

Informal Workshop Notes

Strategy and Policy Committee Workshop

Held: 9.30 am, Tuesday 29 March 2022, Via Zoom (Audio Visual Meeting)

Chairperson: Cr Paula Thompson

Deputy Chairperson: Cr Stuart Crosby

Present: Cr David Love
Cr Bill Clark
Chairman Doug Leeder
Cr Matemoana McDonald
Cr Jane Nees
Cr Lyall Thurston
Cr Andrew von Dadelszen
Cr Te Taru White
Cr Kevin Winters

In Attendance: Staff: Fiona McTavish – Chief Executive; Julie Bevan – Policy & Planning Manager; Rob Donald – Science Manager; James Low – Team Leader Policy (Freshwater); Adam Fort – Principal Adviser Strategic Planning; Gemma Moleta – Senior Planner (Water Policy); Malea Zygadlo – Environmental Scientist; James Dare – Environmental Scientist, Water Quality; Stephanie Macdonald – Community Engagement Team Leader; Kerry Gosling – Senior Community Engagement Advisor; Merinda Pansegrouw – Committee Advisor; Shari Kameta – Committee Advisor

Apologies: Cr Norm Bruning, Cr Stacey Rose and Cr Toi Iti for absence, Cr Lyall Thurston and Cr Te Taru White for lateness.

1. Overview

The workshop was held to discuss the following items:

Open session

- Essential Freshwater Policy Programme – demonstration of engagement tools.

Public Excluded session

- RPS Change 6 (NPS-UD) - update on policy development and process
- Ngā Waiariki o Rotorua - options for integrated management of the Rotorua Geothermal System

2. Open Session

2.1 UPDATE: Essential Freshwater Policy Programme

Presentation: Essential Freshwater Policy Programme - demonstration of online engagement tool: Objective ID A4067270 [↗](#)

Presented By: Gemma Moleta – Senior Planner (Water Policy)
Malea Zygadlo – Environmental Scientist
James Dare – Environmental Scientist - Water Quality

Key Points

- Feedback was sought on the online engagement and information sharing tools demonstrated at the meeting.

In response to Questions

- Concern had been raised by tangata whenua that the existing treaty co-governance Regional Policy Statement (RPS) objectives served a different purpose to a long-term vision under the National Policy Statement – Freshwater Management (NPS-FM). It was hoped that concerns could be alleviated and worked through as staff continue to work with iwi through the National Objectives Framework process.
- Around 40 letters had been sent out inviting involvement in developing a long term vision for freshwater.
- There was no restriction on how much input participants could provide when using the Participate Bay of Plenty online engagement tool. Broad participation was being encouraged and having to provide “sign-in” details could be a barrier to participation for some users.
- The Participate Bay of Plenty page for long term visions and environmental outcomes for freshwater would go live in April for a two month period and would be advertised in newspapers throughout the region, in the Freshwater Flash newsletter and online.

10.00 am - Cr Crosby **withdrew** from the meeting.

10.07 am - Cr Thurston and Cr White **entered** the meeting.

- Video presentations on how to use the online engagement tools could be considered as part of the next step engagement phase.
- It was hoped that the water quality reporting tool (WET) would go through a number of iterations in the future so that as much feedback as possible could be achieved.
- The platform (Shiny app) for WET was something that every region could hook into. Data collected would also be available via the Land, Air, Water

Aotearoa (LAWA) platform so the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) could also access the data through LAWA.

- WET would be presented at Special Interest Groups (SIG) to gain feedback both regionally and at national level.

Members Comments

- It was important that multiple entries from one participant using the Participate Bay of Plenty tool could be identified to avoid skewed results.
- It was also important that Regional Council considered how they engaged with those that did not have access to the online tools.

3. Public Excluded Session

The table below sets out the general subject of each paper to be considered while the public is excluded from the proceedings of this workshop, the reason for excluding the public, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for excluding the public:

Item No.	Subject of each paper to be considered	Reason for excluding the public in relation to each paper	Grounds under Section 48(1) for excluding the public	When the paper can be released into the public
3.1	RPS Change 6 (NPS-UD) - update on policy development and process	Withholding the information is necessary to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions by or between or to members or officers or employees of any local authority, or any persons to whom section 2(5) applies, in the course of their duty.	48(1)(a)(i) Section 7 (2)(f)(i).	On the Chief Executive's approval.
3.2	Ngā Waiariki o Rotorua - options for integrated management of the Rotorua Geothermal System			

1:00 pm - the workshop **closed**.