



Auckland
Regional Council
TE RAUHITANGA TAIAO

5 June 2003

Chairperson and Members
HAURAKI GULF FORUM

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NOTICE OF MEETING

I hereby give notice that a meeting of the Hauraki Gulf Forum of the Auckland Regional Council is to be held in the Council Chamber, Ground Floor, 21 Pitt Street, Auckland, at:

1.00 PM

ON

WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 2003

An agenda for the meeting is attached.

E G Hutchinson
DIRECTOR SECRETARIAT

per:

Jo Daly
COMMITTEE SECRETARY

This material is not to be used for public information until post the meeting date

A G E N D A

HAURAKI GULF FORUM

AGENDA FOR THE MEETING OF THE HAURAKI GULF FORUM OF THE AUCKLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GROUND FLOOR, 21 PITT STREET, AUCKLAND ON WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 2003 AT 1.00 PM.

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A G E N D A

HAURAKI GULF FORUM

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(All reports in this Agenda are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted.)

MEMBERS:	Mr	Laly Haddon	Tangata Whenua	(Chair)
	Cr	Bill Burrill	Auckland Regional Council	(Deputy Chair)
	Cr	Fred Anderson	Manukau City Council	
	Cr	Ian Barton	Franklin District Council	
	Cr	Heather Brown	North Shore City Council	
	Cr	Neil Clarke	Environment Waikato	
	Cr	Judy Cole	Waikato District Council	
	Mrs	Hariata Gordon	Tangata Whenua	
	Mr	Grant Hawke	Minister of Maori Affairs	
	Mr	Arthur Hore	Minister of Fisheries	
	Mayor	Chris Lux	Thames Coromandel District Council	
	Mr	Paul Majurey	Tangata Whenua	
	Mr	Greg Martin	Minister of Conservation	
	Mayor	Basil Morrison	Hauraki District Council	
	Cr	Graham Powell	Rodney District Council	
	Ms	Honey Renata	Tangata Whenua	
	Cr	Philip Sherry	Auckland Regional Council	(Observer)
	Cr	Brian Smith	Auckland Regional Council	(Observer)
	Cr	Faye Storer	Auckland City Council	
	Mr	Te Warena Taua	Tangata Whenua	
	Mayor	Hugh Vercoe	Matamata Piako District Council	
	Ms	Betty Williams	Tangata Whenua	
	Cr	Denise Yates	Waitakere City Council	

**AGENDA
WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 2003
HAURAKI GULF FORUM**

ALTERNATES:	Ms	Josie	Anderson	Tangata Whenua
	Cr	Alison	Clark	North Shore City Council
	Mr	Richard	Fanselow	Minister of Fisheries
	Cr	Sandra	Goudie	Thames Coromandel District Council
	Cr	Mike	Gribble	Matamata Piako District Council
	Cr	Gaye	Harding	Rodney District Council
	Cr	Michael	Hope	Waikato District Council
	Cr	Barry	Keon	Manukau City Council
	Cr	Marie	Leadbetter	Auckland City Council
	Mr	Rob	McCallum	Minister of Conservation
	Mr	Harry	Mikaere	Tangata Whenua
	Cr	Jill	Morris	Franklin District Council
	Cr	Gary	Russell	Waitakere City Council
	Cr	John	Tregidga	Hauraki District Council
	Mr	Pita	Turei	Tangata Whenua
	Cr	Jenni	Vernon	Environment Waikato

CLAUSE 18 - HAURAKI GULF MARINE PARK ACT 2000.

18 POWERS OF FORUM

- (1) The Forum has the powers that are reasonably necessary to carry out its functions.
- (2) The Forum's powers include the powers –
 - (a) to consider issues related to its purpose; and
 - (b) to receive reports from constituent parties; and
 - (c) to make recommendations to constituent parties; and
 - (d) to advise any person who requests the Forum's advice; and
 - (e) to commission or undertake those activities that are necessary to achieve its purpose.
- (3) The Forum must not –
 - (a) appear before a court or tribunal other than as a witness if called by a party to proceedings; or
 - (b) take part in a decision-making process under any enactment other than to advise when requested to do so.

A PROCEDURAL ITEM

A.1 MINUTES

Committee Secretary: 5 June 2003

That the minutes of the meeting held on 11 December 2003 be confirmed.

B ITEMS FOR DECISION

- B.1 TANGATA WHENUA RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN TIKAPA MOANA
AND TE MOANANUI O TOI 3

B.1 TANGATA WHENUA RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN TIKAPA MOANA AND TE MOANANUI O TOI C256-08

Tangata Whenua Technical Officers: 21 May 2003

B.1.1 INTRODUCTION

This report on behalf of all Iwi of Tikapa Moana and Te Moananui o Toi. The issue described is a critical concern.

B.1.2 ISSUE

For over 160 years Iwi of Tikapa Moana and Te Moananui o Toi have asserted that they have never relinquished their tino rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga over their rohe moana. There are a number of central government policy initiatives related to the marine environment that have been around since 2000 but have recently progressed without consideration of the rights and interests held by Iwi in the marine environment, rights guaranteed under Article 2 of the Treaty. The Aquaculture reform proposals, Oceans Policy programme and proposed Marine Reserves legislation are key examples.

This debate has been informed by the recent Waitangi Tribunal report on Wai 953, which finds that Iwi interests and rights in the marine environment include marine farming interests but are broader than marine farming alone. In relation to the rights held by Maori, the Tribunal said:

We find that Maori have a broad relationship with the coastal marine area and that, as an incident of that relationship, Maori have an interest in aquaculture, or more particularly marine farming. We also find that the Maori interest in marine farming forms part of the bundle of Maori rights in the coastal marine area that represent a taonga protected by the Treaty of Waitangi. (p76)

Addressing the nature and extent of treaty rights and to develop mechanisms to protect those rights in a negotiated process between Crown and Maori remains paramount to the Iwi of Tikapa Moana and Te Moananui o Toi. To date, there has been no acknowledgment or action from the Crown in response to these matters

RECOMMENDATIONS

- a) The report be received.
- b) The Hauraki Gulf Forum urges the Crown to address the nature and extent of rights held by Iwi of Tikapa Moana and Te Moananui o Toi in the marine environment, including their interests in marine farming.

C ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

C.1	CARING FOR ONE OF AUCKLAND'S GREATEST TREASURES – HAURAKI GULF ISLANDS STRATEGIC PLAN	5
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C.4	PROGRESS REPORT: HAURAKI GULF LOCALISED INTERTIDAL SHELLFISH DEPLETION PROJECT, STAGE 1 'CURRENT STATE OF KNOWLEDGE' PROJECT	9
C.5	CONSTITUENT PARTY REPORT	11

**C.1 CARING FOR ONE OF AUCKLAND'S GREATEST TREASURES –
HAURAKI GULF ISLANDS STRATEGIC PLAN
C256-08**

John Duthie (ACC): 22 May 2003

C.1.1 INTRODUCTION

The Hauraki Gulf Islands Strategic Overview was created in response to a recommendation of the "Gulf Islands Management Strategy Report" (1998). This report identifies ways to achieve integrated management in the Hauraki Gulf by focusing on the role of Auckland *City* as an organisation. The Strategic Overview addresses the need to achieve a consistent approach throughout Auckland *City's* different fields of activity.

A presentation will be given on the strategy.

ATTACHMENT

- Caring for one of Auckland's greatest treasures – Hauraki Gulf islands strategic plan. (Under Separate Cover).

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received.

C.2 MARINE RESERVE PROPOSALS

C256-08

Emma Rush (DOC): 21 May 2003

C.2.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide an update about the marine reserve proposals that are currently being promoted in the Hauraki Gulf area.

C.2.2 GREAT BARRIER ISLAND MARINE RESERVE PROPOSAL

The Department of Conservation is proposing to establish a marine reserve on the north-eastern coast of Great Barrier Island.

Consultation with iwi

Two hui have been held during the past six months with Ngati Rehua at the request of the Ngati Rehua Trust Board (NRTB), one on GBI and one in Auckland. No formal response to the proposal has been received from Ngati Rehua yet. Discussions between DOC and the NRTB to date indicate that the NRTB is supportive of marine conservation but wish to continue exercising their customary rights in the proposed marine reserve area.

A meeting was held in February 2003 with Ngatiwai. The Hauraki Maori Trust Board has also received information about the proposal.

Consultation with stakeholders

A discussion document and questionnaire about the marine reserve proposal was distributed to stakeholders and the wider public in early March 2003. Around 7,500 documents have been distributed to date to a variety of individuals and organisations. The department has received approximately 160 responses to date, with about 60 percent of these being supportive.

Staff from the department have spent a lot of time over the past year discussing the proposal with Great Barrier residents, fishing interests, conservation groups and the like. Since the release of the discussion document, several public meetings have been held on Great Barrier Island. In addition, meetings have been held with Auckland-based individuals and organisations.

The views of locals are mixed with the main concern being the need to travel to other areas of the island to collect shellfish and fish if the marine reserve is established. Staff from the department are discussing with locals options to mitigate this concern e.g. excluding part of Whangapoua Estuary from the marine reserve to allow continued access to shellfish beds.

A large amount of interest has come from the recreational fishing sector, with many arguing that the establishment of any no-take marine reserve will unnecessarily impinge on their right to fish for food. The commercial fishing sector has indicated it is not supportive of this proposal.

Where to from here?

The department has asked for all questionnaires and responses to the discussion document to be submitted by 30 June 2003. All views expressed will be considered by

the department before any plans are made to notify a marine reserve application under the Marine Reserves Act 1971.

C.2.3 TIRITIRI MATANGI MARINE RESERVE PROPOSAL

The New Zealand Underwater Association (NZU) is proposing to establish a marine reserve in the vicinity of Tiritiri Matangi Island and the Whangaparaoa Peninsula.

The association produced and distributed a public discussion document and questionnaire in December 2002. Responses were to close at the end of February this year but this deadline was extended until March 31 at the request of several groups interested in the proposal.

Nearly 9,000 questionnaires and other responses to the discussion document were received by NZU. The majority of these (6,600) were submitted by the Tiritiri Action Group. The Action Group, established in February 2003 to oppose the marine reserve proposal, is mainly made of Whangaparaoa-based recreational fishers.

NZU is currently analysing the responses to the discussion document. Due to the strong reaction from local Whangaparaoa residents, NZU has identified that further pre-statutory consultation will be required before a marine reserve application is notified. In addition to further consulting the community, NZU must undertake more consultation with the iwi and hapu who have ties to the Tiritiri Matangi Island/Whangaparaoa Peninsula area.

C.2.4 TAWHARANUI MARINE RESERVE PROPOSAL

The no-take Tawharanui Marine Park has offered protection to marine biodiversity within its boundaries since it was established in 1981. The Auckland Regional Council believes there is a lack of public understanding of the protection afforded to the area by marine park status and therefore wishes to apply to establish a marine reserve in an area similar to the one that the marine park currently covers.

The council distributed a document entitled *Proposal to Change the Status of the Tawharanui Marine Park to a Marine Reserve* earlier this year and has sought the views of iwi and key stakeholders on the proposal. The council is carrying out further consultation with iwi and key stakeholders before it moves forward and makes a marine reserve application for the Tawharanui area.

C.2.5 NOTE

Please note that the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society and the West Coast Working Group are currently pursuing a proposal to increase the level of protection afforded to the marine environment on Auckland's West Coast.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received.

C.3 WHALE SHIP STRIKES IN THE HAURAKI GULF **C256-08**

Bill Trusewick (DOC): 22 May 2003

C.3.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is provide the Forum with some background information about the presentation which is to be given about the issue of whale ship strikes which occur within the Hauraki Gulf.

C.3.2 BACKGROUND

Ship strikes occur almost annually. The most recent incidences occurred in January 2003 when two shipstruck Bryde's (pronounced Broo-dahs) whales where discovered in the waters of the Hauraki Gulf within two days of each other. This same period also saw the discovery of two beachcast rare Gray's beaked whales at Waiheke island (dead on the beach) and in the Whau River in the Waitemata Harbour (live but dying subsequent to refloating) as well as a few dolphin carcasses found around the Harbour. Only two months before, another Bryde's whale was found dead, entangled in a marine farm and drowned in the Firth of Thames.

