



Report **06.121**
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Committee **Ara Tahi**
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Report - Policy Advisor - Maori

1. Purpose

To provide Ara Tahi with an update since our last meeting on 1 February 2006.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Iwi Technical Workshops

3.1 RPS Review

A workshop was held on 15 March looking at the RPS review process. Details on this and subsequent initiatives will be reported to Ara Tahi in a separate report at this meeting.

3.2 Future workshops

Ara Tahi identified a need for a further workshop on the Regional Policy Statement looking at the issues in more detail. A workshop is proposed for June/July this year. Please note that there is still an outstanding request from our Resource Investigations staff to workshop the Carcass Disposal Sites and perhaps visit the MAF facilities at Wallaceville.

3.3 Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) workshop

Graham Spargo, Project Director for the WRS has requested a workshop with Ara Tahi. This is planned for Thursday 27 April in the Hoyts Room on level 4 starting at 10am. This workshop is not part of the regular iwi technical workshop programme and is being funded by the WRS budget.

4. Te Mātāpuna 2006

The second annual iwi liaison officer hui (Te Mātāpuna) was held this year in Christchurch and was attended by 40 local and central government staff. Even though this is a fledgling body it has managed to work towards some key milestones. These include:

- identifying and maintaining a database of personnel that work in the iwi liaison field;
- agreeing a set of aims, vision, kaupapa and principles for Te Mātāpuna;
- Identifying a need for professional development; and
- Forming a steering group to advance Te Mātāpuna

Of interest to Ara tahi was identifying the similarities between the aims of this group and that of the Kaitiaki hui in terms of increasing our professional capacity to better serve our communities.

There were several key presentations, most notably “*How do councils prepare for iwi post-settlement*” and “*Including taura here in council’s decision making process*”.

Reports from this hui will eventually be available online at www.tematapuna.org.

5. Hui a Ara Tahi presentation

Following on from the last Ara Tahi meeting the core team for this project was identified as Jack Rikihana, Tom Paku, Te Waari Carkeek and Jason Kerehi. A draft PowerPoint presentation on the history, aims and vision of Ara Tahi has been completed and is now being reviewed by the project team iwi members. A completed presentation should be ready for perusal and approval by the next Ara Tahi meeting on 14 June 2006 before being presented to full Council.

6. Iwi Appointees

There has been a request to include Ra Pomare for training for accreditation as an iwi appointee on hearings committees to hear and decide on resource consents. This nomination needs to be supported by Ara Tahi.

7. Ara Tahi contacts list

The Chair of Ara Tahi has requested that a contacts database for all Ara Tahi iwi members be distributed. This is provided as an attachment (**Attachment 1**) to this report. Please advise if any details are incorrect or need updating.

8. Didymo update

Since the identification of *Didymosphenia geminata* (Didymo or rock snot) in the Buller River last year, Greater Wellington's biosecurity and water monitoring staff has been assisting MAF Biosecurity NZ with their survey work and public awareness campaign. A second round of survey work is currently underway with samples being collected from every river in the region and analysed for Didymo presence.

A DVD on this threat has been provided to you by Biosecurity New Zealand. For more information contact Greater Wellington's biosecurity team on 06 378 2484 or visit: www.biosecurity.govt.nz/didymo

9. Communication

There are no matters in this report that require further communication.

10. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Notes** the content of the report.
3. **Confirm** nominee to council for accreditation as an iwi appointee on hearings committees.

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Attachment 1: Contacts Database for Ara Tahī