



“Kia Tū Pakari ai Tātou”

SmartGrowth Combined Tāngata Whenua Forum Minutes

Date: 16 July 2025

Time: 9:00am – 12:30pm

Venue: Western Bay of Plenty District Council
1484 Cameron Road, Greerton, Tauranga, 3112

Combined Tāngata Whenua Forum Membership		
Co-Chairperson		
In attendance	Matemoana McDonald	
Apologies	Matire Duncan	
CTWF representatives to SmartGrowth Leadership Group (SLG)		
Apologies	Matire Duncan	Te Rangapū Mana Whenua o Tauranga Moana
	Whitiora McLeod	Te Rangapū Mana Whenua o Tauranga Moana
	N/A	Te Ihu o te Waka o Te Arawa
	Riki Nelson	Te Kāhui Mana Whenua o Tauranga Moana
In attendance	Matemoana McDonald	Bay of Plenty Regional Council – Alternate
Te Rangapū Mana Whenua o Tauranga Moana		
In attendance	Destiny Leaf	Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ranginui
	Des Heke	Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ranginui (alternate)
Online	Parewhakarau Tapuikuka	Ngāti Kahu
	Rana Witeri	Ngāti Kahu (alternate)
In attendance	Cheryl Hayes	Ngāti Hangarau
	Linden Morris	Ngāti Hangarau (alternate)
	Kura Martin	Ngāi Tamarāwaho
	Des Matakokiri Tata	Ngāi Tamarāwaho (alternate 1)
	Terrence Tata	Ngāi Tamarāwaho (alternate 2)
In attendance	Neville Walker	Ngāti Ruahine
	Alison Flavell	Ngāti Ruahine (alternate)
In attendance	Irene Walker	Ngāi Te Ahi
	Rondell Reihana	Ngāi Te Ahi (alternate)
	Whitiora McLeod	Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Te Rangi
	Priscilla Nepia	Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Te Rangi (alternate)
	Nathan James	Ngāti Kuku
	Puhirake Ihaka	Ngāti Tapu
	Regan Williams	Ngāti Tapu (alternate)
	Pine McLeod	Ngāti Kaahu
	Jessy Campbell	Ngāti Kaahu (alternate)
	Spencer Webster	Ngā Pōtiki
In attendance	Arthur Flintoff	Ngā Pōtiki (alternate)



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	Awhina (Josie) Ririnui	Ngāti Hē
	Anthony Ririnui	Ngāti Hē (alternate)
	Buddy Mikaere	Ngāti Pūkenga
	Kylie Smallman	Ngāti Pūkenga (alternate)
	Rehua Smallman	Ngāti Pūkenga (alternate)
Apologies	Sam Mikaere	Ngāti Pūkenga (alternate)
Te Kāhui Mana Whenua o Tauranga Moana		
	Reon Tuanau	Te Whānau ā Tauwhao ki Ōtawhiwhi
	Riki Nelson	Ngāti Te Wai
	Te Uta Roretana	Ngāi Tamawhariua – Te Rangihouhiri
	Nessie Kuka	Ngāi Tūwhiwhia
In attendance	Charnaye Walker	Ngāti Ruahine
	Buddy Mikaere	Ngāti Pūkenga
In attendance	Destiny Leaf	Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ranginui
In attendance	Nicholas Leaf	Ngāti Taka
In attendance	Paretaihinu Samuels-Hudson	Ngāi Tamawhariua – Te Rereatukāhia
Online	Ngawa Hall	Pirirākau
	Jacqui Rolleston-Steed	Pirirākau
	TBC	Ngāi Tamarāwaho
		Ngā Pōtiki
Te Ihu o te Waka o Te Arawa		
	Rawiri Biel	Ngāti Kurī Te Matai Pā
	Elva Conroy	Ngāti Tūheke
In attendance	Darlene Dinsdale	Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whakaue
	Roland Kingi	Ngāti Pīkiao
In attendance	Manu Pene	Ngāti Whakaue ki Maketū
In attendance	Alfred Potiki	Ngāti Moko
	Vance Skudder	Tapuika Iwi Authority Board / Ngāti Marukukere Alternate
In attendance	Raiha Biel	Ngāti Marukukere
	Petera Tapsell	Ngāti Whakaue
	Tania Turner	Ngāti Whakahemo
In attendance	Hakopa Tapiata	Tūhourangi
	Ray Wihapi	Te Kapu o Waitaha
	Helen Biel	Tapuika Iwi Authority (alternate)
	Luke Whare	Te Kapu o Waitaha
	Maru Tapsell	Te Kapu o Waitaha (alternate)
In attendance	Noel Mahia	Te Kapu o Waitaha (alternate)
Iwi / Hapu		
	Te Hingatu Marsh	Tapuika
	Jesse Campbell	
	Shad Rolleston	



