

Report to the Collaborative Stakeholder Group – for agreement and approval

File No: 23 10 05CS
Date: 22 June 2016
To: Collaborative Stakeholder Group
From: Janet Amey – Engagement work stream
Subject: Summary listing of engagement with stakeholders, 2014-2016
Section: For agreement and approval

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide:

- The CSG with a report containing a summary listing of sector engagement meetings as provided by CSG members and delegates over the period 2014-2016.

Recommendations:

1. That the report “Summary listing of engagement with stakeholders, 2014-2016” (Doc 8391929 dated 22 June 2016) be received for information.
2. That CSG members note that the “Summary listing of engagement with stakeholders, 2014-2016” will be made public through the currently established documentation process.
3. That CSG members note that more detailed information regarding sector engagement meetings undertaken, and reported on through the CSG process, may be requested under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Background

The Collaborative Stakeholder Group are the main avenue for sector and wider community engagement in the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora plan change project. A summary listing of engagement meetings with sectors, as reported by CSG members and delegates, via the “CSG Master Template for Feedback from Stakeholders” (doc #3080587v17) has been collated and is attached as Table 1.

Table 1 also lists the formal community engagement meetings that took place in 2014 and 2015 (doc 3387632 and 3603167). The table does not contain the results of sector or community engagement. The results of the formal community engagement processes are already publicly available. These reports and appendices are available at: <http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Your-voice/>

The Evolving Nature of Engagement over the Collaborative Process

Given the co-governance and collaborative nature of the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project the process of engagement with sector groups and the community did evolve over time. In the early stages there were more formal meetings where the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Plan Change project was the key reason for the meeting. Over time, as relationships and networks were established, the nature of engagement with sectors became more informal and discussion and update based. It is probable that many of these updates and discussions particularly in the last 10-12 months of the project have not been captured in Table 1. This is not considered an issue as such, but is recognised as a normal development given the collaborative nature of this plan change project.

Tāngata Whenua Engagement

The Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project is a partnership between the five River iwi and Waikato Regional Council (WRC). Within the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy^[1], is reference to the Tāngata Whenua Engagement Strategy which was led by River iwi partners utilising existing hui and other engagement opportunities to involve tāngata whenua. The purpose of tāngata whenua engagement outlined in the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy¹ was:

To adequately involve tāngata whenua and to identify the values, issues and aspirations of tāngata whenua in relation to freshwater bodies. Also, to align and reinforce the Partnership Charter and protocols between the project partners, as well as individual joint management agreements between the regional council and iwi.

The Partnership Charter^[2] was a key document for tāngata whenua engagement as it established the protocols between WRC and River Iwi in relation to the development of a plan change. River Iwi had primary responsibility for leading the engagement with tāngata whenua with WRC having responsibility to provide assistance for this engagement.

What is not included in the summary list of key engagement?

Table 1 is not a record of all engagement activity. It is based on engagement undertaken that was reported back to the WRC project team via the established process of requesting the feedback template to be updated prior to CSG workshops. Table 1 does not include:

- Any sector or community meetings not captured in the CSG master feedback document kept by the WRC project team.
- Workshops used for keeping WRC Councillors (those not on the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora committee) up to date on CSG progress.
- Feedback from workshops and formal meetings undertaken with the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora committee.
- Tāngata whenua engagement as this was led by the five River iwi co-governance partners. CSG members and/or delegates have participated in workshops/meetings organised by River Iwi co-governance partners from time to time. These meetings are also not included.
- Reports written and/or presentations made to update or inform any WRC committees or subcommittees on the progress the CSG towards developing their policy mix and

^[1] WRC 2014, Doc#2154945 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy.

^[2] Partnership Charter between Waikato Regional Council and Waikato and Waipa River Iwi for the purposes of reviewing the Waikato Regional Plan as it relates to the effects of discharges on the health and wellbeing of the Waikato and Waipa Rivers. Doc#2205734

recommendations. For example, information updates and/or engagement with the Integrated Catchment Management Committee and the various Zone Committees.

- Letters between the CSG and interested parties or organisations in regards to particular issues or requests for written updates
- More informal situations where information was handed out and conversations had around Healthy Rivers Wai Ora in general – where the emphasis was solely on informing stakeholders and views were not sought for CSG members or delegates to take back to the CSG table. For example, discussion with and information provided to farmers at the National Fielddays, June 2016.

