Date: Friday 12 April 2019
Time: 11:30am
Meeting Room: Room 1, Level 26
Venue: 135 Albert Street
Auckland

Ngā Hui a te Rōpū Kaitohutohu Take ā-Taiwhenua / Rural Advisory Panel
OPEN MINUTE ITEM ATTACHMENTS

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Note: The attachments contained within this document are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. Should Councillors require further information relating to any reports, please contact the relevant manager, Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson.
Rural Advisory Panel - 12 April 2019

Building Cities - Infrastructure NZ delegation
Singapore, Hong Kong, Beijing and Shanghai.
16-30 March 2019
Hong Kong
Beijing
Beijing
Beijing
Item 5

Shanghai
Attachment A

Shanghai
Summary - What can we learn from the Asian cities?

Show where we were, where we are going and how it will look.

Sell the future opportunity to Aucklanders
Purpose of Presentation

- Provide the Rural Advisory Panel an update on the preparation of the Kaipara Moana remediation business case by councils and iwi
- Describe the context, both environmental and Treaty settlement, to the business case
- Set out the purpose of the business case – viz., to underpin a central government budget bid for an at-scale and at-pace programme of work to reduce environmental impacts on the Kaipara Harbour.
- Provide an opportunity for feedback from Rural Advisory Panel members
Introduction: Political and Environmental context for Kaipara Moana remediation business case
Partners in business case initiative

- Kaipara Uri, comprising:
  - Te Uri o Hau
  - Te Roroa
  - Ngā Maunga Whakahii o Kaipara
  - Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei
  - Te Runanga o Ngāti Whātua
- Auckland Council (coordination and support role)
- Northland Regional Council
- Kaipara District Council
- Whangarei District Council
Treaty Settlement Context

- The Crown is in Treaty of Waitangi settlement negotiations with Kaipara Uri
- 2014 ‘Kaipara Moana Framework Agreement’ sets out Crown intention to establish:
  - Co-governance body comprising iwi and council membership, with potential for Crown membership
  - Purpose of body to write a ‘vision and strategy’ for the Kaipara Harbour, which will feed into RMA planning documents
  - Body will also provide leadership and oversight to work that impacts the harbor
- 2019 Crown and Kaipara Uri in negotiations aim to reach a deed of settlement, with empowering settlement legislation introduced into Parliament
- Kaipara Uri and councils very concerned that long-standing environmental issues are addressed in parallel
Environmental values of Kaipara Moana

- Largest estuary in New Zealand and exceptional in terms of provision of ecosystem goods and services, and values derived from the harbour
- Complex receiving environment containing extensive inter-tidal flats, sand barriers, sea-grass meadows, mangrove forests, salt-marsh habitats and large tidal creeks
- Nationally significant fish species rely on the Kaipara Harbour – 90% of the snapper recruitment into the west-coast snapper fishery SNA 8 is from Kaipara Harbour, which is an important snapper nursery ground
- Significant decline in all commercial, recreational and customary shellfish fisheries – scallop fishery indefinitely closed from September 2018
- One of 5 most important wading bird areas in New Zealand
Environmental degradation of Kaipara Moana

- Good base of evidence allowing us to identify what is causing water quality-related problems in the Kaipara Harbour catchment:
  - Sediment is deposited in the Harbour every year at a rate approximately seven times higher than what would have been expected prior to wholesale forest clearance and conversion to pasture.
  - About 52% of the present-day sediment load is estimated as originating from land-based erosion, with the rest from streambank erosion.
  - Approximately 13% of the catchment (identified as ‘highly erodible land’) produces approximately 77% of the land-based erosion.
  - Sheep and beef farms, which are typically located on steep and low-productivity land, contribute 53% of the present-day catchment sediment load, followed by dairy (24% of sediment), plantation forestry (10%), and native bush (6%).
## Land use and estimated sediment load

