



AGENDA

Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting

Date: Thursday, 23 July 2026

Time: 9:30 am

Location: Manu Koorero Boardroom, Hopuhopu,
451 Old Taupiri Road, Ngaruawahia

Members: Trustee Jackie Colliar – Committee Co-Chair – Waikato Raupatu River Trust
Cr Noel Smith – Committee Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
Cr Jennifer Nickel – Committee Deputy Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Jeff Green – Waikato Raupatu River Trust
Cr Kataraina Hodge – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua – Waikato Raupatu River Trust
Cr Angela Strange – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Donald Turner – Waikato Raupatu River Trust

Alternate: Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith – Waikato Regional Council

Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee

Ngā Tikanga Whakahaere | Terms of Reference

1. *Mana ā-Ture* | Status

This Committee was established, under Clause 9 of the [Joint Management Agreement \(JMA\)](#) between Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council, signed on 18 June 2013, pursuant to section 41 of the [Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims \(Waikato River\) Settlement Act 2010](#).

The Committee is exempt from the application of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 and related *Standing Orders*. Its formal *Terms of Reference* and unique *Standing Orders* (Doc #3018775) were adopted by the Committee on 15 April 2014 (WTCG14/2, Doc #3386945) and by Council on 27 March 2014 (WRC14/67, Doc #3386945). The unique *Standing Orders* have remained unchanged since adoption.

2. *Kaupapa Matua* | Purpose

To give effect to the meetings between the parties provisions (clause 9) as provided for in the *Joint Management Agreement* under the *Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010*.

3. *Ngā Tūranga* | Membership

3.1. *Ngā Mema* | Members

The Committee comprises eight members:

- a. Four members appointed by Waikato Raupatu River Trust.
- b. Four councillors appointed by Waikato Regional Council.

3.2. *Ūpoko me te Ūpoko Tuarua* | Co-Chairs and Deputy Co-Chairs

- a. The Committee is co-chaired, with one Co-Chair appointed by each organisation.
- b. Each party may also appoint a Deputy Co-Chair (or alternate) to act in the absence of their Co-Chair.

4. *Tokamatua* | Quorum

Four members, being two members from each organisation.

5. *Te Pōti* | Voting

- a. All decisions of the Committee are made by consensus.
- b. Members are expected to work together in good faith to reach shared agreement.

6. *Ngā Tikanga Whakahaere Hui* | Meeting Procedures

- a. Meetings are conducted in accordance with the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Standing Orders.
- b. Meetings are hosted alternately by the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council.
- c. Members will receive an agenda at least three working days prior to each meeting.
- d. The Co-Governance Committee is administered by the Waikato Regional Council.
- e. Communications with the media and the wider public will be in accordance with an agreed communications protocol in the Joint Management Agreement.

7. *Ngā Hui i te Tau* | Frequency of Meetings

Annually, or more frequently if agreed.

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1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

2 APOLOGIES

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members are reminded of the need to be aware of maintaining a clear separation between personal interests and duties and their role as an elected member.

If any member has an interest that creates an actual, or could be perceived to create, a conflict in relation to any item on the agenda, it is recommended that this be disclosed.

5 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee
Meeting – 8 April 2026



MINUTES

Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 8 April 2026

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Waikato Regional Council
**Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-
Governance Committee Meeting**

OPEN MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 8 April 2026, 10.02am

Location: Council Chambers
Waikato Regional Council
Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton

Members Present: Trustee Jackie Colliar – Co-Chair – Waikato-Tainui
Cr Noel Smith – Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
Cr Jennifer Nickel – Deputy Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Jeff Green – Waikato-Tainui (virtually via Teams from 10.14am)
Cr Kataraina Hodge – Waikato Regional Council (until 12.35pm)
Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua – Waikato-Tainui
Cr Angela Strange – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Donald Turner – Waikato-Tainui (virtually via Teams)

In Attendance: Cr Keith Holmes – Waikato Regional Council
Cr Tipa Mahuta – Waikato Regional Council (virtually via Teams until 10.52am)

Staff Present: Donna Flavell – Chief Executive Officer, Waikato-Tainui
Mali Ahipene – Pou Tuhono, Waikato Regional Council
Marae Tukere – General Manager, Oranga, Waikato-Tainui
Jason Ake – General Manager, Communications and Engagement, Waikato-Tainui
Mike Scarsbrook – Manager, Environmental Science, Waikato Regional Council
Sandra Sesto-Dekic – Team Leader, Customer Focus, Waikato Regional Council
Karuna Deobhakta – Policy Advisor, Waikato-Tainui
Brooke Roebeck – Democracy Advisor

The contents of these minutes meet all legal requirements and include a full set of decisions.

An audio-visual recording of the open session of the meeting is available on Waikato Regional Council's public website.

Recording	Document ID #	YouTube Link
Open Recording 1	Doc # 35495979	https://youtu.be/9yIDumi1zzY
Open Recording 2	Doc # 35497038	https://youtu.be/pPLjdGU-53I
Public Excluded Recording	Doc # 35498403	–
Open Recording 3	Doc # 35497284	https://youtu.be/eGNhAK64c9k

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 30 seconds.

The Waikato Regional Council Kaitohutohu (Joshua Wetere) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 3 minutes 50 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/01

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Trustee Jackie Colliar

That the apologies of Trustee Jeff Green for lateness and Cr Kataraina Hodge for early departure be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 4 minutes 45 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/02

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Cr Kataraina Hodge

- 1. That the agenda of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting of 8 April 2026, as circulated, be confirmed as the business of the meeting.**
- 2. That the order of items follows the order set out in the minutes.**

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 5 minutes 15 seconds.

No interests were disclosed pertaining to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

5 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

**WAIKATO RAUPATU RIVER TRUST AND WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL CO-GOVERNANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING – 24 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 5 minutes 25 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/03

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Trustee Donald Turner

That the minutes of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2025 be confirmed as a correct record.
CARRIED

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 RECORD OF MEETING ACTIONS

Item commenced in recording 1, at 7 minutes 5 seconds

Presented by the Kaiwhakarite (Ashley Eden).

10.14am – Trustee Jeff Green entered the meeting.

Actions:

1. That the record of meeting actions be updated to include the meeting date and assigned due dates to improve traceability and accountability.
2. That staff explore alternative mechanisms to strengthen Mana Whenua participation in Council decision-making processes.
3. That regular updates on the progress and key developments of the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe with Ngāti Mahuta be provided.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/04

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua

That the report *Record of Meeting Actions* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.2 PRESENTATION – OVERVIEW OF WAIKATO-TAINUI

Item commenced in recording 1, at 42 minutes 45 seconds.

Presented by the General Manager, Oranga (Marae Tukere). Refer Document # 35427688 for the PowerPoint presentation or at page 28-47 of the open agenda.

10.52am – Cr Tipa Mahuta left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/05

Moved: Cr Kataraina Hodge

Seconded: Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua

That the report *Presentation – Overview of Waikato-Tainui* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.3 REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE TO SYSTEM REFORM IN THE WAIKATO

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 55 minutes 30 seconds.

Presented by the Pou Tuhono (Mali Ahipene) and General Manager (Marae Tukere).

11.52am – The meeting adjourned.

12.03pm – The meeting reconvened.

Item continued in open recording 2, at start.

Action:

That a Council workshop be scheduled as soon as practicable to provide an overview of the Waikato-Tainui proposal and enable discussion on a coordinated regional partnership response to system reform in the Waikato.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/06

Moved: Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua

Seconded: Cr Kataraina Hodge

- 1. That the report *Regional Partnership Response to System Reform in the Waikato* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.**
- 2. That the co-governance committee supports the direction of the report and the recommended actions noted in the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Agenda, 8 April 2026 at pages 50-52.**

CARRIED

6.4 UPDATE ON THE WAIKARE-WHANGAMARINO ACTION PLAN

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 46 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Environmental Science (Mike Scarsbrook) who requested the report be taken as read. Refer Document # 35557826 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

Co-Chair Jackie Colliar acknowledged the significant work, investment of time and funding in the Whangamarino and Waikare areas. She thanked those involved for their collaborative approach and highlighted the importance of maintaining momentum, considering future funding opportunities, and agreeing next steps.

Action:

That the Whangamarino Action Plan be tabled at the next Co-Governance Committee meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/07

Moved: Trustee Jackie Colliar

Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

That the report *Update on the Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.5 SUMMARY OF RIVER AND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES - 2024/25

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 20 minutes 51 seconds.

Presented by the Programme Lead, Integrated Catchment Management (Paula Reeves) who requested the report be taken as read. Refer Document # 35520517 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

12.35pm – Cr Kataraina Hodge left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/08

Moved: Trustee Jackie Colliar

Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

That the report *Summary of River and Catchment Management Activities - 2024/25* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.6 STRATEGIC WORK PROGRAMME RESET AND CO-DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 34 minutes.

Presented by the Pou Tuhono (Mali Ahipene).

Action:

That a workshop be scheduled for a facilitated session on the Strategic Work Programme and the co-development approach, prior to the next co-governance committee meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/09

Moved: Trustee Jackie Colliar

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

- 1. That the report *Strategic Work Programme Reset and Co-Development Approach* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.**

2. That the Strategic Work Programme for the 2022–2025 triennium be formally closed.
3. That all remaining and carried-forward actions be transferred into the Co-Governance Committee's actions register and continue to be reported and monitored through that mechanism.
4. That a facilitated session will inform development of the Strategic Work Programme for the 2025–2028 triennium.
5. That a draft Strategic Work Programme be prepared following this session and brought back to the Committee for formal consideration at the next co-governance meeting.

CARRIED

7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 37 minutes 54 seconds

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/10

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Trustee Jackie Colliar

That in accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (Act) and the interests protected by section 6 or 7 of that Act, the public is excluded from the following parts of this meeting. The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public are set out below:

Meeting item no. and subject	Grounds for excluding the public	Reason for excluding the public
7.1 - Te Matatini 2028 – Waikato Regional Council Support	s7(2)(h) of the Act - To enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Act - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

CARRIED

12.41pm – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

7.1 TE MATATINI 2027 – WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORT

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at start.

Presented by the General Manager Engagement and Communication (Jason Ake) and the Team Leader, Customer Focus (Sandra Sesto-Dekic).

Action:

That the relevant Waikato Regional Council team be advised of the anticipated lodging of a Waikato-Tainui resource consent application (earthworks) for the Te Matatini 2027 site at Hopuhopu, to enable early awareness and effective process management.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/11

Moved: Trustee Donald Turner

Seconded: Cr Angela Strange

1. That the report *Te Matatini 2027 – Waikato Regional Council Support* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.
2. That Waikato Regional Council continue to work in partnership with Waikato-Tainui on planning for Te Matatini 2027, specifically to:
 - (a) lead and contribute to regional transport planning and coordination for the event
 - (b) identify and progress areas of Waikato Regional Council support in collaboration with Waikato-Tainui and relevant partner agencies
 - (c) provide progress updates to the Co-Governance Committee at each meeting
3. That the report and the decision be released into the open session, noting that the attachments remain public excluded due to their confidential nature.

CARRIED

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 14 minutes 51 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/12

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the meeting return to the open session.

CARRIED

12.56pm – The meeting moved back to open session.

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 3, at 48 seconds.

The Co-Chair (Jackie Colliar) closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.58pm – The meeting closed.

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 RECORD OF MEETING ACTIONS

Rā | Date: 25 May 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Ashley Eden, Kaiwhakarite

Kaituku | Authoriser: Mali Ahipene, Pou Tuhono

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. To present a record of actions arising from the Waikato-Tainui and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, and to provide the Committee with an update on the status of all live actions recorded in the Co-Governance Committee Action Register.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Record of Meeting Actions* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Actions in the Co-Governance Committee Action Register (**Attachment 1**) have been recorded since the beginning of the 2022-2025 triennium. The register functions as a live accountability tool, capturing agreed actions arising from committee resolutions and tracking progress between meetings.
3. When an action is completed, it is reported back to the Committee once to formally signal completion. Following that reporting, the action is removed from the register, ensuring the register remains focused on live and active matters rather than operating as a historical archive. Where actions transition into ongoing delivery and become embedded as business-as-usual activities, these are also reported to the Committee to acknowledge the shift in status. Once noted, they are removed from the Register on the basis that they are being delivered through standard operational processes rather than one-off actions requiring oversight.
4. As of July 2026, the Action Register contains a total of **24 actions**.
 - (a) 0 actions require escalation
 - (b) 4 actions are recorded as recently complete. These include specific one-off commitments associated with Te Matatini and Strategic Work Programme development.

ĀPITI HANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. **Waikato-Tainui & Waikato Regional Council (WRC) Action Register- as of 6 July 2026 (Doc # 21594047)** [↓](#)

Waikato-Tainui & WRC Co-Governance Committee Meeting Action List							
#	Topic	Resolution/Action Required	Responsible lead	Date Recorded	Due Date	Working status	Commentary
NEW ACTIONS FROM WORKSHOP MINUTES- 29 APRIL 2026							
1	Simplifying Local Government	That Staff summarise Waikato-Tainui positions on a range of topics (particularly submissions to central government) and circulate to Waikato Regional Council elected members	Mali Ahipene	29-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	On track	Waikato-Tainui's submission on simplifying local government was circulated to Waikato Regional Council.The Parties will continue consolidate and share relevant Waikato-Tainui submissions and position statements as they arise. In addition, a summary of Waikato-Tainui's position on the Resource Management Act (RMA) reforms was provided and presented at the 10 March 2026 hui (link below), ensuring members were briefed on current perspectives and key themes emerging from Waikato-Tainui engagement with central government reform processes.
2	Te Matatini 2027	That a report be provided to Waikato Regional Councillors to give context about Te Matatini.	Peata Graham	29-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	On track	Report to be provided at 23 July co-governance meeting
3	Strategic Work Programme	That a short workshop be scheduled for Iwi and Waikato Regional Councillors prior to the June Co-Governance Committee hui to work through the draft strategic work programme	Mali Ahipene	29-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	Delivery issue	Due to timing considerations, the requested workshop was not able to be progressed within the current meeting cycle. The draft strategic work programme will instead be tabled at the Co-Governance Committee hui on 23 July 2026, with additional time set aside for discussion between Iwi and elected members.
NEW ACTIONS FROM UNCONFIRMED MEETING MINUTES- 8 APRIL 2026							
4	Meeting Actions	That the record of meeting actions be updated to include the meeting date and assigned due dates to improve traceability and accountability.	Mali Ahipene	8-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	Complete	This has been actioned. The record now includes meeting dates and assigned due dates.
5	Mana Whenua Participation	That staff explore alternative mechanisms to strengthen Mana Whenua participation in Council decision-making processes.	Mali Ahipene	8-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	Complete	Council's Māori Engagement Framework guides how engagement with Mana Whenua is designed and undertaken, with engagement approaches determined on a case-by-case basis depending on the nature, scale, and impact of the matter. This includes consideration of appropriate timing, level of involvement, and the most effective mechanisms for input, which may vary across different decision-making processes. Within this context, "alternative mechanisms" are not limited to formal committee structures, and may include a range of engagement pathways such as early engagement in work programme development, targeted hui, and co-design processes where appropriate. Further refinement of these approaches will continue as part of ongoing practice improvement across Council work programmes.
6	Mana Whakahono ā Rohe	That regular updates on the progress and key developments of the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe with Ngaati Mahuta ki te Hauaauru be provided.	Mali Ahipene	8-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	On track	In July 2025, Waikato Regional Council received a Mana Whakahono ā Rohe (MWAR) initiation from Ngaati Mahuta ki te Hauaauru, a hapū of Waikato Iwi. It is specifically noted that Mana Whakahono ā Rohe discussions with Ngāti Mahuta will continue separately between Waikato Regional Council and Ngāti Mahuta. Regular updates may be provided to the Co-Governance Committee where appropriate, recognising the wider relevance and interest of this kaupapa. Progressing a Mana Whakahono ā Rohe under section 580 of the Resource Management Act 1991 requires the initiating party to meet the statutory definition of an "iwi authority". Council's role is limited to considering whether there is a sufficient evidential basis to be satisfied that this threshold is met. This does not involve making any determination as to identity, status, or tikanga. In this case, Council carefully considered the information provided by Ngāti Mahuta ki te Hauaauru alongside the correspondence received from Waikato Tainui. The material available to Council at the time primarily reflected its role and identification within the wider Waikato Tainui confederation. Council did not have sufficient additional evidence of independent Crown recognition or comparable forms of external mandate, to be satisfied that the statutory threshold was met in this instance. On that basis, Council was not in a position to proceed with the initiation request under section 580. Council wishes to emphasise that its consideration of this initiation was undertaken strictly within the statutory framework of the Resource Management Act 1991, and not reflect, nor should it be interpreted as, any determination of tribal identity. Ngāti Mahuta have indicated they are seeking a Council-initiated Mana Whakahono ā Rohe process. A Council workshop has been scheduled for 20 August to consider the request and discuss potential next steps.
7	Regional Partnership Response	That a Council workshop be scheduled as soon as practicable to provide an overview of the Waikato-Tainui proposal and enable discussion on a coordinated regional partnership response to system reform in the Waikato.	Mali Ahipene	8-Apr-26	As soon as practicable	Yet to start	A Council workshop was held on 29 April to consider the Regional Partnership Framework. Overall, councillors expressed general support for the intent and direction of the framework. However, a number of areas were identified where further clarification from Waikato-Tainui would assist Council in considering future options and implications. Concurrently, the Head Start local government reform process requires that existing Treaty settlement obligations, statutory arrangements, co-governance and co-management commitments, and other Crown-established commitments with Iwi are appropriately recognised, protected, and able to be given effect under any future governance or local government reorganisation model. These arrangements are considered fundamental design requirements and must not be diminished or inadvertently compromised through reform.
8	Whangamarino Wetland Restoration	That the Whangamarino Action Plan be tabled at the next Co-Governance Committee meeting.	Mike Scarsbrook	8-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	On track	Report to be provided at 23 July 2026 co-governance meeting

