

STAFF REPORT

TO: Environment & Planning Committee

FROM: Steve Markham, Policy Manager

REFERENCE: R420

SUBJECT: **POLICY MANAGERS REPORT ON RESOURCE POLICY PROGRAMME - EP09/07/12** - Report Prepared for meeting of 16 July 2009

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides a briefing on the current and likely situation with present and programmed resource policy planning projects and recommends review of priorities under current budget for some of these projects not yet commenced.

2. BACKGROUND

In May 2008 the Committee last considered the resource policy programme (EP 08/05/02 refers). In the draft ten year plan (LTCCP) the following projects are listed as significant projects for the 2009/10 year. Since May 2008 the following key achievements with Committee approval have taken place:

- Live plan appeals stands at four (three cultural sites; one Richmond south) despite six lodged following decisions on Variations 55 – 59 (all these latter in course of being resolved by agreement)
- Parts I and II (Land) operative in part on 1 November 2008
- Richmond West DA Change 10 hearings complete and decisions in progress
- Draft Part IV (Rivers & Lakes) released for consultation
- Draft plan change cultural heritage sites released for consultation
- Water allocation reviews Moutere and Motueka catchments notified and submissions in.

Staff movements since May 2008 are:

- Sonya Leusink-Sladen re-commenced full-time since December 2008 but now on maternity leave and expected to not return
- Stephanie Trevena (part-time) resigned December 2008
- Lisa McGlinchey commenced (fulltime) end June 2009

The outlook is for further continuing a large number of priority projects. In particular, while not projects as such but rather administrative actions, the approval of the remaining parts of the Tasman Resource Management plan also remain milestones to achieve.

The aquaculture regime in Part III was approved some years ago but cannot commence until the AMA status is resolved. The remainder of the Regional Coastal Plan (rest of Part III, coastal discharges and water activities) is however able to be approved and a compilation is under action, to come shortly so that it may then be submitted to the Minister of Conservation for approval before commencing as operative. Similarly, Parts V and VI can be approved to become operative in part once compilations are to hand.

The updated resource policy programme is attached with this report.

3. PROJECTS FOR PRIORITY REVIEW

In May 2008 I noted the capacity limits in the resource policy team, with the rate of progress with maturing and additional numbers of strategic development planning projects. I also noted the constraints on progress through availability of key staff in Engineering Services Department, and Community Services Department for all urban development planning projects, particularly with the rollout of Richmond projects and corporate strategic projects (ten year plan, stormwater management review).

There is now a fair number of live strategic development planning projects, across Tasman and Golden Bays, with both pre-notification and post-notification phases current. The outlook is for more tightly structured timeframes as the workstreams move into and through the notification stage. This is the case for Richmond where there are four fronts of planning (south, west, central and east). For Mapua-Ruby Bay, Motueka west, and east Golden Bay workstreams, structure planning is either the next step or a draft structure plan requires revision follow-through as instructions for the plan change stage. For western Golden Bay, a consultation process on a number of issues is the next step before any draft plan change can be formulated.

Now that appeals on Change 8 (Eastern Golden Bay settlement policies) are resolving themselves, the momentum for the eastern Golden Bay work should be continued for the two planning fronts: Takaka, and Pohara –Tarakohe etc., to link with key infrastructure development (Port Tarakohe and new road link to Takaka) and additional residential land in both fronts.

Strategic development projects not yet commenced, with priority commitments from previous Council decisions, are the Brightwater and Wakefield projects; and a contractual commitment applies to progressing the Golden Bay work to a plan change by end 2009 for at least coastal landscape matters, and the same for Marahau to Kina for 2010. All these projects have strategic drivers that are in general an expected need for urban development space, or dealing with the risk of inappropriate development in high-valued locations. The difficulties with pursuing these projects are the cumulative demand by live projects on other departmental services especially the network asset managers, and the current policy staff commitments in advanced projects.

