

Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee – Meeting 5 Notes

Monday 10 June 2019
9:15am-4:00pm
Greater Wellington Regional Council Chambers, Wellington

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Attendees

Te Whanganui-a-Tara Whaitua Committee:

Louise Askin, Roger Blakeley, Quentin Duthie (via Zoom), Peter Gilberd, Wayne Guppy (until midday), Tui Lewis (from midday), Morrie Love, Peter Matcham, Zoe Ogilvie, Jonny Osborne, Anya Pollock, Kara Puketapu-Dentice, Hikitia Ropata (from midday), Naomi Solomon, Paul Swain, Pat van Berkel

Apologies: Gabriel Tupou

Project Team:

Tim Sharp, Phill Barker, Emily Osborne, Anna Martin, Richard Sheild, Kat Banyard, Jon Gabites, Shane Parata, Brent King (GWRC), Onur Oktem (WCC), David Burt (HCC), James McKibben (UHCC), Angela Penfold (WWL), Grace Katene (Ngāti Toa), Pekaira Jude Rei (PNBST)

Apologies: Mark Heath, Arpan Mukherjee, Sharyn Westlake, Helen Bolton, Tamahau Rowe

Action points

Project Team:

- Emily to circulate the final Meeting 4 notes.
- Prepare a paper on the Committee's obligations to publish information and meeting records.
- Add areas of work such as communications and engagement, policy, and science to the project plan diagram.
- Choose a few key sites that are representative of issues for Committee field trips.
- Once scoping statement for subgroups has been confirmed, need to decide how best to coordinate and connect subgroups.
- Make requested changes to the policy framework diagram.

Committee:

- Policy subgroup to draft Committee principles (as named in the policy diagram).
- Policy subgroup to gather information to complete tables in the analytical policy framework.
- Policy subgroup to develop a systems map to understand overall view of influences and drivers.
- Project Team and Communications and Engagement Subgroup to develop plan and ask community about its vision before further developing the vision document.
- Communications and Engagement Subgroup to agree on logo and develop collateral to start raising awareness of whaitua in the community.
- Communications and Engagement Subgroup to send FAQs, PowerPoint, and community groups register to the Committee.
- Committee to notify Jon if they plan to attend the Matariki event, Ahi Kā, on Friday 21 June.
- Communications and Engagement Subgroup to discuss social media channels for the Committee.
- Communications and Engagement Subgroup to update the key messages document based on the Committee's discussion.
- Co-Chairs to present at a future Environment Committee meeting.

Actions in progress:

- Request for the foundational framework to include a map of the whaitua so the boundaries can be identified and a creative graphic to illustrate connections.
- Committee members to inform Emily which subgroups they would like to serve on.
- Kara to draft a scoping statement for the communications and engagement, policy, and science subgroups.
- Kara to gain input from mana whenua advisors on the Project Team to finalise wording in the foundational framework document.

Decisions reached

- Agreed to the project plan and 2019 meeting schedule presented by the Project Team.
 - Agreement to publish meeting minutes on the GW website.
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Meeting notes

Session 1: Open meeting

Morrie opened the meeting with a karakia and acknowledged the whanau of Bruce Stewart after the Tapu Te Ranga Marae burned down over the weekend. The marae has a [give a little](#) page for those interested in supporting.

Emily will circulate the final Meeting 4 notes. Committee members to send their comments and changes on meeting notes to Emily prior to the next meeting as a standard protocol.

Co-Chairs report – [see paper](#):

- The co-Chairs will prepare a high level summary to be sent out with the papers prior to each meeting and presented at the start of each meeting.
- Meeting 5 is one fourth of the way through the process. The Committee has been establishing how it will operate and the frameworks that will support it. Beyond completing the WIP, the Committee has identified a key responsibility to influence decision-makers in water issues.
- Subgroup work to align with foundational framework and key decisions to come back to the full Committee.
- Suggestion to have a session at each meeting for any other business or an opportunity for Committee members to share reflections in a roundtable discussion.