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	Parerahiri Rahiri	
SmartGrowth Partner Organisations		
In attendance	Te Pio Kawe	Tū Pakari - Pou Ārahi Strategic Advisor
In attendance	Elisha Rolleston	Tū Pakari - Kai Ārahi Technical Advisor
Apologies	Craig Batchelar	SmartGrowth Strategic Advisor
	Nichola Lennard	SmartGrowth Technical Advisor
In attendance	Juanita Assink	SmartGrowth Coordinator / Tauranga City Council
In attendance	Nicky Watts	Tauranga City Council
Apologies	Mayor Mahé Drysdale	Tauranga City Council
Apologies	Cr. Jen Scoular	Tauranga City Council
	Cr. Marten Rozeboom	Tauranga City Council
In attendance	Cr. Glen Crowther	Tauranga City Council
	Marty Grenfell	Tauranga City Council
In attendance	Stacey Mareroa-Roberts	Tauranga City Council
	Keren Paekau	Tauranga City Council
In attendance	Cynthia Hamel	Tauranga City Council
	Chair. Doug Leeder	Bay of Plenty Regional Council
	Cr. Jane Nees	Bay of Plenty Regional Council
	Cr. Kat MacMillan	Bay of Plenty Regional Council
	Fiona McTavish	Bay of Plenty Regional Council
	Rawiri Bhana	Bay of Plenty Regional Council
Apologies	Mayor James Denyer	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
	Cr. John Scrimgeour	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
	Rachael Davie	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
In attendance	Chris Nepia	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
In attendance	Tracey Miller	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
Online	Mokoera Te Amo	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
Apologies	Chaquan Nepia	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
	Corey Gaunt	Western Bay of Plenty District Council
	Pauline McGrath	Bay of Plenty District Health Board
	Rebecca Maplesden	Ministry Housing & Urban Development
	Dan Shenton	Ministry Housing & Urban Development
	Caroline Dumas	Department of Internal Affairs
	Nigel Tutt	Priority One
	Andrew Corkill	New Zealand Transport Agency
	Richard Ward	Department of Internal Affairs



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Elisha Rolleston opened the meeting with a mihi and karakia.

Matemoana McDonald welcomed attendees to the Western Bay of Plenty District Council.

- Apologies were received from: Matire Duncan, Sam Mikaere, Veronica Manu Seddon, Chaquan Nepia, Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular, Mayor James Denyer, Craig Batchelar.

Moved: Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Ranginui – Destiny Leaf

Seconded: Te Ihu o te Waka (Ngāti Moko) – Darlene Dinsdale

That it be resolved

- Apologies for absence be received.

CARRIED

2. Conflicts of Interest

- No conflicts were declared.

3. Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting held 6 May 2025 were accepted as a true and correct record.

Moved: Ngāti Hangarau – Cheryl Hayes

Seconded: Tūhourangi – Hakopa Tapiata

That it be resolved

- Conflicts of Interest and Previous Minutes were accepted.

CARRIED

4. Actions from Previous Meeting (reference to Paper B)

No.	Meeting Date	Action	Who	Status
33	11/12/24	Clarity of responsibilities sought on 11 (f) – Meeting with marae / Māori land trust <u>project control groups (PCG)</u> to support and progress the planning and construction phases to obtain code of compliance.	Tū Pakari	Te Pio Kawe – Framework for housing workstream and Project Control Group explained. When a business proposal is submitted a marae or Māori land trust establish their own PCG comprised of planners, engineers etc. The PCG then meets with JAG for support and advice to improve or amend their proposal. Explanation accepted.

Moved: Item not moved

Seconded: Item not seconded



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CARRIED

5. Workshop – CTWF Outcomes Performance Framework

Tū Pakari advisors spoke to the CTWF Outcomes Performance Framework.

