

Report 17.87
Date 29 March 2017
File CCAB-8-1067

Committee Council
Author Pauline Hill, Kaitohutohu/Policy Advisor Te Hunga Whiriwhiri

Ara Tahi terms of reference

1. Purpose

To seek Council's approval of the terms of reference for Ara Tahi.

2. Background

Since its establishment in the early 1990s as an inter-iwi representative group with Council, Ara Tahi has operated without a defined terms of reference. While this has given Ara Tahi flexibility to consider a wide range of matters it has created uncertainty for Ara Tahi members as to their mandate to consider and make recommendations on particular matters. In 2016 Ara Tahi requested that officers develop a draft terms of reference for Ara Tahi. At its meeting on 21 February 2017 Ara Tahi agreed the attached terms of reference (**Attachment 1**) for consideration and approval by Council.

The terms of reference provides for Ara Tahi to:

- monitor their own work programme and strategic plan
- maintain an overview of the review of the Memorandum of Partnership
- provide a forum for collective discussions and action
- oversee the partnership between mana whenua and Council
- nominate persons for appointment by Council to Council committees.

The terms of reference also make provision for the iwi members of Ara Tahi to be eligible to receive Council's standard daily meeting fee and mileage allowances (or reimbursement of public transport costs). For most of the period of Ara Tahi's existence meeting fees were payable, but when the focus of Ara Tahi was reshaped approximately six years ago Council determined that a meeting fee was no longer appropriate.

Ara Tahi members have requested that the Council revisit its position on meeting fees, given their time commitment to Ara Tahi meetings, and to provide consistency with the payment of meeting fees made to external appointees on Council's other advisory bodies and committees.

3. Communication

Ara Tahi will be advised of Council's decision.

4. The decision-making process and significance

The matter requiring decision in this report has been considered against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

4.1 Significance of the decision

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking into account the Council's significance and engagement policy, and decision-making guidelines. Due to the procedural nature of this decision officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

A formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is not required in this instance.

4.2 Engagement

Due to its procedural nature and low significance, no engagement on this matter has been undertaken.

5. Recommendations

That the Council:

- 1. Receives the report*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*
- 3. Approves the terms of reference for Ara Tahi.*

Report prepared by:

Pauline Hill
Kaitohutohu, Policy
Advisor, Te Hunga
Whiriwhiri

Report approved by:

Nick Robinson
Acting Te Pou Whakarae

Attachment 1: Draft Ara Tahi Terms of Reference