



Waitakere City Council
Te Taiao o Waitakere

NOTICE OF MEETING

POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE

I hereby give notice that a meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee will be held on:-

DATE: Thursday, 2 September 2010 **TIME:** 9.30 am

MEETING ROOM: Council Chamber

VENUE: Waitakere Central, 6 Henderson Valley Road, Henderson, Waitakere

to consider the business as set out herein and to take any necessary action connected therewith.

27 August 2010

Judith Moore
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

Telephone (09) 836 8000 extn 8950

MEMBERSHIP:

Deputy Mayor	PA	Hulse (Chairman)
Councillors	LA	Cooper, JP (Deputy Chairman)
	DQ	Battersby, QSM, JP
	BA	Brady, JP
	MFP	Chan, JP
	JM	Clews, QSO, JP
	RI	Clow
	AK	Corban, OBE, JP
	RP	Dallow, QPM, JP
	WW	Flaunty, QSM, JP
	MM	Jolley
	JP	Lawley, JP
	PG	Mitchell
	VS	Neeson, JP
Mr	W	Paki, JP (Chairman, Te Taumata Runanga)

Mayor RA Harvey, QSO, JP (ex officio)

(Quorum 5 members)

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(Meeting Room could be subject to change)

(The reports and recommendations contained in all agendas are reports and recommendations only and are not to be construed, in any way, as Council policy until adopted.)

**AGENDA FOR A MEETING OF THE POLICY AND STRATEGY COMMITTEE TO BE HELD IN
THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT WAITAKERE CENTRAL, 6 HENDERSON VALLEY ROAD,
HENDERSON, WAITAKERE, ON THURSDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2010,
COMMENCING AT 9.30 AM**

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1 APOLOGIES



2 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 Chairman 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.



3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Council has acknowledged in its Code of Conduct that Members need to be vigilant to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as a Member of the Council and any private or other external interest they might have. This note is provided as a reminder to Members to check that no such conflicts arise in relation to any items on this agenda.



4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Meeting Minutes - Thursday, 5 August 2010.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Policy and Strategy Committee resolve to:

Receive the minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Strategy Committee held on Thursday, 5 August 2010, as circulated, and that they be taken as read and now be confirmed.



5 **PROPOSAL TO GRANT LICENCE TO VODAFONE NEW ZEALAND LIMITED – TE HENGA PARK**

GLOSSARY

Te Henga Park	(the Park)
Policy and Strategy Committee	(the Committee)
Vodafone New Zealand Limited	(Vodafone)
Metre(s)	(m)
Bethells Surf Lifesaving Club	(Surf Club)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek the approval of the Policy and Strategy Committee (the Committee) to grant a licence in favour of Vodafone New Zealand Limited (Vodafone) to construct and operate a cell site within Te Henga Park (the Park) under section 48A of the Reserves Act 1977.

The Park has been classified as a Citywide reserve and is located within the Waitakere ward. The Committee has a delegation to make decisions under the Reserves Act 1977 in relation to Citywide reserves and parks.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy and Strategy Committee resolve to:

1. **Receive** the Proposal to Grant Licence to Vodafone New Zealand Limited – Te Henga Park report.
2. **Approve** that the final location of the proposed cell site is to be brought back to the Committee for final approval prior to entering into the licence referred to in resolution 3.
3. **Agree** to authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and grant a licence to Vodafone New Zealand Limited to construct and operate a cell site within Te Henga Park under section 48A(1) of the Reserves Act 1977 and on terms acceptable to the Service Manager, Parks Planning.

BACKGROUND

1. There is currently no mobile coverage available at Bethells Beach or within Te Henga Park. The Council supports the establishment of a mobile cell site within the Park. The purpose of the site would be principally to ensure that network coverage is available for public safety reasons and emergency services purposes.
2. This issue arose and became the subject of media attention when a well know Rugby League player drowned at Bethells Beach and rescuers were unable to contact emergency services to seek help.
3. As a result Council officers have been working with Vodafone to investigate the possibility of establishing a cell site in the vicinity of Bethells Beach for the purpose of providing coverage to the public users of Bethells Beach. As well as the general public, the network coverage will also extend to residents of Bethell's Beach and Te Henga who will have access to Vodafone's mobile network.
4. Under section 48A(2)(b) of the Reserves Act 1977 the Council is required to be satisfied that the cell site can not be readily provided outside the park. Vodafone has investigated possible locations around the general Bethells Beach area. Through these investigations Vodafone proposes that the Park provides the most beneficial location for providing coverage for a wider area and being in a location where signals can be provided as close as possible to Bethells Beach.

5. There are two options proposed at this stage by Vodafone. Option one is as follows.
 - a) to locate a 2metre(m) high antenna on the roof of the surf club;
 - b) to locate an equipment cabinet immediately adjacent to the Surf Club building – the dimensions are 1.3m high, 0.8m deep and 2m long;
 - c) to locate underground cables from the cabinet to the existing southern power pole approximately 90m south east of the Surf Club; and
 - d) 2 x 2.6m high panel antenna mounted to the top part of the existing power pole – depending on Vodafone reaching agreement with Vector Limited to do this and to underground the existing lines to enable the antenna to be mounted on the pole.
6. The second option is as follows.
 - a) to locate a 2m high antenna on the roof of the surf club;
 - b) to locate an equipment cabinet immediately adjacent to the Surf Club building – the dimensions are 1.3m high, 0.8m deep and 2m long;
 - c) to locate underground cables from the cabinet to the existing southern power pole approximately 90m south east of the Surf Club; and
 - d) if agreement can not be reached with Vector Limited to underground the existing power lines, then the proposal is to construct a new pole approximately 9m high and located 6m from the existing Vector Limited pole – with a 2.6m high panel antenna attached to the pole.
7. At this stage a formal arrangement has not been reached with the Surf Club to locate an antenna on the roof of the building or to locate the equipment cabinet within the lease area of the Surf Club. Vodafone is currently negotiating an arrangement for this with Vector Limited.
8. As well Vodafone is continuing to discuss with Vector Limited the possibility of undergrounding the existing power lines on the Park and to use the existing pole on which to mount the antennas.
9. The issues arising in relation to the proposal are:
 - a) the disadvantages of the proposed licence;
 - b) the benefits of the proposed licence;
 - c) the public notification process, if any; and
 - d) the costs to Council.

DECISION MAKING

Issues

Disadvantages

10. The disadvantages of the proposal to locate a cell site within the Park are:
 - (a) that additional infrastructure that will be located within the Park and is likely to be nearby the Surf Club – although the proposal to locate the antenna on the roof of the Surf Club will reduce the visibility of this, as well the visibility of the cabinets can be reduced through paint works and planting, although the antenna proposed to be mounted on the pole will be visible; and
 - (b) that the amenity of the area in which the cell site will be located may be reduced due to the utility of the cell site.

Benefits

11. The main benefits of the proposed cell site are:
 - (a) that mobile network coverage will be available at Bethells Beach to the public generally as well as the residents of Bethells Beach and Te Henga; and
 - (b) the ability to mitigate as much as possible the visual effects of the antennas on the pole and the roof of the Surf Club as well as the equipment cabinet by planting around these and possibly painting the equipment cabinet with art works.

Public Notification

12. Under section 48A(5) of the Reserves Act 1977 public notification of the proposal is not required to be undertaken where:
 - (a) the Park is not likely to be materially altered or permanently damaged; and
 - (b) the rights of the public in respect of the Park are not likely to be permanently affected.
13. It is considered that the construction and operation of the cell site will not materially alter or permanently damage the Park as a whole. The antennas will be mounted on a pole and the roof of the Surf Club so will not materially affect the users of the Park. It is also proposed to locate the equipment cabinet as close as possible to the Surf Club building and in a location where it will not be too visible.
14. In addition, the rights of the public are not likely to be permanently affected as the cell site will not affect or restrict access to the Park or use of the Park generally. On this basis, it is considered that public notification is not required under section 48A of the Reserves Act 1977.

Costs of Licence

15. The costs of construction, operation and maintenance of the cell site will be paid for by Vodafone.
16. Also, on the basis that the proposed cell site is primarily for the provision of mobile services to enable emergency services to be called to Bethells Beach, it has been agreed that a nominal licence fee only will be charged for the site – rather than the usual market rental. The fee must be approved by the Manager, Parks.
17. However, it is suggested that a term of the licence includes that where the cell site is upgraded to capture a larger area or if the cell site is primarily providing coverage and is used primarily for commercial and residential purposes then the Council may provide notice to Vodafone to charge an agreed market rental for the site.
18. The options in relation to the location of the proposed cell site are set out above and these are limited due to the requirement to locate the site close enough to the beach to provide effective and reliable network cover.

Options Identified

19. In terms of the proposal to grant a licence, there are three options.
 - a) To do nothing at this stage – and bring back a report once the final location of the site has been agreed – however this is not recommended on the basis of the reporting restrictions during the transition period and the Auckland Council elections;
 - b) To approve the proposed location and provide a delegation to the Manager, Parks to approve the final location – this option is preferred on the basis that the two current proposals are fairly certain and are unlikely to change; and
 - c) To approve the proposed licence and locations in principle with the final location to be brought back to the Committee for approval – this option is not recommended, again for the reasons that there will be reporting restrictions on bringing back a report to the Committee.

Assessment of Options

20. On balance, it is considered that as the proposed locations are fairly certain that approval is granted to delegate to the Manager, Parks the final location of the cell site equipment. It is considered that as there are limited locations for the cell site that the proposed location will provide the most effective coverage in relation to the public users of the beach and in the interests of public safety.

Preferred Option

21. The preferred option is to locate the antennas and cell site as set out in the above paragraph and within the Park and to grant a licence on terms to be acceptable to the Manager, Parks.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

22. A strategic outcome of the Council's Growth Management Strategy is to plan with key infrastructure providers to provide local access to core services.
23. The proposal by Vodafone to construct and operate a new cell site within the Park is supported by this strategic outcome. This proposal will increase the accessibility of mobile network services within the Bethell's Beach area principally for public emergency services.

CONSULTATION

24. Consultation has been undertaken with relevant Council officers including Parks and Open Space Assets.
25. Public notification is not required in respect of this proposal as set out above.

RESOURCES

26. No resources are required other than officer time in respect of the proposed licence.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

27. If a decision is made to approve the proposed location of the cell site within the Park and to grant a licence to Vodafone, the process required to complete this project involves:

- a) agreeing on the location of the cell site within the Park;
- b) agreeing on mitigation planting and art works on the cell site and other details; and
- c) approving terms of licence for the cell site.

AUCKLAND COUNCIL TRANSITION ISSUES

28. It is considered that the decision making proposed in this report will not be constrained by section 31 of the Local Government (Tamaki Makaurau Reorganisation) Act 2009 on the basis that it will not have a significant negative impact on the assets or liabilities that are transferred to the Auckland Council as a result of the reorganisation.

Report prepared by: Huia Kingi, Parks Consent Planner, Parks Planning.