- The key purpose of this workshop is to progress the Outcomes Performance Framework (“OPF”). A draft copy of the OPF has been provided as an appendix in the agenda.
 - The framework has been developed as a strategic tool by the Tū Pakari team, the Te Rōpū Arotahi working group and the Kaupapa Māori engagement teams from across the three Councils.
 - The framework enables mana whenua leadership to influence across planning, housing and RM reform. It was a key outcome from the Combined Tangata Whenua forum held in February 2025 to improve how things are done and how key growth and development collective outcomes are monitored.
 - The Combined Tangata Whenua forum outcomes, established in 2022/23, were provided within the agenda. The framework aims to monitor progress in achieving these.
 - Important to fully understand what the OPF means for all involved as many parties have contributed to this.
 - The proposed framework aligns with the Smart Growth strategy, with outcomes embedded into the Tangata Whenua section. The goal is to integrate priorities and develop measurable outcomes.
 - The strategic vision is about empowering iwi and hapu leadership, “Those that lead are for those that follow, those that follow give light to the leadership moving forward.”
 - The framework aims to measure the implementation of positive outcomes included in the strategy following submissions.
 - The value of the Combined Tangata Whenua forum and input from three collective forums is in monitoring and reporting on outcomes.
 - Acknowledgement change takes considerable time. The meeting schedule gives time to allow for progress.
 - Cross-council engagement is crucial, requiring all to work together, including mana whenua and the three councils.
 - Data collection for progress measurement is based on two components: iwi data and data from council or government agencies.
 - Difficult areas to measure include iwi, hapu and mana whenua satisfaction and perceived influence on decision-making.
 - Emphasis a plan is essential to focus on what is important and drive progress collectively.
 - The framework is a draft, and suggestions are sought for finalisation.
 - The chosen topic for the workshop breakout is Te Taiao. The intention is to go through examples in the provided appendices and break into groups to prepare draft objectives, actions, leads and KPI measures. The information gathered from the groups will be discussed to identify areas of agreement and further work.
 - The three Council partners, collectively Te Kahui Kaunihera, provide support, direction and guidance which is essential for the framework to work.
 - Embedding the framework into the Smart Growth framework will take time, as it's a new set of tasks, and an annual review of KPIs will provide an opportunity to prioritise.
1. Specific actions from this framework will be added to the workloads of the Tū Pakari team to be managed and brought back when the annual review is undertaken.
- An 80/20 rule was suggested: if 80% agreement is reached on the framework, the remaining 20% can be dealt with during the annual review. To implement the framework, it needs to be incorporated into the SmartGrowth work program for 2026/27.



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- The outcomes from the workshop will be presented to the Senior Managers Group (“SMG”) on 4 August 2025. The SMG comprises all partner councils, who will then take on board the leading role for implementation.
- Te Taiao falls under the authority of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council (“BoPRC”), who manage harbours, waters, air, and the coastline, as such they will lead majority of actions. Western Bay of Plenty District Council (“WBoPDC”) and Tauranga City Council (“TCC”) contribute through quarterly reports on matters such as discharges to the harbour, stormwater management etc. The goal is to utilise existing data captures.
- The framework will be pivotal in bringing forward iwi aspirations through strategies into the Western Bay Māori housing workstream.
- Collective information on marae, Māori land trusts, marae centres approach, feasibility, development, infrastructure, and costs feeds into the overall Western Bay approach. This also influences Priority Development Areas (“PDA”) and the Future Development Strategy (“FDS”).
- A suggestion was made of the potential benefits to having a presentation to the forum on recent Papakāinga development within the region, the journey taken and how the work done by the forum impacted the journey. The timing of such presentations is key, especially with only one forum left in the current schedule, suggested this could be scheduled for the next forum or early in 2026 if members would find this on benefit.
- Compliment given on the shape of the outcomes framework, acknowledging the investment and the broad outcome measures. Uncertainty about implementation – who takes responsibility and how assurance is provided. The framework is seen as a vast improvement and an effectiveness review from the representatives' perspective, indicating if it's working and how.
- Suggestion made that each priority area could become a work stream, with 10-minute updates at each quarterly meeting to provide a snapshot of progress and address implementation concerns.
- Quantitative measures (e.g., meeting attendance) are easy to collect. Difficulties exist with qualitative issues, like perceived influence of decision-making. Surveys could be crafted to gather feedback from forum members on actions taken. Easier ways, potentially with technology (apps), are needed to avoid being onerous.
- Te Rōpū Arotahi will likely retain ownership/responsibility for the framework until the first review in approximately 12 months.
- The use of an app was suggested for public benefit, giving the ability to access stories and for whanau and hapu to upload information
- Concern the new National Environmental Standards for Public allow up to 10 houses without consent as permitted activity, making monitoring difficult unless councils are informed, or photos are provided.
- TCC and WBoPDC need a baseline stocktake of marae status. Priorities should come from marae themselves, feeding into the Māori housing workstream.

