staff from all councils, along with tangata whenua representatives on the Joint Committee, will participate to provide a Te Ao Māori perspective.
20. A briefing meeting with tangata whenua Joint Committee members is set for 14 November to

prepare for the upcoming Climate Action Joint Committee meeting on 18 November.

Decision-making considerations

21. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision-making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the *Regional Climate Change Risk Assessment* staff report.

Authored by:

Jack Smith-Ballingall
Manager, Central & Internal Relationships

Amberley Gibson
Climate Change Lead Strategic Advisor

Approved by:

Te Wairama Munro
Te Pou Whakarae

Attachment/s

- 1 [↓](#) Climate Action Joint Committee membership list

Climate Action Joint Committee membership list

Representative of	Members	Member alternate
Hawke's Bay Regional Council	Cr Xan Harding (Chair) Cr Di Roadley	Chair Hinewai Ormsby
Napier City Council	Cr Hayley Browne (Deputy Chair) Cr Annette Brosnan	Cr Juliet Grieg
Hastings District Council	Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst Cr Tania Kerr	Cr Hana Montaperto-Henry
Central Hawke's Bay District Council	Mayor Alex Walker Cr Tim Aitkin	Cr Jerry Greer
Wairoa District Council	Mayor Craig Little Cr Roslyn Thomas	Cr Denise Eaglesome-Kerekere
HBRC Māori Committee	Dr Roger Maaka Paul Kelly	Marei Apatu
PSGE representatives	Michelle McIlroy – Tātau Tātau o te Wairoa Cordry Huata – Tamatea Pōkai Whenua Robbie Paul – Maungaharuru Tangitu Trust Tania Eden - Mana Ahuriri Trust	

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

Māori Committee

6 November 2024

Item 11

Subject: Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua

Reason for report

1. Rongomaiwahine Iwi Trust (RIT) has been compiling a Taiao Management Plan (Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua) over the last two and a half years. The plan's focus is primarily on freshwater but has expanded to consider all elements of Te Taiao at Mahia Mai Tawhiti. The plan is nearing completion and RIT has asked for the opportunity to present the plan to the HBRC Māori Committee to seek feedback on what has been done to date, and to take any suggestions the committee may have for its improvement.

Background

2. In 2021 RIT secured \$870k of funding through the Ministry for the Environment's Te Mana o Te Wai Fund and work on the plan was initiated in 2022.
3. The intention of the plan was to represent all voices of the community, and not just those of tangata whenua, to help bridge issues that arose through the Whakatipu Mahia Predator Free project where a breakdown in the relationship between the iwi and landowners occurred.
4. A community stakeholder group was formed, and multiple hui and wānanga were held over 2022-23 to gather the kōrero and mātauranga of the community.
5. The plan has identified 12 sub-catchments or freshwater management areas within the rohe and issues, taonga species and sites of significance have been identified, with the aim to work with the community and whānau within each of the sub-catchments to target and address the specific issues.
6. Significant information from multiple sources has been incorporated into the plan and a comprehensive water testing programme was carried out to monitor the freshwater of each of the 12 sub-catchments.
7. Next steps are now focusing on how to implement the plan alongside the community and how to support Rongomaiwahine Iwi Trust aspirations into the development of the Kotahi Plan.
8. Maraea Anaru, Taiao Programme Lead for Rongomaiwahine Iwi Trust will be presenting on the journey of Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua up to now to the Māori Committee on behalf of RIT.

Decision-making considerations

9. Staff have assessed the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to this item and have concluded that, as this report is for information only, the decision making provisions do not apply.

Recommendation

That the Māori Committee receives and notes the *Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua presentation from Rongomaiwahine Iwi Trust*.

Authored by:

