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

Agenda for a meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee to be held via Audio Visual Conference on **WEDNESDAY, 13 APRIL 2022** commencing at **10.00am**.

**MEMBERS**

**Waikato Raupatu River Trust**

Trustee Hinerangi Raumati -Tu'ua (Co-Chair)  
Trustee Huirama Matatahi  
Trustee Rangitamoana Wilson  
Trustee Donald Turner (alternate only)

**Waikato District Council**

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

**STAFF**

**Waikato Raupatu River Trust**

Marae Tukere (Acting Chief Executive)  
Manaaki Nepia (Manager, Strategy)  
Taroi Rawiri (Manager, Environment)

**Waikato District Council**

Gavin Ion (Chief Executive)  
Vishal Ramduny (Strategic Projects Manager)  
Sam Toka (Iwi & Community Partnership Manager)  
Emma Edgar (Communications, Marketing & Engagement Manager)  
Gaylene Kanawa (Democracy Manager)

**AGENDA****1. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE****2. CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA****3. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST****4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

Meeting held on Wednesday 20 October 2021

3

**5. ACTIONS REGISTER/MATTERS ARISING**

16

**6. REPORTS**

## 6.1 Strategic Work Programmes

6.1.1 Waikato Tainui presentation on key strategies and priorities

18

6.1.2 WDC Update on key priorities and initiatives

39

## 6.2 Social Procurement - Update from WDC Procurement Manager '

*Verbal*

## 6.3 Review of the Waikato District Council Te Reo Māori Policy

72

## 6.4 Update from Maangai Maaori

*Verbal*

## 6.5 General Business

*Verbal***7. CLOSING COMMENTS FROM CO-CHAIRS****8. CLOSING KARAKIA**

Gj Ion

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**To** | **Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee**

**Report title** | **Confirmation of Minutes**

## **1. Purpose of the report**

### **Te Take moo te puurongo**

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To confirm the minutes for a meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held on Wednesday 20 October 2021.

## **2. Staff recommendations**

### **Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi**

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**THAT the minutes for the meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held on Wednesday, 20 October 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

## **3. Attachments**

### **Ngaa taapirihanga**

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Attachment 1 – WRRT-WDC JMC Minutes – 20 October 2022

Date:	13 April 2022
Report Author:	Gaylene Kanawa, Democracy Team Leader
Authorised by:	Gavin Ion, Chief Executive

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Minutes for a meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held via Audio Visual Conference on **WEDNESDAY, 20 OCTOBER 2021** at **10.05am** .

**Present:**

Cr A Bech (Co-Chair)  
Cr J Gibb  
Cr L Thomson

Trustee Hinerangi Raumati–Tu’ua (Co-Chair)  
Trustee Huirama Matatahi (Trustee)  
Rangita Wilson (Alternate)

**Attending:**

Mr Brendon Green (Maangai Maaori)  
Mrs Maxine Moana-Tuwangai (Maangai Maaori) from 10.40am

Mr GJ Ion (Chief Executive)  
Mr S Toka (Iwi & Community Partnership Manager)  
Mr R McCulloch (Group Manager, Service Delivery)  
Mr C Morgan (Group Manager, Community Growth)  
Mr V Ramduny (Strategic Projects Manager)  
Mr J Ebenhoh  
Mrs GJ Kanawa (Democracy Team Leader)  
Mr M Horsfield (Democracy Advisor)

Ms D Flavell (Chief Executive)  
Ms M Tukere (General Manager, Development and Wellbeing)  
Ms M Nepia (Strategy Manager)  
Mr B Croad (Planning Manager)  
Mr D Turner (Waikato Tainui )  
Mr M Toka (Waikato Tainui )  
Ms R Wilson (Waikato Tainui )  
Ms K Flavell (Taiao Intern Oranga)

Trustee Huirama Matatahi opened the hui with a karakia.

**APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE****Resolved: (Crs Gibb/Thomson)****THAT the:**

- a) apology for non-attendance from Mayor, AM Sanson be accepted; and
- b) apologies for lateness from Mrs Moana-Tuwhangai be accepted.

**CARRIED****JMA2110/01****CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS****Resolved: (Mrs Raumati-Tu'ua/Cr Gibb)**

**THAT the agenda for the meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held on Wednesday, 20 October 2021 be confirmed and all items therein be considered in open meeting.**

**CARRIED****JMA2110/02****DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST**

There were no disclosures of interest.

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****Resolved: (Crs Gibb/Thomson)**

**THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Joint Committee held on Wednesday, 14 April 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.**

**CARRIED****JMA2110/03**

## **MATTERS ARISING**

- Mana whenua forums – Report on the agenda.
- Long-term plan consultation – completed in partnership with WDC/WT.
- Social procurement strategy – WT will need to share with Te Whakakitenga first, then will be able to socialise with WDC.
- Workplan – Noted that RMA changes had required input from WDC legal team and once they have finalised this work, WDC will share with WT. However, the overall workplan still needed to be completed (note actions below).
- Meremere project – WDC and TGH (Tainui Group Holdings) staff had met to progress project and had identified both industrial and residential opportunities in the future proof strategy. Identified that zoning is not an issue, but more work needs to be done around transport, water and wastewater infrastructure in regard to aspirations for the site.

**ACTION:** Waikato-Tainui will share their initial strategy document and Council will work on overarching holistic framework of working together.

**ACTION:** WDC will put framework together and the Co-Chairs will meet in December to provide governance input and look toward adoption of the three-year workplan at the February hui.

- Terms of reference – joint committee – WRRT still had a vacancy and another member could be appointed. Other members can be appointed as alternates and Te Whakakitenga representatives can be present and accorded speaking rights.

**ACTION:** Waikato-Tainui to appoint their vacancy and alternates then advise Council who they are.

## **REPORTS**

### Waikato Tainui Report for Joint Committee Hui with Waikato District Council Agenda Item 6.1

The Waikato Tainui report was taken as read, and the following matters were discussed:

#### Representation Review

- Disappointed with level of engagement with initial proposal for representation review regarding Maaori wards but acknowledged WDC is having ongoing discussion with Donald Turner and others regarding an appeal to the Maaori ward names now that the ward had been split.
- Expectation to work hard with Council to improve the engagement ensuring sufficient time and information is provided for WT to have the opportunity to talk to our maraes to achieve consensus.

- Cr Bech was pleased to hear comments regarding engagement for Maaori ward names was continuing between WDC and WT.
- Disappointed from a partner perspective with report comments that engagement was not as WT hoped but do note as reflected in minutes formally discussed at our meetings back in July and September 2020.
- Communication and working together – connected with WDC staff regarding moving forward with Maaori ward names and appreciative of this mahitahi.
- Maaori wards kaupapa exciting and we want to continue working with WDC to achieve appropriate names with the wider community. Council also acknowledge this decision was about having the right representation for our communities.
- With population growth and movement of boundaries how do WT get involved with knowing where boundary lines have moved etc? Cr Bech responded advising that is the purpose of the representation review and as it followed on from the Long-term plan and other by-law consultation we are finding a lot of “consultation fatigue” from the community and the difficulty of having to utilise the mesh block overlays.
- Engagement with Iwi from a Council perspective has grown significantly in the past five years with the introduction of two JMA’s (with Waikato-Tainui and Ngati Maniapoto), the introduction of Maangai Maaori representatives on Council committees, Mana Whenua forums and now with Maaori wards.

**ACTION:** Council staff would continue working with Waikato-Tainui staff on how to lodge an appeal to the final proposal.

**ACTION:** Waikato-Tainui would lodge the appeal to the Local Government Commission via the Shape Waikato page.

#### Increasing Maaori engagement with elections

- Working with Cr Thomson and Taurikura NZ Ltd to recruit and support Maaori candidates to stand in the next elections. Conversations had started to encourage people to stand, vote and build a campaign behind our candidates.
- Some of the hui are via zoom due to Covid, but it is intended to hold at least one face to face hui in the future (subject to levels).

#### Covid 19 outbreak response

- Update and information to latest Covid outbreak – essentially around food and care packs, technological support through communications centre and Facebook being provided to the community.
- Rangatahi focus on encouraging vaccination and testing, noting they are lagging behind and continue to work with other Maaori providers to provide support to vaccination and testing sites.
- Ongoing discussions with council on how we will live with Covid and build resilience of our community together.

- Importance of caring for our whaanau within the rohe. An MIQ facility had been established in Hamilton at the Distinction Hotel to enable this – gifted the name “Amohia” from our King.
- Increase in cases within the Waikato which meant an increase to the numbers being cared for in this facility, so working with Waikato District Health Board to provide wrap around support for these whaanau.
- Silver lining is that everyone has worked very well together, in view of wider government and local government – wellbeing becoming clear focus for Council and Waikato-Tainui.
- Congratulations to Donald Turner and the rest of the Waikato-Tainui staff for the work they have done in regard to Covid response at marae.

**Resolved: (Mrs Raumati-Tu’ua/Cr Bech)**

**THAT the report from Waikato Tainui be received.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/04**

Mana Whenua Forums

Agenda Item 6.2

The Chief Executive spoke to the report and the following matters were discussed:

- The intent with the forums was to have each forum meeting three times a year, with Council engaging with a different cluster each month on issues that could have an impact on their community.
- Council set aside a sum of money - \$50k for remuneration of mana whenua forums and the intent is to pay this figure to a Trust (possibly WVRT) to remunerate those forum members after each meeting (based on models from other Councils).
- Don’t know time commitment as yet until we start, but have a good foundation in place to build relationships to ensure we are responsive not reactive around engagement.
- Aligns with Waikato-Tainui work programme and had been working on this with the Joint Committee for some time.
- Waikato-Tainui had asked to be involved in the design of these forums and wonder what the terms of reference are – the purpose is to keep mana whenua informed and put the people in front of who can help them within Council.
- No terms of reference as yet – but the purpose is to get the conversation going and build relationship so when we need to have challenging conversations, we can have them in a respectful way as we have a foundation in place.
- These forums don’t take the place over formal consultation. Specific engagement would still be needed for mana whenua and does not substitute RMA or other special consultative processes.



- Who are the Council people that will build the relationships – no simple answer to this, needs to be an assessment during the engagement period but it will be a mix of local councillors and staff from the various business groups.
- Terms of reference required and not just for when things are going wrong, provide information.
- Constant consultation and constant discussion with ability to bring issues to get advice and equally for mana whenua to raise issues with council.
- This will help to have a voice for rohe where kaupapa was being discussed and it reduces the burden on Waikato-Tainui regarding setting up these discussions. Good empowerment of communities and would provide assistance to the two new Maaori ward councillors who can utilise these forums to hear what local marae have to say about issues impacting on them.
- Really important that we get this right but rely on feedback from Waikato-Tainui to ensure we have the right people in place and well resourced.
- Query around clusters and how they were designed – two reasons were around geography and number of people in the room. For instance if there is just an issue that dealt with one area then we would contact that person identified in the cluster to discuss issues.
- Iwi still in place and really important that they will have a view that sometimes may differ to mana whenua so ensure that JMA relationships were utilised alongside these forums.
- Ensure all of our marae, not just who are on this list as there are some big gaps – need to socialise this, along with the terms of reference and inform Te Whakakitenga.

**ACTION:** Council's Chief Executive to work on a terms of reference and socialise with the Co-Chairs to enable Council to start this engagement as soon as possible.

**ACTION:** WDC and WT Chief Executive's to have further discussion around the financial arrangements.

**Resolved: (Cr Bech/ Mrs Raumati-Tu'ua)**

**THAT the Joint Management Forum support the proposal for the Mana Whenua Forums, noting that further work will be done on the Terms of Reference and socialisation with all maraes once this has been finalised.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/05**

## Update on Strategic Projects

### Agenda Item 6.3

The Strategic Projects Manager spoke to the report and the following matters were discussed:

- Future Proof Strategy was adopted for consultation on 16 September, with hearings and deliberations taking place in December. Final adoption of the Future Proof Strategy would likely occur in February/March 2022.
- Considerable input has been received from mana whenua and Ngā Karu Atua o te Wakawhich paved the way for the endorsement of the draft strategy.
- Hamilton-Waikato Metro Spatial Plan wastewater detailed business case is being project managed by Jackie Colliar with the involvement of all Future Proof partners. The governance group approved refined option 4a supporting the development of a new wastewater treatment plant in the airport precinct to service the southern parts of Hamilton and Waikato District.
- The business case also supports development of a wastewater treatment plant at Cambridge that would discharge into the Waikato River, along with an upgrades to the Te Awamutu, Matangi and Tauwhare treatment plants. The detailed business case will go to the Waters Governance Board for adoption before the end of the year.
- The Northern Hamilton business case wastewater solutions work has commenced, with a detailed business case to be adopted around June 2022, covering solutions for Taupiri, Hopuhopu, Ngaruawahia, Te Kowhai and Horotiu.
- Related to these business cases at a wider sub regional level is the three waters study which looks at intergenerational investment in three waters and supporting the Hamilton to Auckland Corridor Plan.
- We are currently in Phase 2 of this work, which is the evidence gathering phase. There are several workstreams included in this, being Three Waters, Blue/Green Corridor, Environment Credit Market Rating and Maatauranga Maori.
- Relocation of historic train station building from Lake Puketerini to current site at Huntly/Raahui Pookeka has been delayed due to Covid lockdown levels and will now occur in early 2022.
- Te Huia is also grounded due to lockdown and will only be operational when we get to Level 2. The regional governance group are currently working on improved levels of service for when operations resume.
- High speed rail – government has provided funding provided for business case and a project team is being established to work on this.
- Infrastructure Accelerated fund - Council applied for \$114 million. \$100 million was for upgrading Huntly Wastewater Treatment Plan and \$14 million for a bridge over the Waikato River to connect West Huntly to the CBD and Raahui Pookeka train station.
- The above funding would have facilitated housing development in the Huntly/Ohinewai area i.e. the Sleepyhead housing development in Ohinewai, the redevelopment of state housing in Huntly, as well as supporting mana whenua aspirations for housing.

- Council has not been successful in progressing to next stage of the Infrastructure Acceleration Fund but we are on reserve list, with possibility of it being elevated to the next stage. Council will only know the outcome of this in March next 2022.
- All housing initiatives are being fed into wider Waikato Housing Initiative project, we are ensuring from a housing affordability work the scorecard that has been developed at a regional perspective captures all these projects to determine which ones resonate strongly with the government.
- Waikato District Council's Strategic Projects Manager is a key asset to the district, noting the enormous amount of forward-facing strategic work being overseen by him.
- Each project in own right is significant and acknowledged the expertise in the team and work being carried out.
- Council has budgeted \$47 million in the LTP for 2026-2030 for the upgrade to the Huntly WWTP, so investment still there but Council was hoping to bring this work forward if we had obtained government funding through the Accelerated Infrastructure Fund, but we do not have funding for the bridge over the Waikato River in our LTP, which would provide safer walking/cycling access to the rail station and the central business district.
- All is not lost yet however and a bit more work to do, but will engage with evaluation panel to see what they are looking for in applications for funding and why they didn't support this. Equally, developers are required to contribute towards the provision of infrastructure to support their developments.
- Funding was sought under the principle of acceleration and we are going to do the work, just perhaps not as quickly as we would have liked and could have unlocked housing opportunities, revitalising communities and better walking/cycling opportunities.
- Carvings for Huntly | Raahui Pookeka railway station have been completed and are in storage, with the artwork from the various schools are still in progress.
- Significant amount of work that has gone into these projects and the JMA want to acknowledge Vishal and Manaaki, particularly regarding attempts for acceleration of the work. Also need to note the importance of the focus of economic development is in Auckland to Hamilton transport corridor.
- Reaffirming workplan in regard between WDC/WT and strategic approaches/work being undertaken, noting that the Regional Council are starting work on the collection of narratives as part of the Te Huia work which includes our mana whenua history – strategic approaches.
- District Plan – Minister has granted WDC an extension until 17 January to make decision on Proposed District Plan. WDC currently looking at work required to progress the post-decision work programme and will need a contact within WT. WT noted they were recruiting at the moment and would get in touch with WDC once a person is employed.