Written by:

Janet Amey
Engagement work stream

Table 1: Summary record of engagement meetings with stakeholders

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector Engagement</i>	<i>Brief summary</i>
04/06/2014	Dairy and Sheep & Beef Liaison Group meeting	Project update and ways to engage in the future. Workshop participants were asked: "What messages would you like the CSG and other audiences to hear in relation to managing the effects of farming on the environment?"
27/05/2014 to 25/06/2014	Dairy sector (six farmer meetings in the Waikato and Waipa catchments)	Provide an overview of Healthy Rivers Wai Ora and the collaborative process. Gather farmer feedback on involvement in the collaborative process and how to engage. Engagement occurred over six meetings throughout the region with over 100 farmers and around 20 rural professionals attending. An exercise was undertaken with sub groups at these meetings to determine, what are the core values, that, farmers consider important in relation to: their farm / business, their catchment / community and Waikato Water bodies (river, lakes and streams).
25/06/2014	Local Government	Provide a project update and start the conversation around best ways to engage in the future. Gather feedback on the CSGs draft focus statement. Identify areas of risk and concern to the sector.
18/07/2014	Local Govt (Waikato Local Government CEO Forum)	Provide a briefing about the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project and the collaborative process planned. Discussion of issues and risks at this stage identified by forum participants.
21/07/2014 22/07/2014 23/07/2014	Sheep & Beef (Beef & Lamb NZ hosted three farmer meetings)	Provide an overview of Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Plan for Change and the collaborative process involved. Capture initial farmer views and concerns at this early stage in the process. Also sought feedback on farmer involvement in the collaborative process and how to best engage farmers as the project progresses.
20/08/14	Community sector Waikato River Community Care Group Meeting	To give an update on the project and provide an opportunity to input feedback back into the CSG process. An opportunity to canvass issues of interest or concern for attendees.
20/08/2014	Sheep & Beef sector Beef & Lamb NZ Farmer Councilor Meeting – Mid Northern North Island	An overview of Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Plan for Change and the collaborative process involved and capture farmer councilor views on key issues of interest or concern.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector Engagement</i>	<i>Brief summary</i>
22/09/2014	Rural Advocacy sector North Waikato Federated Farmers	Rural CSG members were invited to a Federated Farmers Huntly meeting to provide a project briefing and to hear concerns from members. Opportunity to ask and answer queries, including around the collaborative approach to the plan change process.
10/10/2014	Dairy sector Cambridge Farm Discussion Group	Overview of Healthy Rivers and the collaborative process. Encouraging engagement of farmers in the ongoing process. Involved hearing what farmers were already doing on farm to mitigate environmental effects.
23/10/2014	Community engagement Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Large Stakeholder Forum	<p>This was a formal Healthy Rivers Wai Ora community engagement event</p> <p>Healthy Rivers Wai Ora 2014 Large Stakeholder Forum Te Rapa Conference and Function Centre, Hamilton</p> <p>Over 200 people attended the forum, including Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) members and their delegates, Te Rōpū Hautū (project steering group) members, Healthy Rivers Wai Ora committee members and stakeholders from the sectors and communities of the Waikato and Waipa river catchments.</p> <p>The agenda pack, the project update presentation and the technical update presentation are all publicly available on the Waikato Regional Council web site. http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Events/Healthy-RiversWai-Ora-2014-Large-Stakeholder-Forum/</p>
29/10/2014	Forestry sector (NZFOA environment committee)	The meeting considered the economic study on the Upper Waikato. There was considerable discussion concerning the key matters on which to seek assurances from the Technical Group.
3/11/2014	Dairy sector Farmer engagement group	Project update and discussion regarding the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Stakeholder Forum held on 23 October. Feedback on the public CSG forum.
6/11/2014	Community sector Advisory Committee for the Regional Environment (ACRE)	Project update and discussion on ongoing ways to stay informed. Discussion on issues and concerns at this stage in the project.

