



**AGENDA FOR A MEETING OF TE TAUMATA RUNANGA TO BE HELD IN THE  
CIVIC CENTRE, 6 WAIPAREIRA AVENUE, LINCOLN, WAITAKERE CITY,  
ON MONDAY, 18 JULY 2005, COMMENCING AT 5.00 PM.**

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**OPENING KARAKIA**

**MIHIMIHI**

E nga waka, e nga mana e nga karangatangamaha, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou. E nga mate i tautini, he mihi aroha tenei ki a koutou, haere, haere, haere. E te hunga ora, rau rangatira ma tenei te kakano ka rua nei a morimoritia kia puawai ai. Hei aha? Hei maunga ringa ma nga whakaturanga, kia kaha, kia manawanui, kia u. Kia mau hoki ki te whakapono, te tumanako me te aroha.



**1 APOLOGIES**



**2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Meeting Minutes - Monday, 13 June 2005

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the minutes of the Meeting of Te Taumata Runanga held on Monday, 13 June 2005, as circulated, be taken as read and now be confirmed.



**3 URGENT BUSINESS**

Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides that where an item of business is not on the agenda, it may only be dealt with at the meeting if:

- (i) the Committee by resolution so decides; and
- (ii) the Chairperson has explained at the beginning of the meeting (when open to the public) that the item will be raised for discussion and decision, why the item is not on the agenda, and why it cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

The Committee may make a decision on a matter determined to be urgent.

**NOTE:** Urgent Business need not be dealt with now and may be delayed until later in the meeting.



#### 4 **PUBLIC FORUM**

For guidance of Te Taumata Runanga Members, the Council's Standing Orders have the following provisions in regard to Public Forum.

- (i) members of the public wishing to address the Committee in Public Forum shall furnish their names to the Chairperson at the beginning of the meeting;
- (ii) the Chairperson shall determine the order of speakers, and allow five minutes for speaking time; and
- (iii) questions by members are to be confined to obtaining information or clarification on matters raised by the speaker.

Section 46(7) and (7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 provides that no resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of any specific item of business not on the agenda except to refer the items to a subsequent meeting for further discussion. Therefore, no decision may be made on matters raised in Public Forum. However, written reports on matters raised may be requested from the Chief Executive Officer.



#### 5 **COMMITTEE MEMBERS' REPORTS**

Provision has been made on this agenda for Committee Members should they so wish to submit a report on their activities during the month in regard to matters within the scope and delegations of the Committee. However, to comply with the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, no decision may be made on matters raised in Committee Members' reports.

##### **TE TAUMATA RUNANGA APPOINTMENTS**

<b>OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS</b>	<b>APPOINTMENT</b>
Keep Waitakere Beautiful	Rev J Cooper
West Coast Plan Liaison Group	Mihi Te Huia
Safe Waitakere Alcohol Project	Poata Northcroft
Safe Waitakere Injury Prevention Board	Poata Northcroft Mihi Te Huia
West Education Sector Trust	Awa Hudson Carol Ngawati
Waitakere Arts and Cultural Development Trust	Rev J Cooper
Child and Youth Advocate	Mihi Te Huia
<b>COUNCIL COMMITTEES</b>	
Community Sport Fund Allocation Subcommittee	Evelyn Taumaunu Wayne Knox



**6 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Provision has been made for the Chief Executive Officer, or his nominated representative, to report on the progress of other matters considered to be of significance to Te Taumata Runanga, including organisation and representation issues.



**7 COMMITTEE SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Issue	Comments	Reporting Council Officer
Waitakere Maori Community Partnership Hui	The Waitakere Maori Community Partnership Hui is scheduled for Thursday, 21 July 2005 commencing at 6.00 pm to be held in the Council Chambers, Civic Centre, Henderson.	Warahi Paki ☎ 836 8000 Ext 8923
Te Taumata Runanga Maori Community Awards 2005	Te Taumata Runanga Maori Community Awards is an annual event and this year it will be held on Saturday, 3 September 2005 commencing at 1.00 pm.  Nomination packs will be sent to Te Taumata Runanga Members and their alternate representatives around 18 July 2005 with nominations closing on Friday, 12 August 2005 at 4.00 pm.	Warahi Paki ☎ 836 8000 Ext 8923

REPORTS PENDING			
Subject	Date Requested	Report Due	Reporting Officer
Prostitution Reform Act 2003 - Draft Strategy	14 February 2005 Resolution No: 150/2005	15 August 2005	Zoe Cuming ☎ 836 8000 Ext 8315
"Strengthening Communities Through Local Partnerships" Implementation of the Waitakere Maori Partnerships Project	13 June 2005 Resolution No: 1089/2005	19 September 2005	Tony Rea ☎ 836 8000 Ext 8661

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Committee Secretary's Report for 18 July 2005 be received.

Report prepared by: Ngareta Delamere, Committee Secretary.



## 8 NORTH-WEST WILDLINK

### **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The purpose of this report is to provide Te Taumata Runanga with background information on the North-West Wildlink project, seek the Committee's support of the project and its advice on engagement with the community.

