



**Report**                    **03.519**  
**Date**                     4 September 2003  
**File**                      E/06/21/03

**Committee**            **Council**  
**Authors**              **Councillors Shields and Buchanan**

## **Ara Tahi Meeting - 3 September 2003**

### **1. Purpose**

To report to Council the proceedings of the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 3 September 2003.

### **2. Background & Comment**

#### **2.1 Te Reo Training Programme**

Members of Ara Tahi complimented the Council on the Te Reo training programme for staff. They also highlighted that it was important to include the principles of tikanga. Council officers said that they are currently looking into broadening the training to include a more holistic view of Maori culture.

#### **2.2 Freshwater Aquaculture**

Members of Ara Tahi stressed that freshwater aquaculture was a very important issue for Maori and said that the Government should be considering it as part of the aquaculture review.

Ian Buchanan noted that freshwater aquaculture was not currently on the Government's agenda. He suggested that Ara Tahi raise such issues so that they can be included in any feedback the Council gives the Government before the legislation is drafted.

Members of Ara Tahi advised they have also been gathering information so that they are in a good position to respond to the draft legislation when it is released for comment.

## **2.3 Iwi Projects**

### **2.3.1 Wellington Tenth Trust – Inventory of Maori Tenth Heritage Sites and Values**

Neville Gilmore advised that all the data has been entered into GIS and staff from Massey University have almost completed the software architecture, which will provide a front for the system. The Tenth Trust will now digitally photograph the relevant records, maps etc which are held by Land Information New Zealand.

The Tenth Trust has also employed a technical expert to help with aspects of the project.

### **2.3.2 Ngati Kahungunu - Okautete Bush**

Jason Kerehi noted the valuable advice the project had received from the Department of Conservation and Greater Wellington staff on restoring the Okautete bush. He advised that the first step in the project will be spraying, and this will start soon.

### **2.3.3 Ngati Kahungunu – Iwi Management Plan**

Jason Kerehi advised that Ngati Kahungunu are keen to progress this initiative and are in the early stages of putting together a proposal.

### **2.3.4 Rangitaane O Wairarapa – Haamua Project II**

Jason Kerehi said that the History of Haamua report is currently being drafted, with 180 pages completed to date.

## **2.4 Review of Contracts for Non-Notified Consents and Administrative Capacity Funding**

Ara Tahī resolved to review the contracts for non-notified consents and administrative funding together. The review will evaluate the appropriateness of funding levels and provide an opportunity to consider whether a generic approach is still suitable for these contracts, given that iwi have wide-ranging requirements.

Council officers will meet with individual iwi and then a collective hui will be held to formalise ideas before formal adoption at the next Ara Tahī meeting on 12 November 2003. Contract payments will be made as usual in the first quarter, while the review takes place.

## **2.5 Ngati Tama**

Ara Tahi agreed that it was important to support the Council in their requirement to respond to the letter from Ngati Tama, in which Ngati Tama request they be represented on Ara Tahi. They also noted that the Local Government Act 2002 required Council to have relationships with “Maori”, where it had previously stated “Tangata Whenua”.

Members of Ara Tahi highlighted the many complexities involved in deciding on whether a group, such as Ngati Tama, be invited to join Ara Tahi. After much discussion Ara Tahi requested that council officers investigate the Te Ohu Kaimoana model as part of the process for deciding on whether a group should be represented on Ara Tahi. They asked that the findings be reported back at the next Ara Tahi meeting on 12 November 2003.

## **2.6 Consultation on Wairarapa Corridor Plan**

Pita Flynn noted that he had not received any information on the Wairarapa Corridor Plan, which is currently out for consultation. He noted that Ara Tahi should be consulted before such plans were published for comment. Margaret Shields assured Pita Flynn that he would be sent a copy of the plan and advised that there would still be an opportunity for Maori to influence the outcome.

## **2.7 Local Government Conference**

Liz Mellish thanked the Council for taking an iwi representative to the Local Government Conference. She said that she found the conference very informative and worthwhile. She felt it was important for Maori to be represented at such a forum and hoped that this opportunity continued in future years.

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

**Margaret Shields**  
Chairperson

**Ian Buchanan**  
Chairman, Environment Committee