Date	Sector Engagement	Brief summary
10/11/2014	Environment/NGO sector meeting.	To introduce the environment/NGO sector representatives on the CSG to the wider sector. To undertake a workshop session to collate the thoughts on the following questions in regards to the Healthy Rivers Project: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's top of mind? • Fears and Concerns • What are practical solutions? • Any "elephants" in the room?
20/11/2014	Industry & Energy sector forum	To reflect on the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora process to date and provide feedback from the sectors particularly as they relate to point source discharges.
28/11/2014	Rural Professionals sector - Putaruru	Provide an overview of the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora process and possible implications for the sector. Question and answers. How will farms be handled that flow into two catchments?
3/12/2014	Tourism & Recreation sector Hamilton Waikato Tourism Industry half year update.	Overview of the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project and process to date as part of Hamilton Waikato Tourism Industry half yearly update. A lot of interest and positive feedback particularly learning of how process working. Discussion on value of a "clean" river being paramount in promotion of more visitors to region.
28/01/2015	Local government sector staff representatives	To provide a project update and receive feedback from the local government sector on any questions, risks or issues of interest to the group.
27/03/2015	Sheep & Beef sector Ballance Agri-nutrients Waikato/Waipā meeting	To provide an update on the project and to start a conversation around best ways to engage with these stakeholders going forward. An opportunity to discuss any topics of interest or concern to the team.
29/03/2015	Community sector Information desk at the Five Bridges river swim (Hamilton).	Provide Healthy Rivers Wai Ora information. Ask views on clarity for swimming. Encourage participation in online survey and engagement events General view that preferred clarity level in "neck to toes" but most though "waist to toes" was adequate for their sporting activity, i.e. river swimming.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sector Engagement</i>	<i>Brief summary</i>
25/3/2015	Community engagement Healthy Rivers Wai Ora stakeholder workshop: Water quality issues and their causes	<p>This was a formal Healthy Rivers Wai Ora community engagement event</p> <p>Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora 2015 Stakeholder workshop: Water quality issues and their causes Wednesday 25 March 2015, Hamilton Gardens Pavilion</p> <p>The purpose of this workshop was to update stakeholders on the project and involve them in discussions with the Collaborative Stakeholder Group (CSG) on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the CSG proposes to divide the catchment into areas so we can better manage water quality • current water quality and trends in different parts of the Waipa and Waikato River catchments • insights into factors driving water quality • how the CSG will determine how healthy (or unhealthy) a water body is • how the project's modelling and research programme will help develop options • the project milestones and timelines. <p>Feedback was collated and made publicly available on the Waikato Regional Council web site (doc#3387632) http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Your-voice/</p>
March-May 2015	Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Online Survey	<p>This was a formal Healthy Rivers Wai Ora community engagement process.</p> <p>Feedback was collated and made publicly available on the Waikato Regional Council web site (doc#3387632) http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Your-voice/</p>
1/04/2015 9/04/2015 13/04/2015 15/04/2015 5/05/2015	Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Drop-in Sessions: Water quality issues and their causes	<p>These were formal Healthy Rivers Wai Ora community engagement events.</p> <p>South Waikato Sport and Events Centre 25 Mossop Rd, Tokoroa 7 - 9.30pm, Wednesday 1 April</p> <p>Civic Centre 142 Main St, Huntly 7 - 9.30pm, Thursday 9 April</p>

Date	Sector Engagement	Brief summary
		<p>Hamilton Gardens Pavilion Hamilton Gardens, Hamilton 7 - 9.30pm, Monday 13 April</p> <p>Otorohanga Club 107 Maniapoto St, Otorohanga 7 - 9.30pm, Wednesday 15 April</p> <p>Tuakau Memorial Hall George Street, Tuakau 7 - 9.30pm, Tuesday 5 May</p> <p>For community members to find out the latest developments in the project, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • current water quality and trends in different parts of the Waipa and Waikato River catchments • insights into factors driving water quality • how the project's modelling and research programme will help develop options • the project milestones and timelines <p>Community members also had the opportunity to share their thoughts with members of the CSG on how they propose to divide the catchment into areas to better manage water quality and they will determine how healthy (or unhealthy) a water body is.</p> <p>Feedback was collated and made publicly available on the Waikato Regional Council web site (doc#3387632) http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Your-voice/</p>
8/04/2015	Sheep & Beef sector Young Farmers Meeting Hamilton	To provide an update on the project and the collaborative process. An opportunity to discuss any points of interest or concern to the attendees. Discuss some of the questions that were asked in the recent community engagement events and provide their feedback to the CSG member in attendance.
April/May dates	Sheep & Beef sector Farmer/sector engagement	Meetings with the sector to discuss concerns around Sheep and Beef data and modelling to inform catchment model and limit setting given there was concern among farmers and others in the sector about the current approach to modelling sheep and beef farm scenarios.