9	Strategic Work Programme	That a workshop be scheduled for a facilitated session on the Strategic Work Programme and the co development approach, prior to the next co governance committee meeting.	Mali Ahipene	8-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	Complete	A facilitated workshop was held on 29 April 2026 to discuss the next iteration of the Strategic Work Programme.
10		That a draft Strategic Work Programme be prepared following this session and brought back to the Committee for formal consideration at the next co-governance meeting.	Mali Ahipene	8-Apr-26	23-Jul-26	On track	The draft strategic work programme will be tabled for consideration at the Co-Governance Committee hui on 4 June
11	Te Matatini 2027	That the relevant Waikato Regional Council team be advised of the anticipated lodging of a Waikato-Tainui resource consent application (earthworks) for the Te Matatini 2027 site at Hopuhopu, to enable early awareness and effective process management.	Peata Graham	8-Apr-26	As soon as practicable	Complete	WRC consents team leaders and manager were informed to ensure early awareness of the forthcoming application. One of the consents team leaders has been connected with Janet Falwasser, Stevie Ransfield (Waikato-Tainui Health and Safety), and a Becca representative to support early engagement and information sharing.
12		That Waikato Regional Council continue to work in partnership with Waikato Tainui on planning for Te Matatini 2027, specifically to: (a)Lead and contribute to regional transport planning and coordination for the event (b)Identify and progress areas of Waikato Regional Council support in collaboration with Waikato Tainui and relevant partner agencies (c)Provide progress updates to the Co Governance Committee at each meeting	Peata Graham	8-Apr-26	Ongoing	On track	WRC continues to be engaged in early planning for Te Matatini 2027. A regular progress update will be provided to the Co-Governance Committee
OUTSTANDING STRATEGIC WORK PROGRAMME ACTIONS FROM 2022-2025 TRIENNIUM							
13	Te Ture Whaimana	Co-develop a reporting framework to clearly demonstrate how our mahi gives effect to Te Ture Whaimana in a way that provides a consolidated view and valuable insight to support decision making.	Led by WRC Tairanga-whenua and Environmental Reporting Teams and the Waikato Tainui Strategy and Taiao Teams	2022-2025 TRIENNIUM	TBC	On track	•Stakeholder engagement with River Iwi and the Waikato River Authority has occurred •A draft version of the reporting tool was presented as an agenda item at the Co-Governance Committee meeting on April 9, 2025 •On 18 June 2025, council staff hosted an online workshop with river iwi, including members of co-governance committees, to present a prototype of the reporting tool for Te Ture Whaimana. Feedback highlighted the importance of regular reporting and continuous improvement.
14							The programme has progressed through Communications for development as a public-facing website and is now with the web team for webpage design and creation, building on the initial mock-up shared last year. The mocked-up page is not yet available; once it is, committee members will receive access by email and have a set period to review it and provide feedback.
15	Spatial Information	Arrange a training session in the use of spatial information for WT Kaitiaki	Led by WRC Geo Spatial Info Team and the Waikato-Tainui Strategy and	2022-2025 TRIENNIUM	Aug-26	Yet to start	A new version of the spatial information system (LocalMaps) has been newly introduced. Once the upgrades are fully operational, the associated learning resources will be updated, and an online workshop will be organised with the Waikato-Tainui Taiao Forum to demonstrate the system's capabilities.
ACTIONS FROM CONFIRMED MEETING MINUTES							
16	LTP	That staff present a report to the co-governance committee outlining potential activities for inclusion in Waikato Regional Council's next Long-Term Plan, based on our joint work programmes such as the Strategic Work Programme Land Management Strategy, and the Climate Alliance.	Mali Ahipene /Corporate Planning	Sept-25	April-October 2026	On track	Staff will table a report at a future co-governance meeting. The report will identify potential activities for Waikato Regional Council's next Long-Term Plan (LTP). A high-level schedule for the development of the next LTP has been shared with Waikato-Tainui. It outlines when we intend to engage with Waikato-Tainui regarding the 2027 LTP. Any proposed funding allocations within the Council's Long-Term Plan will be considered as part of that process and are ultimately at the discretion of Council <u>High-level LTP timeframe:</u> Identification of joint projects for LTP funding application: April – October 2026 Business case development: April – October 2026 LTP Consultation Document: December 2026 – February 2027 Consultation period: March – May 2027 Formal LTP adoption: June 2027

17	Comms/Education	Incorporate ongoing community communication to the Strategic Work Programme, with a focus on strengthening education on settlements, Te Ture Whaimana, and Plan Change 1 (PC1). This includes resources to explain PC1's origins and intent, clarify council roles and limitations, and support public understanding of the process and outcomes.	Mali Ahipene	Sept-25	Sept-26	On track	This feedback has been noted and will be incorporated into the next iteration of the Strategic Work Programme. In the interim, we have begun reviewing the information on our website relating to iwi Māori, including content on settlements and Te Ture Whaimana. Initial findings show that while a significant amount of material exists, much of it is outdated, difficult to locate, or presented in a way that is overly complex for users. We are therefore undertaking work to streamline and reorganise this information, so it is more intuitive, easier to navigate, and better supports public understanding. This review will also help to inform how we enhance future communication materials relating to Te Ture Whaimana, Settlements and PC1.
18	Site Visit	That committee members undertake a site visit to the Waahi Waka Tauranga Project.	Harman Sandhu/Nicholas Manukau	Sept-25	Dec-26	Yet to start	It is proposed that we undertake a site visit at a future co-governance meeting. We are also exploring opportunities for site visits to: (a) the Oram Road site proposed for transfer to Waikato-Tainui; and (b) the proposed underground Hamilton City train station. At present, however, a visit to the underground station is constrained by a range of health and safety protocols established by KiwiRail. Representatives from Waikato-Tainui would absolutely be included on the invitation list should we be able to progress arrangements.
19	Resource Consent Processing	A review of current notification processes is requested to ensure that directly affected marae are meaningfully engaged.	Mali Ahipene/Brent Sinclair	Sept-25	TBC	On track	A review of the resource consent process was progressed through the JMA review process. WRC discussed formally extending the Waikato-Tainui timeframe under the JMA to allow for Waikato-Tainui to provide a formal response to consent applications. It was noted that Waikato-Tainui may develop an automated response indicating their interest and intent to engage further on resource consents.
20	JMA and CMLA Review	That a high-level legal review be commissioned to confirm the revised Agreements alignment with the Settlement Act, and any resulting changes be incorporated as agreed by the Chief Executives of both parties	Mali Ahipene	Jun-25	TBC	On track	Legal review of the agreements is with Waikato Tainui.
21		That, following the legal review, each partner organisation proceeds with internal approval processes for the finalised Agreements	Mali Ahipene	Jun-25	TBC	On track	See comment above
22		That the Agreements be signed by nominated representatives at the next Co-Governance Committee (subject to approval from both organisations)	Mali Ahipene	Jun-25	TBC	On track	Pending completion of actions above
23		That the extension of geographical scope that the Joint Management Agreement pertains to will continue to be explored for future consideration and reported back to the Co-Governance Committee	Mali Ahipene	Jun-25	TBC	On track	Pending completion of actions above
24	Te Ture Whaimana	That WRC staff consider what guidance we are giving Council workers to support their understanding of Te Ture Whaimana- (i.e. what giving effect to Te Ture Whaimana looks like in their work areas, particularly given that many staff are not aware of how their BAU contributes to objectives A-M of Te Ture Whaimana)	Tutahanga Douglas	Jun-25	TBC	Yet to start	Staff awareness of Te Ture Whaimana is currently supported through targeted training, such as sessions delivered by RUD that explore its relevance to resource consenting. However, a broader organisational understanding of Te Ture Whaimana remains a key area for improvement. The reporting tool under development is one part of the solution. An educational focus may also form part of the next iteration of the Strategic Work Programme

6.2 WAIKATO-TAINUI UPDATE: RIGHTS AND INTERESTS AND TAIAO RELATED MATTERS

Rā | Date: 23 July 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Ashley Eden, Kaiwhakarite

Kaituku | Authoriser: Brooke Roebeck, Democracy Advisor

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. To receive a report from Waikato-Tainui (attachment 1) outlining initiatives that are of interest to Waikato-Tainui.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. These initiatives are
 - (a) Resource Management Reform
 - (b) Plan Change 1
 - (c) Whangamarino, Lake Waikare and Motukaraka
 - (d) Local Government Reform

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the report *Waikato-Tainui Update: Rights and Interests and Taiao Related Matters* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.
2. That Attachment 1, *Waikato-Tainui Report* (Doc#37603512), be received as public excluded and released in the open session with minor redactions.

ĀPITIHINGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. **Waikato-Tainui Report (Doc#37603512) - Public Excluded (under separate cover)**

6.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Rā | Date: 23 July 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Mali Ahipene, Pou Tuhono

Kaituku | Authoriser: Karen Bennett, Executive Manager, Chief Executive's Office

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. To provide shared background information for the Waikato-Tainui and Waikato Regional Council (WRC) co-governance hui on local government reform, with particular focus on treaty settlement related obligations. The report supports discussion on continuity, transition and future governance arrangements, and explains the matters WRC has been considering and contributing to wider reform discussions. WRC does not have a formal role in proposing what reorganised local government in the Waikato might look like, but has signalled an early preference for a single Waikato-wide unitary authority and has been supporting wider discussions through modelling, analysis and advice on implications for regional functions, Treaty settlement relationships, detailed design and transition.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. On 5 May 2026, the Government announced the Head Start pathway as a streamlined, voluntary process for territorial and unitary authorities that are ready to progress local government reorganisation ahead of wider reform from 2028.
3. Under this pathway, groups of territorial and/or unitary authorities may submit outline proposals to establish one or more new unitary authorities. Regional councils cannot submit a proposal or count toward the majority required, but may contribute information, modelling and advice to support proposal development.
4. Outline proposals are due by 9 August 2026. Government decisions on which proposals proceed to detailed design are expected in September 2026, with final policy decisions expected in 2027. Councils that do not progress through Head Start are expected to be addressed through a wider compulsory reform process after the 2028 local elections.
5. WRC does not have a formal proposing role in the Head Start process. However, Council has signalled an early preference for a single Waikato-wide unitary authority and has been contributing analysis on regional functions, Treaty settlement relationships, representation, local voice, and transition matters to support wider regional discussions.
6. For WRC, the reform context raises important questions about how regional functions, Treaty settlement commitments, Te Ture Whaimana, Joint Management Agreement obligations, co-governance and co-management arrangements, and iwi relationships would be protected and carried forward in any future governance model.
7. This report supports a discussion about the current reform context, the Waikato River settlement operating environment, and the matters that may need to be protected, transferred or carried forward with equivalent effect through any future local government arrangements.

8. WRC has completed a statutory obligations stocktake to bring together obligations it currently holds across Treaty settlement legislation, Joint Management Agreements, statutory acknowledgements and related commitments. The stocktake has also considered where obligations sit spatially and has been shared with relevant territorial authorities to support their own planning.
9. Current Waikato-Tainui and WRC arrangements include Treaty settlement, Joint Management Agreement and Co-Managed Lands Agreement obligations. These arrangements sit within a mature Waikato River settlement framework that has been operating for around 16 years and is expressed through governance, planning, consenting, monitoring, hearings participation and regular operational engagement.
10. The Waikato River settlement framework spans multiple territorial authority areas and sits alongside relationships with other Waikato River iwi and relevant councils. Reform will therefore need to consider not only organisational structure, but also continuity of statutory obligations, relationship mechanisms, institutional knowledge, service levels and trusted working relationships.
11. The key focus for the co-governance hui is to build a shared understanding of the current operating environment.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Local Government Reform* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

HOROPAKI | CONTEXT

12. The Waikato Regional Council Chair has been involved in Mayoral Forum discussions, including discussions where iwi partners have participated, and the Chief Executive has been involved through the CE Forum. A number of proposals are likely to be put forward through the Head Start process, and further detail will emerge as those regional discussions progress.
13. Proposals submitted through the Head Start pathway must involve at least two councils, excluding regional councils. They are evaluated against five key criteria: deliverability; support for the new planning system; simplification of local governance; economies of scale; and maintenance of a local voice.
14. If a Head Start proposal is approved in principle by Cabinet, expected around September 2026, the region would move into a detailed design phase. That phase would include community consultation, final policy decisions in 2027 and implementation before the October 2028 local elections. Councils that do not opt in to this pathway would leave their restructuring to the Government's backstop process.
15. The policy also states that Treaty settlement arrangements must continue to be provided for. Councils will need to engage with relevant post-settlement governance entities to

demonstrate how existing arrangements could transfer to any new unitary authority, or other new local government entity or entities, with equivalent effect.

16. A number of proposals are likely to be submitted through this pathway, and each is likely to have strengths and weaknesses against the five criteria. For WRC, the key issue is not only which structure is preferred, but how any future structure would protect Treaty settlement arrangements, Te Ture Whaimana, Joint Management Agreement obligations, iwi relationships and local voice, while also demonstrating deliverability, scale, simplification and support for the new planning system. This provides the context for considering the strengths and trade-offs of a Waikato-wide unitary model.
17. A Waikato-wide unitary model being promoted by WRC would bring regional and local government functions into one organisation. It is not a formal WRC proposal but reflects the matters Council has been considering and contributing to wider discussions. The model supports integrated decision-making across river, catchment, infrastructure, transport, growth and environmental systems, while providing a single framework for carrying forward Treaty settlement and iwi relationship obligations.
18. The model also seeks to retain local voice through a layered governance structure based on local wards, local councils and an authority-wide governance layer. This is being considered alongside the principle of subsidiarity, where decisions are made locally where local governance is most effective, and authority-wide decision-making is reserved for matters requiring integration, consistency, scale, statutory coordination or accountability.
19. Elected Māori representation would be treated as a foundational feature, integrated alongside general representation at both local and authority-wide levels. This would need to be tested through detailed design, including Māori ward or constituency settings, Māori Electoral Population and General Electoral Population modelling, communities of interest analysis, and the relationship between elected Māori representation and existing Treaty settlement, co-governance and partnership mechanisms.
20. Early engagement with iwi partners has highlighted that local government reform needs to be considered through the lens of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Treaty settlement commitments, Te Ture Whaimana, existing co-governance and co-management arrangements, and the practical relationships that have been built over time between iwi and councils.
21. Key themes heard include the need to protect existing partnerships and statutory arrangements, maintain meaningful Māori participation and local voice, ensure iwi remain involved in detailed design and transition planning, and avoid any future structure diminishing established relationships or obligations.
22. These themes reinforce the importance of treating transition as relationship continuity as well as organisational change. They also support the development of a wider Waikato Māori relationships and obligations inventory to identify the commitments, mechanisms, local practices, relationship holders and institutional knowledge that would need to be carried forward into any future model. WRC's current stocktake brings together obligations held by WRC and includes an assessment of where those obligations sit spatially. It has been shared with relevant territorial authorities to support their own planning, but it will need to be built on over time because WRC does not hold a full view of obligations held by territorial authorities across the wider local government system.
23. For Waikato-Tainui and WRC, the current relationship set includes 33 Treaty settlement obligations, 49 Joint Management Agreement obligations, 27 Co-Managed Lands Agreement

obligations and no statutory acknowledgements recorded for this relationship set. These figures provide an indicative view of the scale and nature of WRC-held obligations that would need to be protected, transferred or carried forward with equivalent effect through any future arrangements.

24. The Waikato River settlement framework spans multiple territorial authority areas, including Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council, South Waikato District Council, Taupō District Council and Rotorua Lakes Council. Another relevant connection is the relationship between Waipā and Te Nehenehenui, which also sits within the wider river and local government context.
25. A Waikato-wide unitary model has potential strengths in aligning regional and local functions, improving integrated planning across river and catchment systems, reducing duplication, supporting region-wide infrastructure and transport planning, and creating a clearer framework for Treaty settlement and iwi relationship obligations. Further work to be completed through detailed design includes protecting local voice and place-based relationships, maintaining service levels, retaining institutional knowledge, preserving Te Ture Whaimana, co-governance and co-management arrangements, and ensuring JMA obligations continue to operate effectively.
26. A separate matter for detailed design is the potential impact of a fragmented Waikato reform outcome, particularly if different parts of the region progress different proposals or are reorganised through different unitary authorities. In that scenario, Waikato-Tainui Treaty settlement obligations that are currently held and implemented by WRC could be split across more than one future unitary authority. This would raise further issues for detailed design, including how obligations are allocated, how consistent implementation is maintained, how Te Ture Whaimana and other settlement commitments are upheld across boundaries, and how spatial planning, RM reform transition arrangements, consenting, hearings, monitoring and relationship mechanisms operate across multiple unitary authorities. Further consideration would also be needed on how coordination and relationships across Waikato-Tainui, Te Nehenehenui, Raukawa, Te Arawa River Iwi, Tūwharetoa and relevant councils are recognised and provided for, given the joint legislative framework and wider Waikato River settlement context.

