Report of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee Meeting 29.6.2017

5pm, Newlands Community Centre

Meeting

Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee:

Attendees

Barbara, Diane, John G, John M, Sharli-Jo, Stu (Chair), Warrick

Apologies: Dale, Jennie, David, Larissa, Hikitia, Richard

Project Team:

Alastair (Project Manager), Jon, Grace, Suze, Hayley, Murray, Keith, Brent, Kara, Rebecca

Facilitator: Isabella

Visitors:

Guests: Colin Crampton, WWL, Kate Pascall (WCC), Alex Huizenga (WWL), Kate Pascall(WCC), Torrey McDonnell (PCC), Ned Norton (Land Water People),

Members of the Public:

Cr Jenny Brash Cr Peter Gilberd Donna Sherlock

Meeting purpose

The main purposes of this meeting were:

- 1. To strengthen understanding of the proposed draft policy package:
- What it is and how its parts work together
- Broadly how it's been created and why this methodology was used
- Have a line of sight through the package from objectives to changed practices

2. To give the project team some direction on which aspects of the package Committee want to see more on

The purposes were achieved.

Committee Decisions and actions to do

Committee Decisions

a. There was no decision needed at this session.

Actions:

- Project team: add "NEW" amoeba to the policy package for consenting stormwater discharges from greenfield development
- Project team: send Committee the WWL map of drinking water bores
- Project Team: send the video of the presentation about water quality given to WWL
- Project Team: Streams & Open Spaces Field Trip report back for August 3 meeting agenda.
- Project Team: compile Committee direction and information on policy package and bring next iteration to August TAOPWC.

Meeting notes

Session 1 - Welcome, preliminaries, housekeeping

Following the karakia given by Sharli, the chair welcomed everyone and noted the large number of visitors, and the unfortunately low turnout of Committee members.

He ran through the night's agenda:

- 1. Welcome, karakia, housekeeping (Stu Farrant, Jennie Smeaton, Suze Keith, GWRC, 5.00 5.10pm)
- 2. Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Timeline update (Alastair Smaill, GWRC, 5.10 5.15pm)
- 3. Wellington Water + Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua (Colin Crampton, Wellington Water Ltd, 5.15 5.35pm)
- 4. Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Draft Policy Package (Hayley Vujcich, Alastair Smaill, GWRC, 5.35 7.00pm)

Dinner break (7.00 - 7.30pm)

- 5. Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Draft Policy Package (continued, 7.30 8.30pm)
- 6. Tech Team Update (John McKoy, 8.30-8.40pm)
- 7. Conversations Update (Alastair Smaill + Committee, 8.40 8.50pm)
- 8. Any other business (Stu Farrant, 8.50 9.00pm)

Alastair decided to integrate the timeline update with the policy package session, so Stu invited Colin Crampton (WWL) to take the floor.

Session 2 – Wellington Water and Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua

(Colin Crampton, Chief Executive, Wellington Water Ltd)

This session was an opportunity for the Committee to hear directly from Colin and have brief conversation.

Colin addressed Committee for ten minutes, and there was a subsequent 15 minutes of discussion. Some key points are below.

Change in approach: goals, outcomes

- Colin and Committee discussed the change in approach that's beginning to get underway in Wellington, but a significant break from practice: designing the management regime around outcomes ("service goals" for Wellington Water) rather than ad hoc via single consents or inputs (or not at all).
- Getting everyone (5 councils, councillors) to agree to some outcomes (which will be over a long timeframe – 30 year goals) and then aligning priority activities to achieve that (and measurement to see) is the way to go, and the challenge.
- Currently as there's no outcome specified or properly measured for water quality, WWL (and other bodies) can know about it but leave it out of planning and success measures. The way forward is to 'close the system' so these are no longer externalities. This is new for New Zealand but particularly so for Wellington (we're 30 years behind other regions)

How to do it: integrating & reprioritising activity

- Improving urban development is a major low-hanging fruit and will not only have benefits for water quality, but for the standard of infrastructure and service burden that WWL must pick up.
- An example of alignment needed: consenting stormwater outlets in alignment with flood protection, and with the quality of the receiving environment as the defining goal.
- Stormwater has historically been the poor cousin; it's gone from being around 5% of the WWL budget to around 25%.
- Councils have also been prone to talking only about rates reduction (or minimising increases) every three years which is counterproductive.

