

MAYORAL TASKFORCE ON WHENUAPAI

TERMS OF REFERENCE

1.0 MAYORAL TASKFORCE OBJECTIVES

KEY OBJECTIVES

- To develop a vision and strategy for Whenuapai to be developed as a commercial airport with associated development to benefit the economies of the City, the region and the nation.
- Investigate, maintain, and promote strategic partnerships

TASKFORCE WORK FOCUS

The key bodies of work identified at this time, to be undertaken by the Mayoral Taskforce are as follows:

- Identify key Stakeholders
- Build a consensus on process, participation and required outputs
- Assess market conditions and opportunities
- Align with Council's Objectives, policies and strategy
- Facilitate and develop relationships with central government and other key stakeholders and potential partners

2.0 MAYORAL TASKFORCE MEMBERSHIP

The Mayoral Taskforce on Whenuapai is undertaking a watching brief and scoping out opportunities for potential future economic growth and development for the City and the greater Auckland region. It is envisaged that the membership and role of this taskforce will extend once there is a more certainty regarding the stance of NZDF and likely retrenching/disposal process.

The preliminary membership for the early stages of work to be undertaken by the Mayoral Taskforce is as follows:

- His Worship the Mayor Bob Harvey (WCC)
- Deputy Mayor Carolynne Stone (WCC)
- Harry O'Rourke (Chief Executive, WCC)
- Ann Magee (Director: Strategy & Development, WCC)
- Bryan Mogridge (Board Chairman, Enterprise Waitakere)
- Clyde Rogers (Chief Executive, Enterprise Waitakere)

3.0 PROJECT SCOPE

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

A leading strategic priority for Waitakere City Council is agreed as being:

- A strong local economy and more local jobs.

The future development of the Whenuapai region is considered to be a leading strategic priority for Waitakere City Council and Whenuapai planning is recognised as being a key project for the City.

3.1 BACKGROUND

Whenuapai Airbase occupies 311 hectares of land on the northern limits of Waitakere City. A copy of Part 1 of the New Zealand Defence Force's Land Management Planning Study for the airbase is attached. The Land Management Planning Study describes the asset and its operation capacity and constraints.

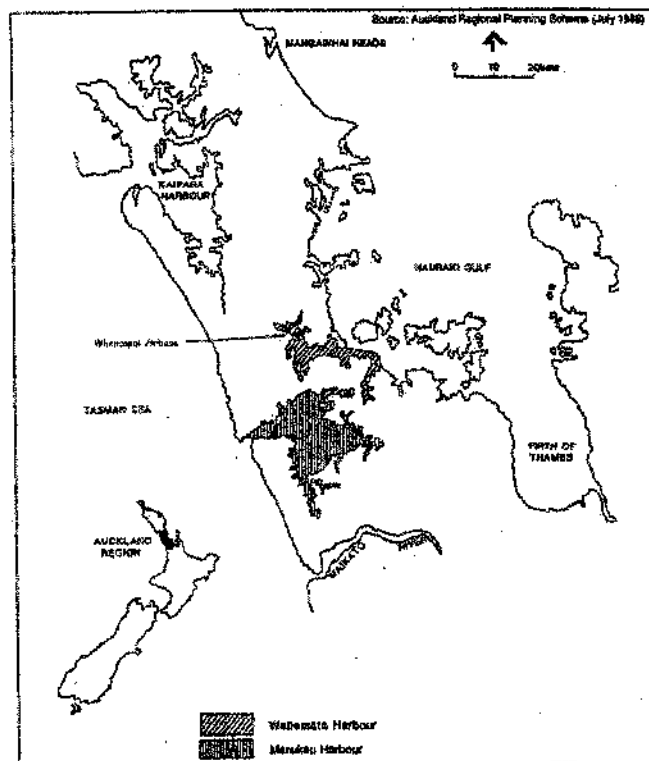


Figure 1: Whenuapai Airbase Location

Whenuapai airbase is currently an operating military airport with the following key attributes.

- Existing use rights
- Existing Air Noise protection zone
- Air space rights
- Strategic location

The Crown has indicated that it will either vacate the base or downsize it's operations. In either case the Crown is contemplating commercial use of Whenuapai Airbase. Timing is not known at this stage, but indications are that an announcement on the future of the base as a defence facility will be made in December, and if the Air Force is to quit the base this will be done over a five year managed transition.

3.2 KEY PROCESSES INVOLVED

Crown Land Disposal Process

The New Zealand Defence Force (NZDF) currently anticipates that it will reduce its presence at the Whenuapai Airbase over the next five years. Formal decision is expected in December 2002.

The likely processes for this transition are unknown at this stage. It is important that Council is in a position to react proactively to any formalised decisions and processes set in train by NZDF.

