



## **SUMMARY OF MAYORAL FORUM MEETING MONDAY 03 DECEMBER 2018**

### **MENTAL HEALTH ADDICTION SERVICES – PRESENTATION**

Waikato District Health Board mental health and addiction services executive director Vicki Aitken gave a presentation to the Mayoral Forum on the issues facing mental health services, looking at national and regional data.

Ms Aitken said in the last 10 years, the number of adults in crisis had risen from 2500 to more than 7000 per annum, and services were struggling and under-resourced, including at Waikeria Prison and Henry Bennett Centre. This did not provide safe and therapeutic environments for users or staff.

Ms Aitken believed early responses in mental health and communities would keep people well, and a more integrated mental health sector was required.

### **THREE WATERS REVIEW**

A paper detailing the regulatory framework for Three Waters will go back to Cabinet in June 2019, with a services paper due for tabling at the end of the year.

It was acknowledged that the drinking water regulatory perspective was generally clear, but coupled with waste water the review was fraught with issues, particularly accuracy of information.

Matamata-Piako CE Don McLeod said what Department of Internal Affairs was proposing could easily be addressed by introducing mandatory measures, however the document prepared was hugely complex and proposed the most stringent global standards that were difficult to create regulatory process around.

It was hoped that some simplification would happen over time.

### **WATERS COLLABORATION**

Seven councils in the Waikato region have agreed to undertake a stocktake of water, wastewater and stormwater activities.

The aim is to combine resources to meet the obligations of regulatory framework, however the stocktake has been hampered by time constraints and funding.

It is proposed that recommendations will be ready for presentation to the February forum.

### **TE WAKA**

Te Waka chief executive Michael Bassett-Foss updated the forum on progress and the launch of its Waikato regional economic programme.

Fifty-three projects have been identified in the programme.

Some projects are ideas, others concepts, some at feasibility study stage and others at implementation stage.

In relation to Provincial Growth Fund projects, MBIE has received 45 from the Waikato: eight are yet to be assessed, seven have been approved, three withdrawn, 17 declined and nine are on hold.

Mr Bassett-Foss said there was a need to grow internal resourcing to help progress the projects.

## **REGIONAL SPORTS FACILITIES**

The forum was given an overview on the purposes and goals of 2018 Waikato Regional Sports Facilities Plan, version 2, by Sport Waikato CE Matthew Cooper and general manager Michelle Hollands.

It was agreed that the plan be supported by the signing of a memorandum of understanding between represented councils.

Mr Cooper said the purpose of the plan was to provide a high-level strategic framework for regional sports facilities planning and the optimisation of existing facilities.

It provided direction on what should be done and crucially what should not be done, with thinking at a network-wide level to ensure the delivery of sports in the region was affordable, efficient, effective and sustainable.

The next version, scheduled for development in 2020, proposes to take a wider lens on spaces and places for physical activity beyond sport, such as regional cycle ways.

## **WAIKATO PLAN**

Bev Gatenby was welcomed as the new co-chair of the Waikato Plan Leadership Committee.

Ms Gatenby said “being at home at the Waikato Regional Council” made the Waikato Plan project stronger and more teeth.

## **COLLABORATION WITH NEW GOVERNMENT**

The forum discussed the potential for the establishment of an incinerator plant in the region to handle waste from Auckland, Waikato and the Bay of Plenty.

It was agreed to ask Chair Livingston to approach Auckland City Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council, in conjunction with MBIE, to begin this conversation.

This stemmed from a discussions that the coalition Government appeared to be taking a boundary-less approach to regional investment, and had signalled the desire to work in partnership with forum members.