6 WAITAKERE RANGES HERITAGE AREA PROGRAMME UPDATE

GLOSSARY

Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008	(WRHAA)
Local Area Plans	(LAPs)
Resource Management Act 1991	(RMA)
draft Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guide	(WRFDG)
Auckland Regional Council	(ARC)
Auckland Regional Policy Statement	(ARPS)
Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Plan Change	(WRHA) (PC)
Waitakere City Operative District Plan 2003	(District Plan)
Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Act 2009	(the Amendment Act)
Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway	(WRFW)
Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme	(WRHAP)
Policy and Strategy Committee	(the Committee)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to update the Policy and Strategy Committee (the Committee) on the progress of programmes and projects which have contributed to promoting the objectives of the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 (WRHAA). This report forms part of the monitoring requirements of the WRHAA and provides a current state of play for the programme and wider projects as they are transferred to the Auckland Council.

Projects outlined in this report relate to Local Area Plans (LAPs) and associated background work, Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) implementation, and a range of non-regulatory measures that together show significant progress in implementing the WRHAA and create a robust platform for the ongoing sustainable management of the Waitakere Ranges.

It is recommended that the Chief Executive Officer be directed to prepare an implementation plan for the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme for handover to the Auckland Council. The report also seeks that the Committee approve the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley LAP Background Report for consultation so that this work may be considered in the future development of a LAP for Bethells. The adoption of the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guideline (WRFDG) is also recommended so that this can directly influence future development in the Foothills of the Waitakere Ranges. The Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley LAP Background Report and the WRFDG will be circulated separately to this Agenda. Approval is also sought to appoint a commissioner to hear any submissions on the proposal to gazette land at Te Henga as a Local Purpose (Marae and Papakainga) Reserve.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy and Strategy resolve to:

1. **Receive** the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme Update report.
2. **Agree** to direct the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme Implementation Plan, to act as a resource for the community, Waitakere Ranges Local Board and Auckland Council to assist in the future implementation of the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme.
3. **Approve** the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley Local Area Plan Background Report, subject to any minor amendments, for the purposes of public consultation in accordance with the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 and the Local Government Act 2002.
4. **Agree** to adopt the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guide for the purpose of influencing future building and subdivision in the Waitakere Ranges Foothills of the Waitakere Ranges.
5. **Agree** to delegate to the Chairman of the Policy and Strategy Committee final approval of any minor amendments to the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley Local Area Plan Background Report and the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guidelines prior to their release for public consultation.
6. **Approve** the appointment of a commissioner, if necessary, to hear any submissions to the proposal to gazette land at Te Henga as a Local Purpose (Marae and Papakainga) Reserve and prepare recommendations for the Council.
7. **Note** that substantial progress has been made towards implementing the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 to date.

BACKGROUND

1. The Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme had its genesis in 2004 as a joint project between the Auckland Regional Council (ARC), Rodney District Council, and the Council to better manage the Waitakere Ranges. A key focus of this project was to establish the WRHAA and accompanying statutory changes to the Auckland Regional Policy Statement (ARPS) and the Waitakere District Plan so that multiple layers of statutory protection would be in place to protect the Waitakere Ranges in perpetuity. As is outlined below those goals have been largely achieved, or are well underway.

2. On 2 April 2008 the WRHAA was passed and received the royal ascent on 8 April 2008. The WRHAA establishes the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area (WRHA) as being of national, regional, and local significance and promotes the need to protect and enhance its heritage features for present and future generations. The WRHAA identifies a number of significant social, economic, environmental, and cultural heritage features and establishes a number of objectives that seek to protect, restore, and enhance these features and considers impacts in a holistic and precautionary manner.
3. The WRHAA also promotes the avoidance of cumulative adverse effects on the heritage features and recognises that the WRHA has little capacity to absorb further subdivision with particular reference to protecting landscapes and a rural character, ecosystems, water supply functions, and the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park, while enabling people's wellbeing. The WRHAA also provides guidance to a number of statutory processes relating to the RMA and Local Government Act 2002 and mandates and outlines LAP and tangata whenua processes.
4. Section 34 of the WRHAA details monitoring requirements, part of which is to produce a report within five years of enactment outlining progress towards achieving the objectives of the WRHAA and the resulting funding impact. The purpose of this report is to take stock of the first two years of implementing the WRHAA so that this can be utilised to inform the five yearly monitoring report. Since 2008 the Council, in conjunction with ARC, iwi, and the community, has initiated and completed a number of programmes and projects that significantly contribute to meeting the objectives of the WRHAA. These are detailed below.

DECISION MAKING

Summary of projects

Local Area Plans

5. Local Area Plans are plans that localise the WRHAA objectives and provide a vision to inform future decision making. Below is a brief summary of the LAP process to date. More comprehensive detail can be found by viewing the LAPs and associated background reports.
6. In 2008, following the inception of the WRHAA, the Council committed to undertaking two LAPs per year with an expectation that the WRHA would be covered within seven years. Consultation was undertaken with a number of resident and ratepayer groups and a decision was made to start the LAPs preparation in the Waitakere Ranges Foothills area. Oratia was the first LAP commenced on the basis that subdivision issues had largely been addressed through the introduction of the Oratia Structure Plan. Following extensive community consultation the Waiatarua community felt that they were a separate local area from Oratia and a LAP was jointly developed for both areas.
7. At the 3 December 2009 Committee meeting it was resolved to adopt the LAPs for Oratia and Waiatarua including the extensive background report for the wider Waitakere Ranges Foothills area.

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

2. **Approve** the adoption of the Oratia and Waiatarua Local Area Plans, including any amendments approved by the Policy and Strategy Committee, in accordance with the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 and the Local Government Act 2002”.

2021/2009

8. Through the development of the Oratia and Waitatarua LAPs a significant amount of background research was completed for Oratia and Waitatarua and the wider Waitakere Ranges Foothills area. This included built heritage, landscape, ecological, and economic studies and transport, demographic, and capacity analysis. This work not only formed the basis for the Oratia and Waitatarua LAPs but also provided a platform to launch the next LAP in Henderson Valley/Opanuku.
9. The Henderson Valley/Opanuku Community had undertaken their own visioning exercise which was useful in informing the LAP. This visioning exercise along with a number of lessons learnt from the Oratia and Waitatarua LAP meant that developing the Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP was better understood by the Community and the Council.
10. Following an extensive community consultation process, the submission period for the draft LAP for Henderson Valley/Opanuku has now closed and a report to consider the proposed updates to the draft LAP will be presented to the Committee at the meeting.
11. At the 4 February 2010 Committee meeting it was resolved that work on a LAP for the Bethells/Te Henga area should commence.

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

3. *Agree that the areas of Anzac Valley and Bethells/Te Henga be the focus of the next Local Area Plans to be developed”.*

63/2010

12. To inform this LAP, a supporting document, the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley Background Report, has been prepared and will be pre-circulated prior to the meeting. The Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley Background Report brings together information on the natural and human heritage of the area, the protection, restoration and enhancement of these features, and the social and economic wellbeing of the community, in accordance with the WRHAA. This Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley Background Report will assist consultation with the community of Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley and development of a future LAP for the area.
13. Other background report work has been commenced and will be used to inform future LAPs. Preparation of background reports has begun for the Coastal Villages (covering the west coast and Manukau Harbour settlements) and one specifically for Anzac Valley. A LAP has not commenced in Anzac Valley yet as the Council is awaiting a decision on the Dilworth Structure Plan so that clarity around subdivision standards is provided.
14. As LAPs have been developed a number of initiatives have also been undertaken to inform and implement the LAPs. These are summarised below.

Resource Management Act 1991

Ranges Plan Changes

15. In February 2010 three Waitakere City Operative District Plan 2003 (District Plan) Changes were notified that directly affect the WRHA. Plan Change (PC) 35 establishes a new Policy Section 5B in the District Plan that recognises and protects the heritage features of the WRHA. It also includes in the District Plan those elements of the Oratia and Waitatarua LAPs that relate to the management of natural and physical resources; and provides for the establishment of a neighbourhood-scale rural village in Oratia to serve the needs of the local community.

16. PC36 supports the establishment of a limited range of non-residential activities on privately owned land in the WRHA to provide for the economic wellbeing of landowners, particularly within the rural areas of the Waitakere Ranges Foothills. These economic activities must be consistent with the character of the WRHA (e.g. small-scale bed and breakfast accommodation, produce sales, artists studios and other such businesses).
17. PC36 also proposes to improve regulatory provisions within the WRHA associated with rural activities, the enabling of future uses of rural land to retain a rural character, and to provide for the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the people and communities in the WRHA. It seeks to amend rules for the Waitakere Ranges Foothills, Coastal Village, Bush Living and Waitakere Ranges Environments.
18. PC37 proposes to remove outdated District Plan provisions relating to Titirangi Village, and proposes new policy guidance and matters of assessment that seeks to provide long-term certainty for the desired future character and amenity of Titirangi Village.
19. These PCs have attracted approximately 1000 submissions. At the time of drafting this report, the hearings on these PCs are about to commence.

Regional Policy Coordination

20. Under the provisions of the Local Government (Auckland) Amendment Act 2004, the ARC and the Council have made amendments to the ARPS (PC6) and the District Plan (PC16). Both sought to reinforce the WRHAA provisions. Policy 0.11 in PC16 identifies that growth will be managed within the constraints currently provided in the District Plan. This policy is now effectively operative as the consent order to settle this matter has been confirmed by the Environment Court.
21. PC6 to the ARPS proposes a similar approach and a draft consent order is currently before the Environment Court for their approval. The conclusion of these matters will provide national, regional and local policy alignment in resource management policy.

Tree Declaration

22. In 2009 Central Government enacted the Resource Management (Simplifying and Streamlining) Amendment Act 2009 (the Amendment Act). The Amendment Act introduced wide-ranging changes to the RMA, aimed at improving the efficiency of resource management processes and reducing compliance costs.
23. Among the more high-profile reforms introduced by the Amendment Act were provisions requiring the removal of blanket tree protection rules from district plans. The Amendment Act deferred the commencement of those provisions until 1 January 2012, to provide sufficient time for councils to make any necessary changes to their district plans.
24. On 10 November 2009 the Planning and Regulatory Committee agreed to seek a joint declaration by councils of the Auckland region to clarify whether areas of vegetation that are mapped in a district plan will continue to be protected by blanket tree protection rules.

“The Planning and Regulatory Committee resolved to:

4. **Approve** that a declaration be sought from the Environment Court clarifying whether areas of vegetation that are mapped in the District Plan would continue to be protected by blanket tree protection rules”.

25. The Council seeks to clarify whether the vegetated areas of Titirangi and Laingholm, zoned urban environments and containing areas of significant indigenous vegetation within the WRHA will continue to be afforded protection under the District Plan natural area rules. Draft affidavits have been prepared by the three councils (the Council, North Shore City Council and the ARC) involved in the preparation of a joint application to the Environment Court.

Other projects

Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration Initiative

26. The Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration Initiative was designed as a community based sustainability project to support multiple environmental and social objectives and protect, restore and enhance the heritage features of the WRHA. In 2008 the initiative was piloted in two WRHA neighbourhoods, Piha and Henderson Valley. Following the success of the pilot, the programme has expanded and now includes 13 discrete neighbourhoods groups in Oratia, Titirangi, Piha and Henderson Valley.
27. To date the Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration Initiative has seen groups of residents in different streets and neighbourhoods jointly collaborate and manage local environmental concerns including weed and pest management. The Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration Initiative has the potential to incorporate and manage other localised issues such as road safety, pedestrian access and maintenance of road verges as footpaths.

