



.Report 11.2
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Committee Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management
Committee
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Project Plan

1. Purpose

This paper outlines a schedule of meetings and workstreams to manage the investigations, debates and decision-making involved in the review of Greater Wellington's regional plans. Direction is sought from the Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management Committee as to priorities for the scheduling of work.

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. Background

An outline of the anticipated programme of work to review the regional plans was presented to Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee meeting of 12 October 2010. This is shown by **Figure 1**.

The work programme presented at this meeting comprised three stages, these being:

- Stage 1: information collation and community engagement
- Stage 2: development of policy options and deliberation, and
- Stage 3: technical drafting and proposal

These three stages may run in parallel from time to time; however, generally work will progress from stage 1 to stage 3. That is from issue identification through a discussion of what is to be done to address the issues and then on to the drafting of policies, which are then set into the proposed plan.

At the 12 October meeting of the Committee it was also established that a more detailed plan of work was needed, to allow the committee to efficiently get through the range of issues in review. It was decided that such a plan should be produced and discussed early in 2011 and it should include:

- The organisational structure and associated responsibilities for undertaking the plan review
- A schedule of work, and
- Strategies for managing risks, including short falls in information and resources as they arise, and to ensure community input into the plan review

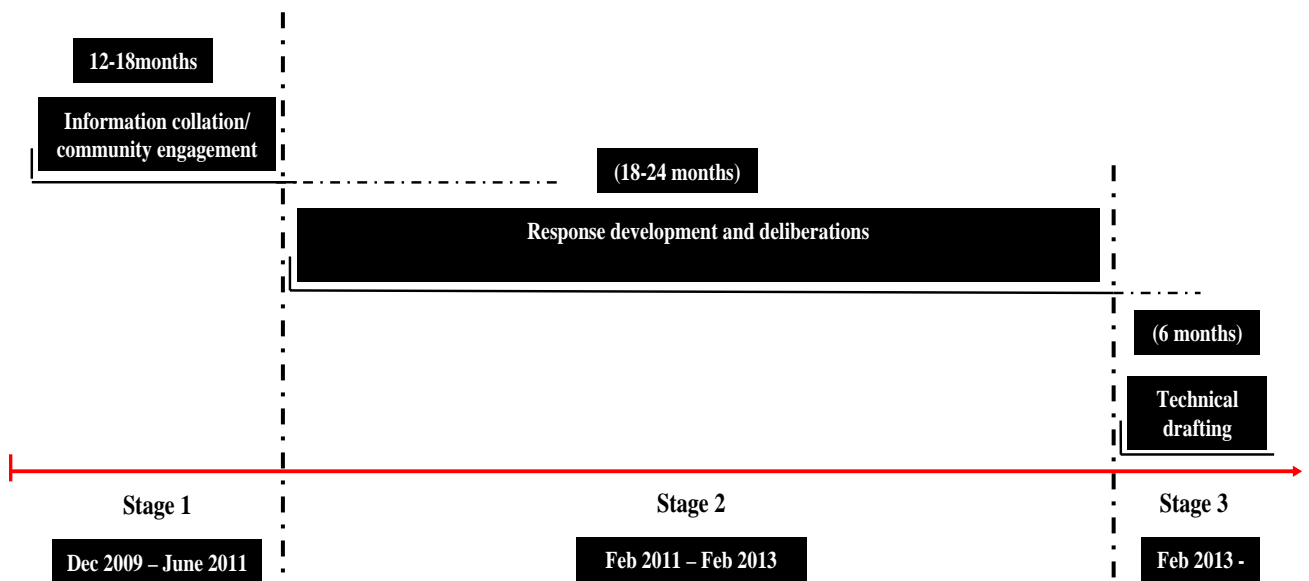


Figure 1: Stages and timing for the Natural Resource Management Plan review

4. Comment – proposed project plan

This proposed project plan builds on past research, monitoring and analysis of a range of natural resource management issues. This proposed plan aims to organise the required work into manageable and logical parts so each area of policy development can be adequately covered by the committee, while concluding the plan review within the specified time frame.

The project plan consists of four parts:

- Documented guiding principles, which provides a vision statement for the plan review and the criteria by which policy options are to be tested, agenda item number 11.3 discussed guiding principles
- Structure diagram, which outlines the organisational (Greater Wellington) accountability for work streams
- A draft schedule of meetings and works topics

The plan review will be managed through the structure provided in **Attachment 1**. While the overall management responsibility for the plan review rest with the Environment Policy Department, in the Environment Group, the plan review process will be cross-council process governed through the Review Oversight Group (ROG). The ROG is made up of the General Managers of the Environment, Catchment, and Strategy and Engagement groups. This group is responsible for the delivery of the plan review work programme, coordinating resourcing, managing risk and managing key relationships within and external to council.

Reporting to ROG are the Cross-council Alignment Oversight Group, responsible for ensuring cross-council input from the various departments and the Workgroup Leaders Forum, which will manage the development of policy options. Five work streams have been established. These will cover the entire range of projects required to deliver the plan review.

The work streams are:

- Land-use management, including the topic areas:
 - Hazard management
 - Flood protection
 - Landscape and heritage
 - Landfills, contaminated sites and clean-fill
 - Land-use and water quality (rural)
 - Occupation of the Coastal Marine Area and coastal issues, and
 - Wetland management
- Point takes and discharges, including the topic areas:
 - On-site waste water management
 - Effluent disposal (linked with land-use work group)
 - Air discharges, and
 - Water takes and allocation
- Network takes and discharges, including the topic areas:
 - Stormwater management (incorporating land-use management and water quality (urban)
 - Waste water
 - Rural water infrastructure, water supply and drainage (links with water allocation), and
 - Potable water supply (links with water allocation)
- Data and tools, including the topic areas:
 - Methods and techniques for setting water allocations
 - Methods and techniques for setting nutrient levels in water bodies
 - Environmental limits
 - Cultural assessments, and
 - Methods and techniques for delivering improved adoption of best practice

- Administration, including the topic areas:
 - Community engagement programme
 - Plan structure and use of technology
 - Organisational and economic impacts, and
 - Support models for voluntary methods

Teams responsible for each work streams will collaborate across areas of shared interest, and will produce a range of reports and policy options across topic areas or on specific policy issues.

The activities of the work groups are to be guided by terms of reference, agreed to by ROG, and which are to be consistent with the guiding principles provided by Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee. In developing options the work groups will consider both regulatory and non-regulatory (voluntary) methods for each of their respective topic areas, to ensure both statutory and non-statutory methods are integrated. A draft timetable of topic areas covered by the work groups, engagement activities and reports to committee is provided in **Attachment 2**.

5. Communication

No communications are required as a result of this report.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Management structure for the Regional Plan reviews
Attachment 2: Schedule of meetings and plan review work areas