**ACTION:** WT to contact WDC with person to be involved with post PDP work programme.

- Any impact on PDP with new entity which government announced yesterday? Future Proof Planning and Policy working group meeting to look at implications of announcement and will come back to JMA and share outside of meeting.
- It was noted that the speed of reform coming at us on a number of issues is significant at present.
- Issue of unique characteristics of some of our towns and desire to protect Ngaruawahia character, along with others.
- Decision creates opportunity because of the housing needs and rules currently in place prevent intensification, but correct about thinking about character, history and landscape aspects as well. Keep WT informed – PDP decisions – medium density zoning will help support government objectives as well.

**ACTION:** Strategic Projects Manager to get staff to share the thinking with Joint Management Committee of the implications of the recent government announcement on the Enabling Housing Bill for our district.

- PDP decisions to be released by 17 January 2022, staff will continue to liaise with WT on changes occurring that affect mana whenua.
- Rahui-Pookeka WWTP – falls outside of Hamilton-Waikato metro area in so far as the Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan DBC is concerned but Council has already budgeted some funds (\$47m) for 2026-2030 for this. The waters team to provide the necessary communications on the project at appropriate time.

**Resolved: (Crs Thomson/Gibb)**

**THAT the update on Strategic Projects be noted.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/06**

Waikato Tainui/Waikato District Council Strategic Work Programme  
Agenda Item 6.4

The General Manager, Development and Wellbeing spoke to the report and the following matters were discussed:

- Joint Council hui in March this year where WT shared the list of strategic priorities.
- WT met with the Procurement Manager and Community Led Development Manager to ascertain how the priorities could be progressed and build work programme from that.
- Draft work programme to be sent to co-chairs by January 2022 and then forwarded to next JMA hui

**ACTION:** WT General Manager, Development and Wellbeing to distribute WT strategic priorities to the JMA and relevant Council staff again.

**ACTION:** Brendon Green (Maangai Maaori) along with Iwi and Cultural Liaison Manager for WDC will co-ordinate and work together to align strategic priorities with work programme report.

**Resolved: (Cr Bech/Thomson)**

**THAT the Waikato Tainui Waikato District Council Strategic Work Programme report be received.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2110/07**

Update from Maangai Maaori  
Agenda Item 6.5

Mr Green discussed the following:

- Acknowledged good work being done around how Council supported Maaori wards.
- Acknowledged work by Iwi and Cultural Liaison Manager around Mana Whenua Fora.
- Korero around work plan puts korowai around spirit of partnership.

Mrs Tuwhangai-Moana discussed the following:

- Council in tricky position in offering itself to take advice and guidance from Maaori because there are so many ways that Maaori can have input to consultation. Recently with the Three Waters issue marae (not in Waikato) said their input had not been sought and Council's needed to find a way in which local voices could be heard.
- Would not like to see Iwi level position only considered by Council, as often at hapu and marae level their opinions get tipped as it differs from Iwi position. Need to find a way to ensure we balance all levels of input.
- Council had made significant steps to engage at all levels and support Mana Whenua Fora being activated in the not too distant future.
- WT supportive of collaboration and utilise forums on what our people want.

**Resolved: (Cr Thomson/Gibb)**

**THAT the verbal updates from the Maangai Maaori representatives be received.**

**CARRIED**

**JMA2104/08**

General Business

## Agenda Item 6.6

Meeting dates for 2022

- The Democracy Team Leader advised that dates needed to be set for hui next year. It was proposed that the dates be 13 April and 5 October 2022.
- Co-chairs to meet every three months prior to hui to progress issues.

**ACTION:** WT General Manager, Development and Wellbeing to confirm that these dates are available for WT members of the JMA and Co-Chairs to quarterly.

**CLOSING COMMENTS FROM CO-CHAIRS**

Trustee Hinerangi Raumati–Tu’ua:

- Acknowledged the staff and management teams for both WDC and WT, the workload was significant, given the reforms that both organisations are involved with and Covid on top of business as usual.
- These hui are so important for the long term and if we can get the work programme working in a visionary way, capturing what is important with a Te Reo Maaori lens would add meaning to the mahi being done and value to both organisations.
- Covid has increased our mahi and we are all trying to keep up with business as usual.
- Thanks to everyone for their contributions to this forum.

Cr Bech:

- Endorse comments, current members are finding our way following changes on both parties after the last elections.
- We are doing good work to re-establish, reconnect and realign so that as we move forward. Our work improves community outcomes right across the rohe.
- JMA forum is not about just rubber stamping issues, saw evidence at this hui that a significant amount of work had been done, with a lot more work to come.
- Thanks to everyone for their aroha for the rohe which is reflected in their work.



## Waikato District Council – Action Register (Open)

Date	Action	Team Responsible	Status
October 2021	<p><b><u>Matters Arising</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Waikato-Tainui will share their initial strategy document and Council will work on overarching holistic framework of working together.</li> <li>▪ WDC will put framework together and the Co-Chairs will meet in December to provide governance input and look toward adoption of the three-year workplan at the February hui.</li> <li>▪ Waikato-Tainui to appoint their vacancy and alternates then advise Council who they are.</li> </ul>	<p>Waikato-Tainui</p> <p>WDC Iwi &amp; Community Partnerships</p> <p>Waikato-Tainui</p>	<p>Completed – Marae Tukere forwarded the document to Council staff.</p> <p>Iwi &amp; Community Partnerships Manager to provide progress update at the meeting.</p> <p>Waikato-Tainui still to advise of their members appointed to their vacancy.</p>
October 2021	<p><b><u>Reports</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Council staff would continue working with Waikato-Tainui staff on how to lodge an appeal to the final proposal.</li> <li>▪ Waikato-Tainui would lodge the appeal to the Local Government Commission via the Shape Waikato page.</li> </ul>	<p>Democracy Team</p> <p>Waikato-Tainui</p>	<p>The Democracy Team, along with the Iwi &amp; Community Partnerships Manager met with Waikato-Tainui representatives and agreed a process to ascertain more appropriate names for the Maaori wards.</p> <p>Waikato-Tainui lodged the appeal successfully within the timeframe. Appeal sent to LGC, noting that Council supported the appeal. LGC agreed to change the names for the Maaori wards as requested by Waikato-Tainui.</p>



October 2021	<p><b><u>Mana Whenua Forums</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Council's Chief Executive to work on a terms of reference and socialise with the Co-Chairs to enable Council to start this engagement as soon as possible.</li> <li>▪ WDC and WT Chief Executive's to have further discussion around the financial arrangements.</li> </ul>	<p>WDC Chief Executive</p> <p>Gavin Ion Donna Flavell</p>	<p>The terms of reference has not been progressed due to WDC staff being busy with COVID-19 policies and procedures surrounding them.</p> <p>Chief Executives to advise of progress at the meeting.</p>
October 2021	<p><b><u>Update on Strategic Projects</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WT to contact WDC with person to be involved with post PDP work programme.</li> <li>▪ Strategic Projects Manager to get staff to share the thinking with Joint Management Committee of the implications of the recent government announcement on the Enabling Housing Bill for our district.</li> </ul>	<p>Waikato-Tainui</p> <p>Vishal Ramduny</p>	<p>Completed.</p> <p>Refer to Strategic Projects Manager report.</p>
October 2021	<p><b><u>Waikato Tainui/Waikato District Council Strategic Work Programme</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WT General Manager, Development and Wellbeing to distribute WT strategic priorities to the JMA and relevant Council staff again.</li> <li>▪ Brendon Green (Maangai Maaori) along with Iwi and Cultural Liaison Manager for WDC will co-ordinate and work together to align strategic priorities with work programme report.</li> </ul>	<p>Marae Tukere</p> <p>Sam Toka</p>	<p>Completed.</p> <p>Iwi and Community Partnership Manager to update progress at meeting.</p>



TWAIKATO  
**TAINU**

All of Council Hui  
21 March 2022

*Amohia ake te ora o te iwi, Ka puta ki te wheiao*

## Key Kaupapa for 2022:

### Local Government Elections

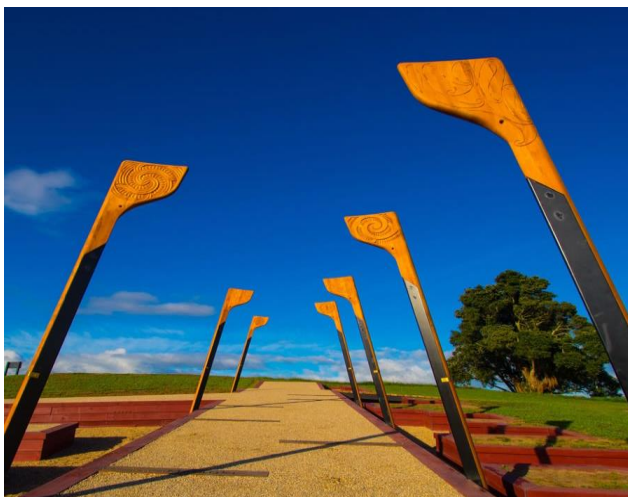
- Increasing Maaori Candidacy and Maaori Voting in the upcoming local govt election
- Our commitment to supporting this process through our Iwi led initiatives

### Waikato Tainui Position on Reforms

- Reforms including RMA/Three Waters/Local Govt/Health Reforms

### Economic Aspirations

- Growing the economic wealth of the iwi for future generations
- Contributing to the economic growth of the Waikato region





**Waikato –Tainui and *Taurikura* NZ Ltd**  
**Collaboration in Local Democracy**

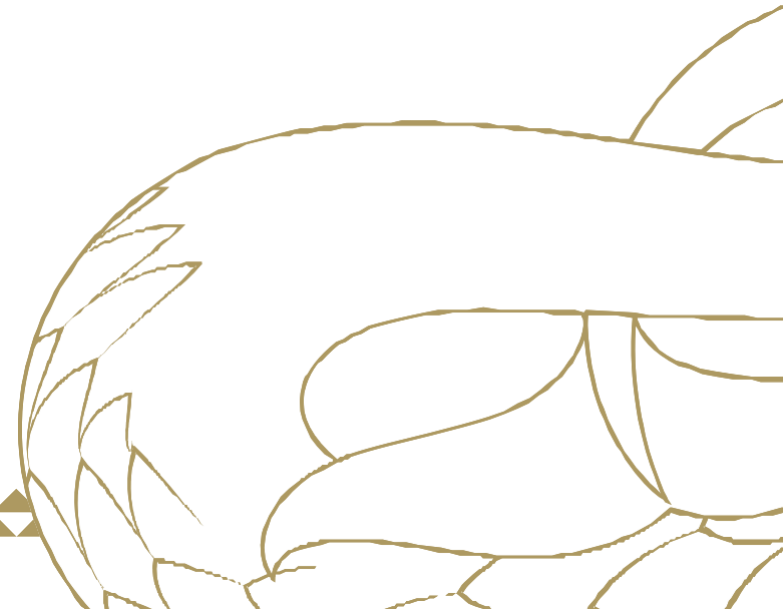
MANA TANGATA

MANA MAANGAI

*Strengthening our Voices, Shaping our Futures*



# Video





## *Mana Tangata, Mana Maangai*

### **Strategic Vision**

*Knowledgeable and engaged communities participating enthusiastically in local democracy.*

### ***Strengthening our Voices, Shaping our Futures***

Increasing Maaori Representation, engagement and participation in local democracy

Having a voice and why it matters

Maangai Taunaki: Collective approach to recruiting and supporting great Maaori candidates and campaign support teams

Engaging community champions in local democracy



# Taaiki ee!

## Key Themes from Waananga

*from our presenters*

***“The right people, in the right places, standing for the right positions” – Bonita Bigham***

Current councils being elected unopposed is the biggest threat to local democracy. We need Maaori candidates standing in every Ward and mayoral contest.

We need strong Maaori representation at every council table to set the agenda, determine priorities and bring a Maaori cultural lens to decision making. Maaori voices improves outcomes.

***“A mission to be a voice for the disengaged” - Moko Tepania***

Maaori can be successful and effective candidates.  
Maaori have many cultural advantages when standing as candidates.

Māori are connected through hapu, marae & iwi, and know one another – they already have support and collective strength



# *Taaiki ee!*

## Key Themes from Waananga

*from our presenters*

**“Someone like me”**

Biggest issue is ensuring voters can identify candidates who represent their interests

***“Be true to who you said you were when you got their vote”***

***(Meredith Akuhata-Brown-Gisborne District Council)***

We need Maaori standing in General Ward seats, as well as Maaori wards and Maangai Maaori to make decisions about housing, social procurement and supporting Maaori business as well as improve communication between councils and communities







## *Mana Tangata, Mana Maangai*

Waikato Tainui will continue to:

- Support/Encourage the Maangai/Kanohi Maaori across our JMA councils to stand in the upcoming election
- Support the continuation of Maangai/Kanohi Maaori as a pathway for growing maaori engagement in local democracy
- Support the engagement into the various iwi platforms i.e Poukai, Koroneihana, Social Media to increase awareness of local election, profiling of the Maaori candidates etc



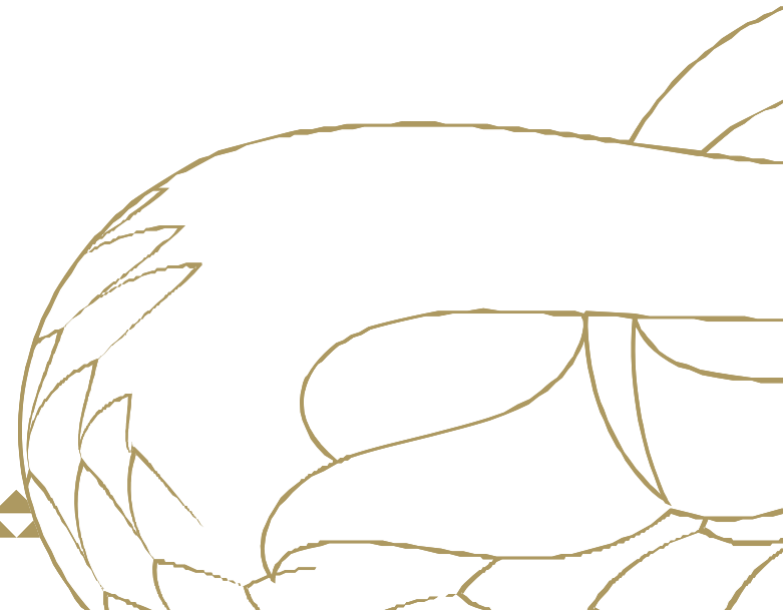
Tooku awa koiora me ngoonapikonga,  
he kura tangihia o te maataamuri.

