



Rangitikei
UNspoilt...

Rangitikei District Council

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Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Meeting

**Tuesday 10 October 2017
11.00 am**

**Council Chamber, Rangitikei District Council
46 High Street, Marton**

Website: www.rangitikei.govt.nz

Email: info@rangitikei.govt.nz

Membership

Chair

Mr P Turia (Whangaehu)

Deputy Chair

Ms T Hiroa (Ngāti Whitikaupeka)

Mr B Gray (Ngāti Rangituhia), **Ms K Savage** (Ngāti Parewahawaha),

Mr T Curtis (Te Runanga o Ngāti Hauiti), **Ms C Raukawa-Manuel**
(Ngā Ariki Turakina), **Ms M Kare-Thompson** (Rātana Community),

Mr C Shenton (Ngāti Kauae/Tauira), **Mr T Steedman**
(Ngāti Hinemanu/Ngāti Paki), **Ms H Benevides** (Ngāti Tamakopiri),

Ms N Wipaki (Ngai te Ohuake), **Ms K Hina** (Ngā Wairiki Ki Uta),
Councillor **Cath Ash**, and His Worship the Mayor, **Andy Watson**, (ex officio)

Please Note: Items in this agenda may be subject to amendments or withdrawal at the meeting. It is recommended therefore that items not be reported upon until after adoption by the Council. Reporters who do not attend the meeting are requested to seek confirmation of the agenda material or proceedings of the meeting from the Chief Executive prior to any media reports being filed.



Rangitikei District Council

Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti Meeting

Agenda – Tuesday 10 October 2017 – 11:00 AM

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1 Karakia/Welcome

2 Apologies

3 Members' conflict of interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

4 Confirmation of order of business and late items

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, be dealt with as a late item at this meeting. Such matters will be dealt with at the end of this agenda.

5 Whakatau Nga Tuhinga Korero / Confirmation of minutes

The Minutes from the meeting held on 8 August 2017 are attached.

File ref: 3-CT-8-2

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti meeting held on 8 August 2017 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

6 Chair's report

A verbal report will be provided at the meeting.

7 Feedback on Komiti's workshop

Discussion item.

8 Council decisions on recommendations from the Komiti

There were no recommendations from the Komiti presented to the Council meeting on 31 August 2017.

9 Council responses to queries raised at previous hui.

There were no queries for Council staff raised at the previous hui on 8 August 2017.

10 Update from Council's meetings from August and September 2017

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 3-CT-8-1

Recommendation

That the memorandum 'Update from Council's meetings in August and September 2017' be received.

11 Update from the representative to Council's Assets/Infrastructure Committee

Ms Hiroa was unable to attend the meeting on 14 September 2017

12 Developing Maori Capacity to Contribute to Decision Making

At its meeting on 8 August 2017, the Komiti resolved to set up a working group will be established to discuss the Statement prior to Council's workshop in September. Bob Gray, Tracey Hiroa and Naumai Wipaki met on Monday 28 August to progress the Komiti's discussions. The outcome of that is attached for the Komiti's consideration. The Komiti's views will inform the draft to be put to Council, later in October or early November. The agreed Statement must be included in the adopted 2018-28 Long Term Plan.

File ref: 3-PY-1-2-3

Recommendations

- 1 That the outcome of the Komiti's working party on the Statement on Maori Capacity to Contribute to Decision making be received.
- 2 That Te Roopu Ahi Kaa recommends to Council that the following changes be made to the Statement on Maori Capacity to Contribute to Decision making.....

13 Review of rates remission policy on Maori freehold land

A memorandum was considered by the Policy/Planning Committee at its meeting on 14 September 2017 which considered that it would be productive to have a combined working party and that differentials might warrant inclusion. The attached memorandum reflects that perspective.

File ref: 3-PY- 1-18

Recommendations

- 1 That the memorandum 'Rates Remission for Maori Freehold Land Policy - Review' to the meeting of Te Roopu Ahi Kaa on 10 October 2017 meeting be received.

- 2 That Te Roopu Ahi Kaa nominatesto be a member of a joint working group with elected members nominated by Council to further consider the review of the rates Remission for Maori Freehold Land Policy, to report back to the Komiti's December 2017 meeting.

14 Update on landlocked land

A verbal update will be provided at the meeting.

15 Update on Te Pae Tawhiti

Te Pae Tawhiti is the Manawatu-Wanganui Economic Development Strategy, 2016-40

A verbal update will be provided by the Chair.

16 Proposed submission to New Zealand Productivity Commission's issues paper on a low emissions economy

The Productivity Commission has been asked to explore the issue of New Zealand's transition to a lower emissions economy. Overall, New Zealand has four emission reduction targets, with the long term target being to reduce emissions to 50% below 1990 levels by 2050. The issues paper can be found on the [Productivity Commission's website](#).

The Policy/Planning Committee considered the Issues Paper at their 14 September 2017 meeting. The Committee focused on issues of most relevance to the Rangitikei District including; agriculture, transportation, land use change and forestry. The discussion from this meeting was developed into a draft submission which will be considered by Council on 28 September 2017. The draft submission is attached.

File ref: 3-OR-3-5

Recommendation

That the draft submission 'New Zealand Productivity Commission's issues paper on a low emissions economy' be received.

17 Earthquake-prone buildings – priority building consultation

The system for identifying and managing earthquake-prone buildings changed on 1 July 2017. The new system prioritises identification and remediation of earthquake-prone buildings that either pose a high risk to life safety, or are critical to recovery in an emergency. Council must consult on whether buildings are priority buildings due to their location, and the potential impact of their failure in an earthquake on people. Specifically, vehicular and pedestrian thoroughfares with sufficient traffic to warrant prioritisation. Priority buildings must be identified and remediated in half the usual time, to reduce the

risks to life safety more promptly. This means that Council must identify potentially earthquake-prone priority buildings in this district within 2.5 years, and building owners must strengthen or demolish earthquake-prone priority buildings within 7.5 years^[1].

At their meeting on 28 September it is proposed that Council will decide on which areas it considers have enough traffic to warrant prioritisation, and adopt those proposals for public consultation. Public consultation is scheduled to occur throughout October 2017, with specific letters being sent to affected building owners.

Further information about the changes can be found on the [Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment website](#).

18 Update on the ‘Path to Well-Being’ initiative – July 2017

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 3-CT-8-1

Recommendation

That the memorandum ‘Update on the Path to Well-Being initiative – July 2017’ be received.

19 Panui/Announcements

20 Late items

As accepted in item 5.

21 Future Items for the Agenda

22 Next meeting

Tuesday 5 December 2017, 11am

23 Meeting closed/Karakia

^[1] From the date the earthquake-prone building notice is issued.

Attachment 1



Rangitikei District Council

Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti Meeting

Minutes – Tuesday 8 August 2017 – 11:00 am

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Present:

- Mr Pahia Turia (Chair)
- Ms Tracey Hiroa
- Mr Robert Gray
- Mr Thomas Curtis
- Ms Coral Raukawa-Manuel
- Mr Charlie Mete
- Mr Terry Steedman
- Ms Jacqui Johnson (standing in for Ms Katarina Hina)
- Mr Chris Shenton
- Ms Naumai Wipaki
- His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson
- Cr Cath Ash

Also present:

- Cr Soraya Peke-Mason

In attendance:

- Mr Ross McNeil, Chief Executive
- Mr Michael Hodder, Community & Regulatory Services Group Manager
- Ms Katrina Gray, Senior Policy Analyst / Planner
- Ms Ellen Webb-Moore, Policy analyst/Planner

1 Karakia/Welcome

The meeting opened at 11.17am. The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Apologies

Resolved minute number

File Ref

That the apologies from Ms Kim Savage and Ms Hari Benevides be received.

Ms Hiroa / Mr Curtis. Carried

3 Members' conflict of interest

Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

No conflicts of interest were declared.

4 Confirmation of order of business and late items

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, Singapore be dealt with as a late item at this meeting. Such matters will be dealt with at the end of this agenda.

The Chair accepted the late item.

5 Whakatau Nga Tuhinga Korero / Confirmation of minutes

Resolved minute number

17/IWI/022

File Ref

3-CT-8-2

That the Minutes of the Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti meeting held on 13 June 2017 be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Mr Steedman / Ms Raukawa-Manuel. Carried

6 Chair's report

The Chair noted that the matters he wished to discuss would be addressed through later items on the agenda.

7 Feedback on Komiti's workshop

The Komiti's workshop covered the following issues:

- Kaumatua – to be discussed with item 14.
- Maori Community Development programme – to be discussed with item 12.
- Youth awards – concerns were raised over Council decision-making processes.
- Maori wards – The Komiti still supports Council consideration for establishing Maori wards. It is important to have discussions with Council about the issue and to continue to develop relationships between iwi and Council.