These events were coincidentally followed by a meeting of the Pacific Whale Research Consortium, a group of Humpback whale researchers working in various island nations of the Pacific. One member of this group is Dr Phil Clapham from Woods Hole NOAA Fisheries (formerly US National Marine Fisheries Service), who is a world expert of shipstrike event mitigation, working on the critically endangered Northern Right whale. Phil, along with Mike Donoghue (DoC Science and Research), offered to run a workshop to examine the problem facing Bryde's whales in the gulf and possible methods that can be employed to reduce or remedy shipstrike.

The meeting was held on 17 February 2003 and was attended by DOC (Mike presenting a summary by Dr Alan Baker), researchers from Auckland and Massey universities, a team from Dolphin Explorer, and Keith Ingram from Professional Skipper magazine, offering the valuable technical perspective of the shipping industry. The Auckland Harbourmaster, though not attending the meeting, sent along a list of questions for the group's consideration.

This presentation will summarise the discussions held.

RECOMMENDATION

That this report be received.

C.4 PROGRESS REPORT: HAURAKI GULF LOCALISED INTERTIDAL SHELLFISH DEPLETION PROJECT, STAGE 1 'CURRENT STATE OF KNOWLEDGE' PROJECT C256-08

Dominic McCarthy, (ARC): 22 May 2003

C.4.1 INTRODUCTION

The issue of localised depletion of some edible shellfish resources at locations around the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park was brought to the attention of the Forum at the March 2001 meeting in a joint MFish and ARC presentation (agenda item B.1 on 28 March 2001 meeting). MFish monitoring of a number of beach locations, including some where harvesting had been restricted or stopped, had demonstrated that shellfish population depletion was not caused by harvesting pressure alone. A wide range of possible causes exist along with varying levels of knowledge about their likely contribution to the issue. The Forum resolved to request the Technical Group to formulate a plan to address this issue.

MFish, EW and ARC representatives reported back to the Forum in June 2001 (Item B.1 20 June 2001 meeting) proposing a \$26,000 'scoping programme' for identifying possible causes. This scoping work involved two stages. Stage 1 comprised a review of the current state of knowledge that would provide a synthesis of available information and would identify key gaps in our understanding. Stage 2 would involve preparation of a peer reviewed position document to bring back to the Forum. The position document would summarise key findings and provide a prioritised listing of research required to identify causes and appropriate responses.

The Forum resolved to support the proposal and requested the Technical Group provide an equitable funding split for the member organisations. Completion of a funding split was somewhat protracted due to difficulties surrounding this being the first such process tackled by the Forum. In addition matters related to Tangata Whenua participation were being resolved at the same time. The funding split was settled during 2002.

C.4.2 STAGE 1 PROGRESS

Tenders were let and suitable biological consultants selected in early 2003 for Stage 1 (Current State of Knowledge). Potential sources of information have been contacted and relevant literature collected. Agencies and institutions contacted for both published and 'grey' literature include government agencies, regional and local authorities, crown research agencies, universities, polytechs etc. Advice on research currently in progress has been obtained along with results of work already completed. A good level of response has been obtained from this process and a comprehensive information set obtained.

Literature searches have also been completed for relevant local and international references. All relevant references have been compiled into an electronic database.

A risk analysis process is being used to provide a framework for synthesis of current knowledge of factors affecting the relevant shellfish populations, and to identify gaps in our understanding.

Stage one is on target for completion by the end of June 2003.

C.4.3 STAGE 2

A workshop of relevant technical experts is to be organised early in the new financial year (possibly August) to discuss and peer review the findings of stage 1 and to confirm and prioritise research requirements to help resolve the issue. The position document summarising the output of this scoping phase is anticipated to be available for the Forum's consideration by the end of the calendar year.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received.

C.5 CONSTITUENT PARTY REPORT

C256-08

Various: 27 May 2003

C.5.1 NORTH SHORE CITY COUNCIL

Plans

Review of Infill Development: Stormwater and Stream Protection

This new project will review what impact existing and future infill housing will have on the city's stormwater network and streams. The project will look at areas where stormwater overflows and erosion are common to determine whether the current District Plan controls are adequate. Development density, minimum lot sizes and maximum areas of impervious areas will be considered, as well as community education programmes. The District Plan currently requires that a minimum of 30 per cent of each site has a permeable surface such as grass or gravel, allowing natural drainage. Recently gathered data on the state of our streams will also be used to determine whether different catchments should have different development controls to protect stream and marine life.

Bayswater Marina Land

The council released its decisions on submissions to the district plan variation for the Bayswater marina land in December 2002. The decision aims to ensure the land around the marina keeps its maritime community feel with a focus on recreation, public transport and boating activities. The decision confirms a Special Purpose 7 zone over most of the land next to the marina. The zoning will enable marina-related activities but does not allow for intensive use or residential buildings. It is expected that design workshops will be used to help resolve appeals to the decision.

Infrastructure

Public recycling bins

Eight yellow recycling bins were installed at Takapuna's busy boat ramp and surrounding beachside areas for a three-month recycling trial over the summer. The bins proved to be very popular, but had some problems with the wrong materials put in them.

Ferry terminal upgrades

The upgrades of North Shore City ferry terminals continue. New shelter canopies are in place at Devonport and Northcote wharves. The ARC has granted a resource consent for new canopies at Birkenhead wharf.

Parks and Beaches

Long Bay Park

North Shore City Council has paid \$22.5 million to extend Long Bay Regional Park by 38.5 hectares. The land was bought after a lengthy arbitration process and was part of a major block earmarked for development. The new parkland has spectacular views of the Hauraki Gulf and Okura estuary.

C.5.2 WAITAKERE CITY

Plans

Waitakere City Council has lodged a submission in support of the approach taken in the draft national Biosecurity Strategy- Guarding Pacific's Triple Star.

Council has also submitted in support for Variations 2-6 of the Proposed Regional Plan: Coastal that establishes aquaculture management areas and rules relating to aquaculture activities.

The decisions on the Swanson Structure Plan have been released with the Plan adopted with some minor amendments. The Waiarohia Structure Plan has been placed on hold for eighteen months pending a review of options for Whenuapai airbase.

Infrastructure

Investigation of options for innovative water/wastewater/stormwater management for Whenuapai/Hobsonville Corridor is being undertaken (Local Water Agenda) in conjunction with planning for this northern strategic growth area.

The Twin Streams stream restoration project has passed the first funding hurdle and a full application to Infrastructure Auckland has been prepared.

Parks/Reserves

The Te Huruheru-Henderson Creek Corridor draft reserve management plan has been through public consultation and is expected to be finalised early this year.

