



Report 09.297
Date 26 May 2009
File X/16/07/01

Committee Council
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Iwi project proposals for 2009/10

1. Purpose

For Council to consider four iwi project proposals for 2009/10.

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

Each year, iwi authorities of the Wellington region are invited to put forward applications for funding under the Council's iwi project fund. With effect from 2008/09 the decision on each proposal rests with Council.

Applications are assessed by officers, utilising the following guidelines applying to the funding of iwi projects:

1. It assist projects that iwi initiate.
2. To give priority to projects that allow the Council to meet its obligations under the Resource Management Act 1991 in relation to Māori and allow for good environmental outcomes.
3. To give priority to projects that are consistent with the Regional Policy Statement and regional plans.
4. To give priority to projects that improve the relationship between the Council and iwi.
5. To give priority to projects that allow iwi to practice tino rangitiratanga.
6. To give priority to projects that already have financial support from other agencies.

4. Applications for 2009/10

Four applications have been received for 2009/10 iwi project funding. These applications seek funding totalling \$70,300, which falls within the \$80,000 budget included in the Proposed 10-Year Plan 2009-19.

The following table provides a brief outline of each application, including the amount recommended by officers for approval.

Applicant	Project proposal	Amount applied for (GST excl.)	Amount recommended by Officers for approval
Ara Tahī (collective proposal)	Development of an Ara Tahī freshwater iwi management plan for the Wellington region	\$19,600	\$19,600
Kahungunu ki Wairarapa	Geographic Information System (GIS) recording of waahi tapu, development of an iwi management plan for sites of significance and development of a heritage proposal for the registration of Palliser Bay as a National Heritage Area.	\$18,400	\$18,400
Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa (joint iwi proposal)	To provide for iwi engagement in the management process and operational planning for the restoration and development of Wairarapa Moana wetlands for the 2009/10 year.	\$24,000	\$12,000
Atiawa ki Whakarongotai	To undertake a botanical research project and construct a waharoa (entrance gateway/shelter) at the marae boundary.	\$8,300	\$700
TOTAL		\$70,300	\$50,700

Further details of each project and the assessment undertaken by Officers are contained in **Attachment 1**.

5. Communication

The iwi applicants will be informed of the Council's decisions following the Council's adoption of the 10-Year Plan 2009-19.

6. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Approves funding of \$19,600 in 2009/10 for Ara Tahi's development of an Ara Tahi iwi freshwater management plan for the Wellington region.***
4. ***Approves funding of \$18,400 in 2009/10 to enable Kahungunu ki Wairarapa to undertake GIS recording of waahu tapu, develop an iwi management plan for sites of significance and develop a heritage proposal for the registration of Palliser Bay as a National Heritage Area.***
5. ***Approves funding of \$12,000 in 2009/10 to provide for Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa engagement in the management process and operational planning for the restoration and development of the Wairarapa Moana wetlands.***
6. ***Approves funding of \$700 in 2009/10 to assist Atiawa ki Whakarongotai to undertake a botanical research project on plant species existing in the grounds of Whakarongotai marae.***

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Attachment 1: Outline and assessment of iwi project proposals for 2009/10

Outline and Assessment of iwi project proposals for 2009/10

Project 1: Ara Tahi (collective iwi proposal)

Project: Development, publication and launch of Ara Tahi Iwi Management Plan for Freshwater

Background:

Ara Tahi, at its meeting on 11 February 2009, approved the submission of a proposal on behalf of the collective iwi authorities of the Wellington region to develop a fresh water iwi management plan for the region. The project will collate shared iwi perspectives on all aspects of freshwater management and will be published as an iwi management plan document and guide for iwi themselves and a range of central, regional and local government agencies.

Project Timeline:

1 July 2009 – 30 June 2010

Project Milestones:

Phase 1 – collating material from iwi technical workshops, meeting with iwi authorities and drafting of the plan.

Phase 2 – working with Ara Tahi to finalise the plan.

Phase 3 – launch of the plan.

Project Outcomes:

- Develop strategy and timeline for implementation of plan through consultation hui with individual iwi / stakeholders and establish an agreed vision statement
- Research, review and collate relevant documentation
- Write, edit and publish Ara Tahi Iwi Management Plan for Freshwater. Align plan with Regional Water Strategy
- Arrange and facilitate launch of Ara Tahi Iwi Management Plan for Freshwater.