Waitakere City Council Code of Practice review

28. As part of the review of the transport section of the Council's Code of Practice, consideration has been given to the requirements of the WRHAA. Changes have been made to the guidelines for the provision of footpaths as well as shared driveways and access ways so that they will be in sympathy with rural character and amenity. These changes reflect Council mandates for changes to Council's Code of Practice with regards to footpaths and roads, so that they are more appropriately designed for rural areas.
29. At the 8 April 2010 Committee meeting it was resolved to:

“The Policy and Strategy committee resolved to:

5. **Direct** the Chief Executive Officer to ensure that any review of Council's Code of Practice for Footpath Standards reflects and maintains the rural nature of many of the City's roads and footpaths”.

395/2010

29. The revision of the transport section of Council's Code of Practice has been largely completed with consensus reached between Transport Assets and Strategic Planning officers. Once all wider changes have been agreed to, the finalised revision will be considered and signed off by the Directors Group.

Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guide

30. Design guidelines have been prepared for the Waitakere Ranges Foothills to assist landowners, developers, the community and the Council in managing the design, character and amenity considerations resulting from the subdivision of rural land and the design and location of new dwellings and other buildings. The design guidelines focus on solutions and best practice to maintain and enhance rural character and ensure that any new development is located appropriately in the City's important rural landscapes. The design guidelines will assist in the implementation of the WRHAA and key recommendations of the LAPs. The draft WRFDG will be circulated prior to the Committee meeting. It is recommended that the Committee adopt the WRFDG.

Land purchase/acquisition

31. Between 2008 and 2010 the Council has acquired or contributed to the acquisition of several significant land parcels at Bethells, Karekare and Oratia. Purchase of these properties will significantly contribute to the objectives of the WRHAA in particular objectives 8 (a), (e), (g), (h), (i).

Te Henga Marae

32. The Council has, for many years, pursued policies that would lead to the establishment of a marae for Te Kawerau a Maki in their ancestral home at Te Henga. The site (approximately 2.5 hectares) site is identified in the Waitakere District Plan as a 'marae special area' zone. The land was approved for purchase by the Finance and Operational Performance Committee in November 2009. The land was subsequently purchased and discussions were held with Te Kawerau a Maki about the development and tenure of the site. The results of those discussions were reported to Council in July 2010 and a process approved.
33. As part of that process, the Council publicly notified the intent to gazette the land as a Local Purpose (Marae and Papakainga) reserve under the Reserves Act 1977, on 10 August 2010. Submissions close on 13 September 2010. Approval is sought from the Committee to appoint a commissioner to hear any submissions to this proposal and prepare recommendations for the Council should a hearing be necessary.

Covenants

34. The WRHAA provides for the establishment of Heritage Area covenants. Section 23 of the WRHAA states:

23 Waitakere Ranges heritage area covenants

- (1) *If an owner of land in the heritage area agrees to manage all or a part of the land in a manner that contributes to achieving the purpose of this Act and the objectives, the local authority concerned may enter into a covenant with the owner (to be known as a Waitakere Ranges heritage area covenant)—*
(a) to provide for the management of the land; and
(b) on the terms and conditions as they may agree.
- (2) *The covenant may include conditions specifying contributions to be made by the local authority to assist with the management of the covenanted area.*
- (3) *A covenant that has been entered into under this section must be treated as if it were a covenant that had been entered into under section 77 of the Reserves Act 1977, and that Act applies accordingly, with any necessary modifications.*

35. In May 2009 the Council established the Heritage Covenant programme to promote the protection of heritage features on properties within the WRHA. Working in parallel with the Green Network Conservation Covenant programme, these two programmes have facilitated the protection of over 240 hectares of ecologically significant land on private property in the WRHA.

Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway

36. The inspiration for the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway (WRFW) emanated from discussions during the Oratia LAP process where the Community were concerned about pedestrian safety and transport issues. The WRFW built on the walking and access plans for Oratia and Swanson and sought to link these communities through Henderson Valley and to existing walkways in the regional park and the Project Twin Streams walk/cycleway. This trail would provide a diverse rural walking experience, rich in heritage and scenic values and would also provide safer pedestrian routes for local residents.
37. The findings of a WRFW feasibility study were presented to the Committee in April 2010. The study investigated the establishment of a walkway across the Waitakere Ranges Foothills using a combination of established public access routes, unformed roads, and private land. The Committee endorsed the WRFW concept and recommended that the route be reflected in the Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP and the District Plan. Officers were directed to undertake discussions with landowners, over whose land the walkway was proposed, to confirm how public access could be confirmed and supported through the Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration Initiative. Officers were also directed to ensure that Council's Code of Practice review contained appropriate rural footpath standards and that the WRFW concept be presented to the Waitakere Community Board and Henderson Valley Residents Group.
38. The WRFW concept and recommended routes were adopted and reflected in the draft Opanuku/Henderson Valley LAP. Several submissions responded to the walkway, with some supporting the walkway and other submissions suggesting alternative routes. Concerns that the walkway would result in unintended impacts on the Waitakere Ranges Foothills environment were also raised. The WRFW concept was also included in PC35. A number of submissions and further submissions supported the WRFW but sought clarification on the wider route, and some submissions opposed the WRFW. The officer's recommendation on PC35 seeks to introduce a policy map in the District Plan to clarify the possible route for the WRFW.
39. Consultation has been undertaken with owners of land that have strategic linkages to the WRFW. Overall these landowners have been amenable to the WRFW, particularly in cases where they are seeking to subdivide. One landowner was not open to the WRFW crossing his land, and another did not respond to letters.
40. The WRFW concept has been communicated through the Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration Initiative to communities in Swanson, Oratia and Titirangi. Council officers met with Welsh Hills Road residents to discuss a potential link to their road through Seibel Reserve. These residents suggested wider communication through their Welsh Hills Road Residents Annual General Meeting.
41. The WRFW Feasibility Report was presented to the Waitakere Community Board and the Henderson Valley Residents Association, and a workshop was held with Te Taumata Rununga in May 2010. At the 4 May 2010 Waitakere Community Board meeting it was resolved as follows:

“The Waitakere Community Board resolved to:

Receive the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway Feasibility Investigation Study report.”

596/2010

42. The issues raised in submissions and via further community consultation have been considered and the WRFW Feasibility Study has been updated. A copy of the revised report will be pre-circulated and presented to the Committee and included as part of the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme Implementation Plan to be handed over to the Auckland Council.

Other walkways

43. Council officers are undertaking a similar study in the coastal areas (Manukau Harbour and West Coast villages) to examine how the existing walking track network could be improved.
44. As part of the 224 hectare conservation covenant and associated property management plan that was finalised in 2008 for the Large Property Management Area at 282 Bethells Road, the construction of a public access track on the western side of Lake Wainamu (Stage 1) has been completed. The design phase of Stage 2 which links the track with Houghtons Track and continues up to Solomon Ridge (located on the Bethells property) has also been commenced with construction anticipated to begin late 2010/ early 2011.

Terrestrial biodiversity monitoring

45. In 2009 the ARC began a region-wide monitoring programme to quantify the state of the region's indigenous terrestrial biodiversity. Regular monitoring of these sites will help guide policy and strategic planning to protect and manage the regions terrestrial biodiversity and ecosystems. As part of the programme sites across the WRHA, on public and privately owned land, were selected and a range of data (including vegetation structure, bird counts, pests and weed impacts) were collected. It is expected that preliminary results (available late 2010) will be used to identify and target environmental work streams that promote a number of objectives of the WRHAA. They will also partly fulfil the monitoring requirements of section 34 1(a) of the WRHAA.

Waitakere Ward Local Reserves Management Plan

46. The Council has prepared a draft Waitakere Ward Local Reserves Management Plan. Submissions closed 6 August 2010. The draft Waitakere Ward Local Reserves Management Plan proposes the integrated management and development of 66 local reserves, with the majority of these located within the WRHA in Titirangi, Laingholm, Huia, Cornwallis and Waitakere.

Community information pack

47. In 2008 the Council, in collaboration with the West Coast Plan Liaison Group produced 2000 community information packs to provide information to WRHA residents on the programmes and support (environmental, social, business) that are available to protect their local area. Packs have been distributed to residents through resident and ratepayer organisations, libraries and other community organisations and through the community workshops for LAPs.

Visitors Stocktake

48. A study of the importance of visitors and tourism to the Waitakere Ranges was completed prior to ratifying the WRHAA. The stocktake was carried out as a preamble to the proposed Visitors Strategy for the Waitakere Ranges; however the Visitors Strategy was never finalised. The results of the study have been used to inform key projects in the Waitakere Ranges that contribute to the objectives of the WRHAA, including the WRFW, Waitakere Ranges PCs and LAPs.

Tourism

49. Several projects focussed on promoting the tourism benefits of the WRHA and have been underway in recent months. These include:
- Waitakere included in 'Arrival NZ' DVD shown on international Air New Zealand flights landing in Auckland;
 - Waitakere segment included in 'Hit The Road' international travel TV series;
 - New 'WhatsOutWest' brochure and tourism map prepared showing Hillary Trail and other attractions in the Waitakere Ranges; and
 - New 'WhatsOutWest' website under construction to be launched later this year.

Art projects

50. A number of community art projects have been commissioned within the WRHA Area that contribute directly to the objectives of the WRHAA. These include the painting of power and service boxes by a number of Waitakere residents in Bethells, Titirangi and Piha. Local artist Mandy Patmore designed the Piha Footbridge (completed in 2008) and represents the migratory eel, and celebrates both long and short finned eels that live in the stream.

Ongoing Work Programme

51. In the next 12 months other projects proposed to commence include:
- Preparation of a LAP for Anzac Valley (including a background report);
 - Finalisation of the Coastal Villages background report;
 - LAP for Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley; and
 - Inclusion of additional neighbourhoods to the Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration Initiative.
52. As can be seen from the extensive list of projects outlined above the Council has made good progress in implementing the WRHAA. In order for these projects to be successful it is proposed that a comprehensive programme implementation plan is developed to be handed over to the Auckland Council.

CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNITY VIEWS

53. Over the last two years there has been regular consultation to inform the community about some of the programmes and projects detailed above. Community meetings have been held to discuss LAPs for Oratia, Waiatarua and Opanuku/Henderson Valley and the subsequent PCs from these first LAPs. Officers have provided updates on programmes to Community Boards and resident and ratepayers meetings, the Taumata Runanga as well as monthly updates to the Committee. In addition, two hui have been held to inform and discuss progress on the LAPs and the fortnightly iwi consultation meetings have been attended as needed.

54. In addition a number of cottage meetings have been held with interested parties and residents to inform the LAP decision making process in Oratia, Waiaatarua and Opanuku/Henderson Valley.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

55. The Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme (WRHAP), which funds many of the projects and programmes detailed above, complements the Waitakere Growth Management Strategy, the Auckland Regional Growth Strategy and policies in the Auckland Regional Policy Statement. The WRHAA seeks to provide for the social, cultural, environmental and economic wellbeing of the residents of the WRHA.
56. The WRHAP also promotes a number of the Council's strategic outcomes including those stated in the Growth Management and Environment Strategies through the provision of quality, connected communities and the protection and enhancement of the natural heritage features of the Waitakere Ranges. The WRHAP also supports several of the Council's community outcomes including the sustainable environment and green network outcomes through managing growth in a sustainable way to provide a healthy and sustainable environment.