Management Plans are currently being prepared for Swanson reserves and New Lynn reserves.

Work has started at Harbourview Park. A whakanoa te papa (blessing of the grounds) took place on 3 February, together with the turning of the first sod of soil by Mayor Bob Harvey, to symbolically set the preservation programme in motion.

This fragile area of wetlands and mangroves is one of the few examples of combined fresh and saltwater wetlands in the Auckland region. The park, which is bounded by the North Western Motorway and has sweeping views up the Waitemata Harbour, will cover approximately 80 hectares. It is also one of the largest parks in Auckland, compared to the Auckland Domain (75 ha), Auckland Regional Botanical Gardens (64 ha) and Western Springs Lakeside Park (60 ha).

"Stage One" will allow access to the northern part of the Park, from where people can view the lower terrace which comprises an important ecological habitat for native plants and animals, including the threatened fern bird. The work involves the construction of an entrance to the Park, a small car-parking area to serve the heritage building, creation of a large open and grassed picnic space, pathway connections to existing walkways, planting of swale drainage areas and placement of some specimen trees.

C.5.3 AUCKLAND REGIONAL COUNCIL

Plans

Proposed Auckland Regional Plan: Air, Land and Water Update

The hearings on the submissions and further submissions to the Proposed Auckland Regional Plan: Air, Land and Water commenced in February 2003. The hearings will continue throughout this year. The decisions on submissions will be released when all the hearings have been completed.

Proposed Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal

The Proposed Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal which was notified in February 1995, has finally had all the references to it resolved. Of note is that none of the matters required Environment Court hearing time and all references were resolved through withdrawal or consent order. The Plan is subject to 6 variations, variation 1 relates to the Regional Discharges project authorising existing stormwater and wastewater discharges, and variations 2 to 6 relate to aquaculture. The Council is now determining whether to make the plan operative.

Variations 2 - 6: Aquaculture to the Proposed Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal

Public submissions to Variations 2 - 6: Aquaculture to the Proposed Auckland Regional Plan: Coastal closed on 31 January 2003. A total of 1337 submissions were received. These submissions have been summarised and the availability of the Summary of Submissions was notified in the NZ Herald on Monday 5 May 2003. This marks the beginning of the further submission process. During the further submission period anyone may make further submissions in support of, or in opposition to, the original submissions. The closing date for further submissions is Monday, 9 June 2003. The Hearings process will commence following the further submission period.

A consultation programme is currently being developed regarding the provision of aquaculture in the Firth of Thames. Consultation with local communities and other interested and affected parties will commence shortly. NIWA are continuing with their sustainability modelling work to assist with determining appropriate levels and locations of aquaculture for the Firth of Thames. As the results of this work become available, they can be incorporated into the consultation programme.

Investigations

Sewage Discharges from Boats

During the America's Cup regatta the issue of sewage discharges from vessels into the coastal marine area was raised in the media. These items raised matters relating to discharges from the spectator craft and from ferry boats. The issue of sewage discharges is addressed through the Resource Management (Marine Pollution) Regulations 1998 which establishes national standards for discharges.

In relation to the ferry boat issue, the Auckland Regional Transport Network Limited (ARTNL) has committed to installing sewage pump out facilities at the Downtown ferry terminal, and is proposing the installation of such at the Half Moon Bay terminus.

With regard to the wider issue, the ARC is considering options on how best to manage this issue, and considered this matter at a workshop of 16 June. This workshop considered changes to the rules governing discharges, compliance and education.

Consents

The ARC, in a joint hearing with Auckland City Council, with both parties using independent Commissioners, has recently granted to the Director General of Conservation resource consents to enable the application of cereal baits containing brodifacoum to eradicate kiore from Haururu (Little Barrier island). This was a very complex hearing raising a number of contentious issues, in particular with sections 6(e), 7(a) and 8 of the RMA.

The ARC, in conjunction with Auckland City Council, is processing a number of resource consent applications by the Orakei Marina Development Limited for the construction and operation of a 172 berth marina at Okahu Bay, Auckland.

C.5.4 MANUKAU CITY COUNCIL

Plans

Flat Bush Variation 13

Decisions on Variation No.13 – Flat Bush were released last year and thirty one references have been lodged with the Environment Court. These include references to the approach the Council has taken to stormwater management and treatment. Manukau City Council lodged a comprehensive stormwater discharge consent application with Auckland Regional Council last year. This consent has now been granted, however it also under appeal.

Parks and Reserves

Parks Strategy & Policy

Manukau's parks strategy *Making Connections* adopted by Council in late 2002 provides a clear direction for the provision and development of the parks network over the period 2002-2010. Amongst other things the strategy reconfirms Council's current policy of taking all esplanade reserves made available by development. The long term vision of a continuous reserve around Manukau's Hauraki Gulf coastline is a feature of the strategy.

Under the Strategy, preliminary work is now underway in reviewing Council's Hauraki Gulf Coastline Management Plan 1989 which provides the policy framework for the coastal reserves.

In addition, a review of Council's Maritime Recreation Fund Policy 1997 is underway. This policy distributes monies from the dissolution of the Auckland Harbour Board. The fund has a particular focus on improving coastal recreational opportunities through improving access and amenity value. Funding of \$400,000 is evenly split between two of the six coastal wards each year on a rotating basis with the Mangere and Manurewa Community Boards receiving funding in the 2003/4 year. Long-term projects are being encouraged. Recreational facilities on Council's Hauraki Gulf coastline have been a major beneficiary of this funding.

Parks and Reserves

Planting of Pohutukawa along coastal reserve land where views are not affected is ongoing and is being carried out this planting season.

Over the last two years, three coastal public toilet blocks located between Maraetai and Magazine Bay have been taken off septic tank systems and put on to the

Maraetai/Beachlands reticulated system. Discussions are continuing with the Duder development to develop best solutions for sewer treatment for this subdivision and the Umupuia toilets. The toilet facilities at Maraetai, Kawakawa bay and Orere Point have been renewed.

Consent has been granted for the development of a breakwater to provide for sheltered boat ramp access at Kawakawa Bay to improve recreational access. Detailed design has been completed and implementation is due to commence shortly.

Coastal erosion is being monitored on an annual basis to identify problem areas. The seawall at Waiomanu bay is to be repaired and extended to prevent erosion in this area. Resource Consent application has been granted and the project is being tendered. Options for erosion control at Omana Beach are being considered.