The river of life,  
each curve more beautiful than the last

- Kiingi Taawhiao



## Reforms



## Te Mana o te awa

### The health & wellbeing of our waterways

- The health and wellbeing of our waterways is the cornerstone of freshwater management. The continuous supply of freshwater is seen as fundamental to the sustainable social, environmental, cultural and economic development of Waikato-Tainui;
- The Waikato River is a tupuna which has mana and in turn represents the mana and mauri of Waikato-Tainui.
- Waikato-Tainui regards the Waikato River as a single indivisible being.
- The Crown recognises and sustains the special relationship of Waikato-Tainui with our waterways;
- We must find a way to ensure Waikato-Tainui (along with the wider community) share a desire for the continual improvement to the quality of freshwater in a way that also improves the health and wellbeing of people specifically our social, cultural and economic prosperity

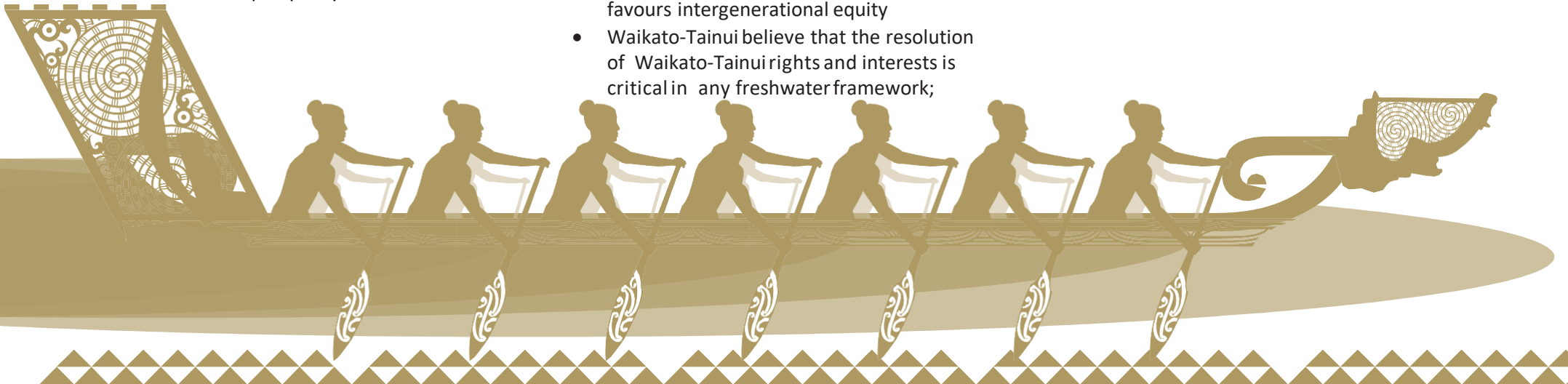
## Mana Whakahaere

### Roles, Responsibilities & Iwi Development

- Waikato-Tainui's relationship with, and respect for, our waterways gives rise to the responsibilities to protect the mana and mauri of our freshwater and exercise mana whakahaere in accordance with our long established tikanga;
- Waikato-Tainui expect to be engaged in the highest level of decision-making on matters that affect our waters in the Waikato-Tainui rohe; including participation in freshwater decision-making including the management and governance of freshwater at the national and regional level;
- An enduring and sustainable framework for the future governance and management of freshwater in Aotearoa must appropriately recognise and provide for the rights, interests and responsibilities of Waikato-Tainui;
- Achieving an allocation of freshwater for Waikato-Tainui is a long-term outcome that favours intergenerational equity
- Waikato-Tainui believe that the resolution of Waikato-Tainui rights and interests is critical in any freshwater framework;

“Noo taatou te awa. Noo te awa taatou. E kore e taea te wehe te iwi o Waikato me te awa. He taonga tuku iho naa ngaa tuupuna. E whakapono ana maatou ko taa maatou, he tiaki i taua taonga moo ngaa uriwhakatupu”

Sir Robert TeKotahi Mahuta 1975



## Te Tuunga-Our Position

### RMA Reforms

Waikato-Tainui wants to ensure that:

- the principles that underpin the River Settlement and the Settlement Act are recognised and upheld under the RM Reforms;
- the RM Reforms enables our marae to exercise their mana whakahaere on issues relating to them; and
- the Crown's obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its principles are upheld under the proposed RM Reforms, including in the exercise of all powers, functions and duties under the new legislation.
- The NBA and new Spatial Planning Act (the SPA) must give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, as opposed to the current wording of "taking into account" in the RMA,

### RMA Reforms

- The definition of the "environment" must expressly recognise that the whakapapa relationship and associated responsibilities between Iwi and hapuu and Te Taiao are part of the "environment", and should be recognised discretely from the generic reference to "peoples and community".
- The definition of sustainability must reflect Iwi/hapuu concepts of environmental management including the fundamental principle of the environment being able to sustain itself (not simply for the purpose of utilisation by and for the benefit of present and future generations).

### RMA Reforms

- The Maatauranga Maaori and recognition of the whakapapa relationship between Iwi/hapuu and the environment must be considered as part of the mandatory process to set "natural environment limits" (noting that Iwi/hapuu are intrinsically connected with the 'natural environment' as a matter of whakapapa and tikanga).
- Waikato-Tainui expects that our existing mechanisms including Joint Management Agreements with Councils are carried over into the NBA and maintained or enhanced. Nothing in the reform should derogate from any current settlement mechanisms.
- Waikato-Tainui supports requiring positive obligations on local authorities to use transfer of powers and joint management provisions.



# Te Tuunga-Our Position

## Three Waters Reforms

Waikato-Tainui wants to ensure that:

- the principles that underpin the River Settlement and the Settlement Act are recognised and upheld under the Three Waters Reforms;
- in relation to the Waikato River catchment, Waikato-Tainui expect that there is specific alignment to the principles of the Waikato River Settlement including Te Mana o te Awa and Te Ture Whaimana – the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River.
- Under the Kiingitanga Accord, the Crown agreed (in clause 3.4 of the Kiingitanga Accord) where appropriate, any such new legislation when it is introduced into Parliament shall include express legislative recognition of the Vision and Strategy in the same or substantially similar form to that provided under the Waikato River Settlement.

## Three Waters Reforms

- It is the expectation of Waikato-Tainui that we have dedicated representation in decision making bodies, and/or new entities.
- that Waikato-Tainui's marae and papakainga lands and other communities are provided with the time, training and resources to engage with and meet any relevant responsibilities under the Three Waters reform
- the Three Waters reforms cannot reasonably come at a cost or prejudice to Waikato-Tainui and its hapuu, marae and landowners or at the expense of Waikato-Tainui's fundamental rights and interests (including mana whakahaere) under the River Settlement and Te Tiriti.
- Advance the collaborative effort with our partners to lead a more productive and innovative approach to improvements around infrastructure across multiple local authorities that will ultimately focus on the best interests of the Waikato River.



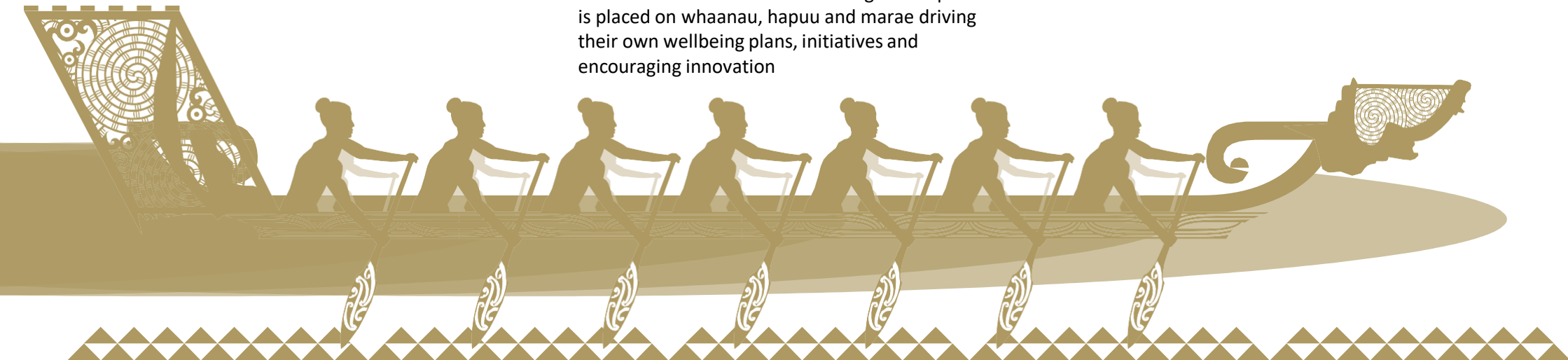
# Te Tuunga-Our Position

## Local Govt Reforms

- Waikato Tainui is still to confirm our position; however similar to all reforms we want to ensure that the principles that underpin the River Settlement and the Settlement Act are recognised and upheld under the Local Govt Reforms;
- Waikato Tainui engaged with the Independent panel late last year and are still to engage in the next phase of the Interim report and the proposed 5 shift areas released by the panel;
  - Strengthen local democracy
  - Stronger focus on wellbeing
  - Authentic relationship with hapuu/iwi/maori
  - Genuine partnership between central government and local government
  - More equitable funding

## Health Reforms

- Waikato-Tainui welcome reforms to better enable a health care system that results in equitable health outcomes for Māori including our Iwi/Hapuu/Whanau
- A bill that gives effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi (Te Tiriti) will better enable this aspiration as by Maaori for Maaori solutions have proven to work.
- the establishment of new pan-Maori vehicles including the Maaori Health Authority and IMPBs must enhance and not undermine tikanga and iwi and hapuu.
- Structural change is required that is inclusive and focused on equitable health outcomes;
- Health and wellbeing are significant priorities for Waikato-Tainui. As such, Waikato-Tainui has developed Koiora – the health and wellbeing strategy for Waikato-Tainui.
- Koiora is a uniquely Waikato-Tainui governed, owned and operated health and wellbeing strategy. It is a holistic based model embracing all dimensions of health and wellbeing. An emphasis is placed on whaanau, hapuu and marae driving their own wellbeing plans, initiatives and encouraging innovation



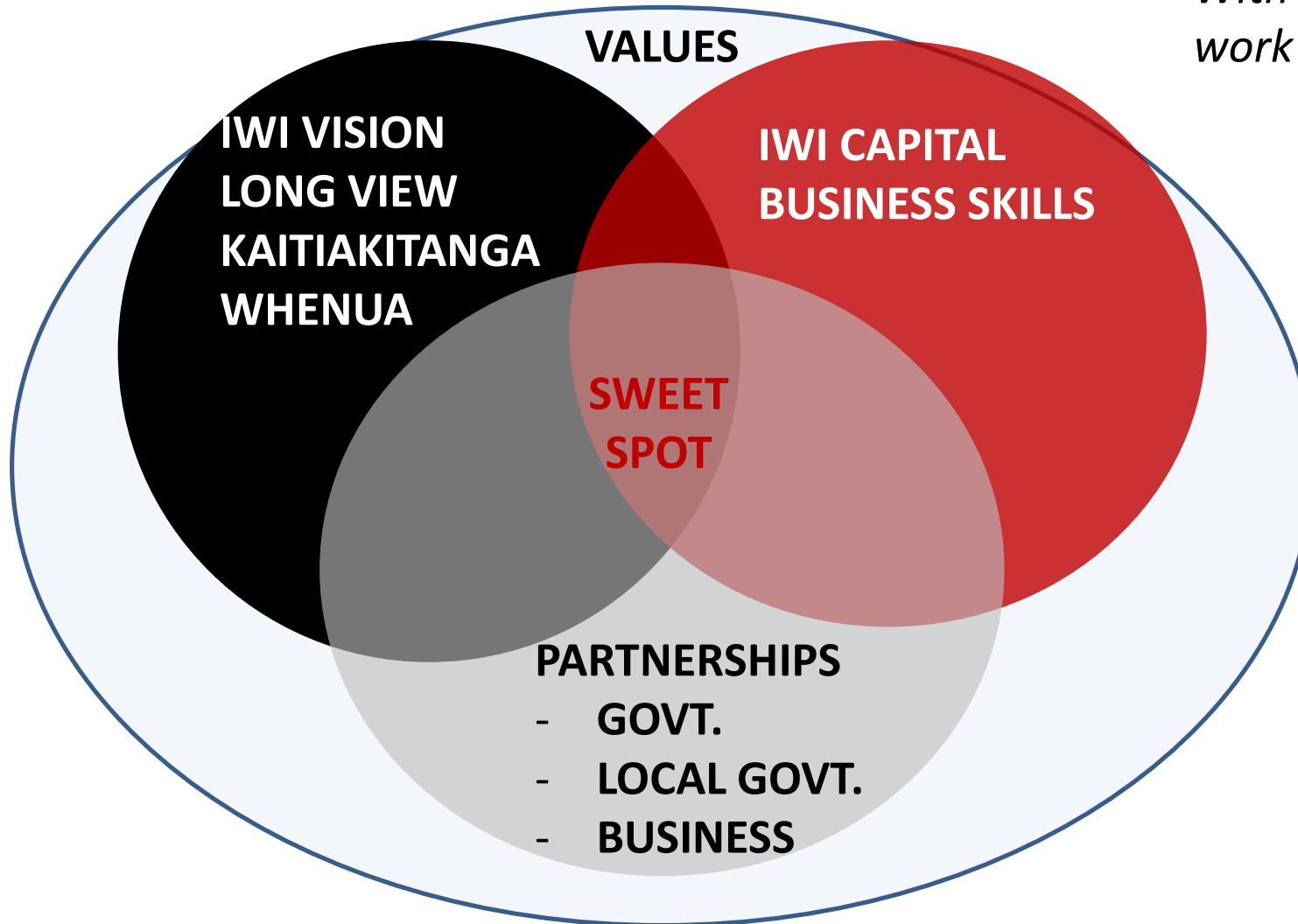
WITHOUT VISION THE PEOPLE WILL PERISH

Kingi Tāwhiao

**TGH ECONOMIC ASPIRATIONS  
FOR OUR IWI AND OUR ROHE**

# IMPORTANCE OF PARTNERSHIPS

*Ma whero ma pango  
ka oti ai te mahi.  
With red and black the  
work will be complete.*





# TGH AND PARTNERS – STRONGER TOGETHER





Knowledge Zone

Residential Zone

Industrial Park

**RUAKURA SUPERHUB:  
CURRENT KEY FOCUS**

Logistics Precinct

Inland Port

Service Centre

Wetland

# Tainui Group Holdings Properties

## Central City Land Ownership

12.7 Hectares

## Commercial Space

43,000m<sup>2</sup>

## Carpark Spaces

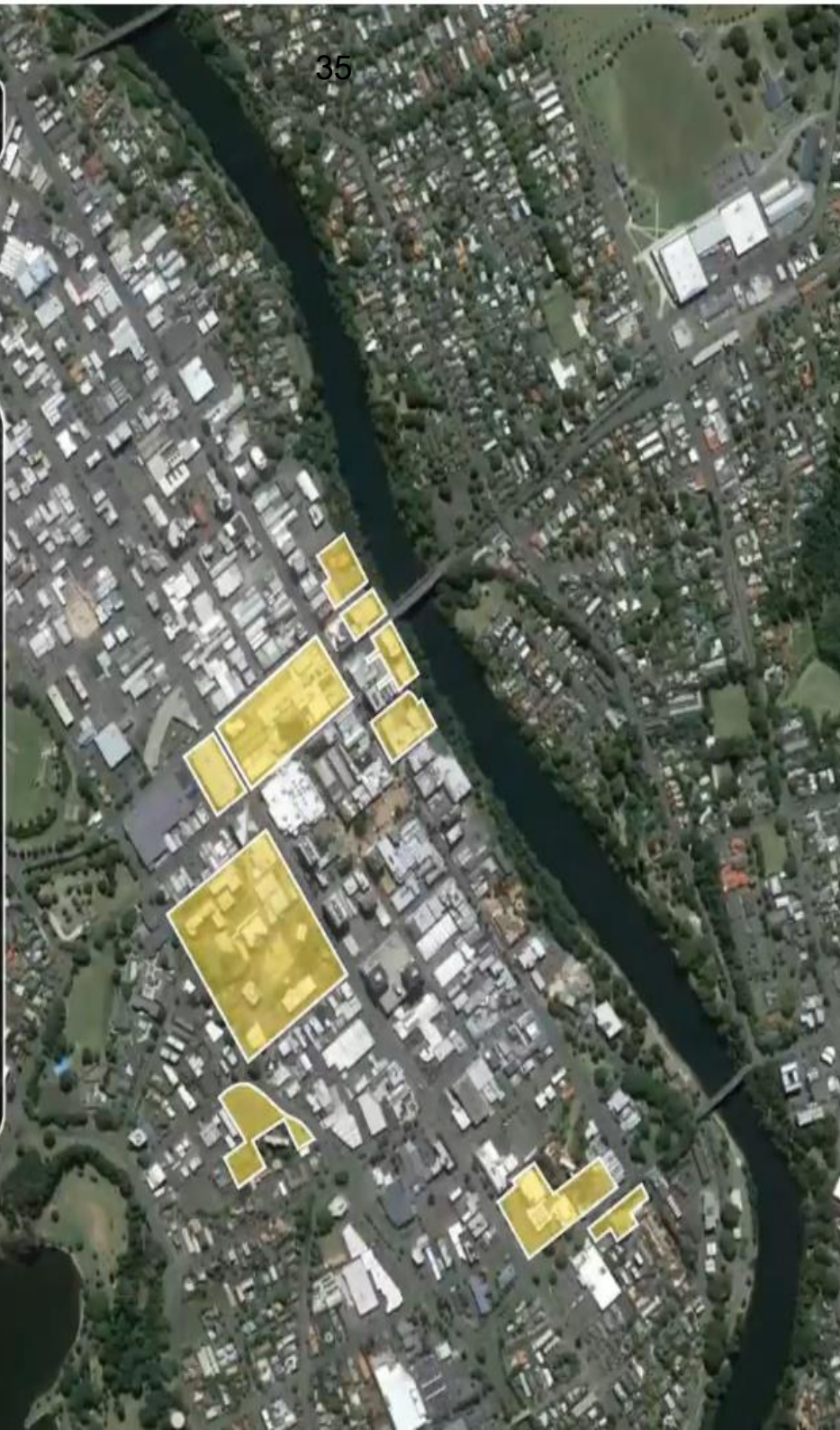
773

## Tenants

92

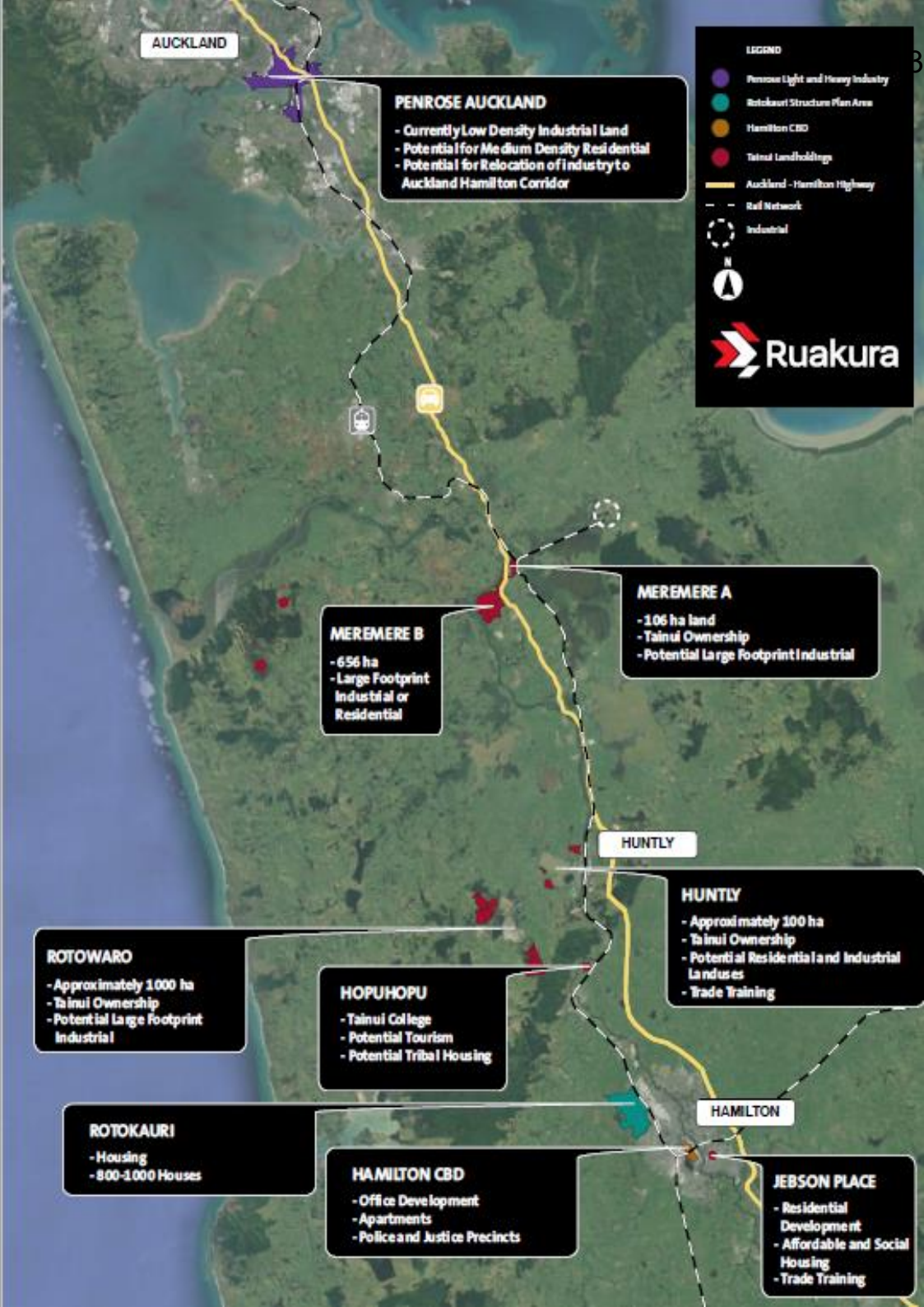
## Hotel Rooms

343



# HAMILTON CBD: OUR NEXT PRIORITY





## A FUTURE FOCUS: HAMILTON TO AUCKLAND CORRIDOR

# SIX AREAS FOR WORKING TOGETHER<sup>37</sup>

## 1. Rezoning of Tramway area from industrial to mixed use residential

- Detailed update provided to HCC JMA committee
- Engagement underway with WRC to support an integrated approach to consenting matters

**Council support sought:** Councils continue to work with TGH to facilitate Tramway rezoning through a partnership focus

## 2. Ruakura Regulatory

Working with HCC and WRC on a number of consent obligations relating to inland port, logistics and industrial consents. These include:

- Monitoring to ensure consent obligations are implemented
- Consents for new tenants as they come on
- Business case to Waka Kotahi to co-fund eastern transport corridor

**Council support sought:** Council work with TGH for an enabling set of rules for Ruakura that reflect the commercial flexibility needed for a world class logistics hub

## 3. Tuu Mata (Powells Road housing)

- Progressing the development in line with HCC and WRC approvals.

# SIX AREAS FOR WORKING TOGETHER

## 4. Hamilton CBD

- Progress the ACC build as a crown tenant anchor development in southern CBD
- Progress the Centreplace master plan as joint venture with Kiwi Property with early engagement with HCC executive and governance
- Support HCC initiative for CBD HIF funding for critical infrastructure upgrades

**Council support sought:** Council continue to provide a customer led whole of council approach to engagement with TGH on CBD projects

## 5. Rotokauri

- Continuing to work with HCC and WRC on the consenting and strategic matters to progress the greenway swale and complete the transport connection to Te Witini Drive.

**Council support sought:** Council work with prime developers to procure a practical and innovative solution to building the greenway swale.

## 6. Futureproof

- Continuing to provide input to Futureproof working groups as needed on matters of strategic economic interest.

**Council support sought:** Councils work with TGH to deliver the Futureproof expectations incorporated within the strategy including consenting and funding.

<b>To</b>	<b>Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Committee</b>
<b>Report title</b>	<b>WDC Update on key projects and initiatives</b>

## **1. Purpose of the report**

### **Te Take moo te puurongo**

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To provide the Committee an update on key projects and/or initiatives in which both Waikato District Council and Waikato-Tainui staff are involved in (or have an interest in) and which have implications at a community, district, sub-regional and regional level. These include:

- Local Government Reform
- Establishment of mana whenua forums
- Representation Review
- Future Proof Growth and Development Strategy
- Hamilton Waikato Metropolitan Transport Programme Business Case
- Future Proof Sub-Regional Three Waters Study
- Hamilton Waikato Metropolitan Wastewater Detail Business Cases
- Passenger rail (Te Huia passenger rail service and Rapid Rail between Hamilton and Auckland)
- Waikato District Plan (PDP Appeals and future work programme)
- Structure Plans
- Resource Management Reform
- Enabling Housing Supply and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2021

The Committee will be aware that many of the regional and sub-regional initiatives have their own governance structures in which both Council and Waikato-Tainui are represented, with other partners. The purpose of this update is to provide a consolidated overview of the status of several initiatives for the benefit of the Joint Management Agreement partnership.

## **2. Report**

### **Puurongo**

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#### **2.1. Local Government Reform**

Council's elected members had a workshop with the Panel for the Future of Local Government on 2 March which was framed to respond to the following key questions of the reform discourse:

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1. How should the system of local governance be reshaped so it can adapt to future challenges and enable communities to thrive?
2. What are the future functions, roles, and essential features of New Zealand's system of local government?
3. How might a system of local governance embody authentic partnership under Te Tiriti o Waitangi, creating conditions for shared prosperity and wellbeing?
4. What needs to change so local government and its leaders can best reflect and respond to the communities they serve?
5. What should change in local governance funding and financing to ensure viability and sustainability, fairness and equity, and maximum wellbeing?

There was acknowledgement from the hui that local government is the natural intermediary (gateway) between central government agencies and communities. The better embodiment of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the importance of strengthening communities and the need to ensure that any future system of local governance is financially sustainable whilst addressing inequities and well-being outcomes were also acknowledged.

Council understands that the Panel for the Review of Local Government is making good progress on its present round of engagements. The key timeframes for the review are as follows:



## 2.2. Mana whenua forums

The Committee will be aware that Council has approved the establishment of mana whenua forums and we are now working through how the forums will operate including the development of a terms of reference, which will be done in conjunction with WDC and Waikato-Tainui. No progress has been made due to the disruptions of COVID-19, staff have organised a meeting with Waikato-Tainui to progress this issue further.

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The forums will help Council lift its level of engagement with mana whenua, provide a solid foundation for an ongoing relationship, and to help us connect with an important part of our community.

Council's Iwi and Community Partnership team drew up a draft plan, indicating a potential way that the forums could work. The draft plan suggested splitting Waikato district into four sections and to identify the various Māori groups within these areas. These groups would be identified as mana whenua forums in the north, the south, the east, and the west of the district.

A key issue that needs resolving is how to determine who holds mana whenua status in these specific areas. The Committee will be aware that this is an issue which Minister Nanaia Mahuta has challenged Waikato-Tainui to provide clarity on as Council has recently been involved in several disputes where the matter has centred on who holds mana whenua status over particular sites (e.g., Raglan Airfield and Pukeiāhua).

The next step in developing these forums is for WDC and Waikato Tainui to work together on developing the terms of reference and engage together with marae and hapuu to get a mandate from each group who their nominated representative may be.

For instance, whilst Ngaa Muka Development Trust, Nga Taniwha o Waikato, Ngaa Uri o Maahanga and Ngaati Hauaa Iwi Trust are made up of marae reps on each Trust, there is still a need to engage with local marae and hapuu to get an agreement that those Trusts speak on their behalf as we have had recent situations where various marae have noted these Trusts do not speak on their behalf.

Council is very much aware that ascertaining who holds mana whenua status is not for us to determine on our own and needs to be a collaborative approach with Waikato-Tainui and other Iwi within the district.

### **2.3. Representation Review**

Over the past 18 months Council has undertaken a comprehensive review of our electoral arrangements. After extensive consultation and engagement, council resolved that a structure of 8 general wards (11 councillors) and 2 Maaori wards (2 councillors) is the appropriate representation arrangement for our district. This decision was challenged by 29 parties through appeals after which the Local Government Commission (LGC) conducted a hearing on 27 January 2022 to determine the outcome.

Council provided responses to the issues raised by appellants at the hearing. The LGC also requested additional information regarding the ward names for Tamahere-Woodlands and Waerenga-Hukanui general wards along with additional scenarios for the northern wards. Council subsequently provided all this information to the LGC on 11 February 2022.

The LGC has advised that the final hearing of appeals for all councils will be completed by 24 March 2022 following which it will focus on deliberations and the detailed information provided at the various hearings.

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On 5 April 2022 we received the final determination from the LGC which was circulated to the Mayor and Councillors that day and is attached to this report.

In summary, the main changes identified are as follows:

1. The names of the district's two Māori wards have been changed to Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori Ward and Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward. This was part of Te Whakakitenga o Waikato's appeal, supported by Council.
2. The boundary between the Tuakau-Pōkeno and the Awaroa-Maramarua General Wards has been moved to include the Mercer airfield in the Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward.
3. The name of the Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward has been changed to the Waerenga-Whitikahu General Ward.
4. The Raglan Community Board area has been extended to cover Te Uku and Te Mata communities and will not be subdivided into a rural/urban split.

The LGC believed the issue of the number of Maaori ward councillors in the proposal could not be increased at this stage as it was too significant to be changed without further consultation and encouraged Council to engage with Iwi early in the next review as they will also then have the feedback from the new Maaori ward councillors.

## **2.4. Future Proof**

### 2.4.1 Strategy Development

The Future Proof Strategy is a 30-year growth management and implementation plan for the Hamilton, Waipa, and Waikato sub-region. It is the first Crown-Iwi-Council urban growth partnership in New Zealand.

The strategy translates the Hamilton-Auckland Corridor Plan and the Hamilton-Waikato Metro Spatial Plan (MSP) into the broader Future Proof sub-region; addresses some of the requirements of the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (NPS UD); and includes a Housing and Business Development Capacity Assessment. The Strategy provides a forum to guide decision-making on key sub-regional issues such as population change, housing, transport, water, and the environment

The draft Strategy was notified for public consultation in October 2021. 54 submissions were received. Hearings were held in December 2021 and hearing panel workshops are taking place during March, April and May 2022 with deliberations scheduled for June 2022. The Strategy is then expected to be considered for approval by the Future Proof Implementation Committee in June 2022.

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#### 2.4.2. Priority Development Areas.

Priority Development Areas (PDA) are areas which:

- Offer opportunities for accelerated and/or significant development.
- Are complex, in that successfully developing at the required pace and scale requires working in partnership (i.e., BAU delivery will not be sufficient), and
- Are in key locations where successful development gives effect to our joint spatial plans.

The following are the PDA's identified by Future Proof:

<b>PDA's</b>	<b>Other key growth or opportunity areas</b>
Drury & Paerata	Pukekohe & Tuakau
Raahui Pookeka & environs	Pookeno & Mercer
Taupiri, Hopuhopu, Ngaruawaahia	Meremere & Hampton Downs
Rotokauri & Te Rapa Metro	Te Kauwhata
Hamilton Central: CBD, Frankton, Hospital	Ngaaruawaahia & Horotiu
Ruakura	Te Awa Lakes
Enderley & environs	Northeast Hamilton: Rototuna, HT1, R2
Airport	Peacocks
Te Awamutu & Kihikihi	Cambridge West & Hautapu
	Southern Links

Partnership teams have been established to work on each of these areas. The Matawhaanui Trust, Waahi Whaanui Trust and Te Rui o Waikato are the local mana whaanau involved in the Raahui Pookeka and Environs PDA.