10:00am - Forum broke into workshop groups to discuss Te Taiao natural environment outcomes.

Post breakout workshop discussions:

Group 1 feedback:

- Topic covered: Taiao/Natural Environment.
2. Objective - Kaitiakitanga - Ensuring mātauranga Māori perspectives are actively reflected in work in terms of policy, reporting and monitoring done at Council level.
- Actions: Stocktake what is currently done. Based on stocktake look into ways of including aspirations into Council approaches.
 - Measures: Stocktake is undertaken. Approach to aspirations are reflected in Council policies and practices. Getting a clearer picture of measures already undertaken reported back to the forum.
 - Objective – Partnership. Ensuring there is genuine partnership in decision making, design and delivery of projects.



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- Actions: Identify key projects to use as focus for measuring, through 3 Councils and tangata whenua working together.
- Measures: Projects showing collaboration is happening.
- Objective: Capacity Building. Resourcing tangata whenua to provide expertise into projects.
- Actions: Needing to understand what is already done in this space, to then develop an approach accurately reflecting the aspiration of tangata whenua.
- Objective: Customary use and practice. A lot of discussion had around what used to happen for iwi and hapu, the practices that are now difficult to maintain due to development and growth.
- Actions: Looking at how to protect and enhance traditional practices. Requires looking into factors which impact these and what needs to be put in place to allow for protection and enhancement. Difficult to find a measure for this.

Group 2 feedback:

- Topic covered: Taiao.
 - Objective: Being a part of the decision-making process.
 - Examples: Waiari Kaitiaki advisory group, Omanawa, Pāpāmoa and Te Marua Kaituna.
 - Objective: Māori Councillors to be effective in change and advocate on behalf of tangata whenua.
3. Actions: Align treaty settlements with objectives and outcomes, embed representation with mātauranga Māori within all forums across Council, have Māori planners and policy makers to ensure planning and policy processes are aligned to Māori values. Develop a succession plan to grow and develop rangatahi in these roles.
- Who is responsible: Treaty settlements = Bay of Plenty Regional Council. Embedding representation = All Councils, Te Rangapū, Te Kahu mana whenua and Te Ihu o Te Waka.
 - Role of experts: The Combined Tangata Whenua forum should lead alongside Councils and the Māori units within them.
 - Measures: Roles are created and representatives are across all forums in Councils. Experts, planners and policy writers are employed and engaged in developing Māori values across Councils. Progress reports on collective outcomes. Implementation updates.

Group 3 feedback:

- Topic covered: Taiao – with most significance placed on Rangi and Papa, and everything in between.
 - Objective: Looking at the balance for Te Ao Māori and Te Ao Pākehā.
4. Actions: Creating a balance between Western knowledge and available technology and the knowledge of Te Ao Māori. Understanding the mātauranga Māori is to be the lifeblood flowing through strategy to help with delivery.
- Who is responsible: Rangatiratanga = Tangata whenua. When looking at evaluation of quantitative and qualitative measures – involves the weaving of knowledge from te ao Pakeha and te ao Māori, involves the creativity which comes from workshoping and sharing ideas, acknowledging the knowledge of the new generation which is absent in planning.
 - Examples: Incorporating generational knowledge from Kaumatua and Rangatahi. Project Ko wai matou – a programme run to take Tamariki/rangatahi out of the urban environment and put them into the Taiao with scientific equipment to use alongside te ao Māori knowledge. Importance of involving rangatahi along journey highlighted with discussion over need for forums to allow for involvement.
 - Actions: Looking beyond our own environment to the indigenous cultures around the world involved in the similar work. Connecting rangatahi to opportunities, giving them the exposure to data – creating a forum where they can present or be exposed to data.
- Workshop discussions highlighted measures in general outcome areas are very high level. The challenge is how to translate this into the lived reality. The framework was described as being on the right track, stimulating the right conversation, which will serve to increase the participation and engagement from



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individual members. There is a need to repeat workshop exercise to stimulate further conversation on remaining KPIs.