Planning is underway for the next stage of the development of Te Puru Park. This will include maximising the esplanade area for recreational purposes and the addition of sports platforms. Land at Kellys Cove, Beachlands, has been purchased for reserve purposes.

Eastern Beach is being considered for significant beach replenishment subject to resolving stormwater discharge erosion issues.

The Pohutakawa Coast Sea Rescue Trust is planning the development of a boat shed at Maraetai beach for storing and training facilities for sea rescue services. Plans are underway for the development of a car park at Maraetai. Once this area is developed the public will no longer be able to park vehicles under the Pohutakawa trees and this area will be developed for picnic use only.

Council Community Funding Scheme subject to successful application is available to assist with a Sea Education and Recreation Facility on Eastern Beach with Macleans College, Sea Scouts and others.

Maritime recreation funding will be available to the Howick and Clevedon Community Boards (\$200,000 each) for the purposes of enhancing recreation access to the coast. Howick ward will be continuing with the construction of the Mangemangeroa walkway and the Clevedon ward will be developing the Kawakawa bay breakwater.

Access along the Esplanade of the proposed Marine Parade sub-division is being investigated to ensure a feasible walkway alignment can be achieved in the future.

An investigation on access, availability and status of boat ramps in Manukau is being undertaken. The aim of the investigation is to identify problem areas and to identify possible options for the future.

Investigations/Infrastructure

Half Moon Bay Ferry Terminal

ARTNL Harbour Berths have lodged the applications to develop a new ferry terminal at Half Moon Bay. The application is to develop a new terminal for both passenger and vehicular ferries on the site currently being used by Subritzky Shipping Line. There are a number of key elements including reconfiguration of existing ramps and a new terminal building.

Facilities for Launching Recreational Boats

The Transport Committee of the Manukau City Council has passed a resolution (Minute No. 1412/02) requesting that officers to work with other city councils of the region and the Auckland Regional Council to examine the adequacy of existing facilities and possible future additional facilities for the launching of recreational boats in the region.

Otara Lake Improvement Project

Riparian planting in the Springs Road Reserve has been completed and two CDS units (rubbish separation units) are being installed. Further investigation is underway with respect to the proposed Kerwyn Avenue wetland. Riparian improvements have begun along the section of the Otara Stream that runs from the Hamill Road bridge to East Tamaki Road. An application for a grant from Infrastructure Auckland to complete the network of riparian planting was successful. Council was granted \$601,639 for the cost of riparian improvements between the Hamill Road bridge to Flat Bush dam. A further \$99,941 was granted towards the cost of riparian improvements between the Springs Road footbridge and the waterfall. The grants are for 90% of the cost of the works, under the approved regional application for the Tamaki Estuary.

Council will shortly let a contract for the design and consenting component of riparian stability works from East Tamaki Road to the Flat Bush dam.

Tamaki Estuary Pollution Steering Committee

The latest meeting was held on 31 March at the Bucklands Beach Yacht Club.

ARC presented a proposal to the Committee for the removal of unauthorised structures from the coastal marine area. The funding for this project has come from the Half Moon Bay Marina seabed licence and involves coordination and cooperation from other TLAs. The eventual goal of this project is to remove all inappropriate structures from the coastal area. However, where there are unauthorised structures which are appropriate, ARC will work with landowners to facilitate coastal occupation permits.

Pakuranga Creek Catchment

An Infrastructure Auckland funding application was made and grants approved for the first stage of water improvement works including riparian planting and erosion control for outlets. This work is currently being designed and consented by the Council. The Cascades walkway is being extended to join existing walkways along the Pakuranga stream.

The final design for erosion control and riparian planting has been approved. Now it is in the process of preparing tender documents for physical works.

Manukau City Council Open Watercourse Survey In Urban Areas

Based on the open watercourse inventory (survey) a "policy in relation to open watercourse management and maintenance in Manukau City area" was prepared and submitted to the Environmental Management Committee meeting of 10 October 2002 for adoption (Minute No. 1509/02). In summary:

“The report recommends that a number of current maintenance practices are continued but a flexible approach of assistance to private owners and where deemed appropriate purchase of private open watercourses be implemented to manage their function as part of the stormwater drainage system”

Manukau Water

Discharges:

No wastewater surcharges have been recorded to Manukau's coastal areas in January 2003.

Wastewater Modelling Improvement Programme:

Wastewater network Resource Consent application network consent has been lodged. It is a global consent for the discharge of wastewater from the overall reticulation system and sets the framework for the individual catchment improvement process.

Wastewater Discharge Resource Consent Application for Catchment 2 (Cockle Bay/Mellons Bay/Howick Beach) will be notified in the coming months. The consent application is based on the network model that predicts more accurately the performance of the wastewater network under various flow scenarios. The identified upgrading works for Catchment 2 are well advanced including an inflow and infiltration reduction programme. The improvement works include the replacing of sewer pipes, storage tanks at Cockle Bay and Mellons Bay and other measures.

Option studies for Catchment 1 (Bucklands Beach), Catchment 12 (Otara) and Catchment 8 (Pakuranga) are in progress. The consent applications for these catchments will be lodged in 2003/2004. Before the lodgement extensive consultation will take place with all affected parties.

Unreticulated Rural Settlement Studies

Council has a work programme for conducting sanitary and receiving environment surveys in unreticulated rural settlements including Kawakawa Bay, Orere Point, Clevedon and Whitford in relation to sewage contaminated stormwater. An options report has been carried out on Kawakawa Bay and Orere Point and public discussions will be taking place shortly. Receiving environment surveys for Clevedon and Whitford are planned to occur in 2003/04. These surveys have been identified as actions in the Environmental Monitoring Strategy – *Keeping Track*.

At Kawakawa Bay a number of measures for minimising the potential health risk posed by septic tank effluent, particularly in the wetter winter months, have been actioned. However, there is still ongoing monitoring of bacteria levels.

Orere Point measures have included dissemination of an information pamphlet and local advertising in late 2002 to inform the community of issues associated with on-site wastewater treatment and disposal.

Whitford Development Modelling Study

This joint ARC/Manukau City Council study involves environmental studies and computer modelling of potential sediment impacts on the Mangemangeroa/ Waikopua/ Turanga estuaries and Howick embayment from potential development in the proposed Rural 4 zone. Results from modelling the combined effects of potential development are now due in July.