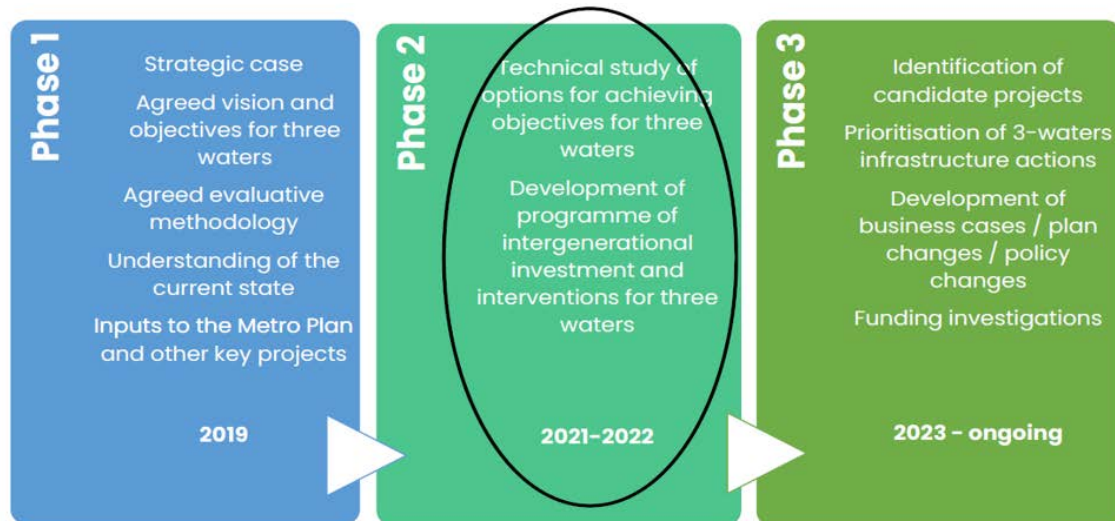
#### **2.5. Three Waters**

The main projects being undertaken under the Future Proof Three Waters umbrella are:

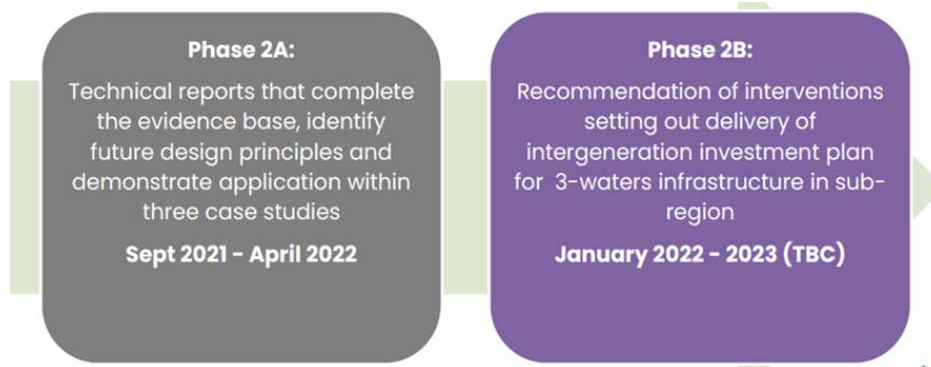
- Sub-Regional Three Waters Study
  - Southern Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Wastewater Detailed Business Case
  - Northern Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Wastewater Detailed Business Case
-



The project phases are as follows:



Phase 2 is further broken into the following programme of interventions:



### Phase 2A -Description

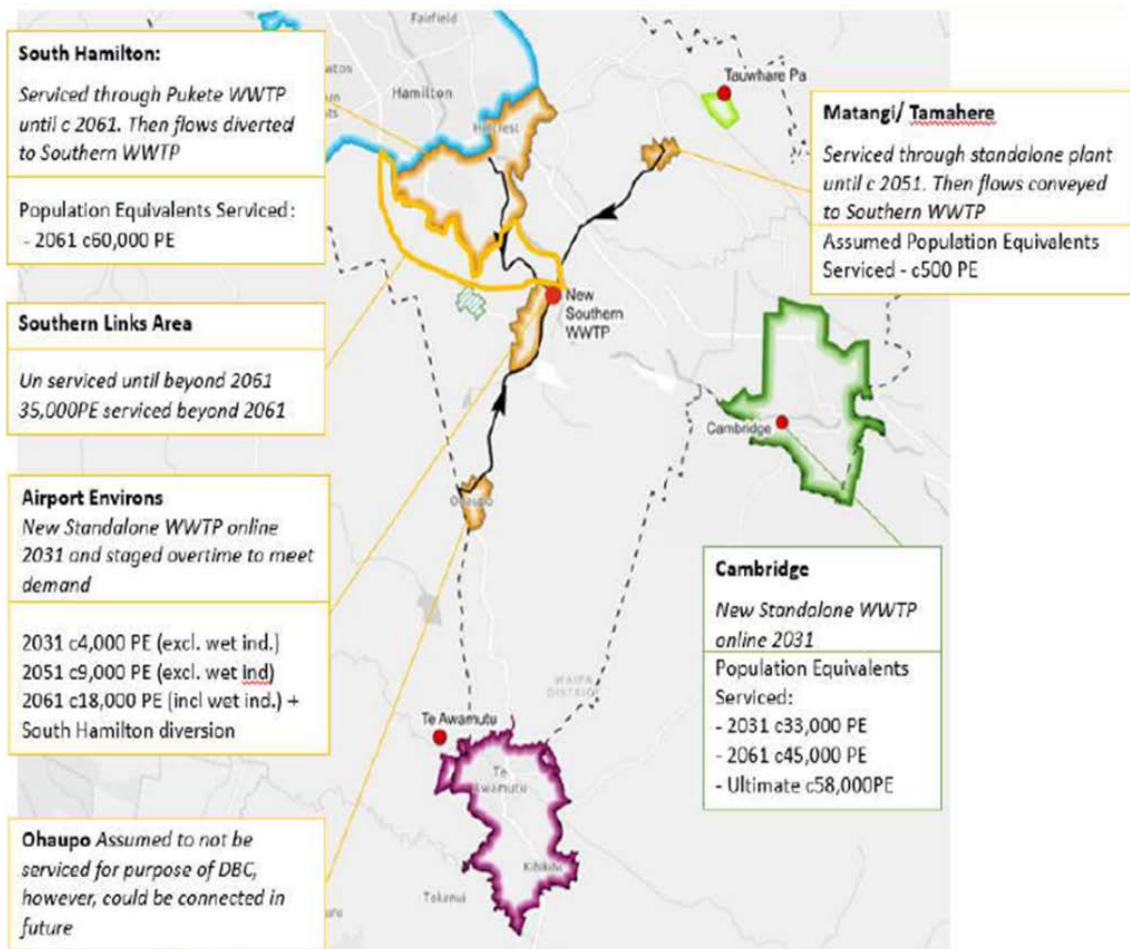
The outcomes that Phase 2A of the project seeks to achieve are:

- Strengthened relationships between partners and improved shared understandings of individual and collective drivers
  - A series of technical reports that will provide the evidence base necessary to move forward into full programme development
    - Urban Stormwater Management
    - Blue/Green Corridor and Ecology
    - Environmental Credit Market Trading
    - Policy and Consenting
    - Maatauranga Maaori
    - Water and Wastewater
  - Case studies are being developed are focussed on:
    - Te Kauwhata (greenfield and sensitive environmental areas)
    - Horotiu / Te Rapa North Industrial Area (industrial)
    - Enderley / Fairfield (residential)
-

## 2.5.2. Southern Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Wastewater Detailed Business Case

The Southern Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Wastewater Detailed Business Case has been completed and will be received by the Governance Group on 29 April 2022 together with a Merandum of Understanding to secure commitments to implement the preferred option.

The preferred option involves a standalone Cambridge Wastewater Treatment Plant and a new wastewater treatment plant south of Hamilton (in the Hamilton Airport area).



As far as the key settlements in the Waikato district are concerned, Matangi will continue to be serviced through a standalone wastewater treatment until about 2051 when flows from this settlement can be re-conveyed to the new treatment plants south of Hamilton. This plant will also have the potential to service the Tamahere business hub/ Country School area. Tauwhare Pa also has an existing wastewater treatment plant which is adequate for the current population once renewal works are undertaken (scheduled for 2022/2023).

Council and ratepayer affordability will be a key consideration to inform any investments required. The Memorandum of Understanding commits the partners to work together on issues such as funding.

### 2.5.3. Northern Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Wastewater Detailed Business Case

This project is leveraging the methodology used in the Hamilton-Waikato Southern Wastewater Detailed Business Case. A Multi Criteria Assessment (MCA) is currently underway to inform the preferred options.

The options being considered are:

- Option A: Pukete - All communities (Taupiri, Hopuhopu, Ngaaruawaahia, Te Kowhai and Horotiu) conveyed to Pukete WWTP.
- Option B 1: Pukete & Ngaaruawaahia - Te Kowhai, Horotiu, Hopuhopu and Taupiri conveyed to Ngaaruawaahia
- Option B 2: Pukete & Ngaaruawaahia - Te Kowhai and Horotiu conveyed to Pukete and Taupiri and Hopuhopu conveyed to Ngaaruawaahia
- Option C: Do Minimum - No change to existing conveyance.

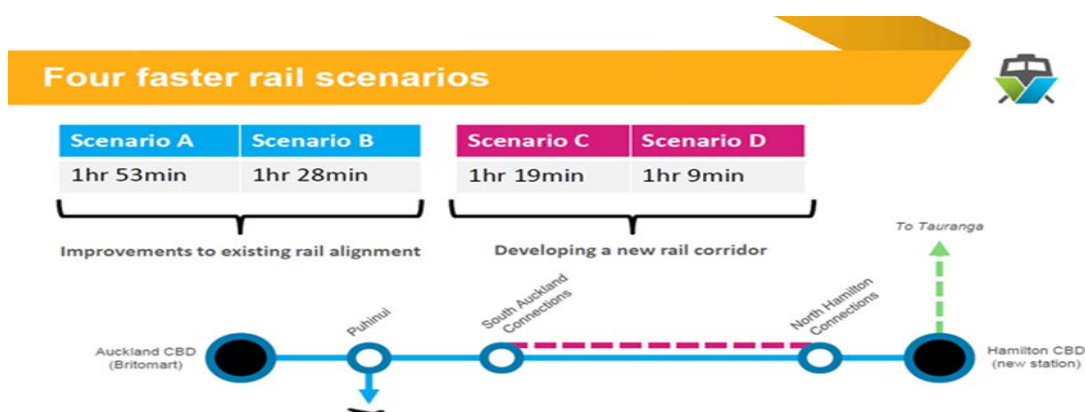
## 2.6. Transport

### 2.6.1. Te Huia Passenger Rail

- The relocation of the historic Huntly railway station building (currently kept at the Lake Puketerini reserve) to the Raahui Pookeka | Huntly Railway Station has been re-scheduled to the second half of the year due to the impacts of COVID.
- A blessing for a station building and the unveiling of carvings and paintings done by local mana whenua and schools will be done when the building has been relocated.
- The building will be used as a shelter for passengers waiting for the train, house a display museum and contain a public toilet facility for train passengers.
- Te Huia now stops at Auckland's Puhinui Station (near Auckland Airport) and The Strand in central Auckland.
- The Rail Governance Group is currently investigating further off-peak services for Te Huia for possible launch in the second half of the year.

### 2.6.2. A Future High-Speed Rail between Hamilton and Auckland

The Committee will recall that in August 2020 Government released the following scenarios for faster rail between Hamilton to Auckland.



In March 2022 the Ministry of Transport engaged WSP consulting to complete the Indicative Business Case before the end of the year. WSP is currently engaging with Future Proof partners via the Transport Working Group on this matter.

### 2.6.3. Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Spatial Plan Transport Programme Business Case

The key outcomes of the Hamilton-Waikato Metropolitan Transport Programme Business Case are to recommend a prioritised programme of transport activities for more detailed investigation, and which best achieve the goals and objectives of the Metropolitan Spatial Plan. The options being considered would be informed by costs and benefits.

Key to this business case is ensuring that it is informed by engagement with key stakeholders (a process which is underway). An emphasis on Te Ao Māori is central to this work. This will provide the Future Proof partnership with the confidence that stakeholder and community interests have been considered.

The preferred shortlist from with respect to a preferred transport option and its implications for a preferred landuse scenario is presently being worked through.

The transport scenarios include a focus on:

- Micro-mobility (walking, cycling) options
- Enabler for equity to create opportunities for a rural access programme
  - Identification of ways to connect a vibrant metropolitan city centre to distinctive, thriving towns and rural communities.
  - Identification of initiatives to ensure rural communities have easy access to basic services for their wellbeing
  - Identification of ways to improve connection for rural communities including *connection to papakaainga and marae*.
- Improved bus network services (frequent and rapid transit corridors)
- Potential rail corridors
- Park and ride functions and opportunities (Raahui Pookeka | Huntly, Te Awa Lakes, Airport and Cambridge)
- Consideration to emissions reduction
- Land use and transport integration
- Staging and sequencing of transport interventions and implications for land use.
- Management and financial cases are currently being worked on to support the preferred shortlist option.

Engagement on long list and short list options has occurred with Future Proof Partners (including the Ngā Karu Atua o te Waka). Shane Solomon has been leading the input from a te ao Māori perspective.

### 2.6.4. Waikato expressway

The Hamilton section is the final section of the Waikato Expressway, and the site is currently being transformed from a construction site to a finished expressway as Waka Kotahi works towards a mid-year completion of the project.

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There are now just two main construction sites – at Resolution Drive which is being extended out to the interchange, and at the Southern Interchange. Cultural symbolism forms a key component of the Resolution Interchange where planting, paths and rock formations tell the story of migrating eels.

## **2.7. Resource Management / Land Use Planning**

### 2.7.1 Proposed District Plan

Decisions on the Proposed District Plan (PDP) were released on 17 January 2022. A total of 66 appeals have been received. While Waikato-Tainui did not lodge any appeals, it may have become a s274 party to one or more of the appeals (not yet known as of the time of writing this update).

Council staff will be able to share an update within the next couple months on any provisions of the PDP that were not appealed and that are therefore 'effectively operative' as per s86F of the RMA.

### 2.7.2 Future District Plan Work Programme

While PDP appeals are worked through, Council will also undertake any necessary variations (or plan changes once PDP is made operative) to address other issues not dealt with by the PDP. A priority is to work with JMA partners such as Waikato-Tainui to align the future District Plan work programme with iwi priorities. Council staff will be connecting with Kahurimu (Waikato-Tainui's Taiao contact for WDC) to progress this.

### 2.7.3 Structure Plans

Council's Strategic Planning team is working on a structure plan for the Taupiri / Hopuhopu / Ngaaruawaahia corridor, which will help inform future District Plan changes and investment in infrastructure through the next Long Term Plan. The structure plan will reflect Waikato-Tainui plans for Hopuhopu as well as connections throughout the corridor. WDC staff are working with Waikato-Tainui staff on this project.

### 2.7.4 Resource Management Reform

The Government is due to release the Natural and Built Environments Act and the Strategic Planning Act later this year, which will replace the current Resource Management Act. A Climate Adaptation Act is due to follow in 2023. WDC has made submissions on the various stages of RM Reform to date and are keen to align any future submission opportunities with those of Waikato-Tainui. There will also be a need to discuss how Council and Waikato-Tainui can continue to collaborate on land use planning activities under the new system once it is in place.

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### 2.7.5 Enabling Housing Supply Act

This Act came into force in December 2021 and requires Council to notify an Intensification Planning Instrument in several of its urban areas by August 2022. A March report [<https://www.waikatodistrict.govt.nz/docs/default-source/about-this-site/220322-p-r-open-agenda.pdf>] for Council's Policy and Regulatory Committee summarises the Act and WDC's intended approach, which includes collaboration with Waikato-Tainui and other iwi partners with respect to Te Ture Whaimana. The Future Proof partnership is coordinating some aspects of this discussion across member Councils.