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LAND USE</th>
<th>NET REVENUE</th>
<th>SEDIMENT LOAD</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dairy</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>78% 24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheep &amp; beef</td>
<td>47%</td>
<td>3% 53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deer</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1% 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifestyle</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>0% 2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arable &amp; horticulture</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>6% 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forestry</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td>12% 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native bush</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>0% 0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td></td>
<td>6% 6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Map – Land Use
Environmental impacts of sediment

- Sediment is putting the Kaipara Harbour’s ecosystems under severe stress.
  - High levels of suspended sediments block feeding and breathing structures of animals, including shellfish and fish
  - Reduction in visual clarity reduces the ability of birds to feed
  - Reduction in light penetration degrades seagrass
  - Muddying of the seabed changes its biogeochemical functioning and its suitability as a habitat for benthic organisms
  - Smothering of the seabed by mud kills plants and animals
- Populations of seagrass are diminishing, mangroves are increasing and fisheries (finfish and shellfish) are in decline, mangroves are increasing, and fisheries (finfish and shellfish) are in decline
Is there an easy fix for sediment in the Kaipara?

- Short answer – No!
- Not practical to remove sediment by dredging, and attempts to re-seed shellfish populations on degraded, muddy sea beds have failed or been unreliable.
- Known and tested ways to reduce sediment in waterways – riparian planting, stock-exclusion, stream-bank stabilisation, highly-erodible land stabilisation, wetland restoration, engineered solutions (sediment bunds, etc.), etc
- Scale and pace of mitigation required to address the impact of sediment in Kaipara Harbour is well-beyond the capacity of landowners and councils – there simply isn’t the money to address the problems before the harbour suffers irreparable damage.
Map – Kaipara Harbour – Marine Environment
Kaipara Moana remediation business case – key elements
Turning around sediment

- Business as usual in Kaipara anticipates around a 15% reduction in sediment over a 15-20 year period, as farmers progressively improve riparian management and stabilise highly erodible land.

- Although an improvement, this will not be sufficient to turn around negative environmental impacts on the harbor – an estimated 60% reduction in sediment is required to allow the harbor to heal itself.

- Improvement to riparian management (fencing, riparian planting, etc.) can be expensive, and farm revenue is relatively low in the Kaipara (particularly among sheep and beef farmers), so making change at pace and scale is very difficult.
The resource dilemma

- The only practicable way to achieve a 60% reduction in sediment at pace in the Kaipara catchment is to increase the level of investment on the ground for:
  - Riparian fencing and planting
  - Wetland restoration
  - Engineered solutions (sediment retention ponds, sediment bunds, interventions in stream-banks)
  - Targeted afforestation or retirement of the most highly erodible land
- Neither land-owners or councils (or iwi) have the resource or capacity to drive change at pace or scale – there is a role for government to support landowners, local government, and iwi, to address long-standing and significant environmental water quality issues
Business case – key elements

- Four main (draft) investment objectives identified:
  - **Tiaki Taiao** Help restore Mauri to Kaipara Moana to enable it to be self-sustaining, naturally productive, and healthy.
  - **Ohanga** Create sustainable, resilient and optimised primary production in the Kaipara catchment and harbour.
  - **Manaaki Tangata** Improve local skills and capability to support innovation, effective land management and community resilience.
  - **Tatai Hononga** Enable kotahitanga by empowering local community participation in local solutions, leveraging opportunities enabled by Treaty of Waitangi historical claim settlements.
Business case – key elements (2)

- Draft critical success factors identified as:
  - **Kotahitanga** – our key point of difference. The preferred approach needs to bring together the Kaipara Uri, councils, the government and the local community in partnership, leveraging the unique post-settlement co-governance partnership we will have in place.
  - **Strategic fit** – meeting our investment objectives, and aligning with broader strategic and regulatory objectives, across central and local government, and iwi aspirations.
  - **Value for money** – optimising value for money across a range of potential benefits, costs, and associated risks.
  - **Capacity and capability** – deliver across partners and key stakeholders, including land-owners.
  - **Potential affordability and achievability**
Practical considerations

