



Report 04.428
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Committee Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee
Author Councillors Shields and Buchanan

Ara Tahi Meeting - 14 July 2004

1. Purpose

To report to Council the proceedings of the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 14 July 2004.

2. Background and Comment

2.1 Presentation on Maori History of the Region

Councillor Shields and other members of Ara Tahi expressed their interest in the presentation officers made to staff members at the Upper Hutt Depot on the Maori history of the Wellington region. They felt this presentation would benefit councillors, as well as staff. Officers agreed to look into whether a similar presentation could be made to councillors as part of the post-election induction process.

2.2 Update on Iwi Projects

2.2.1 Inventory of Maori Heritage Sites and Values - Wellington Tenths Trust

The Wellington Tenths Trust inventory project is now at a point where the Trust can provide extremely useful information to councils. They are now able to flag the location of Maori heritage sites by overlaying their site maps with modern street maps. In addition, the information accompanying each site is of a depth and accuracy that will stand up to the scrutiny of the Environment Court. This means councils will have a high degree of certainty when advising developers and builders, and when undertaking district planning processes.

The Trust will be presenting to the Wellington City Council on 19 July. They plan to do the same presentation to Greater Wellington in the near future.

2.2.2 Iwi Environmental Management Plan – Te Runanganui o Taranaki Whanui ki te Upoko o te Ika a Maui

The Wellington Tenth Trust is reviewing the draft environmental management plan for Taranaki Whanui. Consultation on the plan is due to start on 3 August.

2.3 External Organisations Speaking to Ara Tahi

Ara Tahi asked officers to prepare a report outlining a process for external organisations wanting to speak with Ara Tahi. The report will be based on discussions at the meeting of Ara Tahi on 14 July.

At their meeting members of Ara Tahi said that the *presentation of information* to Ara Tahi by external organisations should be treated differently to the *consultation with* Ara Tahi. Members were happy for external organisations to make presentations to Ara Tahi, but did not support external organisations consulting directly with Ara Tahi during Ara Tahi meeting time.

Members of Ara Tahi also suggested that the chairperson of Ara Tahi and the Council chairperson decide together if, and when, an external organisation can present to Ara Tahi. Their decision should be made on a case-by-case basis and depend on the relevance of the presentation to Ara Tahi and the length of the agenda for the upcoming meeting.

2.4 Ara Tahi Involvement in the Development of the Wellington Regional Strategy

Ara Tahi decided to hold a workshop to consider their involvement in the development of the Wellington Regional Strategy. They felt the process for iwi involvement in the strategy was a complex matter and that a workshop would provide them with the information they needed to consider their options.

Ara Tahi members said that the process proposed by officers provided them with a great opportunity, but found the possibility of having only one person representing the diversity of views within Ara Tahi difficult to tackle.

Officers had proposed that Ara Tahi:

- appoint a member to represent its members on the Joint Committee for the Wellington Regional Strategy and
- act as an advisory group to the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee.

2.5 Consultation between Maori and Greater Wellington's Transport Division

Ara Tahi adopted a process for consultation between Greater Wellington's Transport Division and Maori of the region. The process, which was proposed by officers in the Transport Division, took account of the feedback received at the technical workshop on 16 June.

2.6 Local Government Act Provisions for Maori

Iwi representatives held two hui on the Local Government Act provisions for Maori. At the second hui they discussed a process for how Greater Wellington and Ara Tahi members should respond to Maori who are interested in talking to the Council about issues. The suggested process included:

- encouraging Maori to approach their iwi in the first instance and
- council officers advising iwi when other Maori decided they wanted to communicate directly with Greater Wellington themselves.

Officers will prepare a report to formalise the feedback from both hui for the next meeting of Ara Tahi.

2.7 Presentation by the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet on the Foreshore and Seabed

Debra Packman made a presentation to Ara Tahi on the draft package of initiatives the Department is putting together to assist and cement good relationships between local government decision-makers and Maori.

2.8 Greater Wellington's Submission on the Foreshore and Seabed Bill

Members of Ara Tahi said they supported Greater Wellington in making their own submission on the on the Foreshore and Seabed Bill.

3. Recommendation

That the Council receives the report and notes its contents.

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Council Chairperson

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