- Te Rōpū Arotahi establishing this framework is a good example of what a smaller subcommittee can achieve. Issue raised that Te Rōpū Arotahi is currently made up of members from Te Arawa only. To be more effective it would be beneficial to have broader participation from all catchment areas. Confirmation given there is no limitation on numbers for this subcommittee, any interested parties are welcomed to join. This is an opportunity to contribute outside of the CTWF meetings with the potential to help steer and create the hui agenda.
Any individuals interested in joining Te Rōpū Arotahi are invited to email Te Pio Kawe.
- Accepting the discussion from workshop and the framework as 80% completed, the next step is to return to TRA to finalise the remaining 20%. The Tū Pakari team will take all discussion from this workshop back to TRA and to the Kāhui Kaunihera to be analysed and included into the draft framework.
- For the framework to be fully implemented there is a requirement for it to go through the SmartGrowth partnership process. The first step in the process will be to take the framework to the SmartGrowth Senior Manager's Group on 4 August 2025. From there it will be tables at the SmartGrowth Implementation Group on 20 August 2025, then to the SmartGrowth Leadership Group as the governance group on 18 September 2025.
- Clarification sought over which KPIs will be presented to SmartGrowth as finalised. Agreement the two priority areas which have not yet been discussed are to be provided as a draft to be further developed.

Recommendations:

That the **SmartGrowth Combined Tāngata Whenua Forum:**

1. **Receive** the updated Outcomes Performance Framework report.
2. **Endorse** the revised structure and alignment with SmartGrowth Strategy outcomes.
3. **Support** ongoing refinement, including the design and rollout of a dedicated performance dashboard and iwi satisfaction survey.
4. **Acknowledge** the critical role of the CTWF in supporting Māori housing, governance, **Te Taiao** and wellbeing outcomes across the SmartGrowth system.

Moved: Ngā Pōtiki – Arthur Flintoff

Seconded: Ngāti Moko – Alfred Potiki

6. Appointment of Tangata Whenua Representative to 'Leading for Delivery' Sub-Committee

Te Pio Kawe spoke to the Appointment of Tangata Whenua Representative to 'Leading for Delivery' Sub-Committee.

- Continuation from discussion had in meeting held 6 May 2025, where the issue of the imminent regional deal proposal was raised. The aim is to formalise the appointment of a person or persons to support the Leading for Delivery subcommittee ("LDS") under SmartGrowth. The mandate has the right provisions for meeting the Senior Leadership SLG delegation under its terms of reference for committee appointments. The SLG has supported moving forward with this.
- The LDS is a committee's primary function is to address barriers which are holding up the process of getting PDAs underway. This includes issues like stormwater or wastewater. It is a delivery-focused subcommittee aimed at agility. It influences regional plans and monitors outcomes and implementation funding.
- The paper suggests one representative from the four SLG members would be appropriate.
- Concern was raised choosing just one representative is not appropriate. There was discomfort with reducing four representatives to one.



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- The suggestion is to have one person from the SLG representatives and a second person who is the most appropriate representative from the relevant forum. For example, if the kaupapa relates to Te Arawa, a representative from Te Arawa should accompany the SLG representative. Both individuals would have speaking rights at the table. This aims for the best representation at the governance table from respective iwi forums.
 - Committee members are considered decision-makers. The LDS has decision-making power in identifying barriers for progress at the appropriate PDA. The final decision regarding the PDA still rests with the responsible council. It has delegated authority under the 2023 agreement.
 - The regional deal is imminent, and it is critical for this group to be at the table to avoid being left behind. The next Combined Tanga Whenua Forum meeting is 7 October 2025, with the next SLG meeting being held 18 September 2025, meaning decisions could be made before the Forum meets again.
 - Clarification given Darlene will be included in the discussion for selection, noting she will not be formally mandated until the SLG meeting on 18 September 2025.
 - The chosen person is expected to represent the collective views of this committee, not go as a "lone soldier". They will be supported by advisors and the group itself. The representative's effectiveness in the environment is key.
 - Watching the SLG online stream will allow all members to gain an understanding of the level of discussion which takes place at this meeting and may allow for a level of comfort for members selecting their representative.
 - A proposal was made to allow the current SLG members to select the representative amongst themselves.
 - A show of hands was taken for whether to proceed with this plan or defer the decision:
 - To proceed - 8 votes
 - Against proceeding – 2 votes – Arthur Flintoff - **Ngā Pōtiki** and Irene Walker - **Ngāi Te Ahi**
5. Abstained from voting: Destiny Leaf – Te **Rūnanga o Ngāti Ranginui Iwi**
- Decision: The majority voted to proceed. The four current SLG members will decide who takes the representative position for the LDS.