WHAKAKAPI | CONCLUSION

27. Local government reform is evolving quickly and is likely to have significant implications for governance arrangements in the Waikato, including how regional functions, Treaty settlement commitments, Te Ture Whaimana, JMA obligations and iwi relationships are provided for in any future model. WRC does not have a formal proposing role in the Head Start process, but has been contributing modelling, analysis and advice to support wider discussions and to identify the matters that would need to be addressed through detailed design and transition. The key focus for the co-governance hui is to build a shared understanding of the current Waikato River settlement operating environment, identify matters that must be protected or carried forward with equivalent effect, and support ongoing dialogue as proposals develop.

ĀPITI HANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. WAIKATO-TAINUI OBLIGATIONS REGISTER (Doc#37437851) [↓](#)

WAIKATO-TAINUI OBLIGATIONS STOCKTAKE

Compilation Date: June 2026

SUMMARY

Treaty Settlement Obligations	33
JMA Obligations	49
CMLA Obligations	27
Total	109

SECTION 1: TREATY SETTLEMENT OBLIGATIONS (33)				
<i>Source: Waikato-Tainui Raupatu Claims (Waikato River) Settlement Act 2010 PSGE: Waikato Raupatu River Trust</i>				
#	Category	Timeframe	Detail	Spatial Application
1	RMA planning	From/after: 25/11/2010 (ongoing)	11 Vision and strategy is part of Waikato Regional Policy Statement (1) On and from the commencement date, the vision and strategy in its entirety is deemed to be part of the Waikato Regional Policy Statement without the use of the process in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. (2) As soon as reasonably practicable after the commencement date, the Council must— (a) insert the vision and strategy into the policy statement without using the process in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991; and (b) make consequential amendments to records and publications to reflect paragraph (a). (3) On and from the commencement date, the Council must ensure that the policy statement does not remain inconsistent with the vision and strategy for any longer than is necessary to amend the policy statement to make it consistent with the vision and strategy. (4) The vision and strategy prevails over the policy statement during any period of inconsistency described in subsection (3).	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council, South Waikato District Council, Taupō District Council, Rotorua Lakes Council

2	RMA planning	Ongoing	12 Effect of vision and strategy on Resource Management Act 1991 planning documents (1) The vision and strategy prevails over any inconsistent provision in— (a) a national policy statement issued under section 52 of the Resource Management Act 1991; and (b) a New Zealand coastal policy statement issued under section 57 of the Resource Management Act 1991. (2) The Council must not review or amend under section 79 of the Resource Management Act 1991 the vision and strategy inserted in the Waikato Regional Policy Statement. (3) A local authority must not amend under section 55 of the Resource Management Act 1991 a document defined in section 55(1) of the Act if the amendment would make the document inconsistent with the vision and strategy. (4) A rule included in a regional or district plan for the purpose of giving effect to the vision and strategy prevails over a national environmental standard made under section 43 of the Resource Management Act 1991, if it is more stringent than the standard. (5) A rule included in a regional or district plan for the purpose of giving effect to the vision and strategy prevails over a water conservation order made under section 214 of the Resource Management Act 1991, if it is more stringent than the order.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council, South Waikato District Council, Taupō District Council, Rotorua Lakes Council
3	RMA planning	Ongoing	13 Updating Resource Management Act 1991 planning documents to conform with reviewed vision and strategy (1) The Council must follow the process in subsection (3), and every local authority must follow the process in subsection (4), after every vision and strategy review. (2) The local authority must begin the process— (a) no later than 6 months after the completion of the review under section 18: (b) no later than 12 months after the completion of each review under section 19. (3) The Council must— (a) review the Waikato Regional Policy Statement to see whether it is consistent with the vision and strategy; and (b) if the policy statement is inconsistent with the vision and strategy, initiate an	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council, South Waikato District Council, Taupō District Council, Rotorua Lakes Council

			amendment to it to make it consistent, using the process in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. (4) Every local authority must— (a) review its regional or district plan to see whether it gives effect to the vision and strategy; and (b) if the regional or district plan does not give effect to the vision and strategy, initiate an amendment to it to ensure that it does so, using the process in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. (5) Subsection (6) applies if a joint management agreement between a local authority and the Trust is not in force when the local authority begins the process under subsection (3) or (4). (6) The local authority must,— (a) as soon as practicable after the commencement of a review under subsection (3)(a) or (4)(a), convene a joint working party under section 46(2)(a); and (b) decide jointly with the Trust on the final recommendation on whether to make an amendment to a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document, as provided for in section 46(2)(b); and (c) decide jointly with the Trust on the final recommendation on the content of a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document to be notified under clause 5 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, as provided for in section 46(2)(c); and (d) discuss with the Trust the potential for the Trust to participate in the decisions on a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document under clause 10 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991, as provided for in section 46(2)(d).	
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4	RMA planning	Provide a copy of the statement to the Authority no later than 20 business days after the document has been completed	15 Statement about vision and strategy in Conservation Act 1987 documents and Resource Management Act 1991 planning document (1) This section applies to a person who prepares or changes any of the following documents: (a) a conservation management strategy or conservation management plan under the— (i) Conservation Act 1987: (ii) National Parks Act 1980: (iii) Reserves Act 1977: (iv) Wild Animal Control Act 1977: (v) Wildlife Act 1953: (b) a freshwater fisheries management plan approved under the Conservation Act 1987: (c) a sports fish management plan approved under the Conservation Act 1987: (d) a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document to which sections 9 to 14 apply. (2) The person must— (a) make an explicit statement in the document on how the vision and strategy has been given effect to; and (b) provide a copy of the statement to the Authority no later than 20 business days after the document has been completed.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council, South Waikato District Council, Taupō District Council, Rotorua Lakes Council
5	Resource Consent	Ongoing. No later than 5 business days after receiving a resource consent application.	27 Notice of applications (1) The Council must give written or electronic notice to the Authority and the Trust of the receipt of an application. (2) The Council must give the notice no later than 5 business days after receiving the application.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

6	Hearings	Ongoing	28 Hearing committees (1) This section applies if the Council holds a hearing under the Resource Management Act 1991 on the application. (2) The committee to hear and make a decision on the application must consist of— (a) a number of members appointed by the Council who are Resource Management Act 1991 decision makers; and (b) the same number of members appointed by the Authority who must be persons whose names are recorded in the register; and (c) an independent chairperson jointly appointed by the Authority and the Council, who must be a Resource Management Act 1991 decision maker. (3) The Authority and the Council must discuss the persons to be appointed to the hearing committee with a view to ensuring that the committee contains members with an appropriate mix of skills, expertise, and experience.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
7	Hearings	Ongoing	30 Section 100A of Resource Management Act 1991 (1) This section applies if the Council receives a request under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991 to delegate the hearing of an application to a commissioner or commissioners. (2) The Council must delegate the hearing duties, functions, and powers only of the persons it must appoint under section 28(2)(a). It must not delegate the hearing duties, functions, and powers of the persons whom the Authority must appoint under section 28(2)(b). (3) The Council must ensure that the number of commissioners delegated to hear the application is equal to the number of members appointed under section 28(2)(b). (4) The commissioners delegated to hear the application are— (a) the commissioners to whom the Council delegates hearing duties, functions, and powers under subsection (2), who are appointed under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991; and (b) the persons whom the Authority appoints under section 28(2)(b), who are deemed to be appointed under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991; and (c) the independent chairperson appointed under section 28(2)(c), who is deemed to be appointed under section 100A of the Resource Management Act 1991.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

8	Integrated River Management Plan	Within 3 years of the settlement date (From 14/01/2011 to 13/01/2014)	36 Preparation and approval of plan (1) An integrated river management plan must be prepared together by the Trust, relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies,— (a) following the process in Schedule 7; and (b) acting in a co-operative and co-ordinated manner. (2) A component becomes a component of the plan when it is approved as follows: (a) the conservation component must be approved jointly by the Trust and the Minister of Conservation: (b) the fisheries component must be approved jointly by the Trust and the Minister of Fisheries: (c) the regional council component must be approved jointly by the Trust and the Council: (d) any other component must be approved jointly by the Trust and the agency that agreed on it. (3) If a component cannot be approved under subsection (2) because the Trust and a relevant department or relevant local authority or appropriate agency have not been able to reach agreement on it, each component on which agreement has been reached may be approved under subsection (2). (4) Within 3 years of the settlement date, an integrated river management plan for the Waikato River and its catchment must exist containing the components that have been approved under subsection (2).	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
9	Iwi Environmental Management Plan	No timeframe specified	40 Effect (1) A local authority served under section 39(2)(b) preparing, reviewing, or changing a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document must recognise the Waikato-Tainui environmental plan in the same manner as would be required under the Resource Management Act 1991 for any planning document recognised by an iwi authority. (2) A consent authority considering an application for a resource consent under section 104 of the Resource Management Act 1991 must have regard to the Waikato-Tainui environmental plan, if it considers that section 104(1)(c) applies to the plan.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

10	JMA	No later than 18 months after settlement (unless mutually agreed otherwise)	41 Duty to make (1) A joint management agreement must be in force between each local authority and the Trust no later than— (a) 18 months after the settlement date; or (b) a later date that they agree on electronically or in writing. (2) Each joint management agreement must be generally in the form set out in Part 5 of the schedule of the 2009 deed.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
11	JMA	No later than 18 months after settlement (unless mutually agreed otherwise)	42 Scope A joint management agreement— (a) must include only matters relating to the Waikato River and activities within its catchment affecting the Waikato River; and (b) must cover the matters referred to in section 43; and (c) may cover additional matters agreed under section 52; and (d) must include the matters described in section 62.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
12	JMA	No later than 18 months after settlement (unless mutually agreed otherwise)	43 Contents A joint management agreement must provide for the local authority and the Trust to work together in carrying out the following duties and functions, and exercising the following powers, in the Resource Management Act 1991: (a) monitoring and enforcement, under section 45: (b) preparation, review, change, or variation of a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document, under section 46: (c) duties, functions, or powers under Part 6 of the Resource Management Act 1991 in relation to applications for resource consents, under section 47.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

13	JMA	No later than 18 months after settlement (unless mutually agreed otherwise)	44 Principles for development and operation In working together to develop the joint management agreement, and in working together under the joint management agreement, the local authority and the Trust must act in a manner consistent with the following guiding principles: (a) they must promote the overarching purpose of the settlement to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River for future generations: (b) they must respect the mana whakahaere rights and responsibilities of Waikato-Tainui: (c) they must promote the principle of co-management: (d) they must reflect a shared commitment to— (i) working together in good faith and a spirit of co-operation: (ii) being open, honest, and transparent in their communications: (iii) using their best endeavours to ensure that the purpose of the joint management agreement is achieved in an enduring manner: (e) they must recognise that the joint management agreement operates within statutory frameworks and that complying with those statutory frameworks, meeting statutory timeframes, and minimising delays and costs are important.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
14	Monitoring and enforcement	No later than 18 months after settlement (unless mutually agreed otherwise)	45 Monitoring and enforcement (1) This section applies to monitoring and enforcement relating to the Waikato River and activities within its catchment affecting the Waikato River. (2) The part of the joint management agreement on monitoring and enforcement must provide for the local authority and the Trust to— (a) meet no less than twice each year to— (i) discuss and agree the priorities for the monitoring of those matters set out in section 35(2)(a) to (e) of the Resource Management Act 1991; and (ii) discuss and agree the methods for and extent of the monitoring of those matters set out in section 35(2)(a) to (e) of the Resource Management Act 1991; and (iii) discuss the potential for Waikato-Tainui to participate in the monitoring of those matters set out in section 35(2)(a) to (e) of the Resource Management Act 1991: (b) meet no less than twice each year to discuss appropriate responses to address the outcomes of the monitoring of those matters set out in section 35(2)(a) to (e) of	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

			the Resource Management Act 1991, including— (i) the potential for review of Resource Management Act 1991 planning documents; and (ii) enforcement under the Resource Management Act 1991, including criteria for the commencement of prosecutions, applications for enforcement orders, the service of abatement notices, and the service of infringement notices: (c) agree appropriate procedures for reporting back to the Trust on the enforcement action taken by the local authority: (d) discuss and agree the role of the Trust in the 5 yearly review provided for in section 35(2A) of the Resource Management Act 1991: (e) discuss the potential for persons nominated by the Trust to participate in enforcement action under the Resource Management Act 1991. (3) The local authority and the Trust each bears its own costs of complying with this section. (4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 does not apply to the local authority and the Trust when, under the joint management agreement, they carry out the duties and functions or exercise the powers described in this section.	
15	RMA planning	Ongoing	46 Preparation, review, change, or variation of Resource Management Act 1991 planning document (1) This section applies to preparing, reviewing, changing, or varying a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document to the extent to which those processes relate to the vision and strategy. (2) The part of the joint management agreement on preparing, reviewing, changing, or varying a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document must provide— (a) that, before the preparation, review, change, or variation commences, the local authority and the Trust must convene a joint working party to discuss and recommend to the local authority— (i) the process to be adopted for the preparation, review, change, or variation; and (ii) the general form and content of any document to be drafted for the purposes of consultation or notification under clause 5 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991:	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

			(b) that the local authority and the Trust must decide jointly on the final recommendation to the local authority on whether to commence a review of, and whether to make an amendment to, a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document: (c) that the local authority and the Trust must decide jointly on the final recommendation to a local authority on the content of a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document to be notified under clause 5 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991: (d) that the local authority and the Trust must discuss the potential for the Trust to participate in making decisions on a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document under clause 10 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. (3) The part of the joint management agreement on preparing, reviewing, changing, or varying a Resource Management Act 1991 planning document must also provide a mechanism for the Trust to participate in processes under Part 2 of Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act 1991. (4) The local authority and the Trust each bears its own costs of complying with this section. (5) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 does not apply to the local authority and the Trust when, under the joint management agreement, they carry out the duties and functions or exercise the powers described in this section.	
16	Resource Consent	Ongoing	47 Resource consent process (1) This section applies to— (a) applications to the Council for resource consent to— (i) dam, divert, take, or use water from or in the Waikato River: (ii) discharge a contaminant or water into the Waikato River: (iii) discharge a contaminant onto or into land in circumstances that will result in the contaminant entering the Waikato River: (iv) discharge a contaminant onto or into land in circumstances that will result in another contaminant emanating as a result of natural processes from the former contaminant entering the Waikato River: (v) alter, demolish, erect, extend, place, reconstruct, remove, or use a structure or	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