CONSULTATION

57. Consultation has been undertaken with officers from across Council in the Parks Planning, Strategic Planning and Community Wellbeing sections of Council, in the preparation of this report.
58. Consultation has also been undertaken with officers from the ARC.

RESOURCES

59. The Long Term Council Community Plan 2006-2016 and 2009-2019 has included provision for resourcing the WRHAP to promote the objectives of the WRHAA. Since 2008 approximately \$2,447,500.00 capital expenditure has been spent on projects summarised in this report and another \$206,400 has been spent on operational expenditure. Funding has also been allocated for the WRHAP in the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019 and Annual Plan 2010/2011 which will fund the projects programmed including those summarised in paragraph 51.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

60. As noted, it is recommended that a comprehensive WRHAP Implementation Plan be prepared for the WRHAP. This will aid in smoothing the transition to the Auckland Council and ensure the legacy of Waitakere Ranges protection continues in the future. Given the proposed structure of the Auckland Council it is likely that the WRHAP (and possibly the budget) will be split between different Council departments. Consequently a clear implementation plan will be critical to the success of the WRHAP in the future.

AUCKLAND COUNCIL TRANSITION ISSUES

61. The decision making proposed in this report is not constrained by section 31 of the Local Government (Tamaki Makaurau Reorganisation) Act 2009, as it does not directly or because of its consequences: significantly prejudice the reorganisation, significantly constrain the powers or capacity of the Auckland Council or any subsidiary of the Auckland Council following the reorganisation, or have a significant negative impact on the assets or liabilities that are transferred to the Auckland Council as a result of the reorganisation.

Report prepared by: Jane Andrews, Strategic Advisor: Sustainable Management and Matt Heale, Manager Sustainable Management.

7 **SUBMISSIONS ON THE PROPOSED HENDERSON VALLEY/OPANUKU LOCAL AREA PLAN**

GLOSSARY

Policy and Strategy Committee	(the Committee)
Henderson Valley/Opanuku	(HVO)
Local Area Plan/s	(LAP/s)
Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008	(WRHAA)
Local Government Act 2002	(LGA)
Waitakere City Operative District Plan 2003	(District Plan)
Resource Management Act 1991	(RMA)
Large Property Management Areas	(LPMAs)
Rural/Urban Interface Management Areas	(RUIMAs)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On 3 June 2010, the Policy and Strategy Committee (the Committee) adopted the proposed Henderson Valley/Opanuku (HVO) Local Area Plan (LAP) for the purposes of public consultation. Submissions closed on 30 July 2010. 37 submissions have been received on the LAP at the time of writing. Three of these were received shortly after the stated close of submission time, but are recommended to be accepted.

On 5 August 2010, a verbal update was provided to the Committee providing a brief initial summary of the submissions received at that time. A discussion of the process for dealing with submissions particularly those that have indicated that they wish to speak to their submission took place. The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 (WRHAA) do not specifically outline the process to be followed, when consulting on the LAP, only that it must be broad and participatory.

The purpose of this report is to:

- outline the submissions received on the proposed HVO LAP,
- recommend amendments to the proposed HVO LAP as a result of those written submissions; and
- seek delegation to a sub-committee to hear submissions at an informal hearing with the appropriate delegation to hear submissions and finalise the LAP.

The preparation of the HVO LAP has involved extensive engagement and consultation with the local community and interested parties since October 2009 to 30 July 2010.

This consultation has been undertaken in accordance with sections 25, 26 and 28 of the WRHAA and complies with the principles of consultation outlined in section 82 of the LGA. This process can also be considered as part of the pre-consultation to any Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) plan change to implement those parts of the LAP relating to resource management matters necessary or desirable to give effect to the LAP.

This report addresses the matters raised in submissions and recommends amendments to the LAP where appropriate. In addition to submissions on the LAP, a number of submitters also requested to speak to their submissions. This report suggests that a sub-committee be established to hear submissions, and also seeks approval for the delegation for the final approval of the LAP to that sub-committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy and Strategy Committee resolve to:

1. **Receive** the Submissions on the Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan report.
- AI-A26 2. **Approve** the amendments to the text of the Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan drafted in response to matters raised in written submissions (as attached at pages A1 and A26).
3. **Agree** to the creation of a sub-committee (the Hearing Panel), consisting of the Chairman of the Policy and Strategy Committee, Councillor Paul Mitchell, and the Director: Strategic Planning to consider submissions received on the Henderson Valley Local Area Plan.
4. **Agree** that the amended Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan as endorsed in Resolution 2 above, be the basis of further discussion with interested submitters at a Hearing to be held prior on 4 and 5 October 2010.
5. **Agree** to delegate to the Hearing Panel, as agreed to in Resolution 3 above, final approval of any further amendments to the amended Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan as a result of discussions with submitters at the Hearing into the Henderson Valley Local Area Plan prior to the Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan being finally adopted in accordance with the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 and Local Government Act 2002.

BACKGROUND

Purpose of Local Area Plans

1. The purpose and requirements for LAPs are outlined in section 25 of the WRHAA. In summary, a LAP must identify the local area to which it applies and the extent and nature of the heritage features existing in that local area. It must outline how the objectives of the WRHAA will be promoted in the local area and identify the distinctive natural, cultural, and physical qualities and characteristics that contribute to its long-term pleasantness, aesthetic coherence, and amenity. The LAP may also identify issues relating to the provision of future services within the area. As a guide, long-term is taken to be beyond a period of 50 years; the LAP seeks to establish the elements and outcomes that should be expected in that future.
2. A LAP provides certainty to the community by providing objectives and policies to inform decision making in relation to the amenity, character, and the environment of the local area. The LAP defines the future that is expected so that decisions can be made as to whether activities and proposals assist or detract from the achievement of that desired future. This provides a goal oriented approach to managing adverse effects, particularly cumulative effects.
3. Section 26 of the WRHAA provides for the process of developing a LAP to be tailored to the unique issues and communities of the local area it focuses upon. This Committee has encouraged an approach of community engagement in the development of the LAP through a community workshop process along with meetings with individuals and stakeholders. This process has encouraged interested residents, stakeholders and tangata whenua to participate in and contribute to the LAP.

Previous Council Resolutions on Local Area Plan development:

4. The Committee has previously provided direction on the location and process for the development of LAPs across the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area, with an initial focus on the Waitakere Ranges Foothills.
5. At the 7 August 2008 Committee meeting, it was resolved to undertake a series of LAPs in the Heritage Area:

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

3. *Agree to adopt the Local Area Plans under the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 report for the purpose of engaging with communities on the purpose of Local Area Plans and the process of developing Local Area Plans.*
4. *Agree that the priority area for an initial Local Area Plan under the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 be the Waitakere Ranges Foothills area as outlined in option 3 of the report and that a report regarding the process and priorities for this be reported back to the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting scheduled to be held on Thursday, 4 September 2008.”*

1300/2008

6. At the 4 September 2008 Committee meeting, it was further resolved to commence the LAPs process in the Oratia area:

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

2. *Agree that the first Local Area Plan should be prepared for the Oratia Local Area, because this is a distinct local area where the Local Area Plan process will reveal many issues that are common to the wider “Foothills” area.*
3. *Agree that the process for undertaking the preparation of the Local Area Plan should include:*
 - *preliminary research on the characteristics and issues of the area that includes economic analysis;*
 - *definition of the local area, in consultation with the local and wider community; and*
 - *an informed but open and participative “enquiry by design” process, similar to the process that has been used to develop plans for New Lynn and Westgate.”*

1522/2008

7. This process was followed and an Oratia and a Waitatarua LAP were developed and have since been approved. Implementation of these LAPs is now underway, including through Waitakere City Operative District Plan 2003 (District Plan) changes.
8. At the 4 June 2009 Committee meeting, it was further resolved to undertake a LAP process in the HVO area:

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

2. *Agree that further Local Area Plans for the remainder of the Waitakere Ranges Foothills be developed through the 2009/2010 financial year in a sequence beginning with Henderson Valley/Opanuku, then Swanson and finally Anzac Valley.*

3. *Agree that the process for undertaking the preparation of the Local Area Plans follow the process used for the development of the Oratia and Waiatarua Local Area Plans including:*
- *preliminary research on the characteristics and issues of the area;*
 - *definition of the local area, in consultation with the local and wider community;*
 - *consultation through a mixture of small group and larger public meetings; and*
 - *a “community enquiry” workshop to develop the draft Local Area Plan.”*

875/2009

9. This consultation process formally commenced with a public meeting in October 2009, and has been underway since, with a range of public meetings, more private cottage meetings, stakeholder discussions and technical background work. A fuller description of the consultation undertaken to June 2010 is included in the Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan Consultation Report as part of the background information to the LAP. This will be updated to reflect the consultation that has occurred after this date.

10. At the 3 July 2010 Committee meeting, it was further resolved to approve the draft HVO LAP for the purposes of public consultation to obtain community views on the draft:

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

1. *Approve the proposed Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan, subject to any changes made by the Policy and Strategy Committee in workshop, for the purposes of public consultation in accordance with the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 and the Local Government Act 2002.*
2. *Agree to delegate to the Chairman of the Policy and Strategy Committee final approval of any further minor amendments to the proposed Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan made prior to public consultation.*
3. *Direct the Chief Executive Officer to report back to the Policy and Strategy Committee or Council on the submissions received through the consultation process outlined in resolution 2 above and any proposed amendments to the Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan.*
4. *Agree to convene a public meeting to enable the community to provide feedback and discussion on the Henderson Valley/Opanuku Local Area Plan and provide for engagement with stakeholders in the Henderson Valley/Opanuku area.”*

746/2010

11. At the 5 August 2010 Committee meeting, following a verbal update on submissions received on the proposed HVO LAP, which closed on 30 July 2010, it was resolved as follows:

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

1. *Receive the presentation on the Proposed Local Area Plans - Updates.*

2. *Agree that the Chairman of Policy and Strategy Committee report back to Committee Members on the desirability and practicality of listening to submitters on the Henderson Valley Local Area Plan at the Policy and Strategy Committee meeting to be held 31 August 2010.*"

1051/2010

Consultation on the draft HVO LAP:

12. In addition to the considerable consultation that has occurred prior to the development of the draft HVO LAP, public consultation on the proposed HVO LAP has included:
- Over 880 individually addressed packs containing a covering letter (including an invitation to the drop-in day), a Frequently Asked Questions, a submission form and a full colour copy of the draft HVO LAP were posted to every ratepayer and resident in the area as well as known interested parties;
 - Colour copies of the draft HVO LAP and the background reports and appendices were uploaded to the Council website, made available at all Waitakere Libraries and the Waitakere Central One Stop Shop, and full colour bound hard copies also provided to key stakeholders;
 - A public drop-in day was held on 8 July 2010, at the Henderson Valley Community Hall between 3.30 and 7.30pm. Approximately 30 enquiries were fielded at this meeting, mainly from local residents; and
 - In addition to the public drop-in day, a number of meetings have continued with key stakeholders and interested parties throughout the HVO LAP consultation period, providing opportunity for officers to provide clarity on various aspects of the HVO LAP.