8 Council decisions on recommendations from the Komiti

The Komiti noted the Council decisions on previous recommendations from the Komiti.

9 Council responses to queries raised at previous hui

Emergency services/civil defence

A question was raised about how a Marae could become a community defence centre. Mr McNeil explained that local communities have community response plans, some of which are being reviewed later this year. The community response plan would be the appropriate location to include the Marae as a civil defence centre.

10 Update from Council's meetings from June to July 2017

Mr McNeil spoke to the memorandum and highlighted the following matters:

- Annual Plan – Council is undertaking more initiatives, but for a lower rates increase than initially proposed.
- Long Term Plan – Council is currently undertaking pre-consultation with key stakeholders.
- Annual Residents Survey – tracking relatively positively, nevertheless managers are developing improvement plans.
- Economic development – Council will be considering economic development initiatives through the Long Term Plan development process.

Resolved minute number

17/IWI/023

File Ref

3-CT-8-1

That the memorandum 'Update from Council's meetings in June and July 2017' be received.

Mr Steedman / Mr Shenton. Carried

11 Update from the representative to Council's Assets/Infrastructure Committee

Ms Hiroa noted she was unable to attend the 13 July 2017 Assets/Infrastructure Committee meeting.

12 Developing Maori Capacity to Contribute to Decision –Making

Ms Webb-Moore spoke to the report and highlighted the following matters:

- Council is seeking feedback from the Komiti.
- Templates were provided from other local authorities to provide examples of how other Statements might look.
- Suggestion that a working group be established to further discuss the piece of work.

Discussion was held about the Statement, with it being considered as a good opportunity for further engagement in economic development (particularly in terms of the Maori perspective on economic development), and as a key mechanism for reflecting the Komiti's aspirations.

A working group will be established to discuss the Statement prior to Council's workshop in September.

Resolved minute number	17/IWI/024	File Ref	3-PY-1-23
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That the memorandum 'Developing Maori Capacity To Contribute To Decision-Making' be received.

Mr Curtis / Mr Shenton. Carried

13 Draft Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2017

Mr McNeil spoke to the report and highlighted the following matters:

- The draft Bylaw has arisen as a result of Council not being able to address persistent issues e.g. parking.
- The draft Bylaw has provision for restricting heavy vehicle use if significant issues are occurring on Council roads.
- Council is undertaking engagement with the heavy vehicle industry to refine the draft Bylaw.
- The current stage is consultation to seek feedback on the draft Bylaw.

Discussion was held around the potential impact of the Bylaw on the forestry industry. It was noted that the intent of the Bylaw is not to unduly restrict harvesting. The issue of mobility parking spaces in Taihape was raised, with the approach needing to be through the Taihape Community Board.

Resolved minute number	17/IWI/025	File Ref	1-DP-1-14
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That the memorandum 'Draft Traffic and Parking Bylaw 2017' be received.

Mr Curtis / Ms Raukawa-Manuel. Carried

14 Guidance on the appropriate kaumātua and kuia to call upon

In the first instance the local Komiti member should be approached to discuss the appropriate kaumātua and kuia for the situation.

15 Maori Community Development programme

Discussion was held that the community development programme is intended to be shared around the District, and not as a competitive process.

Resolved minute number

17/IWI/026

File Ref

That the Komiti supports Ngati Hauiti's application to the Maori Community Development Programme for 2017/2018 and Ratana's application for 2018/2019.

Ms Hiroa / Ms Johnson. Carried

16 Update on landlocked land

The Mayor noted he is waiting for iwi representatives to be identified to make a joint approach to Parliament. Mr Steedman noted a letter with their representative will be provided soon.

17 Update on Te Pae Tawhiti

The Chair updated that the Te Pae Tawhiti group are working on a range of initiatives, but are constrained with resourcing issues. Work is being done with Te Puni Kokiri to address the resourcing constraints. The most significant project is the development of a Maori business hub in Whanganui.

18 Update on the 'Path to Well-Being' initiative – June 2017

The report was taken as read.

Resolved minute number

17/IWI/027

File Ref

3-CT-8-1

That the memorandum 'Update on the Path to Well-Being initiative – July 2017' be received.

Mr Steedman / Mr Turia. Carried

19 Panui/Announcements

Ms Johnson reported that Kauangaroa Marae is planning to relocate due to the flooding hazard associated with the existing site. Potential sites are being considered. Council support for the project would be appreciated. Mr McNeil noted similarities with the recent Whangaehu resilience project which could be applied to the Kauangaroa context.

Mr Steedman updated that part of Winiata Marae is being renovated in anticipation for the upcoming Waitangi Tribunal hearing occurring at the Marae later in the year.

Ms Raukawa-Manuel updated that the Tini Waitara Marae site is having a new building constructed on the site to provide for conference facilities/sleeping.

20 Late items

Singapore

Mayor Watson updated on the progress in the proposal for Singapore to have F15 aircraft based from Ohakea. A trial with F16 aircrafts will occur later in the year, with Singapore undertaking a range of feasibility assessments.

21 Future Items for the Agenda

None identified.

22 Next meeting

Tuesday 10 October 2017, 11am

23 Upcoming meetings for 2017

- 5 December

24 Meeting closed/Karakia

1.23pm

Confirmed/Chair: _____

Date:

Attachment 2



Memorandum

To: Te Roopu Ahi Kaa

From: Christin Ritchie, Governance Administrator

Date: 19 September 2017

Subject: **Update from Council's meetings in August-September 2017**

File: 3-CT-8-1

This report is to provide the Komiti with an update on issues that have been under consideration by Council over the past two months

An update on progress with Council's Top Ten Projects is attached as Appendix 1.

1 Annual Report for year ending 30 June 2017

- 1.1 The audit process is nearing completion. Council anticipates adopting the Annual Report at its meeting on 28 September 2017.

2 Civil Defence and Emergency Management Improvement Plan

- 2.1 Following the adverse weather events of April 2017 (flooding) and July 2017 (snow), a series of debriefs have taken place. A similar process was undertaken following the 2015 floods. The purpose of these debriefs was to learn from the events and, where appropriate/necessary, improve Rangitikei District Council's Readiness, Response and Recovery capacity/capability.
- 2.2 The Improvement Plan (attached as Appendix 2) represents the current suite of improvement actions/projects.

3 Voluntary targeted rate for ceiling and underfloor insulation

- 3.1 Council was asked to consider allowing home insulation costs to be paid off through rates.
- 3.2 The EECA (Energy Efficiency and Conservation Authority) runs the Warm up New Zealand: Healthy Homes programme, which is funded through central government. This provides a grant towards home insulation, which is available to low income home owners and to landlords who have tenants with low-incomes or high health needs. Those who are eligible may apply for a grant to cover 50% of insulation costs for properties built before 2000. This funding is available until July 2018.
- 3.3 Local authorities can also contribute to improving housing quality in New Zealand, by providing a scheme to help rate payers who are not eligible for the EECA grant, or who are

unable to cover the remainder of the cost for the insulation. Under such a scheme the council provides a loan (a rates advance) which goes towards the cost of insulation and/or heating. The ratepayer repays the money, plus interest in instalments, over a number of years over and above their normal rates payments.

- 3.4 This practice has been adopted by several councils. While they have slightly varying requirements in terms of eligibility criteria, interest rate thresholds and repayment terms, all but one typically charge a rate of interest such that the arrangement is not subsidised by other ratepayers.
- 3.5 The Council agreed that a new rate type would be a matter for inclusion in the draft Consultation Document for the 2018-28 Long-Term Plan.

4 Upgrade in Broadway, Marton

- 4.1 Council has awarded Contract 1046 for the Broadway Watermain Stormwater and Kerb Upgrade (Follett Street to the Z Service Station, Marton) to ID Loader for \$590,073.71 (GST exclusive)

5 Taihape Swim Centre

- 5.1 As a result of the decision by the Taihape Community Development Trust not to renew the management contract for the Taihape Swim Centre, proposals have been invited to manage the complex for the remaining period of the contract (i.e. two years). The expiry date coincides with that for the Marton Swim Centre.
- 5.2 Council is expected to make a decision at its meeting on 28 September 2017. I

6 Marine and Coastal Area (Takutai Moana) Act 2011 (MACA)

- 6.1 Under this Act, iwi, hapū, and whanau had until 3 April 17 to lodge applications for recognition of Customary Marine Title (CMT) and/or Protected Customary Rights (PCR) in the Common Marae Coastal Area (CMCA). Horizons is maintaining a watching brief on this situation for the region, advising that the collation of applicants into regions for High Court hearings has started.
- 6.2 All areas of the coast line in the region have two or more MACA applications lodged.