Recommendations:

That the **SmartGrowth Combined Tāngata Whenua Forum:**

1. **Receive** the report.
2. **Appoint** one of the four SLG tāngata whenua representatives to be the permanent tāngata whenua representative to the LDS and a second SLG tāngata whenua representative as an alternate.
3. **Agree and endorse** the approach of co-opting of a second tāngata whenua representative from the appropriate TCC or WBoPDC Tāngata Whenua / Iwi Forum to provide direct mana whenua input and insights at the LDS meeting.

There was no mover or seconder – was a “for” or “against” motion

Moved:

Seconded:

7. Tū Pakari Report

Tū Pakari advisors spoke to the Tū Pakari report.

- Report taken as read.



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Recommendations:

That the **SmartGrowth Combined Tāngata Whenua Forum:**

1. **Receive** the Tū Pakari report.
2. ~~**Note** the following matters raised in the quarterly report includes the:~~
 - a) ~~Impacts of the RM Reforms on the CTWF growth and development aspirations.~~
 - b) ~~Issues to be addressed in the SmartGrowth working party submission and the delegated authority to Mayor James Denyer.~~
 - c) ~~Key issues raised in the NES-Papakāinga.~~
 - d) ~~Implications of the 2025 Budget announcements.~~

Moved: Tūhourangi – Hakopa Tapiata
Seconded: Ngāi Te Ahi – Irene Walker

8. General Business

RMA Reforms.

- There is an impending threat current Regional Planning Statements (“RPS”) may be replaced by national -driven documents, potentially leading to a loss of significant recognition for iwi management plans which are currently incorporated into the RPS.
- Package One of the reforms promotes public-private partnerships, potentially opening doors for international corporations. Package Two is seen as compromising protection of Taiao and further diminishing te tiriti values. Freshwater treaty issues also.
- There is a concern about the lack of transparency and information sharing with hapu representatives regarding these pending changes, which are happening under a sense of urgency.
- Elisha is submitting on behalf of the forum as part of a SmartGrowth joint submission on Papakāinga. Other forums, hapu, marae and Trusts are encouraged to make their own submissions.
- Regional Council staff are already working with central government and MFE to ensure the majority of content from the RPS is transferred into the major regional plan. Efforts will be made to accommodate hapu management plans in council policy and processes if legislation changes. This is a work in progress with uncertainty on how this will transfer through.
- A resolution was proposed to formalise the collective forum's strong criticism of these changes.

6. **Resolution:** The Collective Tāngata Whenua Forum (CTWF) strongly opposes the Resource Management reforms and the Fast Track Applications Act 2024 for the following reasons:
- the lack of transparency.
 - the lack of active engagement.
 - the potential breaches of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and Treaty settlements.
 - the potential threat to safeguards that currently recognise iwi and hapū status such as the Regional Policy Statement.

Moved: Ngā Pōtiki – Arthur Flintoff
Seconded: Ngāti Moko – Alfred Potiki

Priority One Regional Deal Update.

- The regional deal was progressed with a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) signed on 2 July 2025. Three cities were put forward - Tauranga, Auckland and Queenstown.
- The regional deal presents an opportunity to fill a current funding gap, such as the MHUD funding which is not expected until July 2027.



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- The Government is looking to announce which city will be the first to receive their Regional Deal in December 2025, for implementation in 2026. The other two regions will be announced early in 2026.
- If successful and among the first to implement a regional deal in early 2026, it would provide a year's head start for progress on current projects, including feasibility, infrastructure design/build, and housing development.
- This process offers an opportunity to embed the outcomes framework into the execution of the regional deal, ensuring positive and well-managed outcomes.
- While acknowledging the economic opportunity, a caution was raised about the need to balance strong economic growth e.g. infrastructure for port connection, with what is beneficial for mauri and taiao. The focus on regional deal funding should not detract from other significant and important values within the SmartGrowth strategy. Their participation on the LDS would become even more significant if the committee ultimately signs off on the regional deal.

Funding for National Housing Hui in September -

- A request was made to look into funding for the National Māori Housing Conference in Whanganui being held on October 2025.

Chris Nepia closed the meeting with a mihi and a karakia Whakamutunga.

Meeting Closed: 12:35pm

Next Meeting: 7 October 2025 – 10:00am – 12:30pm
Western Bay of Plenty District Council (Chambers)
1484 Cameron Road
Tauranga