Other longstanding priority work includes the rural policy review, with work having been deferred for over three years pending the operative plan. Currently with staff committed in urban strategic work, there is limited scope to commence this project for some months. Cleanup of a limited change on coastal land disturbance (Change 3) has my time implicated, and Change 4 on transport standards requires Richmond west work to be completed and project stormwater ESP review work for it to be moved along. This latter area demands time from the asset managers.

Principles applied in previous priority-setting situations by the Committee are:

1. Follow through on current projects to completion in terms of TRMP outputs
2. Do not start uncommitted projects until resource constraints allow it
3. Consider additional budgetary provision on the merits.

The 2009/2010 budget is set; my advice is to give preference to completing those projects the most advanced, and to confirm selected projects to complete the work necessary to the stage of notification. The selection needs to account for current commitments, and more detail can be provided at the meeting.

4. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee **review** or **confirm** the priority status of projects in the updated programme.

Steve Markham
Policy Manager

**APPENDIX 1:
RESOURCE POLICY WORK PROGRAMME**

2009 - 2010 AND BEYOND RESOURCE POLICY PROGRAMME AS AT 6 JULY 2009					
Project No. and Budget	Priority No.	Project Description	Process Steps and Current Situation	Staff	Next Steps
1.	1	Live appeals resolution	Steps Resolution by consent order to EC, hearing by EC or withdrawal, of live appeals (10): Archaeological sites (3); Richmond south (1); Vars 55 – 59 (6)	SM, SL	Court hearings or consideration of consent memoranda.
2.	1	Richmond west development plan - Change 10	Steps Planning investigations and structure planning to support plan change; notified variations (now Change 10); Submissions, hearing and decisions Situation Hearings October 2008, February, March 2009	SM, MH, DH, DL, NJ, RS	Decisions preparation and notification along with any variation
3.	1	Richmond South development plan	Appeals resolution: EC hearing for one appeal.	MH, SM, DL, SL	October 2009 for hearing.
4.	1	Richmond CBD/central area development plan	Steps Joint council project with three stages inquiring into Nelson-Richmond urban intensification: 1. feasibility and pathways 2. locations and actions 3. Implementation. Situation Approved as joint project February 2007. Stage 1 pathways report considered 12 September 2007. Implementation programme across stages 2 and 3 in development (recommended 16 July 2009 to	RB, SM, with MW, RP NCC	Public launch of stage 1 report 14 November 07. Implementation pathways reporting

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Project No. and Budget	Priority No.	Project Description	Process Steps and Current Situation	Staff	Next Steps
			include review of residential intensification regimes).		
5.	1	Richmond east development plan	<p>Steps Report on services and intensification options; draft plan change; consultation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals.</p> <p>Situation Joint council project for draft structure plan for Nelson south – Richmond East approved February 2007. Project report considered 12 September 2007. Draft structure plan and services implementation programme community feedback April – May 2008, review and policy analysis of issues August 2008. Work paused while Richmond west has proceeded.</p>	MH, SM, DL	Policy assessment (report 16 July 2009) and drafting draft change for consultation later in 2009.
6.	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, and draft structure plan community feedback March - April 2008. Policy issues reported June 2008, progress updates December 2008, June 2009.</p>	RB, DL, JC, EV, RS	Revised structure planning and coastal hazard risk assessment; draft change later in 2009.
7.	1	Variation 55 (Change 6) CTA Design Guide	One appeal.	SL	Resolution by consent.
8.	1	Variation 57 (Change 8) Golden Bay East settlement strategy.	<p>Steps Urban settlement options reporting to formulate an EGB preferred settlement pattern; community feedback; plan change; follow up structure planning for preferred development locations;</p>	SL, DL, etc.	Resolution by consent.

