



STAFF REPORT

TO: Environment & Planning Committee

FROM: Steve Markham, Policy Manager

REFERENCE: R420

SUBJECT: **RESOURCE POLICY PROJECTS UPDATE REPORT - EP07/11/07**
- Report Prepared for 15 November 2007 Meeting

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an introduction to the work programme for resource policy development for the information of new members of the Committee, and a three monthly update on the progress with current resource policy projects for the information of members.

2. RESOURCE POLICY PLANNING

The Resource Management Act 1991 provides for a rather complex structure of planning for sustainable resource management. As a unitary authority, the Council has both regional policy statement, and regional and district plans to prepare and develop. Since shortly after the Council became a unitary authority in 1992, the Council has committed to an integrated, single combined regional and district plan, the Tasman Resource Management Plan (TRMP). The TRMP has been in effect for over 11 years, has undergone 64 formal amendment sets, called variations, each subject to public submission, decisions and appeals. Most of the content of all parts is settled, even though the TRMP as a whole is still “proposed”. This status will not change to “operative” until each of the six parts is finally approved by Council. The approval of the land part (Part II) is scheduled for early in 2008, following the resolution of a key outstanding appeal.

The Tasman Regional Policy Statement has been operative for six years, and its continuation separate from the TRMP is a question to be examined following staff advice next year. That is because the Council could elect to combine this planning document with the TRMP.

The attached table describes in outline, the programme of projects for 2007 / 2008 and beyond, and covers process steps, current situation and next steps. Project-specific budgets and numbering awaits the complete rollout of the job costing system.

The scope of resource policy planning is broad, covering urban and rural land use, and coastal marine, rivers and lakes, water, and contamination management. Projects usually require issue investigations, options assessment and drafting phases before any variation or change is notified for submissions. The RMA First Schedule directs the plan development process after notification. Most projects are current, but some are listed but yet to start. The programme includes projects and priorities adopted last in August 2007. As with previous reportings, it is open for the Committee to review or confirm the listing of priorities or timings of projects.

4. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee receive this report.

Steve Markham
Policy Manager

**2007 - 2008 AND BEYOND RESOURCE POLICY PROGRAMME
AS AT 6 NOVEMBER 2007**

Project No. and Budget	Priority No.	Project Description	Process Steps and Current Situation	Staff	Next Steps
	1	Live appeals resolution	<p>Steps Resolution by consent order to EC, hearing by EC or withdrawal, of live appeals (20): Productive land (1); Archaeological sites (3); Erosion prone land under pastoral (1); Coastal landscape (2); Takaka Hill LPA (1) Variation 15 Water allocation and iwi (9) Richmond south (3)</p>	SM, NJ, MAB, RB, ST, SL	Court hearings or consideration of consent memoranda.
	1	Richmond west development plan	<p>Steps Planning investigations and structure planning to support plan change: Transportation modelling study; Economic and demand and supply assessment for business and residential space; Contamination risk management performance regime; Structure plan; Draft and notified variation; Submissions, hearing and decisions</p> <p>Situation Notification on 6 October of Variations 61 – 63 for Richmond West Development Area with supporting documents following EPC directions June - September 2007. Final report on transportation modelling due. Designation requirements for roads, water wastewater facilities to be notified November 2007.</p>	SM, MH, DH, DL	Submissions on Vars 61 – 63 close 20 December 2007.

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	1	Variations 49, 50 Richmond South DA	Appeals resolution. Decisions on submissions notified 28 July 2007.	MH, SM, DL, SL	Three appeals received.
	1	Richmond CBD/central area development plan	<p>Steps Joint council project with 3 stages inquiring into Nelson-Richmond urban intensification:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. feasibility and pathways 2. locations and actions 3. Implementation. <p>Situation Approved as joint project February 07. Stage 1 pathways report considered 12 September 2007. Implementation programme across stages 2 and 3 in development.</p>	RB, SM, with MW, RP NCC	Public launch of stage 1 report 14 November 07. Implementation pathways reporting via Working Group.
	1	Richmond east development	<p>Steps Report on services and intensification options; draft plan change; consultation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals.</p> <p>Situation Consolidation as joint council project for draft structure plan for Nelson south – Richmond East. Approved as joint project February 2007. Draft structure plan report considered 12 September 2007. Implementation programme in development.</p>	MH, SM, DL	Implementation reporting via Working Group.

