

Report 07.331
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Committee Ara Tahī
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Report Policy Advisor Maori - June 2007

1. Purpose

To provide Ara Tahī with an update since our last meeting on 9 May 2007.

2. Iwi Technical Workshops

2.1 RPS Review

A second workshop was held on 21 May this year to read through all topics of the Regional Policy Statement and to gain iwi views on these.

Copies of the Regional Policy Statement Review Newsletter (No 2: June 2007) have now been sent to each iwi. You will also be sent copies of all the draft RPS topics. This is now your opportunity to let us know if you agree or disagree with what we have drafted. You have until 13 July to provide your comments.

This will enable us to know whether the policy direction has community support and make necessary changes before we propose a new RPS.

2.2 Future workshops

Five workshops have been budgeted for the 07/08 financial year. We can now confirm the dates for the first three workshops. The dates are:

- Wed 25 July
- Wed 12 September
- Wed 14 November

Iwi are invited to make suggestions of a topic for the July workshop. Some topics were raised at the Hui a Ara Tahī. These included Water, Iwi Environmental Indicators and Climate Change. The September workshop is tentatively allocated for a catch-up on the RPS review.

3. Local Government Elections

3.1 Key dates

Iwi members are reminded of the key dates for the upcoming Local Government elections:

Friday 27 July 2007 – Nominations for candidates open. The roll is open for inspection also.

Friday 24 August 2007 – Nominations close 12 noon. Roll closes.

Saturday 13 October 2007 – Election Day.

3.2 Promotion of elections

Greater Wellington will carry out some promotion within the regional electorate and is keen to see how this can reach iwi members. Francis Ryan (Manager, Secretariat) is the deputy electoral officer for Greater Wellington. He will discuss with you how Ara Tahi might work with Greater Wellington in fostering participation in the elections.

There is likely to be a mix of radio and poster advertising and we keen for any advice on the best ways in which we can promote the election to iwi/Māori communities.

4. NIWA hui

We would like Ara Tahi members to consider and confirm the two iwi representatives to attend this hui on 21-22 June 2007.

5. Communication

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

6. Recommendations

That Ara Tahi:

1. *receives the report;*
2. *notes the content of the report;*
3. *decides a topic for the July iwi technical workshop; and*
4. *confirms the names of two iwi representatives to attend the NIWA hui on 21-22 June*

Report prepared by:

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