



WAIKATO RAUPATU RIVER TRUST AND WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL CO-GOVERNANCE JOINT COMMITTEE

NOTICE is hereby given that a meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee will be held on **THURSDAY 16 JULY 2020 at 12.00** at Te Whakakitenga o Waikato Chambers, Hopuhopu.

MEMBERS

Waikato Raupatu River Trust

Trustee Rukumoana Schaafhausen (Co-Chair)
Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tuu'a
Trustee Patience Te Ao
Trustee Tahurangiawha (alternate only)

Waikato District Council

Mayor Allan Sanson (Co-chair)
Cr Aksel Bech
Cr Janet Gibb
Cr Lisa Thomson
Cr Jacqui Church (alternate only)

STAFF

Waikato Raupatu River Trust

Donna Flavell (Chief Executive)
Marae Tukere (General Manager Oranga)
Manaaki Nepia (Manager, Strategy)
Hone Turner (Kaumaatua)

Waikato District Council

Gavin Ion (Chief Executive)
Tony Whittaker (Chief Operating Officer)
Sam Toka (Iwi & Community Partnership Manager)
Jacob Quinn (Communications, Marketing & Engagement Manager)
Vishal Ramduny (Strategic Projects Manager)
Jim Ebenhoh (Manager Planning & Policy)
Will Gauntlett (Team Leader, Planning & Policy)
Brendan Stringer (Democracy Manager)

AGENDA

Opening Karakia

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2. CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA

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Closing Karakia

Gj Ion
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Open Meeting

To	Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee
From	Clive Morgan General Manager Community Growth
Date	29 June 2020
Prepared by	Julie Dolan Economic and Community Development Manager
Chief Executive Approved	Y
Reference #	SKR12/01-01 / 2656836
Report Title	COVID-19 Analytics Report - Update

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee, that:

- A verbal update will be provided by the Economic and Community Development Manager, who will speak to the attached report.
- This attachment was presented to the Strategy and Finance Committee, 10 June 2020.

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the **General Manager Community Growth** be received.

3. ATTACHMENT

COVID-19 Analytics Report – May 2020

Analytics Report Covid-19

May 2020 v1.4

**Re-issued June 2020, amended Ministry of Social Development Statistics re Waikato Regional Job Seeker numbers (p.3, p.24)*

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Approved	Executive Leadership Team

I.0 Executive Summary

HIGH LEVEL FINDINGS

- 83% of businesses have accessed the wage subsidy
- The optimism of households and businesses was higher than expected, 71% of households were not concerned about their job security, 43% of businesses expected business to return to pre-lock-down¹ levels post lock-down
- The effects of Covid-19 lock-down has touched all sectors of the economy and not isolated to one geographic area of the district
- 90% of businesses reported that they were in 'okay' or better health pre-lockdown
- Effects of the draught, commodity prices, and export hurdles have negatively impacted the Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries sectors
- 63% of households have reported a drop-in income, some as much as a total loss
- Job Seeker benefit numbers have grown by 35% in the Waikato District between Feb 2020 to April 2020. Compared to other local authorities in NZ the Waikato District is in the middle of the pack, not the worst, not the best, accounting for 23.9 of total job seekers in the Sub-region².
- 47% of new 'job-seekers' are first time beneficiaries showing that it is not just the lower skilled and lower paid employees who have been affected
- Crime rates are increasing, particularly in Huntly
- Building Consent numbers (construction activity) for the first quarter of 2020 remain strong relative to previous periods however resource consents in the district have been gradually falling since a peak in mid-2018.
- 99% of businesses and residents contacted as part of the Survey were pleased to hear from the Council and were willing to be a part of the second phase Survey to be conducted in late June early July.

This report provides insights and analysis surrounding the impacts of Covid-19 and lock-down on the Waikato District. The findings draw on a range of data including household and business surveys (over 800) along with a range of secondary data sources from the Ministry of Social Development, NZ Police, Infometrics and from within Waikato District Council.

The effects of Covid-19, namely the lock-down have been far reaching across all sectors in the Waikato District and not confined to certain geographic areas. Job losses have occurred and are expected to continue post-lock down along with business closures (some businesses are already as small as they can be before having to close).

The construction industry has survived throughout the lock-down period illustrated by strong building consent data, which in some cases has outperformed the same months in previous years. However, the construction industry reported through the survey responses that it was accessing the wage subsidy more than others. This coupled with declining resource consent numbers since mid-2018 suggests that the construction market had reached a peak pre-lock-down and that the effects of Covid-19 will increase its rate of decline and depth. Media are reporting issues related to residential construction-market liquidity issues with third-party lenders suggesting that once the current housing projects have been completed it will be

¹ Refers the New Zealand Government response to Covid-19 pandemic whereby in late March 2020 large parts of the economy were required to shut-down, schools close and the population to remain home.

² Waikato District Council, Waipa District Council and Hamilton City Council

increasingly difficult for new developments and new players to enter the market.³ This will likely mean a window of continued but reduced construction activity (few new developments occurring) for a period, possibly 6-12 months until demand and liquidity return.

Unemployment in the district for the month of April has increased by approximately 25%. Prior to Covid-19 approximately 20% of the Waikato District working age population were receiving some form of benefit. The Waikato District numbers of people on the 'job seeker benefit' is disproportionate at a regional level (contributing as much as 50% of the regions total). What is unique about the effects from Covid-19 is the cross-section of industry sectors and demographics affected, over 47% of those joining the job seeker benefit have never received a benefit before. The effects of unemployment will still be worst felt by those in lower-skilled jobs such as construction trade workers, farming, forestry, garden workers, sale assistants and salespersons.

The effects of the drought during the 2019/2020 season have come through in the survey responses along with commodity price and export issues related to the forestry industry. They will compound the impacts of Covid-19 and the lock-down.

Crime rates have increased, particularly in Huntly and this has been identified in Police NZ data and in survey responses. In general Police 'events' in the district have increased by over 10% during April-May 2020.

Over 50% (206) of households surveyed have reported a drop-in income, some by as much as 100% with 30% being concerned about job security. The concern of unemployment, drop in income, and the closure of small businesses were the major themes which emerged from the household surveys. Generally, rural households had a more positive outlook. Few people were concerned about the direct health impacts of Covid-19, moreover they were concerned about their ability to access healthcare in general. Retired persons were worried about social isolation and a need to see family and friends.

Households surveyed strongly favoured Council involvement in promoting employment, investment and skills and training within the district. A number of ideas/suggestions were presented by respondents. The themes centred around efficient provision of core services, promotion of job and training opportunities for residents, and enhancement/beautification projects.

Some data has been acquired regarding the use and demand of Food Banks and this has been significant in the Waikato District. Unfortunately, at the time of writing we were unable to access any historic data to understand trends as most food banks have not been tracking how many food parcels they have been providing. Only rough estimates of how many have been distributed exist.

Whilst the wage subsidy scheme will be providing a 'false economy' for some time the data already shows that even with the wage subsidy the effects on businesses and households are widespread. The increase in unemployed combined with the lock-down is correlating with a rise in crime, domestic violence and suicides.

The levels of optimism, particularly among business owners/operators were strong across a number of sectors (primarily agriculture, fishing and forestry) and the majority of households (70%) were confident about job security.

In respect to recovery, it is important that the Council provides certainty and confidence through its activities. Council-driven initiatives to promote, enable and maintain local employment are critical. This can include a range of things such as favouring local businesses when awarding contracts, zoning and servicing more land so new businesses can start-up and existing ones can expand or relocate to the district. Council can ease job transition by advocating and lobbying relevant government departments and agencies to support specific sectors and areas that we know are most affected by Covid-19. The main outcome that Council should be seeking through this is to ensure local residents who have lost or are losing their jobs or

³ Credit crunch: Funding for property development and subdivisions dries up, NZ Herald, 27th May, 2020.
https://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=12334626

businesses are provided career pathway support, training and skills development opportunities so they can re-join the workforce as soon as possible.

Finally, it is important to continue to monitor a range of indicators as set out in the report below to understand the social and economic health of residents and businesses in the district to help guide where Council and related agencies should be focusing their efforts.

HIGH LEVEL RECCOMENDATIONS

1. The economic effects of lock-down are being masked by the wage subsidy creating a 'false-economy', the report findings therefore provide a snapshot in time whilst the wage subsidy has been in place. It is expected that some sectors will worsen in the coming months post lock-down and following the end of the wage subsidy.
2. It is unlikely revenue/sales and GDP in all sectors will simply 'bounce-back' to pre-Covid-19 levels.
3. This will mean some sectors, businesses and households who exhibited optimism during lock-down will likely have a more pessimistic outlook in the coming months as the true economic effects are felt
4. New residential construction activity is likely to decline over the next 6-12 months due to liquidity and demand once current 'live' projects are completed.
5. Until the end of the wage subsidy it will be difficult to determine the true economic health of sectors and businesses. The effects are likely to come in waves over the next 12-24 months.
6. Job losses and business closures will increase, it is therefore important that Council works with and facilitates partner agencies and their programmes to ensure the districts communities receive the support they need to return to work.
7. Job retention and creation is critical to avoiding the negative social and economic impacts of Covid-19. Household and business confidence is a key factor in achieving a speedy recovery. If households are confident, they'll spend more, if businesses are confident, they'll take more risks, invest more and hire more people.
8. The Council should look at ways to promote and enable business growth in the district including the growth of existing businesses, new business establishment, and relocation of businesses from other parts of the country to the district.
9. The Council should continue to drive Community Led Development programmes to broaden the capacity and ability of communities to improve on both social and economic recovery outcomes.
10. The lens that Council could apply to its business to support recovery falls into four broad programmes:
 - **Investment:** promoting and enabling investment in the district for business growth (this includes making sure it is easy to do business with the Council, that land is available for business to establish, and initiatives are undertaken to promote the district)
 - **Community resilience:** supporting the building of social resilience for our residents and their communities. Supporting community led development so that our communities can create, lead and implement local projects for the betterment of their environment. (this includes making sure that local businesses are able to deliver local projects, and that local communities can identify and deliver projects themselves) Opportunities to develop local Social Enterprises through these projects should also be encouraged and supported by Council
 - **Labour market transition:** understanding the skills investment required from central government to meet new and existing business needs to maximize potential opportunities for residents (this includes understanding the areas and sectors affected in the district and ensuring relevant central government agencies are involved with activities such as skills matching and training.
 - **Business leadership and development:** to work alongside existing employers to support employment retention, sector growth and building career pathways (this includes such things as understanding business sector performance and health in the district and ensuring the Council is enabling opportunities)

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2.0 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide insights and analysis to better inform the elected members, the executive leadership team and stakeholders regarding the economic and social challenges facing the Waikato District as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the 'lock-down'.

This report draws on primary data (surveys) along with secondary data sources to help build an understanding of the current economic and social challenges facing the district.

The main content of this report are the findings of a survey outreach programme which WDC ran for a month between 14th April 2020 to 15th May 2020 to understand the initial impacts of Covid-19 on businesses and households in the district. The report also includes several other key indicators from across the business as well as Waikato District-specific Infometrics data and forecasting based on their modelling.

3.0 Survey outreach

Overview

To better understand the impacts of Covid-19 on residents and businesses within the district a phone survey outreach programme was setup to glean first-hand insights.

Two outreach teams made-up of Waikato District Council staff were established: one conducted business surveys, and the other conducted surveys with households. In total 307 business owners or leaders were surveyed with approximate call-times of 40min each. 420 households were surveyed, with approximate call times of 20 minutes each. Over 30 WDC staff undertook this outreach.

It is planned that a secondary outreach programme will be undertaken in June/July 2020 once access to the wage subsidy is further limited and many businesses will no longer qualify to receive it. This will help inform WDC regarding the outlook for businesses and households in the district.

Survey Design

The two survey designs were different and asked specific questions, both qualitative and quantitative. We wanted to understand if businesses were able to work during the lockdown, if they had received assistance, what their outlook for the next 12-month period was, what sector they operate in, how many staff they have, if they've had to lay off staff, and what in their view Council could do to support them as they recover. The residential survey asked questions regarding how many people in the household were employed. We asked what they do, if they were able to work during the lockdown, if they will have work to return to following the lockdown, what concerns they have and what in their view council can do to support them. Both households and businesses were randomly selected from Council database records. The survey design/questionnaire was based off similar surveys being undertaken by other agencies such as Te Waka (Waikato's regional economic development agency) so that a level of comparative analysis could be undertaken. WDC callers uploaded respondents' responses directly into cloud-based software Survey Monkey.

Sample of respondents

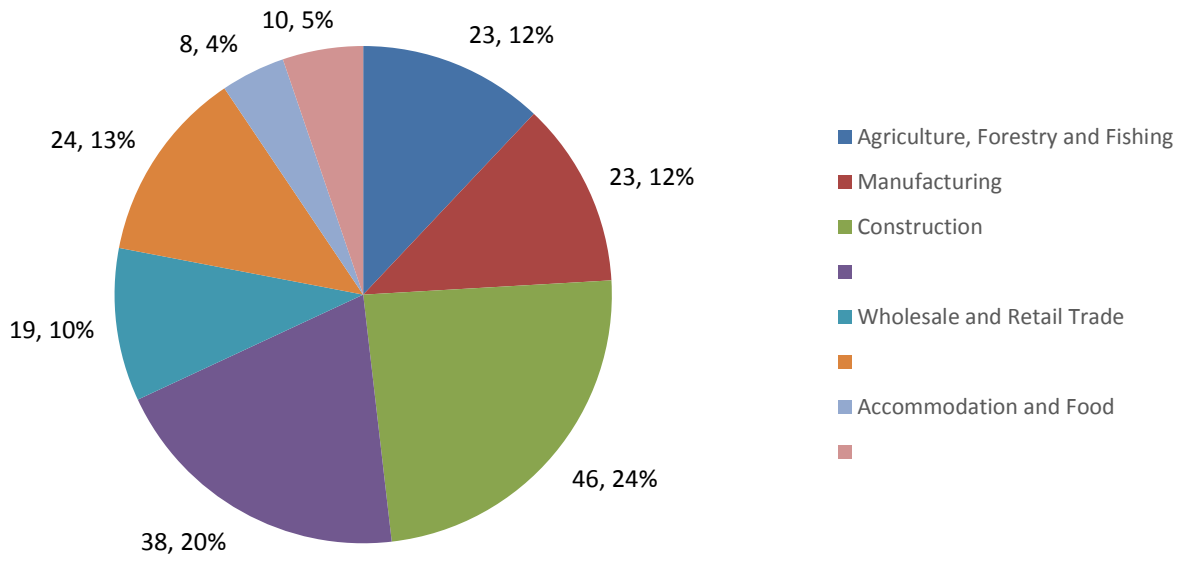


Figure. 1. Sector break-down of business survey respondents

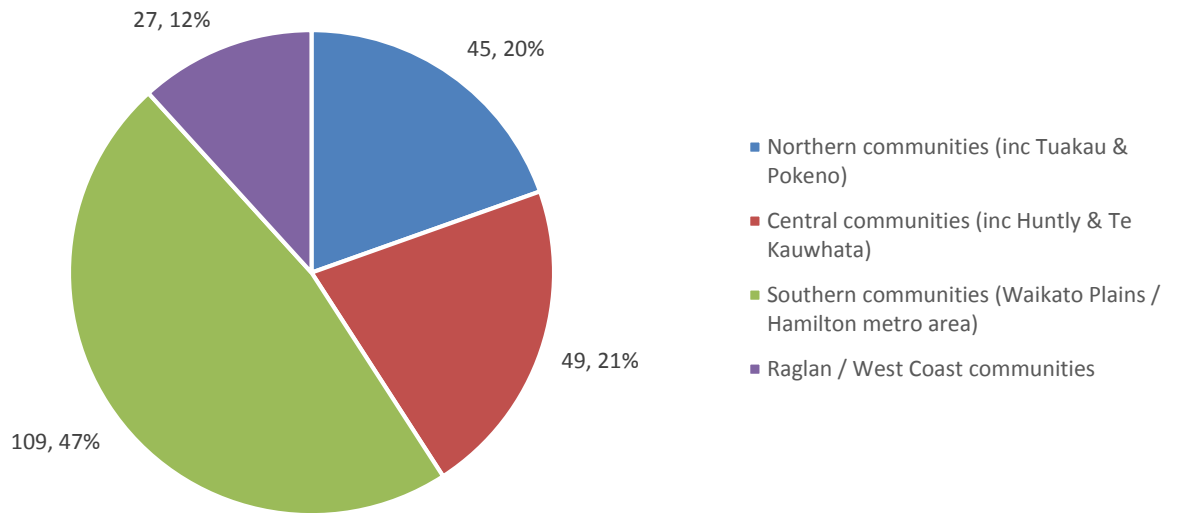


Figure. 2. Location break-down of business survey respondents

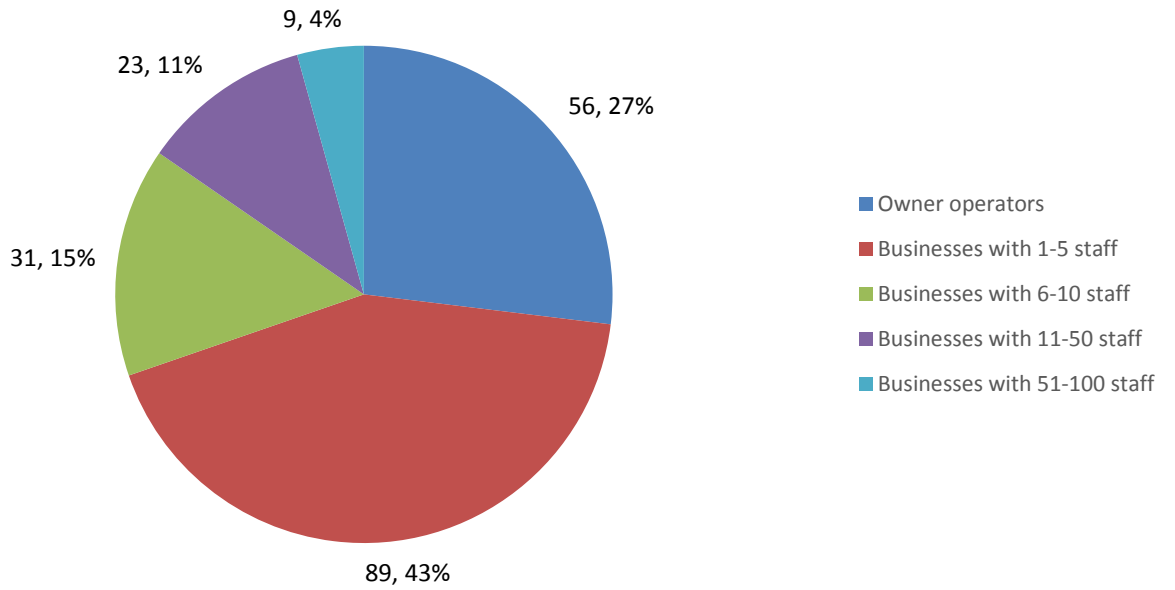


Figure. 3. Size (number of employees) of business survey respondents

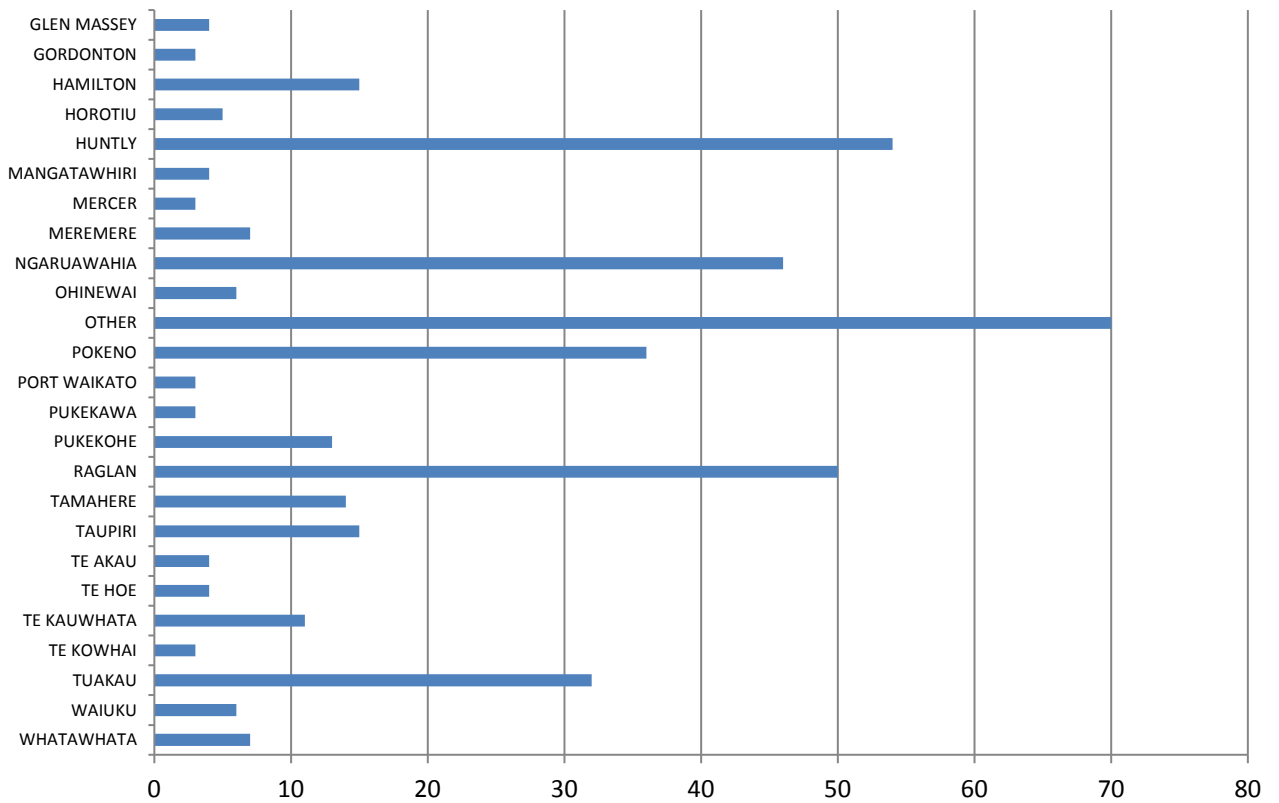


Figure. 4. Location of household's respondents by town

Note: 'Location' is as described by the respondents as their nearest community/town when answering the survey

Business Survey Findings

State pre-lockdown

- Prior to lock down largely all businesses reported that they were doing Okay, Great, or Booming. Only 3% reported that they were ‘struggling’ or ‘not great’
- The Manufacturing and Accommodation and Food⁴ sectors were the only ones that reported they were ‘struggling’ pre-lockdown (4-5%)
- The findings show that the health of businesses in the district was generally good pre Covid-19

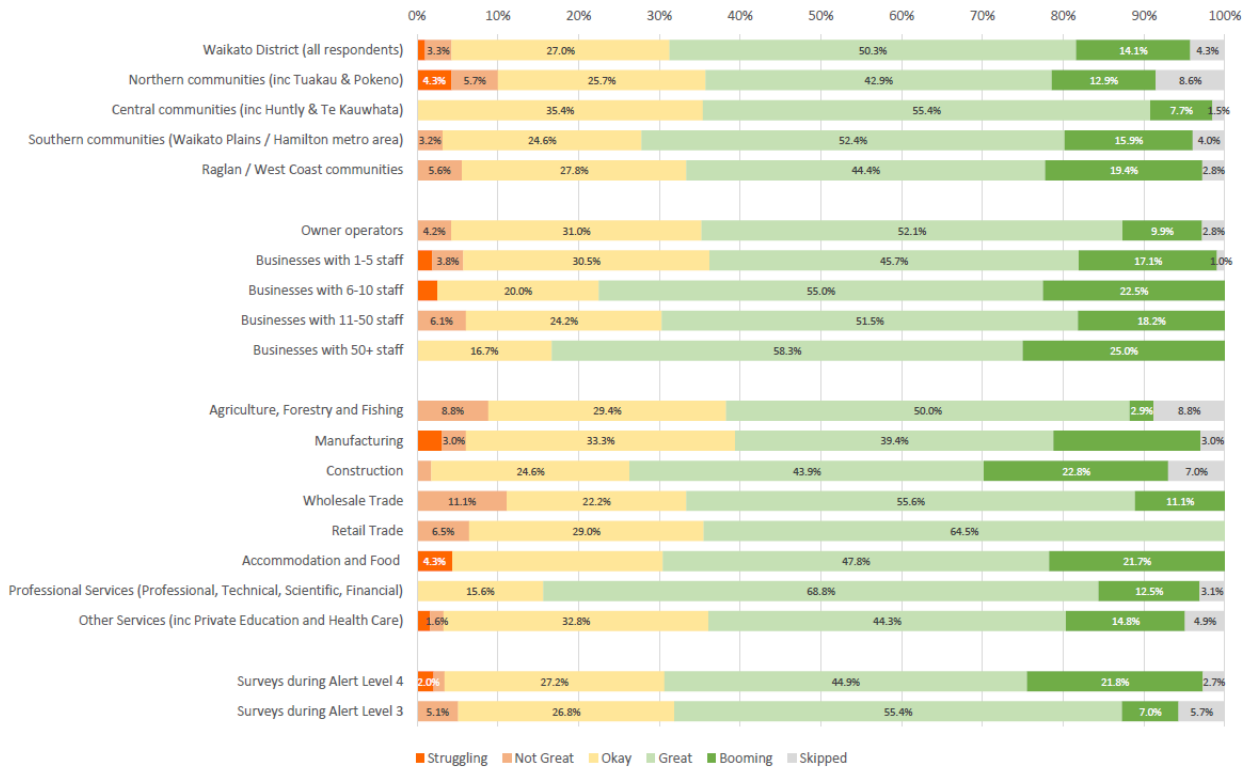


Figure. 5. How was your business going before the lock-down?

