

**Date** 13 October 2020, 10.30am

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

**Document:** 2612411

<b>Members</b>	Councillors	C L Littlewood N W Walker M J McDonald D H McIntyre E D Van Der Leden C S Williamson D N MacLeod M P Joyce	Committee Chairperson Committee Deputy Chairperson      ex officio ex officio
<b>Representative Members</b>	Councillors	C Young S Hitchcock G Boyde P Moeahu L Tester B Bigham P Muir	South Taranaki District Council New Plymouth District Council Stratford District Council Iwi Representative Iwi Representative Iwi Representative Federated Farmers Representative
<b>Attending</b>	Councillor Messrs         Miss Messrs	D L Lean S J Ruru M J Nield A D McLay G K Bedford D Harrison C Spurdle S Ellis S Tamarapa P Ledingham T K Davey L Davidson K Holswich M Ritai	Chief Executive Director - Corporate Services Director - Resource Management Director - Environment Quality Director - Operations Planning Manager Environment Services Manager ( <i>part meeting</i> ) Iwi Communications Officer Communications Adviser Communications Adviser Committee Administrator

- Apologies** An apology was received from Councillor M G Davey and an apology for lateness was received from Mr P Muir, Federated Farmers representative.
- Notification of Late items** Mr P Moeahu made the following requests to be added as late items on the agenda. The Councils response is also noted:
- **Mana Whakahono a Rohe decisions** - These decisions are not in the scope of this committee and fall under the full Council.
  - **Review of Delegated Authority Manual** - This will be discussed at the Māori relationships going forward workshop as there was confusion as to whether the request referred to the Delegations Manual or the Committee Terms of Reference. It was noted that a Governance Handbook is being arranged for representative members.
  - **Iwi Consent Processing Capacity** - concerns raised that Iwi are unable to respond to consents in a timely manner as they do not have sufficient capacity. A discussion on this will be held following the meeting in the Māori relationships going forward workshop.

*Mr P Muir arrived at 10.34am*

## 1. Confirmation of Minutes - 1 September 2020

### Resolved

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

- a) takes as read and confirms the minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee Meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 1 September at 10.30am
- b) notes the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on Tuesday 22 September 2020.

McIntyre/McDonald

### Matters arising

It was noted that Mr P Muir zoomed in to the meeting.

## 2. Update on Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020

- 2.1 Mr C Spurdle, Planning Manager spoke to the memorandum providing an update on the approved *Te Mana O Te Taiao – Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy* (ANZBS).
- 2.2 It was requested that a member from DOC attend a further meeting to provide a briefing to the Committee on the NPS – Biodiversity and how it aligns with what TRC are doing through its Key Native Ecosystem programme.

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum entitled Update on the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy 2020 and the attached summary sheet on the Aotearoa New Zealand Biodiversity Strategy.

McDonald/Joyce

### **3. Towards Predator-Free Taranaki Project**

- 3.1 Mr T Shanley, Project Manager Biosecurity, spoke to the memorandum and provided a presentation on the quarterly progress update on the *Taranaki Taku Tūrangā Our Place – Towards Predator-Free Taranaki* Project. The Council is using very modern technology on the project.
- 3.2 The Taranaki Regional Council have engagement with Iwi and maraes in the area throughout Taranaki on this project.

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum *Taranaki Taku Tūrangā 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 Tūrangā Our Place - Towards Predator-Free Taranaki* project.

Van Der Leden/Joyce

### **4. Taranaki Mouna Surrounds Possum Control Update**

- 4.1 Mr D Harrison, Director – Operations, spoke to the memorandum presenting a summary of the Taranaki Regional Council involvement in Pest Control Programme surrounding Taranaki Maunga and answered any questions arising.

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum Taranaki Maunga surrounds possum control update
- b) notes that monitoring of three recent control contracts estimate the residual trap catch index for possums have successfully been reduced to 0.67%, 1.67% and 1.5%, which is below the contract requirement of less than 3%.

Williamson/Walker

### **5. Public Notification of a Proposal to Amend the Pest Management Plan for Taranaki**

- 5.1 Mr C Spurdle, Planning Manager, spoke to the memorandum seeking Members approval to publicly notify a proposal to amend the *Pest Management Plan for Taranaki 2018*.

- 5.2 It was clarified that rats are not included at the moment as the infrastructure costs required to fully target rats would be prohibitive and current trap technology is not quite ready for full landscape scale control.

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum and the attached Proposal;
- b) agrees that the Proposal meets the section 71 content requirements for a proposed regional pest management plan as required by the BSA;
- c) agrees that the Proposal is not inconsistent with the National Policy Direction for Pest Management 2015, other pest management plans on the same organisms, any pathway plan, regional policy statements or plans under the Resource Management Act 1991, or any regulation;
- d) agrees that mustelids are capable of causing a serious adverse and unintended effect in relation to the region;
- e) agrees that the benefits of the Proposal in relation to mustelids outweigh the costs after taking account of the likely consequences inaction or other courses of action;
- f) agrees that, for mustelids, persons who are required to meet directly any or all of the costs of implementing the Proposal –
  - would accrue, as a group, benefits outweighing the costs; or
  - contribute, as a group, to the creation, continuance, or exacerbation of the problems proposed to be resolved by the plan;
- g) agrees that for mustelids, there is likely to be adequate funding for the implementation of the amended Pest Plan for five years;
- h) agrees that each proposed rule would assist in achieving the amended Pest Plan's objective and would not trespass unduly on the rights of individuals;
- i) agrees that the Proposal is not frivolous or vexatious, that it is clear enough to be readily understood, and that Council has not rejected a similar proposal within the last three years;
- j) notes that the Section 71 cost benefit analysis requirements have been incorporated into the Proposal and will be publicly available; and
- k) agrees to publicly notify the Proposal for public submissions on or before 8 November 2020.