Challenge & opportunity: councils' thinking

- It's very difficult to shift decades of habit and processes (which are NZ wide to a large extent), but there are signs this thinking is beginning: drinking water resilience.
- This conversation with councils is an opportunity to get councils thinking long term and in terms of outcomes, with the cascade of necessary prioritisation, investment (including quite uncertain costs), and getting practice change to achieve that outcome.
- Having done that with drinking-water resilience they will theoretically be better positioned to think this way about water quality.
- Whaitua analysis of water quality improvements and the associated costs
 will be invaluable for both the water quality conversation and for other
 conversations about what improvement we want to achieve over time and
 what trade-offs will be required.
- There was some discussion about the mechanics of drinking water resilience in the region.
- ACTION: send Committee the WWL map of drinking water bores

WWL and whaitua material

- To date, WWL has been aware of water quality issues but not able to integrate them into its planning the system has been "open" and these are treated as externalities / "outside" the contract with the 5 councils.
- WWL has intuitively but not explicitly been incorporating some elements of integrated catchment type thinking.
- WWL is excited about the prospect of clear, well-defined water quality outcomes and tightly aligned service goals, enabling good forward planning

with fewer surprises, better expectations of service from the owner councils, and proper resourcing.

Session 3 – Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua draft policy package

(Alastair Smaill, Hayley Vujcich, both GWRC)

See presentation, draft policy package, and commentary on Whaitua Committee webpage)

Session purposes:

- To strengthen understanding of the proposed draft policy package:
 - What it is and how its parts work together
 - Broadly how it's been created and why this methodology was used
 - Have a line of sight through the package from objectives to changed practices
- To give the project team some direction on which aspects of the package Committee want to see more on

First up, Alastair and Hayley presented in turn.

Alastair put the package in context of the policy framework and the whaitua timeline (see slides 1-3) of <u>presentation</u>.

He told Committee that following tonight, the Project Team will gather and process Committee's thoughts and direction, and come back in August with a collated, proposed draft policy package that responds to these.

Hayley then took the floor to introduce the proposed draft policy package (slides 4-8) of presentation).

- She refreshed Committee on the material that had been introduced at the previous meeting (see latter part of the presentation).
- She highlighted policy tools or approaches that are new to Wellington or significant changes from the status quo (marked with sunburst / amoeba symbols in the handout).

Following this brief presentation, Committee divided into two groups with the visitors and project team.

Everyone worked sequentially through four case studies (before and after dinner).

- Alastair introduced each case study, giving details on the typical motivations and drivers
 of behaviour that the case study actor would have.
- Following this, groups worked through the theme of the draft policy package which would apply to each actor.

The case study conversations were:

- An electroplating business (to whom the Existing Urban theme of policy applied)
- A rural lifestyle landowner (Rural policy theme)
- A greenfield developer (New Development Greenfields policy theme)
- Wellington Water (Existing Urban policy theme)

Each group discussed the following questions:

- 1. What makes the case study actor tick what's driving their behaviour and practices?
- 2. Looking at the proposed policy package that applies to this actor...
 - What do these elements actually involve?
 - How would they work?
- 3. Pretend the proposed draft policy package is being fully implemented.

Bearing in mind what we know about what might be driving the actor's behaviour and practices:

- What about the policy package will make their practice change? Why?
- What about policy package won't make their practice change? Why?
- On balance, will the policy package change their practice enough? Why?
- If we don't think it will, what else should be in there? Why?

The products of each group's discussions are at Appendix 1.

Finally, Committee reconvened to plenary to combine their results.

Each group took turns to give their key findings about the policy package as it applied to the actor, and the other group added any findings from their conversation of the same (that they felt were missing or markedly different).

The whiteboards of these discussions are at appendix 2. Some key points from the discussion are below:

Opportunity: Special Housing Areas

There is an opportunity in the housing infrastructure fund that's being established for Special Housing Areas (SHAs) development. Doing this well means using structure plans to their fullest extent, which means being integrated upfront and making the decisions about (e.g.) stormwater infrastructure at the outset.

Compliance

There was unanimous agreement that nothing we could do would be any use without meaningful implementation. For regulation, this means enforcement to get compliance; for education and support, this means more "bots on the ground" such as Take Charge staff. People noted how under-resourced this was at present.