⁴ Tourism derived spend will fall largely under this classification.

Business confidence about post-lockdown

- Business confidence and optimism regarding their ability to return to normal following the lock-down were mixed.
- Roughly 1/3 thought that their business would return to normal directly following the lock-down period, 1/3 thought that it would take 3-6 months to return to normal following the lockdown, 1/3 were relatively pessimistic about their ability to return to normal and thought that it would take at least 12 months and in some cases greater than 2 years.
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing were by far the most optimistic regarding the ability to return to normal (70.6%) reported that they would return to normal directly following lock-down.
- Accommodation and Food have the most pessimistic outlook with only 30.4% reporting they would return to normal following the lock-down.
- Raglan/West Coast Communities were the most pessimistic geographic area with over 20% of businesses reporting that they thought that the recovery would take longer than 2 years.
- Retail Trade also had a high proportion (19.4%) of businesses which thought that the recovery would take greater than 2 years.
- It is worth noting that business confidence regarding the economic outlook for their businesses and the economy did improve as the lock-down levels were down-graded, with over 50% at level 3 reporting that they thought that their business would return to normal. However, concerningly, almost the same percentage of businesses remained pessimistic i.e. believed that recovery would take 12 months or more.
- This suggests that there could be an underlying 25-30% of businesses that will be struggling for an extended period following the end of lockdown.



Figure. 6. How long do you think recovery of your business will take following lockdown?

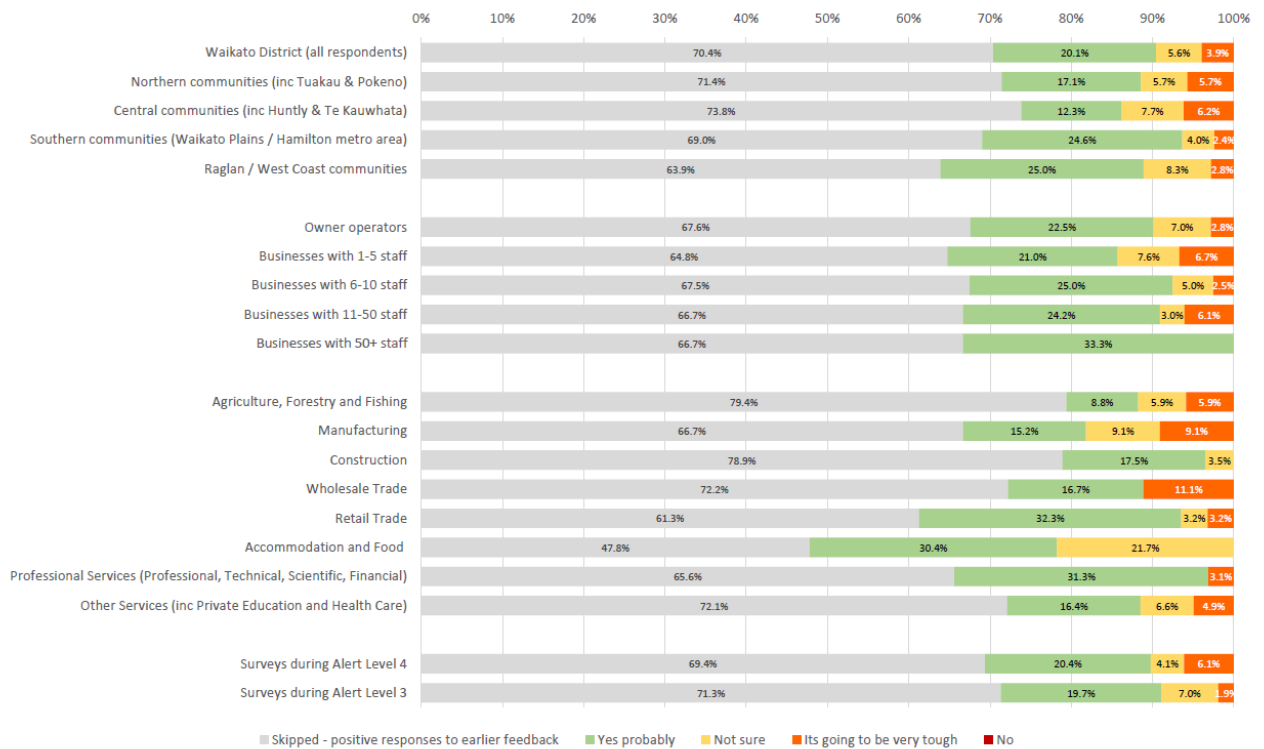


Figure. 7. Business resilience/ability to remain in business post crisis of those who thought recovery would take 12+ months

- Despite the relatively high number of businesses which reported that they would be struggling post-lockdown there were few businesses that said they would not make it through and only 3.9% of respondents in total reported that it was going to be “very tough”. There were varying degrees of uncertainty from some sectors, particularly ‘accommodation and food’ (21.7%) and Manufacturing (9.1%).
- The percentage of those who were ‘not sure’ about the ability to maintain their business post crisis moved from 4.1% in level four to 7.0% during level three illustrating a shift/moderation in sentiment (from those considering that ‘it’s going to be very tough’ to ‘not sure’).

Reduction of staff numbers

- 8.3% have had to reduce staff numbers, 10.4% skipped answering the question.
- Some businesses reported having to let go up to 16-20 staff.
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing, and Accommodation and food were the worst affected. Agriculture, forestry and fishing businesses, however, were the most optimistic about their businesses being able to return to normal immediately following the lockdown.

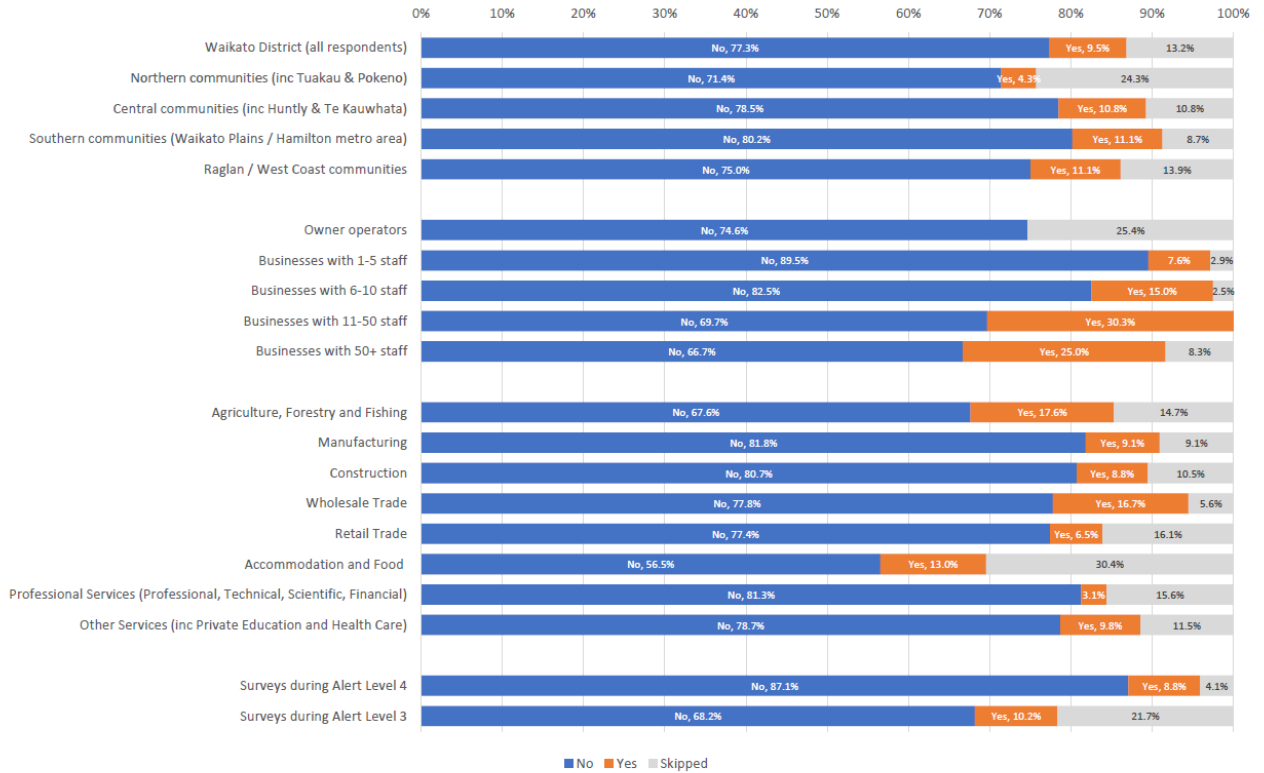


Figure. 8. How many businesses have had to reduce staff numbers?

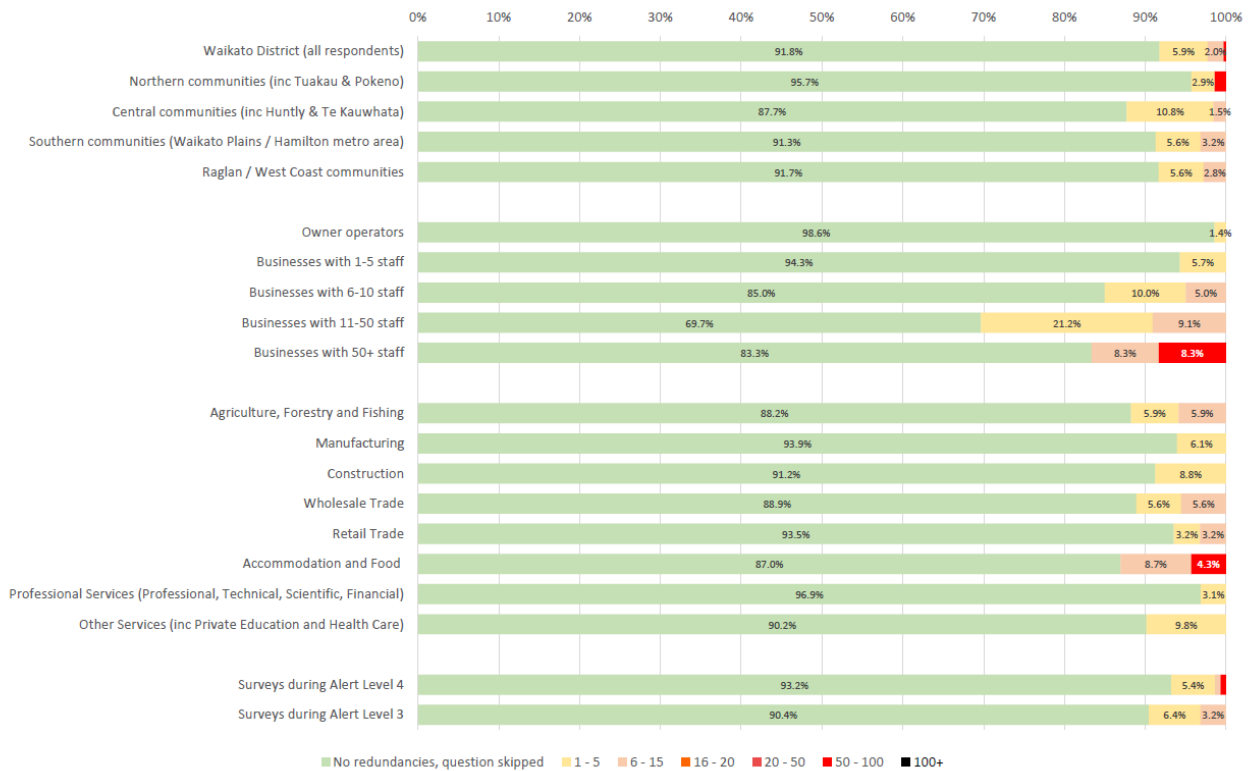


Figure. 9. How many jobs have been lost/business?



Figure. 10. Are you worried you might need to reduce employee numbers further as the year progresses as a result of Covid-19?

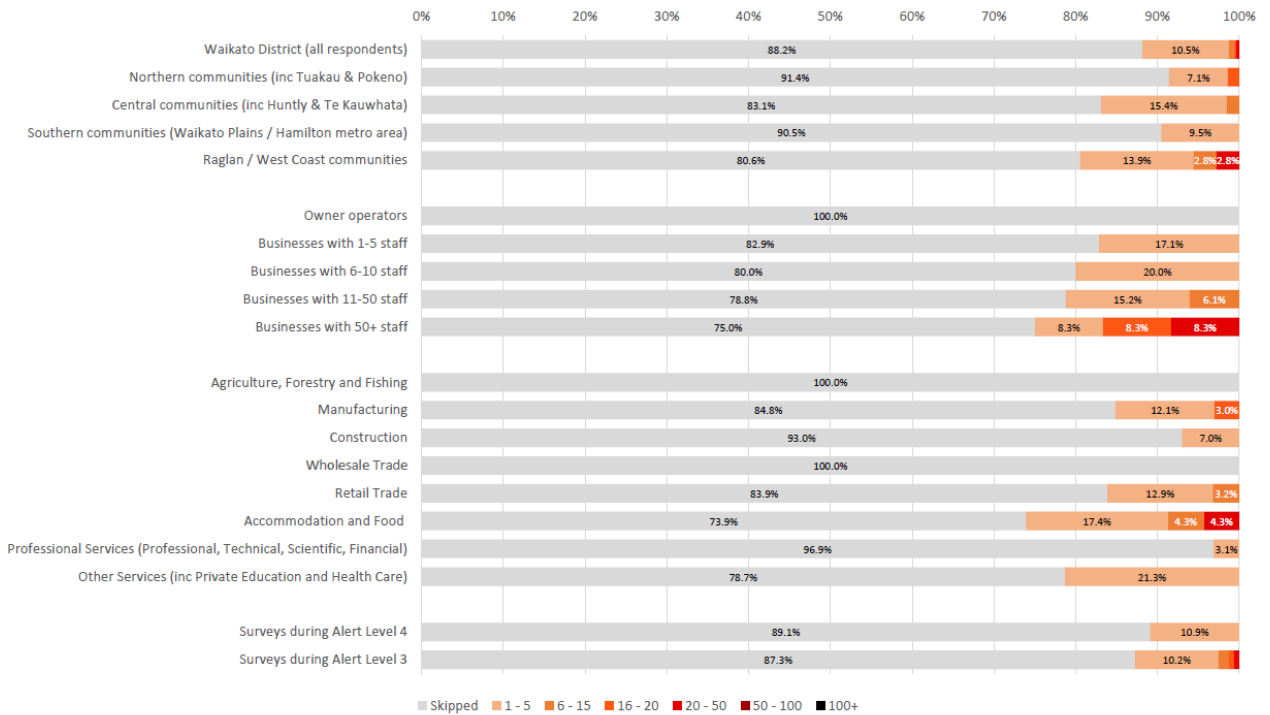


Figure. 11. How many more positions might need to be reduced?

Government Agency Engagement

- Generally, there was an even split between those businesses which had engaged and/or received support from other agencies or industry bodies. Larger employers generally had more engagement than smaller businesses with up to 5 staff.
- Owner operators had the lowest level of engagement (32.1%) with government agencies and industry bodies compared with larger businesses (up to 77.8%)
- Businesses in total had most engagement with the Ministry of Social Development (26.5%),
- 'Construction and manufacturing' was the sector that had most engagement with government agencies and industry bodies.

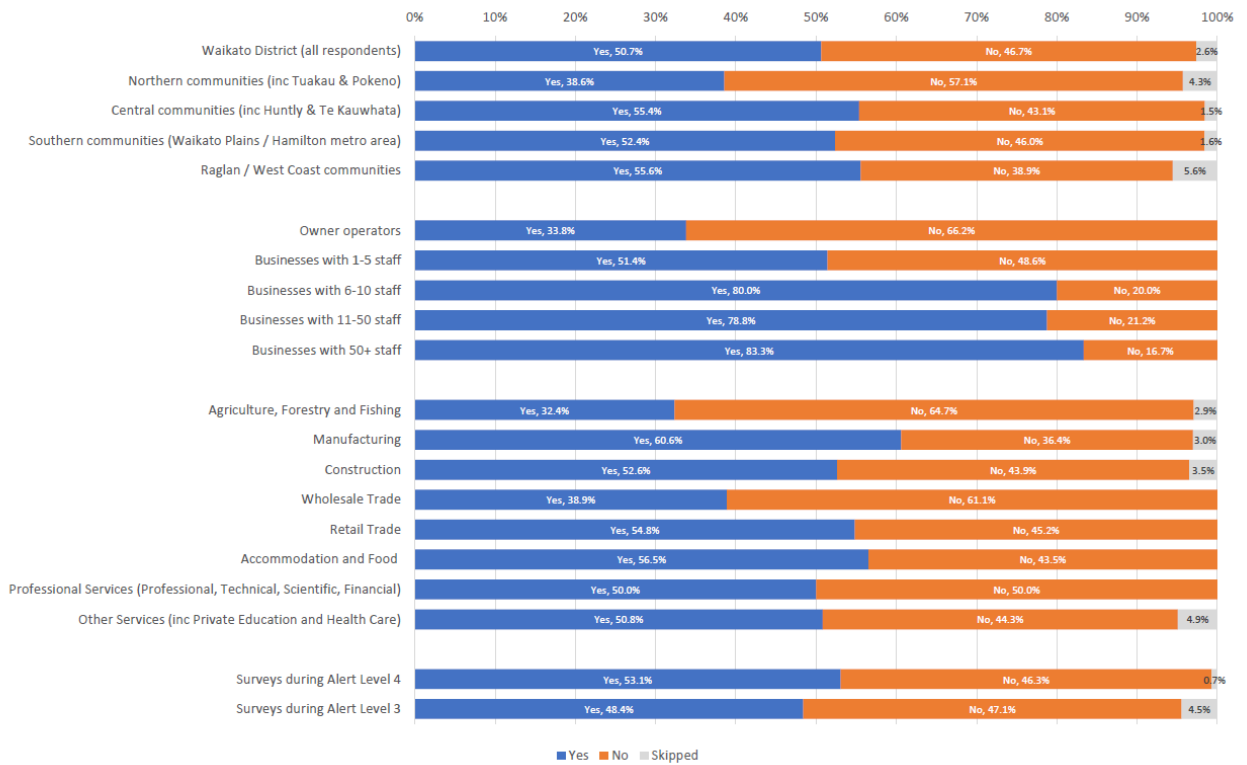


Figure. 12. Have you spoken with any other government agency or industry body?

- Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing accessed the wage subsidy the least, 17.6% suggesting that they either did not need it or did not quality.
- Construction accessed the wage subsidy the most. This probably reflects the business model of this industry which tends to operate with narrow margins, high debt levels and long timeframes before profits are realised.
- Most sectors, other than Construction and Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing on average accessed the wage subsidy at a rate of approx. 60% suggesting that those who needed it, were able to access it.
- A large number of respondents generally chose not to answer this question (over average 26.3), the reason for this is unclear.

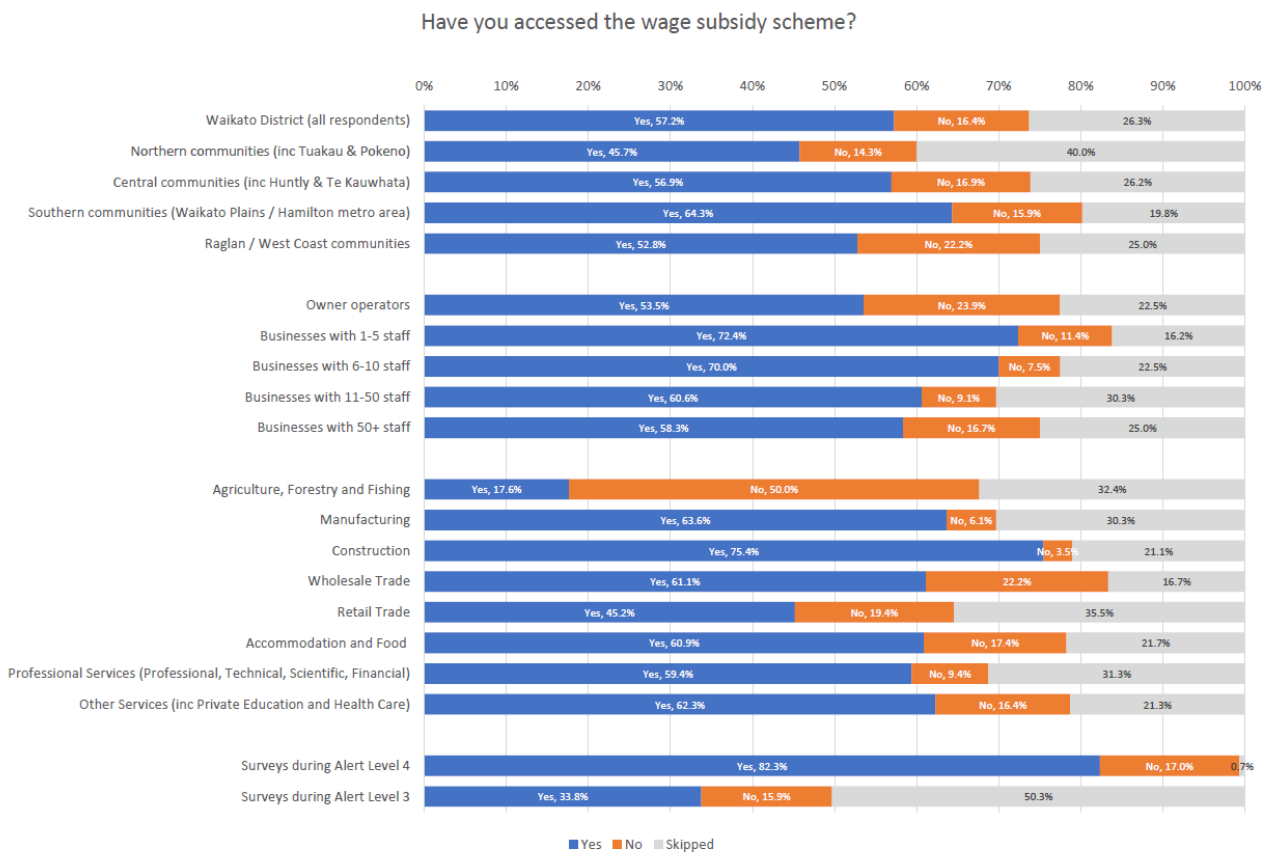


Figure. 13. Have you accessed the wage subsidy scheme

- The majority of families of business owners/leaders reported they were ‘holding up’ and considered that they’d ‘get through’ or better.

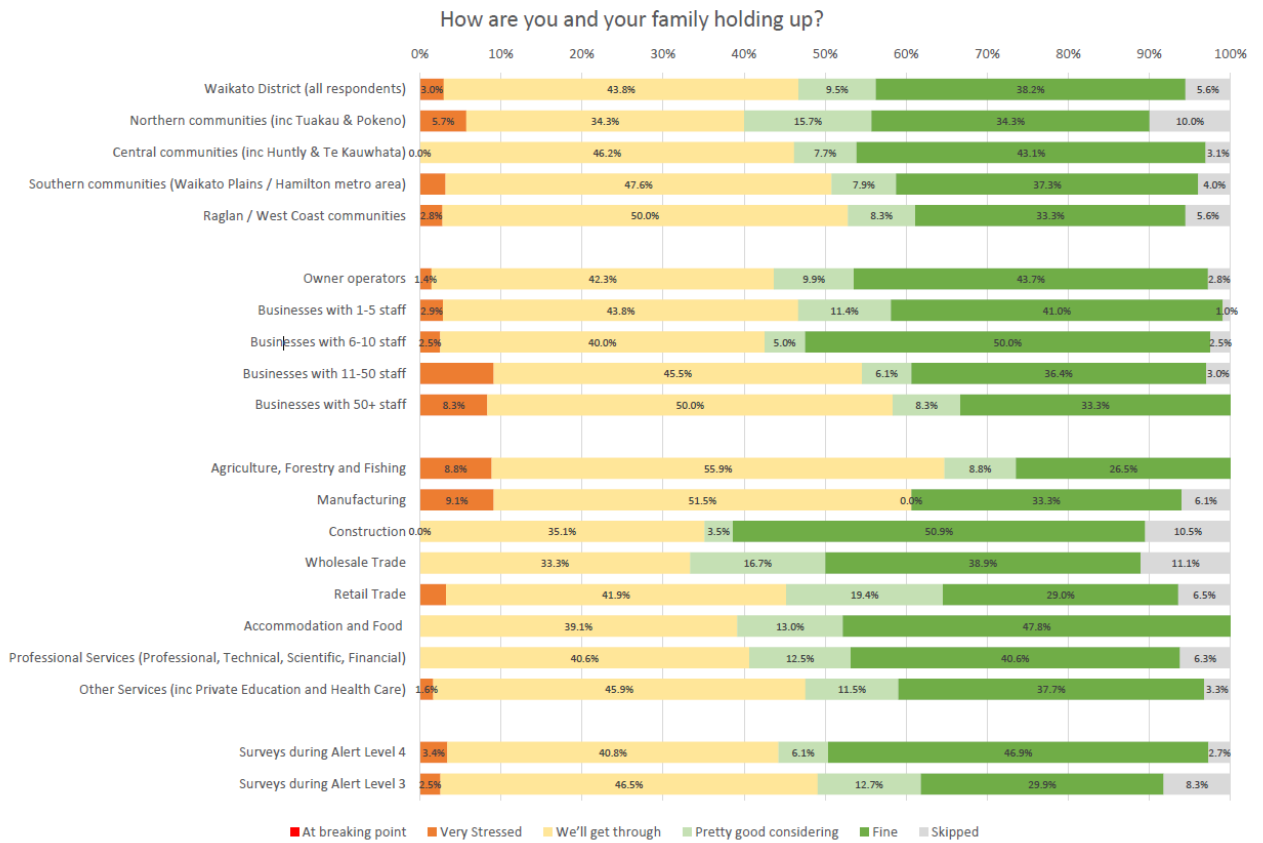


Figure. 14. Business owner/operator family resilience

- A large proportion of businesses reported they either owned their own property and/or received rent relief from their land lord. Only 18.3% had not received support.