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	1	Mapua-Ruby Bay development:	<p>Steps Reporting on situation re services, and scope for rezoning; plan changes and infrastructure provision in LTCCP</p> <p>Situation Reports to EPC June 2006, March 2007.</p>	RB; JC	Structure planning and draft variation to EPC early 2008.
	1	Variation 55 CTA Design Guide	<p>Steps Variation notified 28 July 2007. Submissions, decisions, appeals.</p> <p>Situation Submissions closed 24 Sept 2007.</p>	SL	Summary notified by Dec 07
	1	Golden Bay East settlement strategy Variation 57 etc.	<p>Steps Urban settlement options reporting to formulate an EGB preferred settlement pattern; community feedback; TRMP variation; followup structure planning for preferred development locations; Further consultation and TRMP changes.</p> <p>Situation Draft settlement pattern variation circulated for feedback March 2007; notification of variation 28 July 2007. Submissions closed 24 Sept 2007.</p>	SL, SM, DL,	Summary notified by Dec 07
	1	Motueka west central development plan	<p>Steps Update on services; Demand estimates for urban land (business; residential); Structure plan options; Liaison with iwi landowners; Plan change and services programming.</p>	RB, DL, JC, MB, SM	Further development of supporting information and structure plan with iwi landowners for Council/landowner meeting.

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			<p>Situation Investigations for demand estimations and outline services plan to support concept structure plan. Liaison with iwi landowners.</p>		
	1	Stormwater management Variation 56	<p>Steps Draft variation for consultation; feedback and notification of variation. Submissions, decisions, appeals. Situation Draft variation circulation in 2006; report on feedback March 2007. Variation notified 28 July 2007.</p>	SL et al.	Submissions close 24 Sept 07.
	1	TRMP land use administration issues requiring review; Variation 58 etc.	<p>Steps Series of reports on specific issues arising from administration; Plan change processes for priority issues. Situation Reported on issues and priorities February 2007; variation notified 28 July 2007.</p>	RB and team	Submissions close 24 Sept 07.
	1	Richmond air quality (PM ₁₀) plan Variation 51 and education package	<p>Steps Discussion paper and draft variation; community feedback; variation notified; submissions; decisions. Education and funding methods re PM₁₀ delivered. Situation Notification of variation on air discharges provisions 13 Jan 2007; submissions heard 20 June, 12 July 2007; decisions notified 28 July 2007; no appeals.</p>	MAB, TJ, CW	

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	1	Golden Bay west settlement strategy	<p>Steps Strategic issues investigations; Issues and options paper; consultative process leading to TRMP changes 2008 onwards.</p> <p>Situation Approval to introduce project August 2007.</p>	DH, NJ, DL	Briefing of EPC on scope and process December 2007. Settlement issues and options paper 2008.
	1	Waimea estuary and catchments integrated management strategy	<p>Steps Stocktake of resource values, issues; review of options; formulation of new actions for integration into informal strategy</p> <p>Situation Approval to introduce project August 2007.</p>	NJ, TJ, RS, SM, BW	Briefing EPC on purpose, scope, process and outputs in December 2007.
	1	Deep Moutere groundwater allocation review and waiting lists	<p>Steps Resource statement and issues and options paper, consult with users; draft variation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals</p> <p>Situation Reported to EPC on situation following investigations August 06; reported 12 July 2007 on issues and preferred option; 23 August 2007 draft variation adopted for notification subject to staff management of waiting lists.</p>	MAB, JT	Completion of staff management of waiting lists before notification of variation; by end 2007.
	1	Report on indigenous biodiversity management situation and action plan	<p>Steps Situation report; possible review of TNAES; SNA investigation; possible plan change.</p>	LV, SM	Launch of SNA investigation early 2008.

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			<p>Situation Situation reports to EPC May, June 2007 on biodiversity management and SNA investigation agreement. Commencement of SNA investigation tasks as agreed.</p>		
	1	Advice on policy issues raised by central government or other agencies: legislation, policy statements, management plans, water conservation order processes	Reporting ongoing through 2007/2008 and beyond	Policy team, Manager and others	Responses as required.
	1	Operative Plan package: preparation, approval, date for operative status, plan change request opportunity and cessation of Transitional DP.	<p>Steps Preparation of TRMP package: Identification of Parts I and II as package (March 2006); resolution of key live appeal (Rural 1 subdivision); cross-referencing system; text processing; maps processing; package approval; operative date; opportunity for any person to request change to operative provisions.</p> <p>Situation Package drafting continues and in abeyance pending EC decision on Productive land appeal. Appeal hearing 19 Sept 2007; decision expected early 2008.</p>	SM, PM, MH, ST, NJ, RB, LV	Following resolution of key live appeal, completion of package and submittal for approval as soon as practicable; operative date. Likely to be after January 2008.