7 Progress with the Representation Review

- 7.1 First Past the Post will continue to be used for the 2019 local elections. However, there is a statutory right for registered voters to demand a poll on the matter.
- 7.2 Council will be further considering the question of separate Maori wards at a workshop in October.

8 Proposed Traffic and Parking bylaw

- 8.1 13 submissions were received, three of whom asked to speak at Council's meeting on 28 September 2017.

9 Long Term Plan 2018

- 9.1 During the past two months Council has held several workshops covering water, wastewater, stormwater, environmental and regulatory activities, community and leisure assets and the revenue and financing policy. Waste management has also been a topic, to enable the preparation of a new Waste Management and Minimisation Plan.

10 Recommendation

- 11 That the memorandum 'Update from Council's meetings in August and September 2017' be received.

Christin Ritchie
Governance Administrator

Appendix 1



Memorandum

To: Council

From: Ross McNeil

Date: 20 September 2017

Subject: **Top Ten Projects – status, September 2017**

File: 5-EX-4

This memorandum is an update from the statements provided to the Council's meeting on 28 July 2016 and subsequent months.

1. Mangaweka Bridge replacement

In the Consultation Document for the 2017/18 Annual Plan, Council signalled its preference to build a new bridge to replace the century-old Mangaweka Bridge. It had become apparent that the bridge structure would need to be totally replaced to take the loads required by local farmers and those operations servicing them. As a boundary bridge, costs will be shared equally with the Manawatu District Council but a business case must be accepted by the New Zealand Transport Agency for payment of the Financial Assistance Rate (63% for Rangitikei) without which the project would not be viable. At its meeting on 29 June 2017, the costs for an indicative business case were formally allowed for (which could be met from provision included in the 2017/18 Annual Plan).

The indicative business case has been completed which recommended a new bridge alongside the existing one, with a preference to retain the exiting bridge for pedestrian and cycle traffic. The next stage is the preparation of the detailed business case for the recommended option. A new bridge with a design capacity of 53-80 tonnes has an estimated costing of between \$8 and 10 million.

A submission has been made to the New Zealand Transport Agency for approval (and funding) to proceed with the detailed business case. Both councils have committed their local share.

2. Upgrade of the Bulls wastewater treatment plant to meet new consent conditions

The consent application remains under consideration by Horizons, which effectively puts the project on hold. Riverlands had expressed interest in a collaborative approach to the upgrade of the Bulls wastewater treatment plant but, on further consideration, seems unlikely to make such a commitment. Although Horizons is keen to see the merging of the two discharges, it would be entirely a Council decision to do that. It would mean withdrawing the current consent application and submitting a new one. The same applies to

discussions being held with Horizons about piping Marton's wastewater to be treated at Bulls, thus ending any discharge to the Tutaenui Stream.

This position is unchanged from the last update.

3. Upgrade of the Marton wastewater treatment plant to meet new consent conditions

The initial focus until December 2017 is on acceptable management of the leachate from the Bonny Glen landfill. The Heads of Agreement has been signed between Midwest Disposal and Council; the management plan to define the arrangements for transporting the leachate to Marton, storing it, and releasing it into the waste water treatment plant has been finalised. The document was presented to the Assets/Infrastructure Committee at its meeting on 11 August 2016. The storage tanks and pumping system for pre-treated leachate is now in place at the Marton wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). This means that there is now a managed entry of pre-treated leachate into the treatment plant.

Midwest has yet to see a commercially running plant that can demonstrate the efficiency of their preferred option of on-site treatment of leachate. Midwest aimed to have its pre-treatment plant operating by April 2017. However, it seems that the leachate will require further treatment before it can be discharged into a waterway. Council has been specific that the application for the new consent for the Marton wastewater treatment plant will not allow leachate to be accepted. MidWest has been invited to Council's meeting on 28 September 2017 to outline their plans and preferences for future leachate disposal.

The Advisory Group membership has been reviewed, with a combination of re-appointments and new appointments. The Group met on 3 March 2017. In light of a potential option to pipe effluent from Marton to Bulls, it will be appropriate for Council to review the membership of the Advisory Group to include representation from the Bulls community. That is a potential item for the Bulls Community Committee's meeting in October 2017.

In conjunction with Horizons and local Iwi, an application was made to the Ministry for the Environment Freshwater Improvement Fund to seek financial support for the piping of effluent from the Marton WWTP to the Bulls WWTP. The application was unsuccessful, meaning the feasibility of the project needs further review – not only in terms of the potential impact on borrowing (and rates) but also in terms of the identification and evaluation of practicable options. A long list of options and associated high level assessment (pros and cons) will be presented to Council prior to consideration and evaluation by the Advisory Group.

4. Upgrade of the Ratana wastewater treatment plant to meet the demands from the anticipated housing development

Planning and legal formalities are under way for the 60 lot subdivision at Ratana. This subdivision has been approved as a 'partition' through the Maori Land Court, rather than a subdivision consent under the Resource Management Act. As the land is under multiple ownership, the partition process allows for specific areas (parcels) to be defined and assigned to owners. This is similar to a cross-lease arrangement.

External funding support for the wastewater treatment plant capacity upgrade has yet to be confirmed. However, Te Puni Kokiri, as the social housing funder for this development, is aware of the funding shortfall and discussions are being held with staff from that organisation. An application was lodged recently with the enhanced Tourism Infrastructure Fund based on the substantial number of visitors to Ratana, not just at the January celebrations but frequently at other times of the year. A decision is expected in November. Council budgets do include funding to upgrade the plant to meet future treatment standards.

An update on the subdivision project was included in the Administrative matters report to Council's meeting on 29 September 2016. The Waipu Trust, which is advancing the development, will be seeking an agreement with Council for management and maintenance of the core infrastructure and open space areas associated with the development. Council's legal advisers have prepared a draft agreement.

Planning continues for the wastewater plant upgrade/renewal to meet new conditions of consent. To this end an application has been made to the Ministry for the Environment Freshwater Improvement Fund to seek financial support for a land-based treatment option for the Ratana WWTP. This application was successful, meaning that the discharge will be entirely to land with none going into Lake Waipu as is the case now.

A project plan will now be developed, noting that a new resource consent application will need to be lodged with Horizons Regional Council by 31 January 2018 (being 6 months ahead of the 31 July 2018 expiry of the current consent).

5. Sustainable provision of stock and irrigation water within the area now serviced by the Hunterville Rural Water Scheme, extended south to Marton, and provision of a safe, potable and affordable supply to Hunterville town

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) approved the Tutaenui pre-feasibility study, and officials visited on 1 August 2016 to view the area and discuss their views on what a pre-feasibility study should achieve and how it would be best done. This included engaging a specialist consultancy, and Brian Kouvelis and David Voss were engaged in this regard. Their first task has been to complete concept designs for the reconfiguration of the Hunterville rural scheme and for supply through the proposed Tutaenui scheme. This work is supported by water network modelling. Draft demand profiles have been produced, and these have informed the concept designs. The engineering report is nearing completion.

Horizons Regional Council has completed a GIS resource for the project, i.e. an online viewer that will enable all spatial data (such as climate and soil conditions) to be easily viewed, with layers that can be turned on and off to suit.

450 surveys were sent to properties within the project area, and 73 responses have been received. They show a high preference for additional horticultural production if irrigation water is available. Murray Robinson was engaged to carry out face to face interviews. 25 interviewees were selected, and the results of the interviews presented to the Governance Group's meeting in May. All interviewees were in support of a full feasibility study being

carried out and were positive about the impact that additional water could have on their farming operations.

The focus for July-August is finishing the engineering investigation and the economic analysis.

BakerAg have completed Stage 1 of the economic analysis. This was a high-level examination of the findings from Stage 1 of the engineering investigation, and what the availability of irrigation water would translate into for farmers, particularly in the Tutaenui area. A range of water uses was examined in this work. In terms of payback, the most attractive option appears very strongly to be intensive horticulture (for example apples or blueberries). This finding aligns well with both the engineering investigation, which revealed that this is the quantum of water available, and with the demand investigation, which revealed that in the Tutaenui area at least this is the most likely attractive end use for that water. However, at this stage, there is currently sufficient water available to service a 50 ha area.