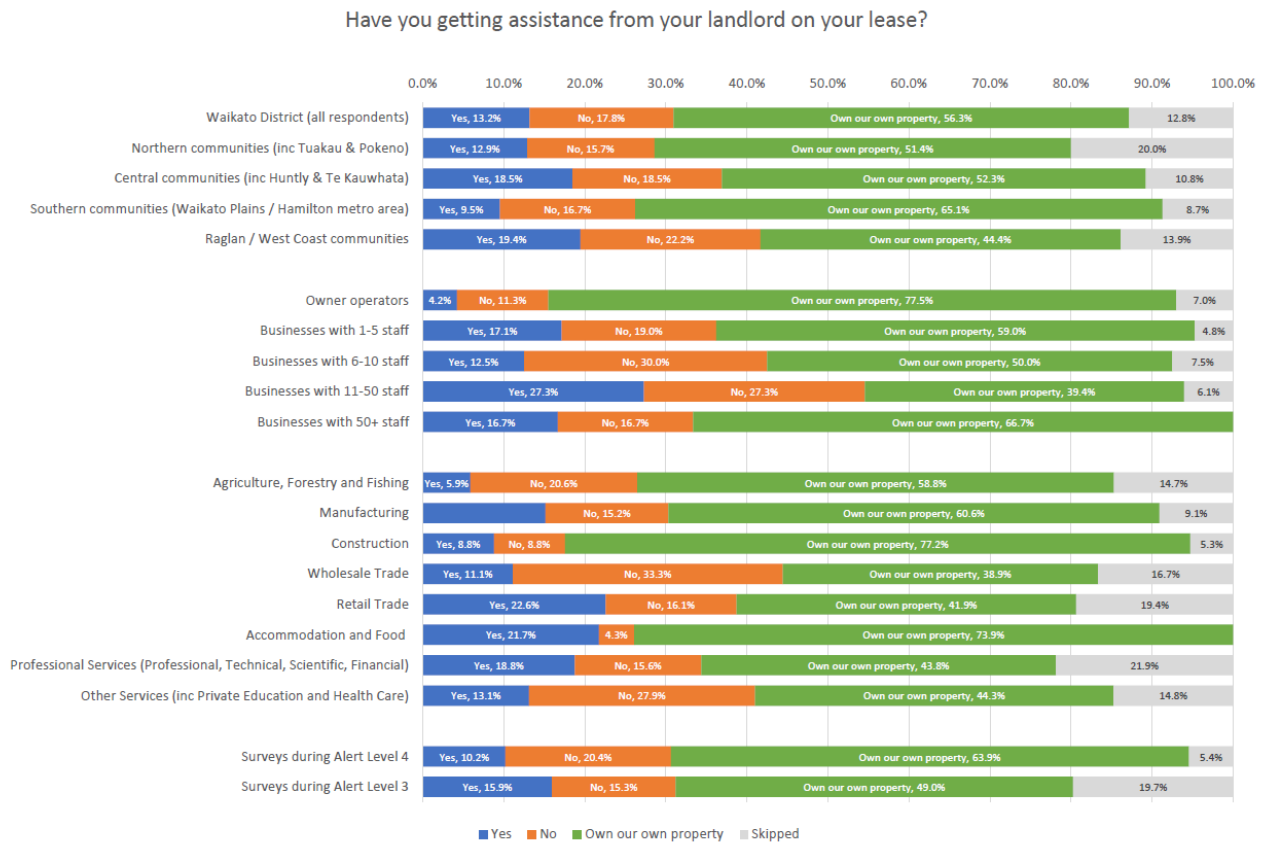


Figure. 15. Those respondents who have received support from their landlord

Summary

- Generally, the health of businesses in the district pre lockdown was good with the exception of the agriculture and forestry sectors affected by drought and global commodity prices. Some weaknesses were reported in other sectors such as retail and manufacturing.
- The wage subsidy scheme was widely accessed with the exception of agriculture, forestry and fishing, which suggests most businesses have sought assistance where needed and that it was forthcoming.
- Business confidence was mixed and further job-losses and business closures are likely. Construction, retail trade and food and accommodation are likely to be the worst affected based on the survey data. However without further analysis it is difficult to pinpoint exactly where this will occur since each business has its unique circumstances.
- Manufacturing is a sector that needs to be monitored closely and better understood.

Household Survey Findings

- In total 419 households were surveyed. Information related to employment was collected for a total of 1,227 people. From the survey responses, 600 were employed at the time of survey, 736 of working age and 36 had lost their jobs as a result of Covid-19.
- 55% of households reported a drop in income, 15 households by as much as 100%
- 63% of households were able to continue working during the lockdown, Infometrics estimated that only 54% of the Waikato District workforce could remain working.
- 29% of respondents were concerned about job security

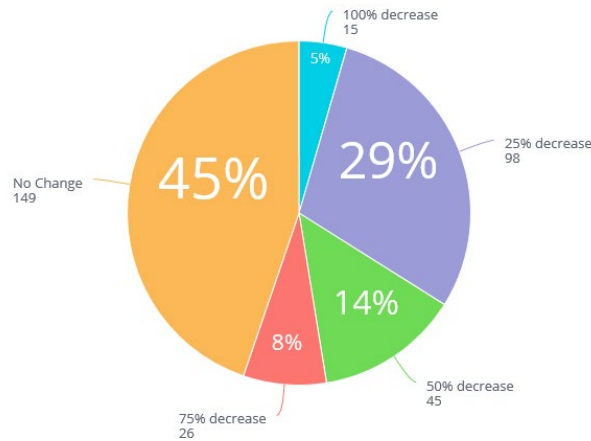


Figure. 16. Household Income Change

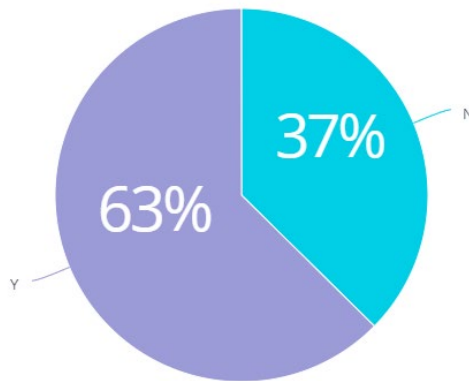


Figure. 17. Number of respondents able to work during the lockdown

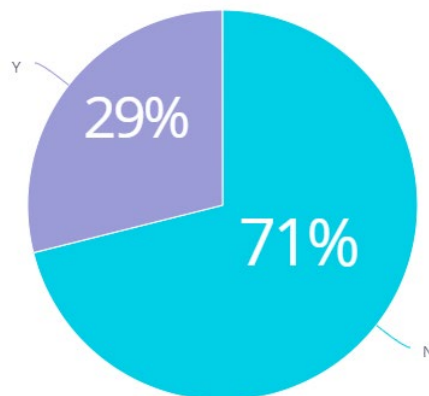


Figure. 18. Number of respondents concerned about job security

Households and Community concerns

Not everybody in the district expressed concerns. At least 135 (34%)⁵ respondents have expressed a positive or neutral outlook on the future wellbeing of their household (and in some cases, on the wellbeing of the community as a whole). People living on farms, or in rural areas, seemed less affected than the rest of the community possibly due to their familiarity with living in an isolated manner already, and the fact that they had less interruption to their daily routines. They show higher levels of self-reliance. Older people (retirees) were also less affected and had held a more positive outlook regarding the impacts of the pandemic (unless they were suffering from health issues). One common concern amongst them was related to missing visits/activities with grandchildren.

The main concerns for the respondents were related to financial matters. At least 161 respondents were worried about unemployment, drops in income, the closure of small businesses, etc (for both their household and the wider community). A few people (10) were also worried about a potential fall in their properties' values.

Many people (52) also had health-related worries. Most of the concerns were directly related to Covid 19 (the fear of catching it). Given the time when the survey results were collected and the subsequent drop in positive cases and the move to level 2, it is likely that these concerns will have decreased. Some respondents did mention their fears of seeing a long backlog in the health care system resulting in decreased levels of efficient health care in the coming months. A potential increase in mental health issues was mentioned in some responses.

A number of respondents (34) mentioned fears related to witnessing an increase in crime and anti-social behaviours. This was particularly prevalent from respondents from Huntly.

Perceived remedies

Generally, survey respondents were highly supportive of Councils involvement in promoting employment, investment and skills and training within the district: 81%, said yes, only 6% said no.

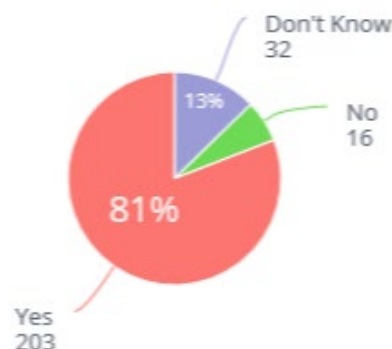


Figure. 19. Households' opinions on whether Council should be promoting employment, investment and skills training within the district

⁵ These percentages are of the total respondents who answered these questions

From those who did have specific ideas as to if or if not Council should be involved in the 'promoting employment, investment, skills and training the following key themes emerged:

- A decrease/freeze in rates (34)⁶.
- An improvement in infrastructure (24). From those who mentioned this the main priorities for them were maintenance of roads and public spaces.

Other ideas included:

- The creation of jobs (13).
- The creation of recreation/training/community programs (11). Conversely, some respondents saw training initiatives as a waste of time and/or rate payer money (5).
- The promotion of local tourism (particularly in Raglan) and other environmentally friendly initiatives (7).
- Better communication and transparency from Council (4)

Summary

A number of people in our district seem to have been affected very little by the crisis and even highlighted a beneficial increased sense of community. Most people, however, do feel insecure about the future. While the physical health concerns related to Covid 19 will probably be dissipating by now, the anticipated mental health issues related to the lockdown may need to be taken seriously into account. The main sources of anxiety, however, were related to financial struggles (which may feed mental health problems) and the potential increase in crime that could follow a surge in unemployment and poverty. Most of the remedies mentioned by the respondents were directly linked to financial matters, but a few were also related to mental well-being and community cohesion.

⁶ Note: the survey questionnaire did not specifically ask questions related to rates. Further research would need to be undertaken to determine ratepayers appetite for rates increases or not.

4.0 Ministry of Social Development Data

- Waikato District has seen an increase of an additional 543 people on the Job Seeker Benefit (these are people deemed as ‘work ready’) between February 2020 and May 2020.
- The numerical increase of additional people in the Waikato District on the Job Seeker benefit is the 15th highest out of all Territorial Authorities in the Country.
- Compared to the sub-region⁷, Waikato District accounts for 23.9% of the total sub-regions’ Job Seekers at the end of April 2020.
- Since April 2019 the Waikato District has been experiencing a gradual increase in people on the Job Seeker Benefit (circa 1% month on month)
- Waikato District’s increase in Job Seeker Benefit between February 2020 and April 2020 is 35% vs 37% for the Region and 44% nationally. This indicates that the districts employment is not as resilient as other parts of the region but comparatively has performed better than the national average. This is likely reflective of the make-up of businesses in the district and their relative resilience to the effects of Covid-19 lockdown compared to other parts of the country (e.g. Queenstown’s Lakes District, an economy heavily reliant on the international tourist market, which has seen a 1528% increase).
- The Waikato District has seen a 7% rise in Accommodation Supplement over the period February 2020 to April 2020 which is the 10th highest numerical (person) increase across the country.
- 47% of those joining the Job Seeker Benefit are first-time clients of the Ministry of Social Development, i.e. have not received any form of Ministry of Social Development welfare previously. This suggests that the effects of the Covid-19 lockdown are affecting parts of the economy and communities differently to other economic down-turns e.g. the global financial crisis.
- Across other benefit types there has been little to no change for the period February 2020 to April 2020, for example Health Condition and Disability which is to be expected.

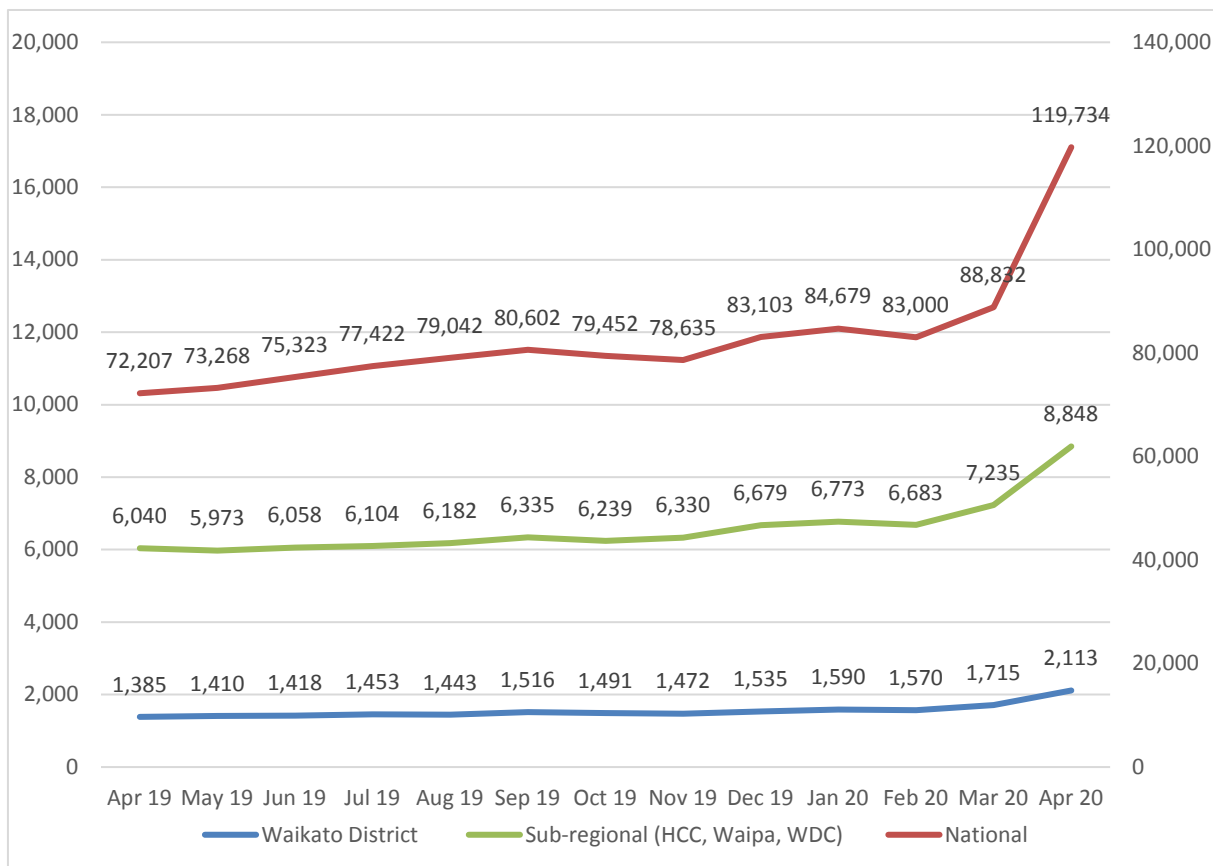


Figure. 20. Job Seeker Benefit by Month, National vs Waikato Sub-Region vs Waikato District

⁷ Waikato District Council, Waipa District Council and Hamilton City Council

5.0 Food Banks

- Between 23 March and 22 May 2020 Council has distributed approximately 250 food parcels,
- Food banks have distributed approximately 4,000 food parcels across the district (the number does not include cross-boundary agencies that have come into the district).
- Waikato Tainui has distributed food parcels across the district to those who are registered tribal members. We have had reports that they have distributed as many as 400/week.

6.0 Police

- Huntly and Ngaruawahia have the highest numbers of Police related incidents recorded between 4th April and 13th May 2020.
- Across all areas in the district the largest percentage is of ‘suicide attempt’ and ‘family harm’. Huntly has the highest number of these incidents compared to other areas in the district.

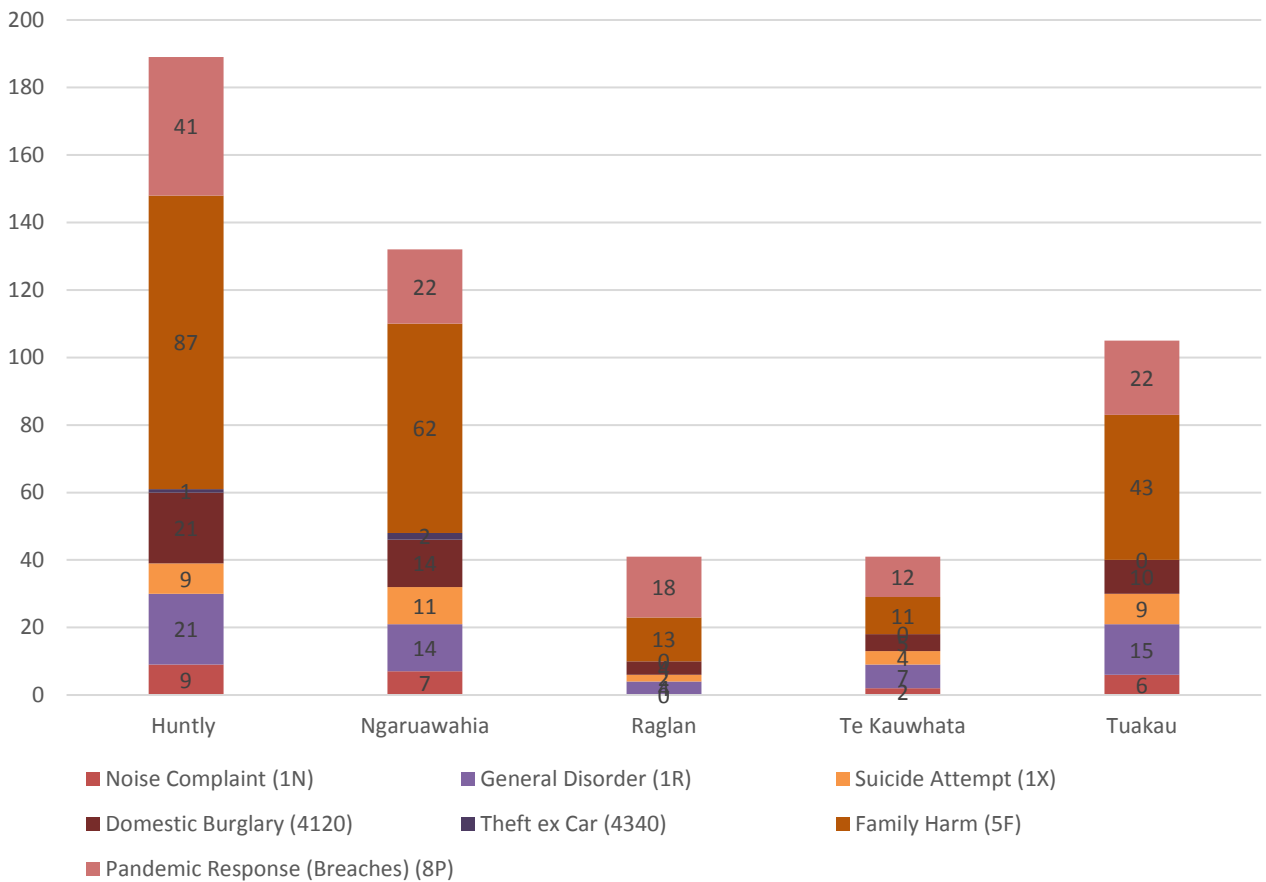


Figure. 21. Crime Data: Waikato District, 6th April - 13th May

- We have been unable to access Waikato District data prior to April 2020. Regional data, however, show there has been a consistent increase in crime year on year. However, data is not yet available for April 2020.
- Generally, what data we have shows that the downward trend for the first quarter of 2020 is consistent with previous years following the Christmas/New Year’s period.

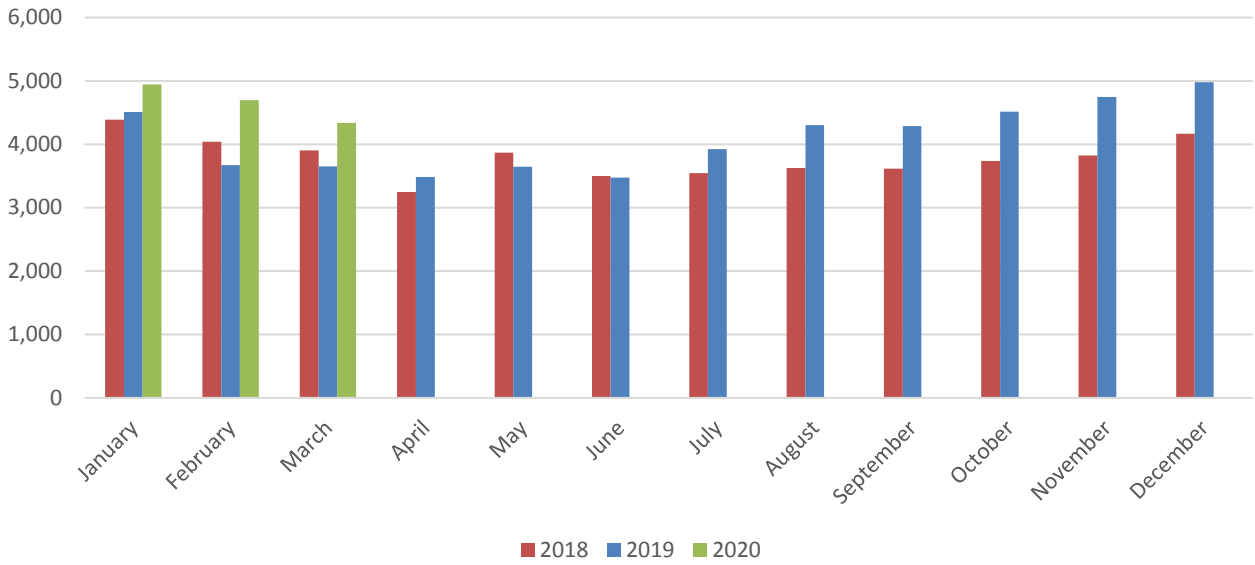


Figure. 22. Recorded crime/month, Waikato Region: 2018, 2019, 2020

- The number of recorded police ‘events/occurrences’ (which show total police activity) again is up on previous years in 2020 and its trend of spiking in January, falling in February and rising again in March is consistent with previous years.

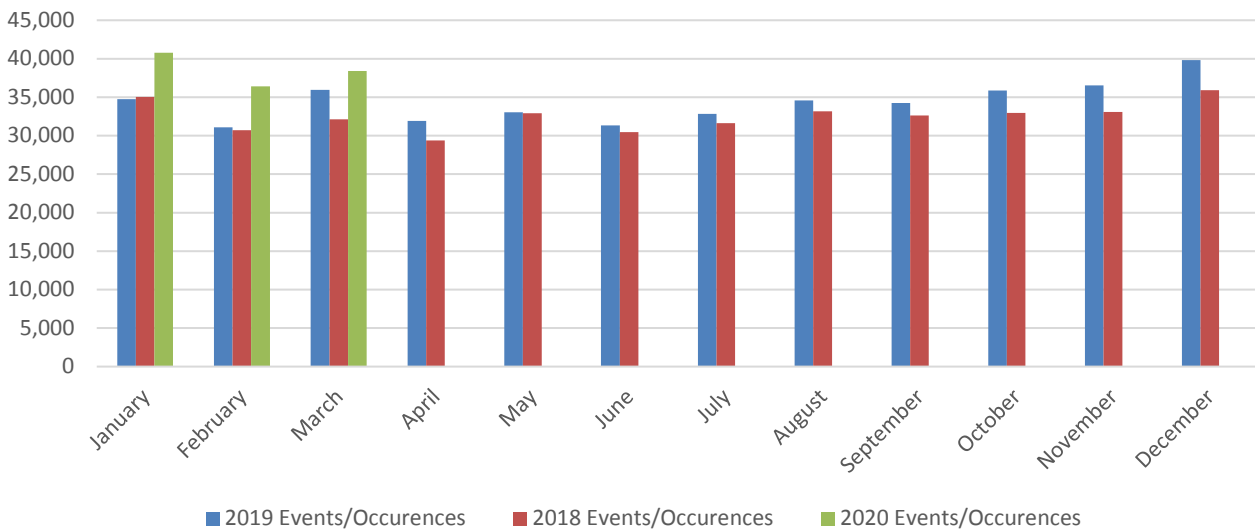


Figure. 23. Recorded police events/occurrences, Waikato Region: 2018, 2019, 2020

7.0 Business Indicators

Resource Consents Received

- Resource consents follow a clear pattern in the Waikato District, typified by a quiet January relative to months through the middle of the year, a relatively consistent core between February to November, with some spikes of activity over these months and a decline in December.
- 2020 numbers reflect this trend. January 2020, however, was the lowest in the past 5 years, compensated for by a stronger than usual February (strongest since 2017: peak year).
- March 2020 reflected a softening on previous years, down on February and closer to the March low point over the past 5 years in 2015
- April continued to show this softening, the lowest recorded April in 5 years, -37% decrease on the 5-year April average. At the time of reporting, May data was still being captured but early indications suggest a continued softening, netting a 40-50% decrease on the May monthly average.