			part of structure in, on, under, or over the bed or banks of the Waikato River: (vi) drill, excavate, tunnel, or otherwise disturb the bed or banks of the Waikato River: (vii) deposit a substance in, on, or under the bed or banks of the Waikato River: (viii) reclaim or drain the bed of the Waikato River: (ix) enter onto or pass across the bed of the Waikato River: (x) introduce or plant a plant or part of a plant, whether exotic or indigenous, in, on, or under the bed or banks of the Waikato River: (xi) damage, destroy, disturb, or remove a plant or part of a plant, whether exotic or indigenous, in, on, or under the bed or banks of the Waikato River: (xii) damage, destroy, disturb, or remove the habitats of plants or parts of plants, whether exotic or indigenous, in, on, or under the bed or banks of the Waikato River: (xiii) damage, destroy, disturb, or remove the habitats of animals or aquatic life in, on, or under the bed or banks of the Waikato River: (xiv) dump waste or other matter from a ship or aircraft in the part of the Waikato River within the coastal marine area: (xv) dump a ship or aircraft in the part of the Waikato River within the coastal marine area: (xvi) occupy any land that forms part of the Waikato River within the coastal marine area: (xvii) remove sand, shingle, shell, or other natural material from the bed or banks of the part of the Waikato River within the coastal marine area: (xviii) occupy any part of the Waikato River within the coastal marine area for the purpose of an aquaculture activity: (xix) use, or do activities on, the surface of the water in the part of the Waikato River within the coastal marine area: (b) applications to a territorial authority for resource consent for the use of or activities on the surface of the water in the Waikato River. (2) The part of the joint management agreement on the resource consent process must provide that— (a) each local authority must provide the Trust with information on the applications for resource consents the local authority receives:	
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			(b) the information must be— (i) the same as would be given to affected persons through limited notification under section 95B of the Resource Management Act 1991; or (ii) the information that the local authority and the Trust agree on: (c) the information must be provided as soon as reasonably practicable after the application is received and before a determination is made under sections 95A to 95C of the Resource Management Act 1991: (d) the local authority and the Trust must jointly develop and agree criteria to assist local authority decision-making under the following processes or sections of the Resource Management Act 1991: (i) best practice for pre-application processes: (ii) section 87E (request that an application be determined by the Environment Court rather than the consent authority): (iii) section 88(3) (incomplete application for resource consent): (iv) section 91 (deferral pending additional consents): (v) section 92 (requests for further information): (vi) sections 95 to 95F (notification of applications for resource consent): (vii) sections 127 and 128 (change, cancellation, or review of consent conditions). (3) The criteria developed and agreed under subsection (2)(d)— (a) are additional to, and must not derogate from, the criteria that the local authority must apply under the Resource Management Act 1991: (b) do not impose a requirement on a consent authority to change, cancel, or review consent conditions. (4) The local authority and the Trust each bears its own costs of complying with this section. (5) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 does not apply to the local authority and the Trust when, under the joint management agreement, they carry out the duties and functions or exercise the powers described in this section.	
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17	JMA	Multiple timeframes	48 Process for finalising (1) Within 30 business days of the settlement date, each local authority and the Trust must convene a joint committee to begin the process for finalising the joint management agreement. (2) The local authority and the Trust must work together in a positive and constructive manner to finalise the joint management agreement within the timeframe, having particular regard to the principles set out in section 44. (3) The local authority and the Trust may resort to any facilitation, mediation, or other process that they consider to be appropriate in the process of finalising the joint management agreement. (4) No later than 14 months after the settlement date, the local authority and the Trust must give written or electronic notice to the Minister— (a) confirming that all matters relating to the joint management agreement have been agreed; or (b) identifying the nature of issues in dispute that the parties have not been able to resolve and the position of the parties on the issues; or (c) notifying an electronic or written agreement to extend the date by which a joint management agreement must be in force. (5) If notice is given under subsection (4)(a), the notice must also specify the date on which the joint management agreement is to come into force. (6) If notice is given under subsection (4)(b), the Minister and the Trust, in consultation with the local authority, must work together to resolve the issues. (7) The working together may continue for a period of no more than 2 months, unless the Minister and the Trust agree in writing or electronically on a longer period. (8) If, at the end of 2 months, all matters relating to the joint management agreement have been resolved, the local authority and the Trust must finalise the joint management agreement and give written or electronic notice to the Minister specifying the date on which the joint management agreement is to come into force. (9) If, at the end of 2 months, an issue relating to the joint management agreement remains in dispute,— (a) the Minister must determine the issue; and	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
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			(b) in making the determination, the Minister must have particular regard to the principles set out in section 44. (10) When the local authority and the Trust have the Minister's determination, they must— (a) finalise the joint management agreement; and (b) give written or electronic notice to the Minister specifying the date on which the joint management agreement is to come into force. (11) The Minister may appoint a facilitator or take any other action that the Minister considers appropriate to promote the resolution of any issues in dispute between the local authority and the Trust. (12) If notice is given under subsection (4)(c), not less than 4 months before the extended date by which a joint management agreement must be in force, the local authority and the Trust must give written or electronic notice to the Minister— (a) confirming that— (i) all matters relating to the joint management agreement have been agreed; and (ii) the joint management agreement will be in force on the extended date; or (b) identifying the nature of issues in dispute that the parties have not been able to resolve and the position of the parties on the issues. (13) If notice is given under subsection (12)(b), the Minister and the Trust, in consultation with the local authority, must work together to resolve the issues and the provisions of subsections (7) to (11) apply with any necessary modification. (14) The local authority and the Trust may agree that a joint management agreement is to come into force in stages. (15) When the local authority and the Trust give notice to the Minister of the date on which the joint management agreement is to come into force, they must also give the Minister a copy of the agreement. (16) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 does not apply to the local authority and the Trust when, in finalising the joint management agreement, they carry out the duties and functions or exercise the powers described in this section.	
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18	JMA	Ongoing	49 Suspension (1) The local authority and the Trust may agree in writing or electronically to suspend, wholly or partly, the operation of the joint management agreement. (2) In reaching an agreement, the parties must specify the scope and duration of the suspension.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
19	JMA	Ongoing	51 Legal framework (1) Sections 36B to 36E of the Resource Management Act 1991 do not apply to a joint management agreement. (2) The carrying out of a duty or function, or the exercise of a power, under a joint management agreement has the same legal effect as the carrying out of a duty or function, or the exercise of a power, by a local authority. (3) A local authority must not use the special consultative procedure under section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 in relation to a joint management agreement. (4) A joint management agreement is enforceable between the parties to it. (5) Neither party has the right to terminate a joint management agreement.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
20	JMA	Ongoing	52 Extension (1) The local authority and the Trust may extend the joint management agreement to cover any other duties, functions, or powers they agree on. (2) If the local authority and the Trust agree to extend the joint management agreement to cover any other duties, functions, or powers, subsections (3) to (6) apply. (3) The extended part of the joint management agreement is subject to sections 49 to 51 and 53 to 55. (4) The extended part of the joint management agreement may be terminated wholly or partly by one party giving the other party 20 business days' written or electronic notice. (5) Before either party exercises the right in subsection (4), the parties must work together to seek to resolve the issue giving rise to the wish to terminate, in a manner consistent with the principles set out in section 44 and the dispute resolution	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

			process contained in the joint management agreement. (6) Termination under subsection (4) does not affect the remaining part of the joint management agreement.	
21	JMA	Ongoing	53 Review and amendment (1) The local authority and the Trust may at any time agree in writing or electronically to undertake a review of the joint management agreement. (2) If, as a result of a review, the local authority and the Trust agree in writing or electronically that the joint management agreement should be amended, they may amend the joint management agreement without further formality. (3) If the joint management agreement is amended, the local authority and the Trust must— (a) give written or electronic notice of the amendment to the Minister; and (b) provide a copy of the amended joint management agreement to the Minister.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
22	JMA	Ongoing	55 Exercise of powers in certain circumstances (1) This section applies if— (a) a statutory function or power is affected by a joint management agreement; and (b) either— (i) an emergency situation arises; or (ii) a statutory timeframe for the carrying out of the function or the exercise of the power is not able to be complied with under the joint management agreement. (2) The local authority may carry out the function or exercise the power on its own account and not in accordance with the joint management agreement. (3) As soon as practicable, the local authority must give the Trust written or electronic notice of the carrying out of the function or the exercise of the power.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

23	Customary Activities	Ongoing	58 Management of authorised customary activities (1) On or before 30 June each year, the Trust must give the relevant local authorities and the administering bodies of relevant reserves written or electronic notice stating— (a) the authorised customary activities that are intended to occur in the 12-month period starting on 1 January of the following year; and (b) the likely dates and locations of those activities. (2) A relevant local authority or the administering body of a relevant reserve must follow the process in subsection (3) if it receives an application for a resource consent or permit or any other authorisation of an activity that— (a) would have the effect of preventing an authorised customary activity specified in the notice occurring at the location and on the date specified in the notice; or (b) would have a significant adverse effect on the carrying out of an authorised customary activity specified in the notice at the location and on the date specified in the notice. (3) The authority or body must— (a) assess the effects of the activity on the authorised customary activity; and (b) seek and have particular regard to the Trust's views before deciding what the effects are and whether any of them could have a significant adverse effect on the authorised customary activity; and (c) if the activity could have a significant adverse effect on the authorised customary activity, decide whether conditions could prevent the effect and what the conditions would be; and (d) give the Trust written or electronic notice of its decisions under paragraphs (b) and (c); and (e) if the activity could have a significant adverse effect on the authorised customary activity, give the Trust a date that is at least 7 business days after the date of the notice by which it must advise the authority or body whether or not it consents to the activity. (4) No less than 20 business days before the intended carrying out of an authorised customary activity, the Trust must give the relevant local authorities and the	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
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			administering bodies of relevant reserves written or electronic notice of the precise dates on which and locations at which it is intended that the activity will be carried out. (5) No less than 10 business days before the intended carrying out of the authorised customary activity, the authorities and bodies must give public notice of the intended carrying out of the activity. (6) A member of Waikato-Tainui carrying out an authorised customary activity on a date and at a location specified in a notice given under subsection (5) is not liable to pay, for carrying out the activity, a coastal occupation charge provided for in a regional coastal plan or any other charge. (7) Subsection (8) applies to the following decisions: (a) the decision to determine who is allowed to carry out a particular authorised customary activity: (b) the decision to specify conditions on the carrying out of an authorised customary activity: (c) the decision to limit or suspend an authorised customary activity wholly or partly. (8) In relation to the decisions,— (a) the Trust has the right to make them: (b) the Trust must give the relevant local authorities and the administering bodies of relevant reserves written or electronic notice of them: (c) the relevant local authorities and the administering bodies of relevant reserves are not responsible for monitoring or enforcing compliance with them. (9) The relevant local authorities and the administering bodies of relevant reserves must give the Trust written or electronic notice of the grant of a resource consent or the issue of a permit or other authorisation for an activity at a location and date that coincides with the carrying out of an authorised customary activity of which the Trust has given notice under this section.	
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24	Customary Activities	No later than 18 months after settlement (unless mutually agreed otherwise)	62 Joint management agreement must include processes relating to customary activities (1) The joint management agreement between a local authority and the Trust must include the processes described in this section. (2) There must be processes for the local authority— (a) to carry out the assessment required by section 58(3)(a); and (b) to seek the Trust's views under section 58(3)(b); and (c) to decide conditions under section 58(3)(c). (3) There must be a process for the parties to explore— (a) whether other customary activities could be carried out by Waikato-Tainui on the Waikato River without the need for a statutory authorisation from the local authority; and (b) in particular, whether other customary activities could be provided for as permitted activities in relevant regional or district plans. (4) There must be a process to avoid the grant of a statutory authorisation by the Council to a person in relation to whitebait stands or eel weirs that gives rise to a significant adverse effect on the use of traditional whitebait stands or eel weirs by members of Waikato-Tainui. (5) There must be a process for the Council and the Trust to explore the potential for the Trust to carry out, wholly or partly, the functions of the harbourmaster in relation to the carrying out of authorised customary activities. (6) There must be a process for the participation of the Trust in the development, review, and amendment of the navigation bylaws relating to the Waikato River. (7) There must be a process for the participation of the Trust in the development, review, and amendment of a management plan for a reserve under the Reserves Act 1977 covering part of the Waikato River, if the local authority is the administering body of the reserve. (8) There must be a process to discuss the carrying out by the local authority or the Trust of activities or initiatives directed to the restoration or enhancement of the Waikato River, including but not limited to riparian planting, pest control, and wetland restoration.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
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			(9) There must be a process for the development of appropriate protocols between the local authority and the Trust relating to the customary practice of placing raahui (restrictions) on a part of the Waikato River.	
25	Soil Conservation and River Control	No later than 12 months after the settlement date	70 Council's rights relating to soil conservation and river control (1) The co-management agreement between the Council and the Trust must provide for the exercise of the Council's rights described in subsections (2) and (3). (2) The Council may exercise the rights only for soil conservation and river control purposes. (3) The Council's rights are to— (a) enter on to the sites of significance with or without machinery for the purposes set out in paragraphs (b) to (j): (b) operate, and maintain, repair, replace, and upgrade, improvements on the sites of significance existing at the existing at the date of vesting under section 66 or constituted by the Council after the vesting: (c) construct a water course or water courses on the sites of significance and alter or reconstruct and clean or otherwise maintain them: (d) construct a stopbank or stopbanks or other defence against water on the sites of significance and alter or reconstruct and do all things necessary to maintain them: (e) plant, sow, and maintain grasses, plants, trees, or shrubs on the sites of significance and regulate or prohibit interference with or destruction of them: (f) prevent or regulate the pumping or releasing of water into water courses on the sites of significance or the overflow of artesian water: (g) regulate the use of water courses on the sites of significance: (h) prohibit the passing over of water courses on the sites of significance: (i) prevent water courses on the sites of significance from being made wider or deeper than they are at the time, whether by cleaning them or altering their course or	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

			any other means: (j) generally, for soil conservation and river control purposes on, or in relation to, the sites of significance,— (i) do any act or thing; or (ii) require the doing of the act or thing; or (iii) prohibit the doing of the act or thing. (4) The Registrar-General must record on computer freehold registers created under section 67 or 68 that the sites of significance are subject to the Council's rights. (5) The Council's rights run with and bind all subsequent owners of the sites of significance, despite any rule of law or equity to the contrary. (6) The Council's rights are terminated when both the following have occurred: (a) the Council gives the Registrar-General written or electronic notice that it no longer requires the rights; and (b) the Registrar-General removes the record made under subsection (4). (7) Until the co-management agreement comes into force, the council may exercise a right if the exercise is required— (a) to deal with an emergency: (b) to do routine maintenance: (c) to do soil conservation and river control. (8) The Council must consult the Trust before acting under subsection 7)(b) or (c). (9) In relation to subsection (7)(c),— (a) the Council must have particular regard to the cultural significance of the land to Waikato-Tainui when deciding whether to propose to the trustees that it exercise the right: (b) the trustees must give consent if the exercise of the right is reasonably required for soil conservation and river control purposes but may impose conditions protecting the value of the land to Waikato-Tainui. (10) The Council is not liable to pay a charge to the Trust for the exercise of its rights under this section.	
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26	Soil Conservation and River Control	Ongoing	76 Council's duties relating to soil conservation and river control (1) This section applies to the managed properties vested in the Council under section 74. (2) The Council must hold the properties for soil conservation and river control purposes. (3) The Council must administer the properties in accordance with— (a) the purposes for which it holds them; and (b) the co-management agreement.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
27	Soil Conservation and River Control	Ongoing	77 How Public Works Act 1981 affects managed properties (7) The Council and the Trust must discuss whether the public work referred to in subsection (6)(b)(i) or (ii) could be carried out if the property were transferred to the Trust instead of being kept by the Council or disposed of under section 50 of the Public Works Act 1981 and, if they agree it could, the Council must transfer the property to the Trust for no financial or other consideration.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
28	Soil Conservation and River Control	No later than 12 months after the settlement date	80 Duty to make co-management agreement (1) The Council and the Trust must make a co-management agreement about— (a) the fee simple sites: (b) the managed properties: (c) the reserve sites for the purpose only of section 70. (2) The Council and the Trust must make the agreement no later than— (a) 12 months after the settlement date; or (b) a later date that they agree on electronically or in writing. (3) The agreement must contain provisions that— (a) further the exercise of mana whakahaere by Waikato- Tainui: (b) promote soil conservation and river control in a manner that is consistent with the restoration and protection of the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River for future generations: (c) provide appropriate protection for, and recognition of, sites of significance: (d) relate to the exercise of the Council's rights under section 70 to ensure the value of the sites of significance to Waikato-Tainui is preserved:	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

			(e) promote the resolution of disputes. (4) The Council and the Trust must work together in a positive and constructive manner to finalise the agreement within the timeframe. (5) The Council and the Trust may resort to any facilitation, mediation, or other process that they consider to be appropriate in the process of finalising the agreement. (6) The Council and the Trust must, no later than 10 months after the settlement date or a later date that they agree on electronic-ally or in writing, give written or electronic notice to the Minister— (a) confirming— (i) that all matters relating to the agreement have been agreed; and (ii) that all the matters are contained in a written document signed by the parties; or (b) identifying— (i) the matters that have been agreed; and (ii) the nature of issues in dispute that the parties have not been able to resolve and the position of the parties on the issues. (7) If notice is given under subsection (6)(a), the written document becomes the agreement on the day notice is given. (8) If notice is given under subsection (6)(b), the Council, the Minister, and the Trust must work together to resolve the issues. (9) The working together may continue for a period of no more than 2 months. (10) If, at the end of 2 months, all matters relating to the agreement have been resolved and are contained in a written document signed by the Council, the Minister, and the Trust, the document becomes the agreement on the day it is signed. (11) If, at the end of 2 months, an issue relating to the agreement remains in dispute, the Minister must— (a) determine the issue; and (b) on the basis of the determination, sign a written document containing the matters referred to in subsection (6)(b)(i) and the matters determined by the Minister; and (c) provide copies of the signed document to the Council and the Trust. (12) The document becomes the agreement on the date on which the Minister signs	
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			it. (13) The agreement is enforceable in accordance with its terms. (14) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002 does not apply to the Council and the Trust when, under the co-management agreement, they carry out the duties and functions or exercise the powers described in this section.	
29	WRA	No timeframe specified	2 Composition of membership (4) The decision of a local authority to recommend a person for appointment as a member of the Authority— (a) does not require the local authority to undertake consultation; and (b) does not have the effect of making the Authority a council organisation or a council-controlled organisation. (5) If the Council does not make a recommendation, the Minister may appoint a member who, in the opinion of the Minister,— (a) has a sound knowledge of the Waikato region and its communities; and (b) has the skills, knowledge, or experience to— (i) participate effectively in the governance of the Authority and the management of its functions; and (ii) contribute to the achievement of the overarching purpose of the settlement to restore and protect the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River for future generations.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council, South Waikato District Council, Taupō District Council, Rotorua Lakes Council, Ōtorohanga District Council, Waitomo District Council
30	Integrated River Management Plan	No timeframe specified	1 Preparation of draft plan The following process applies to the preparation of a draft of the integrated river management plan: (a) Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies must meet to discuss the preparation of a draft plan; and (b) Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies may consult with and seek comment from appropriate persons and organisations in the preparation of the draft plan.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council, South Waikato District Council, Taupō District Council, Rotorua Lakes Council