Project Cost:

\$19,600

Iwi Project Criteria:

The project has been assessed as meeting the following iwi project criteria (as outlined above): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Officer Comment:

Development of an Ara Tahī Iwi Management Plan for Freshwater was identified as a priority at the 2008 Hui a Ara Tahī annual planning workshop. The work had originated from an Ara Tahī freshwater working party, which identified that Ara Tahī had a significant opportunity to provide a regional iwi perspective on freshwater management, supporting regional and territorial authorities.

Ara Tahī technical workshops were used to identify terms of reference and base-line information supporting a regional iwi perspective on freshwater. It is significant that Ara Tahī has made a deliberate effort to look beyond distinct iwi perspectives and priorities to agree on matters that it believes will add value to regional water governance and management. This is a timely initiative that will make a valuable contribution to the ongoing review and development of water management, allocation and conservation in the region.

Recommendation:

That this proposal is approved.

Project 2: Kahungunu ki Wairarapa

Project – Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Stage 2 project.

Background: GIS Stage 1:

The GIS Stage 2 application builds on the establishment of a GIS system supported through an iwi project partially funded by Greater Wellington in 2008/09.

Completed stage one objectives include:

- purchase of a suitable computer;
- purchasing and installation of software;
- installation of data from Greater Wellington and Wairarapa ki Tararua
- Waitangi Tribunal claim mapping;
- provision of training.

GIS Stage 2:

The application seeks to actively protect waahi tapu in Wairarapa by registering them on district plans. This will involve:

1. Site identification
2. Development of an iwi management plan for the protection of sites of significance
3. Development of a heritage proposal for the registration of Palliser Bay as a National Heritage Area.

Project Timeline:

1 July 2009 – 30 June 2010

Project Milestones:

- 3 staff trained – 30 October 2009
- Sites reviewed and site list data logged on GIS system -31 December 2009
- Iwi management plan completed and lodged with territorial authorities – 30 April 2010
- National Heritage Proposal developed – through to 31 July 2010.

Project Outcomes:

The project outcomes Kahungunu ki Wairarapa is looking to achieve are:

- improved protection for Kahungunu ki Wairarapa sites of significance
- active recognition and protection by territorial authorities, Greater Wellington and Historic Places Trust through an iwi heritage management plan
- National heritage area(s) proposal completed.

Project Cost:

\$18,400

Iwi Project Criteria:

The project has been assessed as meeting the following iwi project criteria (as outlined above): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Officer Comment:

This project is a logical progression from the GIS Stage One project and enables Kahungunu ki Wairarapa to implement their GIS capability. Kahungunu ki Wairarapa has an opportunity to enhance the protection of Wairarapa indigenous heritage through the development of an iwi management plan. This is a timely initiative that will support the identification of heritage sites to be included in district plans, required through Policy 20 in the proposed RPS.

Recommendation:

That this proposal is approved.

Project 3: Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa (joint iwi proposal)

Project: Establishment phase of iwi involvement in the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Management Committee

Background: This is a joint application by Rangitāne o Wairarapa and Kahungunu ki Wairarapa. It is the first joint Wairarapa iwi application to Greater Wellington.

The purpose of the project is to provide for iwi engagement in the management process and operational planning for the restoration and development of Wairarapa Moana Wetlands for the 2009/10 financial year.

The project allows for iwi engagement in the management committee in its initial phase. It ensures commitment to the process and provides iwi with the resources to attend meetings and play an active role in the decision making and responsibilities of the committee. The project will develop recommendations on future iwi engagement and options for resourcing.

Project Timeline:

1 July 2009 – 30 June 2010

Project Outcomes:

The project outcomes that Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitāne o Wairarapa are looking to achieve are:

- Shared goals and decision making
- Working in partnership
- Ability for to exercise kaitiakitanga in relation to Wairarapa Moana.

Project Cost:

\$24,000

Iwi Project Criteria:

The project has been assessed as meeting the following iwi project criteria (as outlined above): 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6.

Officer Comment:

The Wairarapa Moana Wetland Park establishment project has now developed governance, management and operational capacity. The significance of Wairarapa Moana to Wairarapa Māori and the likelihood that the settlement process will return ownership of the lake beds to them has required that iwi are fully represented in the park development process. Iwi participation on the Wairarapa Moana management committee has been constrained by lack of iwi capacity and capability. This project will ensure that iwi have sufficient resource to participate.