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	1	TRMP Part IV: Rivers and Lakes	<p>Steps Draft policy paper for consultation; policy decisions; consultation with draft Part IV; TRMP variation notified; submissions; decisions; appeals.</p> <p>Situation Briefings on issues and draft policy options on 19 July and 23 August 2006; further drafting of regulatory means of implementing preferred policy options in paper ongoing through 2007.</p>	MAB, EV, TJ, PD, CM	Draft Part IV with options assessment to go out for stakeholder feedback. Likely to be after Dec 2007.
	1	Waimea water allocation review: Variation 52	<p>Steps Review results from running low flow allocation options through model; assess process re WWAS process; consult users; TRMP variation; hearing of variation and deferred submissions; decisions; appeals.</p> <p>Situation Variation notified 13 Jan 2007; submissions reporting.</p>	MAB, JT	Hearing of submissions on variation together with outstanding submissions on Var 15, in early 2008.
	1	Variation 44 transport and ESP	<p>Steps Variation notified; review of issues under Variation in light of Richmond planning and ESP review; further advice; further variation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals.</p> <p>Situation Reporting on issues and options for ESC, EPC. Hearing of submissions on Var 44 deferred pending resolution of content in Plan and reviewed Engineering Standards and Policies.</p>	NJ, SL, DL	Advice on issues and options and further variation in early 2008.

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	1	Variations 25/33 CE land disturbance	Steps Hearings; decisions; appeals. Situation Reporting on submissions.	LV, SM	Reporting; and hearing of submissions.
	1	Rural futures: rural policy review	Steps Investigations and reporting on programmed rural policy issues arising from Rural Futures feedback; series of reports arising from priority issues, followed by TRMP change processes. Situation Review of issues commencing in priority order, after TRMP Part II and zone maps operative.	MH, SM and others	Reporting to run from 2008.
	1	Motueka CPZ allocation review	Steps Review of allocation limit following modelling results; plan variation process. Situation Variation preparation.	MAB, JT	Report to EPC in early 2008.
	2	Coastal craft issues (incl. Abel Tasman coastline)	Steps Advice on craft management under foreshore reserve MP and TRMP. Situation Policy advice on managing effects of coastal craft following establishment of foreshore reserve management plan.	NJ	Policy advice 2008.
	2	Riparian land management strategy	Situation report; possible review of RLMS; plan change.	LV et al.	Situation report for EPC early 2008.

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	2	Fate of Tasman Regional Policy Statement	Steps Review content and consistency of TRMP with TRPS; assess options of retaining separate TRPS or combining with TRMP and process involved; review of essential TRPS content for merging with TRMP (Maori policy issues of significance); process management.	SM and team	Report on options to EPC 2008.
	2	Upper Motueka water allocation development	Steps Complete investigations; define issues and options; consult with stakeholders; draft variation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals. Situation Investigations reported 28 August 2006.	MAB, JT	Reporting to EPC in 2008.
	2	Natural hazards strategic policy review	Steps Review of District approach: Investigations into floodplain, coastal, ground instability hazard risks; review of policy issues and options; TRMP change processes.	NJ, EV, GS, PD, SM	Project scope and process to be briefed.
	3	Takaka catchment water management	Steps Issues and options with resource statement; TRMP change process	MAB, JT, GS	Resource investigations summary and issues paper in 2008
	3	Onsite wastewater management:	Steps Review of district approach: Risk assessment of settlement pattern re domestic wastewater contamination; Investigations with policy review; TRMP change process	SL, MAB, DL, JB	Issues and options paper for community in 2008

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	3	Tasman (village) strategic development review	Steps Investigations; issues paper; structure plan for Tasman; TRMP change process	RB, DL and others	Investigations report and issues paper in 2008
	3	Wakefield strategic development planning:	Steps Review of urban development strategy for Wakefield: investigations; issues paper; structure planning; TRMP change process	RB, MB, DL and others	Investigations report and issues paper in 2008
	3	Brightwater strategic development planning	Steps Review of urban development strategy for Brightwater: issues paper; structure planning; TRMP change process	RB, MB and others	Investigations report and issues paper in 2009
	3	Plan implementation monitoring, evaluation and reporting system development:	Steps RMA requires five yearly reporting on operative plans: Database and monitoring process development in conjunction with EMRS and website reporting	SM and team	2008 and ongoing