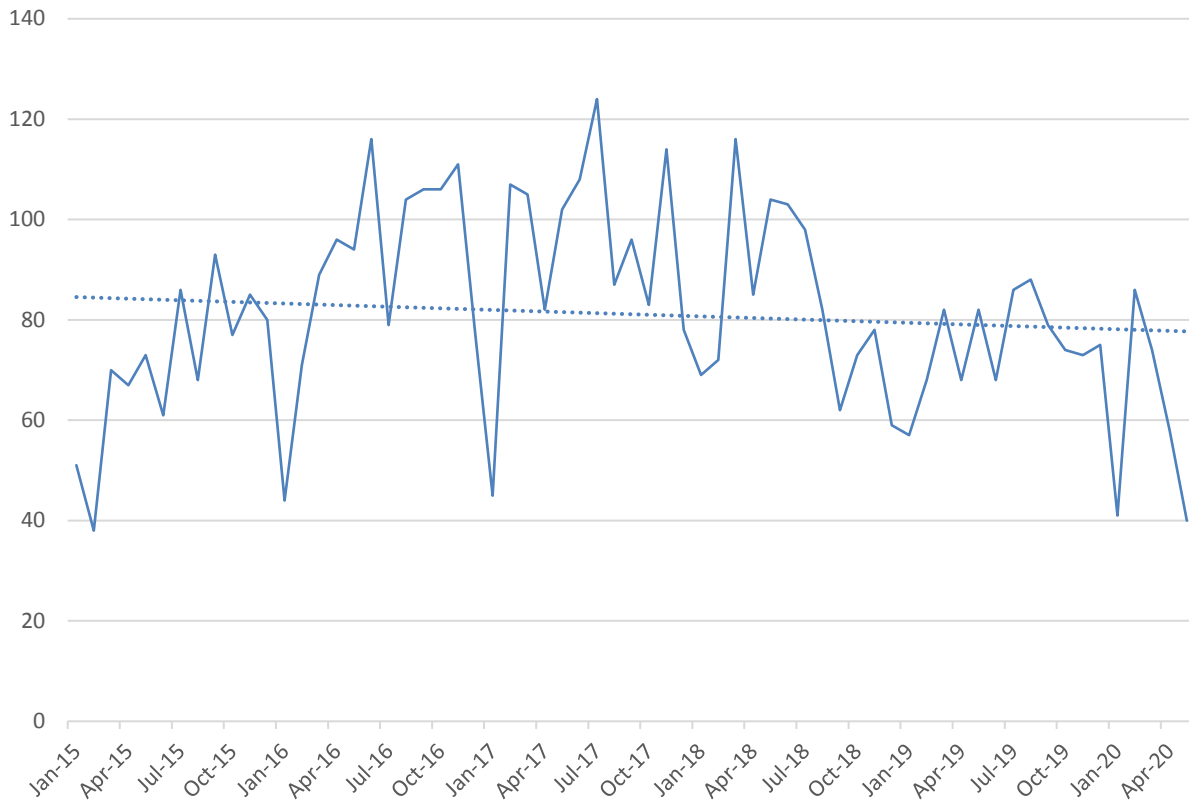


Figure. 24. Resource Consents Received, Waikato District Council: 2015-2020

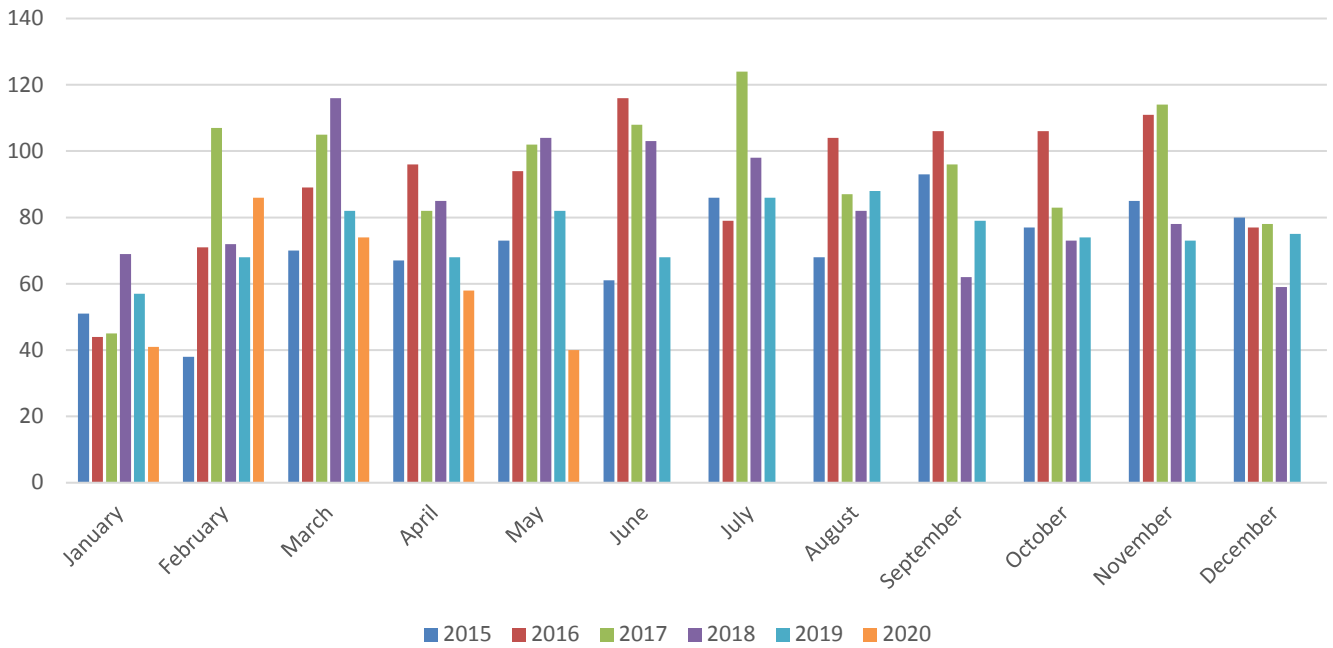


Figure. 25. Resource Consents Received by Month, Waikato District Council: 2015-2020

Building Consents Received

- Building consents received show a smoother trend compared to resource consents. March often represents the highest month, and January the lowest.
- January 2020 was the strongest month in the past 5-years showing a 41% increase on January 2019. This trend continued through February and March both with results comparable to the highest in the past 5-years.
- April 2020 saw a 25% drop on the same month last year. Whilst all data are not yet collected for May, at the time of reporting it was 50% down on previous years and a 25-35% drop is likely.

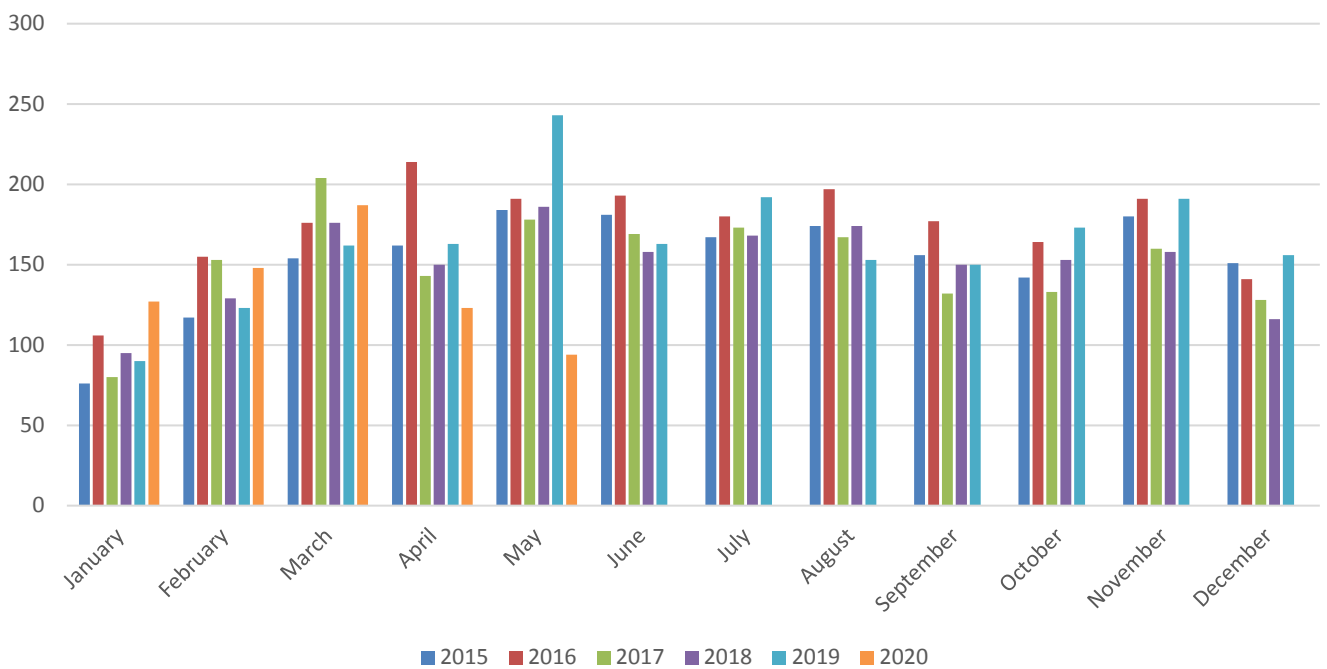


Figure. 26. Building Consents Received by Month, Waikato District Council: 2015-2020

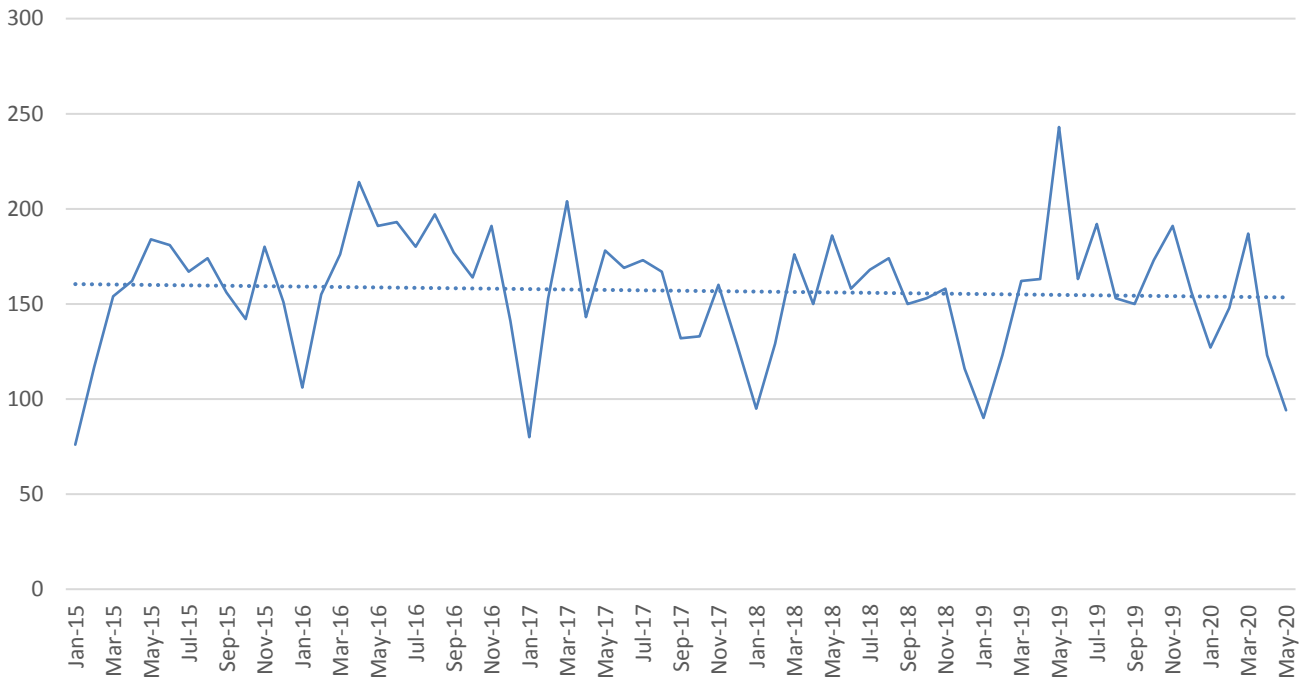


Figure. 27. Monthly Building Consents Received Waikato District Council: 2015-2020

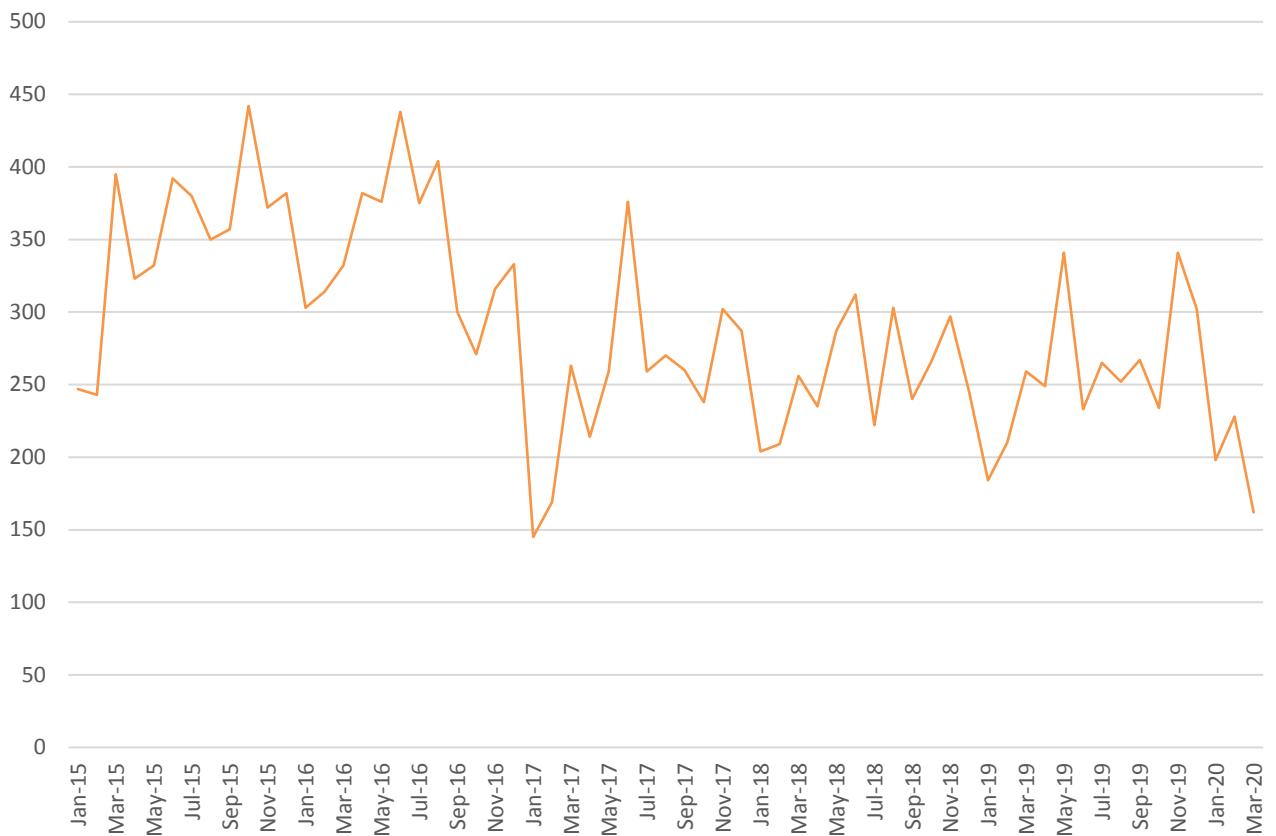


Figure. 28. Waikato District Council Sales Data Transactions 2015-2020

Summary

- Resource consent data over the past 5 years illustrate a peak between 2016 – mid-2018 with a cooling off starting mid-2018 through 2019 and into 2020, the latter comparable to the rates seen in 2015.
- Building consent numbers have remained consistently up until March 2020. There is a range of factors that could be influencing this including: a large number of subdivision resource consents providing the 'supply', low interest rates (maintaining demand and liquidity), constrained housing supply and increasing prices in Hamilton and Auckland (spill over effects from these centres driving demand in the Waikato District).

8.0 Population Projection

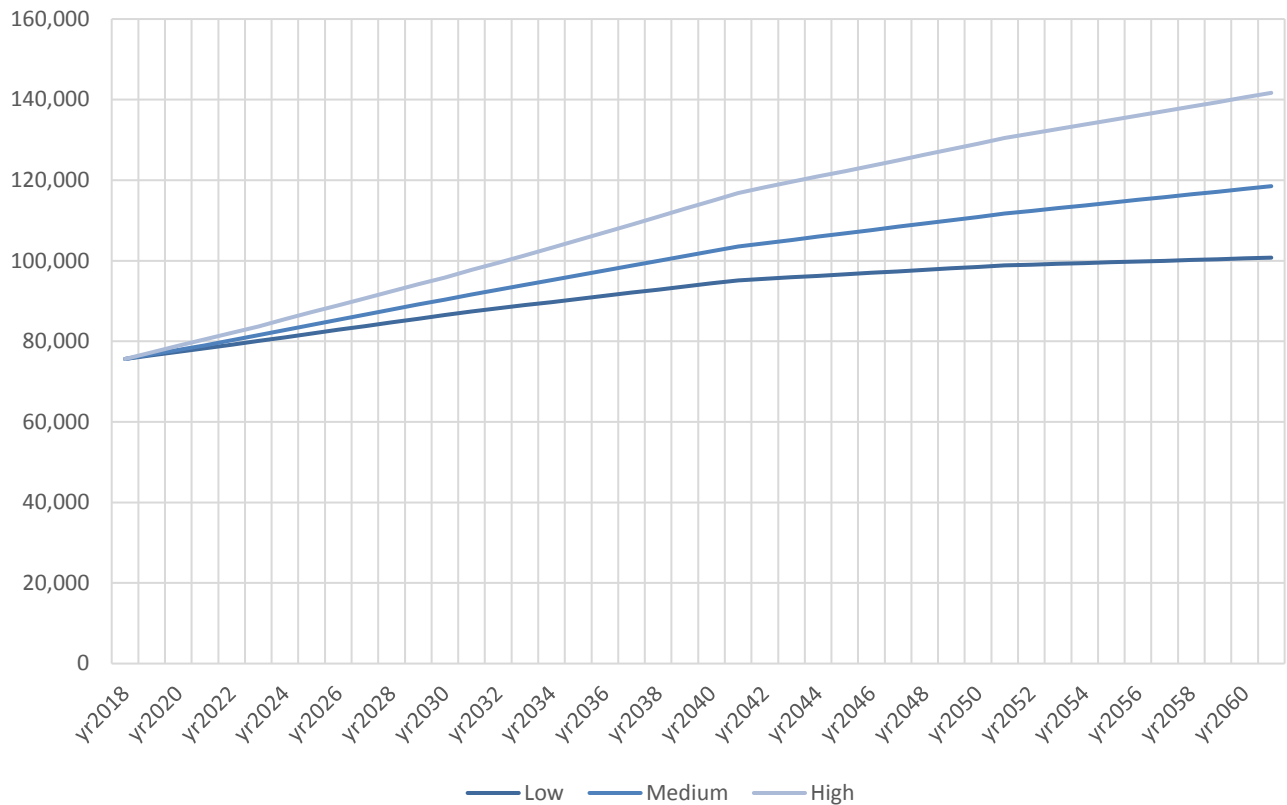


Figure. 29. Waikato District Population Projection 2018-2061⁸

- Prior to the Covid-19 Pandemic the above population projections reflected a low, medium and high scenarios for population growth in the district based on a range of factors including births, deaths, immigration etc using 2018 Stats NZ estimates.
- With the borders now currently closed and little certainty as to future government policy related to immigration it is unclear what the short- and medium-term impacts on these population projections will be.
- Notwithstanding this, the factors that drive growth in the Waikato District pre-pandemic are likely to still exist post-pandemic and this includes: land availability, environmental characteristics (rural environment, small towns), price differential/affordability compared to Hamilton and Auckland, access to major labour markets/employment centres (Auckland and Hamilton), close proximity to major ports and inland ports and Auckland International Airport, strong economic fundamentals built on agriculture, horticulture, extractive industries and primary production and related secondary industries (i.e. food processing).
- If the Waikato District can maintain its comparative advantage in the above noted areas and most importantly maintain supply of land for business and residential activities to locate then it is likely to fare relatively well compared with other parts of the country.

⁸ Note: WISE, 2018 estimates

9.0 Infometrics Forecasting

Infometrics have provided some useful analysis regarding the economic effects of Covid-19 in the Waikato District. Generally, as widely reported, the national economy is set to see a contraction in GDP which will ultimately mean fewer dollars are in circulation. The below graphs show the forecasted contraction in total GDP (\$) and the percentage change (%) over the next 12 months marked by a strong recovery beginning in 2021 but with a long tail of 3-4 years before GDP catches up to levels experienced pre-Covid-19.

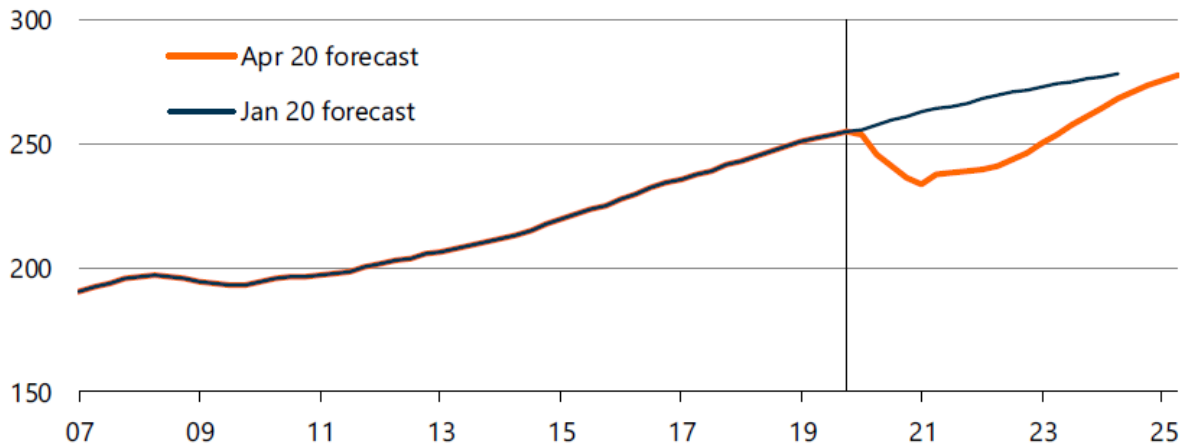


Figure. 30. GDP Forecast comparison, annual running totals, 2009/10 \$b

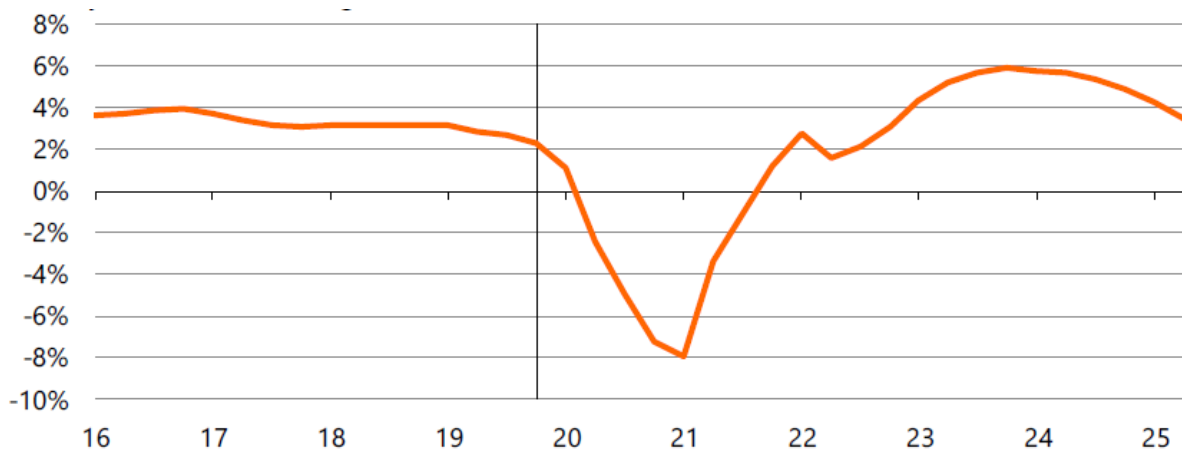


Figure. 31. GDP, year-ended % change

Sector performance

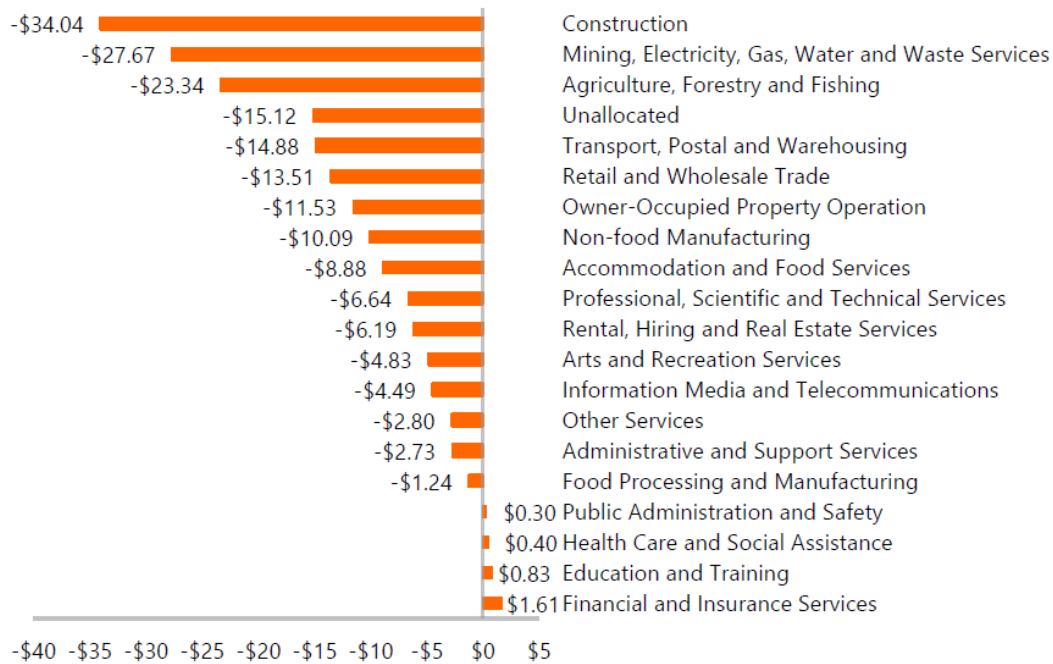


Figure. 32. Change in GDP in the Waikato District, \$m, 2020-2021

- As a result of the declining GDP across a number of sectors within the Waikato District Infometrics predict a drop in employment from 24,000 in March 2020 to 21,900, a loss of 2,100 jobs or -8.6%.