Stage 2 of the engineering investigation is mostly complete, with a presentation being made to the Governance Group on 31 July. At this meeting, a long list of options was presented. The consultants sought feedback and are now finalising their work on route analysis and costing for the resulting short list of options (for both the proposed Tutaenui Rural Water Supply area and the existing Hunterville Rural Water Supply). This will include the cost of servicing a nominal 50 ha block near the water source as well as the cost of servicing several smaller blocks where farmers have indicated an interest in irrigation water for horticulture. As well as robust information on use of the various sources available, the results of this study will be options for a proposed reticulation layout, with pipe sizings, routes and costings.

From a technical perspective, it appears that Hunterville town can be separated out from the Hunterville Rural Water Supply. However, an analysis is underway to determine the financial implications on the Hunterville scheme of such an outcome.

The next steps in this study will be to finalise Stage 2 of the engineering investigation, and deliver Stage 2 of the economic analysis. Following these bodies of work, the final report can be completed, and Council can look ahead to the potential for a full feasibility study, again with funding support from MPI.

The project is due for completion by 31 October 2017.

6. Future management of community housing

Council has committed to examine other options for managing its community housing stock, using one or more specialist organisations with the ability to tap into government financial assistance. The Manawatu Community Trust is the only organisation which has continued to express interest in taking over the ownership and management of all 72 units. However, Council has indicated that the four units at Ratana are to be excluded.

Over the past twelve months the level of occupancy has risen considerably. A further report to Council's meeting on 15 December 2016 showed that, at this level of occupancy, there is a

small comparative financial benefit for Council in retaining ownership and managing the housing directly. Forming a Rangitikei-trust is an option to direct management

The Manawatu Community Trust made a presentation to Council at its meeting on 23 February 2017 and is meeting with its legal advisers to discuss some options in an attempt to clarify the issue of ownership. Investigations are in progress on the feasibility of establishing a similar Rangitikei-specific trust or having a committee structure within the Manawatu Community Trust. A presentation was made to the Assets/Infrastructure Committee's meeting on 8 June 2017 on a ten-year plan for the housing (if remaining under direct Council control). A further workshop session was held on 29 June 2017, setting out three scenarios, resulting in a request for a more detailed analysis. It is intended to present that during one of the LTP workshop session in October 2017.

7. Upgrade of Taihape Pool

Major work is required in filtration and heating to get this pool to a satisfactory standard. An expert assessment was obtained and peer reviewed. Initially, there was an assessment that the existing electricity supply to the pool would need upgrading, but on further examination will not be necessary. The costs for the full extent of work were estimated at \$430,000 which took the project beyond the funds committed by Council and the Trust.

There has been a meeting with the Taihape Community Development Trust (which has a service contract to manage the Pool) and a commitment secured to work on a joint funding strategy to secure the funding gap of \$200,000 to enable the work to be done during 2017. A contingency budget to fund this upgrade has been included in the draft 2017/18 Annual Plan, and is an element for community consultation. No application for external funding as yet been submitted.

The tender was issued on 13 April 2017. Under delegated authority, at its meeting on 11 May 2017, the Assets/Infrastructure Committee awarded the contract to Ian Coombes Limited for \$374,900 (including contingencies). Work is progressing well and is expected to be completed well before the intended the start of the 2017/18 swimming season.

Tenders have been called for managing the Swim Centre for the next two years.

8. Bulls multi-purpose community centre

Community feedback was sought at the public launch of the project on 8 August 2016, and as a consequence the design has been modified to provide a larger auditorium, a wider stage, and additional toilets. The funding implications from these changes were considered by Council at its meeting on 29 September 2016. The total cost of the facility is likely to be \$4.36 million but the rate-funded loan (for \$1.6 million) will not increase. The required additional funding will come from corporate sponsorship, a higher target for local community funding and sale of further surplus Council property in Bulls or use of financial reserves. The architects suggested a mesh-style exterior cladding to lighten the look: subject to confirming the price, this change in the building appearance has got strong support. However, this brings the estimated cost very close to the budget. Before proceeding to the detailed design and specification, a value management workshop was held on 31 January

2017 to review what savings are available from alternative products and systems. The objective was to lower the design estimates by at least 10%. The actual savings outcomes achieved were 18.7%. As the detailed design and specification will cost between \$100,000 and \$150,000, it is critical to avoid substantial revision of that further in the process.

Agreement has now been reached with the Joint venture (JV) partners (who own the whole former Criterion Hotel site) in regard to the area to be purchased by Council – including the retention by the JV partners of the civic square area (so Council does not need to purchase it) which will be subject to enduring control by the Council. A geotech assessment and the site survey have both been completed.

The application to Lotteries' Community Facilities Fund was submitted by the due date, 31 August 2016. In December the Fund decided to grant \$500,000 although it will not be paid before 23 November 2017 and the Fund administrator will require evidence that the balance of remaining funds has been raised for the project, a copy of the final construction contract, a copy of the building consent, confirmation of the project start date, estimated completion date and that the project is as submitted in the grant request.

A funding application was lodged with the Dudding Trust; it will be discussed further in the coming funding round. Additional funding applications have been submitted to Lotteries Significant Projects Fund and the Four Regions (PowerCo) Trust. The outcome of these applications is unlikely to be known until at least mid-2017.

During the Annual Plan consultation, work on investigating the legal saleability of surplus properties was paused. The information centre/bus stop at 113 Bridge Street has no impediment to sale and it will be offered for sale through an open tender process in accordance with Council policy on the sale of surplus property. Such a sale will be conditional on allowing Council to continue using the site as now until the new facility is available. (The sale is being managed by Property Brokers). Properties proposed for sale, but not flagged for disposal in the initial discussions with the community, were an item in the Consultation Document for the 2017/18 Annual Plan

Preparations for the local fund-raising campaign are well advanced. A newsletter was distributed to every property in Bulls outlining the background to the project, its current status, and the next stages of the development. The Give-a-little page has been launched. The potentially significant source of funding from selling (on commission) the FM radios (providing information about the aircraft and Base facilities) during the Ohakea Air Show was declined because Council would have had to purchase the radios. The Mayor has had a number of discussions with likely corporate sponsors. Local and corporate funding and pledges now exceed \$81,000, with the target being \$350,000.

At its meeting on 29 September 2016 Council resolved to proceed with the preparation of detailed plans and tender documents, and, subject to budget, invite tenders for the construction of the new facility when at least 70% (\$1.19 million, including at least \$105,000 in local community funding from the Bulls community) of the external funding is secured by way of grants from external agencies, local community funding and corporate sponsorship. This does not commit Council to continuing the project. Detailed design is not essential for other funding bids but it must be complete before the Lotteries grant will be paid. It will take about three months to complete.

The design, costings and proposed property sales associated with the proposed Centre were the focus of an Annual Plan consultation meeting held in Bulls on 8 March 2017. The preparation of detailed plans and specifications to support a tender process for the Centre's construction were put on hold pending the close of the submission period for the draft 2017/18 Annual Plan. The majority of those submitting on this matter favoured continuation, and Council has resolved accordingly.

The funding application to the Lotteries Significant Projects Fund was completed and submitted to the Department of Internal Affairs. The application presented the proposed Bulls Community Centre project as part of a District-wide town centre development programme, and references the proposed Marton City Centre and Taihape town hall/service centre development projects. The Department confirmed that the application will proceed through to assessment and then to the Committee for a funding determination. However, the decision, released earlier this month, was unfavourable. Rangitikei's project was considered not to demonstrate regional or national significance in the way that the Hunterwasser Gallery in Whangarei or the Sergeant Art Gallery in Whanganui.

The preparation of detailed plans and tender documents will cost around \$125,000. At its meeting on 25 May 2017, Council confirmed its previous decision for the Chief Executive to commission detailed drawings and specifications. However, this commission has not yet been made because there is a potential shortfall of \$1 million, with government, philanthropic and corporate funding less than envisaged. Ways of bridging this gap without additional ratepayer cost are being explored, including discussions with relevant Ministers.

During the past month there has been discussion with senior officials in Internal Affairs and, as a result, a supplementary application was made to the Lotteries Community Facilities Fund (which closed 31 August 2017) to cover the present shortfall of the 70% external funding target. In addition, an application was made to the enhanced Tourism Infrastructure Fund for \$300,000 to recognise the use of these new facilities by visitors on SH-1 and SH-3. A decision is expected in November.

On that basis work to prepare the detailed drawings and specifications is now proceeding.

9. Development of Cobbler/Davenport/Abraham & Williams site in Marton for Council's administration centre and the town library

Possession was gained on 31 August 2016. A meeting has been held with building owners and businesses in this area and an opportunity provided for them to see inside the buildings.

