

Policy & Planning Chairs Report

Hui Tanguru 2025

Tena Koutou katoa,

Firstly, thank you to Councillor Duncan who will step into the Chairs role today as I am away in Wellington.

Since our last hui, the effects of autumn can be seen all around us and felt with the distinct drop in temperature. There have been many things that have come to pass in these last 2 months which I'd like to acknowledge. Firstly, the internal promotions within staff with Arno Benadie stepping up into the Deputy Chief Executive position, Katrina Gray promoted into the Group Manager Strategy, Community & Democracy and also a mention to Tiffany Gower as the new Strategy Manager.

We have seen things play out in the national space that also deserves a mention. The release of the recommendation from the justice select committee around the Treaty Principles Bill to "Not proceed" gives hope and confirms that the people in this country will mobilise when they need to. Of the 300,000 plus submissions submitted, 90% of those opposed the bill. I'd like to acknowledge Te Roopu Ahi Kaa and this council for submitting into this space and adding their voice.

Today, the committee will be deliberating over the TAB/Gambling policies, and I'd like to thank the individuals, community organisations and also Te Roopu Ahi Kaa for their input into the process. The written and verbal submissions provided some thought-provoking points of view and with that in mind, I am confident that the committee will arrive at a well thought out and considered decision.

In regard, to what we are seeing on this month's Hui Agenda, we have of course "Business as Usual" (BAU) updates that include

- Policies /Bylaws - includes initial review of the Water Related Services Bylaw
- Economic
- Regulatory
- Strategies and Plans

Having this kind of information on a regular basis ensures that we operate in an environment of "no surprises" for councillors but also for our community.

I'd like to advocate to members and anyone listening online to get out to one of the Annual Plan consultation Hui that are being held across the rohe. These are an important way of garnering your thoughts as a rate payer and resident to what you feel is important.

At the end of the month, we of course have ANZAC day coming up and like many of you I will be attending one of the many services being held across the motu.

The Ode

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

Whakatauki!

"Kia uru kahikatea te tū"
"To stand as a grove of kahikatea"

Collaborative effort is essential to mutual strength, survival, growth, and success

Piki Te Ora Hiroa, Tiamana