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Report to Wellington Regional Council
from Amy Norrish

Ara Tahī Meeting – 14 August 2002

1. Purpose

To report to Council the proceedings of the meeting of Ara Tahī held on 14 August 2002.

2. Background and Comment

2.1 Incident Response Report

A report on incident responses undertaken by Council staff over the last two months was presented to the meeting. It was noted that Wairarapa is now included in the incident response data analysis.

There was general discussion about particular complaints that have been investigated. One or two members of Ara Tahī requested further information about particular incidents.

2.2 Draft Wetland Action Plan

A report on the draft Wetland Action Plan was presented to the meeting and feedback on the Plan was requested. Ara Tahī members suggested ways in which officers of the Wellington Regional Council could protect wetlands. Members of Ara Tahī will discuss the Plan and other issues regarding wetlands at a workshop likely to be held in November this year. The date of the workshop is yet to be confirmed.

2.3 Progress Report from Maori Policy Advisors, Wellington and Wairarapa

Oral reports were provided on the following Iwi projects:

2.3.1 *Tikanga Maori Report on the Otaki River and Catchment – Nga Hapu o Otaki*

It was reported that progress is steady and Council staff should receive a report by the end of next month.

2.3.2 *Inventory of Maori heritage sites and values – Wellington Tenth Trust*

It was reported that the pilot is almost complete. The Tenth Trust is currently working with two staff from Massey University to enable Wellington Tenth Trust to extract the required data from GIS. This part of the project should be completed by the end of the year. Wellington Tenth Trust continues discussions with Council staff to agree on the appropriate level of information access.

2.3.3 *Homewood Wetland – Ngati Kahungunu*

Jason Kerehi advised that they are waiting for the weather to clear before fencing can start.

2.3.4 *Ngawi Wetland – Ngati Kahungunu*

Jason Kerehi advised he had spoken with Iwi representatives at Ngawi about the new boundary lines and the additional fencing required, since the wetland area has been extended. Once these details are finalised the project can be priced.

2.3.5 *Hamua Sites of Significance - Rangitaane*

There are now 220 sites entered on the GIS system and Rangitaane are now ready to start loading photos and related documentation.

2.4 **Creating our Future, Sustainable Development in New Zealand – Dr Morgan Williams (Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment)**

Dr Morgan Williams (Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment) and Ronda Cooper, from the Parliamentary Commission for the Environment, presented two documents, *Creating Our Future* and *He rangahau ki te aria ko te Tiriti te putake e whakaturutia ai nga tikanga mo te taiao* (Exploring the concept of a Treaty based environmental audit framework).

Both documents highlight the need to build relationships and work together at the local level for sustainable management to be successful in New Zealand.

Members of Ara Tahi were invited to the full presentation of *Creating Our Future* to the Council.

2.5 **Future Directions for the WRC – A Sustainable Region**

A report summarising the recommendations of Iwi representatives from the LTCCP workshop on 17 July was presented.

Teri Puketapu commended Howard Stone's sustainable development presentation at the LTCCP workshop and there was wide support of the concept of a sustainable region. Ara Tahi agreed to participate in the development of the sustainable region concept and would like this to be the topic of an Iwi workshop in the future.

2.6 Rebranding

Andrew Cutler presented a report outlining the new Wellington Regional Council brand and invited Ara Tahi members to advise on the logo story, translation of the slogan and use and application of the brand. Members of Ara Tahi decided not to advise Council on these matters.

Ara Tahi members indicated they would have preferred to have had input earlier in the rebranding process. Overall there was general support for the brand.

3. General Business

It was noted that the Council has received a reply to the letter written to the Ministry of Fisheries regarding eel fisheries.

4. Recommendation

That the report be received and the contents noted.

MARGARET SHIELDS
Chairperson

IAN BUCHANAN
Chairman, Environment