Wai Care

Council's Wai care programme continues strong involvement, the programme going through a consolidation phase to develop new monitoring and action plans. Factors including topography and population density have resulted in no groups being involved in streams discharging direct to the Hauraki Gulf. An increase in resources is needed to expand the programme to cover this gap, which would predominantly involve rural communities. Integration with BeachCare and/or LandCare groups may be a partial means of achieving this.

The majority of the programme groups (8 schools, 2 community) are involved in streams discharging to the Tamaki Estuary. The Pakuranga Stream is noted to be frequently polluted, with poor in-stream and riparian habitat. Baseline water quality in the upper catchment is relatively good and life support capacity is limited mostly by degraded habitat. The Otara Creek and tributaries into the Otara Lake have been noted to be experiencing declining water clarity. High levels of fine sediment have been noted in the Springs Road stream. The potential impact by sediment from large areas of earthworks in the Flat Bush development areas is of concern. Stage 1 earthworks are now underway. Council has informally approached the Auckland Regional Council with a view to assessing how these impacts might be monitored and what mitigation actions can be taken.

Keeping Track - Environmental Monitoring Strategy

Analysis of submissions has been undertaken and a report prepared for the Environmental Management Committee meeting in March. The draft document has been used as a basis for 2003/4 annual planning budget bids. Discussions have been held with a number of organisations for monitoring partnerships. Budget bids for monitoring shellfish in the Tamaki Estuary have been made. Input was given on the Air Land and Water Plan and the Regional Discharges Project including Bathing Beach Water Quality monitoring programmes. Enquiries into the local significance of sediment in runoff from Flat Bush developments is being pursued with the Auckland Regional Council.

Recreational Water Quality Programme

The majority of Manukau City bathing beaches are located along the Hauraki Gulf. The summer 2002/3 Recreational Water Quality Programme runs from November 2002 to March/April 2003. To date there has only been single exceedences following heavy rain in January. Beaches are generally of a high standard for recreation.

C.5.5 FRANKLIN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Plans

The Franklin District Council is in the process of preparing a change to its operative District Plan for rural parts of the District. As part of this process, the Council released a Discussion Document in July 02, which took the form of a draft Plan Change for those parts of the Plan that would be substantially amended by the Proposed Plan Change.

The purpose of the Discussion Document was to provide a basis for as wide a discussion as possible among interested parties. Council received informal feedback by way of written comments from over 200 individuals, statutory bodies and other organisations.

The comments received have been reviewed through a series of Council workshops that discussed issue based planners reports. The outcomes from the workshops are being used to develop an outline on how a Rural Plan Change may look. The revised version of the Discussion Document will be workshopped with Councillors on the 27 May. The workshop will provide strategic direction that will ultimately lead to notification of a formal plan change.

Consents

Franklin District Council received an application for resource consent to create forty-three Conservation Lots via the protection of 264 hectares of native bush; boundary relocation between the three existing lots; the vesting of a lot as Council reserve and another lot vested as public road. The subject site is located at Matingarahi, 13 km north of Kaiua on the western coast of the Firth of Thames. This consent application is currently on hold while landscaping, wastewater disposal and ARC concerns are resolved.

C.5.6 WAIKATO DISTRICT COUNCIL

Plans

Work on a complete review of the District Plan is progressing well. Policy has been drafted on all major issues. The intention is to publicly notify the proposed plan in 2004.

Investigations

A wetland inventory will be completed shortly. This will be incorporated into a vegetation cover database and analysed against environmental domains to determine the extent to which various types of natural areas have been lost and the degree of threat to the remaining areas. This information will help the Council and other agencies to identify priority actions.

C.5.7 ENVIRONMENT WAIKATO

Plans

Environment Waikato has proposed a variation to the proposed Waikato Regional Coastal Plan to provide planning guidance for the location of marinas in the coastal marine area of the Waikato Region. This is largely in response to two Environment Court interim decisions which relate to the proposed Whangamata marina consent application and a reference to the Environment Court on the proposed RCP relating to a marina proposal at Tairua. Essentially the decisions indicate that the current RCP does not provide the necessary planning support to make decisions on the development of marinas and does not appropriately provide for recreational opportunities in the coastal marine area. The proposed variation to the RCP

- explicitly recognises appropriate use and development in the coastal marine area to provide for social, economic and cultural well being;
- clarifies the intent of Areas of Significant Conservation Value (ASCV) which are identified in the RCP, with regard to appropriate use and development;
- include policy to guide decision-making on the appropriate location of marinas; and

- zone the proposed Whangamata and existing Whitianga marina areas as appropriate locations for marinas.

There have been 142 submissions made on the proposed variation.

Environment Waikato have heard submissions on the proposed variation to the Proposed Waikato Regional Coastal Plan and to the Proposed Waikato Regional Plan in relation to the management of moorings throughout the coastal marine area, and in the rivers and lakes of the Waikato Region. Council will release its decision in July 2003.

Environment Waikato will be undertaking consultation on whether or not to undertake a variation to the proposed Waikato Regional Coastal Plan on occupation charges. Staff are discussing integration and consistency issues with Auckland Regional Council and Northland Regional Council.

Investigations

Preliminary model outputs from the initial aquaculture management area scenarios being considered as part of the project to assess the sustainability of shellfish aquaculture in the Firth of Thames have been produced by NIWA and have been discussed by managers, industry and scientists at a workshop in May. This is a joint project being funded by ARC, EW and the Western Firth of Thames Mussel Industry Consortium.

Two workshops have been convened as part of the project to identify trigger points for the Wilson's Bay Marine Farming Zone. Some key water column and benthic community/sediment trigger points and potential levels have been identified in discussions between managers, industry and scientists. Environment Waikato will be preparing a document outlining recommendations for trigger points and levels for managing the Zone.

Staff at EW and Waikato Conservancy are continuing to progress their collaborative project to collate the coastal information available in the Waikato Region. Collation of metadata has been initiated and technical workshops to identify further information/data sets available for the Waikato coastal environment will be held at the end of May 2003.

EW staff worked with staff from ARC and MFish to select the preferred science provider for the first stage of the project "Localised Depletion of Intertidal Shellfish in the Hauraki Gulf". Aquabio Consultants Limited were the successful provider and EW staff have met with Dr Coral Grant to discuss information available from the Waikato Region which may be relevant to this project.