- Number of dimensions to consider as business case is developed – each of which will have different costs and opportunities for the wider community:
  - How to undertake networked management and governance (including capability considerations given scale)
  - Use of economies of scale (nursery capacity, fencing materials, labour force)
  - Intensive training/re-training (farm advisors, fencing and planting crews)
  - Integration with local government programmes, including regulatory frameworks (i.e., upcoming changes through revised National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management and a new National Environmental Standard for Freshwater Management)
Significant co-benefits

- Targeting sediment brings a number of co-benefits. For example:
  - Excluding livestock and creating riparian margins reduces nutrients and bacteria entering waterways
  - Restoration of fresh-water habitats
  - Climate change resilience for farms
- Marine restoration will increase productivity of the marine environment, allowing:
  - Better managed and sustainable fish and shellfish take
  - Tourism and other low-impact eco-industries
  - Cultural and recreational harvest
Indicative Costs

- Work is underway to understand the broad range of options to achieve remediation at scale and pace, including institutional arrangements to support it.
- Broad-order costs are that the total cost, to be met across the partnership and community, could be in the order of $300-$400 million over 10 years.
Next steps
Time-frames

- ‘Strategic Assessment’ for business case (late-May / early-June)
- Engagement with central government to secure support for indicative budget bid (June-July) – a go/no-go point
- Work on options analysis and economic case (May-September)
- Receive indicative approval to proceed to Budget process (December)
- Work on detailed commercial, financial and management cases (December to March 2020)
- Indication of Budget approval (March 2020) – full business case completed, as required
Rural Advisory Panel

Central government work programme for water and links to Auckland Council
Introduction: Water work programmes, central government and Auckland Council
Purpose of Presentation

Provide an update on wider water related council work programme, in the context of 2019 central government work programme

- Introduce and / or update programmes:
  - Three Waters Review – DIA information stocktake
  - Strategic approach to sediment
  - Implementation of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM)
  - Freshwater monitoring overview
  - Strategic approach to groundwater
  - Forthcoming Auckland Council media activity

Start preparing for response to Essential Freshwater proposals – significant shift coming

Highlight value of forward looking scan and link to central government initiatives / drivers

This workshop illustrates range of council work underway, not all
**Essential Freshwater Overview**

- Land and Water Forum response to Ministers (June 2018)
  - *Essential Freshwater* announced on 8 October 2018, including key parts:
    - Stopping further degradation and loss
    - Reversing past damage
    - Addressing water allocation issues (initially contaminant discharges)
  - Link to other government initiatives:
    - Forestry establishment, climate change, three waters, protection and restoration of ecosystems and species, regional economic development, technology and science, tax working group
    - Land use fundamentals, and shift to environmentally sustainable society
    - More responsive and efficient planning legislation and tools for water outcomes
Essential Freshwater Work Programme

Workstreams:

- At risk catchments
- National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPSFM), potential amendments
- National Environmental Standards for Freshwater Management
- Resource Management Act amendments
- Allocation of freshwater resources
- Future Framework
  - Catchment by catchment approach, integrated planning
  - Good practice (rural and urban land uses)
  - Structural change (land use transition, economic incentives, technology)
  - Targeted transitional support (sustainable land use, training, certification for water sensitive design)
  - Increased investment in solutions / technologies to facilitate change
  - Improved measurement of discharges (‘Overseer’ decision support tool for rural sector)
  - Council’s compliance, monitoring and enforcement system, enhancement and monitoring
Proposed NPSFM amendments

- A ‘new’ NPSFM based on retired Principal Environment Court Judge Sheppard’s Board of Inquiry principles (2010), including:
  - Ensuring all aspects of ecosystem health are managed
  - Additional direction where there is uncertainty
- Adjust timeframes for implementation, particularly where risks are present
- Provide more direction on how to set limits on resource use
- Provide better direction to protect estuaries and wetlands
- Potential new attributes – sediment, copper, zinc
- Policy around at risk catchments
- Resolving exceptions to national bottom lines (significant infrastructure, dams etc)
- Consider drinking water source protection zones
Proposed National Environmental Standards for Freshwater Management