Following a call for Expressions of Interest, Opus was engaged to assist in preparing a heritage assessment and concept development, not just for the Council's site, but more generally within the Broadway precinct between High Street and Follett Street. The Opus team visited Marton on 23 November 2016 to undertake preliminary site investigations and discuss their initial thinking. The project was completed just before Christmas and 'rough-order' cost estimates provided for four options –

- retain, strengthen and refurbish;

- retain all facades, with new facility behind;
- retain, strengthen and refurbish Davenport; retain facades of Cobbler B and Abraham and Williams, with new facility behind, demolish Cobbler B and replace with new one storey build;
- demolish all and construct new facility.

In all cases, a structure at IL4¹ rating for the Civil Defence function is envisaged on the Cobbler A site.

The costs have now been peer-reviewed. Given the high community interest, the three main options were included within the Consultation Document for the 2017/18 Annual Plan to inform the community and invite their views.

The Marton heritage precinct concept was shared before Christmas with building owners who showed interest in progressing it. The objective in this part of the project is to develop a heritage precinct plan which could be submitted for funding in the Government's Heritage Earthquake Upgrade Incentive Programme (EQUIP). Draft terms of reference for a Marton Heritage Panel have been prepared, which is attached for consideration. The Ministry has expressed interest in a precinct application.

In some places collaboration to regenerate urban centres has been formalised through an approach known as the 'Precinct Model'. This will be explored with property owners. A preliminary action is to gather information about spending by Marton residents in Marton and in nearby centres. It had been intended that this work is completed by the end of May but it is a larger task than anticipated and will not be complete before September/October

A meeting for Marton business/commercial property owners was held on 1 March to provide an overview of the information to be presented in the draft 2017/18 Annual Plan. The public meeting on 13 March for the draft Annual Plan provided a focus for presenting the concepts associated with the proposed Marton Civic Centre and heritage precinct. Attendees were encouraged to submit their views on the ideas presented in the consultation document.

The majority of submitters on this topic wanted Council to continue investigating options for the site, but views were evenly split between those who wanted the heritage character of the corner retained and those who favoured demolition and a completely new building. The logic of this is for Council to focus on two specific options – retaining all street facades and building new behind these and demolishing all three buildings and erecting a new one. Understanding the different costs (including the potential for lotteries support for the heritage approach) is a critical part of this next stage. Retaining the linkage between

¹ i.e. Importance Level 4, which denotes buildings that must be operational immediately after an earthquake or other disastrous event, such as emergency shelters and hospital operating theatres, triage centres and other critical post-disaster infrastructure. Clause A3 of the Building Code defines the significance of a building by its importance level (IL), which is related to the consequences of failure. There are five levels of importance, considered by the importance of the building to society:

Council's own buildings and those privately owned in the Marton civic centre is being maintained as likely to present the best case for external funding.

At its previous meeting, Council requested a concept design with costings on retaining all the facades and building new behind them, demolishing all buildings and erecting an entirely new building, with regard to the impact on the Broadway streetscape and opportunities for external funding support. In addition, Council asked for scoping and costing an upgrade of buildings on the Marton Library site and the Marton Administration site so that they are fit for purpose as a reference point for the investigations on the Cobbler/Davenport/Abraham & Williams Buildings site. This work has progressed more slowly than envisaged but will be given priority in the coming month.

10. Taihape civic and community centre

As noted in previous commentaries, this is the least conceptualised town centre complex – but its location, on the Town Hall site, has previously found strong support.

Council has previously anticipated that, early in 2017, the Taihape community would be asked to say where their preferred site is for the new amenity block on Memorial Park (approved following the consultation process for the 2016/17 Annual Plan). That facility will have provision for a second storey, which may be part of finding a long-term solution for those organisations currently using the former Taihape College buildings on Rauma Road. That discussion will provide an opportunity to think in more detail the nature of the facility on the town hall site and the extent to which the current building can be an integral part of that. Both these issues were explored at a joint meeting between Council and the Taihape Community Board on 3 November 2016 and with the users of the Rauma Road facilities on 14 November 2016.

The Annual Plan consultation meeting for Taihape (22 March) focused on the need to identify the preferred site for the proposed amenity block and encourage community views on the future of the Memorial Park grandstand. The Council resolved that a rethink as to identifying and assessing the viable options for amenity/grandstand/recreational facilities on Memorial Park was required given the lack of consensus evident from those submitting to the 2017/18 Annual Plan.

At its meeting on 25 May 2017, Council requested that a project brief and timeline be prepared to guide the identification and assessment of viable options for amenities/grandstand/recreational facilities on the Park, and that the process engage user groups and the wider community, taking a long-term view of needs, opportunities and funding. A draft project brief was discussed with the Assets/Infrastructure Committee at its meeting on 8 June 2017. The Committee agreed that a view from the Taihape Community Board (which met on 14 June 2017) about the nature, scope and process for the project was essential prior to Council finalising the project brief.

However there was no consensus at the Board. meeting about the scope of the project While the Board resolved to ask that the Taihape grandstand decision be set aside and that the project focus on where the new amenities block is to be located, there was an opposing view favouring dealing with the grandstand first, and a further perspective that any review should take a broader view about developing the Park. What all views had in common was

getting going. On that basis, the draft project brief was revised and adopted at Council's June 2017 meeting.

Cr Gordon is leading this project, which is currently focussed on information gathering. Healthy Families Whanganui-Rangitikei-Ruapehu has been added to the list of key stakeholders.

This position is unchanged from the last update.

Recommendation

That the memorandum 'Top ten projects – status, September 2017' be received.

Ross McNeil
Chief Executive

Appendix 2

CDEM Improvement Plan – 2017/18

Following the adverse weather events of April 2017 (flooding) and July 2017 (snow), a series of debriefs have taken place. A similar process was undertaken following the 2015 floods. The purpose of these debriefs was to learn from the events and, where appropriate/necessary, improve Rangitikei District Council's Readiness, Response and Recovery capacity/capability. This Improvement Plan represents the current suite of improvement actions/projects.

Area	Issue	Action	Due Date	Key Responsibility
Communications	Limited Access to/Use of CD Radio Telephones	Install CD RT capability in Marton EOC (Council Chambers / Committee Room)	September 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Limited Access to/Use of CD Radio Telephones	Install CD RT capability in Taihape CDC (expected to be Taihape Hospital)	February 2018	Paul Chaffe
	Limited Access to/Use of CD Radio Telephones	Investigate (cost) CD RT installation in Council vehicles (currently only in Rural Fire vehicles)	October 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Brian FM unable to secure transmission capability in lower half of District	Engage with Government (RSM Service) to secure a solution	September 2017	Ross McNeil
	Significant numbers of residents not adequately prepared for emergency events	Develop District-wide awareness programme (explore possible coordination on a region-wide basis)	November 2017	Paul Chaffe
		Develop/print/circulate location-specific household emergency plan templates	November 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Lack of dedicated (CDEM specific) mobile phones	Purchase zero account mobile phones (e.g. Controller) for inclusion in EOC equipment store	September 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Prompt activation/alerting of after-hours call centre service	Protocols developed/implemented for activating/alerting after-hours call centre (e.g. retain in-house capacity for emergency call management)	October 2017	Carol Downs / Gaylene Prince
Emergency Operations Centre (EOC)	Access to up-to-date support information/procedures/etc	Collate all relevant information into a single folder to be located at EOC facilities so available/followed when activation required	October 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Access to local resilient incident/coordination centre facilities in Taihape	Secure arrangement with Whanganui DHB for use of Taihape Hospital Building for use as an EOC/Welfare Centre	October 2017	Ross McNeil

	Access to local resilient incident/ coordination centre facilities in Taihape	Scope/cost fit-out Taihape Hospital Building for use as an EOC/Welfare Centre	February 2018	Paul Chaffe
	People resourcing insufficient beyond 36 hours	Review EOC structure and staff appointments to roles/response areas with associated training programmes in place	October 2017	Ross McNeil
	Ensure a minimum of 2-3 trained local controllers	Designated controllers to complete MCDEM training programme	December 2018	Ross McNeil
	Access to appropriate equipment during emergency response/recovery	Fit out Marton EOC facility (council chambers/committee room) – whiteboards, place names, jerkins, laminated maps of key vulnerable areas, desk top phones, printing capability, GIS operation, etc	December 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Standardised/real time data capture during an event	EMIS activation/use training provided to relevant EOC/CDEM staff functions	December 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Horizons public river level monitoring system prone to ‘crashing’ due to extent of general use	Investigate direct access systems/arrangement with Horizons	December 2017	Johan Cullis
Community Response	Community CD groups resourced with basic equipment	Community CD groups (where response Plans in place) issued with basic response kits (ID vests, torches, portable RTs, first aid kits, etc)	October 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Rangitikei CD Response Team resourced with basic equipment	Rangitikei CD response team issued with basic response kits (ID vests, torches, portable RTs, first aid kits, etc)	October 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Activation/Response levels unclear	Review/confirm the appropriate activation/response trigger levels for each community/area and update CRPs accordingly	October 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Lack of Community Response Plan for Marton	Develop Marton CRP	June 2018	Paul Chaffe
	Limited flow/water level information for the Tutaenui Stream (currently only gauge is at Hammond Street)	Investigate, with Horizons RC, installation of flow/water level gauge on upper Tutaenui Stream	December 2017	Paul Chaffe

