

Waikato Mayoral Forum and Councils Collaboration Projects: Progress Report #9: November 2014

Workstream: The Waikato Plan

Purpose

This report outlines progress on the preparation of the Waikato Plan. This report is provided for information, and no decisions are required.

Background

The Waikato Plan aims to be the collective voice for the Waikato Region on high priority issues, challenges and opportunities that affect the regional community. The Plan will:

- Set a strategic direction for the Waikato and its communities.
- Outline a high level development strategy that identifies settlement, infrastructure and service needs.
- Provide an evidential basis to support policy and investment decision making within the Waikato.
- Enable coherent and co-ordinated decision making by the local authorities, central Government and other parties to determine the future location and timing of critical infrastructure, services, and investment within the Waikato.
- Provide a basis for aligning the implementation plans, regulatory plans and funding programmes of local government and strategic partner agencies.



Waikato : he reo kotahi
Waikato : one voice

Governance

The Waikato Plan Joint Committee is the governing body for the Waikato Plan. The Committee is chaired by Margaret Devlin and includes a representative of each participating Council and 4 non-local government members (Michael Spaans, Bev Gatenby, Steven Wilson with Mark Ingle's nomination as the fourth member being confirmed by Councils).

Project Milestones

The Joint Committee met on 16th February and confirmed the following milestones:

Project Milestone	Meeting Date	Meeting Outcomes
1 Direction setting	16 Feb 2015 (JC Meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Budget, scope and milestones confirmed– Engagement approach reported to Councils for information– Confirm expectations and benefits sought from the Waikato Plan– Focus areas for further analysis communicated to the project team
2 Draft strategic objectives and benefits	13 March 2015 (JC Meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">– Options considered– Draft strategic objectives and benefits sought developed by JC

3 Strategic objectives and engagement processes confirmed	13 April 2015 (JC Meeting)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Confirm strategic objectives and benefits – Scope of change described at high level – Draft engagement document approved for engagement – Confirmed engagement approach
4 Report back on engagement	15 June 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – 1st round of targeted engagement complete – Refine and update strategic objectives.
5 Option Development and Analysis	August 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Alternative strategic options have been evaluated. – Preferred strategic option adopted by the Joint Committee
6 Draft Waikato Plan	August – November 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Draft spatial plan is prepared and considered by the Joint Committee – Draft recommended to Council for approval for statutory consultation – Hearings committee appointed
7 Draft Waikato Plan to Councils for Approval for Consultation	December 2015	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All participating Councils approve the Draft Waikato Plan
8 Statutory process	January – March 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Statutory consultation through special consultative procedure – Hearings and submissions received by hearings committee – Deliberations and changes approved
9 Hearings committee reports to Joint Committee	April 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Joint Committee approve the amended Waikato Plan – Joint Committee recommendation the Plan to Councils for adoption
10 Final Waikato Plan to Councils for adoption	June 2016	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – All Councils adopt the Waikato Plan

The Joint Committee have completed the first of 3 workshops to develop a set of draft strategic objectives for stakeholder engagement. These workshops will be completed in April.

Formal Reporting from the Joint Committee

The Joint Committee's Terms of Reference requires 3 formal reporting points to Councils:

1. The stakeholder engagement approach for information
2. The draft Waikato Plan for approval to consult using the Special Consultative Procedure; and
3. The final Waikato Plan for adoption following the Special Consultative Procedure.

The Joint Committee has a significant task ahead to complete and engage on a Waikato Plan between February and November.

In November a draft Waikato Plan will be presented to each Council for approval. The milestones adopted do not allow for iterations of the Plan to come back from Councils to the Joint Committee to be reconsidered. This is a project time risk. To manage this risk, a template Council report will be provided following each meeting and circulated to the Joint Committee member and local authority CEOs as a basis of reporting to each Council throughout Plan development. The purpose of this report will be to provide advice to participating Councils on progress of the Waikato Plan, and members will report back to the Joint Committee on any discussion.

[Links to the Waikato REDS](#)

The Waikato Regional Economic Development Strategy (WREDS) is recognised a key foundation document for the Waikato Plan and is recognised in the project scope approved by the Joint Committee. The Joint Committee are interested to know more about the alignment between the two work programmes, and this will be subject of briefings and advice to the Joint Committee over the next two meetings.

Project Budget

The Joint Committee met on 16th February and confirmed a revised project budget of \$1.195M and agreed the allocation for each Council.

This budget comprises of:

- Commencing budget (Nov 12): \$876k
- Additional costs since project inception \$79k
- Additional work to support Crown issues: \$40k
- Additional 'community' engagement: \$200k

The additional \$200k for community engagement is being treated as a contingency sum pending Joint Committee decisions on future engagement to be made in April 2015, when the Joint Committee confirms its draft strategic objectives for stakeholder engagement.

Waikato Plan Split for Additional Funding			
	79.1	240	Total
Waikato RC	32.06	97.27	129.33
Hamilton	0.00	0.00	0.00
Hauraki	3.29	9.99	13.29
Matamata-Piako	6.64	20.15	26.80
Otorohanga	2.49	7.54	10.03
South Waikato	3.22	9.76	12.98
Taupo	8.43	25.58	34.01
Thames-Coromandel	0.00	0.00	0.00
Waikato DC	12.22	37.09	49.31
Waipa	8.72	26.47	35.19
Waitomo	2.02	6.14	8.16
Rotorua	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	79.10	240.00	319.10

Hamilton City Councils contribution to the Waikato Plan has been made through in-kind project resources (a Waikato Plan project office and 4 EFTs).

Report to be considered in March

Councils will receive a report in March from the Chair of the Joint Committee which contains the following:

1. A recommendation from the Joint Committee seeking approval for the non-local government remuneration; and
2. The Joint Committees approach to stakeholder engagement for information.
3. A covering report and a copy of the minutes from the Joint Committee.

Item 1 is required by the Joint Committee's terms of reference.