A concern of officers regarding this proposal is the proposed daily charge-out rate of \$1000 (GST excl) for input of each iwi into the management board's process on the basis of one day per month for twelve months. The proposed charge-out rate is inclusive of mileage, preparation time and resources provided by iwi. Officers are concerned that while an input of one day per month is likely to be realistic, the proposed daily rate is very high when compared with the meeting fee payable to appointed members of committees (\$195 per meeting, exclusive of travel allowance) and the fees payable to public sector governance and management boards under Cabinet Office guidelines, for which fees range from \$140 for a member of a low level body to \$920 per day for the Chairperson of a Royal Commission, inclusive of preparation time.

The proposal does not provide for Greater Wellington to have a role in appointing the iwi representatives on the management committee.

Officers have raised this matter with the applicants, who after further consideration, have decided to make no change to their application. Based on a consideration of fairness to ratepayers, iwi and persons appointed to the Council's committees and advisory groups, officers consider that a daily rate of \$500 inclusive of mileage, preparation time and resources would be more appropriately recognise each iwi's contribution to the management committee. \$500 for a full eight hour day equates to \$62.50 per hour, which approximates the fee payable (\$68 per hour) for a Councillor sitting as a member of a resource consent hearings panel.

Recommendation:

That this proposal be approved, subject to a daily rate of \$500 (GST excl) on the basis of one day per month for twelve months, for each iwi's participation on the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Management Committee.

Project 4: Atiawa ki Whakarongotai

Project – Waharoa and Botanical Research Project, Whakarongotai marae

Background

Whakarongotai marae is located in the township of Waikanae. The marae is a historical and significant feature of the township and its people. It is a functioning marae and is used on a regular basis for many cultural and community hui and functions. Surrounding the buildings are grounds planted in native trees and plants.

The green mistletoe, *Ileostylus micranthus*, has been identified in the marae grounds. It is regarded as a regionally threatened species, with most populations to be found in the Wairarapa. Atiawa ki Whakarongotai proposes to undertake a botanical research project into the history and traditions associated with plantings in the grounds of the marae.

The applicant also seeks funding for the cost of the construction of a waharoa (entrance gateway) onto Whakarongotai marae. It would contribute project sponsorship, kaumātua and whanau time to the project, which it estimates to have a value of \$1200.

Project timeline

16 weeks from Sept 2009 – Jan 2010

Project milestones

The project will be developed in three phases.

- Phase 1 – Establish project goals, identify key participants and their roles, research plant species, develop site map
- Phase 2 – Interview kaumātua for historical references, eradicate pests, workshops to assess research and kōrero
- Phase 3 – Develop research and decide on presentation within waharoa structure, build waharoa; bless and open waharoa.

Project outcomes

- A site map listing the species on the marae and surrounding area
- A report on traditional and historical accounts of plantings
- Research and development on the successful propagation of the native mistletoe
- The establishment of a waharoa.

Project cost

\$8,300

Iwi Project Criteria

The project has been assessed as meeting the following iwi project criteria (as outlined above): 1, 2 (for botanical research project), 3 (for botanical research project), 4 (for botanical research project), 5 and 6.

Officer Comment

Officers consider that the botanical research project fits well with the iwi project criteria. This element of the proposal is estimated at \$700.

In terms of the proposed construction of a waharoa (estimated cost to GW of \$7600), officers have two concerns. First, project funding has not previously been approved by Greater Wellington for the construction of marae facilities. Some funding has been approved for fencing on the boundaries of marae to protect regenerating areas, but not for structures that have no clear environmental benefit. Secondly, there are alternative sources of funding available for this type of project. In particular, the Lottery Marae Heritage and Facilities Fund provides funding for the capital works costs for the conservation, restoration and development of marae facilities, including tangata whenua and manuhiri shelters.

Officers have suggested to Atiawa ki Whakarongotai that it consider exploring alternative sources of funding for the waharoa. Atiawa ki Whakarongotai has decided to pursue its application for Greater Wellington iwi project funding to meet the full cost of construction.

Recommendation

That the botanical research project component of the proposal is approved, and that the waharoa component of the proposal is declined.