Response (Operations)	Availability of adequate number of clean/dry sandbags	Purchase/store 2000 sandbags in Marton and 500 in Taihape, with processes/arrangements in place to access/fill as required and empty/store.	November 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Lack of standardised cordon establishment/management plan	Develop standard procedure for establishing/managing cordons based on standard/expected scenarios (e.g. Marton flooding)	December 2017	
	Need to adequately brief/train volunteers	Dedicated volunteer training/support programme developed Casual Volunteer briefing/training checklist developed	December 2017 December 2017	Paul Chaffe Paul Chaffe
	Need to capture/relay data from field operations to EOC	Investigate options for real-time data capture/relay to EOC	March 2018	Janet Greig
	Consistent approach needed for door-to-door operations	Develop training/checklist/standard procedure approach – to cover welfare and property inspection/assessment elements	November 2017	Paul Chaffe Johan Cullis
	Lack of ready staff/volunteer Identification	Organise CDEM specific hi-viz vests – generic ID cards	November 2017	Paul Chaffe Carol Downs
Welfare	Lack of a local community welfare response group	Support establishment of Marton/Bulls welfare response group	December 2017	Paul Chaffe
	Lack of welfare support resources	Purchase welfare cache – stretchers, mats, sleeping bags, blankets, etc	November 2017	Paul Chaffe
Business Continuity	Ability for Council to continue delivering services during/following an emergency event	Develop/update business continuity plans for all operational areas of Council	June 2018	George McIrvine Janet Greig

Attachment 3

Maori Capacity to Contribute to Decision Making Policy – Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Working Group Workshop 28 August 2017

Background

The purpose of the policy is set out processes to ensure that Maori have opportunities to contribute to decision-making.

As treaty settlements continue to occur, iwi will become very active in the economic space as indicated in Te Pae Tawhiti 2027, the strategy for Maori Economic development across the Manawatu-Whanganui Region. Iwi will hold significant assets and will have a significant influence on the developing economy. There is significant scope for Council and iwi to partner in growing the economy.

Outcomes for the Policy

Improvement and sustainability of relationships

While current relationships with elected members (the Mayor) and senior staff are positive and encourage growth, these are positions which can be subject to change. This can have an effect on relationships and development. Policy framework needs to be resilient to staff/elected member changes at high levels so that relationships are enduring.

Maori participation in multiple layers

It is important that Maori contribution is developed through multiple layers. This layered approach will provide maximum opportunities for Maori to participate in decision making.

Methods to Achieve Outcomes

Existing Methods

Memorandum of Understanding

The MOU viewed as still being relevant, however, it should be reviewed to give room for more open/ less 'formal' communication.

Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti

The Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti is a useful method for ensuring Maori participation in decision-making. The long term sustainability of this Komiti shows its value. There is potential for further optimisation of the Komiti.

Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan which is in draft form, this needs to further developed and finalised. There is also a need to have resources to assist with the implementation of the Plan. This could be part of the role for the Maori liaison officer.

New methods

Maori Liaison Officer

This is an additional layer that Council is missing. There is scope for a Māori Liaison officer – it was made clear that this person would need to possess the following skills to ensure that the role is meaningful:

- Understanding of how Council operates and relevant local government legislation (including the Resource Management Act) and how they relate to Maori, in order to be able to provide advice to Council and Iwi Maori
- Understanding of tikanga Maori
- Communication skills to relay what is going on at Council to the people (iwi) in a manner that they can understand
- Understanding of iwi priorities, for example environmental strategies
- Be good at relationship building to seek out collaborative opportunities

Te Roopu Ahi Kaa ought to have the main role in determining the job description and selecting the appropriate person. A Māori liaison officer would not take the place of the Te Roopu Ahi Kaa, and that they would simply be an additional layer of communication. This would be a resource to both Council and iwi.

Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Representative on Council Committees

A Te Roopu Ahi Kaa representative on all Council Committees. Building on the Te Roopu Ahi Kaa member on the Assets/Infrastructure Committee.

Maori Wards

Support for the concept of a Māori ward. This would be an additional layer and would not take the place of nor remove the need for Te Roopu Ahi Kaa.

Attachment 4



Memorandum

To: Te Roopu Ahi Kaa
From: Katrina Gray
Date: 19 September 2017
Subject: Rates Remission for Maori Freehold Land Policy - Review
File: 3-PY-1-18

1 Background

- 1.1 Council's Rates Remission for Maori Freehold Land Policy was first adopted in 2004, and was reviewed in 2006, 2009 and 2011. The current policy is attached as Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The Policy is required under section 102 of the Local Government Act 2002. With the specific requirements set out under section 108. The Policy must outline the objectives of the remission of rates and the conditions and criteria that need to be met for remission.
- 1.3 Review of this Policy is required under section 108(4A) every six years. Given the last review was in 2011, it is now due. Consultation is required in accordance with section 82 – principles of consultation.
- 1.4 An earlier version of this memorandum was provided to the Policy/Planning Committee's meeting on 14 September 2017.

2 Current Policy

- 2.1 The objectives of the current policy are to enable rates relief on Maori freehold land in multiple ownership and to support owners to develop land for economic purposes, recognise the present of Waahi Tapu, acknowledge the importance of housing for Kaumatua support and Marae, and recognise the importance of land for its natural character and habitats, take account of landlocked land.
- 2.2 Currently, to qualify for a rates remission, a property must meet all of the required criteria and at least one of the optional criteria.

Required Criteria	Optional Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maori Freehold land• Multiple ownership• Unoccupied (not leased, not used for residential purposes, not used for	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Development of land for economic use. Remission will decrease in proportion to the scale of the economic use.• Presence of Waahi Tapu

livestock or significant commercial purposes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Houses in the vicinity of the Marae. • Use for preservation of character, outstanding natural features, significant indigenous vegetation. • Accessibility issues. • Is in an undeveloped state, no significant financial income.
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2.3 Remissions are granted for a six year period and were last reviewed in 2015.

2.4 At present 17 blocks receive a remission on their rates which in 2017/18 totalled \$64,584.60.

3 Comment

3.1 Four aspects (at least) of the policy warrant consideration - multiple ownership, the impact of Te Ture Whenua Bill, postponement, and the use of differentials.

Multiple ownership

3.2 The current policy restricts remissions to properties with multiple ownership. This is not a statutory requirement. The Komiti is asked to consider whether the requirement for properties to be in multiple ownership is still appropriate. Currently there is mixed practice throughout the country as to whether the land is required to be in multiple ownership.

Scope of Te Ture Whenua Maori Bill

3.3 Te Ture Whenua Maori (TTWM) Bill, if enacted in its present form, would enable Council to develop a policy on the non-rateability of unused Maori freehold land and a policy on the write-off of rates owned for unused Maori freehold land. The Komiti is asked to consider whether these are areas for rates remissions they are interested in exploring further. Please note that the process for advancing the TTWM Bill has been impacted by government elections, so there is no firm date by which this Bill will pass through the legislative process (if at all).

Postponement

3.4 Council's current policy specifically excludes the postponement of rates (in line with its general policy on remission of rates), although it could do. The Komiti is asked to consider whether there are situations where a rates postponement would be more appropriate than a remission. There has been limited use of rates postponement under this policy throughout New Zealand. Postponement of rates could potentially be an option for properties which are transitioning for commercial purposes.

Differentials

3.5 The policy specifically allows for a decrease in the rates remission 'in proportion to the property increased use through development' In practice, however, this option

has not been used, and the requirement to provide 'development and financial projections' to support an application under this provision may be unduly onerous. Perhaps a more helpful approach would be for the policy to define a threshold income, expressed on a per hectare basis. Getting this right is likely to be increasingly important as opportunities such as tourism and manuka honey, even for land-locked blocks, become more viable.

4 Next Steps

- 4.1 A joint working group of nominated members of the Komiti and Council is probably the appropriate next step, reporting back to the Komiti's December meeting (and Council's Policy/Planning Committee) with a recommended draft policy being submitted to Council.
- 4.2 Council will need to adopt a draft policy, and consult on it at the same time as the Consultation Document for the 2018-28 Long Term Plan.

