

Report 07.109
28 February 2007
File: E/06/21/02

**Minutes of the Ara Tahi meeting held in the Council Chamber,
Regional Council Centre, 142 Wakefield Street Wellington, on
Tuesday, 27 February 2007, at 10.06 am**

Present

Rangitaane o Wairarapa

Alma Mihaere, Horipo Rimene

Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa

Thomas Paku, Charles Morunga, Peter Flynn

Ngati Raukawa

Rupene Waaka, Te Waari Carkeek

Te Ati Awa ki Whakarongotai

Jack Rikihana

Ngati Toa Rangatira

Graeme Hastilow, Te Akapikirangi Arthur

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Cr Ian Buchanan, Cr Chris Turver

Officers Present

Jane Bradbury, Jason Kerehi, Francis Ryan, Murray McLea, Tami Woods.

Procedural Items

1. Karakia

Alma Mihaere offered the karakia.

2. Mihimihi

Jack Rikihana offered the mihimihi.

3. Apologies

Resolved

(Rupene Waaka/Graeme Hastilow)

That the apologies from Danny Mullen (Te Rūnanga o Atiawa ki Whakarongotai Inc.) for absence be confirmed.

4. Confirmation of Minutes

Report 06.731

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Resolved

(Rupene Waaka/Alma Mihaere)

That the minutes of the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 6 December 2006 be confirmed.

With regard to item 10 of the minutes (General Business – iwi management plans), Greater Wellington's Chairman advised that the matter of the request from Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui that Greater Wellington provide further funding to assist the iwi to develop the next level of detail of its iwi management plan had been the subject of much discussion between him, Jane Bradbury (Divisional Manager, Corporate and Strategy) and Teri Puketapu. While Greater Wellington had provided significant resources to assist Taranaki Whanui with the development of its iwi development plan, the Council did not consider that further funding to assist the development of five detailed plans was warranted.

The Greater Wellington Chairman expressed his personal view that a mechanism needs to be found whereby iwi management plans can be provided with more status in the planning process than is currently the case. He indicated his preference for all iwi to have iwi management plans in place, enabling those plans to play a significant role in all Greater Wellington planning processes. He considered that this would be a long-term process.

The Greater Wellington Chairman advised that Greater Wellington would not put significant funds towards the development of iwi management plans until there is full agreement on the way forward.

Matters for Consideration

5. Regional Policy Statement Review (oral report)

Tami Woods, Policy Advisor – Environmental Policy provided an oral update on progress with the review of the Regional Policy Statement. She advised that two workstreams were being advanced - regionally significant issues, and issues that iwi authorities consider should be advanced. The second workstream is focused on four key issues:

1. iwi involvement in resource management decision-making
2. loss of mauri from natural resources
3. access to mahinga kai for cultural purposes
4. cultural heritage.

Tami Woods advised that information gained from the 13 February Ara Tahi workshop has been fed into the second workstream and would influence the objectives, policies and methods document, which would be shortly circulated to Ara Tahi members for comment.

The Greater Wellington Chairman advised that while the current Regional Policy Statement has one specific section relating to iwi, references to iwi would be integrated throughout the new document.

Cr Turver advised that iwi input into the development of the Regional Policy Statement is intended to ensure that the Regional Policy Statement is more relevant to iwi.

Te Akapikirangi Arthur commented that the current process provides an opportunity for iwi to have a significant input into the Regional Policy Statement, and that there is a need for Māori and Greater Wellington visions to be in harmony.

Thomas Paku inquired about what would happen about matters identified by Ara Tahi that fall outside the current process. Tami Woods advised that issues such as iwi involvement in decision-making could be explored further.

Resolved that:

(Alma Mihaere/Graeme Hastilow)

(1) The oral report be received.

6. Framework for instream flow assessment in the Wellington region

Murray McLea, Acting Manager – Environmental Policy, spoke to this report. He tabled a document “Framework for Instream Flow assessment in the Wellington Region”, advising that this is a working document to be developed in consultation with stakeholders, including iwi, before its eventual consideration by Council.

Mr McLea advised that it is proposed that the assessment framework would initially be tested in two Wairarapa waterways, with engagement with iwi at each step of the process initially.

Peter Flynn asked what consideration has been given to the status of traditional Māori indicators, and the extent to which iwi would be consulted on the two identified Wairarapa options. Murray McLea advised that there would be discussions with the Wairarapa iwi regarding the initial selection of Wairarapa rivers for assessment.

Report 07.62

File: ENV/05/04/19

Resolved that Ara Tahi:

(Rupene Waaka/Alma Mihaere)

- (1) *Receives the report.*
- (2) *Notes the contents of the report.*

7. Ara Tahi Chair – background paper

Jason Kerehi, Maori Policy Advisor presented this report. He noted the existing agreed arrangements regarding the rotation and tenure of the Chair. Mr Kerehi also noted the additional responsibilities that Ara Tahi had allocated to its Chair over time.

Te Akapikirangi Arthur advised that the issue of aligning the tenure of the Ara Tahi Chair to the triennial term of the Council had been discussed when he was Chair and that there had been general agreement at that time that this was appropriate, given the time it took for a Chair to build relationships with Greater Wellington and to develop an understanding of the role of the Ara Tahi Chair.

Rupene Waaka considered that additional remuneration should be provided for the Ara Tahi Chair. Councillor Turver noted that Ara Tahi is not a standing committee of Council, but noted that it had increasing advisory responsibilities.

Ara Tahi agreed that decisions on the tenure and appointment of the Ara Tahi Chair should be deferred until the next Ara Tahi meeting, and that these matters would be considered at the Hui a Ara Tahi.

Report 07.43

File: X/16/07/01

Resolved that Ara Tahi:

(Jack Rikihana/Te Akapikirangi Arthur)

- (1) *Receives the report.*
- (2) *Notes the content of the report.*
- (3) *Defers a decision on the tenure of the Chair and the rotational process until its next meeting; and*
- (4) *Defers a decision until its next meeting on the next Chair of Ara Tahi.*

8. Report – Policy Advisor Maori – February 2007

Jason Kerehi spoke to his report, noting that the new iwi capacity funding and reporting arrangements were working well, and that those iwi with historic accruals have been contacted.

Rupene Waaka asked whether the date of the August Ara Tahi meeting could be moved to 15 August. Jason Kerehi advised that he would ascertain whether the Council Chamber would be available on that date and report back to the next Ara Tahi meeting.

Te Akapikirangi Arthur suggested that a welcome for Francis Ryan and Kiri Parata should be organised for the earliest convenient Ara Tahi meeting.

Report 07.42

File: X/16/07/01

Resolved that Ara Tahi

(Rupene Waaka/Graeme Hastilow)

- (1) *Receives the report.*
- (2) *Notes the contents of the report.*

9. General Business

There was discussion about the date and venue for the next Hui a Ara Tahi. It was agreed that two days should be allocated for this purpose, with 12 and 13 April being the preferred dates. Jason Kerehi was asked to discuss venue options (Matiu/Somes Island or Stella Maris) with Wellington Tents.

It was agreed that the Hui a Ara Tahi should focus on:

- Environmental monitoring
- Funding arrangements
- Tenure and appointment of Ara Tahi chair
- Iwi management plans
- Water.

Cr Turver thanked Ara Tahi for its letter of sympathy following the recent death of his father.

The meeting concluded at 12.30 pm.

Alma Mihaere offered the closing karakia.

Jack Rikihana

Chairperson

Date: