



# TAIRĀWHITI

## REGIONAL FRESHWATER PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP

### Meeting agenda, minutes, and actions

#### Hui #1

Held at Waikanae Surf Club on 12 July 2023 at 09:00am

<b>Advisory Group facilitator</b>	Dr Jill Chrisp
<b>Advisory Group members</b>	Nicki Davies, Murray Palmer, Samuel Lewis, Stan Pardoe, Jacob Harrison, Mere Tamanui, Colin Kerlake, Laura Watson, Seanne Williams, Taylor Howatson, Elizabeth Kamana, Shanna Cairns, Dave Hawea, Owen Lloyd, Keith Katipa, Phil Gaukrodger, Joss Ruifrok, Leo Kelso
<b>Council</b>	Joanna Noble, Janic Slupski, Gene Takurua, Oliver Vetter, Ariel Yann le Chew, Paul Murphy, Sarah Thompson, Kara Moir, Desiré du Plooy Waverley Jones, Lois Easton, Wolfgang Kanz, Yvonne Legarth (online), Ian Mayhew (online), Olivier Ausseil (online)
<b>Apologies</b>	Bronwyn Wilson-Hokianga

### Agenda

<b>Karakia</b>	<b>09:00</b>
<b>Whakawhanaungatanga - welcome &amp; introductions</b>	<b>09:05</b>
<b>Draft Terms of Reference</b>	<b>09:30</b>
<b>Session 1 – general overview</b>	<b>09:45 – 10:15</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>General overview of current Regional Freshwater Plan, inclusive of Te Mana o te Wai</li> </ul>	
<b>Session 2 – policy context</b>	<b>10:15 – 11:15</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Policy Statement</li> <li>Regional Freshwater Plan</li> </ul>	
<b>Proposed review process and wrap-up</b>	<b>11:15</b>
<b>Closing karakia</b>	<b>11:25</b>

## Summary of actions

Future Action
  Current Priority Task
  Overdue Action

Task	Actions	Resp.	Due
<b>T1</b>	Establish a focus group to revisit draft Terms of Reference and present amended draft version at 16 August meeting	Mere Tamanui, Samuel Lewis, Waverley Jones	16 Aug
<b>T2</b>	Reconsider new name for the Group	Same as T1	16 Aug
<b>T3</b>	Council staff to liaise with Advisory Group members to verify payment details	Kara Moir	asap
<b>T4</b>	Provide Group members with the link and password to the website portal and allow for a demonstration on 16 August meeting	Oliver Vetter	9 Aug
<b>T5</b>	Adapt the agenda by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• building into it a level of storytelling/context;</li> <li>• developing 'food-for-thought' questions in the reports as part of 'homework' to come prepared to meetings;</li> <li>• be clear about and maintain focus on outcomes</li> </ul>	Freshwater team	9 Aug
<b>T6</b>	Share resources/provide copies/hyperlinks of the following documents to the Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Presentation slides</li> <li>• Rongowhakaata Iwi Trust (RIT) freshwater policy statement</li> <li>• Nga Ariki Kaiputahi environmental plan</li> <li>• Mauri Compass</li> </ul>	Freshwater team	16 Aug

## Minutes

### 1. Karakia

### 2. Whakawhanaungatanga - welcome & introductions

- 2.1. Members, Council staff and external contractors directly involved in the Regional Freshwater Planning provision process introduced themselves.
- 2.2. Staff shared general points, background and processes involved in the establishment of a Freshwater Advisory Group.

### 3. Draft Terms of Reference

- 3.1. Staff outlined the draft Terms of Reference, key roles and responsibilities of the facilitator, members, and Council staff. The draft forms the basis of an agreement on how members will work together for the next 11 months. Advisory Group members (referred to as 'the Group') will be paid for attendance. Council will reach out to each member to verify payment details.
- 3.2. The Group collectively agreed to have further whakaaro on the current draft Terms of Reference. A smaller focus group has been set up to consider how a revised Terms of Reference can reflect a better integration of Te Ao Māori. A revised draft will be presented at the next meeting on 16 August 2023.
- 3.3. The Group discussed how to give effect to Te Mana o te Wai, not only in content but also in how to manage itself, and the processes used.
- 3.4. Suggestions to include in an amended Terms of Reference, but not limited to, are:
  - apply a mātauranga framework;
  - apply ki uta ki tai values in this freshwater space;
  - code of conduct to include that group members be truthful to themselves, to the kaupapa and to ensure the kaupapa is at the forefront. Value confidentiality and create opportunities where people can be frank, to have the courage to speak up to achieve the outcomes of this group;
  - look into the name of the group;
  - reconsider removing reference to Chatham House rules.
- 3.5. Set-up of an interactive web portal is underway on Council's website for Group members to post ideas and comments for discussion. The monthly hui dates, agendas, minutes, and relevant research will be saved in the document library. The link will be shared with the Group and a short demonstration will be organised for the next meeting.

#### 3.6. Tasks to be actioned

Task	Actions	Resp.	Due
T1	Establish a focus group to revisit draft Terms of Reference and present amended draft version at 16 August meeting	Mere Tamanui, Samuel Lewis,	16 Aug 2023

		Waverley Jones	
<b>T2</b>	Reconsider new name for the Group	Same as T1	16 Aug
<b>T3</b>	Council staff to liaise with Advisory Group members to verify payment details	Kara Moir	asap
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#### **4. Session 1 – General overview of current Regional Freshwater Plan, inclusive of Te Mana o te Wai**

- 4.1. Staff provided an overview of the existing plan, history, approach, research topics, and where are we heading.
- 4.2. Council operates under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020. Our requirements are to manage water in a way that gives effect to Te Mana o te Wai – the legislative deadlines for this to be in place is before the end of 2024.
- 4.3. Te Mana o Te Wai is the central concept of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater. It recognises water as a taonga and acknowledges its vital role in sustaining all forms of life and the Group will need to have a good understanding of what the concept involves.
- 4.4. Discussions are taking place in terms of Council's Te Tiriti responsibilities and commitments to mana whenua in the region, and how that complements the current freshwater work. Council is working with a mix of tangata whenua leadership to understand and be guided by what this space will look like.
- 4.5. Mention was made to 'Te Mana of te Wai Guidelines for Mana Whenua,' and the definition of Te Mana o te Wai, which is grounded in the basis of mātauranga Māori and 'cannot be defined without the leadership of hapū and iwi in their respective takiwā (tribal areas).' The region can be 'thought leaders' nationally in terms of how this approach can be incorporated.
- 4.6. Staff confirmed Council does not have the power to influence what the government policies define in terms of being/not being Te Tiriti compliant. However, Council can bring the decision-makers together and facilitate discussions of what the partnering space can look like.
- 4.7. Water allocation and water rights have been flagged as issues of concern, specifically when there's a change in property ownership. Staff confirmed that water allocation

has been included in the proposed work schedule as a topic to be discussed in greater detail.

- 4.8. Discussions at times were challenging. Guided by the amended draft Terms of Reference, the Group committed to sharing past and present stories of the wai with respect and acknowledgement.

## **5. Session 2 – Part 1: Relationship between Regional Policy Statement and Regional Freshwater Plan**

- 5.1. Staff explained the context around the regional settings and drivers for freshwater management to enable members to understand the issues, dimensions and complexities associated with freshwater at a broader regional scale (*refer to Report 3 for details*).
- 5.2. Staff also shared how the draft Regional Policy Statement (RPS) is being prepared under the provisions of the Resource Management Act (RMA). Future guidance will be required from this Group to help determine the correct level of 'policy speak' to ensure the RPS has a distinct local flavour and is clearly understood within the context of the given legislative framework (*refer to Report 4 for details*).
- 5.3. Timeframes may change depending on progress and if it is required of us to do more work – aiming for a draft RPS to be ready by November 2023, followed by Council feedback, and ready for consultation in December to February 2024. The draft RPS will then be revised to reflect the feedback received and then ready for formal notification mid-2024.
- 5.4. Council staff undertook to summarise the key RPS points from the presentation and circulate among the Group members for feedback. Smaller focus groups may also be formed in the future to cover specific topics.
- 5.5. Council's attention was drawn to several existing iwi documents that can be resourced as a starting point:
  - 5.5.1. Rongowhakaata Iwi Trust has developed a Freshwater Position Statement, which includes a Te Mana o te Wai statement.
  - 5.5.2. Nga Ariki Kaiputahi Environmental Plan, which was accepted by Council.
  - 5.5.3. The Mauri Compass.

## **6. Session 2 (continued) - Part 2: Regional Freshwater Programme**

- 6.1. Provided a brief overview of the two parts of freshwater planning: the Regional Freshwater Plan, as well as the seven catchment plans (that focus on managing freshwater quality and quantity issues specific to an area). The four main sections of the Regional Freshwater Plan that will be discussed in detail with this Group are:
  - Water quantity and allocation
  - Water quality and discharges to land and water
  - Activities in the beds of rivers and lakes
  - Riparian margins and wetlands.

6.2. The meeting ran out of the allocated time. The outstanding agenda items will be addressed at a future meeting date.

### 6.3. **Tasks to be actioned**

T6	Share resources/provide copies/hyperlinks of the following documents to the Group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation slides</li><li>• Rongowhakaata Iwi Trust (RIT) freshwater policy statement</li><li>• Nga Ariki Kaiputahi environmental plan</li><li>• Mauri Compass</li></ul>	Freshwater team	16 Aug
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## 7. **Proposed review process and wrap-up**

7.1. Members applied to be part of this Group based on their own individual experiences, interests, and knowledge, and don't represent organisations.

7.2. The Group was encouraged to have the end in mind: to think about how to progress freshwater outcomes, to give effect to the six principles of Te Mana o te Wai as a platform for building strong and effective relationships around the table, and to agree to a code of conduct that shows each other respect and understanding.

## 8. **Closing karakia**

The meeting closed at 15:00 with a karakia. The next monthly Group meeting is scheduled for 16 August 2023.

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**PARKING-LOT LIST FROM TAIRĀWHITI REGIONAL FRESHWATER PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP MEETING (12 JULY 2023)**

The following matters have been captured from discussions of the **TAIRĀWHITI REGIONAL FRESHWATER PLANNING ADVISORY GROUP** during the workshop session. They are captured here to be incorporated as supplementary recommendations in the Group's final report and/or responded to directly.

Parking-lot List			
Heading	Item/Action	Date raised	Date attended