Alastair mentioned a criterion used by the Ruamāhanga Whaitua Committee: "stickability", or how well will this policy package stick? How do you incentivise people to actually change their behaviour?

Consistency

Rules that apply to private landowners must also be enforced on public landowners (e.g. Kiwirail, NZTA, PCC, GWRC)

In greenfield subdivision earthworks, it's likely that "Wellington developers will hate us" (as one person observed), and it's also true that Wellington's development standards are 30 years behind Auckland and even other smaller towns such as Hamilton.

Developers want greater value, which is not necessarily in greater yield. We will need to show that this is possible.

Alastair thanked the Committee for their hard work this evening, noting that a small number of members had done a lot of heavy lifting. He explained next steps: from tonight, the Project Team will work up the proposed draft package based on Committee's directions and bring it back for review in August.

Session 4- Tech Team update

John McKoy, Technical Team

The Tech Team update was brief but informative. Key points were:

The team had a good meeting with modellers on 28.6.17

The main bits of work included clarifying assumptions the modellers were proposing to make around scenarios – such as:

- How do we define an overflow? (this is really important)
- What does retirement of land mean?

John observed that the Tech Team is performing well and doing precisely the function it's designed for (looking in more detail at modelling & analysis and guiding the team on how to keep true to the Committee's intent).

Session 5 & 6: Conversations update & Any other Business

Due to time constraints, the conversations update and field trip report back were compacted down.

- Alastair spoke about a presentation on water quality that GWRC had done at Wellington Water, with good impact (it was video'd).
- ACTION: share with Committee.
- Stu spoke briefly about the field trip to Mitchell Stream and declared it carried forward to talk about later.
- ACTION: Streams & Open Spaces Field Trip report back for August 3 meeting agenda.
- The Project team reminded Committee of the next meeting on August 3 (nothing in July to respect councillors' holiday break). (Update: This will be a workshop.)
- There is also a Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua planning meeting (similar to the 11th May) on 13th July, two hours at Takapuwāhia. Committee have been invited and are welcome.

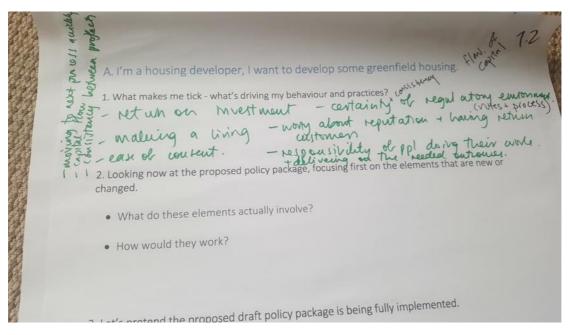
Kara gave the karakia and the meeting closed at 9pm.

The next gathering of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Committee is a workshop (closed to the public) on August 3, 5 – 9pm.

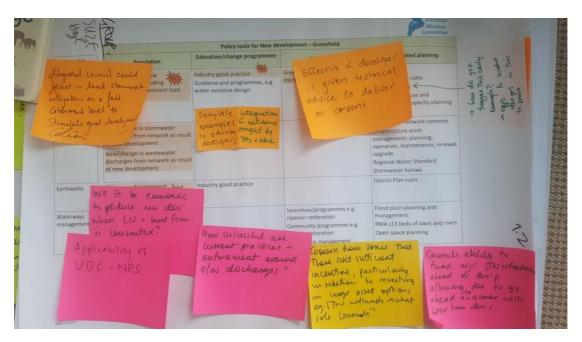
Appendix 1: Case study discussion notes

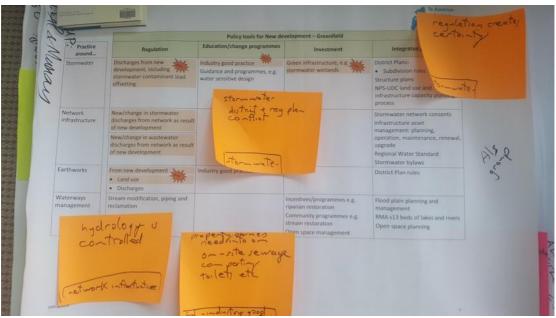
Where groups wrote "what makes me tick" information on their question sheet, this is included.