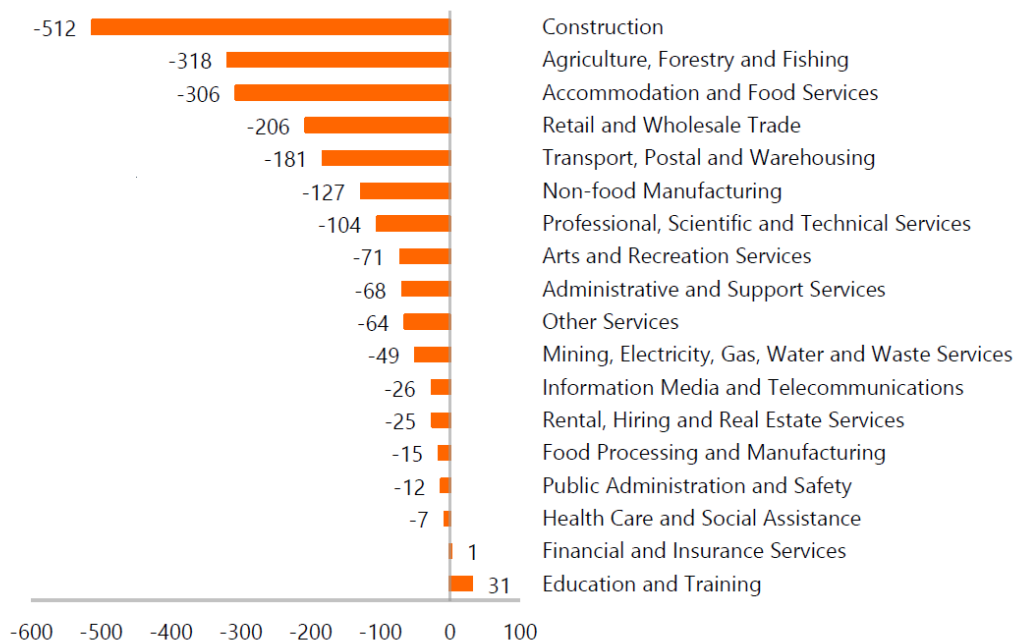


Figure. 33. Change in unemployment by broad industry, 2020-2021

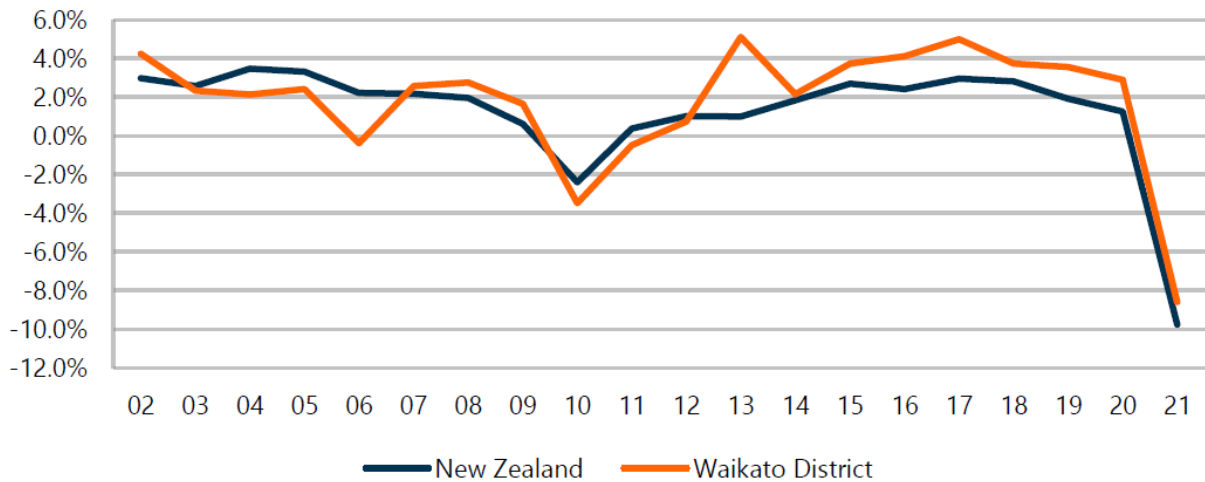


Figure. 34. Forecast growth/decline in employment: Waikato District vs New Zealand

Construction

Infometrics assumptions suggest an 11% drop in average house prices between mid-2020 and the end of 2021. Short term falls will be cushioned by the mortgage holiday scheme that the government has negotiated with retail banks. However, beyond this Infometrics predict that the housing market downturn will drag down the rate of new residential construction, particularly given that banks are likely to be cautious to finance property development over the next year. Nationally, Infometrics estimate the value of residential building work put in place to decline by 19% over the year to March 2021.

Retail Spending

Consumer spending in Waikato District was already declining prior to the lockdown commencing. Marketview data shows that the two weeks prior to lockdown both recorded declines in spending compared to 2019.

Spending levels have continued to decline during lockdown, with spending over the week ending 12 April 36% lower than the same week in 2019. Spending over the 20 days between 23 March and 12 April was 28% lower than in 2019.

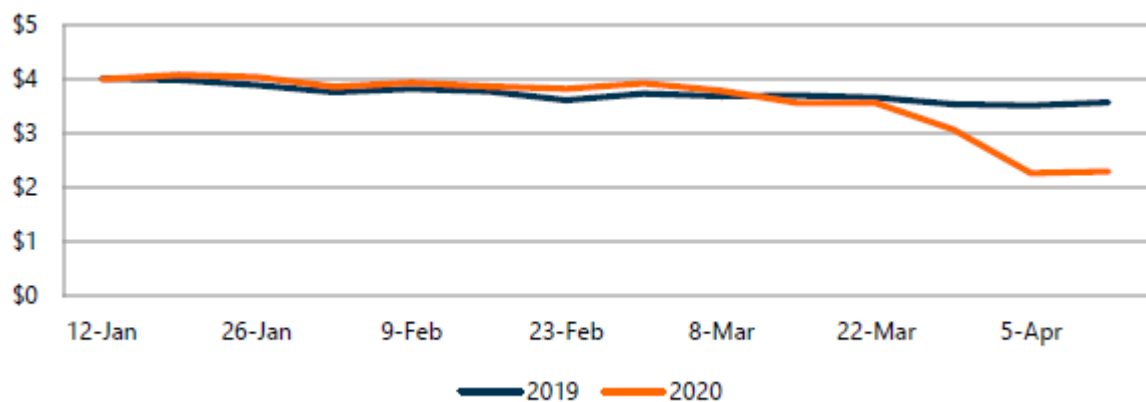


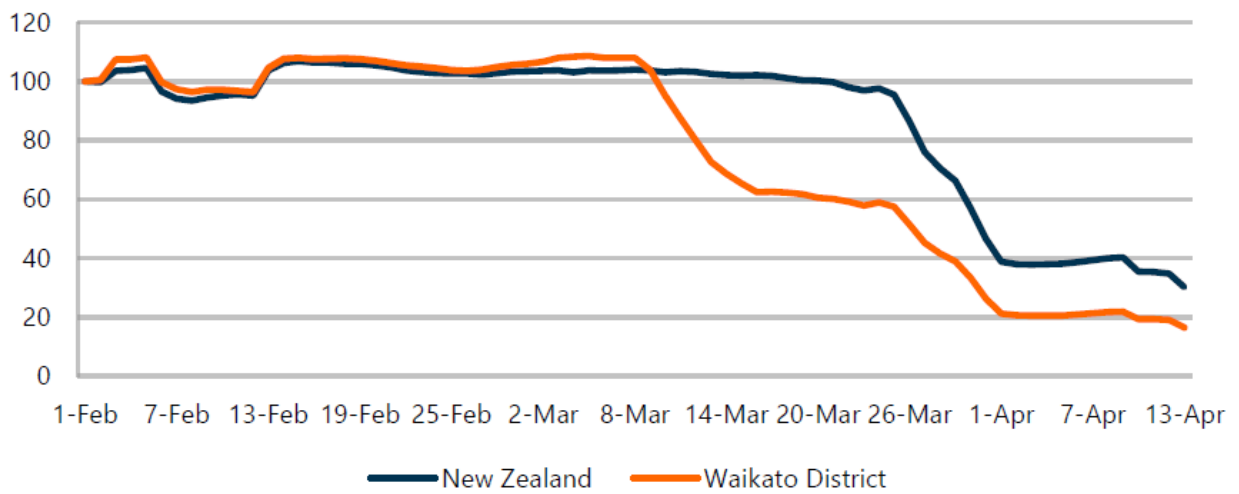
Figure. 35. Total Consumer Spending (weekly) (\$m)

Traffic

According to data from NZTA, heavy traffic flows in Waikato peaked ahead of the Level 4 lockdown, then dropped sharply as non-essential businesses closed, and goods movement declined.

Heavy traffic flows indicate the level of freight movement, and correlate with economic activity. Waikato District's heavy traffic flows in the middle of lockdown had fallen to just 20% of the level recorded for the week ending 1 February 2020. NZTA traffic data shows that both light vehicle and heavy vehicle counts have rebounded to pre March 2019 levels since approx. 20th May.

Figure. 36. Heavy traffic Flows Index, 1 Feb 2020 = 100



Open Meeting

To	Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee
From	Marae Tukere General Manager, Development and Wellbeing
Date	08 July 2020
Report Title	Waikato Tainui Iwi Resilience Plan

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present Waikato Tainui's Resilience Plan and discuss alignment with Waikato District Council's priorities from the 2020/21 Annual Plan.

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report be received;

AND THAT staff from Waikato-Tainui and WDC work together to identify and confirm specific actions that contribute to the achievement of the Taniwha projects and the Council's 2020/21 Annual Plan objectives.

3. ATTACHMENTS

Waikato Tainui – Iwi Resilience Plan

AMO HIA AKE

IWI RESILIENCE PLAN



A legacy of leadership

Our vision

Maaku anoo e hanga tooku nei whare
 Ko ngaa pou oo roto he maahoe, he patete
 Ko te taahuuhuu he hiinau
 Me whakatupu ki te hua o te rengarenga
 Me whakapakari ki te hua o te kawariki

I shall build my house from the lesser known trees of the forest.
 The support posts shall be maahoe and patete, and the ridge pole of hiinau.
 My people will be nourished by the rengarenga and strengthened by the kawariki.

KIINGI TAAWHIAO



If I dream, I dream alone. If we dream together, then together we can make the dream come true
PRINCESS TE PUEA



All of us must work together, thereby bequeathing a worthy legacy linking the past and present to our future generations
TE ARIKINI TE ATAIRANGIKAAHU



The care of our people is paramount, together we will get through this.
KIINGI TUHEITIA

POOTATAU TE WHEROWHERO VII



RUKUMOANA SCHAAFHAUSEN
CHAIR - TE ARATAURA

AMOHIA AKE

Our resilience plan

This plan sets out the pathways that Waikato-Tainui will take to build the resilience of our whaanau, marae and communities.

The broader social, economic and cultural impacts of COVID-19 are hitting our Maaori people the hardest. In the face of a pandemic, history has shown that they are the most susceptible. But these are not unprecedented times for Waikato-Tainui. The Kiingitanga has before buffered our people through the hardship of pandemics. The example of Te Puea and her efforts after the Influenza pandemic of 1918 guide us in our response today to COVID-19.

This plan details five key projects we are committed to driving to help our people, our communities, our region and our nation. We call these our Taniwha projects and through these we hope to build a tribal economy which supports increased employment opportunities, builds local enterprise, strengthens our marae, connects communities, improves wellbeing and health outcomes for all and protects our river, spaces and places.

We invite discussions on how we can collaborate to realise this plan. We know that it is only through partnering to design and deliver these projects of scale, through being bold, courageous and innovative that the impact of these initiatives can be broad reaching and meaningful.

Reflecting the words of our King... together we will get through this.

Paimaarire
Rukumoana and Donna



DONNA FLAVELL
CEO - WAIKATO-TAINUI



Our focus

**KIA TUPU
KIA HUA
KIA PUAAWAI**

PRINCESS TE PUEA

Our areas of focus

All of our activities over the next 12 months are focused on designing and driving our own model of self-sufficiency for our marae, whaanau and communities to thrive. The high level outcomes we seek are derived from the words of Princess Te Puea.

Kia tupu

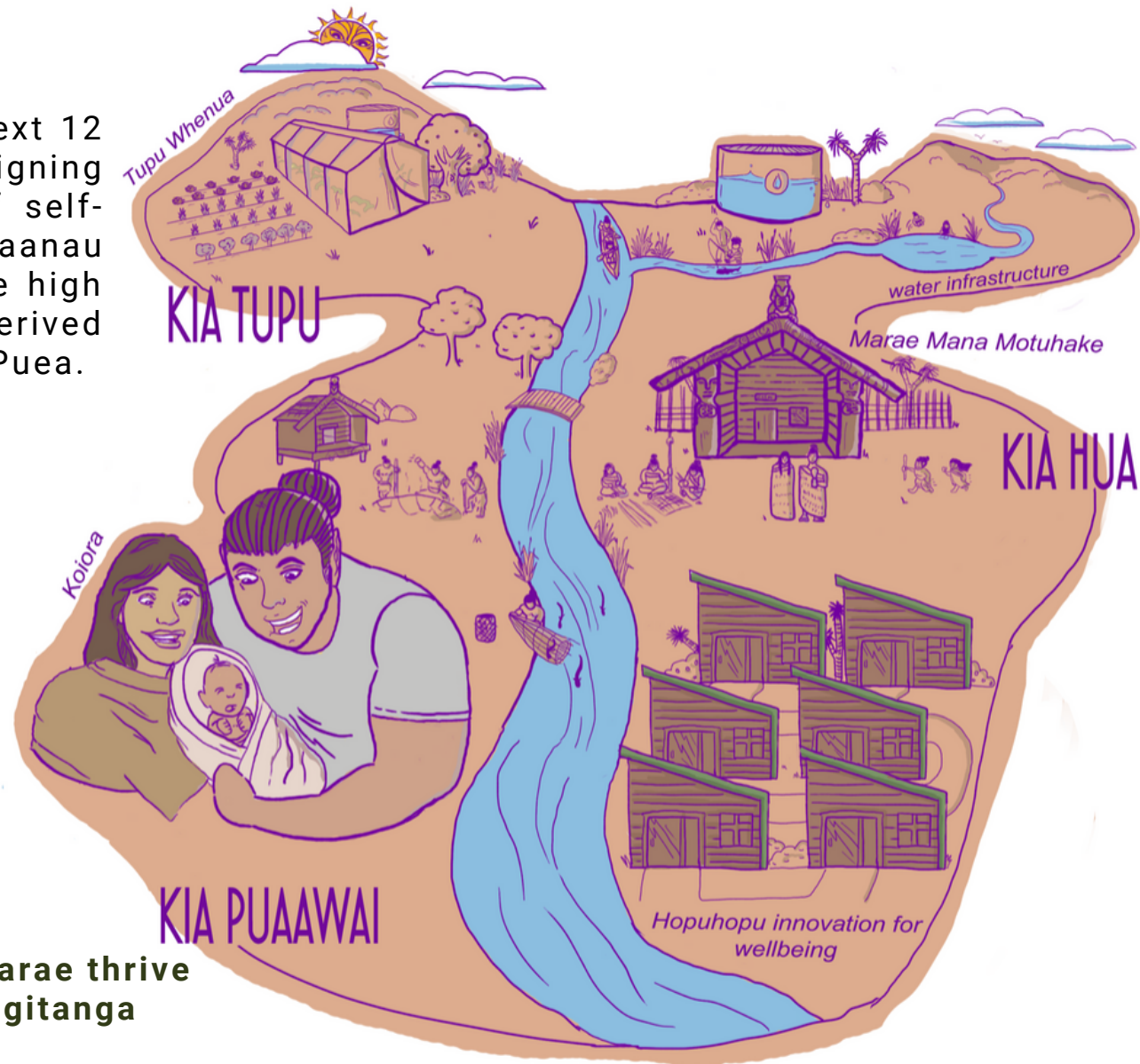
- to grow our people
- to grow our own kai
- to grow our connectedness

Kia hua

- to protect our whakapapa
- to protect our wellbeing
- to protect our environment

Kia puaawai

- so that the people and our marae thrive under the korowai of the Kiingitanga



TANIWHA PROJECTS

Building the resilience of our whaanau, marae and communities helps build the resilience of the Waikato Region and of New Zealand



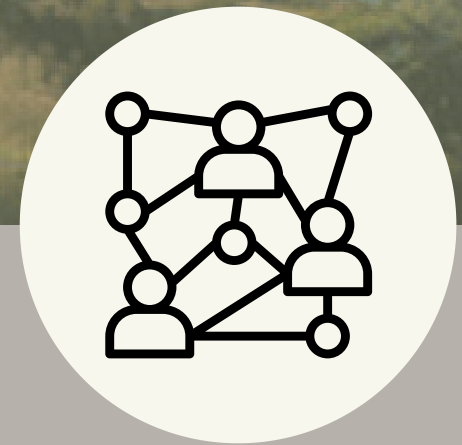
WATER SUPPLY & INFRASTRUCTURE

Ensuring the health and wellbeing of the Waikato river to support the environment, marae, whaanau and wider Waikato and Auckland regions



TUPU WHENUA

Supporting employment, enterprise and housing needs through better understanding and utilisation of our land assets



HOPUHOPU INNOVATION HUB

Creating a vibrant interconnected community at Hopuhopu which focuses on supporting innovation and holistic wellbeing.



KOIORA HEALTH

Working alongside the health sector, marae and whaanau to co-design and develop models of service for improved wellbeing outcomes for whaanau.



TE PAA WHAKAWAIRUA

Supporting our 68 marae to design and drive their own sustainable models of growth to achieve mana motuhake.

NIHO TANIWHA

The niho or teeth of our taniwha are those key enablers that help to amplify wellbeing outcomes for whaanau, marae and communities.

Tribal Talent

Training, Employment

- Capturing/creating employment opportunities
- Supporting tribal members to re-skill
- Leveraging partnerships for employment creation

Business

Social procurement

- Strategy supporting whaanau & marae enterprise
- Promote business & investment models fit for whaanau & marae
- Leverage partnerships

Strategy

Cohesive, deliberate

- Building greater cohesion and collaboration
- Identifying synergies and areas for improved outcomes

Fundamental supports

Core functions and back-end operations

- Ensuring effective, efficient, coordinated and timely support

Relationships

Influence, advocacy

- Leveraging our accords and existing relationships
- Identifying partnership opportunities
- Advocating for increased support

Fundraising

Partnerships

- Identifying funding sources
- Strategic approach to funding applications
- Coordinating organisational approach

Data

Information

- Building a high quality data system
- Capturing data to inform our decision-making
- Building capability to manage and use data well



WATER SUPPLY & INFRASTRUCTURE



Our vision is that the Waikato River sustains abundant life and prosperous communities. There is continued need to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the awa whilst looking at proactive solutions around securing future water supply for both the Waikato and Auckland regions.

OUR CONTEXT

The Waikato River is our tupuna awa - it is a core pillar in our tribal identity and essential to our wellbeing

Over 2/3rds of our marae lack access to safe and consistent water supply

There is growing demand & pressure on the over allocated Waikato River catchment

The current infrastructure is deficient and requires significant investment to ensure sustainability of supply

Water storage options and investment in North Waikato required

OUR GOALS

- **25** jobs/pathways secured with partners in the water sector
- **68** Waikato marae water assessments completed
- **3** marae assets completed
- Feasibility study for water options (Linked to 2019 Kiingitanga Accord outstanding actions)

LINKS TO WAIKATO DC ANNUAL PLAN 2020/21

- Supporting our communities
- Sustaining our environment
- Building our economy
- Working together with you

TUPU WHENUA



'Manaaki whenua, manaaki tangata, haere whakamua' - through better understanding, skills, relationships and use of our land assets our marae and organisation can better support employment, enterprise and housing needs of tribal members.

Waikato Tainui will invest \$10million in land development for the following purposes - growing food, solar farming, and the building of affordable homes.



OUR CONTEXT

The Waikato region is the fourth biggest in New Zealand

Collectively Waikato-Tainui are one of the biggest land holders in the Waikato region yet the potential of many of these land holdings is unrealised.

The Waikato region and Hamilton in particular is growing in economic significance and is a key gateway to Auckland

Lands in the Waikato region are diverse and rich in natural resources and feature prime agricultural lands.

Maaori homeownership, enterprise and income rates continue to lag behind average New Zealanders

OUR GOALS

- **68** Waikato marae have plans for the utilisation of their marae land holdings
- **10** marae land proposals progressed to feasibility study
- **50-100** employment opportunities created
- **50-100** whaanau progressing through tribal housing programme
- All tribal land assets identified and suite of supports for land utilisation developed

LINKS TO WAIKATO DC ANNUAL PLAN 2020/21

- Supporting our communities
- Sustaining our environment
- Building our economy
- Working together with you

KOIORA HEALTH



Through the design and establishment of an iwi and whaanau centric governance and leadership model in health we want to drive improved wellbeing outcomes for whaanau. How we collaborate with key partners is essential and as part of the broader strategy supporting marae to be Koiora hubs for their communities will help improve reach and community leadership in health.



OUR CONTEXT

Māori life expectancy continues fall well below that of the average New Zealander

Māori needs are not being met by the New Zealand health system and Māori are underrepresented in the health profession

The Simpson Report highlights the systemic challenges facing our current health system

COVID-19 offered the opportunity to showcase how iwi, Māori service providers and DHBs could work better together for improved outcomes for Māori

Data on Māori health and in particular tribal members would better enable iwi to take a leadership role

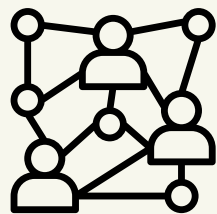
OUR GOALS

- **15-20** employment opportunities created within the health sector
- **20-50** workforce development opportunities linked to Māori Authority - Simpson Report
- **10-15** training/employment opportunities linked to Hauora providers (Waikato and Counties Manukau DHB)

LINKS TO WAIKATO DC ANNUAL PLAN 2020/21

- Supporting our communities
- Working together with you

HOPUHOPU INNOVATION HUB



With the expansion of the Auckland to Hamilton corridor, Hopuhopu is ideally located to develop a new centre of innovation for the Waikato region. The Hopuhopu Innovation hub redevelopment plan includes community housing, a state of the art sports, recreation and events centre development, expansion of the existing nursery enterprise and the development of a hub for tribal and community businesses and activities including archives and heritage.



OUR CONTEXT

Hopuhopu is strategically placed - adjacent to the North Island main trunk line, the Hamilton to Auckland corridor and the Waikato River

The Hopuhopu redevelopment involves 170 hectares of land owned by Waikato-Tainui

Currently it houses the Tribal Endowment College, a small scale nursery, sporting grounds and 50 former military houses which are in need of repair/replacement.

Investment in essential infrastructure has been completed in recent years including potable water, stormwater, wastewater, electrical reticulation, and a fibre network.

Current zoning makes the site ideal for social housing, expansion of business and tribal activities, sports and recreation, events and food production.

OUR GOALS

- **100** new homes built (social, private and tribal housing) over the next 2-5years
- **100-150** employment opportunities in housing/construction created
- **30-50** new employment opportunities created in sports and recreation
- Training hub for rangatahi in horticulture developed
- **20-25** employment opportunities linked to nursery expansion.

LINKS TO WAIKATO DC ANNUAL PLAN 2020/21

- Supporting our communities
- Sustaining our environment
- Building our economy
- Working together with you

TE PAA WHAKAWAIRUA



Our Whakatupuranga 2050 vision is that our 68 marae are self-sufficient in all ways. Our focus is to support marae to identify their aspirations and provide resources which will allow them to map their own pathways forward to achieve their vision for mana motuhake. This must be led and directed by marae, and where required supported by Waikato-Tainui and external partners. Te Paa Whakawairua is our approach to this (previously Oranga Marae) and has been adopted to reflect our Waikato-Tainui centric approach and model.