## 3. Staff recommendations

### Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi

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**That the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Committee receives the report.**

## 4. Attachments

### Ngaa taapirihanga

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Attachment 1 – LGC Determination for 2022 Waikato District Council representation arrangements

Date:	13 April 2022
Report Author:	Vishal Ramduny
Authorised by:	Gavin Ion Chief Executive

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## Determination

of representation arrangements to apply for the election of the  
 Waikato District Council to be held on 8 October 2022

### Background

1. All territorial authorities are required under sections 19H and 19J of the Local Electoral Act 2001 (the Act) to review their representation arrangements at least every six years. Representation reviews are to determine the number of councillors to be elected, the basis of election for councillors and, if this includes wards, the boundaries and names of those wards. Reviews also include whether there are to be community boards and, if so, arrangements for those boards. Representation arrangements are to be determined so as to provide fair and effective representation for individuals and communities.
2. The Waikato District Council (the council) last reviewed its representation arrangements prior to the 2019 local elections. In May 2021 it resolved to establish Māori wards. Accordingly, it was required to undertake a review prior to the next elections in October 2022.
3. The Commission last made a determination in relation to Waikato District Council's representation in 2019. The council's current representation arrangements have been in place since 2013 with some small boundary changes endorsed by the Commission in 2019. Consequently, for the 2019 elections, the council comprised a mayor and 13 councillors elected as follows:

Ward	Population*	Number of councillors per ward	Population per councillor	Deviation from district average population per councillor	% deviation from district average population per councillor
Awaroa ki Tuakau	12,769	2	6,385	+720	+12.71
Onewhero-Te Akau	5,400	1	5,400	-265	-4.68
Whangamarino	6,058	1	6,058	+393	+6.94
Hukanui-Waerenga	5,953	1	5,953	+288	+5.08
Huntly	10,300	2	5,150	-515	-9.09
Ngāruawāhia	10,400	2	5,200	-465	-8.21
Newcastle	5,720	1	5,720	+55	+0.97
Raglan	5,790	1	5,790	+125	+2.21
Eureka	5,600	1	5,600	-65	-1.15
Tamahere	5,650	1	5,650	-15	-0.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>73,640</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>5,665</b>		

\*Based on Stats NZ 2017 population estimates however proposed boundary alterations are shown using 2013 meshblock populations

4. The current arrangements include five community boards: Huntly, Ngāruawāhia, Onewhero-Tuakau, Raglan, and Taupiri.

## Current review: Council process and proposal

### *Preliminary consultation*

5. The Council undertook preliminary consultation with the community to identify the district's communities of interest and community preferences for a representation structure. Engagement included a community survey, focus groups with the community and stakeholders, and discussions with Waikato Tainui. Council officers summarised the community feedback as follows:

*The preliminary community engagement identified that a number of people felt connected to more than one community of interest. Indeed for some there were multiple communities of interest including some outside of the district (particularly those communities neighbouring Hamilton or in the northern part of the district).*

*The online survey indicated the following were key factors in determining communities of interest in the district:*

- a) *Land use (rural/urban/residential etc);*
  - b) *Activities and shared community services – in particular, sports/recreational and community facilities;*
  - c) *Geography/landscape;*
  - d) *Business and retail services*
  - e) *Social connection with immediate neighbours.*
6. Council officers summarised the key findings from focus groups as:
    - *Problems or obstacles shared by a community, and shared dependence on water resources were factors identifying communities of interest (in addition to those already mentioned).*
    - *Preferred number of councillors was between 14 and 16.*
    - *Preferred number of wards was between 6 and 8.*
    - *Community boards remain popular as a form of local representation.*
    - *Consideration should be given to establishing rural community boards, separate from neighbouring urban towns.*

### *The Council's initial proposal*

7. On 7 July 2021 the council resolved as its initial representation proposal a council comprising 13 members elected from eight wards, plus the mayor. The Council also resolved to retain five community boards, being:

- a. Huntly Community Board (six elected members and two appointed member)
- b. Ngāruawāhia Community Board (six elected members and two appointed members)
- c. Tuakau Community Board (six elected members and two appointed members)
- d. Raglan Community Board (six elected members and two appointed members)
- e. Taupiri Community Board (four elected members and two appointed members)

8. The initial proposed ward arrangements were as follows:

Ward	Population*	Number of councillors per ward	Population per councillor	Deviation from district average population per councillor	% deviation from district average population per councillor
Central General	12,400	2	6,200	31	+0.50
Pōkeno-Hunua General	6,510	1	6,510	341	+5.53
Port Waikato General	6,520	1	6,520	351	+5.69
Tamahere-Newcastle General	17,150	3	5,717	-452	-7.33
Tuakau General	6,420	1	6,420	-190	+4.07
Waerenga-Hukanui General	12,250	2	6,125	-44	-0.71
Whaingaroa General	6,610	1	6,610	441	+7.15
<b>Total General wards</b>	<b>67,860</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6,169</b>		
Te Takiwaa Maaori	15,150	2	7550		
<b>Total District</b>	<b>82,850</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6373</b>		

\*Based on Tatauranga Aotearoa Stats NZ 2020 electoral population estimates. Totals may not sum exactly due to rounding

9. The Council notified its proposal on 14 July 2021 and received 228 submissions by the deadline of 30 August 2021. A further 12 submissions were received after the deadline. These were accepted on the basis that there had been significant postal delays under the COVID-19 Public Health Response alert level 4 restrictions in force at the time. Thirty seven submitters were heard by the Council on 9, 10 and 14 September 2021.
10. Of the 240 submissions, 52 supported or were neutral on the Council's initial proposal, 175 did not support all aspects of the proposal, and 13 did not answer this question.
11. Key themes in the submissions were:
  - a. Calls for at least two Māori wards and five supported increasing the number of Māori ward councillors to three (17 submissions)
  - b. Too many councillors for the proposed Tamahere-Newcastle General Ward and/or the ward grouped incompatible communities (14 submissions).

- c. Some general wards would be too large for effective representation:
    - Waerenga-Hukanui (23 submissions), including that the boundaries do not reflect current communities of interest;
    - Central (29 submissions), including that smaller towns may be overlooked;
    - Port Waikato (18 submissions), including that the boundaries divide existing communities.
  - d. Te Akau was split across wards (43 submissions).
  - e. Both Te Akau and Glen Massey would be better placed in the Port Waikato General Ward as they have no relationship to Raglan.
  - f. The proposed boundaries do not keep communities of interest together and therefore weakened their voice and representation (57 submissions)
  - g. Opposing the proposal to split the Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board into an expanded Tuakau Community Board and an Onewhero Community Committee (112 submissions)
  - h. Calls to expand the Raglan Community Board area (13 submissions).
12. On 14 September 2021 the Council deliberated on submissions and discussed the following alterations to the initial proposal:
- a. Dividing the proposed Te Takiwaa Maaori Ward into two wards.
  - b. Dividing the proposed Tamahere-Newcastle General Ward into two separate wards, Tamahere-Woodlands and Newcastle-Ngāruawāhia.
  - c. Reducing the size of the Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward.
  - d. Reducing the Central Ward to Huntly communities of interest and renaming it Huntly General Ward.
  - e. Moving the boundaries of the proposed Port Waikato General Ward to the Waikato River and the Tawatahi River and renaming it Western Districts General Ward.
  - f. Expanding the proposed Tuakau General Ward to incorporate part of the proposed Pōkeno General Ward.
  - g. Combining the remaining sections of the proposed Pōkeno and Port Waikato General Wards into one general ward joined via a corridor running south of Tuakau-Pōkeno.
  - h. Establishing a sixth community board encompassing the northern part of the Western Districts General Ward and the Onewhero section of the existing Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board, with north and south subdivisions.
  - i. Expanding the Raglan Community Board area and creating rural and urban subdivisions.
13. The initial proposal for the Council to comprise the mayor plus 13 members, being 11 elected by general wards and two by Māori wards, was retained.

### *The Council's final proposal*

14. At a meeting on 28 September 2021, the Council amended its initial proposal to the following final proposal for the 2022 local elections:

Ward	2020 general electoral population estimate*	Number of councillors	Population per councillor	Deviation from district average population per councillor	% deviation from district average population per councillor
Awaroa-Maramarua General	5,750	1	5,750	-412	-6.68
Huntly General	6,210	1	6,210	48	+0.78
Newcastle-Ngāruawāhia General	13,450	2	6,725	563	+9.14
Tamahere-Woodlands General	13,350	2	6,675	513	+8.33
Tuakau-Pōkeno General	11,750	2	5,875	-287	-4.65
Waerenga-Hukanui General	6,500	1	6,500	338	+5.49
Western Districts General	5,070	1	5,070	-1,092	-17.72
Whaingaroa General	5,700	1	5,700	-462	-7.49
<b>Total General wards</b>	<b>67,780</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>6,162</b>		
Te Raki o te Takiwaa Maaori	7,980	1	7,980	405	+5.35
Te Tonga o te Takiwaa Maaori	7,170	1	7,170	-405	-5.35
<b>Total Māori wards</b>	<b>15,150</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>7,575</b>		
<b>Total District</b>	<b>82,850</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6373</b>		

\* Based on Stats NZ Tatauranga Aotearoa 2020 population estimates. Totals may not sum exactly due to rounding.

15. The Council also resolved to retain the existing five community boards with some alterations to communities, membership and names, and to establish the Rural-Port Waikato Community Board, with the Rural-Port Waikato and Raglan Communities being subdivided for electoral purposes.
16. The Council publicly notified its final proposal on 1 October 2021, including advice that the Western Districts General Ward and the Raglan Community Board Rural Subdivision did not comply with the fair representation criteria.
17. Given the non-compliance of the proposed ward and community board subdivision, the Council was required under section 19V(4) of the Act to refer its proposal to the Commission for determination. In addition, seven appeals and 21 objections against the proposal were received.

### **Appeals/objections against the council's final proposal**

18. Six appeals and 21 objections received on the Council's final proposal were considered valid or partially valid and covered the following matters:
- Number of councillors elected from Māori wards

- b. Names of Māori wards
  - c. The splitting of several communities across ward boundaries and/or community board subdivisions
  - d. Opposition to the Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward
  - e. Names of general wards and community boards
  - f. Raglan Community Board area
  - g. Over-representation of the Western Districts General Ward (-17.7%) and the Raglan Rural subdivision of Raglan Community Board (-11.6%)
19. The Council referred the appeals and objections to the Commission, in accordance with section 19Q of the Act.

### Hearing

20. The Commission met with the Council and the eight appellants and objectors who wished to be heard at a hearing held online on Thursday 27 January 2022. The Council was represented at the hearing by Mayor Allan Sanson.
21. The following appellants and objectors appeared at the hearing:
- a. John Burns
  - b. Onewhero Residents & Ratepayers Group represented by John Burns
  - c. John Bridgman
  - d. Mercer Community Committee represented by Liam McGrath, Committee Chair
  - e. Rosemary Costar
  - f. Federated Farmers represented by Bruce Cameron and Hilary Walker, Policy Advisor
  - g. Tamahere Community Committee represented by Charles Fletcher, Leo Koppens, and Sue Robertson
  - h. John Lawson
  - i. Raglan Community Board represented by Chris Rayner

### *Matters raised at the hearing*

22. Mayor Allan Sanson, supported by Council Chief Executive Gavin Ions explained the process the Council had followed in carrying out its representation review and reaching its final proposal. They emphasised the following points:
- a. The Council considered it important to protect the rural voice in the representation arrangements.
  - b. The Council had undertaken a “ground up” review bearing in mind the Commission’s 2019 recommendation to create multi-councillor wards wherever possible.
  - c. The proposed Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward was originally suggested by staff as a non-contiguous ward of two sections two the east and west of the



Tuakau-Pōkeno General ward. However the Council decided to include a connecting corridor to the south of Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward to ensure contiguity.

- d. The Council considered the initial proposal as the vehicle to consult with iwi on the preferred structure of Māori wards. The Council supported the appeal proposing name changes for both Māori wards.
  - e. The Council's proposal extends the existing Raglan Community Board area and establishes a rural subdivision to protect the rural voice. Extending the boundary further would create confusion for the rural community around who do deal with, given that rural people connect to the Council rather than community boards for services, and would have a cost impact in the form of a targeted rate.
  - f. The existing Onewhero-Tuakau Community Board extends into a large area to the south of the Waikato river. The community supported removing the rural portion as they felt dominated by the rural voice, and on the basis that a new rural community board be established for the rural area south of the Waikato River. This is reflected in the proposed new Rural-Port Waikato Community Board.
23. The appellants and objectors appearing at the hearing emphasised the following points in opposition to the Council's proposal:
- a. The two Māori ward councillors have an unfair representation burden, given the large geographic size of the two proposed Māori wards.
  - b. The Onewhero and Pukekawa communities are split between the Western Districts and Awaroa-Maramarua General Wards.
  - c. A non-contiguous Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward would group Auckland facing rural communities of interest together more appropriately.
  - d. The proposed Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward splits the Mercer community from the Mercer airfield.
  - e. The Waikato River serves as a natural boundary between the northern wards.
  - f. The Tamahere community of interest is more residential than the rural communities it has been combined.
  - g. The area formerly known as Hukanui (now Gordonton), and the Hukanui Marae are both located outside of the proposed Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward.
  - h. Council and community boards serve different but complementary functions and opportunities for rural people to engage.
  - i. The proposed Raglan Community Board area does not fulfil community requests and splits the communities of Te Uku and Te Mata.
  - j. The Raglan community itself does not perceive a clear rural/urban split and subdivisions are therefore unnecessary.
  - k. Community board subdivisions ensure rural representation at community level.

## Matters for determination by the Commission

24. Section 19R of the Act makes it clear that the Commission, in addition to consideration of the appeals and objections against a council's final representation proposal, is required to determine, in the case of a territorial authority, all the matters set out in sections 19H and 19J which relate to the representation arrangements for territorial authorities. This interpretation was reinforced by a 2004 High Court decision which found that the Commission's role is not merely supervisory of a local authority's representation arrangements decision. The Commission is required to form its own view on all the matters which are in scope of the review.
25. The matters in the scope of the review are:
- whether the council is to be elected from wards, the district as a whole, or a mixture of the two
  - the number of councillors
  - if there are to be wards, the area and boundaries of wards and the number of members to be elected from each ward
  - whether there are to be community boards
  - if there are to be community boards, the area and boundaries of their communities, and the membership arrangements for each board.

## Key considerations

26. Based on the legislative requirements, the Commission's *Guidelines for local authorities undertaking representation reviews* (the Guidelines) identify the following three key factors when considering representation proposals:
- communities of interest
  - effective representation of communities of interest
  - fair representation for electors.

## Communities of interest

27. Many of the appeals/objections relate to the way the Council's final proposal combines or splits communities of interest.
28. The Guidelines identify three dimensions for recognising communities of interest:
- *perceptual*: a sense of identity and belonging to a defined area or locality as a result of factors such as distinctive geographical features, local history, demographics, economic and social activities
  - *functional*: ability of the area to meet the needs of communities for services such as local schools, shopping areas, community and recreational facilities, employment, transport and communication links
  - *political*: ability to represent the interests of local communities which includes non-council structures such as for local iwi and hapū, residents and ratepayer associations and the range of special interest groups.

29. We note that in many cases councils, communities and individuals tend to focus on the ‘perceptual’ dimension of communities of interest. That is, they focus on what intuitively they ‘feel’ are existing communities of interest. While this is a legitimate view, more evidence may be required to back this up. It needs to be appreciated that the other dimensions, particularly the ‘functional’ one, are important and that they can also reinforce the ‘sense’ of identity with an area. In other words, all three dimensions are important but should not be seen as independent of each other.
30. In addition to demonstrating existing communities of interest, evidence also needs to be provided of *differences* between neighbouring communities, i.e. that they may have “few commonalities”. This could include the demographic characteristics of an area (e.g. age, ethnicity, deprivation profiles) and how these differ between areas, and evidence of how different communities rely on different services and facilities.
31. At the hearing, the Mayor described Waikato as a high growth district, designated Tier 1 under the national policy statement on urban development, with a population growing at double the national rate. The district includes the larger townships of Huntly, Ngāruawāhia, Pōkeno, Raglan, and Tuakau, and a proliferation of small villages but remains 65-70% rural.
32. In its 2019 determination for Waikato District Council, the Commission repeated, with increased emphasis, its 2013 recommendation that the council undertake a more comprehensive investigation of communities of interest in the district as part of its next representation review. This recommendation was made in light of recent uneven population growth in the district and the resulting impact on the evenness of representation across the district in terms of both wards and community boards/committees.
33. The Council has done this work for the current review in relation to its general wards, undertaking extensive preliminary engagement with the community. The results indicated that many people in the district connect to more than one community of interest, particularly the Auckland-facing communities in the north, and those neighbouring Hamilton. Focus group participants were asked to group localities together keeping communities of interest in mind and the results were mapped to show the strongest connections. These groupings were largely reflected in the Council’s initial proposal and amended to reflect submissions in the final proposal.

### Effective representation of communities of interest

34. Section 19T of the Act requires the Commission to ensure that:
  - the election of members of the council, in one of the ways specified in section 19H (i.e. at large, wards, or a combination of both) will provide effective representation of communities of interest within the district
  - ward boundaries coincide with the boundaries of the current statistical meshblock areas determined by Statistics New Zealand and used for parliamentary electoral purposes
  - so far as is practicable, ward boundaries coincide with community boundaries (where they exist).