Mechanism for prohibiting or including rules that restrict activities, usually in context of need for rapid action. Areas of consideration include:

- Preventing further loss of wetlands or urban streams (‘no net loss’)
- Potential mechanisms for managing intensification, including targeting at risk catchments
- Farm Management Plans, good management practices such as stock exclusion and riparian management
- Control activities such as intensive winter grazing, hill country cropping, and feedlots
- Potential direction on nutrient allocation
- Review of existing consents
- Default regime for ecological flows and levels where none are set, and how minimum flows apply to existing consents
Proposed Resource Management Act amendments

- Enable the efficient *review of resource consent conditions*
  - Review the effects of multiple consents on the maximum or minimum flows/rates or standards for quality stated in a regional rule, to give effect to new plan limits by existing users
  - Review consent conditions once the relevant rule containing flow rates or water quality standards is operative so that the limit is applied in a more timely way
  - Broaden the type of regional resource consents that can be reviewed in relation to new rules set in regional plans for flow rates or water quality standards to also include regional land use consents so that where discharge permits and land use are bundled together these can both be reviewed
- Phase out over-allocation, and address intensification and at risk catchments
Proposed Resource Management Act amendments (Stage 1)

- Enable the regulation of high-use land use activities to achieve improved water quality outcomes
- Increase infringement fees that may be set in regulation for stock exclusion offences, and to apply a higher infringement fee for non-natural persons ($2000 versus $4000)
- Extend statutory limitation period for filing charges for prosecutions from 6 to 12 months
- Enable the Environmental Protection Agency to undertake specific enforcement actions
Essential Freshwater Package:
At Risk Catchments and 1 Billion Trees
At risk catchments

Land and Water Forum (June 2018 report recommendation) to identify at risk catchments, and ensure action plans are in place to stop further degradation

MFE compiled national list by late 2018, including input from regional sector, DOC & MPI, primary sector, tangata whenua and NGOs etc

Auckland region includes Hoteo, Kaipara, and Papakura Stream

Central government workstreams:

- National level information to enable targeted regulation, investment and other interventions. Develop risk criteria to be applied nationally
- Exemplar catchments – work from bottom-up with councils, MPI, DOC, community and iwi / hapu, to help identify gaps for regulatory and non-regulatory interventions
Billion Trees programme

Targeted for highly erodible land and riparian planting in at risk catchments, with added benefits for water quality, biodiversity, climate change, regional economic resilience

MPI support (late 2018) for collective council direct funding bid for Billion Trees programme. Merits include:

- Council expertise in getting the right tree in the right place
- Efficient process for government and councils
- Making it easier for land owners

Regional Chief Executives endorsed collective council proposal (8 February) – 200 million trees, with 40 million in first 3 years

Regional Sector staff and MPI officials considering implementation steps (from mid February)

Need to consider nursery capacity, labour, governance and operations capacity, land availability etc

Over time (2019 – 2027), council expertise able to be transferred to other regions
Attachment A

Item 8

Three Waters Review: Department of Internal Affairs, activities to June 2019
Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) work programme

Wastewater

In January 2019 DIA engaged Boffa Miskell Ltd and GHD to deliver three reports:

Report 1: Wastewater Treatment Plant stocktake
- Understand municipal assets, their regulation, environmental effects and monitoring regime
- Inform options for improving regulation and environmental performance of infrastructure assets

Report 2: Wastewater overflows
- National stocktake of regulation of wastewater overflows (wet and dry weather) – eg, rules in Regional Plans and mechanisms controlling discharges
- Compliance with network overflow consents, and how are risks monitored and assessed

Report 3: Wastewater coastal outfalls
- Using Report 1 information, and a literature review on international standards, estimate costs for upgrade of wastewater treatment plants discharging to coastal environments
- Council feedback on a potential national Minimum Standard for discharges

Completed reports to DIA by May 2019; high level paper to Cabinet in June 2019
Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) work programme