31	Integrated River Management Plan	Multiple timeframes	2 Notification and submissions on draft plan (1) When Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies have prepared the draft plan, they— (a) must notify it by giving public notice; and (b) may notify it by any other means that Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies think appropriate; and (c) must ensure that the draft plan is available for public inspection. (2) The public notice must— (a) state that the draft plan is available for inspection at the places and times specified in the notice; and (b) state that interested persons or organisations may lodge submissions on the draft plan— (i) with Waikato-Tainui or the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, or appropriate agencies: (ii) at the place specified in the notice: (iii) before the date specified in the notice; and (c) set a date for the lodging of submissions that is at least 20 business days after the date of the publication of the notice. (3) Any person or organisation may make a written or electronic submission on the draft plan in the manner described in the public notice.	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council
32	Integrated River Management Plan	No timeframe specified	3 Approval of [Integrated river management] plan (1) Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies must consider submissions made under clause 2, to the extent to which they are consistent with the purpose of the plan. (2) Waikato-Tainui and, as applicable, the relevant Minister or the Council or the appropriate agency may then approve the plan. (3) Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies— (a) must notify the plan by giving public notice; and (b) may notify the plan by any other means that Waikato-Tainui and the relevant	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

			departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies think appropriate. (4) The public notice must— (a) state where the plan is available for public inspection; and (b) state when the plan comes into force. (5) The plan— (a) must be available for public inspection at the local offices of the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies; and (b) comes into force on the date specified in the public notice.	
33	Integrated River Management Plan	(a) within 5 years after the date on which the plan comes into force; and (b) within 5 years after the previous review is completed by— (i) a decision that the plan does not need to be amended; or (ii) the approval of	4 Review of, and amendments to [Integrated river management] plan (1) Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies may at any time agree to review and, if necessary, amend the plan or any component of the plan. (2) Neither Waikato-Tainui nor the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, or appropriate agencies may unreasonably withhold their agreement under subclause (1). (3) Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies must start a review of the plan— (a) within 5 years after the date on which the plan comes into force; and (b) within 5 years after the previous review is completed by— (i) a decision that the plan does not need to be amended; or (ii) the approval of an amended plan. (4) Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies doing a review under subclause (1) or (3) must apply clauses 1 to 3, modified as necessary, to the review. (5) If Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies agree as a result of the review that the plan should be amended in a material way, the amendment must be approved under section 36(2). (6) If Waikato-Tainui and the relevant departments, relevant local authorities, and appropriate agencies agree that the plan should be amended in a way that is not material, they must apply clause 3(3) to (5), modified as necessary, to the proposed amendment and the amendment need not be approved under section 36(2).	Waikato District Council, Waipā District Council, Hamilton City Council

		an amended plan.		
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SECTION 2: JOINT MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT OBLIGATIONS (49)				
<i>Source: Waikato Raupatu River Trust Joint Management Agreement Party: Waikato Raupatu River Trust (Waikato-Tainui)</i>				
#	Clause	Category	Details	Spatial Application
1	13.3	General	Following the Initial Review, this Agreement will be reviewed on dates as may be agreed between the Parties, but at intervals of no more than five years.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
2	14.1	General	The Parties from time to time may agree in writing to suspend in whole or in part, the operation of this Agreement. In reaching such agreement the Parties will specify the scope and duration of the suspension.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
3	17.2	General	As soon as practicable the Council will provide Waikato-Tainui with written notice of carrying out any emergency exercise of powers	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
4	Schedule 2 section 5	Policy	Council to follow the agreed process in schedule 2 to address private plan change requests	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

5	Schedule 5 C.2(b)	Maritime	...the Council will discuss appropriate wording with Waikato-Tainui and will recommend adding specific references to traditional whitebait stands and eel weirs as a part of the next Bylaw review, if it is jointly considered appropriate to do so.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
6	Schedule 5:A	Maritime	Prior to commencing public engagement on review of the Bylaw, the Programme Manager Navigation Safety and a key Staff from Waikato-Tainui will meet and discuss: issues being raised by the Council as a part of the review and issues of concern to Waikato-Tainui that should be included in the review	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
7	5.2c	General	The Parties will work with each other in various operational activities and secure a working relationship through schedules in this Agreement that outline responsibilities and provide an efficient and effective process of engagement.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
8	7.3	General	The council will endeavour to enter into a mutually beneficial relationship with Waikato Tainui	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
9	11d	General	Identify and educate staff members who will be working closely with Staff from each respective Party and informing staff members from each organisation of the obligations under this Agreement.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

10	Schedule 5:B	Maritime	The agreed processes outlined in Schedule 5 B.2 will be implemented in relation to granting Temporary event permits under the bylaw.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
11	Schedule 5 C.1	Maritime	...when carrying out its functions and exercising powers pursuant to the Bylaw, [Council] must recognise and provide for the importance of Authorised Customary Activities.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
12	Schedule 5 C.2(a)	Maritime	the Council will retain the 5 knot speed limits within 30m distance from shore or from a structure; (as per the Bylaw), (except for temporary events where speed provisions are lifted);	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
13	Schedule 5:D	Maritime	If any actions are taken by the Council, in order to meet a statutory deadline (and which might otherwise contravene another process in the navigation safety section of this Agreement), the Council will send details of these actions to Waikato-Tainui via an email to the Staff member provided as soon as reasonable practicable after the action has been taken.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
14	Schedule 5: E.1(e)	Maritime	[In the event of Tangihanga or Hari Tuupaapaku] Council will be responsible for publicly notifying a temporary closure of the area involved, including erecting any signs at local boat ramps, if considered necessary	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

15	Schedule 5:F.1(a)-(c)	Maritime	Waikato-Tainui and the Council will meet twice each calendar year. This forum shall be to discuss any matters regarding the implementation of navigation safety and customary activities, including, but not limited to, the following matters: (a) in accordance with section 62(3)(a) of the Waikato River Settlement Act, whether other customary activities (events and other activities) could be undertaken without the need to obtain a temporary event permit, or other exemption from Bylaw; (b) in accordance with section 62(9) of the Waikato River Settlement Act, the development of appropriate protocols for the customary practice of placing raahui; and (c) in accordance with section 62(5) of the Waikato River Settlement Act, the appointment of Harbourmasters, Enforcement Officers and Honorary Enforcement Officers.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
16	Schedule 5:F.1	General	[Council to follow the process for calling bi-annual meetings]. The process for the bi-annual meetings is: (a) a call for agenda items, 1 (one) month prior to the meeting date; (b) agenda to be pre-circulated to both Parties; (c) minutes to be kept; (d) action points to be recorded and reported back to the next meeting; and (e) Waikato-Tainui and the Council will alternate hosting the meeting.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
17	6.1(f)	Consents	In working together, the parties will....take into account the relevant components of the Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan and the Integrated Management Plan as they relate to the Waikato River within the geographic jurisdiction of the Council	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

18	9.1	General	The Parties will have annual co-governance meetings to achieve the purpose of this Agreement.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
19	10.1	General	The Council will make available to Waikato-Tainui all information held by the Council (subject to the Local Government and Official Information and Meetings Act 1987) where that information is requested by Waikato-Tainui for the purposes of assisting them to exercise their mana whakahaere in respect of the Waikato River and enabling Waikato-Tainui to exercise their rights fully under this Agreement.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
20	11.1(a)	General	...establish and maintain a database of contact details for relevant staff of Waikato Tainui and Council	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
21	11.1(c)	General	...provide reasonable opportunities for relevant Staff from both Parties to meet with each other, including arranging meetings to discuss and resolve any issues when required	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
22	Schedule 2, 3.3	Policy	The parties will work together in a way that follows the process outlined in Table 1 (Timeframes for preparation, review, change and variations of RMA Planning Documents)	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

23	Schedule 2 section 6.2	General	...the parties to meet no less than twice yearly in relation to monitoring and enforcement in accordance with section 35(2)(a)-(e) and section 35(2A) of the RMA.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
24	8.2	Consents	follow the processes outlined in the Schedules to assist Council in its decision making in relation to resource consents under section 47(d)(i) to (vii) of the Waikato River Settlement Act.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
25	Schedule 3, Section A.3	Consents	Council will, in their best endeavours, aim to achieve the consent application timeframes identified in Table 1 of Schedule 3	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
26	Schedule 3, Section B.1.2 (a)	Consents	Where there is a proposed pre-application meeting with an applicant, the Council will advise the applicant that Waikato-Tainui would like to participate in the meeting.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
27	Schedule 3, Section B.1.2 (b)	Consents	Where the applicant opposes Waikato-Tainui participating in a pre-application meeting and Council staff consider that consultation with Waikato-Tainui is necessary, Council staff will encourage applicants to consult and seek advice and guidance from Waikato-Tainui and, where possible, to do so before the application is formally lodged.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

28	Schedule 3, Section B 2.2 (a)	Consents	At its earliest convenience, the Council will notify Waikato-Tainui that a request for a direct referral to the Environment Court was received for an application.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
29	Schedule 3, Section B 2.2 (b)	Consents	The Council will engage with Waikato-Tainui as to its views on the request.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
30	Schedule 3, Section B 2.2 (c)	Consents	The Parties will meet to discuss and agree criteria to assist Council in its decision making.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
31	Schedule 3, Section B 2.2 (d)	Consents	When making a decision on such requests the Council will take account of the decision-making criteria in the Council Criteria for Decision Making Table (Table 2) below as well as any additional criteria agreed between the Parties.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
32	Schedule 3, Section B 2.2 (e)	Consents	The Council will formally advise Waikato-Tainui of its decision and the reasons for the decision.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

33	Schedule 3, section B 3.2(a)	Consents	Where the Council receives an application that indicates clearly a potential adverse effect on the health and wellbeing of the Waikato River in terms of the matters addressed in the Vision and Strategy but the matter is not addressed in the Assessment of Environmental Effects (AEE), that matter may be taken account of when Council determines the completeness of an application under section 88 of the RMA.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
34	Schedule 3, section B 4.3(a)	Consents	The Council shall advise Waikato-Tainui of any section 91 of the RMA deferrals.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
35	Schedule 3, section B 6.2(a)	Consents	Council will provide Waikato-Tainui with a copy of resource consent applications	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
36	Schedule 3, B 7.2	Consents	Council to treat S127 RMA applications (Change or cancellation of consent condition on application by consent holder) in the same way as any other application	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
37	Schedule 3, B 8.2 (a)-(b)	Consents	The Council will annually provide Waikato-Tainui with a list of high priority resource consents for which an opportunity for review of consents is approaching.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

38	Schedule 3, B 8.2 (c)	Consents	In determining whether or not to undertake a review of a consent under section 128 of the RMA, the Council will have regard to any information and views provided by Waikato-Tainui.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
39	Schedule 3, C.2	Consents	[Council] must recognise and provide for the importance of Authorised Customary Activities and the use of whitebait stands and eel weirs to Waikato-Tainui and as an integral part of the relationship of Waikato-Tainui with the Waikato River.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
40	Schedule 3, C.4	Consents	In accordance with Section 58(2) and (3) of the Waikato River Settlement Act, if the Council receives an application for a resource consent that would prevent an Authorised Customary Activity from happening; or would have a significant adverse effect on an Authorised Customary Activity. The following will occur: (a) The Council will assess the scale and nature of the potential effects, after consulting with, and having particular regard to the views of Waikato-Tainui; (b) Advise Waikato-Tainui in writing of the Council's assessment of the effects and any conditions that would prevent the effects; (c) If Waikato-Tainui does not consent to the application it will advise the Council in writing as soon as reasonably practicable but no later than 8 (eight) Working Days after receiving the Council's formal advice; and (d) The Council will advise Waikato-Tainui in writing of the Council's decision on the application	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

41	Schedule 3, C.5	Consents	...the Council will avoid the grant of a statutory authorisation to a person in relation to whitebait stands or eel weirs that gives rise to a significant adverse effect on the use of traditional whitebait stands or eel weirs by members of Waikato-Tainui	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
42	Schedule 3, Section D.1.3	Consents	Biannual meetings will be held between the Council and Waikato-Tainui to discuss: • priorities for monitoring the exercise of resource consents • the methods for and extent of the monitoring of the exercise of resource consents • appropriate responses to address the outcomes of the monitoring of the exercise of resource consents that have effect in the region including enforcement under the RMA, including criteria for the commencement of prosecutions, applications for enforcement orders, the service of abatement notices and the service of infringement notices; • consent review opportunities • the effectiveness of consent conditions • the effectiveness of Council's compliance activities, policies and practices, to improve compliance between all resource users	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
43	Schedule 3, Section D.1.3(c)	Consents	Biannual meetings will be held between the Council and Waikato-Tainui to discuss the potential for Waikato-Tainui to participate in the monitoring of the exercise of resource consents that have effect in the region	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
44	Schedule 2: 3.2	Policy	One outcome of working together in accordance with the requirements of the Waikato River Settlement Act will be a joint final recommendation to Council on the content of an RMA Planning Document.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

45	Schedule 3 Section D.2	Enforcement	No later than 3 (three) weeks prior to each biannual meeting, RUD shall provide Waikato-Tainui with a summary update of enforcement actions (prosecutions, enforcement orders, abatement notices and infringement notices) undertaken by the Council under the RMA in respect of those activities which relate to the Waikato River and activities within the catchment affecting the Waikato River.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
46	5.3	General	The Parties agree to continue exploring the development and agreement of further schedules within 12 months of signing this Agreement.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
47	13.2	General	The first review (Initial Review) of this Agreement will take place no later than two (2) years from the Commencement Date.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
48	Schedule 4, Table 1	State of Environment Monitoring	Waikato-Tainui Environment Manager (or nominee) and the Council SOE Manager (or nominee) will meet at an appropriate time to determine the most effective process and timeframes for the joint development and reporting of environmental monitoring information.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
49	8.1	Consents	The Parties agree to meet to jointly develop and agree criteria to assist Council in its resource consenting decision making under Section 47(d)(i) to (vii) of the Waikato River Settlement Act.	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

SECTION 3: CO-MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT OBLIGATIONS (27)				
<i>Source: Waikato Raupatu River Trust Co-Managed Lands Agreement Party: Waikato Raupatu River Trust (Waikato-Tainui)</i>				
#	Clause	Category	Details	Spatial Application
1	11.2	Review and amendment. The first review of this Agreement will take place no later than two (2) years from the date upon which this Agreement is signed and every two years thereafter	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
2	8.3	Key dates and milestones for the review process of the LTP will be communicated at the earliest possible time to Waikato-Tainui.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
3	8.4	The Parties may develop joint recommendations for work priorities and funding to be included in the Council's LTP	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
4	8.8	The Parties will provide meaningful opportunities to be involved in the development and implementation of their respective plans	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

5	8.9	The Council will provide opportunities to include Waikato-Tainui staff in the Integrated Catchment Management team meetings	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
6	8.1	The Parties will develop and implement a collaborative approach to presenting project information to public, various stakeholders and Waikato-Tainui marae, where agreed.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
7	8.11-8.12	The review of Zone Plans that are applicable to the lower Waikato River will involve collaborative input from both Parties.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
8	8.13	The review and implementation process of the Zone Plans must recognise the roles of the catchment sub-committees and Waikato-Tainui marae.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
9	8.21	The Parties have agreed to a Zone Licence Agreement licensing process which is more fully described in Schedule Six.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

10	8.22	The licensing process will remain in force until the end of 31 May 2013, at which time it will no longer be applicable or a new process will be agreed upon.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
11	Schedule 3, 2.1	Both parties shall make every effort to co-operate in sharing and managing information relevant to the shared duties and responsibilities.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
12	Schedule 3, 6	If there is a request for information, then the Council will need to abide to the obligations set out in Schedule 3, Clause 6.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
13	Schedule 6, 4	The Parties will discuss these tasks (the Licensing Process) at their meetings and agree on the role each will take.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
14	Schedule 6, 5	The Parties will discuss these tasks (the Annual Administration) at their meetings and agree on the role each will take.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

15	4.4	Council will maintain early engagement with Waikato-Tainui as is reasonable in the event where the scope for engagement is reduced due to an emergency.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
16	5.1	All third party, external and media communications will be consistent with the communications protocol as specified in Schedule Two.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
17	5.2	The Council and Waikato-Tainui will establish and maintain effective and efficient communication with each other as specified in Schedule Two.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
18	6	The Parties agree to have at least two meetings per year at an operational/technical management level	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
19	7.1	Information sharing protocol is implemented as per Schedule 3.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

20	7.2	Each Party will make available to the other Party information held by them where that information is requested for the purposes of implementing this Agreement.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
21	8.17	In managing a flood event, the Council will take all reasonable steps to inform and involve Waikato-Tainui in the decision making process but will act in the absence of that involvement if necessary to protect life, significant infrastructure or the integrity of the flood control scheme.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
22	8.2	The Parties have agreed to use the standard Zone Licence Agreement outlined in Schedule Four and the Zone Land Guidelines Document in Schedule Five.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
23	Schedule 2, 5.2	The Council will use its best endeavours to consult with Waikato-Tainui before publicly commenting on information relating between the parties.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
24	Schedule 2, 7	Communications Plan - Waikato-Tainui and the Council will issue joint statements about the JMA, look for suitable opportunities to get media publicity.	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

25	9.1	A list of key Staff representatives will be provided to each Party for the various Management Arrangements outlined in clause 8	General	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
26	8.18	The Parties agree to develop a land management strategy that determines the appropriate management of lands under this Agreement (including non-licensed land).	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council
27	8.23	The Parties agree that all funds recovered from the Zone Licence Agreements under the Flood Control Scheme will continue to be used to offset the costs associated with the operational and administrative management of these lands.	Integrated Catchment Management	Waikato District Council, Hamilton City Council, Waipā District Council

6.4 UPDATE ON PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1: WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS

Rā | Date: 13 July 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Brooke Roebeck, Democracy Advisor

Kaituku | Authoriser: Tracey May, Director, Science, Policy and Information

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. To provide the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee with a verbal update on Plan Change One (PC1).

