

## Council Briefing Agenda

**Date:** Tuesday, 22 October, 2024

**Time:** 11:00 am

**Location:** Civic Centre, Te Iwitahi, 9 Rust Avenue

**Elected Members:** His Worship the Mayor Vince Cocurullo  
Cr Gavin Benney  
Cr Nicholas Connop  
Cr Ken Couper  
Cr Jayne Golightly  
Cr Phil Halse  
Cr Deborah Harding  
Cr Patrick Holmes  
Cr Scott McKenzie  
Cr Marie Olsen  
Cr Carol Peters  
Cr Simon Reid  
Cr Phoenix Ruka  
Cr Paul Yovich

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

1. **Apologies / Kore Tae Mai**
2. **Reports / Ngā Ripoata**
  - 2.1 Knowledge Precinct Plan update 3
3. **Closure of Meeting / Te katinga o te Hui**

## 2.1 Knowledge Precinct Plan update – October 2024

<b>Meeting:</b>	Council Briefing
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	22 October 2024
<b>Reporting officer:</b>	David Mitchell (Team Leader - Strategic Planning and Urban Design) Bernadette Aperahama (Manager - Strategic Planning) Aaron Taikato (General Manager - Strategy and Democracy)

### 1 Purpose / Te Kaupapa

To provide Elected Members and the Project Advisory Board (PAB) with an update on the Knowledge Precinct Plan progress. This will be an interactive session with those present covering the draft Strategic Framework and Key Moves for the precinct. Specific feedback on the Key Moves and outcomes is sought, along with discussion on how and if this thinking is supportive of a robust framework.

This will be another opportunity for attendees to help shape this important mahi for the Council. This Briefing is a follow-up to a meeting held in the Manaia Theatre with the same attendees on Thursday 19 September. Staff as well as consultants from Matakoho Architecture and Urbanism, and The Urban Advisory, will be attending to facilitate the interactive portion of the meeting.

### 2 Background / Horopaki

Council are undertaking the Knowledge Precinct Plan – the fourth and final precinct plan identified within the Whangarei City Centre Plan. This Precinct Plan covers the area surrounding the civic functions of Te Iwitahi and the Library, and includes important spaces such as Caffler Park, Waiarohia Stream, Forum North and surrounding areas. This is a non-statutory plan that will be developed with hapu involvement and through community engagement, to set a vision and key objectives for the area. Precinct plans are then used to drive outcomes either delivered by Council or by other partners or community, over the long-term.

Importantly this project also sits alongside and is interconnected with planning for Forum North, as well as the Knowledge, Education and Arts (KEA) Hub which is supported by the PAB. As such, staff are working hard to ensure integration between all parties across all projects.

### 3 Discussion / Whakawhiti kōrero

This session with Elected Members and the PAB is to provide an update to work to date and continue our ongoing engagement and discussion. At the last session, Council staff highlighted that the team had produced both a strategic review and a context analysis for the project. Since that meeting, the team have been working to engage with hapu, and to refine the feedback received from both Elected Members and PAB, as well as Council staff, with both groups attending meetings on 19/09/2024. In utilising this collective information, as well

as other direction provided to the project team from various sources including the PAB, the team have prepared a strategic framework and a series of key moves for the precinct.

A strategic framework is utilised to guide long-term decision-making through a process. It is enduring and embeds the vision, values and outcomes that the Council, community and stakeholders have for the Knowledge Precinct. Through the values it will guide how work is undertaken, and through the outcomes it sets tangible deliverables. Key moves are a collective set of actions, including decisions or investments, that are coordinated interventions that will start delivering on the vision.

Both the strategic framework and the key moves are draft and feedback from meeting attendees is vital to confirming a supportive way forward. It should also be highlighted that both are also high-level. By nature of a Precinct Plan, there will be subsequent works, agreements and projects that will delve into the detailed aspects of delivery.

The next phases of work include engagement with Whangarei youth, more hapu engagement, as well as stakeholder and landowner engagement, as well as public engagement. These are being programmed and any relevant information will be brought back to Council and the Project Advisory Board before discussions are had. It is intended that the Precinct Plan will be finalised before the end of Financial Year.

#### **4 Financial/budget considerations / Ngā pānga pūtea/tahua**

This project is funded through the current LTP and the budgets of the Strategic Planning department. With contracts agreed with the consultant team, there is no risk or additional consideration to this work.

#### **5 Significance and engagement / Te Hira me te Arawhiti**

The decisions or matters of this Agenda do not trigger the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the public will be informed via agenda publication on the website or Council News or Facebook or any other channel you currently use to inform customers – please also advise Communications.

However, ongoing work relating to this project will likely trigger this requirement if decisions over assets are required. Additionally, all precinct plans are developed with hapu and public engagement, alongside a range of discussions with landowners and partners within the precinct area.