Stormwater

Regulatory approach stocktake to stormwater network discharges across regional and unitary councils

Description of current approach to plan provisions and consenting to assess strengths and weaknesses

- Monitoring requirements, onerous conditions, audit processes, compliance, link to state of environment reporting, climate change scenarios, flood risk and adverse environmental effects

Three Waters Reference Group

Local government perspective to the cross-agency ‘Three Waters Review Project’

Represent local government sector as a whole, through to 30 June 2019

Members: Bill Bayfield (ECan), Vaughan Payne (WRC), Iain Maxwell (HBRC), Dave Allen (AC), Clare Barton (NCC), John Roygard (Horizons), Brent Sinclair (WRC)
Implementing the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management
Overview of NPS-FM Requirements

- Require improved freshwater outcomes
- Plan changes to set specific objectives and limits for key attributes and where these are not being met, need for targets
  - *NPS-FM required*: allocation, *E. coli*, nutrients, algae, river weed
  - *Auckland specific attributes*: sediment, copper / zinc
- Requires working with mana whenua and engaging with community
- Focus on freshwater, but need to consider impacts to coastal waters
- Also need to consider economics (e.g. growth) and climate change
Implementation status under Auckland Unitary Plan

Based on initial assessment 2015 (being updated)
Upcoming Plan Change Programme

- A staged implementation approach using multiple plan changes to effect change
- Progressive roll-out of plan changes based on attribute groupings
- Completion of notification of plan changes by 2025
- Roll-out of plan changes ensures:
  - flexibility in approach where required
  - recognition of different issues or locations e.g. regional objectives and policies for nitrate concentrations but bespoke rules (limits and targets) for the Franklin area
Supporting Agile Plan Changes

- Cross council / CCO involvement – range of specialists at hand
- Active engagement into central government changes
- Watershed Plans
  - Staged process: current state, scenarios, action plan
  - Current State and Scenarios through the Freshwater Management Tool (model)
  - Key communications tool
    - Build on existing engagement exercises
    - Identify parties for enhanced engagement
- Continued identification of infrastructure works and initiatives
Freshwater monitoring programme
A Snapshot Overview – we need to do more

Auckland Council’s ‘State of the Environment’ freshwater monitoring – long term, informs plan changes

National Environmental Monitoring Standards (NEMS)

Central Government position – RMA not delivering on cumulative effects

NPS-FM contains a ‘National Objectives Framework’ which outlines some national level priorities that all councils need to be managing for in terms of cumulative effects

The 2016 Auckland Unitary Plan focused largely on urban water quality management. Need to better manage rural water quality (excess nitrate in streams in the Franklin streams)
What we currently monitor

- Our current freshwater monitoring includes:
  - Rivers
    - water chemistry (multiple parameters at 36 sites)
    - hydrology (flow at 42 sites),
    - ecosystem health - Macroinvertebrate Community Index (MCI at 76 sites), Stream Ecological Valuation (SEV at 76 sites)
    - human health – *E. coli* at 36 sites
  - Lakes
    - water chemistry (5 lakes)
    - ecosystem health (Lake SPI – Submerged Plant Index at 33 lakes)
    - human health - *E. coli* and cyanobacteria (5 lakes)
  - Groundwater (aquifers)
    - water levels (51 sites)
    - water chemistry (multiple parameters at 9 sites)
    - human health - *E. coli* at 9 sites
• Existing freshwater monitoring programme no longer enough in terms of these increasing drivers e.g. NPS-FM, climate change

• Specifically, we are looking to:
  • Improve regional lakes monitoring programme – to enable to more robustly track environmental outcomes for both urban and rural lakes
  • Begin monitoring periphyton* in streams – assess level of nutrients from various land based activities
  • Further NPS-FM amendments – need to adjust regional freshwater monitoring framework
    • Possible additional coastal monitoring for sensitive receiving environments. Wetlands?
RIMU’s role in Auckland Council’s Freshwater Management