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Director, Science, Policy and Information (Tracey May) will provide a verbal update on Plan Change One (PC1) at the meeting. No written report accompanies this item. The update is provided at the request of the Committee Co-Chair.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Update on Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1: Waikato and Waipa River Catchments* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

ĀPITI HANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

6.5 UPDATE ON THE DRAFT WAIKARE-WHANGAMARINO ACTION PLAN

Rā | Date: 20 May 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Mike Scarsbrook, Manager - Environmental Science

Kaituku | Authoriser: Tracey May, Director, Science, Policy and Information

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. Provide the Committee with a summary of feedback from interested parties on the final draft of the Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan, and to provide an update on planning for implementation of the Action Plan.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. There is general acceptance that Lake Waikare and Whangamarino Wetland are highly degraded, and significant interventions will be needed over time to restore the health and wellbeing of these highly-valued waterbodies. Waikato Regional Council, with support from the multi-party Whangamarino Working Group, has been developing the Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan over the last two years.
3. The Action Plan identifies a suite of integrated actions that if implemented are likely to result in significant improvements in the health and wellbeing of Waikare and Whangamarino over time (please see attached 'Plan on a Page' summary of the Action Plan).
4. The Plan was scheduled to be completed by 30 June 2026 but project completion has been delayed until the end of August/beginning of September, providing time to address feedback received on the final draft.
5. Feedback from most Working Group members has been positive, with a majority of Working Group members indicating support for the Plan. Senior managers from Department of Conservation, Waikato River Authority, Waikato-Tainui and Waikato Regional Council have also voiced support for the Plan, noting the need for detailed implementation planning as a critical next step.
6. Landowner representatives on the Working Group have indicated significant concerns and they do not support the Plan in its current form. Council has received additional feedback from wider landowner groups echoing concerns about the content of the draft Plan. Concerns include the potential for impacts on farming, limited consultation and a lack of detail on how and when actions might be implemented.
7. In response to feedback received to date the need to be very clear on the purpose of the plan is evident, with suggestions that it could be reframed as a higher-level 'strategic' document. The need for detailed implementation planning is recognised as a significant gap in the current plan and consultation with all affected parties will be required during that process.

8. All project partners, including primary industry sector groups have expressed their desire in being actively involved in implementation of the Action Plan. The Action Plan recommends an implementation phase covering a five-year period (2026-2031).

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Update on the Draft Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

HOROPAKI | BACKGROUND

9. The Whangamarino catchment covers a large area of the lower Waikato. It includes Lake Waikare, Whangamarino Wetland and many interconnected waterbodies (e.g. Maramarua River, Waerenga Stream, Matahuru Stream).
10. The catchment is highly complex. Multiple anthropogenic issues (e.g. excessive sediment and nutrients, pest species and major flow/level modifications) have existed for generations and solutions to these issues have, so far, failed to stop ongoing degradation of the system's health and wellbeing. A changing climate is exerting additional pressures. There is widespread recognition of the degraded condition of Lake Waikare, Whangamarino Wetland and other waterbodies, and a common desire (and legislated mandate) to see the health and wellbeing of these waterbodies restored and protected over time.

TE TAKE | ISSUE

11. Over the last two years, a collaborative Working Group has built a collective understanding of catchment issues, defined environmental outcomes, collated and assessed potential restoration actions and made recommendations for implementation. The resulting Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan (see **attachment 1** - 'Plan on a Page' summary) identifies actions that are likely to drive significant environmental improvements in Waikare and Whangamarino – that is its primary Purpose.
12. Many of the actions described in the Plan will require significant change in how we all manage the wider catchment. This includes considering land use management, controlling invasive species and greater integration of approaches to water level management.
13. The potential impacts of these actions on other outcomes (e.g. regional economy) have not been fully considered at this stage. Such analysis will be critical when building business cases for implementation funding.
14. A final draft of the Action Plan was circulated for feedback at the end of April 2026. We received substantial written and verbal feedback from multiple parties, including landowners, DairyNZ, HortNZ, and Federated Farmers.
15. Feedback from most Working Group members has been positive, with a majority of Working Group members indicating support for the Plan. Senior managers from Department of Conservation, Waikato River Authority, Waikato-Tainui and Waikato Regional Council have

also voiced support for the Plan, noting the need for detailed implementation planning as a critical next step.

16. Landowner representatives on the Working Group indicated significant concerns and they do not support the Plan in its current form. Council has received additional feedback from wider landowner groups echoing concerns about the content of the draft Plan.
17. Concerns include the potential for impacts on farming, limited consultation and a lack of detail on how and when actions might be implemented. As a result of this feedback, and a request for additional landowner consultation, finalisation of the Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan is now likely to be at the end of August/beginning of September at the earliest (a two-month delay on the original deadline of 30 June).
18. Overall, feedback points to a strong strategic direction provided by the Action Plan, but limited detail on the implementation and the likely costs and benefits. This level of implementation detail was outside the scope of the Action Plan but is critical to allaying concerns about the potential level of economic and social impact from changes in the catchment long-term.
19. The Action Plan recommends an initial Implementation Programme covering a five-year period (2026-2031). All project partners have expressed their desire in being actively involved in implementation of the Action Plan. In some cases, this includes a desire/expectation to be involved in governance and decision-making.

ĒTAHI ATU TAKE | OTHER MATTERS

20. The recent release of the Environment Court's decision on Plan Change 1 (PC1) adds further complexity within the Whangamarino Catchment. The catchment is highlighted as a priority area and more stringent controls on farming, than are applicable for the rest of the Waikato/Waipā catchment, are signalled in the Court's ruling.
21. The alignment of the PC1 decision with the finalisation of the Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan also provides an opportunity for greater integration of implementation programmes and an improved clarity on what individual landowners might be required to do under PC1 to help achieve improved catchment outcomes.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

22. Strong working relationships and trust have been built between agencies working together to identify actions that will improve the health and wellbeing of Lake Waikare and Whangamarino Wetland.
23. Implementation planning is underway and will include governance options, roles and responsibilities and potential funding pathways for delivering actions. Waikato Regional Council, Department of Conservation, Waikato River Authority and Waikato-Tainui are providing leadership in this implementation planning, including considering coordinated funding packages for action implementation.

ĀPITI HANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. **Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan on a Page (Doc # 35772543)** [↓](#)

A collective response

Over the years, many groups, including landowners, iwi and hapuu, councils, government agencies and community organisations, have worked hard to protect and restore Lake Waikare and Whangamarino Wetland.

But the reality is, they have struggled to make headway as restoration and conservation cannot be achieved through a single action or by any one sector alone. Even so, their efforts have laid important groundwork for the next phase of recovery: the Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan.

Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan

Te Ture Whaimana o te Awa o Waikato

Its vision is a future where a healthy Waikato River sustains abundant life and prosperous communities. It calls on all of us to take responsibility for restoring and protecting the health of the river and its catchments, now and for generations to come.

Built on generations of lived experience, maatauranga (traditional knowledge), decades of research and lessons from previous catchment initiatives, the Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan sets out 19 primary actions that can collectively deliver measurable environmental improvements across the catchment.

Many actions are already underway or can be implemented with existing knowledge, such as removing barriers to native fish migration, predator control, riparian planting and increasing wetland extent. Transformational actions, such as integrated water level management, koi carp and erosion control, and reducing land use intensity, address the root causes of decline and will require strong collaboration, clear investment pathways, and staged delivery over decades.

Taken together, these actions will strengthen ecological resilience, improve water quality, and support the long-term recovery of cultural and community values.

Extensive input from iwi and hapuu, landowners, local communities, government agencies, rangatahi (youth) and technical experts has shaped the Action Plan, ensuring objectives and actions reflect local values, cultural priorities and technical insights.

What's needed to succeed

Success will require everyone working together, aligning values, sharing responsibility and committing to the long-term recovery of the catchment's environmental, cultural, social and economic wellbeing.

Local knowledge, maatauranga and science must continue to guide decisions, while practical on-the-ground action continue alongside the transformational changes needed to address the underlying pressures on the catchment. Ultimately, every contribution – big or small – will help drive positive change.

Partners to the Action Plan

The Action Plan is backed by a strong network of partners who are committed to its delivery and long-term success. Our partners include Waikato-Tainui, Nga Muka Development Trust, Ngaati Hine, Waahi Whaanui Trust, Waikato River Authority, the Department of Conservation, Fish & Game, Waikato District Council, the University of Waikato, and local landowners, schools and community groups.

How you can help

There are many ways you can help with the recovery of Lake Waikare and Whangamarino Wetland: volunteer with local conservation groups, manage pests and plant natives on your property, collaborate with iwi and hapuu on environmental projects, or support riparian planting and wetland restoration initiatives.

By contributing your time, skills and knowledge, you help build the partnerships and collective commitment needed to drive long-term recovery and protect the catchment for future generations. Learn more at waikatoregion.govt.nz/Whangamarino-action-plan



Te riu wai o Waikare me Whangamarino Lake Waikare and Whangamarino Wetland Catchment

Our catchment, our responsibility

Lake Waikare and the Whangamarino Wetland are taonga – precious natural areas of international and cultural significance – yet despite current efforts, they continue to decline from the pressures of modern day impacts. Deterioration has occurred over generations, and both causes and solutions are complex. Improving the state of these waterbodies will take time, effort and collaboration.

Together as a community we all have a role to play in healing and protecting this natural area. The Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan provides a pathway for us to work together and realise transformational change so our catchment can be enjoyed for generations to come.

Understanding the catchment

The Lake Waikare and Whangamarino wetland catchment area include the sub-catchments of Lake Waikare, Whangamarino wetland, Whangamarino River, Maramarua River and the Matahuru and Waerenga streams.

The Whangamarino Wetland is a Ramsar site of international significance, recognised for its naturalness. Covering ~7000 hectares, the wetland is situated on the floodplain of the lower Waikato River and is fed by the Pungarehu Stream, Whangamarino River and Maramarua River. It also receives inflows from Lake Waikare via the Pungarehu Canal.

Pressures on the catchment

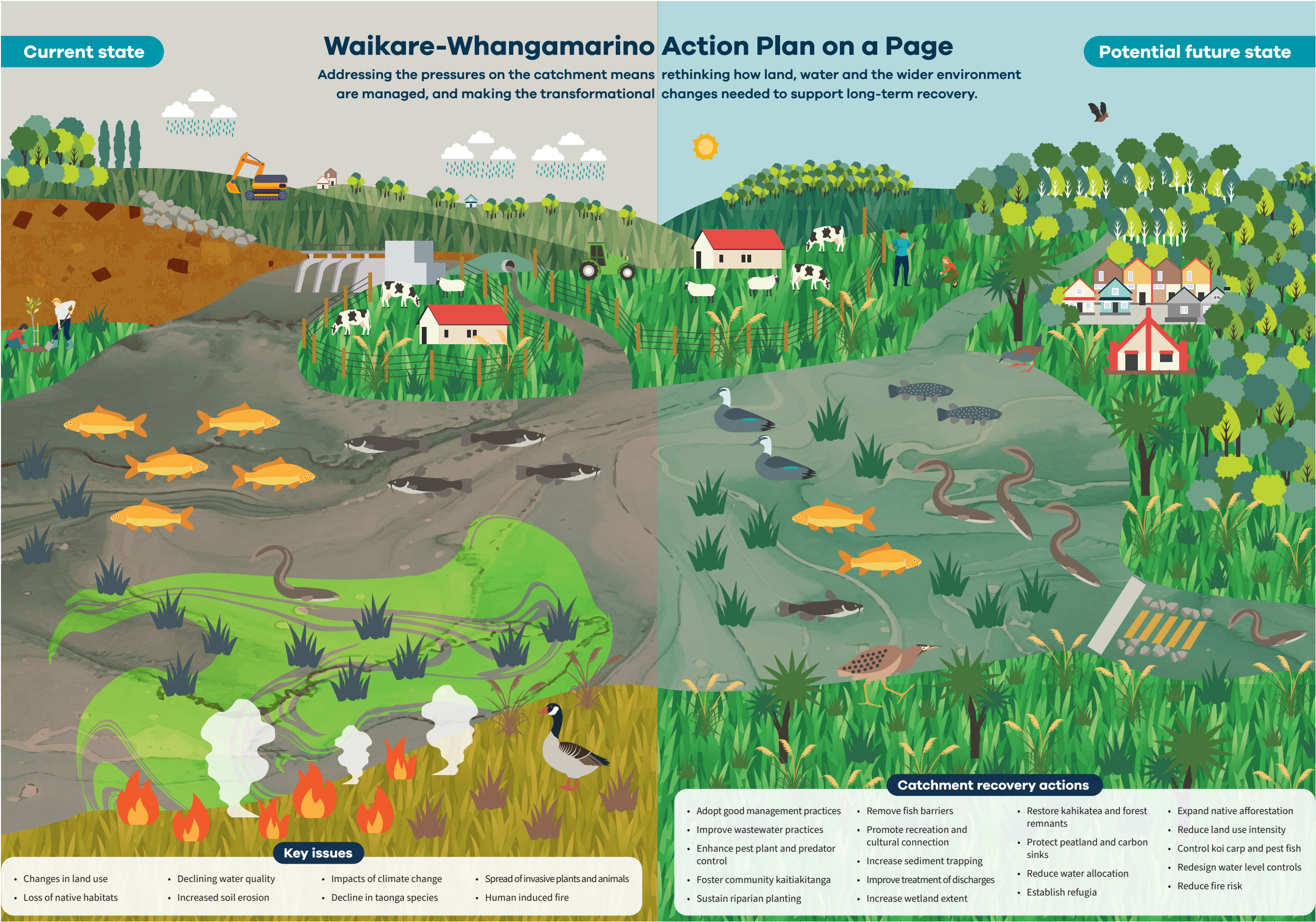
Human activities over many decades have significantly altered the natural environment of Lake Waikare and Whangamarino wetland, placing considerable pressure on the wider catchment.

Summary of the issues

- The natural hydrology of the catchment has been heavily altered, changing how water moves and affecting the health of waterbodies.
- Land and aquatic vegetation have changed significantly over time, with native habitats replaced or lost, reducing the catchment's natural resilience.
- Nutrient loads, particularly nitrogen and phosphorus, are far higher than the environment can absorb, driving ongoing water quality decline.
- Sediment erosion and deposition have reshaped physical habitats, smothering ecosystems and reducing water clarity.
- Invasive plant and animal species have degraded habitats, out-competing native species.
- The impacts of climate change have increased pressure on the catchment, reducing its ability to recover from droughts, storms and temperature extremes.
- Many taonga species have declined in health, abundance and distribution, reflecting wider degradation of the catchment.
- Opportunities for people to connect with waterbodies has diminished as environmental decline has reduced access, safety and cultural use.

These pressures are interconnected and collectively contribute to the degradation of environmental, cultural, social and economic values. Turning this around will demand transformational change in the way land and water are managed across the catchment.





6.6 TE MATATINI 2027

Rā | Date: 11 May 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Peata Graham, Kaiwhakarite

Kaituku | Authoriser: Mali Ahipene, Pou Tuhono

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update on Waikato Regional Council's ongoing engagement and support for Waikato-Tainui in planning for Te Matatini 2027, following the initial overview report presented in April 2026.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Te Matatini 2027 will be held at Hopuhopu in early 2027 and is a major cultural event requiring coordinated regional planning.
3. Waikato Regional Council (WRC) will continue to work in partnership with Waikato-Tainui on planning for the event and provide regular progress updates.
4. Engagement has progressed to early planning, with a current focus on transport coordination, park-and-ride assessments, integrated ticketing, emergency readiness, and cross-agency alignment.
5. This report provides an update on engagement to date and outlines the current areas of focus for our involvement, consistent with its agreed regional enabling role.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Te Matatini 2027* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

HOROPAKI | BACKGROUND

6. Te Matatini 2027 will be hosted by Waikato-Tainui at Hopuhopu in February 2027 and is expected to attract around 100,000 attendees, with a significant national and international audience.
7. The earlier report noted the scale and significance of Te Matatini and outlined that any Waikato Regional Council (WRC) involvement would align with its regional role and statutory functions.
8. Te Matatini Event Director, Janet Falwasser, sought engagement with WRC to clarify how we can support, given the scale of the event.
9. It was agreed that WRC's support would primarily be coordination-focused, with key areas including transport planning, accessibility, and regional alignment.