Public meeting records:

- Discussion about how meeting notes are recorded and whether to make them publicly available on the website.
 - Committee is a Council advisory board and not a Council committee, thus there is no requirement to make records public.
 - All Committee records are, however, subject to Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 including emails.
 - Other Whaitua Committees have published meeting materials and records online.
 - Good to be as transparent as possible with the community and provide opportunity for engagement.
 - Important for the Committee to be able to have free and frank discussions while formulating ideas and recognise that positions can change over time.
 - Comfortable with the current level of detail in meeting notes, which do not attribute discussion points to people. Reminder of Chatham House Rule.
 - Disagreement to be recorded as a range of opinions that need to be resolved.
 - Acknowledgement that some Committee discussions will be on topics with a high degree of public interest, e.g., water metering and water allocation.
- Request for Project Team to prepare a paper on the Committee's obligations to publish information and meeting records.
- Agreement to publish meeting minutes on the GW website.

Session 2: Project plan

Tim Sharp (Whaitua Programme Manager, GWRC)

The high level project plan and 2019 meeting schedule was presented to the Committee. The Committee agreed to the project plan with the discussion points included below and

requested that the project plan include areas of work such as communications and engagement, policy, and science.

Site visits:

- Proposed meeting schedule from July to November suggest thematic place-based meetings and field trips.
- Discussion about field trips, which are a valuable learning tool but also time consuming. Option to schedule field trips outside of meeting dates, weekend activities could be an opportunity to invite the public for engagement. If not everyone on the Committee attends, then it takes time to report back to others.
- Project Team to identify key representative sites. The Seaview Wastewater Treatment plant, Waiwhetu Stream, Hutt River estuary, and the intake site at Kaitoke Regional Park were suggested.
- Some topics may need to be presented by issue rather than place, e.g., urban wastewater infrastructure, climate change.

Subgroup work:

- Discussion and questions on technical science to be put to the science subgroup, which is yet to be established.
- Economic issues, including the costs of achieving recommendations, how much ratepayers would have to pay, investment, etc. could be discussed as part of the policy subgroup. Important to highlight the cost of not making improvements to the system. Wellington Water assessing costs to fix pipes.
- Project Team to consider how the subgroups can weave together.

Session 3: Consensus decision-making workshop

Phill Barker (Policy Advisor, GWRC) and Ra Smith – [see presentation](#)

This workshop was requested at Meeting 4 to discuss how to work through difficult decisions and what consensus means to the Committee. Ra Smith was invited to speak to the Committee as an advisor in the Wairarapa, a member of the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee, and a specialist in tikanga models for collaboration.

High trust model:

- Importance of trust with community and government.
- Most political situations try to solve a problem and address issues when something goes wrong whereas asset thinking is strengths based.
- High trust involves holding ambiguity in an iterative process, i.e., not making decisions in isolation but within context of other issues. Systems thinking looks at the whole, e.g., ecosystem health is assessed holistically.
- Recommended to make final decisions at the end of the process rather than throughout as positions can change over time.
- Need to balance all values in a community and reflect the identity of people.
- The NPSFM requires a holistic and integrated response supporting the provision of Māori values.¹
- Focus on social investment where people take collective responsibility, consider Wellington's connection to water and why people should care, more effective when people are working together.

¹ NPSFM Objective AA1: "... values identified through engagement and discussion with the community, including tangata whenua, must inform the setting of freshwater objectives and limits."

- Despite changes in government, a sustainable and enduring path can be created with communities. Confidence goes beyond regulation.
- Pōwhiri is an example of two sides with different positions being plaited together. In kai korero, good speakers lead strong rather than weak conversations.
- Several examples of weaving in Maori:
 - Rangatira – could mean a chief that weaves together an agile group of people to meet challenges
 - Kairangi – weaving of winds, researcher to gain a higher basket of knowledge
 - Rangatahi – fishing nets that are woven around the spine
 - Hine-te-iwaiwa – goddess of weaving, female way of thinking
- Ra impressed that the Committee is having these discussions early in the process and taking ownership of the issues (where Ruamāhanga took two years to reach a similar place) and advised Committee members to stand behind each other.