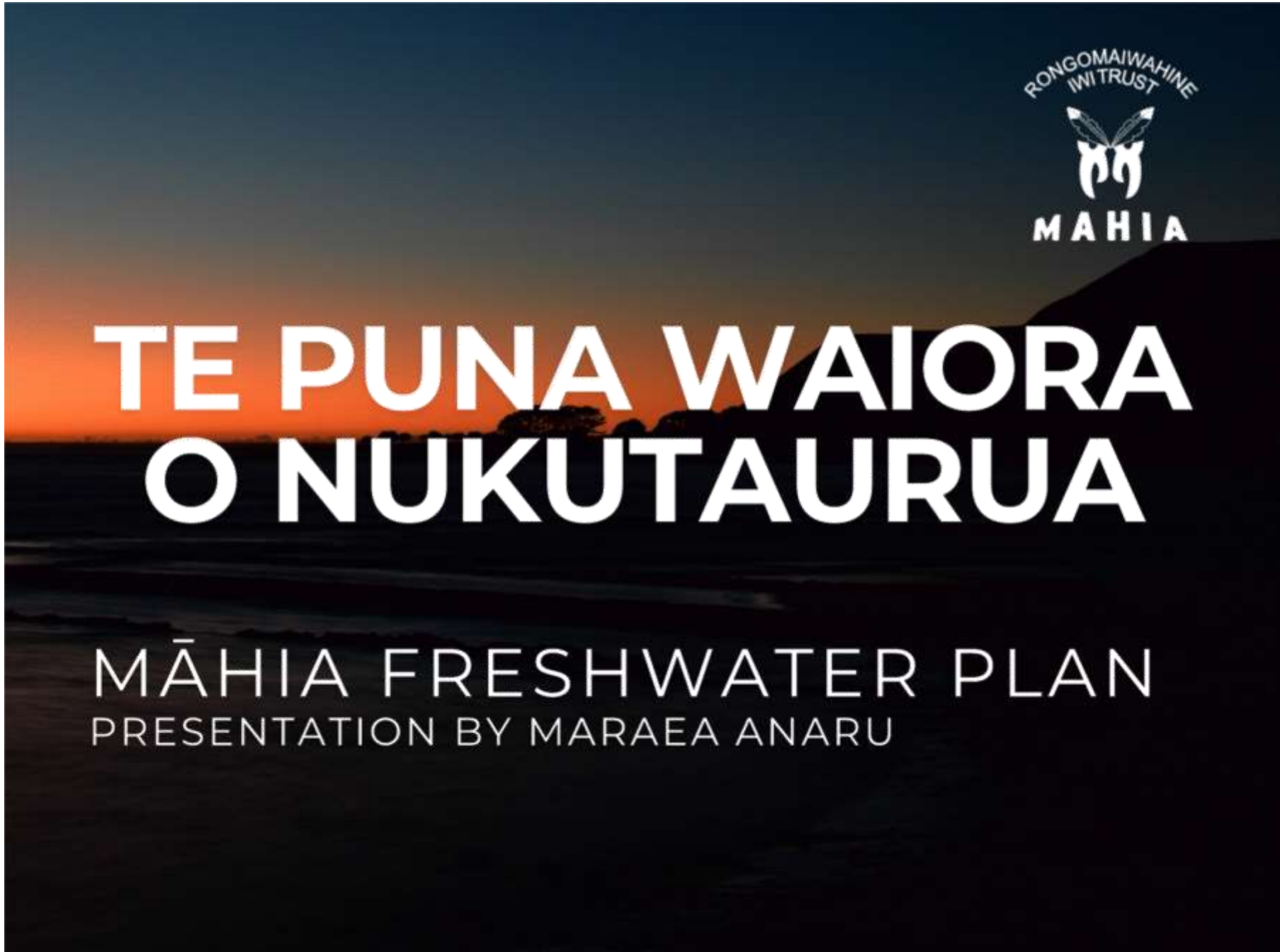
Nathan Heath
Māori Relationships Manager Northern Hawke's Bay

Approved by:

Te Wairama Munro
Te Pou Whakarae

Attachment/s

- [1](#) Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua slideshow



Introduction



HOW IT STARTED

We finally said we have had enough, we want to step in and restore mauri into our Taiao with the help from the following organisations to kickstart the project

Ministry For Environment

- Te Mana o Te Wai
- The ability to develop Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua

Wairoa District Council

- Partnership

Hawke's Bay Regional Council

- Pest eradication
- Partnership
- The ability of education

Department of Conservation

- Whitebait and poor habitat reporting
- Partnership

**Total Area: 24,700ha shared
between 12 catchments and 7
hapu**

Indigenous Forest: 2,500ha

Manuka, Kanuka, Scrub: 3,000ha


Farmland: 14,200ha

Exotic Forest: 5,000ha



THROUGH THE DEVELOPMENT OF TPWON, WE SEEN;

- OUR PEOPLE HAVE ACKNOWLEDGED THE BIODIVERISTY IN MĀHIA IS DECLINING**
- THAT MĀHIA IS HOME TO A DIVERSE ECOSYSTEM**
- KAITIAKITANGA IS NEEDED OVER TE TAI AO AND THE CONNECTION OF TE TAI AO TO THE IDENTITY OF OUR PEOPLE**
- WISDOM AND DIRECTION BEING PASSED ON FROM OUR PAKEKE AND LEADERS**
- THE WHENUA IN MĀHIA SUSTAINS EVERYONE ON IT**
- IN THE LAST 100 YEARS OUR PAKEKE HAVE SEEN TE TAI AO DECLINE IN EACH CATCHMENT**



What is in our Freshwater and Taiao Assessment?

THROUGH TE PUNA WAIORA O NUKUTAURUA, WE FOUND IMPACT FROM:

- **INTRODUCED SPECIES & PESTS**
- **INTENSIVE FARMING & GRAZING**
- **EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS TAKING A TOLL ON WHENUA AND NATIVE SPECIES**
- **LARGE SCALE FORESTRY**
- **EXTREME DEFORESTATION & EROSION BECAUSE OF IT**
- **REDIRECTION OF WATERWAYS**
- **HISTORICAL ALTERING OF OUR ROCKY FORESHORE FOR HARBOURS ETC**

**Through surface water monitoring, Schmack data,
eDNA testing, wananga with farmers and wider
community; We know:**

**Our whenua is being devoured
Our river banks are being consumed
& Our moana is left with the aftermath**

**THAT OUR PEOPLE HOLD STRONG CONNECTIONS
WITH MĀHIA AND SEE A “MĀHIA/MAHISIAN WAY OF
REVITILISNG TE TAIAO”**

We've had our challenges..

Te Puna Waiora o Nukutaurua isn't perfect

In developing the plan, the strategy was aimed at both the community and farming groups, where we truly haven't reached the finish line for one group.

In collaborating with Regional Council we hope to achieve Te Mana o Te Wai statements for Rongomaiwahine and her taonga in Māhia.

Rongomaiwahine aims to enhance the Māhia Freshwater Plan through collaborative efforts with the Council, focusing on identifying critical areas in regional planning that require increased protection. By integrating the Māhia Freshwater Plan into broader planning initiatives, we seek to ensure the preservation of our ecosystems and the sustainable management of freshwater and land resources in Māhia.

WE WANT TO BE IN A POSITION TO MAKE DECISIONS FOR TE TAIAO IN MĀHIA BECAUSE WE HAVE SOLUTIONS AND THE ABILITY TO LEAD