### **BACKGROUND**

New Zealand's lowland ecosystems have been significantly reduced from their former extent (by over 80-90%). As with other parts of lowland New Zealand, the Auckland Region was once largely covered in native forest (in pre-human times). Now native vegetation is concentrated mainly within the Waitakere and Hunua Ranges and Gulf Islands. Only fragments remain in-between. Restoration of lowland ecosystems and ecological linkages between these fragments are needed to improve the ecological health and viability of species and habitats. Ecological linkages and restoration areas play an important part in protecting ecosystems and maintaining and enhancing the quality and diversity of our remaining natural areas.

Over the last few months, Officers from New Zealand Forest and Bird, Auckland Regional Council, North Shore City Council, Department of Conservation and Waitakere City Council have been working in partnership to develop the concept of the North-West Wildlink. Ongoing discussions are also being held with Rodney District Council regarding how they can incorporate their biodiversity initiatives into the North-West Wildlink.

The purpose of the North-West Wildlink is to provide healthy and safe links between the areas of habitat in the Hauraki Gulf Islands, Whangaparaoa, rural Rodney forest fragments, North Shore urban bush escarpments and reserves, the Waitakere City Green Network including the Waitakere Ranges and foothills. The initial priority for the project will be to build on existing fragments and corridors, and to resource and empower existing environmental groups, Enviroschools, neighbourhoods and community groups.

The North-West Wildlink does not propose to create a continuous, vegetated corridor but rather to use existing natural areas that can contribute to a patchwork of habitats and refuges. Such existing areas include parks, esplanade reserves, streambanks, coastal fringes, open space and backyards. While there are many possible opportunities for ecological corridors through the region, highlighting the North-West area as an ecological corridor enables the community, agencies and Councils to prioritise and co-ordinate efforts to achieve further action on the ground and practical assistance for conservation work.

The North-West Wildlink will provide a template for future ecological corridor partnerships in other areas of the Region. For example, other 'linkage' opportunities that have been identified include linking the Hunua Ranges with the Waitakere Ranges, linking large forest areas such as Atuanui (Mt Auckland) with nearby forest areas and fragments, enhancing habitats and linkages along the Awhitu Peninsula, and utilising the Manukau foreshore to link the Waitakere Ranges to South Auckland. Consideration is also being given to the enhancement of biodiversity along modern infrastructure corridors such as rail and motorway networks.

### **STRATEGIC CONTEXT**

New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity is unique on a global scale, and its lowland and coastal ecosystems are particularly threatened and significantly reduced from their former extent. Lowland ecosystems are a priority for protection and restoration in New Zealand's Biodiversity Strategy.

### **Auckland Regional Council**

For Auckland Regional Council, the North-West Wildlink is well aligned with the heritage outcome vision, the Regional Open Space Strategy (2005) and the relevant natural heritage objectives, policies and methods in the Auckland Regional Policy Statement (1999). It builds on existing restoration programmes, including parks restoration programmes, the Environmental Initiatives Fund and natural heritage and biosecurity programmes. It is a practical example of encouraging and supporting local action to achieve regional outcomes.

### **North Shore City Council**

For North Shore City Council this project aligns with the strategic plan objectives and the Open Space Strategy, and is a practical example of promoting environmental awareness, responsibility and conservation, while protecting ecosystems and greening the city. The project will also encourage both local and regional community partnerships and participation through the linking of natural areas and forest fragments.

### **Rodney District Council**

Discussions are ongoing with Rodney District Council staff to involve them actively in the project. The remnants of lowland forest and wetlands in Rodney District contribute significantly to the remaining extent of mainland lowland and coastal ecosystems in the region, providing important linkages and habitats for flora and fauna between the Hauraki Gulf Islands and other parts of the region.

### **New Zealand Forest and Bird**

For New Zealand Forest and Bird, this project fits within their Auckland Naturally vision as a core activity in the Auckland region, and aligns with the Society's central mission to *'preserve and protect the native plants and animals and natural features of New Zealand'*. Forest and Bird have offered the Auckland Naturally framework as the regional umbrella for the North-West Wildlink and future corridors. It provides the opportunity to share a common regional vision and objectives and provides a platform for regional partnerships. The Auckland Naturally concept has evolved from being a Forest and Bird project to being a regional project with regional partners and outcomes.

### **Waitakere City Council**

The North-West Wildlink is a regional extension of the Waitakere City Council's Green Network policy. The Green Network has been a key environment policy for the City for over a decade. Through the process of developing the City's environmental policy and the District Plan, areas were selected and identified in the District Plan maps, where it is desirable long-term to restore indigenous vegetation and wildlife habitat. The key to maintaining the biodiversity and natural character of Waitakere City lies in linking together these bush remnants.