State of the environment monitoring of the intertidal benthic communities and sediment characteristics in the southern Firth of Thames is ongoing, with sampling undertaken in April 2003.

Consents

Applications for two erosion protection structures in Mercury Bay will be considered by a TCDC and EW joint Hearings Committee in July. Due to the length of the wall this will also be a restricted coastal activity with a DoC representative.

Consents for the construction of a 150 berth marina in Tairua Harbour have been notified. This includes a number of applications that are restricted coastal activities.

These applications replace a previous design for a 250 berth marina. Hearings for the applications currently under consideration are likely to take place in August.

The primary marine farming group at Wilson's Bay are undertaking monitoring to determine the level of effects of the first stage of their development. Should the effects prove to be no more than minor they will be requesting to move onto stage 2 of the development. This will be considered by staff on receipt of the monitoring information.

Discussions continue between EW, TCDC and the Cooks Beach residents group in terms of the management of erosion along part of Cooks Beach. This current erosion phase is impacting on the frontage of approximately 22 properties.

C.5.8 THAMES COROMANDEL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Plans

The decisions on submissions to the proposed District Plan were released in October 1998. Work programme emphasis has been to settle the remaining 19 references to the Environment Court and address other substantive matters through a series of variations.

Council was a recent submitter to Environment Waikato Marinas Variation to the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan. The Variation provides for marinas and similar developments in the coastal marine area. Council anticipates that a variation to the proposed District Plan will also be necessary, particularly to deal with issues such as earthworks, storm water and land based marine related activities. For this reason the district is consulting closely with the region as its variation follows the RMA process.

Infrastructure Programmes

Whitianga Waste Water Plant: Treatment and disposal options will follow on from work currently being done at Whangamata and Tairua/Pauanui.

Whitianga Storm Water: Design and contract documentation currently being prepared for Racecourse Road catchment.

Whangamata Waste Water Treatment Plant: A future options report was submitted in May 2003 to Council for its consideration.

Whangamata Storm Water: Council's consultants are currently completing a storm water catchment management plan

Tairua/Pauanui Waste Water Treatment Plant: Council is presently in negotiations with various engineering firms with regard to the up grading the existing plant on the present site.

Tairua Storm Water: A catchment management plan is also being completed to deal with Tairua's future storm water disposal needs.

Thames Storm Water Up-grade: Stage One of this project is now complete. Stage II has commenced with a joint Council/Transit New Zealand study into storm water issues at the northern end of Thames. The process will include negotiations with tangata whenua and other community interest groups before the project can commence. Council awaits receipt of a Maori Values assessment for the entire project before further design works commence.

Hazards

Thames Coast Flood Hazard Mitigation Project: This project is a joint undertaking with Environment Waikato in response to the June 2002 "Weather bomb" event. A Flood Risk Assessment report commissioned by both agencies is now to hand. The report by URS Ltd examines the threat to life and economic systems for each of the six most affected Thames Coast communities, including Waiomu where a life was lost in the June event. The agencies are reporting in June 2003 to a joint meeting of their respective Councils to brief elected members on the risk assessment strategy, agency work programmes and the project communications strategy.

C.5.9 DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Auckland Conservancy

Species Conservation

Turtles

HMNZS *Canterbury* was pressed into service early this month to convey three "Very Important Turtles" from temporary accommodation at Kelly Tarlton's Underwater World in Auckland to their new home in the sub-tropical waters of the Kermadec Islands Marine Reserve, 1,000 kilometres to the north. The turtles had been discovered on different beaches around the Auckland region and brought to Kelly Tarlton's by members of the public. *Canterbury* was making one of her regular voyages to the Kermadecs to assist DOC with re-supplying provisions on lonely Raoul Island, New Zealand's northernmost DOC estate, and the opportunity was taken to relocate the turtles after their extended holiday in the aquarium.

Coastal Cress Survey of the Mokohinau Islands

Staff recently conducted a survey for coastal cress (*Lepidium oleraceum*) in the northern Mokohinau Islands to re-check for the presence of this rare plant, last surveyed 10 years ago. Six individual plants were found on only one stack. The islands are predator free and honeycombed with bird burrows so why cress is so rare on these seemingly perfect islands is a mystery!

Regeneration of Burgess Island Assessed

The regeneration of Burgess Island, which has been rat-free for at least 10 year, was reassessed during the above survey. Karo had not been seen on the island prior to the rat eradication and at least 12 large fruiting plants and many seedlings were located. Vegetation recovery on the island, which was formerly farmed, will be slow as it is covered in a dense buffalo grass sward. The myriad of garden escapes from lighthouse keeper houses are gradually being brought under control with lady's legs (*Tropaeolum pentaphyllum*), nasturtiums, and prickly pear (*Opuntia vulgaris*) (amongst others) attacked on this trip.

GBI Pateke

The managed pateke (brown teal) population on Great Barrier Island has remained stable despite unfavourable conditions over the breeding season. Preliminary counts at flock sites in the Whangapoua Basin in late February indicate pateke numbers are similar to this time last year. This follows 60 percent population growth in the area between Feb 2000 and Feb 2002 on the back of feral cat and pukeko control.

However the 2002/03 GBI season has been one of the driest on record and this has meant a sharp reduction in the amount of available food for pateke. Fat analysis on dead juvenile birds that were found has shown they were very malnourished at the time of death. This gives us a picture of poor duckling survival due to lack of food, but a robust adult population.

More Kiwi on Motuora

Two more juvenile kiwi were recently transferred from the Auckland Zoo to Motuora Is. The kiwi were accompanied by two staff members from BNZ, the sponsor of the programme.

Great Barrier Dactylanthus Survey

Dactylanthus pollen was found on GBI by a research student during soil investigations in the Whangapoua catchment two years ago, but no plants.

DOC Te Araroa field centre supervisor Graeme Atkins and his 'dac-dog' Mohiti were recently on the island to hunt for the plant during its six week flowering season. Graeme spoke to a group of GBI residents about the island's prime dactylanthus habitat and the subtleties of finding the rare plant. Rats, pigs and possums are known to feed on the flowers and the bracts colour these animals' guts purple. GBI residents are keen to assist the department in inspecting the gut contents of these animals for signs of the plant in the hope this will give a clue to its whereabouts.