Date	Sector Engagement	Brief summary
15/4/2015	Rural Professionals sector NZIPIM meeting of Rural Professionals	To provide members with an update on Healthy Rivers Wai Ora and the collaborative process. An opportunity to gather sector feedback on some of the questions posed in the community engagement sessions.
April and May 2015	Dairy sector 7 farmer meetings around Waikato and Waipa catchments	<i>Focus was on "Farming within environmental limits: Are you prepared? Provided an update on the Healthy Rivers Plan for Change and how it will affect the dairy business and the way people farm. 420 people attended - primarily farm owners, with some share-milkers and support service people. Provided an update presentation based on the projects recent community engagement events and ran workshops. The first workshop captured questions from the presentations, whereas the second workshop session picked up on considerations/concerns regarding the plan change and rates/magnitude of change.</i>
7/05/2015	Dairy sector Presentation to North Waikato Dairy Discussion Group	Objective was to discuss the role of the CSG, issues, and progress to date.
2/06/2015	Environment / NGO sector workshop.	Purpose to provide information on the Healthy River process and get feedback from the sector to help guide the CSG representatives
15/09/2015	Energy sector meeting	A meeting opportunity to discuss the sectors response to the recent nutrient studies. Identifying points of concern, questions and any issues.
25/09/2015	Rural Advocacy, Sheep & Beef and Dairy sectors Presentation to Federated Farmers Executive and District Chairs of Waikato, Rotorua, Taupo and Auckland Provinces	Update on the Healthy Rivers project and particularly on the first round modelled scenarios. Over 20 executive member and district chairs of Federated Farmers heard presentations from CSG members and the Independent Chair of the Technical leaders Group and then workshoped the timelines table. The current state attribute tables were presented as an opportunity to identify specific water quality in "your patch" created a lot of discussion and questions and was a good focus from the general more broad discussions on the catchments water quality generally. The overarching take away message from the meeting feedback is yes the numbers are big but a solution needs to be found.
27/10/2015	Community engagement Open Stakeholder Workshop: Water quality policies and solutions	This was a formal Healthy Rivers Wai Ora community engagement event. Open stakeholder workshop: water quality policies and solutions Tuesday 27 October 2015, Mystery Creek Events Centre, Hamilton surrounds

Date	Sector Engagement	Brief summary
		<p>An open invitation to community and stakeholders to take part in discussion regarding the development of policy to protect water quality. People were encouraged to attend to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • find out what's happening in the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project • get involved in discussions with the Collaborative Stakeholder Group and give them your thoughts, which they'll use in finalising their recommended solutions. <p>Discussions were on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • their long term vision for the Waikato and Waipa river catchments (restoring and protecting the water quality in the rivers, to achieve the community's values and the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River) • CSG thinking on limiting nitrogen, phosphorus, <i>E.coli</i> and sediment entering water, to achieve community values • what timeframes (or 'targets') could look like for achieving the limits under different water quality scenarios • potential economic, social, environmental and cultural impacts of limits under a range of water quality scenarios • policy options (regulatory and non-regulatory) being explored for achieving limits and targets. <p>There was an optional introductory session presentation (for those newer to the project), followed by the main workshop. Feedback from this session (along with the five community workshops and the online survey) were collated and made publically available on the Waikato Regional Council website http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Your-voice/</p>
27/10/2015 to 13 /11/2015	Community Engagement to Healthy Rivers Wai Ora Online Survey	<p>This was a formal Healthy Rivers Wai Ora community engagement event.</p> <p>An online survey option was made available for those people unable to attend the Open Stakeholder workshop on 27/10/2015 or any of the five community workshops. Where possible the same questions were asked of people online as were asked in the face-to-face meetings, however not all questions were conducive to an online format.</p> <p>The online survey focused on water quality policies and solutions, and was also used to update stakeholders on the project and involve them in discussion with the CSG on five key areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the CSG long term vision for the Waikato and Waipa river catchments (restoring and protecting the water quality in the rivers, to achieve the community's values and the <i>Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River</i>) • their thinking on limiting nitrogen, phosphorus, E.coli and sediment entering water, to achieve community values

Date	Sector Engagement	Brief summary
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what timeframes (or 'targets') could look like for achieving the limits under different water quality scenarios • potential economic, social, environmental and cultural impacts under a range of water quality scenarios • policy options (regulatory and non-regulatory) being explored for achieving limits and targets <p>Feedback from the online survey was collated into a report covering all activities over the engagement period (online survey, open stakeholder workshop and community workshops). The report was made publicly available on the Waikato Regional Council web page http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Your-voice/</p>
<p>28/10/2015</p> <p>29/10/2015</p> <p>5/11/2015</p> <p>10/11/2015</p> <p>11/11/2015</p>	<p>Community engagement</p> <p>Healthy Rivers Wai Ora: Water quality policies and solutions</p> <p>A series of five community engagement workshops held across the Waipa and Waikato River catchment areas</p>	<p>These were formal Healthy Rivers Wai Ora community engagement events</p> <p>Tokoroa Events Centre 25 Mossop Rd, Tokoroa 6.30pm-8.30pm</p> <p>Tuakau Memorial Hall George Street, Tuakau 6.30pm-8.30pm</p> <p>Hamilton Gardens Pavilion Hamilton Gardens, Hamilton 6.30pm-8.30pm</p> <p>Otorohanga Club 107 Maniapoto St, Otorohanga 6.30pm-8.30pm</p> <p>Broadlands Hall 2986 Broadlands Rd, Reporoa 6.30pm-8.30pm</p> <p>The Collaborative Stakeholder Group, that represents you in the development of policy to protect our water, hopes to see you at one of these workshops, where you can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • find out what's happening in Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project • get involved in discussions with the Collaborative Stakeholder Group and give them your thoughts, which they'll use in finalising their recommended solutions.

