

MEETING NOTES

SUBJECT	Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara meeting notes
WHEN	Monday 20 July 2020, 12.30-3pm
WHERE	GWRC Council Chambers and Zoom
ATTENDEES	Hikitia, Pete, Pat, Quentin (until 1.30pm), Jonny, Zoe, Louise, Gabriel, Sam, Anya, Tui, Roger (from 2.15pm) On Zoom: Ros, Wayne, Sean, Kara (12.30-1pm and 1.30-2pm)
APOLOGIES	Naomi
PROJECT TEAM	Tim, Phill, Glen, Emily O., Kat, Denise, Matt, David, Emily T., Richard, John, Vanessa, Mike, Mark, Al Smaill, Al Cross

Agenda

1. Karakia and welcome
2. Co-chairs' update
3. Committee member recent events and engagement round (*NB: this was not covered on the day*)
4. Te Kāhui Taiao presentation
5. Project team update on process plan and upcoming schedule
6. Close and karakia

Actions

- Committee members to continue to provide feedback on the process to co-chairs, Glen, Tim or Emily.
- Project Team action updates to be provided in advance of future Committee meetings.
- TKT to lead a workshop in August on a Friday or Saturday on the content of their work and integration with the Committee's work. Emily to send a doodle poll with potential dates for the workshop.
- Committee to reply all to email with draft meeting notes with additional feedback on engagement.
- Kara to circulate the "donut" diagram.
- Kara/Tim to circulate details of planting day.

Discussion

Kara opened the meeting with a karakia.

Co-chairs' update

- Small group discussions on issues have been progressing at different rates. Some are ready to develop draft recommendations while others will require more work and are dependent on when other information will be available.
- Committee members to continue to provide feedback on the process to co-chairs, Glen, Tim or Emily.
- The Science subgroup update was provided by Anya over email.
- The updated Comms & Engagement plan was circulated over email.
- Project Team action updates to be provided in advance of future Committee meetings.
- There is a [planting day at Parangarahu Lakes](#) on Sunday 26 July. Committee and Project Team members are encouraged to contact the organisers to request to attend.

Te Kāhui Taiao presentation

Introduced by Kara and Hikitia:

- TKT met for a wananga hosted by Ngāti Toa on Saturday 4 July.
- They worked through the catchment areas to identify values based on cultural sites of significance in Schedule B & Schedule C of the PNRP. They looked for gaps and places for aspirational values, i.e., sites that mana whenua might not be able to use for baptismal purposes and other values currently but they may want to in the future.
- Discussed how to create snapshots of catchment areas. Idea to develop a 'Māori-ometer,' or circular diagram that would assess each area against the Committee's four foundational kawa. A red/amber/green colour coding could be used to indicate the current state. These can be amended and updated with change over time.
- The circular diagram is being reworked from the [doughnut economics model](#) with a Te Ao Māori approach, which looks at values in an integrated, holistic way.
- TKT wants to take a place-based approach and take into account the end-to-end process with mana whenua monitoring and implementation.
- TKT to lead a follow up full-day workshop on the content of their work in August, preferably on a Friday or Saturday. Emily to send a doodle poll with potential dates for the workshop.

Presentation by Vanessa Tipoki from Perception Planning ([see slides](#)):

- Vanessa is a former member of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee and is supporting TKT in developing a mana whenua chapter in the WIP with a mana whenua lens throughout.
- TKT has established a work programme that includes a Mātauranga Māori expert panel (called Te Pae Kaitiaki), development of an evaluation framework and a mana whenua engagement plan.
- The NPS-FM requires that iwi and hapu are involved in freshwater planning and management. TKT is following the following NPS-FM implementation process:
 1. Te Mana o te Wai (TMOTW)
 - a. States that water has intrinsic value and prioritises the health of the environment and water above human health.
 - b. TMOTW is context specific and it is TKT's role to identify what it means within this whaitua.
 2. Freshwater Management Units (FMUs)
 - a. FMUs are about breaking down the catchment to a scale that can be managed.
 - b. The Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee identified 21 catchment areas but this will stretch mana whenua capacity to input into each community.
 - c. TKT looked at the 27 subcatchment areas used by the technical science Expert Panel and discussed how these can be grouped by pristine

- catchments to more degraded catchments, or areas with specific values such as Te Awakairangi.
- d. TKT will take a ki uta ki tai (mountains to sea) approach, which includes coastal values.
3. Mana whenua values in FMUs
 - a. TKT has done a comprehensive stocktake of values.
 - b. The next step is engagement with both iwi, using the subcatchment maps to connect people with the land and waterbodies to draw out additional values.
 - c. Common mana whenua values include mahinga kai – swimming, traditional food gathering, cleansing and baptism. These values keep getting pushed further out to areas that are more difficult to access.
 4. Freshwater issues in FMUs
 - a. These will dovetail with the Committee’s work on issues.
 5. Attributes for values
 - a. Attributed can be measured numerically and in narrative form. Important to include feel, smell and sound.
 6. Freshwater objectives
 - a. Consider how we get the outcome that we need.
 7. Limits and management methods
 - a. Management responses can be generic or tailored to the FMU or issue.
 8. Monitoring
 - a. Aaria will be developing on the evaluation framework with Te Pae Kaitiaki.