Coastal Cress Translocation on Rangitoto

Coastal cress (*Lepidium flexicaule*); last seen on Rangitoto 100 years ago, was first returned to the island in 1999. All these plants died, though some flowered, seeded, and seedlings grew. Another transfer occurred in 2002 and three of these individuals are still alive and have flowered. The hope is that seedlings will emerge in spring and if so they will be closely monitored.

The cress is battling dense weed infestations which it would not have had to contend with in the past. The plant used to be widespread in the Hauraki Gulf and was first found at North Head.

The translocation is entering a re-assessment phase this year and the Conservancy will consider whether it is feasible to continue to try and establish a population of this cress on Rangitoto or whether Auckland's weedy flora will win out.

Historic Conservation

Fort Takapuna Restoration Work

Fort Takapuna on Auckland's North Shore was built between 1886 and 1889 to defend the city from attack by the Russians. They never came and the picturesque old fort now sits in the middle of the Fort Takapuna Historic Reserve. Restoration work has been ongoing since 1999.

The most recent work has seen the restoration of two staircases leading down to the underground parts of the fort. The stairs used to lead down into small sunken court yards with doors opening into underground galleries and magazines. These court yards and stairwells had been filled in during the 1960s as part of a redevelopment of the site and the doors had been blocked by concrete.

As well as excavating the stairs the opportunity was taken to waterproof the roof of one of the underground rooms in the fort which was leaking badly.

Island Restoration

The Motutapu Island Restoration Trust

The Motutapu Island Restoration Trust had their first planting day of the year on Sunday, starting the season with an excellent turn out of 50 volunteers to plant trees on the island.

The planting day marked more than the start of the planting season. It also marks the Trust becoming much more involved in the restoration programme. The past year has been transitional where the department has wanted to step down a notch in its involvement and allow the Trust to get more involved with the "on the ground" tasks.

The Trust has taken this on board and has developed sub committees in order to get the work done.

Animal Pests

Motuihe Island Rabbit Control Programme

Following on from the wide scale aerial control using carrot bait in July 2002, the period from August to December saw a combination of intensive shooting with some limited fumigation and trapping.

Following heavy use of the island by holiday makers, the operation continued in the January to March 2003 quarter. Night shooting was predominantly used in areas close to cover (gorse and woody weeds) with patch poisoning using Pindone carrot baits in higher density areas and previously inaccessible areas cleared by recent aerial weed control spraying. Fumigation of active burros and shooting in areas of short grass and light cover have also been employed. All methods have been used systematically to ensure maximum success. Methods have been alternated to avoid shyness by the rabbits.

There has been a continual decrease in numbers of rabbits killed and of those counted during night counts. There has been a marked re-growth of new grass. Latest night count is around 58 rabbits.

Waikato Conservancy

The Moehau kiwi zone has had a positive outcome for the season. All fourteen radio-tagged kiwi chicks at Moehau are still alive with the summer peak in stoat abundance now past.

A group of terrestrial ecologists, including three DoC staff, visited Te Moehau at the invitation of the Moehau Nga Tangata Whenua Trust Board. The visit included entry into the Waahi Tapu area which contains the summits of Little Moehau and the true Moehau summit. The group was guided by Koru from the local iwi and included an entomologist, botanists and bryophyte experts. Access was granted to conduct plant and invertebrate surveys, and to assess and report on animal impacts, including any human damage. Some trampling of the old track to the summit was still evident but in comparison to a visit a year ago, damage was much reduced. Some animal browsing was found but generally palatable species were widespread and regenerating. Several new plant and bryophyte species were added to known species lists from the area.

**AGENDA
WEDNESDAY 18 JUNE 2003
HAURAKI GULF FORUM**

The Department has purchased the 149 ha 'Knox Farm' property at Waikawau Bay which was put up for tender by Auckland University. The property is located adjacent to the Waikawau Farm Park currently managed by the Department.

Consents have been granted to the Waikato Conservancy to control spartina in all harbours with infestations within the conservancy area. Spraying of spartina with Gallant herbicide will start in November.

The Department managed, in consultation with the Hauraki Maori Trust Board, the recovery and burial of a 6.5 m Southern Bottlenose whale that washed into the Tapu stream mouth in late March.

Possum control operations have been completed or are underway in a number of Coromandel areas, including blocks at Mahakirau, Manaia, Papakai, Eastern Moehau, Urarima, and Hikuai (Kaituna Valley). Goat control has continued on Moehau, the Puriri Stream catchment and other central Coromandel areas. Follow up vegetation monitoring is on-going.

Willow control operations were completed at Kopuatai in February. The intention is to expand and improve the viability of kahikatea remnants by removing willows, and to control infestation of grey willow into the peat bog. Transect lines have been established and a monitoring programme with NIWA is now underway.

The population of Cook's scurvey grass (*Lepidium oleraceum*) on Matariki Island (south of Coromandel Harbour) was recently monitored. Some loss of the 94 previously recorded plants had occurred. Monitoring will be ongoing.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be received.

D ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

D.1 OPEN FORUM SESSION

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D.1 OPEN FORUM SESSION

Committee Secretary: 5 June 2003

At its meeting held on Tuesday 23 May 2000 the Hauraki Gulf Forum resolved:

'That an open Forum session be held at the end of each meeting'.

Section 46(a)(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 tends to limit the Forum's ability to deal with items of general business. The Act states:

"(7A) Where an item is not on the agenda for a meeting, -

- (a) That the item may be discussed at that meeting if –
 - (i) That item is a minor matter relating to the general business of the local authority; and
 - (ii) The presiding member explains at the beginning of the meeting, at a time when it is open to the public, that the item will be discussed at the meeting; but
- (b) No resolution, decision, or recommendation may be made in respect of that item except to refer that item to a subsequent meeting of the local authority for further discussion."

To enable the Forum to hold an open forum session and still remain within the constraints of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act the Forum may hear any speaker who wishes to address it, however any issues raised by the Forum or a formal resolution must be referred to a later meeting. It is also not appropriate to re-litigate resolutions already passed by the Forum during the course of the meeting.

In addition, to facilitate the efficient processing of the business it is recommended that any party who wishes to raise an issue in the open forum section advise the Forum Chair in advance of the meeting, where possible. Secondly a time limit of 5 minutes per speaker is recommended, which is in accordance with the NZ Standard Standing Orders.