35. 'Effective representation' is not defined in the Act, but the Commission sees this as requiring consideration of factors including an appropriate number of elected members and an appropriate basis of election of members for the district concerned (at large, wards, or a mix of both).
36. The Commission's Guidelines note that what constitutes effective representation will be specific to each local authority but that the following factors should be considered:
- avoiding arrangements that may create barriers to participation, such as at elections by not recognising residents' familiarity and identity with an area
  - not splitting recognised communities of interest between electoral subdivisions
  - not grouping together two or more communities of interest that share few commonalities of interest
  - accessibility, size and configuration of an area including access to elected members and vice versa.
37. Within the scope of a representation review, councils can achieve effective representation of communities of interest by having members elected by wards, at large, a mixture of wards and at large. As the Waikato District Council has resolved to establish Māori wards, it must also establish at least one general ward.
38. While not a prescribed statutory requirement, the Guidelines suggest that local authorities consider the total number of members, or a range in the number of members, necessary to provide effective representation for the district as a whole. In other words, the total number of members should not be arrived at solely as the product of the number of members per ward, if there are to be wards.
39. Section 19A of the Act provides that a territorial authority shall consist of between 5 and 29 members, excluding the mayor. As a result of its 2013 review, the Waikato District Council reduced the number of councillors from 14 to 13 and this number of councillors remains today. The district was divided into eleven wards at its constitution in 1989. This number was retained through until the 2013 elections when it was reduced to ten wards, which was retained for the 2019 elections. All wards have been either single-member or two-member wards throughout this period.
40. The Commission commented in its 2019 determination that there had been periodic calls for fewer and/or multi-member wards as an appropriate way to balance rural and urban interests and to address concerns about uncontested elections. The Council's preliminary engagement also showed a majority (64%) preference for fewer wards. The Council attempted to reflect this in the current review, initially proposing to reduce the number of general wards to seven, three of which were multi-member wards (compared to three of 10 under the current arrangements). The Council commented at the hearing that submissions to the initial proposal included strong opposition to multi-member wards, although we note three of the seven general wards in the final proposal are two-member wards.

## Fair representation for electors

41. For the purpose of achieving fair representation for the electors of a district, section 19V(1) of the Act requires that the population of each ward divided by the number of members to be elected by that ward must produce a figure no more than 10 per cent greater or smaller than the population of the district divided by the total number of members (the '+/-10% rule').
42. However, section 19V(3)(a) permits non-compliance with the '+/-10% rule' for territorial authorities in some circumstances. Those circumstances are where:
  - non-compliance is required for effective representation of communities of interest within island communities or isolated communities
  - compliance would limit effective representation of communities of interest by dividing a community of interest
  - compliance would limit effective representation of communities of interest by uniting two or more communities of interest with few commonalities.
43. The appeals and objections raise concerns on a number of matters related to the effective representation of specific communities of interest.

## Number of councillors elected from Māori wards

44. The 2020 Tatauranga Aotearoa Stats NZ (Stats NZ) population estimates for Waikato District are a total population of 82,850 of which the Māori electoral population comprises 15,150 or 18.29%.
45. The Council is proposing two members elected from two Māori wards, one covering the north of the district and one covering the south.
46. Two appellants, John Lawson and the Mercer Community Committee asked that the number of members elected from the proposed Māori wards be increased. They argue that under the Council's proposal, the two Māori ward councillors will be required to cover the entire district and sit on three community boards each. The appellants propose increasing the total number of councillors to provide for, variously, three Māori ward councillors in total, or two councillors per Māori ward.
47. According to the formula for calculating the number of Māori ward members (LEA, Schedule 1A, clause 2), increasing the number of Māori ward councillors to three would require a total membership of 14 councillors plus a mayor. Increasing the number of Māori ward councillors to four would require a total membership of 20 councillors plus a mayor.
48. In addition to the appeals, five submissions to the Council's initial proposal for a single district-wide Māori ward supported increasing the number of Māori ward councillors to three, to ensure the responsibility and representation of such a geographically large ward was manageable. To address this, the Council amended its final proposal to establish two Māori wards, reducing the area each councillor would represent. The proposed ward boundaries are similar to the informal demarcation proposed by Waikato Tainui – Te Whakakitenga o Waikato in its submission to the initial proposal as a way of mitigating the onerous representation requirements for two councillors over such a large geographic area.

49. We consider that the proposal to increase the number of Māori ward councillors has merit given the challenges inherent in ensuring effective representation of communities of interest by just two Māori ward councillors under the Council's proposal. However, it would be a significant change for the Commission to make at this stage in the review process. It is also a change that would be difficult to justify without discussion with Māori on how, and how many, additional Māori ward councillors would most effectively represent communities of interest within the rohe. We strongly recommend that the Council starts these conversations early in the next review.
50. The Commission does not consider it appropriate to alter the Council's proposal for two Māori ward councillors.

### **Names of Māori wards**

51. One appellant, Te Whakakitenga o Waikato objects to the names of the proposed Māori wards, Te Raki o te Takiwaa Maaori Ward, and Te Tonga o te Takiwaa Maaori Ward. Te Whakakitenga o Waikato is the post-settlement governance entity (PSGE) for Waikato Tainui, one of four principal iwi in the Waikato Tainui confederation. It can be considered to represent a number of hapū, marae and individuals.
52. The PSGE proposes the alternative names Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori (Northern Boundary) and Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori (Southern Boundary) respectively. At the hearing, the Council explained that initial feedback from engagement with iwi, marae, and hapū focussed on ward boundaries rather than names. The Council supported changing the names of the Māori wards as proposed by the appellant.
53. It is noted that Stats NZ has specifically requested that Councils include the categorisations 'General Ward' or 'Māori Ward' in any ward names, to assist with distinguishing the populations represented.
54. Accordingly, the Commission supports the appellants proposed names for the district's two Māori wards, excluding the bracketed portion, being Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori Ward and Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward.

### **Community of Mercer**

55. One appellant, the Mercer Community Committee opposes the boundary between Tuakau-Pōkeno and Awaroa-Maramarua General Wards, arguing that it splits part of the community of Mercer, including the Mercer Airport, from the northern communities it identifies with.
56. In its 2019 determination the Commission addressed a similar proposal by the Council, altering the ward boundary to ensure the Mercer airport and its surrounding rural area was not split across the ward boundary from the Mercer community. The Commission commented that this better reflected the wider Mercer community of interest and noted the Council's comments that Mercer's communities of interest were to the north (in Awaroa ki Tuakau Ward) in particular the village of Pōkeno and the town of Tuakau. The Council's preliminary engagement suggests that this remains the case. The meshblock in question has a Stats NZ 2020 estimated population of 90. Moving the Mercer airfield into Tuakau-Pōkeno from Awaroa-Maramarua has the following effect:

Ward	2020 general electoral population estimate*	Number of councillors	Population per councillor	Deviation from district average population per councillor	% deviation from district average population per councillor
Awaroa-Maramarua General	5,660	1	5,660	-502	-8.14
Tuakau-Pōkeno General	11,850	2	5,925	-237	-3.84

57. We endorse a minor change to the proposed boundary of the Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward to include the meshblock incorporating Mercer airfield as sought by Mercer Community Committee.

### Communities of Onewhero and Pukekawa

58. Seventeen objections oppose the boundary between the proposed Awaroa-Maramarua and the Western Districts General Wards. They argue that it divides the communities of Onewhero and Pukekawa between the two wards, splitting residents from their schools, reserves, early childcare, fire brigades and other services, and splits residential areas from each other. Objectors also argued that these communities are more strongly affiliated with communities in the Western Districts General Ward and, though rural, they do not share common interests such as transport links with the north-facing Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward.
59. We note that the Council's proposed arrangement for wards on the district's northern border responded to submissions to the initial proposal asking the Council to group together communities that have communities of interest across other local authority boundaries. Auckland-facing urban communities form the Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward, while Auckland-facing rural communities form the Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward. This also ensures ward-based representation for the rural communities, a key principle for the Council in this review.
60. At the hearing, the Council explained that it had endeavoured to maintain a contiguous boundary for Awaroa-Maramarua by encompassing meshblocks to the south of Tuakau-Pōkeno and the Waikato River (the bottom of the 'U'). The Council acknowledged in deciding its final proposal that the inclusion of these meshblocks would split the Onewhero and Pukekawa communities however overall, the final proposal reduced the number of communities that were split in the initial proposal.
61. A number of objectors proposed alternative arrangements based on extending the Western Districts General Ward boundary to the Waikato River, thereby creating a non-contiguous Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward. A non-contiguous ward is unusual but not unprecedented and can be considered where it provides for more effective representation of communities of interest. This must of course be weighed against the requirement for fair representation for electors.
62. There are two options open to the Commission for creating a non-contiguous Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward by extending the Western Districts General Ward to the Waikato River. These either include or exclude the two meshblocks south of the Waikato River (Mercer Ferry Road to Mercer Bridge) located in the Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward in the Council's proposal. Both of these options result in a

non-compliance with the '+/-10% rule' for the Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward that exceeds -24%. This is a significantly larger non-compliance than that for the Western Districts General Ward which is -17.63% in the Council's proposal.

63. In our view this is a significant deviation from the '+/-10% rule' that is difficult to justify for an Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward that does not contain particularly isolated communities, taking under 40 minutes to access Tuakau or Pōkeno from most points in the district.
64. This leaves us to consider the alternative means of representation available to the Onewhero and Pukekawa communities. Both communities are included in their entirety within the proposed new Rural-Port Waikato Community Board area. From an effective representation point of view, this provides the communities with access to the two councillors appointed to the community board from the Western Districts General Ward and the Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori Ward.
65. The Mayor explained at the hearing his view that people deal directly with the Council rather than community boards for services. However, community boards also have a role in advocating for services and as such, we consider this offers a channel for representation of community needs and issues at the council level.
66. We acknowledge the concerns of the Onewhero and Pukekawa communities but we do not consider the alternatives to the Council's proposal to provide a more reasonable balance of the principles of fair and effective representation.

### **Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward**

67. Two appeals and one objection oppose the two-member Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward arguing that the Tamahere community is a distinct community that needs dedicated representation by a single ward councillor.
68. The proposed Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward is a two-member ward in the southeast of the district that incorporates the current Tamahere Ward and most of the current Eureka Ward. The Council's preliminary engagement suggests strong linkages between communities in the proposed new ward, including from Tamahere northwards to Eureka and Gordonton. The feedback also indicated majority support (64%) for fewer wards in the district.
69. At the hearing, objectors speaking on behalf of the Tamahere Community Committee highlighted the residential "country living" nature of the Tamahere area and an associated focus on roading and community projects. The Council in turn noted that while Tamahere was some five years ahead of its neighbouring areas in terms of intensity, there was a trend towards increased country living in other parts of the proposed ward.
70. Given the Commission's 2019 recommendation of more multi-member wards and the projected growth for the district, we consider it appropriate for representation arrangements to reflect emerging similarities between communities. Accordingly, we endorse the Council's proposal for a two-member Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward.



## Names of general wards and community boards

### *Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward*

71. One appeal and two objections propose alternative names for the Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward. They propose instead *Tamahere-Hukanui General Ward* on the basis that the ward incorporates the Hukanui Marae and the locality of Gordonton, formerly known as Hukanui. Alternatively, *Tamahere Woodlands Eureka General Ward* is proposed to reflect that the ward also encompasses the current Eureka Ward.
72. The New Zealand Geographic Board describes Gordonton as an informal name for a locality which largely aligns to the north-western part of the Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward. According to *Place Names of New Zealand (2010)*, the name Gordonton was given to honour John Gordon of the New Zealand Land Association who “did much for the district, then known as Hukanui, and when a post office was established and a name change was needed to avoid confusion with Hukanui in Wellington, local residents (both Maori and Pakeha) agreed to preserve his memory.”<sup>1</sup>
73. The Council has conferred with local marae on the matter of general ward names, and they have not indicated any preferred alternatives or opposition to the Council’s proposal.
74. We observe that *Tamahere-Woodlands* recognises the Woodlands Road boundary, and the Woodlands area comprises a significant portion of the farmland in this ward. We also note that the nearby Hukanui Primary School (Hamilton City) and Hukanui Golf Course (Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward) are not located in the Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward. Given this, and the fact that a current ward name also incorporates *Hukanui* there is considerable potential for confusion if we were to determine a name change at this point.
75. We are satisfied that name *Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward* is appropriate.

### *Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward*

76. Appellants and objectors also argue that *Hukanui* is not relevant for the Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward for the reasons outlined above. The alternative *Waerenga-Woodlands General Ward* is proposed as recognition of the Woodlands Homestead/Estate situated within the ward, or *Waerenga-Whitikahu General Ward* as reflecting the geographic extent of the ward.
77. Under the Council’s initial proposal a much larger Waerenga-Hukanui General Ward encompassed Gordonton/Hukanui. The final proposal transferred it to Tamahere-Woodlands but the name remained. Given the location and significance of *Hukanui*, we do not consider it an appropriate name for this ward. *Waerenga-Whitikahu* does reflect the names of two localities in the southern and northern parts of the ward.

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<sup>1</sup> Reed, A.W. & Peter Dowling, *Place Names of New Zealand*, 2010. Sourced from New Zealand Geographic Board, <https://gazetteer.linz.govt.nz/place/21601>

On balance, we think this name better reflects the ward while also avoiding confusion with the locality still informally known as Hukanui.

### ***Non-compliance - Western Districts General Ward***

78. The Council's proposal, with a small boundary alteration to include Mercer Airfield in the Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward, results in the Western Districts General ward not complying with the '+/-10% rule'. One objector opposes the proposed over-representation of -17.63% for the ward arguing that this shows a bias in favour of rural areas.
79. The Act provides for flexibility in balancing fair and effective representation. This means that where the Commission deems it appropriate, under certain prescribed conditions, it may determine ward and subdivision boundaries that do not comply with the +/-10% rule. This includes where non-compliance is necessary to provide effective representation for an isolated community.
80. The Western Districts General Ward is characterised by large farms and sparse population towards the south. Submissions to the initial proposal highlighted that residents in parts of the area often travel over an hour to access the nearest purchasing facilities. We also note that the Council initially proposed a larger ward that was compliant. Submitters opposed this ward primarily because its geographic size made it too large for one councillor to represent effectively.
81. We are satisfied that the Western Districts General Ward contains sufficiently isolated communities to justify the proposed level of representation.

### **Communities and community boards**

82. Section 19J of the Act requires every territorial authority, as part of its review of representation arrangements, to determine whether there should be community boards in the district and, if so, the nature of those communities and the structure of the community boards. The territorial authority must make this determination in light of the principle in section 4 of the Act relating to fair and effective representation for individuals and communities.
83. The particular matters the territorial authority, and where appropriate the Commission, must determine include the number of boards to be constituted, their names and boundaries, the number of elected and appointed members, and whether the boards are to be subdivided for electoral purposes. Section 19W also requires regard to be given to such of the criteria as apply to reorganisation proposals under the Local Government Act 2002 as is considered appropriate. The Commission sees two of these criteria as particularly relevant for the consideration of proposals relating to community boards as part of a representation review:
  - Will a community board have an area that is appropriate for the efficient and effective performance of its role?
  - Will the community contain a sufficiently distinct community or communities of interest?

84. In the current review, the council has proposed to retain the existing five community boards with some alterations to communities, membership and names, and to establish the Rural-Port Waikato Community. Under the proposal, members will be elected as follows:

Community	Subdivisions	Number of elected board members	Number of appointed board members	Subdivision population	Subdivision population per member	% deviation from subdivision average population per member
Huntly	--	6	2	--	--	--
Ngāruawāhia	--	6	2	--	--	--
Rural-Port Waikato	North	2		2,460	1,230	+8.13%
	South	2		2,090	1,045	-8.13%
	<b>Total</b>	4	2		Avg 1,032	
Raglan	Urban	4		3,780	945	+5.82%
	Rural	2		1,580	790	-11.53%
	<b>Total</b>	6	2		Avg 893	
Taupiri	--	4	2	--	--	--
Tuakau	--	6	2	--	--	--

85. The Council's preliminary consultation showed 71.8% of those engaged with supported community boards as a form of local representation while 42.3% believed community boards should cover smaller, more focussed areas than they currently do.

#### *Rural-Port Waikato Community Board subdivisions*

86. One appellant argues that the boundary between the Rural-Port Waikato North and South subdivisions splits Onewhero across the two subdivisions.
87. The Community encompasses most of the Western Districts General Ward and extends north and east to the Waikato River. It also includes part of the Tuakau-Pōkeno and Awaroa-Maramarua General Wards lying south of the River.
88. We observe that while Onewhero and Pukekawa are each in different subdivisions, the subdivision boundary runs to the east of Onewhero's residential and community facilities, grouping them together within the North subdivision. We do not consider it necessary to alter the subdivision boundary.

#### *Raglan Community area*

89. Two appeals and one objection oppose the Raglan Community Board area and the proposal to subdivide the community, arguing that the Council's proposal does not reflect community preferences. One appeal also opposes the non-compliance of the Rural subdivision (-11.53%).
90. The current Raglan Community area is restricted to the predominantly urban area of Raglan township. Thirteen submitters to the initial proposal, including the Community Board, requested that the Community be expanded to include six meshblocks comprising rural land and the localities of Te Mata, Te Uku, and Okete.