OUR CONTEXT

Marae can and are vibrant hubs which serve to support the wellbeing of their wider communities

Examples of marae providing essential services and supports in times of crisis are well-known throughout New Zealand

There are 68 Marae that affiliate to Te Whakakitenga o Waikato

Empowering marae communities to determine, design and drive their way forward is a key aspiration of Waikato-Tainui

Supporting marae connectedness and access to broader supports will help support their success

OUR GOALS

- **15** marae have completed strategic plans
- All marae supported with Health and Safety guidelines (COVID-19)
- **5** marae restoration projects are supported
- Key suite of resources/initiatives developed to support capability and capacity building
- Stocktake completed of key cultural talent/bastions

LINKS TO WAIKATO DC ANNUAL PLAN 2020/21

- Supporting our communities
- Sustaining our environment
- Building our economy
- Working together with you

*Ka hua ahau i te whatitiri e whakatupuru nei
Ki runga i te rangi
Ka ore ko te unuhanga o te taniwha i te rua*

*Ka ngaue, ka ngaue
Ka ruu te whenua, ka mate te marama
Ka taka ngaa whetuu o te rangi
ka ara te iwi i te rua*

*The thunderous rumbling from above
awakens the spirit of our taniwha deep within their hollows
A sense of grief, despair and disparate impact test our resilience
It is the impetus for the resurgence of our people*

Open Meeting

To	Waikato District Council Joint Management Agreement Committee
From	Gavin Ion Chief Executive
Date	29 June 2020
Prepared by	Will Gauntlett Resource Management Policy Manager
Chief Executive Approved	Y
Reference #	SKR12/01-01 / 2658156
Report Title	District Plan Review Update

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the Committee with an update on the Waikato District Plan Review project. It includes updates on the hearing of submission, topics of interest to the Committee and information on the timing, as well as integration of Stage 2 of the project (which covers natural hazards and the effects of climate change).

2. GENERAL UPDATE

The hearings for Stage 1 of the Proposed Waikato District Plan were initiated with a Powhiri on 26 September 2019, followed by opening and legal submissions on 30 September and 1 October 2019.

As a reminder, the Hearing Panel pool comprises two members bringing an understanding of tikanga and the views of local iwi and hapuu. These members were recommended by Waikato Tainui (Ms Linda Te Aho) and Ngati Maniapoto (Mr Weo Maag). The remainder of the Panel comprises:

- A professional resource management planner - Chair, Dr Phil Mitchell
- A professional Resource Management Lawyer - Deputy Chair, Mr Paul Cooney
- Two local Councillors - Councillor Janet Gibb and Councillor Jan Sedgwick; and
- A previous Councillor Mr Dynes Fulton.

The Panel composition differs depending on the hearing topic, but generally consists of the Chair, Deputy Chair, one tangata whenua representative and one Council representative. A copy of the Hearing Panel Terms of Reference is attached to this report (Appendix 1).

At the previous meeting of this Committee, Waikato Tainui raised concerns about the process for participating in the review and considered that running the hearings process by topic would result in doubling up of the resource required to present evidence. Waikato Tainui was encouraged to raise its concerns with the independent Hearings Panel, which it

did on 3 September 2019. In the Panel's response it highlighted that, "*in recognition of Waikato-Tainui's Joint Management Agreement with the Council and our wish to be respectful of that important relationship and the mana of Waikato-Tainui,*" it offered a compromise where Waikato Tainui presents one suite of evidence for the first six 'big picture' hearings. Thereafter, it was considered that for fairness, participation in the individual hearings should be in the prescribed manner (that is, submitters provide evidence after the planner's report has been published) following the topic-by-topic approach.

The hearing commissioners have now completed 16 hearings and are around half-way through the entire hearings schedule.

During the COVID-19 lockdown, the Panel sought interest from submitters in holding hearings via video conferencing. The Hearings Panel have since completed four hearings using Zoom videoconference technology, and this has worked very well. In addition, some expert conferencing and other workshops have been held via this method. No decision has been made by the Panel yet as to how the remainder of the hearings will run, however it has sought the view of submitters on the use of using videoconferencing for the remainder of the hearings. Council staff are confident that Ms Te Aho and Mr Maag will ensure the Panel gives due consideration in its decision to tikanga and protocols such as kanohi ki te kanohi.

The most up to date hearing schedule is kept on the Council website. The latest schedule, as at 11 June 2020, is attached to this report (Appendix 2). The Stage 1 hearings (covering everything other than natural hazards and climate change provisions) are expected to continue throughout 2020 and into early-2021. Decisions on the Proposed Waikato District Plan (Stages 1 and 2) are due by 18 September 2021.

3. TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THIS COMMITTEE

Ambury Properties Ltd (submitters of **the 'Sleepyhead' proposal**) formally requested an early hearing and decision on its submission. The Hearing Panel heard from Ambury Properties and its related further submitters (including Waikato Tainui) with regard to this request. The Panel has chosen to hear and decide on all Ohinewai rezoning hearings together, subject to several procedural modifications. This hearing is set down for mid-September 2020.

Due to the high public profile of the Sleepyhead proposal, an independent consultant planner has been engaged to prepare the planner's report for the Ohinewai rezoning hearing. The purpose of the planner's report is to address each of the submissions and make recommendations to the Panel.

Following the publication of the s42A report, Ambury requested expert conferencing, which has just completed. Waikato Tainui are further submitters to the Ambury proposal and has been represented in the expert conferencing by Gavin Donald and James Whetu.

The Tangata Whenua Hearing covered objectives and policies addressing tangata whenua planning issues, explanations of Maaori land ownership and its management within Waikato District, the legislative context (including the Resource Management Act and Te Ture Whenua Maori Act 1993), concept management plans and iwi management plans. It also covered submissions on rules in zone chapters that deal with Maaori land.

The proposed plan supports development of marae complexes and papakaainga housing development on Maaori Freehold and Maaori Customary land through a permitted activity framework. The planner's report and the written submissions of Waikato Tainui both suggested that some further discussions between the parties would be beneficial in further developing the details of these provisions and the relationship with *Chapter 2 Tangata Whenua* with the other chapters of the proposed plan. This hui is currently being arranged.

The planner's report on ***Maaori Sites and Areas of Significance*** is due on the website imminently and the hearing is set down for the week beginning 2 August. The Proposed Plan proposes to protect more than 300 sites and areas that are significant to Maaori. The focus through the plan development process, as guided by Waikato Tainui, is on protecting the most significant sites, such as Pa. This particular hearing addresses approximately 170 submission points from 47 submitters. The Panel members for this hearing are Dr Mitchell, Mr Cooney, Ms Te Aho, Mr Maag and Councillor Gibb.

The **Landscapes** hearing is scheduled to start on 9 September 2020. The planner's report for this is underway and a pre-hearing meeting has been held between staff, advisors and advisors of Waikato Tainui in regard to the Waikato River.

The **Significant Natural Areas** topic is tentatively scheduled from 16 November 2020.

The **Rezoning** hearings won't happen now until early next year.

Natural Hazard Risk and the Projected Effects of Climate Change are covered in what is known as Stage 2 of the Proposed Waikato District Plan.

Stage 2 has involved gathering technical information relating to hazards across the district; consulting on that information with key stakeholders, iwi and the affected communities; drafting plan provisions; releasing a draft for public feedback; considering the feedback received; and redrafting provisions based on that feedback. As at the time of drafting this report, staff are eagerly anticipating final feedback from Waikato Tainui on the Stage 2 provisions.

4. TIMING UPDATE

The Resource Management Act (RMA) stipulates the timeframe for a plan change/review; being two years between notification of the plan and release of a decision on submissions. Prior to the 2017 RMA amendments, Councils were able to extend that timeframe autonomously when required. Since those amendments, Councils now need to obtain approval from the Minister for the Environment to extend the two year timeframe.

On 7 October 2019, Council's Chief Executive wrote to the Minister for the Environment requesting an extension of the timeframe from 18 July 2020 to 18 September 2021. This would enable the release of a single integrated decision for Stages 1 and 2. On 4 November 2019, Council received approval of the extension and publicly notified the Minister's decision in accordance with RMA requirements.

The Minister gave reasons for his decision, including that the extension would enable a more integrated decision across the two stages of the plan, the entire plan would be issued earlier than if the stages progressed separately, the integrated decision ensures informed and well

considered plan provisions, benefits outweigh costs, and the plan will deliver on the requirements of the National Policy Statement - Urban Development Capacity.

Attached to this report is a diagram which attempts to explain, at a high level, the timetable and integration of Stages 1 and 2 of the plan review.

5. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Executive of Waikato District Council be received.

6. ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Waikato District Plan Hearing Panel Terms of Reference
2. Proposed Waikato District Plan Hearing Schedule as at 11 June 2020
3. Diagram - High Level Timetable and Integration of Stages 1 and 2

ATTACHMENT I: PROPOSED WAIKATO DISTRICT PLAN HEARING PANEL TERMS OF REFERENCE

Terms of Reference for the Proposed Waikato District Plan Hearings Panel (Stages 1 and 2)

1. Hearing Panel pool membership

The membership of the Proposed Waikato District Plan Hearing Panel pool shall comprise at least six persons. Each member shall hold a current certification under the RMA Making Good Decisions Programme. There shall be a designated Chair and Deputy Chair of the Hearings Panel pool who shall both hold a current chair certification under the RMA Making Good Decisions Programme.

2. Hearing Panel composition

The quorum is three members for a Hearing Panel on an individual topic. Each Hearing Panel for an individual topic shall be chaired by either the Chair or Deputy Chair unless a conflict requires a substitute.

3. Hearing Procedures

All members of the Hearing Panel for an individual topic have equal speaking rights. The panels shall endeavour to reach decisions by consensus. In the event that a consensus is unable to be reached then decisions shall be made via a majority vote by those commissioners who heard the topic. Each member has a deliberative vote. On a panel with an even number of commissioners, the Chair of the topic panel has a casting vote.

4. Powers

The Proposed Waikato District Plan Hearing Panel is delegated all powers, duties and functions under the Resource Management Act 1991 to consider, hear and decide on submissions on the Proposed Waikato District Plan Stage 1 and 2.

The Chair of the Hearings Panel is delegated all powers, duties and functions under the Resource Management Act 1991 to determine the composition of the Hearings Panel for specific topics and/or individual hearings of submissions on the Proposed Waikato District Plan Stage 1 and 2.

5. Responsibilities

The Proposed Waikato District Plan Hearings Panel shall ensure that:

- The hearing and evaluation process is carried out in a way that is effective and timely;
- Submitters are provided with the best possible opportunity to be heard in support of their submission;
- Panel members receive submissions with an open mind and give due consideration to each submission;
- The principles of natural justice are followed; and
- The decision-making process is robust and transparent.

6. Reporting

Council reserves the right to have staff draft decisions or parts of decisions to assist in the efficiency of the hearings process.

7. Duration

The Proposed Waikato District Plan Hearing Panel is deemed to be dissolved at the end of the decision-making process on the submissions received on the Proposed Waikato District Plan Stage 1 and 2.

ATTACHMENT 2: PROPOSED WAIKATO DISTRICT PLAN HEARING SCHEDULE AS AT 11 JUNE 2020

Proposed Waikato District Plan

2020 Hearing Schedule*

Hearing Number	Hearing Name	Date
7	Industrial*	21 January 2020 (Completed)
8A	Hazardous Substances/Contaminated Land*	28 January 2020 (Completed)
8B	GMO*	30 January 2020 (Completed)
9	Business and Business Town Centre	17 February 2020 (Completed)
10	Residential	From 25 February 2020 (Completed)
11	Lakeside	20 March 2020 (Completed)
12	Country Living	From 7 April 2020 (Completed)
13	Hampton Downs	9 April 2020 (Completed)
14	Heritage**	From 28 July 2020 (Confirmed)
15	Designations	From 20 April 2020 (Completed)
16	Raglan	From 2 June 2020 (Completed)
19	Ohinewai Rezoning	14 September 2020 (Confirmed)
18	Rural**	From 21 September 2020 (Confirmed)
20	Maaori Sites of Significance & Maaori Areas of Significance**	Week beginning 3 August 2020
21	Significant Natural Areas**	From 16 November 2020
21A	Landscapes**	From 9 September 2020 (Confirmed)
22	Infrastructure**	From 20 October 2020
23	Rangitahi**	7 December 2020
24	Reserves**	16 October 2020
25	Zone extents**	Early 2021
17	Te Kowhai Airpark**	Early 2021
26	Other Matters**	Early 2021

2021 Hearing Schedule*

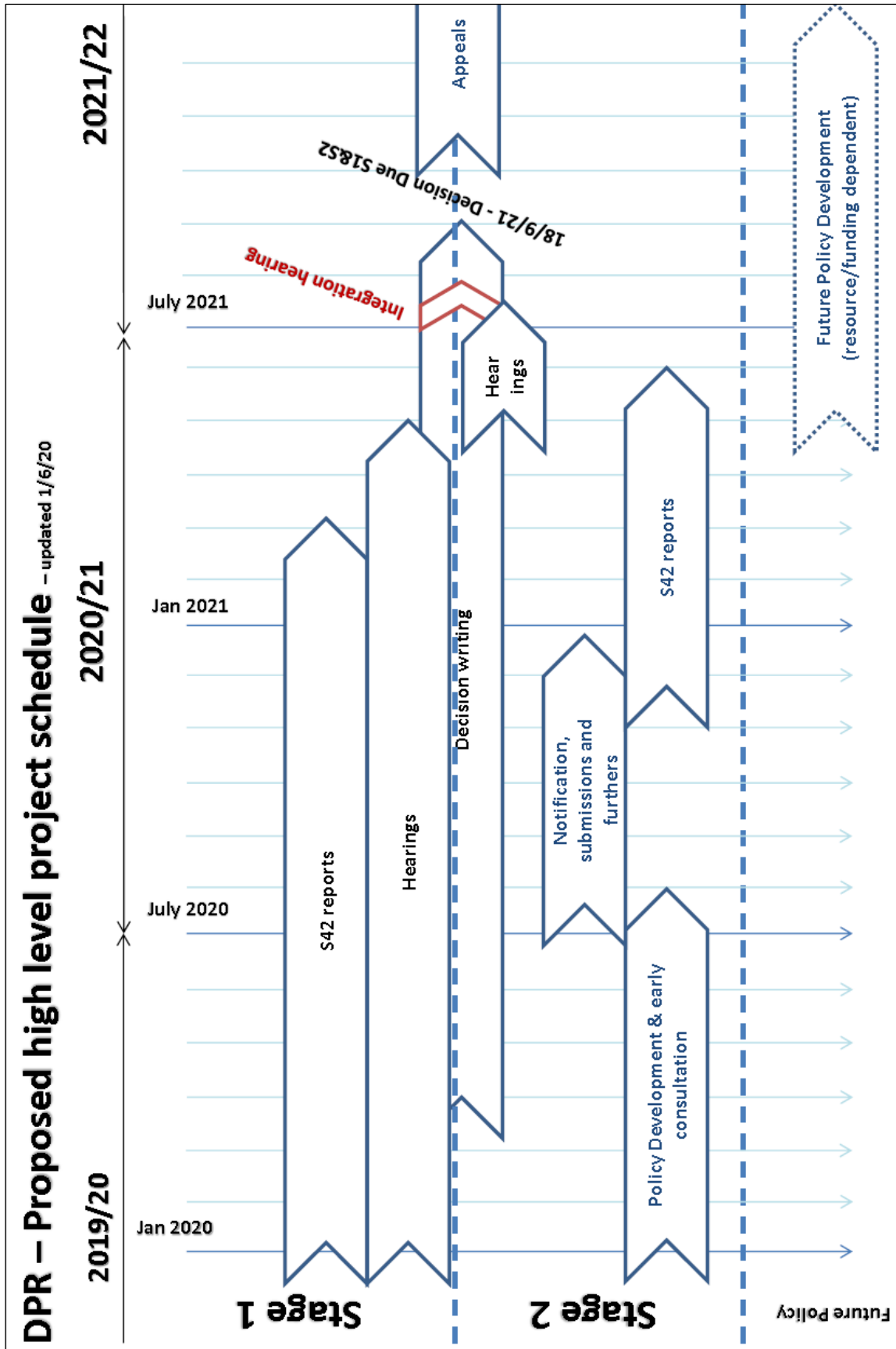
Please note that hearings do not necessarily run in numerical order.

Stage 2 – dates to be confirmed at the conclusion of Hearing 26 but likely early 2021

**Please note these dates are subject to change and not all hearings start on a Monday. The length of the hearing is determined by how many submitters have indicated they wish to be heard.*

***This hearing date is tentative. This date is intended to give an indication as to when the hearing might occur to assist submitters preparing evidence and planning holidays. These dates may well change; please bear that in mind.*

ATTACHMENT 3: DIAGRAM - HIGH LEVEL TIMETABLE AND INTEGRATION OF STAGES 1 AND 2



Open Meeting

To	Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee
From	Gavin Ion Chief Executive
Date	07 July 2020
Chief Executive Approved	Y
Reference #	WTJMAC2020 / EPM0403
Report Title	Update on the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Initiative

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Please find attached an update on the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Initiative.

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Executive be received.

3. ATTACHMENTS

Report – Update on the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Initiative

Update on the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Initiative for Waikato District Council- Waikato Tainui Joint Management Agreement meeting on Thursday 16 July 2020

I. Overview

The spatial planning pillar of the Government's Urban Growth Agenda (UGA) aims to establish more effective growth management systems for targeted geographic areas through strong, enduring partnerships, transformative projects, and joint spatial planning.

The Hamilton to Auckland (H2A) Corridor Initiative is the first growth management partnership under the UGA. The Plan aims to better support growth and increase connectivity within the corridor while improving housing affordability and choices, improving access to employment, services and amenities, and creating new employment opportunities.

The partners of the H2A Corridor Initiative include: Central Government, Auckland Council, Hamilton City Council, Waka Kotahi, Waikato District Council, Waikato Regional Council, Waipa District Council and tāngata whenua – all of whom are represented on the H2A workstream of the Future Proof Implementation Committee.

A number of projects have been identified under the Corridor Initiative. Progress on these is reported below. Any further updates that may emanate from the time this report was prepared and the JMA meeting will be reported verbally.

The Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Statement of Shared Spatial Intent will be updated with both the Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Spatial Plan and the River Communities Spatial Intent thinking once these have reached a sufficient level of maturity. The H2A Corridor Statement of Shared Spatial Intent will be an organic rather than a static document.

2. Update on key initiatives/projects

2.1. Waters

2.1.1. Waikato Sub-Regional Three Waters Study

Phase 1, which encompasses the development of a Strategic Business Case, has been completed.

Phase 2 currently underway. The key output of Phase 2 will be a Programme Business Case. Key activities currently underway as part of this phase includes: River Communities three waters strategy investigations, Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Spatial Plan area wastewater servicing feasibility assessment, stakeholder engagement, and development of project management plan/communications strategy/procurement strategy.

At the Future Proof Implementation Committee meeting on 9 June, Minister Mahuta commented on funding for the sub-regional three waters project. The Minister said that a decision on central government funding would be some time

away and may not be successful. Following on from this, the Three Waters Steering Group subsequently met to discuss a proposed approach:

Proposed approach:

- Prepare a report to CEAG outlining the below options.
 - ❖ Stop the project.
 - ❖ Pause the project and wait for funding to be made available through Long Term Plans.
 - ❖ Reduce the scope of the project.
 - ❖ Seek additional funding from each of the local partners.

NOTE: The above relates to the overall sub-regional three waters study. The Metro Area Wastewater Project has acquired separate funding and this project will continue.

2.1.2. Designing and developing a cross-regional blue-green open space and recreational network

This is being done through a high level concept developed and is being advanced through the Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Spatial Plan. Work on blue-green network is not actively being advanced for the rest of the H2A corridor at this point.

2.2. Stronger Corridor Connections

2.2.1. A rapid intercity rail service indicative business case

A draft business case has been completed and currently undergoing review. The Ministry of Transport is preparing material for stakeholder engagement and next steps, prior to finalising the business case (July 2020).

2.2.2. Start-up passenger rail service

The H2A Rail Governance Group is keen for the service to be operational in November 2020. The Huntly Station will be ready by the end of September 2020. Rotokauri Station will be ready end of October for service start and November for a full service connection to The Base. WDC staff are working with Rahui Papa, Mahana Toka and Donald Turner regarding cultural elements to the design of the Huntly Station.

2.2.3. Waikato expressway and southern motorway

The last of the Waikato Expressway sections (the Hamilton section) is expected to open end 2021.

2.3. Papakura-Pokeno Sub-Region

2.3.1. Priority development area: Drury

The Drury Transport Investment Project (DTIP) is completed. An additional \$3.4b funding is required to provide infrastructure in Drury. Of this \$1b will need to be funded by Auckland Council which has debt to revenue constraints. As such, looking at the potential for an Infrastructure Funding & Financing Bill (IFF) levy of \$2,300 to 3,300 per dwelling. Actions now to work through the details of this with developers, as well as coordinate with number of private plan changes and also consider the potential for Development Partnership between Crown, Council and Developers.

2.3.2. Improved public transport: passenger rail service between Pokeno and Pukekohe

A Point of Entry (the first step towards developing a business case) for the transport assessment for southern Auckland and northern Waikato was approved by the Waka Kotahi (NZTA) Delegations Committee on 14 May 2020. The next phase entails building a Strategic Case. This will be informed by an Investment Logic Mapping (ILM) exercise scheduled for July 2020. Waka Kotahi is presently looking to engage a consultant to help with this work.

2.4. River Communities

2.4.1. River Communities Spatial Plan

The spatial plan will no longer proceed as originally intended due to Waikato District Council adopting Waikato 2070. A report to this effect was received and approved by the Future Proof Implementation Committee meeting of 9 June 2020. Work to date will be incorporated into the H2A Statement of Shared Spatial Intent but with a greater emphasis on marae aspirations. Manaaki is working out a process with regards getting the views of the various mana whenua in the district to inform the River Communities Spatial Intent.

2.4.2 Priority development area: Meremere

The funding Provincial Growth Fund (PGF) application was lodged by Tainui Group Holdings in 2019. TGH has still not received any official answer from the PGF despite numerous follow ups.

However it is intended for TGH's aspiration for industrial development for Meremere A and B (the latter subject to a feasibility study) to be acknowledged in the River Communities Spatial Intent (which will be included in the Shared Statement of Spatial Intent for the Corridor).

2.4.3. Improved public transport: introducing peak and more frequent off-peak bus services between towns

Covid-19 has had implications for the timing of the launch of the Pokeno-Tuakau-Pukekohe bus service. The service will now be operational by end 2020.

The southern Auckland/northern Waikato Point of Entry Statement (*First stage of NZTA/Waka Kotahi business case process*) (POE) process which is being coordinated by NZTA will also form the basis for any future public transport investments to inform the next RPTP.

2.5. Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Spatial Plan

A draft Metropolitan Spatial Plan (MSP-Hamilton to Auckland) was presented to the Future Proof Implementation Committee on 9 June. Feedback from this meeting has been considered by the Steering Group and incorporated and the next iteration will be presented to FPIC on 3 July. It will then go to Cabinet (in July) for endorsement. Work will continue on the draft, with a final draft expected in December 2020.

2.6. New Tools and Options for Implementation

The infrastructure funding and financing implementation pilot project is underway. Four shortlisted projects have been identified for further study – enhanced Hamilton-Auckland rail, sub-regional solid waste facility, Waikato River catchment river restoration and southern metro wastewater treatment. Discussions on these are ongoing and a final decision on which projects will form part of the pilot implementation is imminent.

Open Meeting

To	Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee
From	Gavin Ion Chief Executive
Date	07 July 2020
Chief Executive Approved	Y
Reference #	WTJMAC2020 / EPM0403
Report Title	Updates on Strategic Projects

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A verbal update on the following items will also be provided at the meeting:

- Raglan Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent Update
- Update on Te Kauwhata wastewater issue. Various documents related to this matter are attached to this report for discussion.

An update on the following topics are referred to below:

- Te Paina
- Maangai Maaori – embed roles in JMA agreement.

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Executive be received.

3. DISCUSSION

Overview

Waikato District Council (WDC) and Waikato-Tainui entered into a Joint Management Agreement (JMA) on 23 March 2010.

The JMA affirms commitment between Waikato-Tainui and Waikato District Council to co-manage the Waikato River, to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the river and also to provide an enhanced relationship between the parties on areas of common interest.

Update on key initiatives/projects:

1. Te Paina

WDC Properties and Pouhono have had discussions with the 'Iwi senior liaison officer' from the Department of Conservation (DoC) two weeks ago. The matter is now with DoC for their resolution. DoC have advised WDC that they are seriously under-resourced at present and accordingly there is a significant delay in their processing of applications. Council staff are planning a meeting with the DoC Area Manager to discuss this and other matters in the near future."

2. Maangi Maori

Discussion was held in 2019 about embedding the role of Maangi Maaori in the JMA Agreement. A report will be going to our next Strategy & Finance Committee on 22 July 2020 to recommend Council approval.

3. Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Collaboration

Waikato Tainui and Waikato District Council are continually participating and engaging in discussions with various parties involved in the Hamilton to Auckland H2A Corridor project.

Having an agreed and planned approach on key aspects of the project will be more influential in terms of advocacy and decision making within the wider context of the project.

(Refer to Vishal Ramduny Report)

4. Start-up Passenger Rail Service

Waikato Tainui and Waikato District Council are engaging and working with various factions from Hamilton to Auckland to ensure the Passenger Rail Service is operational at the scheduled date set for November 2020.