Metropolitan Urban Limit

The Whenuapai Airbase currently sits outside the Metropolitan Urban Limit (MUL) as prescribed in the Auckland Regional Policy Statement and is zoned Countryside Living Environment under the Waitakere City Proposed District Plan.

The North Western Sector agreement states:

Section 4.5 "Future of Former Airbase Land and Remaining Airfield" states the following:

AGREED PRINCIPLES

Sector Partners will:

1. *Recognise Hobsonville as a strategic area for employment.*
2. *Ensure that any future development enhances the strategic accessibility of the Hobsonville site.*
2. *Recognise the current role of Whenuapai as a military airbase and keep options open for its future use.*
3. *Recognise the current role of Dairy Flat and Parakai as high volume, private airfields.*

AGREED ACTIONS

Territorial Authorities in the Northern and Western Sectors will:

1. *Consult each other regarding any changes to the status of development proposals for Hobsonville, Whenuapai, Parakai and Dairy Flat.*

Territorial Authorities in the Northern and Western Sectors will jointly:

2. *Investigate options for the future use of Whenuapai airbase taking into account their feasibility and potential positive and negative effects.*

3.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE WHENUAPAI DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The transition of the base from military to commercial/civil use will have implications for the economies of Waitakere City and the wider region. Waitakere City would like to gain an understanding of the economic impact should Defence leave the base and the potential should the base be established as a commercial or mixed use operation.

As a first part of this process Council is seeking to understand the operational potential of the base in order to assess the viability of the airbase as a commercial operation. The Council would like to understand any competitive advantages that the airbase may have.

4.0 ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

<u>ROLE</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>RESPONSIBILITY</u>
Sponsor	Mayor Bob Harvey	To drive project and make key decisions in a manner that is consistent with Council's agreed development objectives.
Taskforce	To provide a strategic overview, prioritise resources and work programmes within Council and Enterprise Waitakere as required, resolve strategically important issues, play a key role in managing and developing high-level relationships, overview reporting process.	
	Mayor Bob Harvey	Project Sponsor and elected member representing Council. Capture political high-ground. First point of contact for significant potential investors. Central Government Advocacy. Media contact. Regular reporting to the City Development Committee.
	Deputy Mayor Cr Stone	Elected member representing City Development Committee. Managing relationships at Regional and Local level
	Bryan Mogrige (Chairperson)	To provide commercial expertise and independent advice to Mayoral Taskforce.
	Harry O'Rourke	Chief Executive for Waitakere City Council
	Ann Magee	To ensure consistency of project with Council's strategic vision and objectives and to coordinate with Council Officers for work required.
	Clyde Rogers	To coordinate and support the Mayoral Taskforce. To commission and co-ordinate information and work requirements to feed into the Mayoral Taskforce. To act as a Enterprise Waitakere liaison for general business enquiries.
Council Project Manager	Fraser Henderson	To commission and co-ordinate information and work requirements to feed into the Mayoral Taskforce. To act as a Council liaison for general public enquiries.

5.0 INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION MANAGEMENT

MEETING SCHEDULE AND REPORTING

	<u>FREQUENCY</u>	<u>PURPOSE</u>
Mayoral Taskforce:	Monthly Meeting (or As Required for Urgent Business)	- Status update and issue reporting. - Progress work, discuss issues and opportunities as they arise, mitigate risks.
Reports to Council:	As Required	- For information and to ratify key decisions.
Reports to City Development Committee:	Monthly	- Mayor Bob Harvey to provide update of Mayoral Taskforce to Council as required
Reports to Council's Chief Executive:	Monthly (or As Required for Urgent Business)	- Regular update and hot-spot reporting - identify internal work requirements / decisions needed and mitigate risks
Key Stakeholders/	As Required	- For information (and consultation/ input

General Public:

as appropriate)

Minutes are to be taken for all scheduled meetings and shall be circulated to all meeting attendees (and additional stakeholders as required) for inclusion to project files.

6.0 TIMEFRAME

Key milestones identified for the Whenuapai Airbase at this stage:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>PROJECT MILESTONE</u>
2002	
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informal advice and media coverage regarding likely commercial airport development at Whenuapai Airbase (triggered by NZDF statements regarding upgrade of Ohakea Airbase) - Mayoral Taskforce on Whenuapai established
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Formal announcement from NZDF regarding the future of Whenuapai Airbase - Economic assessment of competitive advantages for potential commercial airport development at Whenuapai commissioned
2003	
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - More certainty regarding NZDF Base Review and likely future of Whenuapai Airbase
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of economic assessment results to Mayoral Taskforce
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mayoral Taskforce reporting on Whenuapai Airbase
2007	
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NZDF may relocate completely from Whenuapai Airbase