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Project No. and Budget	Priority No.	Project Description	Process Steps and Current Situation	Staff	Next Steps
			Further consultation and plan changes. Situation Notification of settlement pattern policies variation 28 July 2007. Submissions decisions November 2008. Four appeals.		
9.	1	Golden Bay East settlement strategy: Takaka and south Takaka Refer EP07-09-06 for description	Steps Takaka rezoning to avoid flood risk exposure of further land; and south Takaka (Park Avenue) structure planning to provide for first stages of concept additional township Situation Project priority confirmed May 2008 but paused pending appeals resolution Variation 57	LM, DL, etc.	Investigations and draft structure plan; flood risk review; plan changes
10.	1	Golden Bay East settlement strategy: Pohara-Tarakohe-Ligar-Tata Refer EP07-09-06 for description	Steps Investigations and structure planning to provide for shape and extent of settlement development in the area integrated with rural land management (non-settlement protection) Situation Project priority confirmed May 2008 but paused pending appeals resolution Variation 57	LM, DL, etc.	Investigations and draft structure plan; plan change
11.	1	Golden Bay west strategic planning Refer EP07-12-04 for description	Steps Strategic issues investigations; Issues and options paper; consultative process leading to TRMP changes 2008 onwards. This work is to include the addressing of rural land management (non-settlement values and their protection) in Golden Bay (Kahurangi Point to Separation Point) integrated with GB East settlement and rural policy review projects.	DH, NJ, DL	Issues and options paper later in 2009.

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			<p>Situation Project commenced December 2007; investigations and targeted stakeholder engagement early 2008; preparatory to issues and options discussion paper and community feedback. Work paused while Richmond west has proceeded.</p>		
12.	1	Motueka west central development plan Refer EP08-03-04 for description	<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> <p>Situation Investigations for demand estimations and outline services plan to support concept structure plan. Liaison with iwi landowners. Report on demand and supply information and planning process March 2008; draft structure plan reported November 2008; community consultation February – April 2009. Issues reporting July 2009.</p>	RB, DL, JC, SM, GC	Review of draft structure plan, and integrate findings of Motueka Transportation Study late 2009, followed by draft plan change.
13.	1	Stormwater management Variation 56 (Change 7)	<p>Steps Draft variation for consultation; Feedback and notification of variation. Submissions, decisions, appeals.</p> <p>Situation No appeals from decisions; change now ready for approval.</p>	SL.	Approve to become operative.

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14.	1	TRMP land use administration issues requiring review.	<p>Steps Series of reports on specific issues arising from administration; Plan change processes for priority issues.</p> <p>Situation Reported on issues and priorities February 2007; Variation 58 notified 28 July 2007; completed process; incorporated in operative Part II.</p>	RB and team	Decisions notified Further assessment of priority issues.
15.	1	Brightwater strategic development planning Refer EP07-12-04 for description	<p>Steps Review of urban development strategy for Brightwater: issues paper; structure planning; TRMP change process</p>	RB, MB and others	Investigations report and issues paper in 2009
16.	1	Wakefield strategic development planning Refer EP07-12-04 for description	<p>Steps Review of urban development strategy for Wakefield: investigations; issues paper; structure planning; TRMP change process</p>	RB, MB, DL and others	Investigations report and issues paper in 2009
17.	1	Variation 44 (Change 4) transport and ESP	<p>Steps Variation notified; review of issues under Variation in light of Richmond planning, ESP review and Project Stormwater; 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, LM, DL, GC	Advice on issues and options and plan change.
18.	1	Variations 25/33 (Change 3) CE land disturbance	<p>Steps Hearings; decisions; appeals.</p> <p>Situation Reporting on submissions.</p>	LV, SM	Reporting; and hearing of submissions.