DECISION MAKING

- A1-A26
13. Submissions on the draft HVO LAP closed at 4.30pm, 30 July 2010. A total of 36 submissions have been received to date, including a number received after this date which have been accepted and summarised. A full copy of all the submissions received and accepted has been previously provided to the Committee at meeting 5 July 2010. Two late submissions received after this time are attached at pages A1 to A3, with a table summarising all the submission points, a brief analysis of the submission points and a list of recommended changes to the draft HVO LAP as a result, included at pages A4 to A26.
14. Each submission has been carefully considered and the recommended amendments to the text of the proposed HVO LAP as a result of these submissions will be provided at the meeting if not circulated prior.
15. A number of submitters also indicated that they wish to have the opportunity to speak to their submissions and appear before this Committee, so that their concerns and comments can be heard by decision makers first hand. Note that the submission form did not state that there would be an opportunity to be heard, (the covering letter included with the draft HVO LAP and submission form in fact stated that there would not be a hearing) and that the Oratia and Waiatarua LAPs were adopted without a public hearing.

16. As a result of these submissions, and the statutory ability that the Council has to determine the process for itself (providing that the process encourages people to participate), and the resolution made at the 5 August 2010 meeting of this Committee (refer paragraph 11 above), it is recommended that a sub-committee of this Committee and the Director: Strategic Planning be delegated authority to make the final determination of the content of the HVO LAP at a Hearing after listening to any verbal submissions. This Hearing would be informal and perhaps topic based (as compared to a more formalised RMA type plan change hearing) with the amended text (to be provided) used as a basis for discussion with submitters.
17. It is recommended that all submitters should be invited, and such an invitation to include a copy of the revised LAP text, as well as a list of key topics to be discussed and the intended format of the Hearing. It is intended that the Hearing be held on 4 and 5 October 2010, allowing submitters to be given reasonable notice and time to consider the revised HVO LAP, and to be held in the council chambers.
18. A list of key topics as summarised from submissions received is included in the following section.
19. It is considered that decisions made on the matters raised by submitters and responses with recommendations and amendments to the LAP are in line with the relevant criteria of the LGA, in particular sections 76 to 82 inclusive, and will assist in the achievement of the objectives of the WRHAA.

Issues

Changes to the proposed HVO LAP

- A4-A26
20. Many issues have been raised in the submissions received, some of which have resulted in recommendations to amend and add to the HVO LAP. Recommended responses to submission points are included attached at pages A4 to A26. These amendments will be reflected in the revised text (altered text highlighted in ~~strikethrough~~, added text underlined), to be circulated at the meeting.
 21. The recommended amendments to the proposed HVO LAP, are a result of submissions received, further conversations and technical work, and can be summarised under the following key topic headings (in no particular order):
 - Inquiry into the draft HVO LAP – hearing of submissions and timing;
 - Boundary of the Local Area;
 - Rural Economic Wellbeing;
 - Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway and general walking issues;
 - ‘Lifestyle’ blocks as valued feature;
 - Rural Design Guidelines; and
 - Subdivision.
 22. These topics are artificial categories, as most concerns are interlinked between across the categories. The majority of submissions received were generally supportive of the draft LAP, but raised particular issues of concern that could be improved or changed, often as matters of emphasis in the draft LAP and/or its supporting policies and actions.
 - A4-A26 23. The submission summary and recommended response (attached at pages A4 to A26) and the amended text of the draft HVO LAP (to be provided) show the recommended responses to the submissions received.

Inquiry into the HVO LAP and timing

24. It is recommended that the amended HVO LAP be used as a basis for an informal Hearing to which all submitters are invited to attend, to discuss the amended HVO LAP, amend it further if required and then confirm and finalise the HVO LAP.
25. It is recommended that the sub-committee (or Hearing Panel) to undertake the hearing consist of the Chairman of this Committee and Councillor Mitchell, both of whom are also Waitakere Ward representatives, and the Director: Strategic Planning.
26. The format of the Hearing is yet to be finalised, but it will be less formal than a RMA hearing, and focussed on solutions to submitters' issues and allow questioning and suggestions to flow between submitters and the Hearing Panel.
27. The Hearing Panel should also be delegated the ability to amend and finalise the HVO LAP, after hearing from submitters who would have had a chance to consider whether the recommended changes to the HVO LAP text, address the concerns raised in their written submissions.
28. The process to date has been one of listening to and capturing the community's views on the issues facing their local area, and recording and responding to them within the statutory framework of the WRHAA.
29. The consultation process outlined in the WRHAA defers to the LGA, which in comparison to the RMA, contains a number of principles which consultation should follow (rather than specifying the process to be followed) the key aspect being, that the consultation process should encourage those who have an interest in the matter to participate.
30. It is therefore desirable to provide a further opportunity for the community to feedback on recommended amendments to the LAP, but it is also important that the process be completed before this Council (and potentially its officers) transition to the new Auckland Council. Transferring the process to the new Auckland Council would potentially result in a long period of relearning as new officers and decision makers familiarise themselves with the issues and build relationships within the community.
31. The recommended dates for the holding of the hearing are 4 and 5 October 2010, allowing for reasonable notice to submitters and availability of the Hearing Panel and an appropriate venue.

Boundary of the Local Area

32. A number of submissions noted concern with the process of determining the boundary, but are generally comfortable with it for the purpose of the HVO LAP.
33. A key issue in relation to changing the boundary is whether to include the Upper Paremuka Catchment (noted as the Paremuka Structure Plan Area/Babich Area B) within the HVO LAP area for the following reasons:
 - The area is subject to a pre-WRHAA District Plan appeal, which could significantly alter the look and feel of the area and would be quite different to other areas of the Henderson Valley (refer submission #32) resting uncomfortably with the planning and future of the rest of the Local Area as outlined in the amended HVO LAP; and

- The area is within a separate visual and water catchment to the rest of the valley and has arguably a greater 'connection' with the urban area to the east, and most submitters from the area have sought increased development potential (i.e. support the Paremuka Structure Plan as per Submission #32, or seek urban development).
34. It is recommended that the Boundary of the Local Area be amended to remove the Paremuka Structure Plan Area from the HVO LAP, but otherwise the boundary be confirmed.

Rural Economic Wellbeing

35. A number of submissions noted that the HVO LAP appeared to focus significantly on provision of Future Rural Uses, and that such uses, particularly recreation and visitor type activities could negatively impact on the listed valued heritage features of the Henderson Valley, particularly peace and quiet, and traffic generation.
36. This concern is also linked to the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway and Lifestyle block topics, particularly by apprehension regarding the potential impact of enabling increased tourism and visitors to an area that is generally considered quiet and disconnected from the deeper Waitakere Ranges, and does not currently experience high visitor numbers or though traffic and issues associated with this. HVO does have a number of visitor based businesses, but these are mostly located in the lower Henderson Valley.
37. The HVO LAP process of localising the WRHHA, can give local guidance to more general regulatory provisions that are to apply broadly, such as those outlined in Plan Change 36, which provide for an assessment framework for the appropriateness of small scale activities such as bed and breakfasts, roadside stalls and food production by specifying the existing and future amenity of an area that proposals can be assessed against.
38. Amendments to the HVO LAP are proposed to highlight that various areas of HVO are different, including the inappropriateness of traffic generating activities locating in the residential enclaves and upper Henderson Valley in particular, and that the values of peace and quiet and low traffic volumes are especially important in these areas.

Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway and general walking issues

39. A number of submissions raised concerns over the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway concept, and have suggested that a better focus would be on improving local walking connections for the community. This concern is perhaps based on a perception that the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway is primarily for tourists and visitor businesses, rather than an overarching programme of prioritising local connections, improving walking safety, and identifying and securing opportunities for additional connections.
40. Other walking related issues included the potential for increased tourist/visitor numbers (as outlined above), connections/conflict with current regional parkland policies regarding cycles and horses, safety concerns regarding horses on footpaths, and traffic volumes, speeds, and speed limits.

41. Two submissions specifically noted issues regarding parking at the end of the Opanuku Walk and Cycleway, an issue which is increasing due to the popularity of the facility, particularly on the weekends. Provision of a dedicated car park is not recommended, but there is potentially space on the roadside adjacent to the cycleway that could be investigated and formalised for people that drive to walk or cycle on the walk and cycleway. This highlights that submissions relating to provision of infrastructure for visitors including those using a future Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway are justified, and will need to be managed carefully to avoid negatively impacting on local amenity.
42. The HVO LAP should be amended to reflect the intended walking priority of improving and maintaining local connections in the shorter term, while maintaining the intention to implement the wider Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway concept over time and as opportunities permit.

Lifestyle blocks as a valued feature

43. Related to the Rural Economic Wellbeing and Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway above is a concern that the perceived focus on enabling rural business and tourism in the draft HVO LAP ignores that fact that most properties are not, and probably will not be 'productive' in terms of generating income. Many properties are used for 'lifestyle' purposes, for small scale grazing, horse riding and so-called hobby farming, and that this is a valid and valued feature of the area. Many submissions also noted that it would be unlikely that many properties will ever be 'productive' in the future, and that more emphasis should be on providing for lifestyle land use and assisting owners to manage their properties.
44. It is recommended that the draft HVO LAP be improved to recognise this aspect of HVO, including policies and actions to assist landowners and tenants in the management of these sites. Most owners are working full time, and have little experience of or time for mixed pastoral and bush land management, and assistance and practical guidance would be beneficial. This could include such things as promoting or enabling farm equipment exchanges and farming skills workshops, though to providing realistic pre-purchase advice to prospective purchasers regarding the work required to maintain such a block, in addition to already noted assistance with revegetation, pest and weed management.
45. Peri-urban areas like HVO are nationally recognised as a place of reducing average tenure. This is anecdotally, partly a result of people seeking the 'rural idyll' but seriously underestimating the work needed to maintain large semi-rural properties. A number of submissions have raised this point in relation to seeking additional subdivision opportunities to improve the manageability of sites, and noting that with the lack of time many owners are currently able to spend on basic land management, it is unlikely that a rural business could be squeezed in as well.
46. This issue will be compounded in the future, as the current land ownership pattern, other than in sites with subdivision potential (including identified Large Properties and Rural/Urban Interface Management Areas), will be more or less permanent and it is appropriate that the draft HVO LAP be amended to reflect the issues raised.

Rural Design Guidelines

47. This topic relates to concerns around the potential for development and redevelopment to occur across the HVO LAP area and the extent to which this may impact on Character and Amenity, and the suggestion for provision of design guidelines in the policies and actions to address this concern.

48. Some submitters have sought a high level of certainty and prescription of outcome, particularly in relation to areas of significant potential for change such as the Large Properties and Urban Edge areas. To be blunt, insufficient work has been completed to provide this level of certainty in the draft HVO LAP – the HVO LAP is therefore limited to identifying that this work should be done to improve outcomes, and as a result of this future work, certainty can be provided through a Plan Change or Resource Consent.
49. Other submissions are concerned that design guidance will be overly controlling or prescriptive, limit people's ability to build what they please, result in the Council determining detail beyond what is appropriate and reasonable, or will result in a cookie cutter approach to development.
50. The draft HVO LAP is not intended to stifle building innovation or architectural response, but it is concerned with the potential for impact of development on identified heritage features including rural and bush landscapes. To this end a number of rural design principles are being developed into Rural Design Guidelines, concerned not with architecture per se, but matters like building location and placement, spacing, bulk, landscape response and mitigation.
51. The Rural Design Guidelines will need to find a difficult balance between providing guidance and ensuring poor outcomes are avoided. Each site and development is different, and it will be impossible and unreasonable for guidelines to be site specific. In addition the Rural Design Guidelines (which are currently under development) will be used as an advocacy tool along with other matters such as sustainable building design guidelines, which can be considered should a development require resource consent, or to assist developments to avoid triggering a resource consent in the first place.
52. A number of changes to the LAP, mainly in response to Managing Subdivision will assist in clarifying these concerns.