(Refer to Vishal Ramduny Report)

4. ATTACHMENTS

1. Te Kauwhata Waste Water Treatment Summary – June 2020
2. Minutes - Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Consultation Group Hui held on Thursday 18 June 2020
3. Minutes - Mana whenua hui : Ngaa Muka ,Waahi Whaanui and Te Riu O Waikato 29 June 2020
4. Letter from Waikato Tainui to Waikato District Council – 30 June 2020

Te Kauwhata Waste Water (TKWW) Treatment Summary

Mana whenua want to protect Lake Waikare and discharge was meant to end 2023

1. Mana whenua want to protect Lake Waikare which gets the discharge from Te Kauwhata WWTP
2. TKWW Consent expires in 2028 – condition of current consent is to remove discharge from Lake Waikere by 2023
3. There is a study due late June *Planning for the Future – Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy* on long term solutions (to cover 50 years of Meremere to Huntly) however **in parallel a consent is applied for continual discharge into lake Waikare.**
4. The *Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy* report will consider:
 - a. Short term vs long term investment.
 - b. WWTP consolidation or not.
 - c. The best process for the plant – Membrane Bio Reactor (MBR), Sequence Batch Reactor (SBR), Activated Sludge Process (ASP), Biosolid reuse, energy recovery, reuse in the future.
 - d. 50 year solution to accommodate growth, cultural and environmental drivers.
 - e. New consent required to facilitate all of the potential solutions.
 - f. Outcomes to align with Long Term Plan (LTP) process at WDC.
 - g. Partially funded by the HIF process.

Mana whenua want to see alternatives to continued discharge into Lake Waikare like land discharge / infrastructure upgrade and end to breach of consent

5. MW note the plant has been non-compliant for the last 5 years through foreseeable development and growth yet Council has continued to take on more than the plant can treat.
6. Land disposal option noted as too expensive by Watercare
7. Infrastructure - estimated costs to upgrade total 58.4m (WDC presentation 18 June). This will be made up of Housing Infrastructure Fund – 38m (MW want this guaranteed ringfenced to Te Kauwhata and this is part of agreement with Minister of Finance) + 34.4m from LTP to build houses in Te Kauwhata
8. MW want a full MBR upgrade – this is subject to *Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy Report*.

Mana whenua dissatisfied with engagement

9. Mana whenua like Nga Muka and marae were cut out of consultation when Waters Governance Board was established
10. “High level talks with Waikato-Tainui did not trickle-down”
11. Mana whenua want their agreement to align to the Waters Governance Board agreement with Watercare ie 30 year timeframe and ability to provide input.
12. MW don’t want Council to make the decisions and don’t want political decisions. MW want science-based decisions including a Research partnership with WT and WRC.

Current non-compliance

- Non compliance for 5 years
- Due to population growth over last 7 years it’s too much for treatment process to handle and not creating quality effluent

Power Point Presentation - TKWTCG 18 June 2020 Meeting.pdf

Current non-compliances with the existing Resource Consent

- Nitrogen
- E. coli
- Phosphorous
- WWTP CLG – the requirement to convene the group 6 monthly
- Upgrade options analysis – Provision of an updated report

Discharge Monthly Tests	Unit	Consent Limit				Measured		Compliance	
		Median	90 Percentile	Median Trigger	90 Percentile Trigger	Median	90 Percentile	Median	90 Percentile
pH between 6-9	pH	9.0		8.5		7.3	7.4	0 / 3	
cBOD5	ppm	10.0	20.0			6.8	7.7	0 / 11	0 / 11
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	ppm	6.0	12.0			21.5	35.0	10 / 12	10 / 12
Total Nitrogen	ppm	8.0				25.1	35.9	12 / 12	
Total Nitrogen Load	kg/day	8.8				25.3	28.1	12 / 12	
Total Phosphorus	ppm	5.6				4.2	6.2	3 / 12	
Total Phosphorus Load	kg/day	3.1				4.2	5.0	8 / 12	
Discharge Monthly Tests									
		Consent value						Compliance	
Total Suspended Solids	ppm	15.0	25.0			14.4	30.9	5 / 12	2 / 12
Discharge Monthly Tests									
		Consent value						Compliance	
E-coli	cfu/100ml	1500.0				4358.5		34 / 40	

Mitigation projects

- Urupa Ecological Restoration Plan - Nga Muka Development Trust Sampling Project – Te Onetea Stream (Underway) \$136k unallocated

NEXT STEPS

- The Plant will likely be upgraded to a full Membrane Bio Reactor (MBR) with a continued discharge to Lake Waikare for the short to medium term.
- In parallel a new consent application will be submitted to WRC for either a continued discharge to the lake or a new discharge to the river.
 - Hui with Mana whenua and Waikato-Tainui Monday 29 June 2020 5pm
 - Report was due end of June 2020 on *Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy*. Mana whenua will want a copy.
 - WDC Report due Sept 2020 will be used to assess enforcement or whatever action will be taken by WRC with regard to monitoring. This year WDC received a formal warning for the poor performance of the plant. Mana whenua do not want further discharge to Waikare Lake beyond consent and want upgrades to occur to ensure not in breach of consent.
 - Mana whenua will likely request adequate engagement with mana whenua and Watercare/WDC through aligning agreement to MOU.

MINUTES of the meeting of the Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Consultation Group Meeting held on **THURSDAY 18 JUNE 2020** via Zoom communication.

PRESENT:

WDC - Councillors Aksel Bech (Deputy Mayor), Jan Sedgwick
WDC - Ian Cathcart, Infrastructure Projects Manager; Carole Nutt, Waters Contract Relationship Manager; Sam Toka, Iwi and Community Partnerships Manager

Auckland Waikato Fish and Game - David Klee
Department of Conservation - Andrew Styche
Horahora Marae - Linda Tomuli
Independent - Aareka Hopkins
Lake Waikare Care Group - Jenny Kelly
Matahuru Marae - Tawera Nikau
Maurea Marae - Wiremu Tumai-Totorewa
Nga Muka Development Trust - Glen Tupuhi, Kay Davis (Okaeria Marae)
Nga Muka Development Trust - Richard Fyers, Legal Advisor
Waahi Whaanui Trust - Hori Awa
Waahi Marae – Ricky Maipi
Waikare Marae - Euan Williamson
Waikato Regional Council - Hugh Keane, Amy King, Sarah Lealand, Edward Prince
Watercare - Sharon Danks, Steve Howard

ABSENT:

Fish and Game - Jane Shaw
Independent – Kelvin Tupihi
Lake Waikare Care Group - David Lloyd
Okaeria Marae - Bruce Howe, Te Aroha (Winnie) Wilson
Taniwha Marae - Jackie Collier
Waikato-Tainui - Donna Flavell, Taroi Rawiri
Waters Governance Board - Ms Rukumoana Schaafhausen (Waikato Tainui & Waters Governance Board Chairperson)
WEL Energy Trust - Norm Hill

I. OPENING MEETING

I.1 Cr A Bech, Chairperson, opened the Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Consultation Group meeting at 6.30pm.

The Chair outlined protocols for the Zoom meeting:

- The meeting would be recorded and minutes available in the drop box.
- Chats can be seen by all meeting attendees. Use the chat function to record questions.
- To get the Chair's attention, raise hand or use electronic hand function.

1.2 The purpose of the meeting is to provide the Te Kauwhata Treatment Consultation Group with an update of the current status as is required by the consent condition which states the Group must meet every six months. The meeting serves as a reset having not met for an extended period of time and an opportunity to hear from the Consultation Group.

1.3 Sam Toka opened meeting with a Karakia.

1.4 Ian Cathcart introduced himself and discussed agenda items.

2. **INTRODUCTIONS** – Participants introduced themselves and who they represent.

3. **INTRODUCTION TO THE WDC WATERS GOVERNANCE BOARD - HISTORY**

- Following the formation of the new Auckland Council in 2010, Council contracted Watercare services to provide Water and Wastewater services to Tuakau and Pokeno.
- WDC started in 2012 to explore options for improved waters management.
- Following the 2016 election, both Waipa District Council and Hamilton City Council withdrew their support for a combined sub-regional water management company.
- In 2017 Council entered into discussions with Watercare and Waikato-Tainui about how the three organisations could work together to deliver better water and wastewater outcomes for our community.

3.1 **Watercare Contract**

- These discussions led to Council signing a contract with Watercare in 2019 to deliver water, wastewater and stormwater management for the District.
- The contract is for a maximum term of 29 years.
- The contract commenced on 1 October 2019.
- Working through a transitional period currently through to July 2021 ⇒ Watercare.
- Three areas to focus on – Raglan WWTP, Meremere WWTP and Te Kauwhata WWTP.

3.2 **Waters Governance Board**

- To oversee and manage the contract, the Council appointed an independent Board known as the Waters Governance Board (WGB).
- The Board comprises three independent Directors (Rukumoana Schaafhausen, Garth Dibley and David Wright), the Council Chief Executive (Gavin Ion) and a Board Intern (Jackie Colliar).
- The Board is chaired by Rukumoana Schaafhausen.
- The Board reports directly to Waikato District Council but has extensive delegations to manage the contract with Watercare.

3.3 **Key Responsibilities**

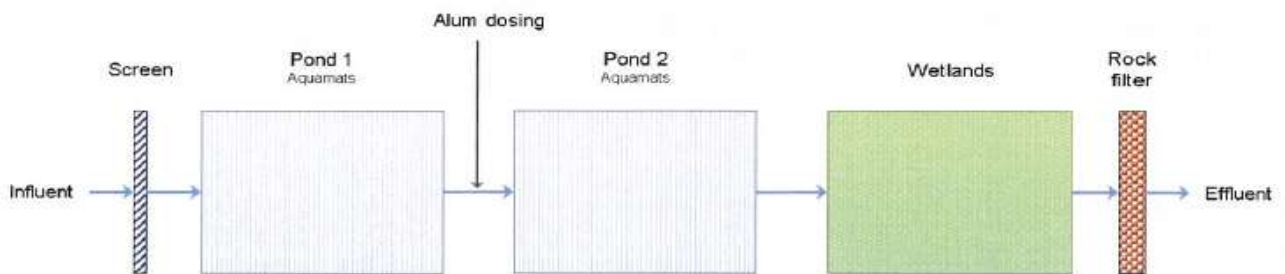
- The Board is looking to deliver better environmental outcomes.
- To uphold the vision and strategy of the Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010.

- To ensure the waters' business delivered by Watercare provides value for the community in terms of the four wellbeings (Cultural, Social, Environmental and Economic).

4. WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT STATUS UPDATE

4.1 Te Kauwhata WWTP – Background and Operational Update

- Upgraded in 2006.
- Consent expires in 2028 – condition to remove discharge from Lake Waikare by 2023.
- The plant has a relatively simple process for treating the wastewater.
- The growth in the catchment has now exceeded the capacity of the plant to produce high quality effluent.
- Significant growth in the last 7 years.
- Te Kauwhata, Lakeside, Rangiriri and Springhill (Prison).
- Ohinewai – Proposed development will be serviced by either Huntly or Te Kauwhata if plan change granted.



4.2 Current Non-Compliances with the existing Resource Consent

- Nitrogen
- E. coli
- Phosphorous
- Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Consultation Group – the requirement to convene the group 6 monthly.
- Upgrade options analysis – Provision of an updated report.

Discharge Monthly Tests		Consent Limit			Measured		Compliance		
Parameter	Unit	Median	90 Percentile	Median Trigger	90 Percentile Trigger	Median	90 Percentile	Median	90 Percentile
pH between 6-9	pH	9.0		8.5		7.3	7.4	9 / 9	
cBOD5	ppm	10.0	20.0			6.8	7.7	0 / 11	0 / 11
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	ppm	6.0	12.0			21.5	35.0	10 / 12	10 / 12
Total Nitrogen	ppm	8.0				25.1	35.9	15 / 12	
Total Nitrogen Load	kg/day	8.8				25.3	28.1	12 / 12	
Total Phosphorus	ppm	5.6				4.2	6.2	3 / 12	
Total Phosphorus Load	kg/day	3.1				4.2	5.0	8 / 12	
Discharge Monthly Tests		Consent value						Compliance	
Total Suspended Solids	ppm	15.0	25.0			14.4	30.9	5 / 12	1 / 12
Discharge Monthly Tests		Consent value						Compliance	
E-coli	cfu/100ml	1500.0				4358.5		38 / 40	

4.3 Step Screen Installation

The installation of an upgraded Step Screen at the Te Kauwhata WWTP will see efficient treatment of increased wastewater volumes for the growing town.



4.4 Mitigation Works Fund – Projects

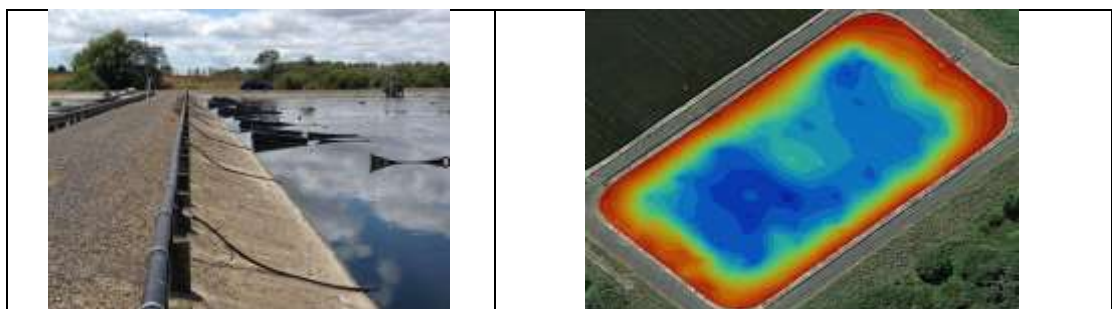
- Urupa Ecological Restoration Plan – Complete.
- Nga Muka Development Trust Sampling Project – Complete.
- Te Onetea Stream – Works underway.



- \$136,000 available for mitigation works (unallocated).
- Te Onetea Stream Project Status Update report from Waikato RiverCare in Dropbox.

4.5 What we are doing at present

- Wetland upgrade
- Aerators – major maintenance being undertaken
- Aquadisk replacement
- Step screen upgrade
- De-sludging
- Process optimisation



The current activities will not resolve the non-compliances but will lessen them, keep things afloat but will not take us to where we need to be.

4.6 Planning for the Future – Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy

A study looking from Meremere to Huntly for water and wastewater solutions over the next 50 years (due late June 2020).

The study considers the following:

- Short term vs long term investment.
- WWTP consolidation or not.
- The best process for the plant – Membrane Bio Reactor (MBR), Sequence Batch Reactor (SBR), Activated Sludge Process (ASP), Biosolid reuse, energy recovery, reuse in the future.
- 50 year solution to accommodate growth, cultural and environmental drivers.
- New consent required to facilitate all of the potential solutions.

- Outcomes to align with Long Term Plan (LTP) process at WDC.

- Partially funded by the HIF process.

5. HOUSING INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDS (HIF)

- In 2018 Council was successful in our bid to get \$38 million through the Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF).
- This interest-free loan along with \$34.4 million from Council's Long Term Plan, will be used to accelerate infrastructure projects to support the development of residential units in Te Kauwhata.
- Council has been working with Ministry of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to get all the relevant documents in place for Council to be able to drawdown on the HIF.
- Once these documents have been signed by HUD and Council and filed, Council will be able to submit drawdown documents.
- Council has in the current Long Term Plan the following waters projects that relate to the HIF:

Water supply treatment plant upgrades	16.0 m
Water supply reservoir extensions	3.3 m
Wastewater WWTP upgrade and rising main	<u>39.1 m</u>
TOTAL	\$58.4 m

6. FUTURE GOING FORWARD

- Investigations are nearing completion on the final solution for Te Kauwhata WWTP.
- The Plant will likely be upgraded to a full Membrane Bio Reactor (MBR) with a continued discharge to Lake Waikare for the short to medium term.
- In parallel a new consent application will be submitted to WRC for either a continued discharge to the lake or a new discharge to the river.
- If the final discharge is to the river then the new installed MBR plant discharge will be turned around to discharge to the river.
- The Te Kauwhata site has poor ground conditions and will require preloading for up to 6 months to allow the upgrade to proceed.

- Hope to start pre-loading in the summer of 2020/21 with a view to start constructing the plant upgrade in mid-2021.
- Watercare are WDCs expert choice to help us move things forward in a collaborative way.
- In good faith key people from the Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Consultation Group (MOU) will play a key part in shaping the future solution.
- We'll identify the right people ahead of convening further meetings.
- Including iwi affected by this kaupapa.

7. QUESTIONS

7.1 Tawera Nikau

How long have the consent conditions been breached for?

Non-compliance goes back to at least 2015, some significant some not so significant non-compliance.

How long will you continue to breach the consent conditions?

(We don't want any more wastewater going into the lake. Wastewater continues going into the lake. There are 1300 sections being developed as part of the Winton development, the concern is discharge continues into Lake Waikare breaching the consent).

There was a decision made around 400 lots as the capacity of the existing plant. Those lots may take about 18-24 months before the 400 lots are used up. That is the point when we need the upgrade.

HIF - \$35M allocated to Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Plant – is that correct?

\$39.1M is set aside for the Wastewater Treatment Plant and Rising Main (From plant to discharge).

When will you have Access to HIF?

The agreement needs to be signed off by the Minister of Finance, then it comes back to Council to sign, and then WDC can start drawing down on the funds (currently with MOF for signing).

Currently the WWTP is non-compliant. Why are there more sections and developments being allowed when we can't even deliver today?

Agreements were put in place to service developments historically. When such levels are reached a moratorium could be considered.

The Waikato Regional Council as a regulator for monitoring WDC consent conditions, where are we currently at? Have you got the latest report/update in term of breaching consents?

This current year WDC have received a formal warning for the poor performance of the plant. WDC are due to submit their annual report to WRC at the end of September, and then they will get another audit report from WRC shortly after. Enforcement or whatever action taken will be based on this report and it looks back on the history.

WRC receive a monthly report from WDC that they monitor closely. WRC receive an annual report from WDC each year.

When conditions are continuously being breached, when would you look at prosecuting?

WRC will look at the WDC annual report at the end of September which is not looking good, the performance of the plant hasn't improved. At that stage, the WRC will look at prosecuting. There is a process that is worked through.

Ian said that the Waters Governance Board have held an extreme risk workshop with Watercare to get on top of the issues at the three plants – Raglan, Meremere and Te Kauwhata. Watercare have been on board since October and have done a huge amount of work. The focus is to put good processes and systems in place. Watercare and the Waters Governance Board are working collaboratively to reach solutions.

Can you forward a copy of 2012 original agreement?

WDC will add it to the drop box so everyone can access it.

Statement:

This group should be realigned. A 30 year contract has been signed with Watercare. What input does mana whenua have into this? The MOU and the agreement should be realigned with the group – if you are going to sign a 30 year contract with Watercare, you should sign a 30 year contract with the mana whenua and everyone else from the community who is involved.

7.2 David Klee

David said he has been involved in the process since 2008. He is one of the original signatories to the agreement (2012). To move forward the past needs to be addressed. The consultation agreement sets a pathway by which the group plan a way forward, but feels they are being told what the plan is moving forward and it's not the intent of the agreement. It has been continually reaffirmed that by the end of the consent, treated wastewater will be out of the lake, and preferably discharged to land. Moving forward, this consultation group needs to be consulted with and listened to.

In the past we have had massive turnover, however, the focus is on consultation.

Cr Bech said that the MOU was signed in 2012 and because so much time had passed, we need to keep the communication channels open.

Ian you say the upgrade will deliver the outcomes required. My question is: Will it meet the requirements of our agreement and the current consent? Ongoing discharge to the lake is not the agreed outcome.

The strategy will be informed by consultation and requirements of the resource consent process.

What is the Waikato Regional Council's position on the plant taking further contaminant loadings when clearly it cannot process the contaminant loading, and in fact will exacerbate the compliance issues that the plant is currently having? Surely this is contrary to the intent of the current consent to allow further loads which the plant cannot treat?

WDC have consent to treat a certain volume of wastewater. The volumes are never exceeded. It is not WRCs business to tell the WDC how to do its business. WRC have to wait to see what comes out the end of the pipe and then they can take action. The actual quality of what comes out of the pipe and how they run their plants is up to them.

WRC submit on the Long Term Plan every year and point out what infrastructure needs funding. At this level there are conversations between WRC and WDC to fund appropriately. Some improvement works have been done at the plant. WRC view is: In September the annual audit report will be reviewed, which will identify the level of compliance achieved, and then likely take to the enforcement delegation group for direction for the next enforcement option.

Statement:

This plant has been non-compliant for 5 years. This was foreseeable and preventable, yet Council has continued to take extra loads which we knew the plant could not treat. This ongoing systemic failure must be addressed.

Statement:

It has been a clear position of the group and continually promised by Council that the wastewater would be removed from the lake in line with the current consent. Any further delays are unacceptable.

Statement:

As part of the last agreement there was a timeline associated with it. Looking at the timeline now we should be in receipt of our AEE (Assessment of Environmental Effects) for the new land disposal consent, obviously that may no longer be an option. And in two year's time we should be looking at starting that new treatment and upgrade plant and in three year's time stopping discharge to lake. This is what we should be aiming for.

Statement:

David clarified the reason for the current agreement - it was put in place to resolve the resource consent process and therefore it isn't just a MOU. The agreement is enshrined in the current consent. The parties who objected to the previous consent mainly on the basis that it was seeking continued discharge to the lake and opposed that consent, it was a four year process to come to the agreement.

It is said that the upgrade will achieve the desired/required outcomes – the point is that this better achieve the agreement. Ongoing discharge is not an agreed outcome and this would be problematic, on the basis that one of the preferred options is being progressed.

7.3 Jenny Kelly

Statement:

The last meeting was held on 18 June 2018. The problem is that there is no one overall owner of the lake. Iwi, WRC and various other authorities are involved but there is no collective owner of the lake. The group have not wanted wastewater going into the lake in any form, yet housing development continues to proliferate, and wastewater continues to go to the lake.

7.4 Euan Williamson

Capacity of the plant is not at 400 houses! You need to stop any more housing until you can process the waste and dispose of it out of the lake. Why allow more houses into the system when you cannot effectively treat it and you are not going to be out of the lake by 2023? Cease development - moratorium on development!

Not sure how 400 was made (it was made at some point in history)? Not sure where we are at in terms of that, could be at 200? Consultative process is what we are focusing on

moving into the future. We are trying to move forward and put a treatment and discharge solution in place that will remove all the issues of the past.

You put in the documents that you are going to comply with the written strategy for the Waikato River and now we find out that you are not going to discharge to land because you think it is too expensive, what solution are you going to have to be able to comply with it?

The community is going to come up with a solution through the process of engagement, should it be that it is a discharge to land (with significant dollars attached to it), it is a decision that will come through the process. Indication of the experts is that land disposal is very expensive and very unaffordable for the community the size of Te Kauwhata.

Have they given any thought on discharging during the summer months and discharging into the river during winter months when water levels are at a more appropriate volume?

Can't answer specifics, but this is being discussed at Raglan. These kinds of details will come out in the next phase of consultation. Even with land application, the land can only take the wastewater for so many years and then it becomes exhausted and you have to stop and go somewhere else. So, if you put \$100M into land, it may only have a 20 year life time before you have to go and find another \$130M of land to start again. There are significant constraints that we are finding and learning about within the Raglan process which is about 6 months ahead of this in terms of where we have got to.

With all of the options, there is the potential to discharge some of it to land. It would probably be more than just during the winter, it would be during rain events that it would have to go to the river and land in winter, just because of the characteristics of the land. These are technical details that can be talked through, but there is always potential to discharge some to land once it has been treated.

Can you confirm the wastewater will be discharged to land?

This will be considered as part of the strategy that will be informed by consultation and requirements of the resource consent process and selection of the best solution for the community.

7.5 Glen Tupuhi

Who are the Maaori members on the Water Governance Board representing? Are they recognised Waikato-Tainui members or independents?

Rukumoana Schaafhausen is the Chair for the Waters Governance Board and the Chair for Waikato-Tainui

In 2018 consultation communication ended with the Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment Consultation Group. Subsequently, conversations commenced with Watercare and Waikato-Tainui, however Nga Muka, maraes and others were not included in that conversation. High level talks with Waikato-Tainui did not trickle down.

WDC recognise that they engaged with high level of Waikato-Tainui but didn't connect with the right parties. This will be remedied.

Cr Bech said we will make sure we have the right iwi and hapu groups in the right tent. The MOU did not quite achieve this. Ian Cathcart has given his commitment to go back and make sure we have all the right parties together. We will remedy this. (Internal Waikato-Tainui has a responsibility to do this as well).

Has the Hampton Downs raceway tapped into the Springhill pipeline or are they treating their wastewater on site. If so, who is monitoring that peak volumes given the proximity to the Waikato River?

Hampton Downs have their own private wastewater system.

You are using language *looking like* upgrading to full MBR, is this going to happen or not? A full MBR plant is what we need!

*The language *looking like* is used because Ian Cathcart said he is not a specialist in wastewater treatment – it could be a MBR, SBR or one of the other versions of treatment. It will be a solution matched to our situation to deliver the outcomes we want. The Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy is reflecting on the growth in the area, on the technical sides of what we need to discharge, costs to pipe it to one site, and other things are being looked at so we get a good 50 year decision.*

Is the Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy looking at separate plants for Te Kauwhata, Meremere and Huntly or are they going to be bundled together? Is Te Kauwhata going to have a separate plant?

There is a treatment plant (standalone) going in at Meremere – 30 year life (30 year plus resource consent) to service the community with growth.

Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy (not finalised yet) - it's looking like no one plant will service all. Township by township - separate plant for each town.

Te Kauwhata has its own treatment plant (preloading for 6 months). In terms of funding for this – the funding (HIF) for the plant and network will enable us to continue growth.

Are the Development Contributions and Rates that are being collected in the North Waikato including Springhill Prison going to be spent in Te Kauwhata area?