- At Risk Catchments
  - Ongoing freshwater monitoring will allow us to **assess** if we are successful in halting further degradation in the Hoteo, southern Kaipara and Papakura catchments
- NPS-FM, and further amendments in 2019
  - Freshwater data collected over last 15 years, **base data** for Freshwater Management Tool (FWMT) model
  - NPS-FM requires us to **account** based on monitored sites
  - MfE council technical working groups e.g. sediment attribute development
  - Ongoing **lobbying** for an urban copper and zinc attribute
  - Looking at the **connections** between freshwater and coastal sensitive receiving environments
- Auckland Unitary Plan
  - Looking at **integrated monitoring** of greenfield developments
Attachment A

Item 8

Strategic Approach to Sediment: Update
SIX WORK AREAS AND OUTPUTS

**WORK AREA**

1. BETTER INFORMATION
   - **OBJECTIVE**: Improve Transparency & information sharing
   - **OUTPUTS**
     1. Resource Exchange Platform, via SharePoint
     2. Case Study: Flat Bush
     3. Gaps analysis and recommendations for research

2. STRATEGY AND POLICY
   - **OBJECTIVE**: Enhance Strategy & policy effectiveness
   - **OUTPUTS**
     1. Effectiveness of AUP-OP (bringing together 3 cross-council workstreams)
     2. Participation in MfE Sediment Expert Group

3. INTERVENTIONS
   - **OBJECTIVE**: Strengthen Operational Excellence
   - **OUTPUTS**
     1. Review of GD05
     2. Achieving compliance on Small Sites
     3. Good practice incentives
     4. Rural Sediment Mitigation Strategies (e.g. Kaipara)
SIX WORK AREAS AND OUTPUTS

1. **MONITORING AND EVALUATION**
   - **OBJECTIVE:** Improve Understanding of effectiveness
   - **OUTPUTS:**
     1. Sediment Monitoring Framework
     2. Effectiveness of sediment retention and monitoring devices (Scoping Report)

2. **COORDINATING AND BUILDING CAPACITY**
   - **OBJECTIVE:** Enhance Accountability & Execution
   - **OUTPUTS:**
     1. Review of sediment-related functions
     2. Sediment resource plan

3. **COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT**
   - **OBJECTIVE:** Strengthen Understanding and Support
   - **OUTPUTS:**
     1. Shared narrative: internal / external / research updates
     2. Awareness and engagement plan
We are developing a change in approach...
Attachment A

Item 8

Strategic Approach to Auckland’s Groundwater
Strategic Drivers

Strategic Approach to Auckland’s Groundwater

- Transition from Air Land & Water Plan to Auckland Unitary Plan
- *Essential Freshwater* Package - NPS-FM
- Strengthening Auckland Council policy loop
- Supporting delivery of the groundwater consenting process and procedures
Auckland Unitary Plan
Groundwater Allocation Guidelines
Overview

- Coastal aquifers: 15% of average annual recharge
- Connection to surface water: 35% of average annual recharge
- Without connection to surface water: 65% of average annual recharge

Only a % of recharge is available for allocation
Objectives

- Planning Work Areas
  - Support consenting process
  - Framework to support a water quantity plan change

- Technical Work Areas
  1. Aquifer Availabilities and Accounting
     - Transparent communication
     - Section 14 (3) (b) Model
Objectives

- Technical Work Areas (continued)
  2. South Auckland Groundwater Modelling
     • Reassessment to integrate best data available
  3. State of the Environment Monitoring Analysis
     • Collect the right data, fit for purpose
     • Enable assessment of our allocation practices
  4. SAP Reporting and Compliance
     • Investigation and improvements
Communications Update
Attachment A

Item 8

Consultation open - ‘Our water future’

Water theme for March

Important to align future comms with NPS

Water strategy draft – consultation mid-2020

Key messages for public, central govt, staff

Opportunities for elected members (eg):

- In ward areas and local communities
- World water day 22 March
- Regional issues and opportunities
Auckland Council has decided to prepare a water strategy for the region, to describe how we will:

- take care of natural waterbodies – our streams and rivers, lakes and harbours
- meet our daily water needs as our population grows
- look after our waters while managing our growth and development
- and prepare for changes in our climate and our communities.