Managing subdivision

53. It is fair to say that the majority of submissions received raised concerns in relation to the issue of subdivision. The majority of these fall into three main categories:
 - Cautious support for the Large Property Management Areas (LPMAs);
 - Support for the Rural/Urban Interface Management Areas (RUIMAs); and
 - Opposition to the RUIMAs
54. *Large Property Management Areas:* Submitters raise concerns regarding the process for determining the long-term future of these sites, particularly if the potential for further development if a large parent lot remains. The draft HVO LAP is recommended to be amended to reflect that each site's outcome will be different and responsive approaches will be required, and to strengthen the one time only aspect of this provision to ensure a permanent settlement pattern. This will also apply to the RUIMAs, discussed below.
55. *Rural/Urban Interface Management Areas:* Most submissions in support came from property owners within the areas. Responses generally differed only in the appropriate size of any resulting development, generally reflecting a view that a 'smoother' transition from dense urban into larger rural would be preferable to the present hard and arbitrary contrast. Submissions in opposition were concerned with the potential impact that allowing more development would have on the area, undermining the Metropolitan Urban Limit, or allowing further urban development, and therefore contrary to one of the key reasons for the passing of the WRHAA into law.

56. Such a diversity of submissions is expected, when the expected outcome in the areas has not been clearly specified, other than in relation to principles that could be applied. Essentially the proposed draft HVO LAP has asked the question of the community as to whether the provision of such areas should be further investigated or not.
57. It is recommended that the RUIIMAs remain identified, but any development within them is subject to further investigation. The draft HVO LAP is recommended to be amended to:
- Remove the Paremuka Structure Plan area from HVO (refer paragraphs 32-34 above), as this will need to follow its current process to a conclusion; and
 - Retain the Opanuku and Lower Henderson Valley Rd areas, with a requirement that further investigations be finalised as to the final form of any development in the area, prior to any such development being enabled. These investigations must address flooding, hydrological neutrality, geotechnical issues, land suitability for onsite waste disposal, landscape issues, and access issues in particular as well as other more general matters. Both the District Plan Structure Plan Method and Auckland Regional Policy Statement Structure Planning Appendix provide a template for the process required.
58. A small number of submissions raised issues with planning, LAPs, the WRHAA and the RMA and suggested that landowners should be able to do whatever they wished with their land and that the Council should supply the necessary services and infrastructure for urban development forthwith. No changes are recommended to the draft HVO LAP as a result of these submissions.

Consideration of Community Views

59. A key purpose of the HVO LAP, in addition to its statutory functions, is to capture for the Auckland Council the local issues and opportunities and the recommended responses to them so that the community is better placed to influence and advocate for the future they desire.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

60. The protection of the Waitakere Ranges and Waitakere Ranges Foothills is a central objective of the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019 and the WRHAA. The protection of this area through strict control of rural residential growth and subdivision is a key principle of the Growth Management Strategy for Waitakere, the District Plan and the Auckland Regional Policy Statement, and is the corollary to the urban intensification objectives of this Council and the Auckland Regional Council. As the urban area of the Auckland region intensifies, the social, environmental, cultural and economic importance of the unspoiled coast, the protected ranges and the rural Waitakere Ranges Foothills will grow. The WRHAA seeks to avoid urban sprawl, beyond the Metropolitan Urban Limit, that would impact on the rural and natural character of the Waitakere Ranges and Waitakere Ranges Foothills. At the same time, the continued existence and sustainable development of the diverse local communities within the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area, including their economic wellbeing is an objective of the WRHAA.

CONSULTATION

61. Consultation with officers from across Council in the Strategic Planning, Community Wellbeing and City Services Directorates has been undertaken throughout the preparation of the draft HVO LAP.

62. Te Kawerau a Maki, Ngati Whatua o Orakei and Te Taumata Runanga (representing all local iwi and urban Māori) were also consulted throughout the development draft of the draft HVO LAP.
63. Findings from community consultation are outlined in more detail in other sections of this report.

RESOURCES

64. The Annual Plan 2010/2011 and the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019 provides for ongoing work associated with LAPs, on the basis of completing two LAPs per year and other ongoing implementation of the WRHHA.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

65. The methodology for the adoption of the HVO LAP must comply with the requirements of section 26 and 27 of the WRHAA. The process suggested complies with these requirements.
66. Implementation of the HVO LAP will fall to the new Auckland Council. An implementation and funding plan for the finalised HVO LAP will be developed so that actions can be prioritised and contribute towards the preparation and amendment of the relevant Annual Plan, Long Term Council Community Plan, Local Board Plan, changes to existing 'legacy' and future statutory planning documents.

AUCKLAND COUNCIL TRANSITION ISSUES

67. The decision making proposed in this report is not constrained by section 31 of the Local Government (Tamaki Makaurau Reorganisation) Act 2009, as it does not directly or because of its consequences: significantly prejudice the reorganisation, significantly constrain the powers or capacity of the Auckland Council or any subsidiary of the Auckland Council following the reorganisation, or have a significant negative impact on the assets or liabilities that are transferred to the Auckland Council as a result of the reorganisation.

Report prepared by: Kyle Balderston, Strategic Advisor: Sustainable Management.



8 TOURISM STRATEGIC PLAN

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek from the Policy and Strategy Committee approval to convene a workshop to consider a draft Tourism Strategic Plan and to delegate authority to the Chairman of the Policy and Strategy Committee to approve the draft Tourism Strategic Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy and Strategy Committee resolves to:

1. **Receive** the Tourism Strategic Plan report.
2. **Agree** to convene a workshop to consider and provide feedback on the draft Tourism Strategic Plan before 30 September 2010.

3. **Agree** the Chairman of the Policy and Strategy Committee be delegated authority to approve the draft Tourism Strategic Plan as a legacy document for the Auckland Council.

BACKGROUND

1. In 1996 Council adopted a Waitakere City Tourism Strategic Plan which recommended that significant budget be applied to support the local tourism industry. In the late 1990's as much as \$500,000 per year was being spent on local and regional tourism development, with the major part being spent on local tourism development through Enterprise Waitakere.
2. However a review of this spend indicated clearly that the tourism infrastructure (attractions, hotels, restaurants) that could benefit from this spending was not in place in Waitakere. By far the greatest percentage of "tourists" were day trippers from the rest of the region visiting the Waitakere Ranges, Waitakere Ranges Foothills, and beaches, with little economic benefit. Subsequently the Council decided to severely curtail the tourism spend and progress on further implementation of the Tourism Strategic Plan was limited.
3. In 2009/2010 some funding was once again provided for tourism support and this has raised the issue of how best to target this spending, as well as the best way forward in terms of any increased future support for the local industry.
4. With the imminent establishment of the Auckland Council it is important that the interests of the Waitakere tourism sector be strongly represented in the new Tourism, Events and Economic Development Council-controlled organisation. The Waitakere Economic Wellbeing Strategy, adopted in June 2009, identifies an action under the 'Profile' theme to 'Address barriers and opportunities for increased tourism activity through a Tourism Action Plan'. It is proposed that the Council produce an updated Tourism Strategic Plan, with a workshop to be convened by the Policy and Strategy Committee to provide feedback to officers on the content of the draft Tourism Strategic Plan. This plan can then form a legacy document for the Auckland Council to guide them in forming tourism policy applicable to West Auckland.

DECISION MAKING

Issues

5. The existing Waitakere City Tourism Strategic Plan was adopted in 1996. Although many of the actions and issues from that Plan are still relevant, the context has changed significantly at the national, regional and local levels. Some of the major changes that have occurred include:
 - Legislative changes, including the Local Government Act 2002 and the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008;
 - National policies, including the New Zealand Tourism Strategy 2015 and the 100% New Zealand Pure brand;
 - Regional policies, including the Auckland Regional Economic Development Strategy, Metro Action Plan, Regional Visitor Strategy *Bringing the World to Auckland*, Regional Brand; and
 - Local initiatives and policies, including Waitakere Economic Wellbeing Strategy, Cultural Wellbeing Strategy, Environment Strategy, Social Strategy, Waitakere Ranges Local Area Plans, Arts & Cultural Strategy 2002, Events Strategy 2006, Parks and Open Space Strategy, Creative City Plan 2009, Cultural and Creative Industries Plan 2009, Business Investment Marketing Strategy, International Relations Framework, Maori Economic Wellbeing Strategy, Waitakere Pacific Plan 2010, the Hillary Trail, Rugby World Cup, The Trusts Stadium.

6. The Tourism Strategic Plan is being re-drafted to take this new context into account and to establish new themes and actions in alignment with these changes. It is proposed to hold an internal workshop in September 2010 to consider these changes that would involve Councillors, officers and Waitakere Enterprise. Following the workshop the Tourism Strategic Plan will be redrafted to incorporate the workshop discussion, and the draft Tourism Strategic Plan will be printed for circulation to major stakeholders.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

7. The Waitakere Economic Wellbeing Strategy provides the main strategic direction for tourism development. The Enterprise Development and Profile themes provide direct guidance on tourism development actions. The Waitakere Economic Wellbeing Strategy states that: 'Tourism requires specific consideration because of the potential of its promotion and activity to improve the marketing prospects for the local economy'.

CONSULTATION

8. Promotion of local tourism opportunities is somewhat dependent on the extent to which activities in the Waitakere Ranges and coastal areas can be promoted. A joint Auckland Regional Council/ Waitakere City Council Waitakere Ranges Visitor Strategy was intended to be prepared in 2008/2009. In the course of preparing this Strategy there would have been substantial consultation and involvement with both the Auckland Regional Council and local stakeholders. The Auckland Regional Council, however, withdrew their involvement and subsequently the main consultation processes in the Waitakere Ranges has been through the Local Area Planning process. This feedback will be included in the draft Tourism Strategic Plan, which will require further consultation at a later stage before it can be adopted by the Auckland Council.

RESOURCES

9. There are sufficient resources to complete a draft Tourism Strategic Plan in the Annual Plan 2010/2011.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

10. Implementation issues will be addressed once the draft Tourism Strategic Plan has identified specific actions.

AUCKLAND COUNCIL TRANSITION ISSUES

11. The decision making proposed in this report is not constrained by section 31 of the Local Government (Tamaki Makaurau Reorganisation) Act 2009, as it does not directly or because of its consequences: significantly prejudice the reorganisation, significantly constrain the powers or capacity of the Auckland Council or any subsidiary of the Auckland Council following the reorganisation, or have a significant negative impact on the assets or liabilities that are transferred to the Auckland Council as a result of the reorganisation.

Report prepared by: Steve Wilcox, Manager: Economic Development Strategy.