In its final proposal, the Council added three of the requested meshblocks and created the Urban and Rural subdivisions as a means of protecting a rural voice on the Community Board.

91. The appeals and objections argue that adding just three of requested six meshblocks does not reflect the wider community's calls for inclusion in the Community area and splits the communities of Te Uku and Te Mata. At the hearing we heard that Raglan rural and urban residents move between rural and urban areas for education, work, sports, and shopping, and have the strongest connection to Raglan as a whole rather than to rural or urban areas within Raglan.
92. In response to questions, the Council acknowledged that there was some value in expanding the Raglan Community but it was mindful of the associated impact on targeted rates for residents. The reasons for not including the additional three meshblocks were that residents of the meshblock on the west coast (Ruapuke) were more strongly linked to Hamilton for education, work, and goods and services, and residents in the two meshblocks relating to Te Mata and Te Uku were considered too distant from Raglan at around 20 kilometres. The Council also explained that it had proposed the subdivision to reflect the desire to maintain a rural voice.
93. Having heard the views of the Council and appellants and objectors, including the Raglan Community Board, we consider that there is little reason to exclude the additional three requested meshblocks from the Raglan Community area given that they all have strong connections with Raglan while sharing in common access to a different level of services in Hamilton. In this respect they are appropriately grouped as a community of interest.
94. We also observe that the Community area has a relatively small footprint. Given this and the crossover of interests between rural and urban residents, we do not consider there are sufficiently distinct sub-communities within Raglan, nor a sufficiently large geographic area, to justify the Council's proposal to subdivide the Community at this time.

### **Commission's determination<sup>2</sup>**

95. Under section 19R of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the Commission determines that for the general election of the Waikato District Council to be held on 8 October 2022, the following representation arrangements will apply:
  - a. Waikato District, as delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-1, will be divided into ten wards.
  - b. Those ten wards will be:
    - (i) the Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-2
    - (ii) the Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-3

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<sup>2</sup> All plans referred to in this determination are deposited with the Local Government Commission

- (iii) the Western Districts General Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-4
  - (iv) the Waerenga-Whitikahu General Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-5
  - (v) the Huntly General Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-6
  - (vi) the Newcastle-Ngāruawāhia General Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-7
  - (vii) the Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-8
  - (viii) the Whaingaroa General Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-9
  - (ix) the Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-10
  - (x) the Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-W-11
- c. The Council will comprise the mayor and 13 councillors elected as follows:
- (i) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Awaroa-Maramarua General Ward
  - (ii) 2 councillors elected by the electors of the Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward
  - (iii) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Western Districts General Ward
  - (iv) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Waerenga-Whitikahu General Ward
  - (v) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Huntly General Ward
  - (vi) 2 councillors elected by the electors of the Newcastle-Ngāruawāhia General Ward
  - (vii) 2 councillors elected by the electors of the Tamahere-Woodlands General Ward
  - (viii) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Whaingaroa General Ward
  - (ix) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori Ward
  - (x) 1 councillor elected by the electors of the Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward
- d. There will be six communities as follows:
- (i) Tuakau Community, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-Com-1
  - (ii) Rural-Port Waikato Community, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-Com-2

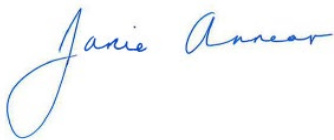
- (iii) Huntly Community, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-Com-3
  - (iv) Taupiri Community, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2013-Com-3
  - (v) Ngāruawāhia Community, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-Com-4
  - (vi) Raglan Community, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-Com-5
- e. The Rural-Port Waikato Community will be subdivided into two for electoral purposes. Those two subdivisions will be:
- (i) North Subdivision, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-S-1
  - (ii) South Subdivision, comprising the area delineated on Plan LG-013-2022-S-2
- f. The membership of each community board will be as follows:
- (i) Tuakau Community Board will comprise 6 elected members and 2 members appointed to the Community Board by the Council being one representing Tuakau-Pōkeno General Ward and one representing Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori Ward
  - (ii) Rural-Port Waikato Community Board will comprise 2 members elected by the electors of the North subdivision, 2 members elected by the electors of the South subdivision, and 2 members appointed to the Community Board by the Council being one representing Western Districts General Ward and one representing Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori Ward
  - (iii) Huntly Community Board will comprise 6 elected members and 2 members appointed to the Community Board by the Council being one representing Huntly General Ward and one representing Tai Raro Takiwaa Maaori Ward
  - (iv) Taupiri Community Board will comprise 4 elected members and 2 members appointed to the Community Board by the Council being one representing Newcastle-Ngāruawāhia General Ward and one representing Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward
  - (v) Ngāruawāhia Community Board will comprise 6 elected members and 2 members appointed to the Community Board by the Council being one representing Newcastle-Ngāruawāhia General Ward and one representing Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward
  - (vi) Raglan Community Board will comprise 6 elected members and 2 members appointed to the Community Board by the Council being one representing Whaingaroa General Ward and one representing Tai Runga Takiwaa Maaori Ward

96. As required by section 19T(b) of the Local Electoral Act 2001, the boundaries of the above wards coincide with the boundaries of current statistical meshblock areas determined by Statistics New Zealand and used for Parliamentary electoral purposes.

**Local Government Commission**



Commissioner Brendan Duffy (Chair)



Commissioner Janie Annear



Commissioner Bonita Bigham



Commissioner Sue Piper

28 March 2022

<b>To</b>	<b>Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Committee</b>
<b>Report title</b>	<b>Review of the Waikato District Council Te Reo Māori Policy</b>

## **1. Purpose of the report**

### **Te Take moo te puurongo**

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To inform the Co-Governance Committee of the current review of the Council's Te Reo Policy and to seek input, particularly in respect of the use of written Te Reo in the style guide and bilingual signage policy.

The need for this is driven by several factors including a desire to create more consistency across our communications and marketing collateral, recognise the national standard led by Government, consider orthographical conventions, and ensure inclusivity for all iwi in our district.

The author of this report seeks valued input and views from the Committee to ensure that any impacts of a possible change can be appropriately considered and addressed.

## **2. Executive summary**

### **Whakaraapopotanga matua**

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Across the Council and within our written communications and marketing collateral there are an increasing number of inconsistencies in the way we use and apply te reo Māori, this includes instances of both the use of macrons and double vowels, and often neither.

This inconsistent approach has resulted in confusion, both internally and externally, including from our customers who often contact us to highlight what they interpret as spelling mistakes or errors.

Our current Waikato District Council te reo policy, bilingual policy, and a short section in the style guide referring to te reo Māori usage in brand collateral – including our signage - is out of date, inconsistent and overdue for review in line with wider standards and current expectations.

It is proposed that with the support and input of relevant stakeholders, that we review and enhance the current te reo Māori policy to include some key principles for its use, including the consistent application of the more widely recognised macrons.

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### **3. Staff recommendations**

#### **Tuutohu-aa-kaimahi**

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**That the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato District Council Co-Governance Committee:**

- a. Note the Waikato District Te Reo Policy is overdue for review.**
  - b. Provide feedback on the current policy that could include the adoption of macrons as a standard in the application of te reo but still retain the use of double vowels in line with tikanga Māori for Waikato-Tainui and local hapū.**
  - c. notes the rationale for potentially adopting macrons includes:**
    - i. all national government departments and agencies use macrons;**
    - ii. many adjoining and neighbouring councils whom we regularly coordinate with use macrons;**
    - iii. the use of double vowels is not relevant to the entire Waikato District, but specific to some hapū within Waikato-Tainui;**
    - iv. the use of macrons is the standard of the Māori Language Commission;**
    - v. New Zealanders are more familiar with the use of macrons, whilst many are not familiar with the use of double vowels; and**
    - vi. the use of a double vowel or macron has been acknowledged as an orthography style, rather than a dialect in many instances.**
  - d. notes the instances where we could continue to use double vowels as standard:**
    - when in direct communication with Waikato-Tainui;**
    - for any place names that are normally written using double vowels e.g., Waahi Paa;**
    - for any names of people who would normally use double vowels e.g., Raahui Papa; and**
    - for quotations from people who would normally use double vowels.**
  - e. provides any additional guidance in line with the principles of engagement set out in our joint management agreement.**
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## 4. Discussion Matapaki

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What additional considerations should there be for this to meet and honour our obligations?

It is proposed that we consider what part this policy plays in WDC's commitment to our Māori communities. Not just in relation to how we will honour the language and culture in the way we conduct ourselves and communicate, but how this is a key enabler of our vision to create more Liveable, Thriving and Connected Communities for the inclusion of all those in our district.

## 5. Attachments Ngaa taapirihanga

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Attachment 1: Te Reo Maaori Policy

Date:	13 April 2022
Report Author:	Emma Edgar - Communications, Marketing & Engagement Manager
Authorised by:	Tony Whittaker Chief Operating Officer

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# Te Reo Maaori Policy

Policy Owner:	Pouhono iwi ki te Haapori
Policy Sponsor:	General Manager Strategy & Support
Approved By:	Waikato District Council
Approved Date:	11 April 2016
Resolution Number:	
Effective Date:	April 2016
Next Review Date:	April 2019

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## 1. Introduction

Waikato-Tainui is the recognised iwi authority in the Waikato district and the Council also has relationships with Ngati Maniapoto and Hauraki iwi. The Councils engagement with these iwi is wide-ranging and includes formal and informal linkages which cover;

- i) Social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing;
- ii) History and heritage;
- iii) Physical location;
- iv) Political influences and
- v) Constituency.

*Section 81 of the Local Government Act 2002<sup>2</sup> requires Council to:*

- (a) *Establish and maintain processes that provide an opportunity for Maori to contribute to the decision-making processes of Council; and*
- (b) *Consider ways in which it may foster the development of Maaori capacity to contribute to the decision-making processes of Council, and*
- (c) *Provide relevant information to Maaori for the purposes of (a) and (b).*

1.1 The development of this Te reo Maaori policy defines a collaborative relationship that is within the spirit of the Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi, while recognising limitations imposed by statutory responsibilities.

1.2 Increasingly, Te reo Maaori is being used as part of our everyday language. As the Waikato District Council works toward the objective of being the most engaged council in New Zealand, a policy which promotes and values the use of te reo Maaori is appropriate.

## 2. Objective(s)

The objective of this policy is to guide Council in:

- 2.1 Promotion of te reo Maaori and recognition of its value in our district;
- 2.2 Use of te reo Maaori to better reflect and engage the wider community.

The proposed outcome of this policy is to work toward the Waikato District Council being a bi-lingual District Council through progressive planning and prioritisation of actions and resources.

## 3. Application

This policy supports the adoption of the 2014 Waikato District Council Bi-lingual Signage Policy. It applies to all Waikato District Council staff and contractors.

## 4. Definition

This policy is specific to the use of te reo Maaori (Maaori language) at Waikato District Council. It should be noted that the use of te reo Maaori may include formal practices and customs (tiikanga) for example, karakia (prayer), powhiri (formal welcome), whakatau (informal welcome).

## 5. Relevant Legislation / Documents

- Maaori Language Act 1987
- Resource Management Act 1991, Section 6, 7 and 8 and Iwi Management Plans
- Local Government Act 2002, Section 81
- Waikato District Council Heritage Policy
- Waikato District Council Significance and Engagement Policy
- Waikato Raupatu Claims Settlement Act 1995
- Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Act 2010
- Nga Wai o Maniapoto (Waipa River) Act 2012

## 6. Policy Statement

6.1 This policy demonstrates Waikato District Council's commitment to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi. Waikato District Council acknowledges te reo Maaori as an official language in New Zealand and agrees that Council should promote and support the use of te reo Maaori.

## 7. Scope

7.1 The following are the four strategic goals that will ensure that the use of te reo Maaori is valued and promoted within Waikato District Council:

***Te Reo Maaori Strategic Goal 1:***

Whakamanahia te reo: To raise the status of te reo Maaori in Council's work.

***Te Reo Maaori Strategic Goal 2:***

Whakanui ake nga kaikorero Maaori: To raise the number of te reo Maaori speakers within Council.

***Te Reo Maaori Strategic Goal 3:***

Te painga o te reo: To ensure that quality te reo Maaori is used by the Council.

***Te Reo Maaori Strategic Goal 4:***

Whakamahia te reo: To increase the ability to use Maaori in Council situations.

## 8. Implementation

### **Te Reo Maaori Strategic Goal 1**

***Whakamanahia te reo: To raise the status of te reo Maaori in Council's work.***

- 8.1 Bilingual signage: Complete the implementation of the bi-lingual signage policy across all Waikato District Council signage, including buildings, vehicles, parks and reserves and other Council facilities.
- 8.2 Ensure inclusion of Maaori names for new streets and other facilities: In consultation with iwi and hapuu, and in accordance with the Street Naming and Roothing Policies, ensure that Maaori names are considered for new streets and other facilities, where appropriate.
- 8.3 Te reo Maaori publications: To give appropriate consideration to the translation of some key documents (such as summaries of the Annual Plan and Annual Report and any other key documents where considered appropriate) into te reo Maaori, key sections of the Council website, and some brochures, forms, advertising where required. At the very least, to ensure that public documents have bilingual headings.
- 8.4 Te reo Maaori internal communications: To provide Guidelines to Staff on how to use appropriate examples formal and informal greetings, email headers and footers, signatures and simple phrases.

## 9. Te Reo Maaori Strategic Goal 2

***Whakanui ake nga kaikorero Maaori: To raise the number of Te reo Maaori speakers within Council.***

- 9.1.1 Support personal development in te reo: To encourage and support staff seeking to upskill in te reo Maaori via Personal Development Plans.
- 9.1.2 Support is provided for te reo Maaori programmes and activities within the office/s: To provide, time, resources and where available, financial support for Te Wiki o Te reo Maaori activities and te reo training programmes which might be arranged in the office from time to time.
- 9.1.3 Recruitment: To ensure that HR processes include assessment of bilingual competency where this is relevant and could add value to roles within Council;
- 9.1.4 Support for staff who are te reo Maaori champions in the team/office environment: To support Managers to recognise and value those staff who foster and promote the use of te reo Maaori in the office through, for example, approval to attend relevant hui, personal development opportunities, informal peer support and where available, budgetary recognition.

## 10. Te Reo Maaori Strategic Goal 3:

***Te painga o te reo: To ensure quality te reo Maaori is used by the Council:***

- 10.1.1 Te reo Maaori hei kawae i nga kaupapa Maaori: Because sometimes Maaori concepts are better expressed in te reo Maaori, to ensure that where appropriate, these concepts are provided in te reo Maaori, with an appropriate English translation;
- 10.1.2 Bilingual publications, website and written translation services: To ensure translations are accurate and of a consistently high standard and that Maaori and English language is used

appropriately and consistently in all types of publications, Council will use an accredited te reo Maaori translator with recognised expertise in the Waikato dialect.<sup>1</sup>

- 10.1.3 Adoption of double vowel to indicate long vowel sound, as Council policy: to ensure that the double vowel is used consistently in Waikato District Council publications and all other public documents, in accordance with Waikato-Tainui preference.

## **11. Te Reo Maaori Strategic Goal 4:**

***Whakamahia te reo: To increase the ability to use Maaori in Council situations:***

- 11.1.1 Customer service: To encourage the use of te reo Maaori in staff interactions with customers through supporting staff in their personal development and through the provision of Guidelines for Staff which include formal and informal greetings and simple phrases.
- 11.1.2 Council meetings: Spoken translation services at meetings: Where it is known te reo Maaori will be used at a council meeting, appropriate prior arrangements are made to ensure that Council has access to a te reo Maaori speaker who can provide translations.

## **12. Timeframe**

It is recognised that the implementation of the strategic goals will take time and implementation plans will be developed for each goal.

In accordance with Waikato District Council's 2020 Challenge, it is envisaged that implementation plans for all the strategic goals will be in place by 2020.

## **13. Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed at least once every three years.

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<sup>1</sup> Refer to the Taura Whiri i te reo Maaori (Maaori Language Commission) list of accredited translators.