

Te Tai Tokerau Worker Redeployment Package progress update

Meeting: Audit, Risk and Finance Committee
Date of meeting: 10 September 2020
Reporting officer: Hayden McGrath, Project Manager

Purpose/Ngā whāinga

To update the Audit, Risk and Finance Committee on the Kaipara District Council park vegetation clearance and clean ups element of the Te Tai Tokerau Worker Redeployment Package.

Executive summary/Whakarāpopototanga

The delivery of the Kaipara District Council parks vegetation clearance and clean ups element of the Te Tai Tokerau Worker Redeployment Package commenced in July 2020. The package is a Provincial Growth Fund initiative providing urgent economic relief for those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, providing immediate work opportunities for local people.

The vegetation clearance and clean ups package focus on pest plant management and eradication within the Kaipara District, whilst also achieving social procurement and worker redeployment outcomes.

Of the \$1.6m package, \$892,490 worth of works have been negotiated and committed, with over 95% of the direct and sub-contract works awarded to local businesses.

To date the initiative has provided opportunities for over 40 people, of which 18 were previously unemployed.

As at early August over \$200,000 worth of pest plant works have been completed across Taharoa Domain, Mangawhai Community, Harding, and Northern Wairoa Memorial Parks.

Recommendation/Ngā tūtohunga

That the Audit, Risk and Finance Committee:

- a) Notes the Te Tai Tokerau Worker Redeployment Package progress update report.

Context/Horopaki

The Te Tai Tokerau Worker Redeployment Package is a Provincial Growth Fund Initiative providing urgent economic relief for those in the region's workforce who have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

A funding agreement established between the Kaipara District Council (KDC) and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE) details Project Elements that are to be undertaken using the funding, whilst meeting agreed social procurement objectives in providing immediate worker redeployment opportunities for those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The 'Te Tai Tokerau Worker Redeployment Package - Kaipara District Council Parks – Vegetation clearance & clean ups' is an element of the funding agreement established between Kaipara District Council and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment and subsequently approved at the Extraordinary meeting of Council on 01 July 2020.

Discussion/Ngā kōrerorero

For the Kaipara District, there are a total of eight project elements within the agreement with a total budget of \$2.87m. This report is focussed on the largest of the project elements, being the vegetation clearance and clean ups with a budget value of \$1.6m.

The physical works aspect of the package is focused on the Kai Iwi Lakes and Pou Tu o Te Rangi, along with other Council park and reserve areas, with a particular focus on pest plant eradication.

Procurement

The individual elements of work package have been scoped and a direct negotiation procurement approach utilising existing locally based suppliers has been selected in order to meet the specific social procurement outcomes and timeframe deliverables required under the funding agreement.

To date \$892,490 of work has been negotiated and committed, with over 95% of the direct and sub-contract works awarded to local businesses.

Smaller elements have been procured through direct purchase order, with larger package elements through minor works contract agreements or variation to existing contracts.

Physical Works Update

The physical works commenced in early July with over \$200,000 worth of work completed to date including;

- 1) Mangawhai Community Park
 - Removal of gum trees between the Mangawhai Activity Zone and Golf Club completed.
- 2) Pou Tu o Te Rangi Harding Park
 - Removal of pest plants around pond area in preparation for bike track, clearance and treatment of pest plants throughout Pa site area.
- 3) Taharoa Domain – Kai iwi Lakes,
 - Implementation of pest plant plan underway, with a focus on removal and treatment of wilding pines, wattle and other pest species.
- 4) Northern Wairoa Memorial Park
 - Removal and treatment of pest plant species within bush reserve area in progress.

Redeployment Outcomes

Currently there are 42 people employed as part of the current stages of works, of which 18 of these were previously unemployed.

Of the 42 people, 14 of these are part-time engaged in assisting with the works in roles such as administration and traffic control duties as required.

Social Procurement Objectives

The following table outlines the social procurement objectives as agreed with MBIE and the progress towards achieving the to date.

