

UNDER the Resource
Management Act 1991

AND

IN THE MATTER of a hearing by Independent
Commissioners on behalf of Waikato District Council
of the
Waikato -Tainui Submission to the Proposed
Waikato District Plan

HEARING OVERVIEW FOR WAIKATO - TAINUI

PROVIDED BY

Gavin Donald

ON BEHALF OF

WAIKATO – TAINUI

AND ENDORSED BY SUBMITTERS

TURANGAWAEWAE MARAE TRUST BOARD AND JACKIE COLLIER

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This submission provides an overview and explanation to the Waikato-Tainui submission to the Proposed Waikato District Plan and is endorsed by Turangawaewae Marae Trust Board and Jackie Colliar (submitters to the plan review process who choose to be heard with Waikato-Tainui for this hearing, but may opt to provide separate evidence for individual hearing topics).
- 1.2 The process to which Waikato-Tainui have arrived at this point, in relation to this plan review process, has been a collaborative one. Effort has been made to include mana whenua in the discussion where possible.
- 1.3 Waikato-Tainui appreciate the opportunity to provide this overview and the ability to present to these hearings on one further occasion in 2019. However, should information be presented by staff in the s42a Report that requires a specific response, Waikato-Tainui may attend additional individual hearings in 2019. This overview and our presentation at this initial hearing will focus on three aspects. The first of these being Waikato-Tainui as a tribe and its aspirations for its people. This will be provided by Rukumoana Schaafhausen, Chair of Waikato-Tainui Executive Council-Te Arataura. The second aspect will be presented by Donna Flavell, Chief Executive Officer of Waikato-Tainui. This presentation will focus on governance issues and how they relate to the rohe; with a particular focus on legislation and agreements that relate to the Waikato River and how it the river is central to everything that Waikato-Tainui undertakes. The third aspect of this overview I will present, and this is a high-level discussion as to the hearings and issues that we will be focusing on.

2. SCOPE OF OVERVIEW

- 2.1 This overview is presented on behalf of Waikato-Tainui.
- 2.2 Waikato-Tainui seek amendments to the Proposed Waikato District Plan. These amendments are sought to both improve usability of the proposed plan and it to ensure the plan provides appropriate environmental protections, as sought by the Waikato-Tainui Environmental Plan, Tai Tumu, Tai Pari, Tai Ao.
- 2.3 The amendments sought by Waikato-Tainui on some occasions may be provided for in the staff 42a Report.
- 2.6 The overview provided by each presenter individually will contribute to:
- The context as to why Waikato-Tainui is a submitter;
 - Understanding Waikato-Tainui in this location;
 - A background to the Waikato River legislation and policy context;
 - Joint Management Agreement expectations;
 - Understanding Waikato-Tainui aspirations for the rohe and its people;
 - An explanation of key points of the Waikato-Tainui submission; and
 - The likely topic and subsequent hearings Waikato-Tainui will be focusing on.

3. WAIKATO-TAINUI AREAS OF FOCUS

- 3.1 The Waikato-Tainui Submission to the Proposed Waikato District Plan was broader and more detailed than the tribe had imagined providing. However, it became obvious at an early stage that there were significant gaps, oversights and general confusion as to what was being proposed in the Waikato District Plan.
- 3.2 Waikato-Tainui, as a responsible Joint Management Agreement Partner, have been available to Waikato District Council to provide assistance and guidance on issues relating to iwi throughout the process. This offer remains and the hearings panel will see at topic hearings that Waikato-Tainui are not only identifying problems or issues but are looking to provide solutions and a way forward of mutual benefit.
- 3.3 Whilst the submission was broad in nature, the rationale behind changes sought are focused on key areas. These areas being the concerns around unplanned development and the effects it can have on receiving environments, the treatment of Maori freehold land, the lack of protection of the Waikato River and the lack of recognition of iwi as Kaitiaki of the rohe.

4. SPECIFIC TOPICS

- 4.1 Waikato-Tainui intend to provide evidence on all hearings relevant to its submission, but where possible will attempt to limit the overlap or unnecessary duplication of evidence. The exception to this maybe any topic that relates to the Waikato River. Waikato-Tainui will highlight a number of situations where it is considered that the Waikato River needs greater consideration. An example of this is where we address the Waikato River in the “all of plan” hearing; but provide the majority of evidence relating to the Waikato River in the Natural Landscapes hearing.
- 4.2 The topics that the submission by Waikato-Tainui focused on and the likely hearing topics we are going to present in support of the submission are:
 - The Tangata Whenua section and how it relates to the Vision and Strategy / Te Ture Whaimana,
 - The non-inclusion of the Waikato River as an Outstanding Natural Feature or Landscape,
 - The provision of a specific Hopuhopu zone,
 - The replacement of Pa zoning with Concept Management Plans,
 - The lack of structure planning,
 - The use of ‘live’ zoning,
 - Indigenous biodiversity provisions,
 - The optional nature of low impact design,
 - The non-inclusion of a Natural Hazards section and how it can be inserted in the proposed plan in a coherent nature,
 - Genetically modified organisms, and
 - Giving effect to Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Waikato Regional Plan.
- 4.2 The above referenced topics on occasion overlap and some will require discussion in multiple hearings of the proposed plan as appropriate.

5. OVERVIEW SUMMARY

- 5.1 Waikato-Tainui are committed to a positive outcome from the Waikato District Plan review process, that provides for the wellbeing of the community in general. Waikato-Tainui understand the significant growth pressures occurring in various locations within the district. It is this understanding that reinforces a commitment by Waikato-Tainui that this growth occurs in a manner that is planned and doesn't unnecessarily affect the natural environment adversely.
- 5.2 Waikato-Tainui would appreciate communication from the hearings panel in regard to the likely timing of hearings in 2020, as soon as possible.