

Report 07.577
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File E/06/21/03

Committee Council
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Ara Tahi Meeting on 15 August 2007

1. Purpose

To report to Council the proceedings of the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 15 August 2007.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background and Comment

3.1 Presentation on Landcare Committee

Cr Laidlaw spoke on the role and current activities of the Landcare Committee, as well as outlining future activities. Ara Tahi raised questions about flood protection and restoration work in Otaki and Waikanae in particular. The health of waterways, including the Waiwhetu, was queried and it was noted that this is a significant issue for iwi. Ara Tahi expressed interest in being involved in any proposed name changes, for example Battle Hill. It might be appropriate to rename this area. The proposed joint management of Whitireia is supported by iwi.

Cr Laidlaw advised Ara Tahi that Council had recommended a new committee structure that would align committees with divisional roles rather than geographical boundaries. Thus Landcare; and Rural Services and Wairarapa Committees would be replaced by Water Supply, Parks and Forests; and Wairarapa and Catchment Management Committees.

3.2 Presentation on Regional Land Transport Committee and Strategy

Cr McDavitt gave an overview of the role of the Regional Land Transport Committee and Strategy and highlighted the appointment of the Committee's cultural representative from Ara Tahi.

It was raised that there needed to be better communication of issues from these committees to the Ara Tahi table. This was the responsibility of staff and iwi representatives.

3.3 Concessions Policy for Greater Wellington's Parks and Forests and Review of Bylaws of Greater Wellington's Parks and Forests

Murray Waititi highlighted the two policies being reviewed. It was agreed that Ara Tahi would engage more fully with Greater Wellington through a workshop on these issues.

3.4 Regional Policy Statement and Whanau Ora Health Impact

Tami Woods gave an update on the changes to the Regional Policy Statement timeframe before being joined by Dr Stephen Palmer, Dr Melissa McLeod and Murdoch Pahi from Regional Public Health. Ara Tahi is supportive of the Health Impact Assessment of the Regional Policy Statement and will focus more in depth on this matter at the next Iwi Technical Workshop on 12 September.

3.5 Report Māori Policy Advisor

Positive feedback was received by Ara Tahi members and guests from the last Iwi Technical Workshop. Issues covered were the Wellington Regional Settlement Strategy (WRSS), Aquaculture and the Foreshore and Seabed Act. A further workshop is being organised by the Department of Labour for Ara Tahi on the WRSS. A series of hui were held around the region with iwi as an opportunity to introduce the new Iwi Liaison Officer and discuss a range of issues including building the capacity of iwi, enabling fuller engagement in the work of Greater Wellington.

4. Communication

There are no matters in this report requiring further communication.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

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Chairman