The HIF funding is ring-fenced for Te Kauwhata. Part of the agreement with the Ministry of Finance is that the HIF funding would be used in Te Kauwhata. There are no aspirations to use it anywhere else. Development Contributions collected from the Te Kauwhata catchment are held in a separate Reserve and can only be used in Te Kauwhata.

1300 lots sold by Lakeside to Kainga Ora are to be developed over 7-8 years. The 400 lots are not going to be saturated by 1300 homes, it will staged out.

Statement:

Very concerned about developments in Te Kauwhata, concerned about the gentrification of the area and what happens when you get a certain ethnicity growing – you get ground flight (running away) from escalating house prices and the escalating rents that go with them. The escalating rates would be transferred to the rents and that would put enormous pressure on our Maaori family living in a bi-cultural town.

At one end we have prosecution and the rates money that goes to both sides of the prosecution plus paying for the prosecution itself. At the other end we want a scientific approach (trust the science) - we don't want a political approach. We don't want Council to make the decisions; we want science to back it moving forward.

Research Partnership - Enter into a research partnership (Glen, Tawera, Sarah, Waikato-Tainui, Waikato Regional Council), a scientific relationship with

Environmental Science and Research (ESR), the Centre for Integrated Biowaste Research (CIBR) bio research and Canterbury University. There is a lot of knowledge around this to find a solution.

WRC has to reach a toleration point to the breaches at some stage.

HIF funding - a lot of the information was provided by Lakeside Development who took Kay, Glen and others (7 maraes) to Rotorua to show them the MBR plant. Water was clear.

7.6 Kay Davis

I struggle to have confidence in WDC immediate stop to breach now! Breach cannot continue especially with winter and wet weather upon us. What is WRC doing to manage this? 2017 TKWWTCG meetings halted and now there's a 'hurry' to come up with a half-hearted solution. Also how can Te Kauwhata be granted \$34+M yet WDC are still putting together a plan and costs that we have to agree to.

If WDC don't get it right WDC face prosecution from WRC and that is why it is high on the Waters Governance Board – we recognise this and just need to get the right solution together.

Infrastructure application to get the HIF funding in 2018 – there was a specific plan around pipes and plant etc with different options.

Secondary to the application the Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy is from Meremere to Huntly that have several different plants (more of a collective) and whether we should put them all together into one big super plant – was this the right thing to do – which is the decision that will come out of the Strategy? There was potential to take the Te Kauwhata funding and put it into the bigger solution that was much better for the whole region but this is now not the case. Te Kauwhata funding is ring-fenced.

7.7 Ricky Maipi (Te Riu o Waikato Ltd)

What are the peripheral opportunities?

These will be considered in stakeholder engagement around the resource consent process and selection of the best solution for the community.

7.8 **Future Plans** (Sharon Danks, Watercare)

The original study that supported the HIF funding case - when looked into by Watercare in detail wasn't a viable solution and that is the reason for the additional round of studies. We have the Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy that has been delivered, but no option has been recommended as yet. There are still 3 or 4 options with all costings at similar amounts of money. The next phase of the strategy is to go out for a period of consultation in early July that will meet with interested parties from iwi and other stakeholders (WRC) to narrow options on the preferred solution for Te Kauwhata. The study considers all the way from Meremere to Huntly and considers all options such as land disposal. Land disposal has been considered again but it is a very expensive option - a couple of million all up to do land disposal for the whole region and is probably an unaffordable option at this time.

WDC are committed to consulting with original MOU partners and mana whenua groups not included in the original MOU.

8. Actions

Action	Who	When
MOU Review required <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Freshen it up ▪ Realign it and make current 	WDC	
Moratorium on development – when do new connections stop? WDC to consider?	WDC	
Confirm stakeholder lists.	WDC	
Discharge to land in line with vision for the river – is land discharge possible?	WDC	

9. CLOSING OF MEETING

Cr Bech thanked everybody for their attendance at this Zoom meeting.

It is the first meeting of a new commitment from Council.

Watercare will send out an invitation to talk about options in the strategy in the next couple of weeks. All interested parties will be contacted next week to arrange a meeting.

Meeting closed with a Karakia by Sam Toka.

Meeting closed at 8.00pm.

Mana whenua hui : Ngaa Muka ,Waahi Whaanui and Te Riu O Waikato 29 June 2020

29 JUNE HUI 5PM ZOOM

PRESENT

Mana Whenua: Tawera Nikau, Glen Tupuhi, Pat Kingi, Kay Davis, Hori Awa, Sam Toka, Linda Tomuli

Governance: Rukumoana Schaafhausen, Parekawhia Mclean

Staff: Marae Tukere, Taro Rawiri

KAUPAPA – TE KAUWHATA WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT / MANA WHENUA ENGAGEMENT

1. Mahitahi / kotahitanga

- Positive progress on marae, hapuu and lwi meeting together / mahitahi
- Noted the common purpose of protecting water
- Discussion of litigation and protest and that there are other avenues to leverage such as our JMA Accords
- Acknowledgement of everyone working to strengths in their roles to leverage opportunity such as Council and Water roles

2. JMA options

- Gavin from Council acknowledges that Council is working to fix engagement with mana whenua. This has been pushed by both the tribe and the Waters Governance Board so this can be resourced.
- There is a JMA on 16 July which Ruku is happy to highlight it as a key issue and talk to the enforcement issue.
 - a) Moratorium on new consents
 - b) WDC should be covering the cost of an independent review on the options
 - c) Establishment of the mana whenua forum is required.

3. Enforcement measures

- Richard by invitation shared koorero on potential options including:
 - Seeking an enforcement order with expert support re engineer, ecologist and funding support to put pressure on WDC
 - Investigating whether WRC will take action on the abatement notice already served to WDC noting last day to prosecute would be 30 June
 - Seek an enforcement order from WRC asking them to stop doing something, or to do something and seek whether costs might be shared to support an action.
- There is a desire to put pressure on WRC to prosecute to WDC – the money could go towards mitigation on the lake

- To consider what our powers are under Te Ture Whaimana to acknowledge our own enforcement ability
- Acknowledging this is not just related to Te Kauwhata Treatment Plant, it's also the Huntly Plant and the Meremere Plant.
- Abatement notice served on WDC already, however even in an abatement situation, WDC have the ability to continue until they're told to stop. There was initially a 600k fine that went with the abatement notice as well as an increase per day in breach.
- WT / Ngaa Muka could also take out an enforcement notice with WRC
- As part of restorative justice mana whenua want to have a Kaitiaki on site from next Monday, water sampling with the support of water scientist and collecting potential evidence

4. *Mana whenua engagement*

- There is a need for resourcing of independent reviews to allow for meaningful mana whenua engagement.
 - Canterbury, ESR and Cyber, recently called on expertise to do a third-party review of Comfort Group and their foam production. What was foreign was the emissions to foam production. The tribe paid a portion (1/3) and Comfort group paid 2/3.
 - Horticulture practice with scorching and mana whenua wanting to know the impact and effects on the soil
- The Mid Waikato report will be released 30 June and there has been an indication the plant will be a standalone plant for Te Kauwhata
- Mana whenua need a planned and coordinated approach with both short term immediate solutions and mid-long terms solutions.

5. *Short term solutions*

- a) Put WDC on notice re enforcement : Ruku to do through a formal letter; and also put the kaupapa on the agenda for the next JMA
- b) Moratorium on new consents Ruku to include in letter to Waikato District Council re JMA
- c) Talk to WRC to prosecute WDC: This will be raised with legal team at Lands Trust and then be raised at the WRC JMA hui
- d) Lake restoration projects we are already working in this space and I will ask Taroi to give us a list of the projects in progress and planned
- e) Support Kaitiaki role to be resourced by WDC
- f) Establish and resource a mana whenua forum
- g) Support independent review of options provided by WDC on *Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy* report.

6. *Mid-long term solutions*

- a) Waikato Servicing Strategy to identify options with mana whenua
- b) Jobs and trialling for mana whenua

7. Actions

	Date	Action	Assigned	By when	Status
1	29 June 2020	Formal letter to - place on notice re enforcement - include moratorium - mana whenua forum - raise kaitiaki role and - request independent review of options provided in <i>Mid Waikato Water & Wastewater Services Strategy</i> report.	Ruku / Parekawhia	To provide to 16 July JMA Hui	
2	29 June 2020	Add Te Kauwhata WWTP kaupapa to upcoming JMA hui with WDC and WRA	Ruku / Marae	-	
3	29 June 2020	Raise with Lands Trust legal team provision for WRC to prosecute WDC	Ruku/ Marae	-	
4	29 June 2020	Provide Lake Waikare Restoration projects list	Taroi	-	

30 June 2020



Gavin Ion
Chief Executive
Waikato District Council
Private Bag 544
Ngaruawahia, 3742

Via email

Teena koe Gavin

Te Kauwhata Wastewater Treatment: Ongoing Non-compliance

Yesterday, Parekawhia and I met with mana whenua representatives to discuss the ongoing non-compliance at the Te Kauwhata Wastewater treatment plant. As you are aware, Council and mana whenua have been talking about this issue for a number of years and unfortunately, due to the lack of decisive action, mana whenua connected to Lake Waikare tell us that they have run out of patience.

They have asked me to put you and the Council on notice that we intend to direct the Waikato Regional Council to formalise the matter and start enforcement proceedings against the Waikato District Council due to the continuing non-compliance and lack of urgency on the Council's part to address these issues which have been a matter of concern for mana whenua over the past 10 years.

Further, mana whenua have asked us to direct Waikato District Council to place a moratorium on the issuing of any further consents which rely on the plant for treatment of wastewater. The moratorium should take effect immediately.

Our management team wrote to the Council on 15 June in support of the establishment of four fully resourced mana whenua forums and suggested that the North Waikato forum should be established urgently.

We look forward to discussing these issues with you at our JMA hui on 16 July.

Naa maaua

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "P. McLean".

Parekawhia McLean

**Te Whakakitenga Chair
TE WHAKAKITENGA O WAIKATO**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Schaafhausen".

Rukumoana Schaafhausen

**Te Arataura Chair
TE WHAKAKITENGA O WAIKATO**

cc: Vaughan Payne

Open Meeting

To	Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee
From	Gavin Ion Chief Executive
Date	16 July 2020
Prepared by	Brendan Stringer/Sam Toka Democracy Manager/Iwi & Community Partnership Manager
Chief Executive Approved	Y
Reference #	GOV1301
Report Title	Representation review – Maaori Wards

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to seek feedback from Waikato Tainui on establishing Maaori Wards in the District.

The Council has the opportunity to consider the establishment of Maaori ward(s) for the 2022 local elections, as part of its representation review project. The process for a council to establish Maaori wards is detailed in the Local Electoral Act (**LEA**). If the Council decided to establish Maaori wards for the 2022 triennial elections, a resolution to that effect must be made by 23 November 2020 (section 19Z, LEA) and be publicly notified.

By way of context to this korero:

- The Council approved the appointment of two Maangai Maaori at its Council meeting on 6 May 2020 – Maxine Moana-Tuwhangai and Brendon Green. Both Maxine and Brendon have taken up their respective roles as full voting members on the Council's three principal committees – Policy and Regulatory; Strategy and Finance; and Infrastructure.
- Waikato-Tainui have advocated for the Council to establish mana whenua fora for the Waikato District. Waikato Tainui's proposal, including the benefits of the fora, is attached to this report (Attachment 1). The Council's response to the proposal is attached as Attachment 2.

This report addresses the above issues to facilitate discussion by the Committee.

RECOMMENDATIONS

THAT the report from the Chief Executive be received;

AND THAT feedback and direction is provided to staff on the establishment of:

- a. Maaori wards; and**
- b. mana whenua forum/fora by the Council.**

BACKGROUND

The Waikato District Council has the option to consider whether to establish Maaori wards for the 2022 local authority elections (Local Electoral Act 2001 section 19Z). Consideration of this matter is part of the representation review process that is currently being carried out by the Council. On 19 May 2020, the Council's Electoral Officer provided a briefing to Councillors on the process and timeframes for the representation review, including the establishment of Maaori wards.

Maaori representation is a strategic objective of this Committee. As initiated by this Committee in 2018, Maangai Maaori have been appointed to the Council's three principal committees with effect from 6 May 2020:

- Mrs Maxine Moana-Tuwhangai is appointed as a member of the Policy & Regulatory Committee and Strategy & Finance Committee;
- Mr Brendon Green is appointed as a member of the Infrastructure Committee.

Both Mrs Moana-Tuwhangai and Mr Green have commenced their roles on the respective committees.

DISCUSSION

Maaori representation within local authorities' decision-making processes is embodied in the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, identified as one of the top ten race relation priorities by the Human Rights Commission and required to be considered by the Council under the Local Government Act 2002, Resource Management Act 1991 and other key legislation.

Maaori Wards

The process to establish Maaori Wards is set out in the Local Electoral Act 2001. Some key points from the legislation:

- Maaori wards can be established by way of a Council decision or a favourable outcome from a poll of the District's voters. Such a poll can be initiated by the Council (as was done in the 2013-16 triennium) or demanded by 5% of voters.
- The formula for determining the number of Maaori wards is based on Maaori and general electoral populations. This number would be determined as part of the wider representation review undertaken in 2021, should the establishment of Maaori wards, in principle, be approved by the Council. As an example only, if Council retained the current number of elected members, 2 of the 13 Councillors would be elected from one or more Maaori wards.
- A resolution to establish Maaori wards would apply for the next two triennial elections, *unless* reversed by a public poll. The result of a public poll is binding for the next two triennial elections.
- A member elected by a Maaori ward is under the same obligations as all elected members of Council to act in the best interests of the city.

While a number of councils have endeavoured to establish Maaori Wards in recent years, only three have been successful – Bay of Plenty Regional Council¹; Waikato Regional Council and Wairoa District Council. In all other cases, the respective councils' decisions to establish Maaori Wards were overturned as a result of a public poll – usually as a result of divisive, vocal interest groups lobbying against such wards.

Unsuccessful attempts have been made to amend the legislation to remove the ability for a public poll to overturn a council decision on Maaori wards

Alternative Maaori representation

With the difficulties in successfully establishing Maaori wards, councils have explored other opportunities to foster Maaori participation in decision-making processes.

As noted, the Council has recently appointed two Maangai Maaori as members of the three principal Council committees, with full voting rights. The committees have wide-ranging delegations, which will benefit from the experience and perspectives of the Maangai Maaori.

Following recent discussions, Waikato Tainui have advocated for the Council to also establish mana whenua fora to facilitate meaningful engagement with mana whenua, particularly in relation to development projects across the district. A letter from Waikato Tainui, and Council's response, is attached to this report

¹ BOPRC Maaori Wards were established by specific local legislation, rather than under the LEA, and was therefore not subject to the process of a countervailing public poll.

Council staff have had initial positive discussions with elected members on this matter. The Iwi & Community Partnership Manager will provide a verbal update to the Committee at the meeting.

CONSIDERATIONS

FINANCIAL

The cost to undertake a public poll on Maaori wards – whether initiated by Council or the public – would be approximately \$100,000 + GST (depending on voter turnout). There is currently no budget for such cost.

Council staff are currently working through options for establishing mana whenua fora; the costs for which will be ascertained as part of this work.

LEGAL

The Council is required to comply with the LEA in relation to the establishment of Maaori wards. While the Council is not required to make a decision under the Act (section 19Z), it is considered best practice for the Council to review and decide on this issue in a public meeting. A report will be presented to the Council in September or October 2020. The Council's decision must be publicly notified in accordance with legislation, including the right for the public to demand a poll on the matter.

The establishment of mana whenua fora would be presented to the Council for approval. This will ensure there is transparency and accountability in the process and purpose of the fora, as well as a public record of political support. The terms of reference, and any delegations, of the fora would form part of this decision. Legal and policy compliance would be evaluated as part of the work currently undertaken by staff.

STRATEGY, PLANS, POLICY AND PARTNERSHIP ALIGNMENT

Maaori representation is a strategic objective of this Committee, and providing opportunities for Maaori to be included in the Council's decision-making processes is a core principle of the Joint Management Agreement.

During the Blueprints consultation work, the importance of council engaging with mana whenua was highlighted. The establishment of mana whenua fora is therefore a logical step arising from this engagement.

In addition, the establishment of mana whenua fora aligns with the Council's vision of creating liveable, thriving and connected communities.

ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY AND OF EXTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS

Having considered the Significance & Engagement Policy, staff consider the matters in this report have a medium level of significance.

Highest levels of engagement	Inform	Consult	Involve	Collaborate	Empower
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<i>Tick the appropriate box/boxes and specify what it involves by providing a brief explanation of the tools which will be used to engage (refer to the project engagement plan if applicable).</i>	Consultation on the matter of Maaori wards and mana whenua fora will be undertaken with key Maaori stakeholders.				

State below which external stakeholders have been or will be engaged with:

Planned	In Progress	Complete	
	x		Internal
			Community Boards/Community Committees
	x		Waikato-Tainui/Local iwi and hapuu (provide evidence / description of engagement and response)
			Households
			Business
			Other Please Specify

CONCLUSION

The report sets out the legislative requirements for establishing Maaori wards, and seeks the feedback from the River Trust members on this issue. The proposal for mana whenua fora, as advocated by Waikato Tainui, is also noted to facilitate a wider discussion with the Committee.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Letter from Waikato Tainui – mana whenua fora
2. Letter from Waikato District Council – mana whenua fora



15 June 2020

Gavin Ion
Chief Executive
Waikato District Council
Via email to Sam Toka

*He hoonore he kororia he maungarongo ki te mata o te whenua he whakaaro pai ki
ngaa tangata katoa. Pai Marire.*

The purpose of this letter is to formalise a number of conversations that our leadership teams and operational staff have had in regards to the establishment of a fully resourced mana whenua forum for the Waikato district.

The benefits for Council in establishing these fora are proven and include a greater understanding of shared aspirations and expectations; increased opportunities to collaborate on projects and in development; increased efficiency in engagement and reduction in engagement costs; increased likelihood that the project or initiative has relevance for iwi and hapuu, recognition of the importance of mana whenua heritage, values and protocols and of mana whenua as kaitiaki. The other benefit is the reduced likelihood of legal proceedings.

We strongly advocate that Waikato District Council move quickly to set up mana whenua forum given the rapid development that is occurring particularly in the North Waikato. As per our discussions we suggest clusters for four areas:

- 1 – Te Raki – North
- 2 – Te Tonga – South
- 3 – Raawhiti – East
- 4 – Te Uru – West

We suggest that you should prioritise establishment of a forum specifically for the North Waikato. The members of the forum must be resourced properly to ensure that they can participate effectively – i.e. they must be remunerated by Council for their time and input. The forum should also have access to relevant information from Council which enables them to be fully informed prior to hui.

At the appropriate time, our team would be happy to assist with the promotion of this opportunity to our marae via our tribal paanui and social media. Further, may we suggest that Hamilton City Council has an effective model that might assist you.

We look forward to a positive response to this request and to discussing your progress at our next JMA hui.



Ngaa mihi nui, naa

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M Tukere".

Marae Tukere
General Manager,
Tribal Development and Wellbeing

7 July 2020

Marae Tukere
General Manager, Tribal Development and Wellbeing
Waikato Tainui

Via email: marae.tukere@tainui.co.nz

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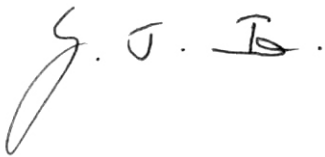
Kia ora Marae

Thank you for your letter of 15 June 2020 with regard to the establishment of mana whenua fora for the Waikato District. This matter will be addressed as part of our discussion about Maaori representation at the JMA meeting. In line with your discussions with Sam Toka, we see that four such fora would be a good way to split the District and to encourage better engagement at the appropriate level for local matters.

We would like to work with you to understand out how these would work in practice but we also see the need for urgency in getting this work underway.

As an aside, we have recently appointed two additional staff to support Sam. Both will commence in early August and will help Sam with this work.

Nгаа mihi



Gavin Ion
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Open Meeting

To	Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee
From	Gavin Ion Chief Executive
Date	07 July 2020
Chief Executive Approved	Y
Reference #	WTJMAC2020 / EPM0403
Report Title	Strategic Work Programme 2018-2021

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Please find attached a summary of progress to date on the Strategic Work Programme 2018-2021.

2. RECOMMENDATION

THAT the report from the Chief Executive be received.

3. ATTACHMENTS

Strategic Work Programme 2018-2021

WAIKATO TAINUI – WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL STRATEGIC WORK PROGRAMME : 2018 - 2021

FINAL: May 2019

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1: MAAORI REPRESENTATION						
NO	INITIATIVE	SHORT DESCRIPTION	OUTCOME	KEY ACTIONS	Next Steps	Due dates
1	APPOINTMENT OF MANA WHENUA REPS TO COUNCIL COMMITTEES	Acknowledging that WDC has discounted Maaori wards, as an alternative, WDC has advocated for the appointment of mana whenua reps to Council committees.	Mana whenua aspirations are included in council decision making.	<p><i>To develop the proposal for presentation to the Mayor and SLT</i></p> <p><i>To present the proposal to the appropriate Council committee and then to the full Council</i></p> <p><i>To complete advertising, appointment and induction</i></p> <p><i>To monitor and review the impact of the appointments.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marae to share framework and relevant documents with WDC • Council to develop the proposal with timeframes, taking into account the election cycle • Council and Waikato-Tainui to co-present the proposal to Council • Council to confirm budget and timeframes • Council and WT to work together on the advertising and recruitment of appropriately qualified tribal members • Appointments to committees confirmed • Review impact of appointments 	<p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>Appointments now in place. To be reviewed in 6 months regarding benefits.</p>
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2: GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE						
NO	INITIATIVE	SHORT DESCRIPTION	OUTCOME	KEY ACTIONS	Next Steps	Due dates
1	H2A CORRIDOR COLLABORATION	WT and WDC staff are already participating in discussions with the various other parties involved in the H2A Corridor project. Having an agreed and planned approach on key aspects of the project will be more influential in terms of advocacy and decision making within the wider context of the project.	To collaborate on key components of the H2A corridor project to ensure that our mutual aspirations for our Marae, townships and communities in general are elevated and achieved.	<p><i>Joint advocacy and focus on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Spatial Plan for Huntly including investigating protecting the designated area for a central interchange in the future</i> • <i>Feasibility study for Meremere</i> • <i>Ohinewai Sub-regional wastewater treatment plant (being investigated through the Future Proof Three Waters Study)</i> <p><i>Building the capacity of our Marae adjacent to the Corridor so that they can leverage off the opportunities for economic development</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manaaki, Vishal and Clive working on Corridor Plan at the Steering Group level. Joint Community Board and Community Committee engagement scheduled for 8 May. • Development of a PGF funding application for the Meremere feasibility study • Workshop for Huntly H2A Spatial Plan 9 May • Ohinewai w/water – Stage 1 in progress through Future Proof Three Waters Study • Development of Oranga Marae (Strategic) Plans to assist Marae to identify social, cultural, environmental and economic gaps and opportunities 	<p>In progress</p> <p>Completed</p> <p>In progress</p> <p>Currently in planning;</p> <p>Marae will commence late 2019</p>
2	RE-STRUCTURING OF MANAGEMENT OF WATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE WAIKATO DISTRICT	WT and WDC Governance oversight of new arrangements with Watercare for provision of water services to Waikato District	Tribal input to key decisions regarding three waters in the Waikato District.	<p><i>Governance oversight includes Waikato Tainui representation</i></p> <p><i>WDC ensures that due regard is given to vulnerable persons in the provision of water services</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance structure for provision of water supply in the Waikato District to be confirmed. • Management to prepare paper around strategies to protect vulnerable people in terms of three waters charging. 	<p>Complete.</p> <p>Rukumoana Schaafhausen is Chair of Council's Waters Governance Board.</p> <p>Jackie Colliar is the Board intern.</p> <p>An initial paper was prepared for the Waters Governance Board regarding</p>

vulnerable people. Further work is required to consider other options in place for other councils.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT

NO	INITIATIVE	SHORT DESCRIPTION	OUTCOME	KEY ACTIONS	Next Steps	Due dates
1	WDC and WT PLANNING DOCUMENTS ARE ALIGNED	The strategic goals and resulting initiatives in WT's 5 year plan are considered in WDC's planning documents	There is alignment between key focus areas for the iwi and council which increases efficiency of resourcing and outcomes.	<p><i>Shared focus and resourcing on:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>understanding and responding to climate change</i> <i>reliable, clean water supply to the community and in particular our Marae</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WT to share 5 year plan with WDC Develop collaborative action points in response to WT plan. 	<p>June 2019</p> <p>September 2019</p>
2	CAPABILITY BUILDING FOR TRIBAL MEMBERS	To implement the Schedule to the JMA that describes WDC / WT collaboration to build the capacity of tribal members to participate effectively in Council planning, operational and decision-making processes through co-designed training and engagement, internships, work experience, the Joint Scholarship and other opportunities.	<p>WT tribal members participate effectively in Council planning, operations and decision-making.</p> <p>WDC staff build capacity in understanding WT values and aspirations take these into account when making decisions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of an analysis tool, based on WT Environmental Plan, which will assist Council planners to assess and prioritise RC's. Options which provide mana whenua the opportunity to build their capability by sitting alongside Council planners during the prioritisation phase. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> WT Taiao team to develop the analysis tool Tool to be tested with JMA partner council Complete rollout to all Councils (including training) Review effectiveness of tool Framework designed by WT; tested with partner councils Training programme to be developed (as part of WT 5 year plan) 	<p>Overdue:</p> <p>2nd quarter 2019</p> <p>3rd quarter 2019</p> <p>2020</p> <p>By July 2019</p>