

## **Sea Change – Tai Timu Tai Pari**

### **First Stakeholder Working Group (SWG) meeting summary**

**9.00 23 January 2014 at Crossroads Church, Mangatangi**

#### **Welcome and Introductions**

The meeting commenced with a mihi and karakia from the mana whenua followed by introductions by the SWG, Independent Chair, Facilitator and support staff from the councils

#### **SWG role, objectives and time frame**

The Chair provided an introduction to the day. He reminded the group that it's non statutory process with a collaborative approach and a long term focus. He also described what success might look like, and the responsibility of the group to be champions of the project, listeners and communicators, to maintain and build connections to interest and local groups, to be disseminators of information, collaborative, solutions focussed creative thinkers and to be supporters of the plan. He confirmed the SWG has until June 2015 to complete its work and described the role and responsibility of the Independent Chair to keep the project on track and on time and the discussion balanced and the outreach extensive.

In the discussion that followed:

It was emphasised that this needs to be capable of being implemented by the regulatory bodies, feed into Auckland and Waikato regional plans and the plan has to have buy in from them, DoC and MPI. The design of the process includes experts from councils and ministries in the support group. A wider group of experts will also be available. Part of their role is to advise what can and cannot have any relevance to implementation. Local authorities and central government are also included in the Project Steering Group / Project Board.

Concern was expressed about the time frames for producing information from councils and central government. All should advise the Chair of any groups that need to be informed of the process.

There are a large number of interest groups that may be impacted by the plan. All SWG members should provide any details of groups they are aware of to the Chair. Once we have round table working groups looking at particular issues (not decision making but fact finding) the wider groups can then be included.

The inclusion of the mana whenua (MW) values and an indigenous world view will be vital to the work. There may be some times where MW may need to get together to identify how to bring the Maori views back to the table. It will be important to have MW attendance on each of the roundtables so that the MW views are built in throughout the work.

The SWG needs to operate in an environment of trust and one where confidential information will be treated confidentially. This will be covered in the terms of reference and operating protocols.

Social media interactions will be supported through the projects communications and engagement team. This will cover how the SWG explains what it is doing, and also use it to find out information from wider communities. The focus is not just about communication but also preparing people for collaboration. All the activity has to be in support of the SWG.

At the end of the selection process the issue of an additional seat for 'the economy' was left with the Chair to determine at the first SWG meeting. The Chair advised that on reflection as the seat was supported by less than 50% of the attendees at the final selection meeting, no appointment would be made. Sufficient inclusion of this stakeholder group would need to be ensured through the round-table process.

The make-up of the Project Steering Group and the full Sea Change Tai Timu Tai Pari support group to be provided to the SWG.

### **SWG terms of reference and operating protocols**

The draft terms of reference, submitted to the group for their input was discussed and the following general points made:

- The SWG needs to operate in a safe environment where people can express their views openly in the knowledge that their comments won't go out of the room. Rather than detailed minutes we will have meeting summaries on points of discussion, action and decisions.
- At the beginning of meetings the SWG will confirm the summary from previous meeting e.g. actions / decisions
- Public meetings may well be held but this will be later on in the process. The current format of meetings is working meetings
- People may have commercially sensitive information which would add to the discussion. This needs to be identified before it is disclosed. If it is needed for a decision in the plan, the person introducing it will have to provide clearance before it is disclosed in a 'decision tree'.
- Media requests will all be fielded by the chair. Where members have an occasion where they need to respond, they will check with the chair if they are unsure on the content or tone. Mana whenua may need to discuss media requests amongst themselves and with the chair. Media contact will remove any preconceived positions and for anything communicated publicly the SWG member will be held accountable by the SWG. It will be acceptable to disseminate the agreed minutes (but not drafts), the science and factual information. This will be generally available on the website.
- Mana whenua spirituality may not always align with the science view but needs to be included. Technical support for mana whenua is still to be finalised
- Where possible the SWG and round-tables will hear direct from scientists rather than filtered through support staff or interest groups. The information base must combine info from agencies, CRIs, Universities, independent scientists and other relevant sources. Information needs to be timely. The agencies should be invited to the next meeting.
- The plan review process in the terms of reference needs to be separated out as it is a governance function.
- There should be a report to next meeting on the role and responsibilities of the expert advisory group.

The draft terms of reference was reviewed line by line and an amended version is to be submitted to the next SWG for sign off

The operating protocols the SWG would like to operate under were discussed and are summarised in the attached document. This will be reprised at the next meeting and will be a living document.

## **SWG objectives Vision and Gulf issues**

There was a discussion on the collective vision for the project from the SWG. The points are summarised in the attached document and will be discussed further at the next meeting.

The issues that face the Gulf and around which our work might start were discussed using the items identified at the Gordonton meeting as a start. It was acknowledged that mana whenua had had limited opportunity to date to contribute to the list. As a group, the SWG might have capacity to deal with 6 – 8 issues in round-tables.

After initial discussion the meeting agreed to take 4 groupings to smaller groups to discuss whether these could form a suitable basis for further investigation:

1. Ecological productivity of the Gulf – Raewyn, Conall, Matt, Laurie, David,
2. Water quality, land use – Conall, Callum, Alison, Dirk, Raewyn, Alan, Jake, Lucy
3. Biodiversity, healthy eco system, bio security, mauri – Katrina, Alison, Lucy, Joe, Dirk
4. Commercial and business activities (human activities) – Callum, Laurie, David, Alan, Matt, Katrina, Jake, Joe

## **Next meetings**

Last Thursday in the month is not a good day for most so availability on the last Wednesday should be examined

The next meetings are scheduled for the 13 February, 27 February and 27 March. Availability on 12 February, 26 February and 26 March to be examined as an option.

The next meeting will be held at Wharekaua Marae, Kaiaua .

Meeting locations and dates for the rest of the year to be established. Maraetai Marae, Clevedon Coast Oysters premises and Leigh Marine Laboratory centre are options. SWG will advise of other suitable locations. We should also consider incorporating fieldtrips.

The meeting closed with a karakia.