Presentation by Mike Grace (see slide):

- In the whakapapa of the NRP, there has been a mana whenua relationship with councils for the past quarter century.
- In the 2007 review of the RPS, mana whenua were asked about the issues of concern to them. They paraphrased the RMA in emphasizing the mana and mauri of water, which is being degraded.
- Through this process, mana whenua identified their sites of significance and the iwi relationship with waterbodies.
- Mana whenua identified three key values in addition to mauri:
 - Kaitiakitanga – mana whenua involved in decision-making to reflect their values
 - Mahinga kai and Māori customary use – including traditional practices and intergenerational knowledge
 - Wāhi tapu – the importance of specific places for spiritual and healing purposes, and day to day use
- Important for the Whaitua Committee to consider how mana whenua values will be monitored and implemented by mana whenua.
- Mike will be bringing this regulatory background information to Small Group meetings on issues.

Questions and feedback from Whaitua Committee members:

- Concerns about implementation and mana whenua lacking support to monitor 21 catchments in the Ruamāhanga. Consider the opportunity to devolve responsibilities to mana whenua.
- What education is needed to understand Māori values? Is there an opportunity for a workshop on marae? Councillors need to push for implementation and there needs to be diversity of representation at GWRC.

- How specific or place-based are values? Are some baseline values? Are there any competing values, e.g., between flood protection and stormwater management?
- Can we decide on FMUs soon? Can we use Kaiwharawhara as a case study?
- We need to explore the costs and areas of priority. This could be a compelling case for Councils to prioritise their work.
- How do we achieve a values-based approach? What values are unique to mana whenua?
- TKT has re-energised engagement in the Whaitua process and the Committee should strongly support their work to help them achieve their aspirations.
- Instead of TKT putting a chapter into the WIP, or integrating their work into the wider work, we should start with the TKT work (including in our report & in terms of process from here) and add to it from the wider work. ie we should change the starting point and flip who is expected to interate wth whom, consistent with our aspiration of bringing to life Te Tiriti in our work.
- The NPS framework is really helpful and TKT has done important foundational work.
- This is a journey for TKT and the Committee to go on together and all are keen to focus on implementation.

Comments from Al Cross – General Manager for the Environment at GWRC

- Honoured the whaitua journey and acknowledged that we are over halfway through the process across the region.
- The mahi of this Whaitua Committee over lockdown was remarkable and the flexibility of in person and on Zoom to enable participation.

Q&A:

- What is the value in a community-led process like Whaitua?
 - Real behavioural and transformational change happens in partnership with the community. The whaitua is engaging with the community in meaningful ways. Previous councils may not have understood the value of the whaitua process but that is changing with the new councillors.
- How advanced is the planning about implementation of recommendations from the previous Whaitua Committees?
 - Skepticism is well founded as GW is behind. The policy team is working through the appeals process and Al has signed off on additional resourcing to support that. Internal work on behaviour change and practice is coming through Mahi Waiora. The CEO is reviewing the catchment and environment group for a restructure to support implementation. Non-regulatory measures could be progressed more quickly.
- In there scope for TKT to meet with Al to discuss the water warriors idea as an outcome for implementation of the WIP?
 - Open to conversations with Whaitua Committee members.

Project team update on process plan and upcoming schedule

Presentation by Tim:

- The process plan presented is a proposal for feedback from the Committee
- This is to be updated following feedback in the meeting and will be shared once completed.
- The detailed version of the steps ahead includes ongoing engagement. The summary version that has been shared shows the work of the Committee and Small Groups.
- Current phase involves bringing together Te Kāhui Taiao, science, social/economic and community information into succinct memos to support Small Group discussions on issues.

The outcome of these may be a brief report with draft recommendations by the end of September.

- The next phase is likely to require a new 'core working group' – Committee members who are committed to doing the detailed work to integrate the knowledge areas and refine recommendations over a series of days, supported by the Project Team. This could include the full Committee or some might trust a smaller group to do this work.
- The core working group will bring draft decisions back to the full Committee before testing them with relevant stakeholders.
- Feedback from consultation will be incorporated, then a draft WIP will go to the full Committee in February for editing in March and finalised before completion.

Feedback and Q&A:

- How does the process plan support a place-based approach?
 - The small groups have touched on place-based analyses and the TKT work will add a lot to place-based thinking for the core working group/Committee.
- How can Committee members manage their time appropriately?
 - The full Committee may only meet for short engagement updates between the more focussed working group sessions. Committee members could have the option to attend working group sessions of interest to play to their strengths.
 - Important to make it really flexible and have Committee meetings for everyone to attend.
- Is the Project Team going to distill the recommendations from the previous WIPs?
 - Rather than summarising the full WIP, relevant recommendations will be included in the issue-based memos.
- How will the Waitaha Committee integrate with TKT?
 - There will be a TKT workshop in August. Mike is supporting current regulatory commitments from GW in the issue-based memos. A place-based approach will support integration. Committee to start with what TKT wants and see what they can add to it.
- Will we have enough time for consultation and engagement?
 - Engagement is ongoing throughout the process. The consultation in November/December will be about sense-checking recommendations with community groups, partners and stakeholders.
 - November/December is a challenging time for consultation over the holiday period. This heightens the importance of starting engagement now.
 - Engagement plan should include a list of the contentious recommendations, who we need to consult with and how we'll do it.
 - The Committee needs to know what we're testing and workshop the content with TKT to make it more meaningful.
- Committee to reply all to email with draft meeting notes with additional feedback on engagement.

Gabriel closed the meeting with a karakia.