A. Greenfields housing developer case study

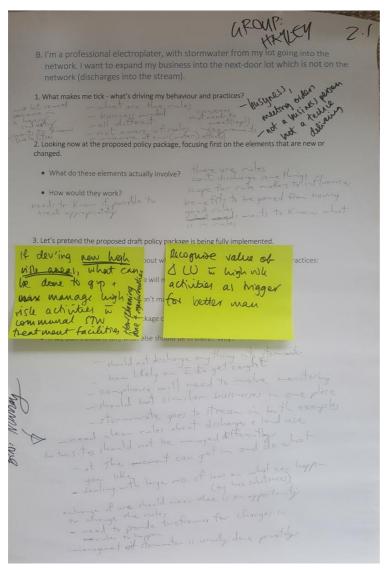


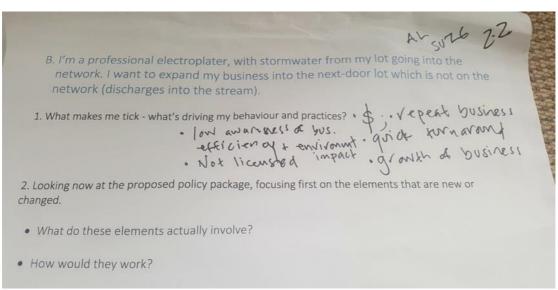
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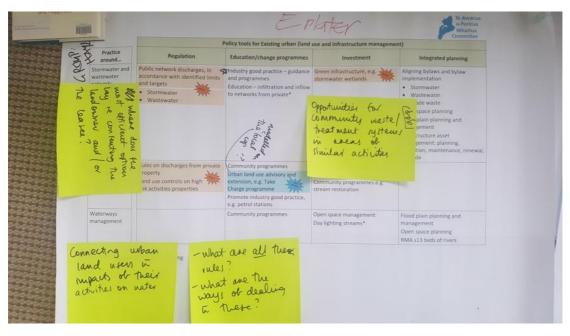




B. Electroplater case study



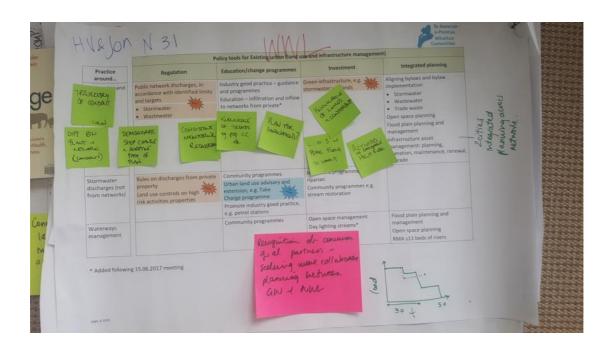




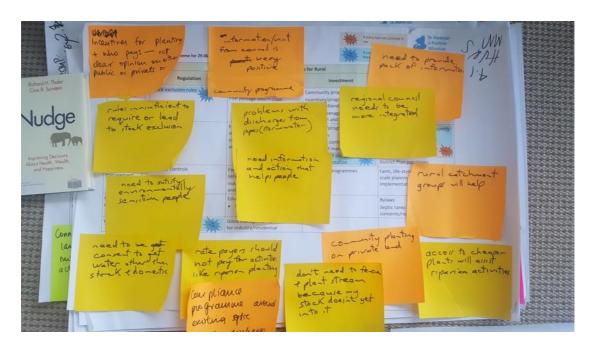


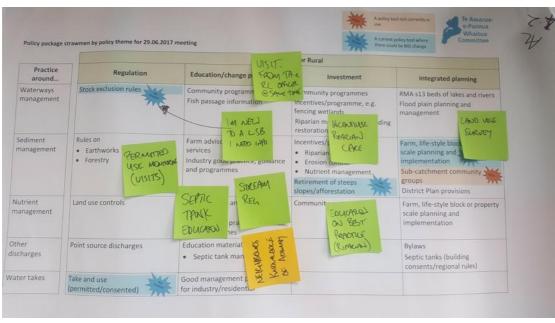
C. Wellington Water case studyNote: one group's conversation notes were on the question sheet rather than on the policy package printout.

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D. Rural lifestyle block owner case study





Appendix 2: Plenary discussion and direction to Project Team