9 STOCKTAKE OF COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES IN WAITAKERE

GLOSSARY

Inaugural New Zealand Community Economic Development Conference	(the Conference)
Community Economic Development	(CED)
Community Organisations	(COs)
Policy and Strategy Committee	(the Committee)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Policy and Strategy Committee (the Committee) to disseminate a stocktake database of Waitakere Community Organisations (COs) to external organisations and stakeholders. The stocktake has been undertaken to capture past and current Community Economic Development (CED) initiatives in Waitakere, as a basis for future work in readiness for transfer to the Auckland Council. The stocktake was carried out in response to recommendations made by the Committee following the Inaugural New Zealand Community Economic Development Conference (the Conference) held in Waitakere from 9 to 11 February 2010.

It is anticipated that this information will be useful for local COs and key stakeholders interested in advancing CED and provide direction for potential areas of support by the Auckland Council in furthering CED in Waitakere, the Auckland region and nationally.

The stocktake provides CED stakeholders with a better understanding of Waitakere's COs and social enterprises engaged in the CED field informs how CED contributes to local economic development outcomes and provides a basis to determine gaps and opportunities for future initiatives.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy and Strategy Committee resolve to:

1. **Receive** the Stocktake of Community Economic Development Initiatives in Waitakere report.
2. **Agree** that the Waitakere Community Economic Development stocktake database can be distributed to external organisations.

BACKGROUND

3. This report follows on from the Inaugural New Zealand Community Economic Development Conference Report discussed at the 6 May 2010 Committee meeting, where it was resolved as follows:

“The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

2. *Agree that Council officers support networking with the community economic development sector and undertake a stock take of past and current community economic development initiatives in Waitakere as a basis for future work.”*

591/2010

4. The above report emphasised the importance of pursuing some of the significant ideas and opportunities generated by the Conference in terms of the Council's role and ability to support local initiatives in readiness for the Auckland Council and to ensure that local CED is better understood and positioned for future support.

5. CED initiatives often emerge when market failure occurs, or when the conditions of social and economic decline are prevalent. It was recognised that the economic recession could provide communities and regions with an ideal opportunity for exploring new economic development alternatives and ways to harness CED potential.
6. CED therefore has the potential to build the local economy, support sustainable neighbourhoods and communities while improving quality of life outcomes for the local population.
7. The Conference was a vital catalyst for renewed interest and support for advancing CED as a sector in Waitakere and the wider region. The stocktake is a preliminary step in this process by building a local database of COs which can be regarded as a legacy document for the new Auckland Council.

DECISION MAKING

Issues

Stocktake purpose

8. The stocktake of Waitakere organisations is intended to explore ways to strengthen Waitakere's local economy through an enhanced CED sector by:
 - Building an understanding of the local CO profile, development needs, structure, nature of activities, capability and financing arrangements;
 - Investigating CED activity and its potential in areas such as employment assistance, skills and workplace training and creating new products and services; and
 - Determining suitable interventions to expand the capability of the CED sector and the roles that may be played by the Auckland Council and key CED partners in realising this capability.

A Snapshot of CED in Waitakere

9. The stocktake is a snapshot of the current situation of active COs in Waitakere. The focus of the research was on organisations that undertake economic development activities or organisations that participate in the local economy while producing social, cultural and environmental benefits.
10. The investigation took the form of desktop research that pulled together a variety of databases. These included the Council's funding programme and partner organisations, as well as external databases such as the Societies and Trusts Register, and funding agencies such as the Department of Internal Affairs Community Organisations Grant Scheme.
11. The stocktake produced a database which identified 820 COs active in Waitakere. Organisations were investigated to determine their:
 - Objective and purposes;
 - Organisation and type;
 - Organisation structure;
 - Description of activity and type of activity;
 - Target group(s);
 - Funding sources;
 - Geographic scope/locality;
 - Links to other organisations; and
 - Relationship with Council.

Summary of Results

12. Of the 820 organisations identified in the database 627 or 76% were identified as having no CED activity, being organisations that are involved in purely social, recreational, or welfare activities.
- A27-A69 13. A combined total of 193 or 24% of COs are identified as being engaged in CED. The database of these organisations is attached at pages A27 to A69. The following criteria were used to identify the COs involved in CED.

Type 1 Organisations

14. These organisations have an economic development outcome as part of their mission statement or objectives, and are engaged in activities that contribute to economic development, such as employment assistance, workplace training, income support, budgeting advice etc. Their sources of funding and structure are of secondary importance to the activities they are involved in.
15. There were 82 organisations (10% of the total) that were classified as Type 1 CED organisations.

Type 2 Organisations

16. These organisations may not have any economic development objectives, but nevertheless operate in a manner that can be recognised as entrepreneurial. They therefore achieve economic development outcomes by their modus operandi, not through their activity objectives. In almost all cases, these organisations demonstrate that they have funding sources other than grants and donations.
17. There were 111 organisations (14% of the total) that were classified as Type 2 CED organisations.
18. The major CED activity undertaken focuses on employment and skills training that target youth, Maori and migrant populations. These are undertaken by organisations geared specifically for these purposes such as Private Training Establishments as well as Maori and ethnic based COs which have the capacity to provide culturally appropriate programmes for targeted populations. Waitakere's high youth and growing migrant population offers opportunities to rethink conventional approaches to employment skills that take advantage of new business growth areas and anticipated job requirements.
19. The next main CED activity focus is business development, again with a key focus on migrant communities. It would appear from the information on these COs that many new migrants are skilled but are unable to secure employment in the sectors for which they are trained. Business development for self-employment or retraining offers a viable alternative to enter the workforce. An interesting and emergent feature of migrant response to employment options appears particularly amongst Pacific groups leveraging cultural capital and positioning their competitive advantage within the creative sector. Professional Associations also appear in this category as organisations that provide business development support for associated members and networks.
20. Table 1 below demonstrates the main types of activities defined as CED:

CED activities of Type 1 organisations	Number
Employment/skills training	36
Business development	24
Poverty alleviation	9
Budgeting services, debt reduction	7
Other	6

Table 1

21. Type 1 COs are largely dependent on external grant funding. In some cases the economic recession has resulted in a decrease in available funding, especially from philanthropic funds. Further monitoring will need to be undertaken to determine the effects of this on individual organisations.
22. Below is a combined summary of Type 1 and Type 2 COs categorised by organisation type. Type 2 organisations derive a portion of their income streams from trading activities (for instance sports clubs and Returned Services Associations that provide food and beverages and operate gaming machines). These organisations in particular generate significant income from trading activities and while their purposes are largely recreational in nature, they provide a source of revenue to support ongoing CED expansion within their communities through partnering and sponsorship.

Organisation type

23. The following list shows the types of organisations involved in CED:

- Arts/Creative;
- Heritage/environment;
- Sports/recreation;
- Returned Services Associations;
- Faith based;
- Maori/iwi;
- Ethnic based;
- Place Based Community Trusts;
- Early Childhood;
- Health;
- Housing;
- Professional Associations;
- Private Training Establishments; and
- Special Needs (Disabled).

Waitakere initiatives

24. Table 2 below shows a sample of Waitakere focussed projects and initiatives that have a CED component.

Organisation	CED activity
Community Waitakere	Provision of office rental space. Provision of shared services office space.
Te Whanau o Waipareira Trust	Property investment. Provision of learning opportunities through Learning Post (Wai-Tech). Te Whanau o Waipareira has been operating for over 25 years

Organisation	CED activity
	and has numerous CED activities in addition to those above.
NZ Somali Women Incorporated	Development of a sewing school that builds technical skills and provides work experience and produced clothing that sells at a local market.
Eco-Matters Environment Trust	Promotion of green products and services. Establishment of a community plant nursery as part of Hobsonville Land Company development. Support for development of community gardens and farmers markets.
Corban Estate Arts Centre	Provision of rental space. Provision of arts materials and artworks retail outlet. Production of events and exhibitions. Provision of studio and exhibition space. Development of arts business through classes, support and skill development.
Massey Matters	Advocacy for a multi-agency taskforce to maximise local employment especially for marginalised communities in the new north-western employment areas. Support for coordinated development of 3 farmers markets and supply chains. Development of a toolkit to enable organisations to be more financially sustainable through CED activity.
Friendship House	Development of social housing rental stock.
Project Twin Streams	Provision of skill development programmes towards environment employment. Employment and capacity development of local organisers.
MacLaren Park Henderson South	Provision of skill development programmes towards environment employment. Employment and capacity development of local organisers. Provision of office and activity room rental spaces.
Workforce Inc	Social firm employing marginalised people focussed on packaging.

Table 2: CED Organisations

25. The following organisations are further examples of significant participants in CED that could warrant further research on their activities:
- Hoani Waititi Marae
 - Lifewire
 - Returned Services Associations
 - Man Alive
 - Community health agencies
 - Major sports clubs

Key emerging issues

26. Waitakere is well placed to advance innovative thinking and approaches to CED that can leverage competitive advantage in its unique locations, businesses, community connection and cohesion, the diversity of its population, its culture of partnership and sustainability as well as the potential talent and skills pool in its people.

27. The issue of sustainable funding is key to the ongoing success of COs and their ability to take advantage of the opportunities for economic development. Many Type 1 COs engaged in CED activities are limited in their ability to deliver outcomes by their reliance on grants and donations. Their capacity could be improved if they were able to adopt the entrepreneurial approach associated with Type 2 organisations.
28. Current Council supported organisations remain an ongoing concern in terms of future support by the Auckland Council. The stocktake as a legacy document will provide ongoing impetus to progress CED development locally as well as the basis for future direction for the new Council in its support for CED. Waitakere's expertise in the field of local CED experience and the Council's partnering policy and arrangements with local COs provides a way forward and a sound platform for leading CED in the region. Community Waitakere continues to play a pivotal role in leading CED advocacy and advancement locally, regionally and internationally.
29. Since the Conference, a number of new initiatives have been implemented.
 - Plans are already underway for the 2011 Community Economic Conference;
 - A new national and local CED network has been established;
 - CED Website <http://ced.org.nz> has been launched and is now fully operative; and
 - A new Community Economic Development Call to Action was proposed to Council at the recent Community Collaboration and Wellbeing Summit.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

30. CED aligns with the Council's strategic framework, particularly the Social Strategy action area "developing new CED initiatives." The Economic Wellbeing Strategy has a strategic outcome of "stronger enterprises capitalising on local unique characteristics" and the draft Cultural Wellbeing Strategy identifies a "strong sustainable creative economy" as a key pathway supporting the growth of sustainable creative business, employment and not-for-profit organisations.
31. CED responds to several Community Outcomes that have provided the basis for the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009 -2019 such as Strong Communities, Strong Economy, Urban and Rural Villages, Vibrant Arts and Culture and Working Together.

CONSULTATION

32. Consultation has continued with Community Waitakere and key stakeholders interested in advancing CED and following up key areas of support identified by local COs and CED practitioners.
33. Consultation with Maori, including Te Taumata Runanga and Iwi continues through the process of engagement as key CED stakeholders in Waitakere and the region.

RESOURCES

34. There are no resources required other than officer time.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

35. A presentation on the Conference will be made to the Auckland Regional Economic Development Forum in September 2010 as a means of positioning CED within the regional policy and planning context of the Auckland Council. Any further implementation issues raised will be dealt with by the Auckland Council.

AUCKLAND COUNCIL TRANSITION ISSUES

36. The decision making proposed in this report is not constrained by section 31 of the Local Government (Tamaki Makaurau Reorganisation) Act 2009, as it does not directly or because of its consequences: significantly prejudice the reorganisation, significantly constrain the powers or capacity of the Auckland Council or any subsidiary of the Auckland Council following the reorganisation, or have a significant negative impact on the assets or liabilities that are transferred to the Auckland Council as a result of the reorganisation.