### **ISSUES**

The project is an important mechanism for achieving the responsibilities of regional councils and territorial authorities for maintaining indigenous biodiversity under Section 30 of the Resource Management Act. At present, biodiversity initiatives are supported in a localised manner without looking at the wider possibilities of linking Regional resources and landscapes. Aerial maps and ecological survey information for the Auckland Region reveal a patchwork of threatened vegetation remnants dotted across the landscape. In some areas, it is also possible to see how this patchwork can be conceptually linked to provide 'ecological corridors' for the benefit of our native biodiversity.

The Local Government Act 2002 requires a local authority to identify community outcomes. In the current Long Term Council Community Plan the Green Network community outcome is *'Streams and Forests will be full of life. The Waitakere Ranges will be permanently protected and a Green Network will link the Ranges and the sea, connecting the everyday lives of the people of Waitakere with the natural world.'*

The North-West Wildlink is a mechanism that connects people's everyday life to the natural world. It provides a conceptual framework to demonstrate to people how individual action collectively comes together to support biodiversity goals. It is a practical project that builds on existing vegetation fragments and draws on the strength of a range of established and potential restoration projects to deliver on-the-ground biodiversity results.

The main aim of the project is to encourage 'communities of care' who can see how the efforts they make will contribute to a larger picture and significant outcomes. Council's role will be to work with these communities. In particular Council can provide practical tools and support for landowners, community groups, schools and others to help them protect, restore and enhance natural areas within a strategic regional context. It is envisaged that this practical support could include:

- The existing Environmental Initiatives Fund - projects within the area of interest for the North-West Wildlink will be given high priority;
- Working with other Councils and agencies to provide support and co-ordination for planting days, and providing practical tools (e.g. native plants, bait and traps) for neighbourhood and community group restoration projects;
- Supporting and linking existing community initiatives (eg: Kaipatiki's Backyard Biodiversity project, Uruamo, Friends of the Whau);
- Practical restoration workshops which provide participants with hands-on, practical skills to enable them to control animal and plant pests, undertake planting and look after their backyard/natural area;
- Provision of expert natural heritage, biodiversity and conservation advice and assistance;
- Biosecurity advice and assistance – weed identification, weed removal, animal pest control advice and traps. Utilising the existing ARC pest control programme to target key areas within the North- West Wildlink;
- Linking groups and neighbourhoods within catchments through networking and planting days and profiling other programmes and resources, eg: Weedbusters, Enviroschools etc.

In order for this project to be successful, it relies heavily on the support of all key partners - the community, Auckland Regional Council, North Shore City Council, Rodney District Council, New Zealand Forest & Bird, Waitakere City Council and Department of Conservation. If agencies are supportive, the next step is to launch the concept to the community to seek feedback and support. It is envisaged that the launch will promote Auckland's biodiversity, the threats facing our fauna and flora and the benefits of ecological linkages. The emphasis will be on engaging and involving as many people as possible and promoting the values of backyards, reserves and open space areas as urban and rural routes and refuges for native biodiversity.

The City Development Committee at its meeting on 2 June 2005 endorsed the North-West Wildlink concept and the City's involvement and nominated Crs Stone and Hulse as liaison representatives.

## RESOURCES

Funding for the launch and associated community workshops are provided for within the Annual Plan 2005/2006 to a maximum expenditure of \$5,000. Any additional budget requirements, recommendations and priorities that evolve from the North-West Wildlink will be brought through the Council's future Annual Plan and Long Term Council Community Plan process.

## CONCLUSION

The North-West Wildlink contributes to Council's obligations under the Resource Management Act to maintain indigenous biodiversity as well as address the Green Network's Community Outcome to link communities to the natural world. This project seeks to develop a partnership between the North Shore City Council, Auckland Regional Council, Forest and Bird, Rodney District Council and Waitakere City Council to achieve practical results in a co-ordinated and integrated way. While currently not part of the Officers Group, discussions have also been undertaken with Rodney District Council to forward their involvement.

The North-West Wildlink would seek to:

- Support the development of extended physical linkages of green space through the region;
- Strengthen linkages to other Councils and organisations;
- Provide a mechanism for sharing best practise and developing added value joint projects;
- Facilitate wise use of resources through collaboration and sharing of resources and expertise;
- Build on and enhancing existing projects within each of the agencies and organisations to encourage and support local and community based biodiversity protection and restoration initiatives on a regional basis;
- Provide a conceptual framework for community action groups - demonstrating how the collective actions of different groups come together into the bigger picture.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the North-West Wildlink report be received.
2. That Council's participation in the North-West Wildlink concept be supported by Te Taumata Runanga.
3. That Te Taumata Runanga advise the Council on ways in which it might be able to support the North-West Wildlink concept in the community.

Report prepared by: Kim Morresey, Partnerships and Advocacy Leader - Environment; Chris Ferkins, Parks Environmental Co-ordinator; Christine Henley, Project Twin Streams Co-ordinator.



9 **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Te Taumata Runanga will be held in the Civic Centre, on Monday, 15 August 2005, commencing at 5.00 pm.

A representative is invited to present Te Taumata Runanga report at the next meeting of Council to be held in the Civic Centre, on Wednesday, 27 July 2005, commencing at 5.30 pm.