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Project No. and Budget	Priority No.	Project Description	Process Steps and Current Situation	Staff	Next Steps
19.	1	Rural futures: rural policy review	<p>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.</p> <p>Situation Review of issues following operative Part II.</p>	MH, SM and others	Briefing on scope and reporting to run from later in 2009.
20.	1	Report on indigenous biodiversity management situation and action plan for advocacy (Tasman Native Habitats)	<p>Steps Situation report; possible review of TNAES; SNA investigation; possible plan change.</p> <p>Situation Situation reports to EPC May, June 2007 on biodiversity management and SNA investigation agreement. Reporting to EPC December 2007. Commencement of SNA investigation tasks as agreed. Launch of Tasman Native Habitats project early 2008.</p>	LV, SM	Ongoing advocacy with landowners across priority parts of district.
21.	1	Waimea estuary and catchments integrated management strategy Refer EP07-12-04 for description	<p>Steps Stocktake of resource values, issues; review of options; formulation of new actions for integration into informal strategy</p> <p>Situation Approval to commence project December 2007. Inception meeting July 2008 with key stakeholders. Project management proposal to July 2009 meeting.</p>	NJ, TJ, RS, SM, BW	
22.	1	TRMP Part IV: Rivers and Lakes	<p>Steps Draft policy paper for consultation; policy decisions; consultation with draft Part IV;</p>	MAB, EV, TJ, PD, CM	Draft Part IV with options assessment to go out for stakeholder feedback.

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Project No. and Budget	Priority No.	Project Description	Process Steps and Current Situation	Staff	Next Steps
			TRMP variation notified; submissions; decisions; appeals. 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 and into 2008.		Likely to be December 2008.
23.	1	Waimea water allocation review: Variation 52	Situation Variation notified 13 January 2007; decisions notified November 2008; no appeals.	MAB, JT	Completed.
24.	1	Deep Moutere groundwater allocation review and waiting lists	Steps Resource statement and issues and options paper, consult with users; draft variation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals Situation Reported to EPC on situation following investigations August 2006; reported 12 July 2007 on issues and preferred option; 23 August 2007 draft variation adopted for notification subject to staff management of waiting lists. Further reporting April 2008. Variation 65 (includes Change 12) notified 26 July 2008; submissions in.	MAB, JT	Hearing of submissions August 2009.
25.	1	Motueka water allocation review	Steps Review of CPZ allocation limit following modelling results; plan variation process. Situation Variation preparation and report to EPC in October 2008. Variation 66/Change 13 notified	MAB, JT	Hearing of submissions August 2009.

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			13 December 2008; submissions in.		
26.	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.</p> <p>Situation Notification of variation on air discharges provisions 13 January 2007 no appeals on decisions.</p>	MAB, TJ, CW	Change completed; advocacy and investigations actions under way.
27.	1	Project stormwater	<p>Steps Review of across-council stormwater management outcomes; systems and process issues; tasks; and review of planning documents and arrangements and other actions as required.</p> <p>Situation Review of outcomes for stormwater management, systems and processes 2006 – 2009. Briefing to managers May 2009.</p>	SL, LM, DL, JC, consents, assets, community service staff	Priority workstreams to be confirmed.
28.	1	Advice on policy issues raised by central government or other agencies: legislation, policy statements, management plans, water conservation order processes	Reporting ongoing through 2009/2010 and beyond	Policy team, Manager and others	Responses as required.
29.	2	Fate of Tasman Regional Policy Statement	<p>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</p>	SM and team	Report on options 2009.

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			significance); process management.		
30.	2	Riparian land management strategy	Situation report; possible review of RLMS; plan change.	LV et al.	Situation report.
31.	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.
32.	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 to Council 2009.
33.	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 2009.
34.	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 2009
35.	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 2010

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Project No. and Budget	Priority No.	Project Description	Process Steps and Current Situation	Staff	Next Steps
36.	3	Tasman (village) strategic development review Refer EP07-12-04 for description	Steps Investigations; issues paper; structure plan for Tasman; TRMP change process	RB, DL and others	Investigations report and issues paper in 2010
37.	3	Marahau to Kina strategic development review Refer EP08-04-13 for description	Steps Investigations; issues paper, settlement and rural land management issues and options; TRMP change process.		Investigations report and issues paper in 2010
38.	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	2009 and ongoing