Report prepared by: Peta Si'ulepa, Strategic Partnerships Advisor: Economic Development.



10 INTEGRATED FOUR WATERS MANAGEMENT PLAN – HENDERSON CREEK AND WHAU CREEK CATCHMENTS

GLOSSARY

Auckland Regional Council	(ARC)
Integrated Catchment Management Plan	(ICMP)
National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research	(NIWA)
Project Twin Streams	(PTS)
Resource Management Act 1991	(RMA)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview and a presentation on the work programme for the Integrated Four Waters Management Plan – Henderson Creek and Whau Creek catchments.

A70

Under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), a discharge consent from the Auckland Regional Council (ARC) is now due for the Henderson Creek and Whau Creek catchments. These catchments have become a regional priority as recent scientific reports have pointed to high levels of siltation and heavy metals flowing into their streams and into the Waitemata Harbour. The discharge consent will depend on completing an Integrated Catchment Management Plan (ICMP) and carrying out a comprehensive package of actions to reduce the quantum of pollution. An ICMP and implementation plan therefore have become urgent, as without a discharge consent, further development in the catchment is highly likely to be hindered. The extent of these catchments is shown in the attached at page A70.

Project Twin Streams (PTS) has been working in the Henderson Creek catchment for the past five years, and it is proposed to expand the concept into the Whau Creek catchment. Whereas PTS was funded to deal primarily with water quantity issues, water quality now needs more comprehensive attention and funding. PTS, with its leading edge community development approach, has achieved high levels of community support and engagement, and its actual (and predicted) environmental, social and economic benefits have been independently documented. Its scope, however, was limited to the urban part of the catchment.

An ICMP needs to cover both rural and urban areas, which is particularly necessary in this case, as the sedimentation is primarily coming from the more rural foothills of the Waitakere Ranges. The ICMP will also include the “Four Waters” – water supply, wastewater, stormwater and groundwater. PTS is in a good position to tackle the complexities of this problem building on the firm foundation it has already established in the community. Given the conflicting priorities that the new Auckland Council will face a detailed value case needs to be established to continue and expand the work in the catchments by Council. A detailed work programme for these ICMPs will be presented to Council on 6 October 2010.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended that the Policy and Strategy Committee resolve to:

1. **Receive** the Integrated Four Waters Management Plan – Henderson Creek and Whau Creek catchments report and presentation.
2. **Direct** the Chief Executive Officer to report back to the Council meeting of 6 October 2010 with a further report covering the programme for integrated Four Management of the Henderson and Whau Creek catchments.

BACKGROUND

1. The adverse effects of urban stormwater in the Auckland region have been causing increasing concern over the past decade. Flooding, sewer overflows, and the level of pollutants in streams and harbours have been steadily increasing as land is developed and the ratio of impermeable surfaces increases. Recently, high levels of sediment and heavy metals identified in the mid-Waitemata Harbour have been directly attributed to Waitakere catchments. The worst of these are the Henderson Creek and Whau Creek catchments.
2. An ICMP is required to cover both rural and urban areas, which is particularly necessary in this case, as the sedimentation is primarily coming from the more rural Waitakere Ranges Foothills of the Waitakere Ranges. PTS is in a good position to tackle the complexities of this problem building on the firm foundation it has already established in the community through community involvement which has lead to the devolution of ideas, initiatives and practical and technical solutions. Given the conflicting priorities that the new Auckland Council will face a detailed value case needs to be established to continue and expand the work in the catchment by Auckland Council. A work programme, budget and funding plan will be presented to Council in October 2010 in support of this.

DECISION MAKING

Issues

3. A report on the work programme to prepare an ICMP for the PTS catchment was submitted to the Infrastructure and Works Committee on 3 February 2010.
4. At the 3 February 2010 Infrastructure and Works Committee meeting, it was resolved as follows:

“The Infrastructure and Works Committee resolved to:

1. **Receive** the Integrated Catchment Management Plan – Project Twin Streams Catchment Report
2. **Agree** to the preparation of an Integrated Catchment Management Plan for the Project Twin Streams catchment.
3. **Direct** the Chief Executive Officer to report back to the Infrastructure and Works Committee by April 2010 with a further report covering the budget and funding plan required to continue and expand the work required in the Oratia / Opanuku Catchment.”

25/2010

5. The Infrastructure and Works Committee also requested Council officers to include the scope of the ICMP to cover catchments draining to the Whau Creek.
6. Detailed studies have identified the need for the ICMP to include the “four waters”, that is: water supply, wastewater, stormwater and ground water. This approach is consistent with the Water Cycle Strategy adopted by Council. Therefore the ICMP will include integrated management of the four waters.
7. The increased scope of the ICMP means that a draft ICMP will not be completed until 30 September 2010 and thus it is recommended that it be reported to the Council meeting of 6 October 2010.
8. To address the statutory requirements, an ICMP is being prepared. The ICMPs will contain the history of the catchment, the options for management, the preferred option and consultation with its communities. Traditionally ICMPs were narrowly focussed on stormwater and infrastructural solutions such as stormwater ponds. Now there is a growing awareness that there needs to be a much more comprehensive approach, including techniques such as low impact urban design and encouraging changes in human behaviour.
9. PTS, using a community development method has already successfully engaged many of the communities in the urban part of Oratia/Opanuku catchment, in the restoration of 56 kilometres of stream banks. A number of properties have been purchased for stormwater management. Now, in addressing the wider issues necessary to gain a discharge consent, the scope of work needs to be widened to: include the Waitakere Ranges Foothills; continue the validated community development approach; include at least 300 kilometres of streams and tributaries not covered in the first iteration of PTS; build on the efforts of the Parks Department over a number of years to work with land owners; and develop a comprehensive package of measures to restore the catchment.
10. In consultation with the University of Auckland, National Institute of Water and Atmospheric Research (NIWA) and Landcare Research, the most appropriate methods to tackle these issues are being considered and need to be prioritised. The package of measures will draw on a range of interventions both infrastructural and natural such as:
 - stormwater ponds;
 - rain gardens;
 - bio-filters;
 - tree pits;
 - swales;
 - overland flow path detention areas;
 - riparian margins;
 - woody debris to create natural habitat;

- stream bank retaining devices; and
 - reducing the impacts of culverts and of stormwater pipes discharging to the streams.
11. Given the current predictions for significant climate change it may also need to include buying houses at risk from future weather patterns.
12. Sitting alongside this will need to be a range of supplementary measures which could contain:
- strengthening District Plan rules and regulations;
 - incentives such as providing assistance to urban residents to deal with pollutants from roofs, assistance with fencing of rural land, or reforest parts of the catchment. Any of the rural measures will need to link with the Local Area Plans currently underway as a requirement of the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008;
 - regulatory measures: such as the possibility of reviewing riparian margin widths and ratios of impermeable surfaces;
 - wider Council measures such as transport initiatives round walkways and cycleways; and
 - active use of low impact urban design practices and principles.

Causes of Pollution

13. Studies by NIWA, Landcare Research and the University of Auckland have shown that most of the heavy metals come from the urban areas of the catchment, while large part of the sediment comes from the Waitakere Ranges Foothills.
14. The two primary causes for the heavy metal component of the water pollution are the impact of vehicles on roads, and from (older) corrugated iron roofs, but other contaminants enter streams from such sources as artificial fertilisers, litter, waste material from industrial sites, and the illegal dumping or leakage of waste directly into streams.
15. The majority of sediment, on the other hand, comes from the Waitakere Ranges Foothills, from a wide range of human activities: stock grazing up to the edge of banks, earth moving, the absence of riparian margins, unmetalled roads and crumbling road edges as well as from natural processes.
16. The catchments have been gradually urbanised over the past 100 years, moving from forest to rural to urban. In geomorphological terms, the lower part of the catchment has always been naturally prone to ponding, urbanisation with its greatly increased levels of impermeable surfaces (eg. roads, pavements, building platforms) has drastically affected this natural process. Stormwater instead of soaking into the earth, slowing down and being cleansed by the earth, flows quickly along concrete and tarseal, is picked up by pipes, and increases in velocity. It then gushes out into streams causing erosion, distributing pollution and the thermal mass of the impermeable surfaces raises the temperature of the water.
17. Experts consider that significant improvement can be achieved with a comprehensive package of measures put in place over a period of time and, importantly, with the ownership and active support of the community.

Risks of Inaction

18. Apart from the statutory need to create a catchment plan (ICMP) to deal with current stormwater issues, there are three new future threats to the health of the streams and the harbour that make addressing these issues more pressing. These stem from:
 - predicted population growth;
 - economic growth; and
 - the global threat of climate change - extreme weather events and sea level rise.
19. All these will further strain the capacity of the catchment to deal with increased impermeable surfaces, sudden deluges of rain or droughts, and the wide range of human activities that impact adversely on the water quality and the life of the streams.
20. Without an ICMP, development is highly likely to be constrained. It would not be seen as responsible to allow unmitigated development, increasing the potential for flooding and increasing the siltation and contamination of the Waitemata Harbour.

Consideration of Community Views

21. In order to comply with the RMA, Council must lodge an ICMP with the ARC by October 2010. In developing an ICMP there is a statutory requirement for ongoing consultation.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

22. The Council is strongly committed to finding a sustainable path for all of the services it provides. This commitment is captured in the 'Eco City' vision:

“Waitakere City will be known internationally as a sustainable city that:

 - *Celebrates and sustains its people;*
 - *Has a strong sustainable economic base;*
 - *Honours its environment; and*
 - *Builds on its cultures and heritage.”*
23. The ICMP will contribute to the strategic framework defined in the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019, and in particular to the following strategies:
 - Environment – network of green clean air, clean water;
 - Social – strong connected communities and neighbourhoods; and
 - Growth management – will enable growth in the catchment.
24. It also aligns with the Council's Environmental Strategy.
25. Internationally, the approach suggested in this report is in line with leading edge global policy on integrated water resources management, first defined at the Rio Conference in 1992 and Agenda 21. This policy direction recognises the importance of building capacity in the community and actively involving communities in the decisions that affect them, frequently referred to as: “building community understanding, ownership and uptake.”

CONSULTATION

26. The ICMP forms the basis of consultation and it is in the enactment of that plan in which full consultation will begin. Consultation will include but not be limited to internal officers, elected members, PTS community engagement groups, the community and relevant external iwi agencies.

RESOURCES

27. Funding of \$850,000 was provided in the Annual Plan 2009/2010 to prepare the ICMP for the Project Twin Streams Catchment. Funding for implementation of stormwater improvements has been provided in the Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019.

IMPLEMENTATION ISSUES

28. There are no implementation issues arising from this report.

AUCKLAND COUNCIL TRANSITION ISSUES

29. The decision making proposed in this report is not constrained by section 31 of the Local Government (Tamaki Makaurau Reorganisation) Act 2009, as it does not directly or because of its consequences: significantly prejudice the reorganisation, significantly constrain the powers or capacity of the Auckland Council or any subsidiary of the Auckland Council following the reorganisation, or have a significant negative impact on the assets or liabilities that are transferred to the Auckland Council as a result of the reorganisation.

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