McIntyre/Walker

## **6. Wetland Mapping in the Taranaki Region**

- 6.1 Mr C Spurdle, Planning Manager, spoke to the memorandum briefing Members on wetland mapping in the Taranaki region, including requirements pursuant to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) to map wetlands and answered any questions arising.

## **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum entitled Wetland mapping in the Taranaki Region
- b) notes the recent requirements that the Council must undertake under the new policies and regulations of the NPS-FM and NES-F for wetlands
- c) notes and agrees that the Council commission Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research to review and aggregate existing Council data sets to provide a single wetlands layers that meets the requirements of the NPS-FM and NES-F.

Williamson/Van Der Leden

## **7. Hearings with Iwi Commissioners**

- 7.1 Mr A D McLay, Director - Resource Management, spoke to the memorandum informing Members of the Council's hearings, where iwi/hapū were submitters and where there were commissioners with cultural expertise (particularly whether they were from or had good knowledge of the Taranaki area), and the changes that have occurred through time.
- 7.2 It was requested that as commissioners are qualified professionals, the Council considers amendments to the policy around conflicts of interest of Iwi commissioners for hearings to ensure we have the best possible commissioners.
- 7.3 It was felt that the Council should be using iwi commissioners on all hearings.

## **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum *Hearings with Iwi Commissioners*
- b) notes the use of independent hearing commissioners with Maori cultural expertise on plans and consents over the last nine years
- c) notes the Council's decision to not renew elected members' hearing commissioner accreditation and move to the use of independent hearing commissioners

Williamson/Walker

## **8. Opportunities for Iwi Involvement in Freshwater Monitoring**

- 8.1 Mr A D McLay, Director - Resource Management, spoke to the memorandum presenting Members with information regarding freshwater monitoring and the potential for the transfer of powers to iwi authorities. This includes consideration of a recent decision by the Waikato Regional Council to approve the transfer of specified Lake Taupo water quality monitoring functions to a local iwi.
- 8.2 The next meeting for the Mana Whakahono a Rohe is to be held on 21 November 2020. Mr P Moeahu requested an invitation to be part of the Mana Whakahono a Rohe group. As this is a joint council group Mr A D McLay will seek confirmation from the group.

- 8.3 It was noted that the Council should be being proactive in doing some things that would come from the Mana Whakahono a Rohe agreement. The Council is doing this in the planning area.
- 8.4 Following the meeting on 21 November officers would provide an update to the Committee.

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum entitled *Opportunities for Iwi Involvement in freshwater monitoring*
- b) notes that any transfer of powers for freshwater monitoring will be considered as part of the development of a Mana Whakahono a Rohe agreement.

Williamson/Joyce

### **9. State of the Environment Rocky Shore Monitoring Report 2017-2019**

- 9.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director - Environment Quality, spoke to the memorandum presenting an update to the Committee on the latest results of the Council's state of the environment monitoring programme that assesses the ecology of rocky coastal environments. Current and long-term trends are set out for Members' information.
- 9.2 Mr T McElroy, Environmental Scientist – Marine Biology, gave a presentation on innovative drone technology and artificial intelligence analysis aspects of the programme.
- 9.3 Regarding the NPDC Mangati stream sewerage spill, it was noted, that Ms Sarah Mako is involved in the enforcement process. The Council should also have cultural values as part of the consent process.

*Ms S Hitchcock left the meeting at 12.06pm*

- 9.4 The Taranaki Coastal Plan recognises the engagement with and interaction with iwi. The most recent example of engagement work is the Waitara Kaimoana survey. The Council continues to ensure good communication with iwi in this space.
- 9.5 It was requested that the Committee be provided with a table to show all engagement with Iwi.

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum noting the preparation of a report into the state of and trends in regional rocky coastal ecological data for Taranaki, for 2017-2019
- b) receives the report State of the Environment Rocky Shore Monitoring Report 2017-2019 notes the findings of the trend analysis and analysis of state data from the SEM coastal ecological programme
- c) adopts the specific report recommendations therein.

Williamson/MacLeod

**10. SEM Freshwater Physico-chemical Monitoring Programme 2018-2019 report**

- 10.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director – Environment Quality, spoke to the memorandum presenting an update to the Committee on the latest results of the Council’s annual state of the environment monitoring programme for fresh water quality (physicochemical measures). Current and long-term trends are also set out for Members’ information, as are comparisons with various standards and guidelines.

**Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this memorandum noting the preparation of a report on the state of and trends in regional physicochemical water quality data for Taranaki, for 2018-2019 and over the periods 1995-2019 and 2012-2019 respectively, together with information on compliance with the NOF and regional guidelines.
- b) receives the report *Freshwater Physicochemical Programme State of the Environment Monitoring Annual Report 2018-2019 Technical Report 2019-98*
- c) notes the findings of the trend analyses of data from the SEM physicochemical programme
- d) notes the findings of the analysis of water quality state data from the SEM physicochemical programme
- e) adopts the specific recommendations therein.

Van Der Leden/ MacLeod

There being no further business, the Committee Chairperson, Councillor C L Littlewood, declared the meeting of the Policy and Planning Committee closed at 12.27pm.

**Confirmed**

**Policy and Planning**

**Chairperson:** \_\_\_\_\_

**C L Littlewood**

**Tuesday 24 November 2020**