

Report 17.153  
Date 4 May 2017  
File CCAB-8-119

Committee Council  
Author Tim Porteous, Manager, Biodiversity

## Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project: approval of terms of reference

### 1. Purpose

To approve the terms of reference for the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project Management Team and for the Governance Group.

### 2. Background

The Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project (the Project) is a collaborative, multi-agency project involving Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa, Rangitāne o Wairarapa, Papawai Marae, Kohunui Marae, Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC), South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) and the Department of Conservation (DOC). The Project was established in 2008 and commenced in earnest as a collaboration in 2010. The Project, through three work streams, delivers work to enhance the ecological, cultural and recreational values of Wairarapa Moana.

Implementation of the Project is coordinated by an administrative structure. Representatives of the partner organisations make up the Management Team and the Governance Group. GWRC is represented by Councillors Donaldson (Chair) and Staples on the Governance Group.

### 3. Terms of Reference

Both the Management Team and Governance Group are subject to terms of reference. These are attached as **Attachment 1**. The vision, mission and goals of the Project are attached as **Attachment 2**.

It had been assumed that these were approved by Council at the time it established the Management Team and the Governance Group in 2008. However a recent re-examination of the process undertaken at the time has highlighted that approval was not sought.

The terms of reference were reviewed in 2015 by the Wairarapa Moana Governance Group under the assumption they had been approved by Council

and confirmed to be still relevant for the activities of the Management Team and the Governance Group.

#### **4. Discussion**

Councillors will be aware that one of the significant components of the proposed Treaty of Waitangi redress settlement is the creation of the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board (WMSB). It is intended that the WMSB will take over administration of the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands project possibly within 24 months. Agencies represented on the WMSB including iwi will be responsible for compensating their representatives for attendance at meetings of the board.

Recognising the need to ensure the momentum of the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project is maintained during the change in governance arrangements, the current Governance Group has embarked on a transitional process. This process, involving workshops with both the Management Team and the Governance Group, is intended to capture project learnings to date and promote possible future directions for the project for consideration by the incoming Statutory Board.

#### **5. Consideration of climate change**

The matters requiring decision in the report have been considered by officers in accordance with the processes set out in the GWRC Climate Change Consideration Guide. The matters addressed are of a procedural nature, and there is no need to conduct a climate change assessment.

#### **6. The decision-making process and significance**

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

##### **6.1 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.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

##### **6.2 Engagement**

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

#### **7. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

3. *Approves the Terms of Reference for the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project Management Team and the Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project Governance Group.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

**Tim Porteous**  
Manager, Biodiversity

**Wayne O'Donnell**  
General Manager, Catchment  
Management Group

**Attachment 1** Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project Governance Group and Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project Management Group – Terms of Reference

**Attachment 2** Wairarapa Moana Wetlands Project vision, mission and goals