Committee discussion:

- Question raised about how to bring developers into conversation. Tim responded that applications were open to all to join the Committee, and that developers were made aware but none applied. Committee can invite developers to speak or could meet at development sites. Not efficient to address specific developments but to consider development within the wider context of decision-making. This whaitua has less greenfield than infill opportunities.
- Different issues (to Ruamāhanga) will be relevant in urban space including heavy metal contamination, network upgrades, and how to engage with councils and ratepayers. Makara, however, has more rural land use. Need to be able to influence a range of stakeholder groups through different communication tools.
- Question regarding mana whenua response to high trust model. There is not one mana whenua position but a range of positions; all need to be represented and knit together, work to understand the complex drivers.
- Consensus can have different meanings, from consent to full agreement, to something you can live with, to best of all options. Proposals to be recorded as they develop and change.
- Committee members should feel empowered to speak up, put up a metaphorical red flag if they feel like they're not being listened to. Discuss with co-chairs early on, facilitation needs to draw out voices to ensure that everyone is heard (noted this is happening well now).

Session 4: Policy workshop

Roger Blakeley and Hikitia Ropata (subgroup co-leads)

The policy subgroup has had one meeting so far. Roger and Hikitia are co-leads of the subgroup. The three draft documents developed by the subgroup were discussed with the Committee.

Diagram of policy framework:

- The document was discussed and changes suggested. Subgroup to discuss when they next meet and Project Team to make changes.
- Policy subgroup to discuss principles of the Committee (as named in document).

100 year vision and problem definition:

- What do we want the whitua to look like in 2120? Good engagement opportunity to ask community this question. People need to see themselves in the vision, use language that anyone can understand and relate to. Potential to use wording in vision to develop imagery to test with community. Consider who the Committee wants to connect with and ask how to achieve vision.
- Statements ought to be framed positively rather than negative terms for a strengths based approach. Vision should present outcomes but does not need to include solutions or actions.
- Project Team and communications and engagement subgroup to develop plan and ask community about its vision before further developing the vision document.
- Ruamāhanga Whitua Committee asked their community the questions: What were your waterways like in the past? What are they like now? What would you like them to look like in the future?

Draft analytical framework that aligns to kawa:

- The framework builds kawa into the policy work so that when the Committee is making challenging decisions they know what needs to be considered.
- The first table is a version of the 2120 vision; the second table shows what needs to change; the third table indicates the current state; and the final table shows the wider context for change.
- Policy subgroup to gather information from Councils to complete these tables.
- Policy subgroup to develop a systems map to understand overarching view of influences and impacts.

Session 5: Communications and engagement subgroup update

Zoe Ogilvie (subgroup lead) and Jon Gabites (Senior Engagement Community Advisor, GWRC)

The communications and engagement subgroup presented an update and draft of its key messages to the Committee.

Key messages:

- Understand that these messages will change over time, the communications and engagement subgroup is largely directed by discussions and decisions at Committee meetings.
- Subgroup to update the key messages document based on the Committee's discussion.

Subgroup updates:

- The logo design questionnaire responses were sent to a designer who will prepare mood boards and then develop a logo. Subgroup to agree on logo and develop collateral to start raising awareness of whitua in the community.
- Subgroup is developing FAQs and PowerPoints to share with Committee by next meeting.
- Events and community group register to be circulated which includes which groups the Committee is connected to and their ability to influence others, how often they meet, when and where, and their social media channels.
- Creating a calendar of events that is public facing for the Committee to use as a resource.
- Subgroup to discuss social media channels for the Committee at next subgroup meeting, assess the risks and resources needed to manage them. Consider traditional media channels as well.

- Committee to be proactive about engaging with councils before and after elections, present the kawa framework to them. Co-Chairs to present at the next GW Environment Committee meeting.

Matariki event:

- GW partnering with Wellington Water at the [Ahi Kā event](#) on Friday 21 June from 6:00-9:30pm. There will be a display with fish from the stormwater network to show that they are surviving but under threat, showing the roles of institutions and peoples' impact on water quality. Opportunity for Committee to ask engagement questions and raise awareness about whaitua. Committee to notify Jon if they plan to attend.

Session 6: Other business

Paul brought attention to a water consent granted to a water bottling company in Upper Hutt because of its potential relevance to the Committee's future work. NB: Paul's media statement on this was emailed to the Committee on 12 June 2019.

Kara closed the meeting with a karakia.

Next meeting: Monday 22 July 2019, location TBC.
