

Report to the Collaborative Stakeholder Group – for Agreement and Approval

File No: 23 10 02

Date: 25 May 2015

To: Collaborative Stakeholder Group

From: Chairperson – Bill Wasley

Subject: **Populating the Plan Change template: Wording of purpose, area covered and background and explanation**

Section: Agreement and Approval

1 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) with:

1. Feedback from Te Rōpū Hautū and Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee members on the Plan Change template.
2. Suggested wording for the purpose, area covered and background and explanation sections, and seek agreement on these sections of the plan change template.

Recommendation:

1. That the report [Populating the Plan Change template: Wording of purpose, area covered and background and explanation] (Doc #3398071 dated 25 May 2015) be received, and
2. That the Collaborative Stakeholder Group
 - a) Confirm the suggested wording of the purpose, area covered and background and explanation of the plan change template, as shown in Attachment 1, subject to any amendments agreed at the workshop.

2 Background

At CSG workshop 10 (6 March 2015) staff presented a template for the plan change to give the CSG an indication of what the final product will look like. CSG agreed that they would have regular sessions at each meeting and work to populate the template (Workshop notes CSG10, 2015).

CSG also requested minor amendments to the wording in the template, which was presented to CSG at workshop 11 (23 April 2015). No comments were made on the amended wording (Workshop notes CSG11, 2015).

3 Feedback from Te Rōpū Hautū and Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee informal workshop

The plan change template and an associated report (Waikato Regional Council, 2015) was presented to Te Rōpū Hautū (TRH) at their meeting on 15 April 2015. No issues were noted with the template. TRH requested that the template be presented to Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee (Minutes - Te Rōpū Hautū, 2015).

An informal workshop between Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee and TRH staff was held on 11 May 2015, and the plan change and s32 templates were tabled on the day. Initial comments on the plan change template were around ensuring the partnership story was told at the beginning of the document and on who would be the most appropriate authors of the forewords (Workshop notes Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee, 2015).

4 Populating the plan change template

CSG would like to populate the plan change template as agreements are reached on items and sections are able to be filled in. One programme of work that will contribute to being able to do this is the scenarios and modelling work that the Technical Leaders Group (TLG) is undertaking. The first outputs of this work will be available for CSG consideration at the end of August. Work on developing policy options is occurring in parallel.

The CSG is likely to be able to complete the introductory sections of the plan change template, up to and including 'Issues', while the scenarios work is being completed. CSG may also be able to draft some narrative objectives, if it is agreed that certain topics are more suited to a narrative than a numerical objective. For instance, there may be an overarching narrative objective about an outcome for the rivers as a whole around the Vision and Strategy, or a desired outcome from a Mātauranga Māori or a River iwi perspective.

It is expected that by the end of 2015 CSG will have a clear picture of what they want the plan change to achieve and how they expect that to happen. This translates to possibly being able to write objectives, but only generally worded statements around the policy approach and methods to achieve them. This level of detail will be appropriate for the CSG recommendations report to the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee, and act as the drafting instructions for staff to use to begin writing the policies and methods (including rules) into the plan change template itself between CSG workshops in November 2015 and February 2016. This will then continue to be checked and refined between CSG and staff until the plan change is presented to Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Committee for their recommendation to full council and subsequent public notification in April/May 2016.

Table 1 shows a timeline and milestones for populating sections of the plan change template from now until the end of August, when the first outputs of the scenario work is discussed.

It is important to note that while CSG is agreeing on sections and populating the template these are not a final agreement by the CSG. Policy is very iterative and after each step the CSG will need to check back to previous sections to make sure they are still appropriate. CSG will need to keep checking back on the plan change as whole and seeing how it all fits together.

Table 1: Timeline and milestones for populating sections of the plan change template

CSG workshop	CSG discuss	CSG agree
CSG12 4-5 June		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose • Area covered • Background and explanation
CSG13 2-3 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Values • Issues • What words need to be defined in the glossary 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Process for coming up with draft narrative objectives – staff draft or CSG workshop?
CSG14 10-11 August	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrative objectives 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Values • Issues • Glossary entries
CSG15 26-27 August		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrative objectives

5 Wording of Purpose, Area Covered, and Background and Explanation sections

Staff have prepared suggested wording for the following sections of the plan change template:

- Purpose of this document
- Area covered by this document¹
- Background and Explanation

These sections of the plan change template have been included as an attachment for CSG's consideration. Important points to note about these sections:

- Area covered has been moved to be included in what will end up in the Waikato Regional Plan, rather than as helpful text that only appears as an introduction to the plan change document
- Area covered currently includes a placeholder map which will be updated when Freshwater Management Units are confirmed (and it will be large enough to read)
- Values are briefly described in the background and explanation section and can be updated when the values and which document(s) they will be included in are confirmed at CSG workshop 14

¹ CSG will be considering FMUs in the morning of Day 2 at workshop12, before discussing the plan change template. Any outcome or change to FMUs can be incorporated into the 'Area covered by this document' section on the day.

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Policy development workstream

Bill Wasley

Independent Chairperson, Collaborative
Stakeholder Group

Attachment 1: Excerpt, pages 1 to 5 of TEMPLATE: Waikato Regional Plan Change No. 1 - Waikato and Waipa Catchments (Proposed). Document #3287412, Version #2 25/05/2015.

References

Minutes - Te Rōpū Hautū 15 April 2015. Section 6, General form and content of Regional Plan Change. Document #3359008.

Waikato Regional Council 2015. Report to Te Rōpū Hautū - General form and content of Waikato Regional Plan Change 1: Waikato and Waipa River Catchments. Document #3308837.

Workshop notes from CSG workshop 10 (5 and 6 March 2015). Day 2, 6 March 2015 Section 13, Plan Change Framework. Document #3300658.

Workshop notes from CSG workshop 11 (23 and 24 April 2015). Day 1, 23 April 2015 Section 4, Document templates. Document #3359918.

Workshop notes from Healthy River Wai Ora Committee workshop 11 May 2015. Regional Plan Change Templates. Document #3409034.