

# Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua (catchment) Committee: 10 key points

## 1. What is a whaitua?

- Whaitua means “designated area” in Te Reo Māori. The Regional Plan uses the word “whaitua” to describe a catchment or sub-catchment managed as an integrated system. In this case, the Porirua catchment, including Te Awarua o Porirua Harbour, is the “whaitua” that will be managed as an integrated system.

## 2. Why establish whaitua committees?

- A whaitua committee is a group of local iwi, officials and community members who represent the different views and values which make up the whaitua area.
- Through a collaborative process whaitua committees will develop recommendations for land and water management, specific to local needs and values within their whaitua/catchment area.
- Each whaitua committee will also, over time, act as a conduit for the better integration of activities aimed at managing land and water resources within their whaitua/catchment area.
- The establishment of whaitua committees is a move to engage in community collaborative decision making to better manage our natural resources. This is in line with a new national approach being taken by central government.

## 3. Partnership

- Greater Wellington Regional Council will develop and run the whaitua process in partnership with tangata whenua. Tangata whenua will determine appropriate tangata whenua representation and how the whaitua will be supported in kawa, tikanga and matauranga māori (process, practice and traditional knowledge).

## 4. What is a WIP?

- Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee will make recommendations to Greater Wellington Regional Council through a Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP). This WIP will contain recommendations, strategies and actions which will inform plan change processes and form a programme of work to achieve the community’s objectives for water quality and quantity within the whaitua catchment.

## 5. Who are we looking for?

- Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee will be made up of around seven community members, as well as representatives from Greater Wellington Regional Council, tangata whenua, and local district councils.
- The community members will be local leaders, with the skills to work in a collaborative environment. The community members will not be on the Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee to represent a particular organisation or interest group. Rather, they will be people who have the respect of, and standing within, the community who will be able to take part in, and communicate, the whaitua process and progress competently.

## 6. Time commitment

- It is anticipated that Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee will have a total of 10 to 12 engagements per year, including meetings, workshop, fieldtrips and community events.
- Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee will exist for the duration of the development and completion of a WIP (Whaitua Implementation Programme) document. At this stage, we would estimate a 2 year term.

## 7. Remuneration

- Each Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee member will be paid an annual honorarium of \$5,000 plus expenses. The Whaitua Committee Chairperson will be paid an annual honorarium of \$8,000 plus expenses.

## 8. Selection of community members

- The application period for community members of Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee will be from 1 September – 31 October 2014.
- Following the close of the application period, shortlisted applicants will go through an assessment process which may involve a short presentation and/or a question and answer session.

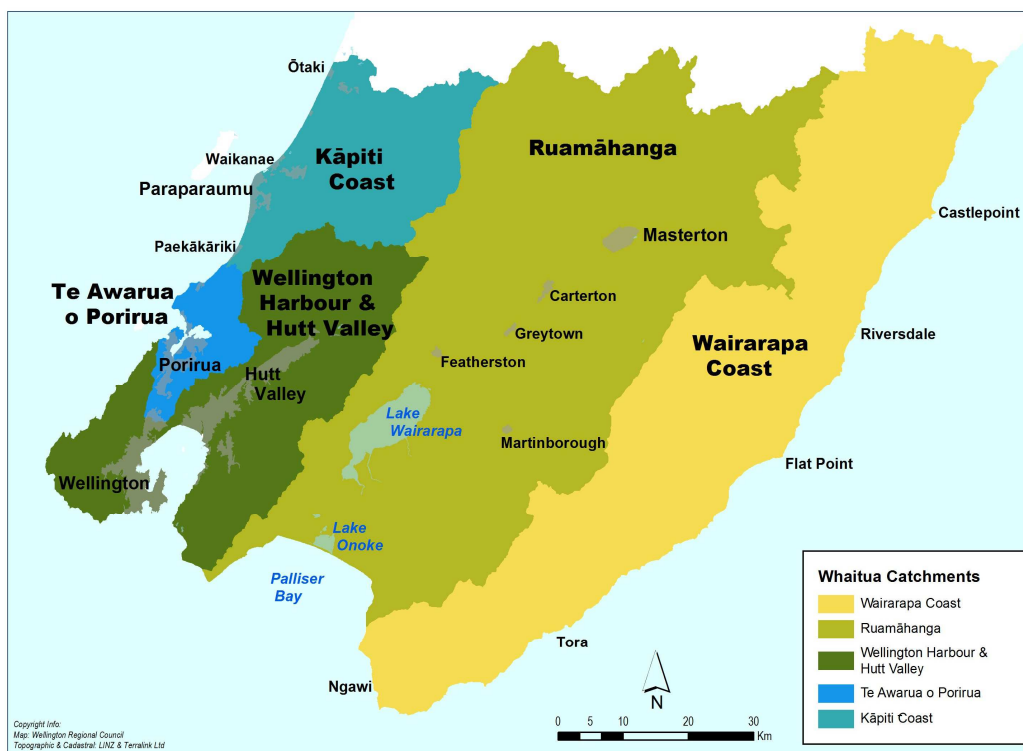
## 9. How does this fit with the Porirua Harbour Catchment Strategy and Action Plan?

- The Porirua Harbour Strategy and Action Plan contains the overarching vision for the harbour and catchment. The WIP will identify regulatory provisions that will achieve this vision
- The Action Plan contains non-regulatory actions. The WIP may recommend additional non-regulatory actions to complement those already in the Action Plan.

## 10. Want extra information?

- See our website or contact Alastair Smaill, Whaitua Project Manager, on 0800 496 734 or [alastair.smaill@gw.govt.nz](mailto:alastair.smaill@gw.govt.nz)
- <http://www.gw.govt.nz/whaitua-committees/>

## Map of whaitua catchments



## Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee establishment

Key dates	
11 September 2014	Te Awarua o Porirua information event, Pataka Art + Museum, 6pm
11 September 2014	Membership application period opens
31 October 2014	Membership application period closes
Early November 2014	Interviews for community membership
December 2014	Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee membership approved by Wellington Regional Council
February 2015	Te Awarua o Porirua Whaitua Committee workshops and meetings begin