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Committee Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management
Committee
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Management Group

Report on the Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management Committee meeting on 8 February 2011

1. Purpose

To inform council on the Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management Committee meeting that took place on 8 February 2011.

2. Reports

2.1 Summary of community engagement and consultation

Terry Parminter, Policy Advisor, presented a paper updating the committee on the results our community engagement workshops held across the Wellington region between 7 July and 1 October 2010. A total of 420 people attended these public workshops with a further 851 people responding via the on-line survey. The results presented to the committee focussed on the western side of the region, the area where the analysis of workshop responses is most complete. A final report will be presented to the March meeting of the committee and will provide a full analysis covering the entire region.

Committee members noted that engagement through the workshops had been well worthwhile, and some valuable information had emerged as a result. It was recognised, however, that much of the information gathered during this process confirmed what was already assumed. It was agreed that an important next stage of the engagement process should involve direct talks with key stakeholders or users of the plan and that this be done while meeting our commitments to the wider public. The committee also expressed a desire that any ongoing analysis of the workshops to date should be limited to presenting the key themes that emerged from the workshops, emphasising findings from rural and urban areas across the region, and from different communities and catchments, as a basis for ongoing engagement around policy options for managing resources within these communities.

Terry Parminter also presented a report that outlined the extent of the consultation and engagement process for 2011. This engagement process will be reworked in the light of some of the feedback from the committee during the meeting.

2.2 Progress with cultural values assessments

Miranda Robinson, Team Leader Policy Development, prepared a report updating the committee on progress with recognising, assessing and providing Iwi values and interests in natural resource management through the Regional Plan. This work was agreed to at the November 2011 meeting of the committee.

Initial work is focussed on researching and collating information relating to Iwi cultural values which has been previously provided to Greater Wellington, and to design a resource database and enter all of this information. The database will also be used to support all Greater Wellington engagement with Iwi, and would not be limited to engagement on the Regional Plan review process.

Staff will continue to provide regular updates to Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management Committee as progress is made on the database project, in particular as we reach stages which require engagement with each of the seven iwi authorities and validation of the data. An initial target for completion of the first stage of the project is May 2011.

2.3 Guiding principles document

Jonathan Streat, Manager, Environmental Policy, prepared a report supporting the establishment of a set of guiding principles to guide the work of both the committee and staff during the plan development process. There was strong support from the committee for the concept of establishing both a set of principles and also a vision statement. It was agreed that if crafted appropriately, these principles should provide clear statements of the values intended to guide deliberations when considering and developing policy options across the wide range of issues covered in the Resource Plan Review programme.

There was considerable discussion around how to best draft the vision and set of guiding principles. It was agreed that the Working Group previously established by the committee should meet again to develop some wording based on the committee paper, and subsequent conversation at the meeting. Once completed, this material would be circulated to other committee members for comment and further discussion and clarification either at the next meeting of the committee or at a workshop.

2.4 Project Plan

The final report prepared by Jonathan Streat outlined the project plan for the development of the regional plan through to 2013. A detailed schedule of meetings and workstreams to manage the investigations was provided with the paper.

3. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:



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Group

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