Social Procurement Objectives as agreed within the funding agreement	Achievements to date against each of the Social Procurement Objectives	Additional narrative regarding Social Procurement Objectives progress.
Local (regional) businesses prioritised for employment (40% of direct contract and sub-contract values will be awarded to businesses owned and operated by people who reside in the region.	Of the total value of contracts awarded to date, the value portion awarded to locally owned enterprises is over 95%.	The willingness and availability of local businesses has aided in achieving almost double the targeted value in the works contracted to date. Having packaged and spread work over mix of SME's, Larger Contractors, and Iwi Group(s) has also aided in achieving this.
Maori and Pasifika enterprises prioritised for employment (15% of the direct and subcontract values to be awarded to Maori or Pasifika enterprises.)	Of the total value of contracts awarded to date, the value portion awarded to Locally owner enterprises is over 53%.	Early involved of Te Roroa Group (TRG) has provided the ability to exceed the target to date. TRG have also engaged 10 people who were previously unemployed as part of their project works.
Targeted employment (Employment targets a. 45% Maori b. 5% Pasifika c. 20% Woman d. 30% Youth (18 – 24 years) At least 50 (new) fixed term roles over the total 165 workers across the packages)	The achievement of employment targets are as follows; a. 73% b. 0% Pasifika c. 24% Woman d. 24% Youth 18 x workers have been employed who were previously unemployed.	One of the risks identified early was meeting the employment targets, by spreading of work packages across SME's, Larger Contractors and Iwi Groups, along with coordination with MSD has aided in progress towards achieving the targets to date.
Skills and training delivered (Provision of relevant training to ensure all workers are skilled, qualified and safe in the workplace)	Contract agreements with Te Roroa Group include the provision of Growsafe and Chainsaw Training as part of the project delivery. For the works involving Kia Tupato has provided the opportunity for professional development training. (STMS,TC)	Agreements to date have been focussed on working collaboratively to achieve outcomes. The provision of Growsafe and Chainsaw Training is planned to be undertaken onsite at Kai-iwi Lakes under the agreement with Te Roroa Group. There is opportunity to extend this training to the wider groups (other contractors) involved in the Project.
Improved Conditions for Workers (All new workers undergo pre-employment induction H&S) Documented H&S Management Systems	New workers introduced have been inducted into the relevant companies systems. Particular sites have in place Site Specific Safety Plans (SSSP) and contractors have relevant H&S systems in place.	Agreements to date have been focussed on working collaboratively to achieve outcomes. Attended induction day with Te Roroa Group at Kai iwi, which included formal welcome to the site, discussion on the significance of the area, followed by formal safety induction and project briefing. This briefing was attended by KDC, MSD and NRC representatives.
Environmental Responsibility (Protecting local ecosystems through removal of exotic pest species. Actively seeking to minimise carbon impact of project delivery. Minimising waste – reusing materials. Build resilience back into work areas through replanting etc.)	The works being undertaken by Orang Otang Tree Trimmers, includes mulching of tree waste for reuse as ground cover, recovering of gum stems for use as landscape edging, and also possible recovery as firewood for community groups. The works undertaken by Turf Tamer involves a process of mechanically mulching in-situ which provides an initial ground cover prior to further treatment/revegetation.	Arrangements in place with contractors have been focussed on working collaboratively with community and other groups in order to reuse by-products where possible. Open communication channels between contractor, KDC, and other stakeholder groups have been utilised to seek opportunities for re-use of by-products and recycling where possible.

Forward Works Programme

The following work is planned for the coming months:

- 1) Mangawhai Community Park;
 - Removal of gum and pine trees between the Mangawhai Activity Zone and the Museum, followed by revegetation planting with native species.
 - Removal of sand-dune and reuse of material to construct shared pathway formation between the Mangawhai Activity Zone and the Mangawhai Club.
- 2) Pou Tu o Te Rangi – Harding Park
 - Completion of treatment of pest plants throughout Pa site area.
- 3) Taharoa Domain – Kai iwi Lakes
 - Continuation of the implementation of pest plant plan and removal and treatment of pest species.
- 4) Northern Wairoa Memorial Park
 - Completion of removal and treatment of pest plant species within bush reserve area.
 - Remediation of metalled pathway through bush reserve area
- 5) Omana Reserve War Memorial
 - General tidy up of reserve area and follow up treatment of pest plant species.
- 6) Kaiwaka Oneriri Road Intersection
 - General tidy up of reserve area and follow up treatment of pest plant species.

Risks, Issues and Opportunities

Risks / Issues	Magnitude / Likelihood	Mitigation
Risk – Timely delivery of works to meet required timing outcomes.	Low	Have packaged and spread work over mix of SME's, Larger Contractors, and Iwi Group(s).
Risk – Meeting required employment outcomes of the PGF funding	Low	Spread of work packages across SME's, Larger Contractors and Iwi Groups, along with coordination with MSD will provide wider opportunities.
Opportunity – Introducing new local SME's as future KDC Suppliers through work package opportunities.	Medium	Communication with SME's and other groups regarding opportunities and also introduction to existing Contractors.

Significance and engagement/Hirahira me ngā whakapāpā

The decisions or matters of this report do not trigger the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the public will be informed via agenda on the website.

Next steps/E whaiake nei

The remaining elements of the overall works package are to be scoped and negotiations undertaken with relevant suppliers to ensure all elements are committed for delivery of all physical works prior to the end of December 2020.