10. The committee resolved that WRC continue to work in partnership with Waikato-Tainui to plan for Te Matatini 2027 and provide regular progress updates.

RELATED PLANNING MATTERS

11. At the previous Joint Management Agreement (JMA) meeting held on 8 April 2026, Waikato-Tainui signalled their intention to lodge consent applications for earthworks at Hopuhopu in preparation for Te Matatini 2027.
12. WRC consents team leaders and manager were informed to ensure early awareness of the forthcoming application. Early engagement was established between Waikato-Tainui representatives, project partners, and Council staff to support information sharing and the consent process.
13. A resource consent application was granted on 1 July 2021⁶. The consent authorises the placement of clean fill associated with the construction of earth mounds/bunds, a bus parking area, pathways, and a hardstand area for the market precinct at Hopuhopu. The granting of this consent represents an important milestone in enabling site preparation works for Te Matatini 2027.

CURRENT ENGAGEMENT

14. WRC continues to be engaged in early planning for Te Matatini 2027. On 30 April, WRC staff met with Janet Falwasser, Event Director, following her request for an event briefing and discussion on areas for collaboration.
15. The meeting provided an overview of the latest event brief and focused on identifying how WRC can support planning across a range of areas, including regional transport, cross-agency coordination, engagement and communications, emergency readiness, economic contribution, and post-event evaluation.
16. Transport has been identified as a key area requiring coordinated support. A meeting took place on 5 May where discussions involved park-and-ride assessments, visitor flow management, integrated ticketing, and transport solutions, including options where transport costs are incorporated into event ticketing.
17. As part of transport planning discussions, KiwiRail has indicated it is seeking guidance from WRC to support potential operational requirements during the event. These include managing freight train movements, exploring a shuttle rail service between Hamilton and Hopuhopu, and potential rail connectivity between Pukekohe and Hopuhopu.
18. Road network considerations have also been raised, including proposed management of Great South Road during the event, with continued access for residents and essential services. Further confirmation is being sought to ensure no, or minimal, disruption to the Northern Connector (SH21).
19. WRC has received a formal request from Waikato-Tainui to consider transport options, including the use of Te Huia rail services, to support Te Matatini 2027. Engagement is ongoing to explore how these transport requirements could be supported, with consideration being given to operational and service delivery requirements.

20. Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) has continued engagement with Waikato-Tainui regarding emergency planning for Te Matatini 2027. Planning is underway for a Coordination Working Group, where CDEM will provide specialist advice and intelligence to support emergency preparedness and response planning.
21. The event briefing clarified a number of next steps for coordination:
 - I. Tai-ranga-whenua member, Peata Graham, will act as a central point for receiving, sharing, and coordinating communications and future engagements related to Te Matatini 2027 across WRC.
 - II. The event has been included in WRC's Economic Strategy Priorities and Initiatives, with direct engagement between WRC staff and Waikato-Tainui.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

22. WRC continues to work in partnership with Waikato-Tainui to support planning for Te Matatini 2027, in line with the direction provided by the Committee.
23. Engagement to date has supported early alignment on roles, responsibilities, and priority workstreams, particularly in relation to transport planning, regional coordination, and operational readiness.
24. As event planning progresses, WRC will continue to focus on areas where it can add the most value within its statutory role and will provide further updates to the Committee as key planning milestones are reached.

ĀPITI HANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

6.7 DRAFT STRATEGIC WORK PROGRAMME 2025-2028

Rā | Date: 23 July 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Ashley Eden, Kaiwhakarite

Kaituku | Authoriser: Mali Ahipene, Pou Tuhono

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. This report introduces the draft Waikato-Tainui / Waikato Regional Council Strategic Work Programme (SWP) for the 2025-2028 triennium and seeks initial feedback to inform further refinement ahead of formal consideration by the Co-Governance Committee.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Following closure of the 2022-2025 Strategic Work Programme, the Committee undertook a facilitated workshop process to define the Strategic Work Programme for the current triennium. That process has resulted in a focused, governance-level work programme centred on a small number of partnership-critical priorities.
3. To support development of a realistic and deliverable programme, the draft Strategic Work Programme was circulated to relevant staff from both organisations for initial review and “ground-truthing”. Feedback was sought on alignment, deliverability, resourcing, ownership, sequencing, and dependencies across each initiative.
4. Feedback from staff confirmed that the overall direction of the programme is well aligned with current organisational priorities and, in most cases, builds on existing or planned work rather than introducing entirely new areas of activity. This provides a strong foundation for delivery.
5. The draft Strategic Work Programme is therefore presented as an initial framework to guide coordinated effort between Waikato-Tainui and Waikato Regional Council.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Draft Strategic Work Programme 2025-2028* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

6. The draft Strategic Work Programme provides a focused basis for guiding partnership activity over the 2025-2028 period. Feedback will inform further refinement to ensure the programme remains realistic, strategically aligned, and deliverable within existing capacity.

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Draft Strategic Work Programme - as of June 2026 (Doc # 35977885) [↓](#)**

Draft Waikato-Tainui / Waikato Regional Council Strategic Work Programme 2025–2028

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Strategic Work Programme (SWP) is to provide a focused framework for partnership activity between Waikato-Tainui and Waikato Regional Council across the 2025–2028 triennium.

The SWP is intended to:

- strengthen co-governance and co-management practice;
- support alignment of shared strategic priorities;
- provide visibility of partnership-critical initiatives;
- support coordinated leadership on significant kaupapa; and
- provide a basis for monitoring progress and shared accountability.

The SWP is not intended to replace operational work programmes, statutory obligations, or directorate delivery plans. Rather, it identifies a focused set of partnership-critical priorities where co-governance leadership, coordination, visibility, and alignment are considered to add the greatest strategic value.

CONTEXT

At its hui on 8 April 2026, the Waikato-Tainui / Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee formally closed the 2022–2025 Strategic Work Programme and resolved to undertake a facilitated process to inform development of a refreshed programme for the 2025–2028 triennium.

A facilitated workshop was subsequently held on 29 April 2026 involving governors and supporting staff from both organisations. The workshop reflected on:

- what has worked well;
- what has not;
- what remains incomplete; and
- what should be continued, changed, stopped, or newly introduced.

The workshop also considered the current operating environment, including:

- local government and resource management reform;

- increasing climate and resilience pressures;
- financial and organisational constraints;
- partnership expectations; and
- the importance of maintaining durable Treaty-based arrangements through periods of institutional change.

The Strategic Work Programme has therefore been designed to:

- focus efforts on a smaller number of realistic partnership-critical initiatives;
- improve strategic visibility and oversight;
- support continuity of relationships and settlement arrangements through reform; and
- retain sufficient flexibility to respond to emerging opportunities and challenges over the life of the programme.

It is recognised that the initiatives identified within this draft Strategic Work Programme are not intended to represent an exhaustive list of all matters progressed collaboratively between Waikato-Tainui and Waikato Regional Council through the course of their ongoing relationship and work programmes.

PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

The Strategic Work Programme is structured around four priority areas:

1. Strengthen co-governance and co-management commitments
2. Build resilience and capacity
3. Evidence, monitoring and shared learning
4. Leadership to advance collaborative projects

Each priority area includes:

- a purpose statement;
- a small number of strategic initiatives;
- intended outcomes and benefits; and
- indicative actions to guide implementation.

PRIORITISATION AND DELIVERY CONSIDERATIONS

In developing the draft Strategic Work Programme, consideration has been given to:

- strategic alignment with both organisations' strategic directions¹;
- partnership value and governance relevance;
- deliverability within existing programmes and resources;

¹ Waikato-Tainui [Five Year Plan FY25-FY29](#) grounded in [Whakatupuranga 2050](#), and Waikato Regional Council [Te Pae Tawhiti Strategic Direction 2026-2036](#).

- timing and urgency;
- dependencies on external organisations or processes;
- ability to demonstrate meaningful progress within the triennium; and
- the level of mandate or organisational approval required.

The Strategic Work Programme intentionally focuses on a smaller number of partnership-critical initiatives where there is considered to be clear strategic value, realistic opportunity for progress within the triennium, and an appropriate role for co-governance leadership and oversight.

Some initiatives may require:

- further refinement;
- confirmation of resourcing;
- approval through existing organisational processes; and/or
- engagement with external agencies or regional partners before implementation pathways are confirmed.

A number of initiatives identified through the facilitated workshop are also likely to require further prioritisation over time in order to determine:

- what can realistically be delivered within existing work programmes and resourcing;
- what may require future organisational prioritisation and Long Term Plan consideration; and
- where coordinated investment approaches may be necessary to support delivery.

PRIORITY AREA 1

Strengthen co-governance and co-management commitments

Purpose

To sustain and strengthen co-governance and co-management arrangements as effective, durable mechanisms that uphold settlement integrity and support partnership leadership through reform and transition.

Initiative	Outcome	Key Benefit	Key Actions	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead	Sequencing
Partnership Continuity, and Strategic Alignment Through Reform	Existing partnership arrangements and guiding documents remain visible, durable, current, aligned, and mutually reinforcing through periods of reform and transition	Supports continuity of relationships, institutional knowledge, settlement integrity, and clarity of roles, responsibilities, and partnership expectations	• Maintain focus on partnership continuity through reform discussions	Generally within existing mandate, although any changes to existing agreements are subject to decision making of the respective organisations. This may include consideration over time of opportunities to improve alignment between existing JMA arrangements and broader partnership areas of mutual relevance, subject to further discussion, relationship considerations, and	Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)	Years 1-3
			• Identify opportunities to strengthen existing agreements where necessary and by agreement		Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)	Years 1-3
			• Develop recommendations on future JMA strengthening considerations for any successor or future entity		Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)	Years 1-3

Initiative	Outcome	Key Benefit	Key Actions	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead	Sequencing
				organisational decision-making processes. Reform context may influence scope and timing. Existing programme activity supports delivery of review and strategy components.		

PRIORITY AREA 2

Build resilience and capacity

Purpose

To strengthen iwi-council partnership capability and readiness so partners are better equipped to collectively anticipate, respond to and recover from change, while enabling effective delivery of shared priorities.

Initiative	Outcome	Key Benefit	Key Actions	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead	Sequencing
Climate and Weather Event Readiness	Improved understanding of regional response settings	Supports more proactive regional resilience planning	Targeted workshop to provide an overview of current Council resilience activity and existing tools, with the intent to support shared understanding and identify alignment opportunities.	Deliverable within existing programmes	WRC Regional Resilience, Waikato CDEM, Waikato-Tainui Taiao Team	Year 2

PRIORITY AREA 3

Evidence, monitoring and shared learning

Purpose

To strengthen shared evidence, monitoring and learning to support transparent, mātauranga-informed, outcome-focused decision-making by the Co-Governance Committee.

Initiative	Outcome	Key Benefit	Key Actions	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead	Sequencing
Integrated Te Ture Whaimana Reporting and Environmental Monitoring	Improved visibility of how Te Ture Whaimana is being given effect to through council activity, alongside improved coordination of environmental monitoring activity	Supports transparency, accountability, coordinated monitoring effort, and shared learning	- Continue development of approaches that embed Te Ture Whaimana reporting into business-as-usual activity - Improve governance visibility of implementation and delivery	Existing programme activity, although prioritisation of monitoring and reporting initiatives may be required over time (subject to council processes as there are many drivers and funding for existing monitoring)	Tutahanga Douglas (Kaitohutohu, Tai-ranga-whenua), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Years 1-3
			Identify opportunities to improve collaboration and coordination across environmental monitoring activity		Ed Brown (Environmental Monitoring), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Years 1-3

Initiative	Outcome	Key Benefit	Key Actions	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead	Sequencing
State of Environment Reporting	State of Environment information becomes more accessible and relevant for Waikato-Tainui governance needs	Supports evidence-informed decision-making	• Develop Waikato-Tainui-relevant State of Environment reporting outputs	Deliverable within existing programmes	Mike Scarsbrook (EnviScience), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Year 3
			• Improve accessibility and usability of information		Ed Brown (Environmental Monitoring), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Year 3
			• Improve visibility of who is undertaking monitoring and where		Ed Brown (Environmental Monitoring), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Year 3
Shared Learning and Governance Visibility	Improved governance oversight of partnership delivery and emerging issues	Supports earlier identification of risks, gaps and opportunities	• Continue reporting through consistent governance lenses	Existing governance function	Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)	Years 1-3
			• Strengthen shared learning approaches across the partnership		Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)	Years 1-3

PRIORITY AREA 4

Leadership to advance collaborative projects

Purpose

To provide governance-level leadership on a small number of priority collaborative projects where partnership coordination, sequencing and scale are critical to achieving agreed outcomes.

Initiatives within this priority area are expected to be limited in number and focused on matters where coordinated partnership leadership is considered necessary to achieve meaningful regional impact.

Further prioritisation of initiatives within this priority area is anticipated over time to ensure effort remains focused on a manageable number of high-value collaborative projects where co-governance leadership adds the greatest strategic value.

Initiative	Outcome	Key Benefit	Key Actions	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead	Sequencing
Te Matatini 2027 Coordination	Improved coordination and strategic planning around Te Matatini-related activity	Supports coherent regional support for a significant kaupapa	Improve cross-organisational planning and coordination	Time-sensitive initiative. Requires coordination across multiple business areas	Peata Graham (Taieranga-whenua), Janet Falwasser (Event Director)	Years 1-2
			Support alignment across relevant workstreams including engagement, transport, resilience, communications, and post-event evaluation		Peata Graham (Taieranga-whenua), Janet Falwasser (Event Director)	Years 1-2

Initiative	Outcome	Key Benefit	Key Actions	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead	Sequencing
Waikare-Whangamari no Action Plan Implementation	Improved alignment and coordination of restoration activity across partners, agencies and catchments	Supports more strategic, coordinated, and less fragmented restoration effort and investment	• Improve visibility of partner priorities, sequencing and coordination opportunities	Existing workstreams with significant dependency on external agencies and partners	Mike Scarsbrook (Environmental Science), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Years 1-3
			• Support collaborative approaches where appropriate		Mike Scarsbrook (Environmental Science), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Years 1-3
			• Improve visibility of restoration activity across agencies and institutions		Mike Scarsbrook (Environmental Science), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Years 1-3
			• Identify opportunities for alignment and coordination		Mike Scarsbrook (Environmental Science), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	Years 1-3
			• Iwi/mana whenua providing leadership on restoration actions.		Mike Scarsbrook (Environmental Science), Jaedyn Falwasser	Years 1-3

Initiative	Outcome	Key Benefit	Key Actions	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead	Sequencing
					(Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)	
Collaborative Project Visibility and Insights	Improved governance visibility of significant collaborative projects and regional initiatives	Supports better governance understanding, sequencing, and coordination across collaborative initiatives	Undertake site visits or presentations where appropriate to support governance understanding and partnership alignment	Deliverable within existing governance and partnership functions	Ashley Eden (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)	Annually

EMERGING AND FUTURE-FOCUSED INITIATIVES

A number of other kaupapa were identified through the facilitated workshop and are acknowledged as important areas for ongoing discussion and future consideration.

However, they are considered likely to require:

- further testing and development;
- additional organisational mandate;
- wider regional alignment;
- participation of external agencies or partners; and/or
- further prioritisation alongside initiatives identified for inclusion within the Strategic Work Programme.

These matters may be progressed through separate or standalone pieces of work overtime, where appropriate opportunities arise and/or where there is agreement, mandate, capacity, and resourcing to do so.

This reflects the practical reality that not all identified initiatives can reasonably be progressed simultaneously within existing organisational capacity, resources, and work programme commitments.