5 Recommendations

- 5.1 That the memorandum 'Rates Remission for Maori Freehold Land Policy - Review' to the meeting of Te Roopu Ahi Kaa on 10 October 2017 meeting be received.
- 5.2 That Te Roopu Ahi Kaa nominatesto be a member of a joint working group with elected members nominated by Council to further consider the review of the rates Remission for Maori Freehold Land Policy, to report back to the Komiti's December 2017 meeting.

Katrina Gray
Senior Policy Analyst/Planner

Appendix 1

RATES REMISSION FOR MAORI FREEHOLD LAND



Date of adoption by Council	25 June 2009 ¹
Resolution Number	09/RDC/233
Date by which review must be completed	As required
Relevant Legislation	Local Government Act 2002 s102 and 108
Statutory or Operational Policy	Statutory
Included in the LTP	No

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The policy provides for the fair and equitable collection of rates from Māori freehold land, recognising that certain Māori-owned freehold lands have particular conditions, features, ownership structures or other circumstances determining the land as having limited rateability under legislation. This policy also acknowledges the desirability of avoiding further alienation of Māori freehold land.
- 1.2 Māori freehold Land is defined by section 5 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 as “land whose beneficial ownership has been determined by the Māori Land Court by freehold order”. Only land that is the subject of such an order may qualify for remission under this policy.

Note: The policy applies to unsold land affected by the Māori Affairs Amendment Act 1967, which provided for Māori land owned by not more than four persons to be changed to General land. While this amendment was repealed in 1973, those blocks that had been changed remained as General land and therefore could be subject to compulsory sale to recover rate arrears.² The onus for identifying this status to the Council lies with the land owners.

2 Objective

The objectives of this Policy is to provide rates relief for Māori freehold land in multiple ownership and to recognise, support and take account of:

¹ This policy was first adopted 15 July 2004 (04/RDC/154) and was reviewed 29 June 2006 (06/RDC/193).

² Te Puni Kokiri is currently working with the owners of the remaining titles to make them aware of the status of the land. In addition, Te Puni Kokiri and the Māori Land Court intend undertaking a programme to identify all Māori land titles affected by the Amendment and communicating this status of the titles to the current owners.

- facilitating any wish of the owners to develop the land for economic use;
- the presence of Waahi Tapu that may affect the use of the land for other purposes;
- the importance of associated housing in providing Kaumātua support and enhancement for Marae;
- the importance of the land for community goals relating to:
 - the preservation of the natural character of the coastal environment;
 - the protection of outstanding natural features; and
 - the protection of significant indigenous vegetation and significant habitats of indigenous fauna.
- matters related to the legal, physical and practical accessibility of the land;
- land that is in and will continue to be in a natural and undeveloped state.

3 Conditions and Criteria

3.1 In order for a property, or part of a property to qualify for a rates remission under this policy it must meet all of the required criteria and at least one of the optional criteria:

3.2 The required criteria are

- Māori Freehold land as defined in the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, and
- in multiple ownership, defined as two or more owners, and
- unoccupied.

3.3 Occupation for this policy is where a person/persons do one or more of the following for their significant profit or benefit:

- leases the land to another party, or
- permanently resides upon the land, or
- de-pastures or maintains livestock on the land, or
- undertakes significant commercial operations.

3.4 Under this policy land must not be occupied as defined above unless the land and its housing is used to contribute to the Kaumātua support and enhancement of the Marae under the optional criteria below:

3.5 The optional criteria are:

- Development of the land for economic use. If any land is to be developed for economic use, particularly if it will provide employment for local Māori, a rates remission will be considered. This remission will decrease in proportion to the property increased economic use through development. Plans of the development and financial projections will be required to support application under this criterion;

- The presence of Waahi Tapu that may affect the use of the land for other purposes. A rates remission will be considered on a property or part of a property where the use of that property is affected by the presence of Waahi Tapu.
- Where houses are in the vicinity of the Marae the Committee will consider representations for rates remissions, considering the contribution to the Kaumātua support and enhancement of the Marae;
- Used for preservation/protection of character or coastline, outstanding natural features, significant indigenous vegetation and habitats of indigenous fauna. Applications under this criterion need to be supported by an existing Department of Conservation or Regional Council Management Plan, (e.g. in the Department of Conservation Coastal Management Plan for the area);
- Accessibility Issues. If it is difficult to legally, physically or practically access a property, a rates remission will be considered. Examples of accessibility issues are:
 - The property is landlocked by properties owned by other people/entities.
 - Access is legally available by paper road or easement but the road does not exist.
 - A road ends or passes a property but a river, ravine, cliff or other impediment prevents practical access.
- In a natural and undeveloped state, and will continue to remain in such state.

3.6 If the property is in and will remain in a natural and undeveloped state and there is no significant financial income, a rates remission will be considered.

4 Process of Application and Consideration for Rates Remission under this policy

Applications

4.1 On application to the Rangitikei District Council, consideration will be given for the remission of rates on Māori freehold land under this policy.

4.2 The application for rates remission under this policy shall include:

- details of appropriate contacts;
- details of property and occupancy;
- the condition(s), as listed in Section 4 of this policy, under which the application is made;
- any relevant information to support the application, such as historical, ancestral, cultural, archaeological, geographical or topographical information;
- details of the financial status of the land supported by full financial statements;
- a copy of any agreements or licenses to operate on the land; and
- a declaration stating that the information supplied is true and correct and that any changes in circumstances during that period of rate remission will be notified to the Council.

5 Consideration of Applications by Māori Land Rates Remission Committee

- 5.1 All applications for rates remission under this policy shall be considered and decided upon by the Māori Land Rates Remission Committee. The Māori Land Rates Remission Committee is to consist of three Council members and three Tangata Whenua, most likely Te Roopu Ahi Kaa members.
- 5.2 Any decision as to whether any land or part thereof meets or continues to meet the qualifying criteria shall be made by the Māori Land Rates Remission Committee.

Six Year Duration

- 5.3 Any remission of rates granted under this policy will generally apply for a six-year period.
- 5.4 In order to align with the Council's Long Term Council Community Plan cycle all remissions will be reviewed in January 2009 and six yearly after that review.
- 5.5 If the use of a property changes within the period the owners will notify the Council immediately and the remission status of the property will be reviewed.
- 5.6 Any changes of rates remission status will be effective from the date the property use changed.

Right of Appeal to Full Council

- 5.7 If an applicant considers the decision of the Māori Land Rates Remission Committee is not correct they may appeal to the full Council.

6 Māori Land Rates Remission Committee can consider properties without Application by Owners (i.e. Committee-generated Applications)

- 6.1 If a property could apply for a rates remission but the owners have not applied for the remission, the Committee can consider the granting of a remission of rates under the criteria outlined in section 4 of this Policy.
- 6.2 An example of the situation where this Committee-generated application could apply is where the presence of an unregistered urupa is publicly known but an application has not been made as the owners are geographically dispersed.

7 Rate and Penalty Arrears Write Off

Intention to Write Off Rate Arrears and Penalties

- 7.1 For a number of landlocked properties considerable rate arrears have accrued over the past decade due to an inability of the property to sustain the rates assessed. Council intends to write off these arrears, on a case-by-case basis, once the Committee has approved a Māori land rate remission for individual properties.

Committee can recommend arrears write off to Council

- 7.2 When considering a Māori land rate remission the Committee is to assess any rates and penalty arrears on the property. If these arrears have resulted from the inability of the property to sustain the rates, the Committee is to recommend to Council that the arrears be written off.

8 Right to change conditions and criteria

- 8.1 The Council reserves the right to add to delete or alter in any way the above conditions and criteria from time to time.
- 8.2 When making such changes Council will follow its consultation policy and ensure affected parties are engaged in the change process.

9 No postponement of rates

- 9.1 Nothing in this policy is to be taken as providing or implying a policy providing for the postponement of rates on Māori freehold land.

Attachment 5



15 September 2017

File No: 3-OR-3-5

Low Emissions Economy Inquiry
New Zealand Productivity Commission
PO Box 8036
The Terrace
Wellington 6143

By email: info@productivity.govt.nz

Low Emissions Economy Issues Paper - submission

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Low Emission Economy Issues Paper. The document covers a significant range of matters, therefore, Council has focused its comments around those that most affect the Rangitikei District.

To what extent is it technically and economically feasible to reliably measure biological emissions at a farm level?

