



Report 04.200
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Committee Council
Authors Councillors Shields and Buchanan

Ara Tahi Meeting – 24 March 2004

1. Purpose

To report to Council the proceedings of the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 24 March 2004.

2. Background & Comment

2.1 Election of Chairperson

Several members expressed support for the job that Tom Paku had done as Chairperson, and their desire for him to continue on in the role.

After some discussion, the meeting confirmed that Tom Paku remain Chairperson for a further one year term.

2.2 Iwi Projects - Updates

Inventory of Maori Heritage Sites and Values - Wellington Tenths Trust

Liz Mellish said that this project was becoming more exciting now that they were at the stage of being able to produce reports. The Trust is working well with and receiving support from GIS staff within Hutt City Council, Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington. A paper is being prepared on the project. The Trust is receiving a large number of visitors, including several GIS “geeks”.

Iwi Environmental Management Plan – Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o te Ika a Maui

Ihaia Puketapu spoke to this item and said that they were making good progress and working closely with Greater Wellington officers. The management structure has been rearranged so that the project is being reported to both the Whanui CEO and the Wellington Tenths Trust CEO. The first draft should be completed within 2-3 weeks. A web site has been established.

Water Monitoring Project – Te Ati Awa ki Whakarongotai

Jack Rikihana outlined the history of this project in relation to the amount of water being extracted through bores on the Kapiti Coast. In this pilot project the Iwi are monitoring use from 25 sites with the aim of doubling this number in the next year. The information will assist with the management of the underground water resource and is being undertaken in close association with Greater Wellington's groundwater scientist.

Ngati Hamua GIS Project – Rangitaane o Wairarapa

Jason Kerehi spoke to this item. A lengthy report is nearing completion and will be finalised once references are checked and permission is obtained for the use of a number of portraits. A series of public information sheets have been produced and these will be presented at the next Ara Tahi meeting. Further work will be carried out in association with Masterton District Council to determine what protection measures are appropriate for each site. Of the 200 sites, it is thought that only 30 or 40 will require protection through the district plan.

2.3 Achievement of Regional Policy Statement Objectives for Iwi

Council officers outlined the process for the review of the achievement of the Regional Policy Statement. Iwi representatives indicated a willingness to take part in the review.

2.4 Meeting the Requirements of the Local Government Act 2002

Members were reminded of the new provisions of the LGA2002 that required Greater Wellington to develop a process where Maori groups not represented at Ara Tahi have an avenue to participate in Council decisions. This was proposed as the topic for the first Iwi technical workshop for the year. The meeting agreed to this topic and also to the suggestion that Councillors be invited to attend.

3. Recommendation

That the Council receives the report and notes its contents.

Report approved by:

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Margaret Shields
Council Chairperson

Ian Buchanan
Chairman, Environment Committee