Initiative	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead
Enablement of Marae Resilience and Readiness Assessments	Progression of new programme-scale work across marae resilience, integrated resilience planning, and climate and weather event readiness is not currently feasible within WRC existing resourcing and/or capacity. Within these constraints, only information sharing in regard to existing workstreams can be progressed.	WRC Regional Resilience, Waikato CDEM, Waikato-Tainui Taiao Team
Alignment of Integrated Resilience Planning		WRC Regional Resilience, Waikato CDEM, WRC Biodiversity, Waikato-Tainui Taiao Team
Cross-Council Collaboration on JMA Processes	Generally within existing mandate. Dependent on participation of other councils. Formalisation of participation in regional forums and partnership approaches is subject to decision-making of the respective organisations	Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)
Regional legislative advocacy and targeted amendments	Further exploration is required to secure a clear governance mandate from WRC, partner councils, and iwi.	Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)

Initiative	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead
Regional partnership position and advocacy in response to reform		Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)
Regional design or leadership function		Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)
Transfer of powers to create kaitiaki delivery pathways	Not a durable mechanism under reform; uncertain future applicability	Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)
WRC and Tainui Group Holdings to explore the development of a Hamilton City underground train station	Requires additional organisational mandate, wider regional alignment and/or participation of external agencies or partners.	James James Llewellyn (Regional Transport), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)
Progress next iteration of Land Management Strategy	Not a priority at this time due to resourcing. Subject to further discussion, there may be greater value in exploring a refreshed implementation plan to identify the next set of priority actions and areas of focus for the current triennium. This could also provide an opportunity to consider where stronger partnership support or shared responses may assist implementation outcomes. Any future development work would be subject to the respective decision-making processes and priorities of each organisation.	Brendan Manning, Harman Sandhu (Lands Officer), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)
Mana Whakahono ā Rohe with Ngāti Mahuta	Mana Whakahono ā Rohe discussions with Ngāti Mahuta will continue between Waikato Regional Council and Ngāti Mahuta. Regular updates will be provided to the Co-Governance Committee where appropriate, recognising the wider relevance and interest of this kaupapa.	Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)
Develop partnership education resources	Waikato-Tainui staff do not have any co-design capacity. They may review WRC resources and provide feedback.	Mali Ahipene (Tai-ranga-whenua), Kiriwai Mangan (Comms), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)

Initiative	Delivery Assessment	Responsible Lead
Support elected member and staff induction on settlement context and partnership arrangements	Waikato-Tainui staff do not have any capacity to lead the delivery of induction material.	Mali Ahipene (Tairanga-whenua), Kiriwai Mangan (Comms), Marae Tukere (Waikato-Tainui)
Explore opportunities to align and leverage enablement mechanisms, including Waikato Regional Council's Natural Heritage Fund (NHF) and Waikato-Tainui's Taiao Fund, to support shared outcomes where appropriate	Delivery is dependent on the identification of sufficiently mature initiatives that meet funding criteria and align with available funding timeframes. This is further constrained by the fact that only one Natural Heritage Fund (NHF) funding round remains within the current triennium. Suggest that we encourage applicants to pursue multiple funds, which is an existing workstream, rather than doing this internally as a specified workstream under the Strategic Work Programme.	Natasha Grainger (Biodiversity Team Lead), Jaedyn Falwasser (Waikato-Tainui Pou Taiao)

REPORTING AND REVIEW

Progress against the Strategic Work Programme will be reported through the Co-Governance Committee on a regular basis.

The programme will remain sufficiently flexible to:

- respond to changing circumstances;
- incorporate emerging priorities where appropriate; and
- adjust sequencing or emphasis over the life of the triennium.

The Strategic Work Programme may be reviewed annually to ensure continued relevance, deliverability, and alignment with both organisations' strategic directions.

6.8 LONG-TERM PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Rā | Date: 23 July 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Ashley Eden, Kaiwhakarite

Kaituku | Authoriser: Janine Becker, Director, Customer and Corporate Services

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. To provide Waikato-Tainui with an overview of Council's 2027-2037 Long-Term Plan (LTP) development process, outline opportunities for ongoing input, and discuss how strategic priorities identified through the Waikato-Tainui and Waikato Regional Council relationship may inform future investment decisions.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Council is progressing development of the 2027-2037 Long-Term Plan. The LTP will establish Council's priorities, service levels and investment decisions over the next ten years, with a focus on the first three.
3. Council recognises the importance of ensuring its planning reflects the interests and aspirations of the communities and partners it serves, including Waikato-Tainui.
4. This report provides an overview of the LTP development process and highlights examples of significant initiatives already under investigation by Council that align with areas of mutual interest. These examples demonstrate how Waikato-Tainui perspectives can help inform Council's planning and investment considerations.
5. The report also outlines the limitations of the Long-Term Plan process. Consideration of an initiative does not guarantee funding, and all future investment decisions must be balanced against Council's responsibilities, financial constraints and competing regional priorities.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Long-Term Plan Development* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

LONG-TERM PLAN DEVELOPMENT

6. The Long-Term Plan is the primary document used by Council to set its direction, priorities and funding over a ten-year period, with detail on the first three years of the plan.
7. Development of the 2027-2037 LTP is now underway. As part of this process, Council staff are assessing future opportunities, investment needs and service requirements across the region. This work provides information for elected members to consider when making future decisions about Council priorities and investment.

8. Council also recognises the value of engaging with Waikato-Tainui throughout this process. Waikato-Tainui perspectives help to inform Council's understanding of regional opportunities, challenges and priorities, particularly where initiatives may have long-term significance for the rohe of Waikato-Tainui.
9. The following examples demonstrate how Waikato-Tainui perspectives can help inform initiatives that are already progressing through Council's planning framework.

Investment Pipeline		
Initiative	Current Position	Potential LTP Pathway
Hamilton Central Train Station	Council's Te Pae Tawhiti/Strategic Direction 2026-2036 includes the following performance measure: <i>"Maintain an integrated, safe and efficient transport system to improve mobility and equity, reduce emissions and support regional productivity"</i>. Strategic discussions between Waikato-Tainui, Tainui Group Holdings Ltd and Waikato Regional Council have highlighted regional rail connectivity and supporting infrastructure as a joint area of long-term strategic interest. This work cannot be delivered through existing operational programmes	Council will review options for Te Huia future services, which may include proposals for a new station in central Hamilton. One possible location is the current disused station under the Centre Place building. The LTP process provides an opportunity for investment to be considered but does not indicate a commitment to funding or implementation as it will require co-funding from NZTA and possibly third parties.
Waikare-Whangamarino Wetland Restoration	Council's Te Pae Tawhiti/Strategic Direction 2026-2036 includes the following performance measure: Successful implementation of the Whangamarino Action Plan. This will be achieved through coordination and continued investment in existing (BAU) programmes (e.g. riparian restoration, erosion control), as well as several new initiatives targeted at identified priorities (e.g. water level management, koi control).	There is an opportunity for Council to work with Department of Conservation, Waikato River Authority, Waikato-Tainui and other partners to explore implementation options to improve health and wellbeing of Lake Waikare and Whangamarino.

LIMITATIONS

10. Inclusion of a project within Long-Term Plan discussions does not create a commitment to fund, deliver or implement that initiative.

11. Any future investment proposal must be considered alongside Council's statutory responsibilities, strategic priorities, affordability constraints, organisational capacity, available funding sources and competing regional investment demands.
12. Feedback and perspectives provided by Waikato-Tainui help inform Council's planning processes and improve understanding of areas of mutual interest. However, final funding and investment decisions remain subject to Council's formal decision-making processes.

NEXT STEPS

13. Council will continue to engage with Waikato-Tainui as development of the 2027-2037 Long-Term Plan progresses.
14. Updates will be provided on initiatives of mutual interest as they move through Council's planning and decision-making processes. This approach supports transparent engagement and helps ensure Waikato-Tainui perspectives are considered as Council develops its future priorities and investment plans.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

15. The Long-Term Plan provides an opportunity for Waikato-Tainui perspectives to inform Council's understanding of regional priorities and future investment needs. The examples outlined in this report demonstrate how ongoing engagement can help shape initiatives already under consideration, while recognising that future funding decisions remain subject to Council's formal planning and decision-making processes.

ĀPITI HANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

6.9 KURA WAITĪ KI KURA WAITĀ UPDATE

Rā | Date: 23 July 2026

Kaituhi | Author: Michelle Daly, Team Leader - Education

Kaituku | Authoriser: Brent Sinclair, Director, Resource Use

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this report is to socialise the Kura Waitī ki Kura Waitā programme with Waikato-Tainui, River Iwi and Co-Governance partners and demonstrate how the programme contributes to the aspirations of Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, Joint Management Agreements (JMA), Whakatupuranga 2050, Iwi environmental plans and Waikato Regional Council's Advancing Māori Medium Environmental Education Strategy.
2. This report responds directly to recommendations arising from the 2021 Advancing Māori Medium Environmental Education Evaluation and the 2025 Kura Waitī Evaluation which identified a need to further socialise and strengthen understanding of Māori-medium environmental education and its contribution to environmental, educational and cultural outcomes

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. Kura Waitī ki Kura Waitā is an innovative Māori-medium environmental education pathway delivered through a partnership between Waikato Regional Council (WRC) and Te Toki Voyaging Trust (TTVT). Launched in 2022 following the successful River Schools pilot, the programme reconnects rangatahi with their awa, moana, mātauranga Māori, te reo Māori and responsibilities as future kaitiaki through experiential, place-based learning grounded in Māori values and environmental stewardship. The programme has become a flagship example of Māori-medium environmental education within the Waikato region and engages kura through freshwater learning (Kura Waitī), harbour and coastal learning (Kura Waitā), traditional voyaging, marine safety and leadership development opportunities
4. The July 2025 independent evaluation concluded that Kura Waitī is a unique and highly valued programme that is strengthening environmental literacy, leadership capability, cultural identity, te reo Māori, kaitiakitanga, mātauranga Māori revitalisation and community connections to te taiao. The evaluation identified significant benefits for rangatahi, kura, whānau, hapū, iwi, Waikato Regional Council, Waikato River Authority and the wider community.
5. The programme is strongly aligned with Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, Waikato-Tainui aspirations, Joint Management Agreement commitments and Waikato Regional Council strategic priorities. A key strength identified through the evaluation is the integration of mātauranga Māori and western science, allowing rangatahi to understand environmental stewardship through both Indigenous and contemporary scientific knowledge systems
6. Kura Waitī ki Kura Waitā is supported through partnerships with Waikato-Tainui, River Iwi, Waikato River Authority, Department of Conservation, Mercury Energy, Trust Waikato, WEL

Energy Trust, University of Waikato Environmental Research Institute and Waikato Regional Council. Waikato River Authority funding is secured through to 2028 and recent collaboration with Waikato Regional Council's Biosecurity Team has created new opportunities to strengthen rangatahi learning around freshwater invasive clam, koi carp and marine biosecurity.

7. The programme was invited to present at the World Indigenous Peoples Conference on Education (WIPCEE) in 2025 and has subsequently been invited to present at the New Zealand Environmental Educators Association Conference in 2026. However, before sharing this story nationally and internationally, it is important to first acknowledge and celebrate the iwi partnerships and collective investment that have enabled the programme to flourish, based on user-supplied information.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Kura Waiti ki Kura Waita Update* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

HOROPAKI | BACKGROUND

8. In 2017 Waikato Regional Council commissioned a review to investigate opportunities to strengthen Māori-medium environmental education. In 2021 the Waikato-Tainui College of Research and Development undertook a further evaluation of Advancing Māori Medium Environmental Education which identified the need for continued investment in kaupapa Māori approaches to environmental education. The River Schools pilot was recognised as a promising and authentic mātauranga Māori initiative.
9. Following the success of the pilot, Waikato Regional Council partnered with Te Toki Voyaging Trust in 2022 to establish Kura Waiti as a regional Māori-medium environmental education programme. Te Toki Voyaging Trust gifted the programme name, drawing from the Matariki whetū Waiti and Waita, reflecting the connection between freshwater and saltwater environments.
10. Since 2022 the programme has successfully engaged kura Māori throughout the Waikato region and is recognised as one of the few Māori-medium environmental education initiatives operating at this scale in Aotearoa. The programme has evolved from freshwater learning into a complete ki uta ki tai learning pathway.

TE TAKE | ISSUE

WHY THIS PROGRAMME MATTERS

11. The 2021 Advancing Māori Medium Evaluation and the 2025 Kura Waiti Evaluation both identified a need to continue strengthening Māori-medium environmental education opportunities and to socialise the outcomes more broadly across organisational and governance settings
 - (a) Kura Waiti ki Kura Waita addresses:

- (b) Environmental literacy and stewardship.
- (c) Māori-medium educational outcomes.
- (d) Rangatahi leadership development.
- (e) Te Tiriti partnership commitments.
- (f) Te Ture Whaimana aspirations for river restoration and reconnection

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

12. The programme supports Waikato-Tainui aspirations by:
 - (a) Growing future generations of kaitiaki.
 - (b) Strengthening whakapapa connections.
 - (c) Supporting cultural identity and leadership.
 - (d) Strengthening te reo Māori and mātauranga Māori.
 - (e) Supporting intergenerational wellbeing and Whakatupuranga 2050 aspirations. Based on programme rationale and evaluation findings
13. The evaluation noted: “It brings their pepehā to life. This project gives an opportunity for Māori children to see what their pepehā is.”
14. The programme contributes to Te Ture Whaimana through:
 - (a) Reconnecting rangatahi with the awa.
 - (b) Building environmental stewardship.
 - (c) Growing future environmental leaders.
 - (d) Supporting restoration and protection of the Waikato and Waipā Rivers.
 - (e) Strengthening community understanding of river health
15. The evaluation concluded: “Council will never achieve its vision for our region through money and projects alone, needs people movement to achieve Te Ture Whaimana. Kura Waiti is doing that.”
16. The programme contributes to Waikato Regional Council priorities:
 - (a) Whaowhia tō Kete Mātauranga: Advancing Māori Medium Environmental Education.
 - (b) Environmental stewardship.
 - (c) Climate resilience and environmental awareness.
 - (d) Te Tiriti-based partnerships.
 - (e) Youth engagement and leadership development
17. A distinguishing feature of Kura Waiti ki Kura Waitā is the integration of mātauranga Māori and western science. Rangatahi learn through experiences involving:
 - (a) Freshwater ecology.
 - (b) Tuna biology and habitat.
 - (c) Biodiversity.

- (d) Water quality.
- (e) Native plants and rongoā.
- (f) Navigation and astronomy.
- (g) Maramataka.
- (h) Water safety.
- (i) Biosecurity.
- (j) Environmental restoration

Kura Waitā, Traditional Voyaging and Spirit of Adventure

18. Kura Waitā represents the next stage in the learning journey and extends environmental learning from the Waikato River into harbour, coastal and ocean environments. Key experiences include:
- (a) Kāwhia Harbour learning.
 - (b) Waitematā harbour voyaging opportunities.
 - (c) Te Hau Kōmaru National Waka Hourua Festival.
 - (d) Ka Hura Tangata ki Tai Ocean Water Safety.
 - (e) Waka Hourua overnight voyages.
 - (f) Spirit of Adventure leadership experiences.
19. These experiences support:
- (a) Traditional navigation skills.
 - (b) Maritime safety.
 - (c) Environmental observation.
 - (d) Ocean literacy.
 - (e) Rangatahi leadership.
 - (f) Understanding environmental systems from mountain to sea

Community Feedback and Impact

20. The 2025 evaluation found overwhelmingly positive feedback from rangatahi, kura, whānau, funders and stakeholders. Key impacts identified include:
- (a) Increased connection to the Waikato River and te taiao.
 - (b) Growth in environmental knowledge and stewardship.
 - (c) Strengthened cultural identity and confidence.
 - (d) Increased use and revitalisation of te reo Māori.
 - (e) Development of leadership skills.
 - (f) Greater awareness of environmental and science careers.

- (g) Stronger relationships between kura, iwi and environmental partners.

21. The programme was also found to be contributing to:

- (a) Intergenerational transfer of mātauranga Māori.
- (b) Community wellbeing.
- (c) Environmental leadership.
- (d) Future environmental workforce development

Partnerships and Co-Investment

22. The success of Kura Waiti ki Kura Waitā is underpinned by strong partnerships. Core partners include:

- (a) Waikato Regional Council.
- (b) Te Toki Voyaging Trust.
- (c) Waikato-Tainui.
- (d) River Iwi.
- (e) Waikato River Authority

23. Current and recent funding partners include:

- (a) Waikato River Authority.
- (b) Department of Conservation.
- (c) Mercury Energy.
- (d) Trust Waikato.
- (e) WEL Energy Trust.
- (f) University of Waikato Environmental Research Institute.
- (g) Waikato Regional Council.

24. Waikato-Tainui has also supported the programme through strategic accords, partnership committees, environmental relationships and advocacy that help leverage opportunities and wider support for the kaupapa. Based on user-provided information.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Waikato River Authority Funding

25. The programme has secured Waikato River Authority funding through to 2028, providing certainty and stability for future delivery and programme growth.

Biosecurity Partnership

26. The programme has secured Waikato River Authority funding through to 2028, providing certainty and stability for future delivery and programme growth.

27. A new partnership with Waikato Regional Council's Biosecurity Team has supported the development of a dedicated Māori environmental education role.
28. The initiative will strengthen learning around:
 - Freshwater invasive clam.
 - Koi Carp.
 - Marine biosecurity.
 - Environmental monitoring.
 - Community and iwi responses to invasive species.
29. The initiative will be delivered alongside Kura Waiti and EnviroSchools programmes. Based on user-provided information.

National and International Recognition

30. Kura Waiti ki Kura Waita continues to gain recognition nationally and internationally.
31. Programme milestones include:
 - (a) Presentation at WIPCEE 2025.
 - (b) Invitation to present at NZEEA 2026.
32. Before sharing this story more broadly, the programme wishes to recognise the leadership, support and collective investment of Waikato-Tainui, River Iwi, Waikato Regional Council, Waikato River Authority and programme partners who have contributed to its success. Based on user-provided information.

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

33. Kura Waiti ki Kura Waita has evolved from a successful pilot initiative into a regionally recognized Māori-medium environmental education pathway that is giving practical effect to Te Ture Whaimana o Te Awa o Waikato, Waikato-Tainui aspirations, Joint Management Agreements and Waikato Regional Council priorities.

ĀPITI HANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA