

Council Briefing Agenda

Date: Thursday, 20 August, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Council Chamber
Forum North, Rust Avenue
Whangarei

Elected Members: Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai
(Chairperson)

Cr Gavin Benney

Cr Vince Cocurullo

Cr Nicholas Connop

Cr Ken Couper

Cr Tricia Cutforth

Cr Shelley Deeming

Cr Jayne Golightly

Cr Phil Halse

Cr Greg Innes

Cr Greg Martin

Cr Anna Murphy

Cr Carol Peters

Cr Simon Reid

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact
the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

1. Apologies

2. Reports

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3. Closure of Meeting

2.1 Update on Hundertwasser – Whangarei Art Museum

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 20 August 2020
Reporting officer: Rob Forlong (Chief Executive)

1 Purpose

To update council on the Hundertwasser Art Centre project.

2 Summary

Kathleen Drumm, Chief Executive, Whangarei Art Museum Trust, will give an outline of the Trust's vision, purpose, objectives and challenges, along with some suggestions for engagement with Council towards building vibrancy, growth and prosperity for our region.

2.2 LTP Strategy and Democracy Briefing

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 20 August 2020
Reporting officers: Aperahama Edwards – Manager, Māori Relationships
 Tracey Schiebli – Manager, Democracy and Assurance
 Tony Horton – Manager, Strategy

1 Purpose

To provide elected members an overview of the Strategy and Democracy Group including:

- What we do
- the key assets and levels of service
- the key issues facing this activity

2 Background

Elected members will receive briefings on the key activities of Council. Through these briefings, staff will provide an overview of the activity. Staff will also provide information on the key issues facing that activity over the next 3 and 10 years as well as into the long term. The intent is to give elected members clear visibility and knowledge of the activity.

These briefings will also help to identify common issues which may impact on multiple activities and set the scene for direction setting for the 2021 – 31 Long Term Plan.

3 Strategy

The Strategy Department, is one of three departments in the Strategy and Democracy Group along with Democracy and Assurance and Maori Relationships.

Our areas of focus and responsibilities are varied and involve collaboration with other teams across Council and key external stakeholders and partners.

3.1 What we do

What we do	Why we do it	Examples
Strategic direction setting and strategy development for key issues	Various legislative requirements depending on issue e.g. National Policy Statements, Zero Carbon Bill	Climate Change Strategy Growth Strategy Active Recreation and Sports Strategy

Bylaw/Policy review and development	To meet Policy and Bylaw requirements under the LGA and other legislation	Camping Public Places Bylaw Easter Trading Policy Freedom Camping Act Gambling Act
Monitoring and reporting	Requirements under National Policy on Urban Development Capacity. Needed to support LGA decision making processes	Whangarei District Growth Model Residents survey Housing monitoring report
Placemaking / spatial planning across District	No legislative requirements. Future changes to the RMA may mandate spatial planning.	Placemaking programme
City centre strategy and planning	No legislative requirement, but informs RMA and LGA processes.	City Centre Plan City Core Precinct Plan Complete Streets Masterplan
Inter-regional strategy / planning	Treaty settlement negotiations Informing RMA and LGA decision making.	Kaipara Moana Working Group Upper North Island Strategic Alliance Northland to Auckland Corridor Plan
Response to government decision making and legislation	Dependant on legislation	Productivity Commission Northport / Navy Base

3.2 Our levels of service

Currently one level of service is identified in the 2018 – 2028 Long Term Plan, relating to our obligation under the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity. As this National Policy Statement is likely to be updated this year, the level of service will need to be amended or removed for the next LTP.

8.2 We deliver the requirements of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity.

Performance measure	2017-18 target	2018-19 target	2019-20 target	2020-21 target	2021-28 target
Meet the statutory timeframes and deliverables as set out in the <i>National Policy Statement on Urban Development Capacity</i> .	New	100%	100%	100%	100%

3.3 Key issues for the next 3 Years

Due to the strategic nature of our work, many of the key issues are relevant in the short medium and long term. However there are a number of key issues over the next 3 years which will impact our department as well as the wider organisation and community.

Central government policy / legislative reform agenda.

- This includes extensive reforms of the Resource Management Act and associated National Policy Statements on Urban Development, Biodiversity and Productive Land
- Three waters reform
- Changes to Government Policy Statements and direction setting following the 2020 election

Treaty Settlement Negotiations for Kiapara Moana

- A remediation entity is currently being established as a joint CCO between Auckland and Kaipara Councils and Kaipara Uri. Settlement negotiations could conclude in the next term of government, establishing a statutory body for the Kaipara Moana and its catchment.

Central government decision making on key project

- Ports of Auckland decision likely to be in next term of government with further analysis by government ministries
- Funding for a Drydock facility
- Moving the Navy base to Whangarei
- Future road and rail investments in Northland

COVID-19 Recovery and Reset

- Uncertainty on economic outlook and global recovery. This will impact local economy and government expenditure

3.4 Key issues for the next 10 years

District Growth

- Sustained growth over the next 10 years, leading to continued pressures on land development, infrastructure and transport. An overview of the proposed Growth Model will be provided in the briefing.
- Continued government regulation to monitor and enable housing development.

Climate Change

- Legislative requirements for monitoring and reporting on environment impacts
- Emissions trading scheme

- Increasing community expectations for a response to climate change risks

Economic change

- Post COVID 19 Reset presents longer term challenges for our economy and therefore our decision making, such as tourism and job distribution

Strategy implementation

- Working with elected members to implement strategies through capital works funding where resources are required (to be discussed and prioritised through the LTP Direction Setting Briefings):
 - Blue Green Network Strategy
 - City Centre Plan / Complete Streets Masterplan
 - Active Recreation and Sport Strategy

Housing

- Linked to the issue of growth, the provision of land and infrastructure for housing and business will remain a key priority.
- Further legislation and reform may change local governments roles and responsibilities in relation housing.

Importance of strategic partnerships

Building on the success of initiatives such as the Kaipara Moana Business Case, the implementation of strategic programmes will increasingly reliant on strategic partnership with central government, hapu and the community. This could include:

- Future remediation and settlement of the Whangarei Harbour
- Inter-regional governance of growth management (similar to SmartGrowth and FutureProof in the Waikato and Bay of Plenty)
- Transport partnerships with NZTA for significant transport and land use developments

3.5 Key issues in the long term

Longer term the following issues are likely to be increasing priorities for our Council

- The impacts of climate change on our infrastructure and communities, likely requiring infrastructure programmes and adaptation.
- Developments such as the Port, Navy base, rail and road improvements and the airport will (if they go ahead) have a significant impact on our District and how we plan for growth. The growth model factors in these projects and will support the longer term Growth Strategy and Infrastructure Strategy.
- As the population heads towards 130,000 significant investment is likely to be needed in our core infrastructure to ensure we meet our communities needs, but also to ensure we maintain resilience.

4 Māori Relationships

Council recognises its obligations under legislation (including the Local Government Act, Resource Management Act and other relevant legislation) to establish and maintain processes for Māori to participate in decision-making. Processes are in place at both the operational level (i.e. planning and project-based) and through Te Kārearea at a governance level.

4.1 What we do

The Māori Relationships Department provides guidance and advice for Council and Māori (both iwi and hapū). Most of the department's mahi is to facilitate meaningful engagement, which is an integral part of building positive relationships between Council and the Māori community.

4.2 Key Issues

1. Resourcing Māori, hapū, whanau and Mana whenua engagement / input to Council kaupapa and projects. Valuing hapū input and Māori worldview.

Council currently engages and consults with Tangata Whenua (Iwi, hapū, and whanau) not only in order to meet statutory requirements, but to foster inclusive decision making with tangata whenua as representatives of the community, and kaitiaki for the District's resources. The Māori Relationships Department is pivotal in assisting staff and project managers to identify expectations and resourcing for consultation and other cultural duties.

2. Considering matauranga Māori for technical advice

Council, and indeed other government agencies, acknowledges the importance of Māori input to their relevant planning documents. The ever-increasing acknowledgement of matauranga Māori heightens our awareness as an organization to the cultural obligations of Māori. As subject matter experts Māori can contribute immensely to all facets of Council's business. Recognised as generational kaitiaki, hapū information associated to Hapū Environment Management Plans (HEMPs) are a repository of their areas of influence culturally, spiritually and environmentally.

3. Titiri based rangatiratanga partnership

Te Kārearea and Te Huinga have been the catalyst for this partnership evolution, with both forums proving to be valuable for facilitating and supporting a Māori world view in decision making. Council have been very proactive in working alongside hapū on reviewing Te Kārearea, with a view to shifting to a more strategic focus. This, alongside the internal Treaty of Waitangi audit, will enhance our partnership.

4. Capacity building for hapū

While hapū have opportunities to contribute to Council kaupapa they are often time poor due to competing demand for their skills and services (i.e. from whanau, hapū and Iwi as well as from Council). Council has recently approved an increased budget for Te Kārearea in order to support hapū to build capacity in this area. Resourcing hapū capacity building will enhance their ability to meaningfully acknowledge a genuine relationship with Council at all levels from operation to governance.

5 Democracy and Assurance

The democracy and assurance activity includes the democratic functions of our organisation which drive robust decision-making through Council and Committee meetings, supported by briefings and workshops. Assurance provides the framework for a number of organisation wide activities.

5.1 What we do

Democracy functions include:

- Management of triennial local government elections
- Governance framework including Committee Structure, Standing Orders, Elected Member Remuneration, Code of Conduct, Appointment to Outside Organisations, Policies and Procedures
- Post-election planning and induction of elected members
- Agenda and meeting management
- Consultation and engagement advice and coordination to support Annual and Long Term Planning, and other Council wide activities

Assurance functions include:

- Risk and Audit, including oversight of the committee
- Insurance
- Internal Audit
- Business Continuity
- Internal legal function
- Local Government Official Information Management Act (LGOIMA)
- Council Controlled Organisation coordination

5.2 Our key assets

The democracy and assurance function does not have responsibility for any key assets.

5.3 Our levels of service

The 2018-2028 LTP contains performance measures to ensure that democratic functions are transparent and meet the legislative requirements.

Responses to requests for information made under the Local Government Official Information Management Act 1987 (LGOIMA) and the Privacy Act 1993 are provided within relevant statutory timeframes – target of 100%

Performance against this target during 2018-19 averaged 96%. This target will be reviewed through the Long Term Plan, to align with other legislative targets for complex processes within Council.

Percentage of Council, committee and hearing agenda that meet relevant legislative timeframes – target 100%

This target has been met consistently during 2019-20.

5.4 Key issues for the next 3 Years

(i) Elections 2022

Leading into the 2022 local government election, there are a number of matters for Council to consider including:

Electoral system

Council will need to decide which electoral system to use for the 2022 triennial elections (first past the post or single transferrable voting), by 12 September 2020. Council must also place

a public notice advising of the right of electors to demand a poll on this issue by 19 September 2020. Whangarei District Council currently operate under first past the post.

Maori representation

Council may consider whether or not Maori representation should be introduced for the 2022 triennial elections, by 23 November 2020. Council must also place a public notice advising of the right of electors to demand a poll on this issue by 30 November 2020. Whangarei District Council currently operate without Maori Wards.

Voting documents

Under Regulation 31 of the Local Electoral Regulations 2001, Council can choose the order of the candidate names on the voting documents for the election. There are three options available to Council – alphabetical, pseudo-random or random order. If no resolution is made by Council, the default position is alphabetical order. Whangarei District Council currently use the alphabetical system. This decision will come to Council in March 2022.

Representation Review

In order to achieve fair and effective representation at these elections, local authorities are required by the Local Electoral Act 2001 to review their representation arrangements at least once every six years. Council last undertook a representation review in 2018.

A representation review addresses the total number of councillors there should be for the district or region and the way they are elected. In the case of territorial authorities, this involves deciding whether councillors are elected from wards or 'at large' across the whole district, or by a mix of both wards and 'at large'. A review also covers the boundaries of wards and constituencies, and their names. In the case of territorial authorities, a review also needs to address whether there should be community boards in the district and, if so, the number of boards; their names and boundaries; the number of members for each board including any appointed members; and whether the board area should be subdivided for electoral purposes.

The next review is due in 2024.

(ii) Consultation on the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan

Council is required to undertake formal consultation prior to adoption of the next long term plan (LTP). Section 83 of the LGA requires this to be undertaken through a special consultative procedure for period of at least one calendar month.

The LTP Consultation Document will be presented to Council for adoption ahead of formal consultation. Council will approve the high level consultation and engagement plan in late 2020. In order to meet legislative timeframes, formal consultation will commence in March 2021.

Council's Significance and Engagement Policy is reviewed through the LTP process. A draft policy will be presented to Council through a briefing prior to Christmas.

(iii) Insurance of Council liability and assets

Insurance strategy across Council's liability and assets will be reviewed in 2021. The aim is to check the risk appetite and make sure insurance profiles are appropriate and cost effective. Global events in 2019 have impacted on insurance premiums which have seen significant increases for 2020-21. This trend is likely to continue.

5.5 Key issues for the next 10 years and beyond

The impact of Central Government decisions on democracy and assurance activity is unknown and will be worked through as the scale of changes starts to become clear in the next term of government.