Date	Sector Engagement	Brief summary
		<p>Discussions will be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • their long term vision for the Waikato and Waipa river catchments (restoring and protecting the water quality in the rivers, to achieve the community's values and the Vision and Strategy for the Waikato River) • CSG thinking on limiting nitrogen, phosphorus, <i>E.coli</i> and sediment entering water, to achieve community values • what timeframes (or 'targets') could look like for achieving the limits under different water quality scenarios • potential economic, social, environmental and cultural impacts of limits under a range of water quality scenarios • policy options (regulatory and non-regulatory) being explored for achieving limits and targets. <p>Presentations were tailored for each area in which they were held. The workshop presentations were made publicly available on the Waikato Regional Council web site http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Events/Community-workshops/</p> <p>Feedback from these community workshops was collated into a report covering all activities over the engagement period (online survey, open stakeholder workshop and community workshops). The report was made publicly available on the Waikato Regional Council web page http://www.waikatoregion.govt.nz/Council/Policy-and-plans/Plans-under-development/Healthy-Rivers---Plan-for-Change/Your-voice/</p>
30/10/2015	Environment NGO sector workshop	<p>Purpose was to update the sector on where the project is at (especially the economic modelling component) and gather feedback on the CSG's current thinking around the Plan Change. The presentation for this workshop was based on the Open Stakeholder Workshop at Mystery Creek (27 October), focused on the economic modelling methodology and results, farm plans and intensification rule. Workshopped feedback sessions were embedded in the presentation. Feedback took the form of "initial impressions" followed by more detailed exploration of reasons and concerns.</p>
5/11/2015 to 16/11/2015	Dairy sector Series of 8 farmer meetings around the catchment.	<p>Farmer engagement meetings around how the plan change could affect their farming. An information update on the project and the collaborative process. Particular emphasis on the results of the modelling research and the likely cost to the regional economy.</p> <p>Over 450 people attended across the 8 meetings (primarily landowners and sharemilkers but also some rural professionals). About a third of attendees had been to the previous farmer engagement workshops held in June 2014 and June 2015.</p>

Date	Sector Engagement	Brief summary
10/11/2015	Industry / Energy sector joint forum	<p>A joint sector meeting. Providing an update on the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project with discussion around;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the draft plan change • regulated versus unregulated activities • good management practice and investment certainty • municipal discharges • incentives • modelling • terms of consent as there was concern about possibility of common expiry date/common term. • feedback regarding presentation of the Scion report to the CSG.
2/12/2015	Tourism & recreation sector Hamilton & Waikato Tourism Industry update	<p>The primary objective of participation in this 6 monthly Tourism sector forum for the Waikato was to both update participants on key dimensions of the Healthy Rivers Wai Ora project, and to test the positions that are being promoted on behalf of the Tourism and Recreation sector in the CSG. Attending were about 120 people with various tourism related interests in the Waikato (this is a bi-annual industry update meeting).</p>
4/12/2015	Industry / Energy sector joint forum	<p>A joint sector meeting. Providing an update on the Healthy Rivers project and discussion of items of interest to the forum, including' modelling inputs, offsetting, allocation, discussion on the Scion Report and provision of information relating to a forum members re-consenting discharge consents.</p>
February – March 2016	Sector meetings held for feedback on CSGs draft proposed rules	<p>CSG members/delegates held sector meetings over a period of several weeks regarding the CSGs draft policies and rules (current at that time) on stock exclusion, land use change, setbacks, tailored property plans, certified industry scheme (with property plan). In addition there were questions about what sectors would expect to see in a low or high risk property plan, and an opportunity to give general feedback.</p> <p>Detailed feedback was received from the following sectors via the CSG members/delegates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment/NGO sector • Horticulture / vegetable growers / arable sector • Rural Professionals sector • Forestry sector • Industry sector • Energy, Local Government and Water Supply sectors (combined feedback) • Rural Advocacy sector (included feedback from a meeting with the equine sector) • Dairy sector • Sheep & Beef sector