Council believes that while it would be easy to use generic metrics to measure emissions on a per animal basis, that these measures would be too crude to be useful. As discussed in the issues paper, there are likely to be animals that naturally produce less methane than others, and such a crude measure would not acknowledge this, or farmers that are working towards increasing numbers of animals with naturally lower emissions.

What are the main opportunities and barriers to reducing emissions in agriculture?

The Commission highlighted a number of potential technologies to reduce biological emissions in Box 3. Council requests that Central Government ensures that any unintended consequences of these mitigation options are fully explored before being implemented. For example it is important that a methane vaccine if successfully developed would not have adverse effects on animal productivity or humans, and the characteristics of the product such as taste and texture. Likewise, if a nitrogen inhibitor was developed to put onto pasture to reduce the loss of N₂O, research needs to have been undertaken to examine potential downstream effects on the environment, including flora and fauna, or the animals which will be consuming the pasture, as well as, effects on pasture productivity. This reflects the need for a holistic approach.

Council considers that the main opportunity to reduce emissions in agriculture are through simple solutions, such as targeted breeding. If research can be undertaken to identify genes of

animals which, while being good producers, have naturally low emissions, targeted breeding of these animals is an easy solution to reduce emissions.

Council would like the Commission to consider is the potential for on-farm carbon sinks. Further incentives could be placed on farmers to provide carbon sinks (in the form of increased vegetation on the site) to mitigate the emissions of animals on site, or by some form of contractual arrangement off-site. In the long term, whole farm sectors could become carbon neutral. Nevertheless, any policy response to increase requirements for mitigation would need to be implemented incrementally, with associated incentives/disincentives to ensure farmers are not unduly affected.

What are the issues for government to consider in encouraging alternative low-emissions land uses?

Council considers that the most successful transitions for low emissions land uses will occur over the long term, in particular through intergenerational change. It is important that changing land uses is supported by incentives to ensure making the change is easy and not subject to significant risk. There will need to be a shift in skill sets, as the skills needed for agriculture are considerably different than those for horticulture/forestry. Central Government would also need to ensure that policies to encourage land use change are adaptable, so that farms would benefit from mixed land uses. Farms that have both stock could also have or farms could have a mix of horticulture and stock grazing. The most important factor for encouraging land use change is to ensure the change is incremental and sustainable. Change should be supported with access to skills required for the transition.

What are the main barriers to sequestering carbon in forests in New Zealand?

The key barrier to increasing the number of forests in New Zealand has been unstable Central Government policy. Recent deforestation has often been due to the increased returns associated with land use conversion from forestry to other activities such as dairying, in tandem with the undermining of the Emissions Trading Scheme through inconsistent Government policy.

What policies, including adjustments to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme, will encourage more sequestering of carbon in forests?

There is a need to increase the funding arrangements for afforestation. The current funding available is insufficient for the change needed to significantly increase the number of forests throughout New Zealand if a fully functioning Emissions Trading Scheme is not part of the package. Additionally, there may be productivity gains available when the effects of climate change are considered with respect to regional species selection. Further research could be undertaken to provide information on the species of forests which would be suitable with increased warming. For example pine trees in some areas are increasingly becoming subject to disease due to increasing moisture and temperatures (e.g. red needle cast) and so alternatives need identification and testing. It could be advantageous to consider forests as permanent sites rather than for harvesting. Research may also show that there are some trees that are more effective carbon sequesters.

What are the main opportunities and barriers to reducing emissions in transport?

Council considers that the best opportunity for reducing emissions in transport is to have an increased investment and emphasis on rail transport, both for freight and as passenger transport. To ensure a co-ordinated approach across New Zealand the infrastructure and policy would need to be nationally consistent. To achieve this there would need to be incentives to ensure rail transport is economically more viable than road transportation for some product classes. Consideration is warranted for the implementation of truck transportation zones (appreciating that there may still be the need for large trucks for certain types of haulage i.e. houses or large structure).

What changes will be required to New Zealand's regulatory, institutional and infrastructural arrangements for the electricity market, to facilitate greater reliance on renewable sources of energy across the economy?

Council considers that there is significant scope for an increased focus on the benefits of solar energy, particularly at a residential scale, or for remote communities. This will require further development of existing technology and potential subsidies. Big schemes are not necessarily the solution, as a local focus on solar power could significantly decrease reliance on significant infrastructure projects. It is also important that locally generated electricity could be easily sold back into the grid. This would further incentivise small scale schemes.

Is New Zealand's current statutory framework to deal with climate change adequate? What other types of legislation might be needed to effectively transition towards a low emissions economy?

Council considers that there needs to be a holistic approach to successfully transition towards a low emissions economy. The statutory framework should not just be focused on a particular act to deal with climate change, but needs to be integrated into all sectors (such as transport, resource management, and primary production). The holistic approach will need to ensure that legislation works to incentivise low emissions actions while dis-incentivising high emissions actions.

Who are the most important players in driving forward New Zealand's transition to a low emissions economy?

Council acknowledges that successful change will only occur if there is buy-in from all levels, however, considers that Central Government is the most important player in setting a national direction and putting in place the tools to transition to a low emissions economy.

What measures should exist (and at what scale and duration) to support businesses and households who have a limited ability to avoid serious losses as a result of New Zealand's transition to a low emissions economy?

Council considers that the key for ensuring that those who are likely to have serious losses are provided with compensation, but more importantly, an incremental and sustainable transition to ensure that those losses occur over time (rather than all at once).

Should New Zealand adopt the two baskets approach? If so, how should it influence New Zealand's emissions reduction policies and long-term vision for the future?

Council agrees that New Zealand should adopt the two baskets approach. Given the disparate contribution to climate change, setting separate targets is appropriate.

What does your long-term vision for a low-emissions economy look like? Could a shared vision for New Zealand be created, and if so, how?

Council considers that a long-term vision for New Zealand is essential if New Zealand is to successfully transition to a low emissions economy. It is essential the vision is holistic, encourages innovation and increased use of technology. The vision, for the Rangitikei District, would be to ensure that the transition happens slowly, with appropriate incentives and disincentives to ensure that the community are not unduly affected. A shared vision would need to be created through consultation with all sectors and the general public. The vision should not be in conflict with other government policies. All government policy work should underpin this vision.

Yours sincerely

Andy Watson
Mayor of the Rangitikei

Attachment 6

Memorandum

TO: Te Roopu Ahi Kaa Komiti

FROM: Nardia Gower, Governance Administrator

DATE: 19 September 2017

SUBJECT: **Update on the Path to Well-Being initiative – September 2017**

FILE: 3-CT-8-1

1 Background

- 1.1 The aim of this memorandum is to provide the Komiti with an update on the actions and progress of the Path to Well-Being Initiative.

2 Youth Development Programme

- 2.1 The focus for the past two months has been presenting the Youth Awards, organising the Youth Forum to be held in Taihape and the school holiday programmes in Marton and Taihape. The Youth Forum - 'Mintas', (25 September 2017, at Taihape Area School) aims to attract 80 young people and will focus on developing skills, providing inspiration and seeking feedback on the youth zones.

3 Treasured Natural Environment Group

- 3.1 The Treasured Natural Environment Group is working together to develop a range of events throughout the Rangitikei for Conservation week which runs from 14 – 22 October 2017. Events are in the early stages of planning from Bulls up to Taihape.

4 Funding

- 4.1 A range of funding applications were submitted during this reporting period include the following:
- The Earle Trust - for the publishing of Les Vincent's memoirs.
 - Whanganui Community Foundation – Quick Grant – for the Swim 4 All Programme 2017/18 (confirmed successful)
 - Youth Development Partnership Fund – an application has been submitted jointly with the St Andrews Church Youth and Families worker for a programme that targets at risk female youth. The proposed programme would give the girls mentoring and skills to help them navigate through to

adulthood. It is proposed the programme would run in Term 4 in Marton and Term 1 2018 in Taihape.

- Youth in Civil Defence – an application has been submitted jointly with Horowhenua District Council to allow 10 youth from the Rangitikei to participate in a civil defence based camp. The camp aims to educate and inspire young people's involvement in emergency preparedness.
- Tourism Infrastructure Fund - submitted early September. Funding for footpaths, kerb & channel, bus parking and wastewater upgrade.
- Tourism Infrastructure Fund - submitted early September. Funding for the Bulls Community Centre
- Lotteries Significant Projects Fund – submitted early September. Funding for the Bulls Community Centre.
- Community Partnerships Fund – submitted early September. Free swimming lessons for children under 5 in Taihape (to match the sponsorship provided in Marton).

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That the memorandum 'Update on the Path to Well-Being initiative – September 2017' be received.

Nardia Gower
Governance Administrator