Central government regulations are changing

In the next few years, it is likely that central government will set higher standards for drinking water, the discharges from wastewater treatment plants and the stormwater system.

They are also looking at changing how services are delivered. Some of the options include creating publicly owned drinking water and wastewater providers that operate across council boundaries.

These processes might change how our water services in Tāmaki Makaurau are regulated and delivered.

We have communicated our support for the government’s position that drinking water, wastewater and stormwater assets must remain in public ownership. We have also identified that any subsidies needed to support smaller communities to meet increased water standards should come from national revenue. Rates and local user charges collected in Auckland should only be used to fund services in Auckland.
Wrap up and workshop close
Wrap up

- Formal consultation time period is likely to be six weeks (July – August 2019)
- Members of the panel may wish to make individual submissions
- Some issues may need further discussion following central government decisions and shape local government activity through 2020
Summing up

*Essential Freshwater* has many elements and inter-dependencies – *clear focus on improving environmental outcomes and use of regulatory measures to this end*

Workshop serves to highlight central government direction for water outcomes, and implications for local government, while noting council related activities

Thank you for your time and contributions, especially presenters

*Workshop organised by National Environment Strategy Unit*
A Vision - to put water at the centre

Te mau riro o te wai o Tāmaki Makaurau
The life-supporting capacity of Auckland’s water is protected and enhanced.

Ecosystems
Water use
Resilience
Culture
Recreation & Amenity
Meeting future water needs
Adapting to a changing water future
Cleaning up our waters
Growth in the right places

Big issues to work on
Principals to guide our work

- Recognise water is a taonga
- Work with natural ecosystems
- Deliver catchment scale thinking and action
- Focus on achieving right sized solutions with multiple benefits
- Work together to plan and deliver better water outcomes
- Look to the future
Processes to work on

- Achieving net catchment benefits
- Setting priorities for investment
- Applying a Māori world view
- Creating our water future together
Feedback on the values to date

- **Water use**
  - Strongly: 2%
  - Somewhat: 27%
  - Not at all: 69%
- **Resilience**
  - Strongly: 42%
  - Somewhat: 17%
  - Not at all: 39%
- **Recreation and amenity**
  - Strongly: 2%
  - Somewhat: 21%
  - Not at all: 75%
- **Ecosystems**
  - Strongly: 12%
  - Somewhat: 15%
  - Not at all: 23%
  - Not answered: 35%
Feedback on the Issues to date
Attachment A

Next Steps

Feb-March 2019
- Public engagement - Have Your Say

April-May 2019
- Analyze Feedback

June 2019
- Report back

June - September 2020
- Finalise the Water Strategy

Develop Scenarios, Options, Actions and Targets
Regional Pest Management Plan update
Rural Advisory Panel
April 2019

Dr Imogen Bassett
Biosecurity Principal Advisor
Overview of presentation

Updates on:

- overall RPMP process
- gorse boundary rule status
- cat management
New plan adopted but not yet operative

- Period for lodging Environment Court appeals closes this week.
- Plan may be made operative in part, once nature of appeals has been assessed.
Scale of adopted plan

Step-change on previous RPMS:

- Overall 189% increase in investment compared with legacy Regional Pest Management Strategy
- Rural possum control will almost double
- Several entirely new programmes e.g. island eradications, freshwater
Gorse rule change

- Re-instated rural boundary rule for gorse
- Rule restricted to land being used for commercial primary production, 10m from boundary
Cat management

Everyone agrees council should support responsible pet ownership, this is retained in amended plan

Amendments to proposed approach:
- Changed name to ‘unowned cat’
- Allowed for other forms of ID (e.g. named, addressed collar)
- Restricted cat trapping to threatened species sites in rural areas
- Restricted ban on feeding of cat colonies to parks with threatened species
Item 6

Questions?