

Sub-Regional Spatial Plan – engagement outcomes

Meeting: Council Briefing
Date of meeting: 7 October 2020
Reporting officer: Paul Waanders, District Planner

Purpose/Ngā whāinga

To provide an overview of the feedback received during the consultation on the sub-regional spatial planning project and outline some suggested changes to the plan as a result for Council direction.

Context/Horopaki

Council were provided an update report at the 3 June 2020 briefing on the progress of the development of the Sub-Regional Spatial Plan (the Plan). That briefing informed Council of Part 1 'The Overview' of the District as a whole and Parts 2-6 which deals with the various smaller communities. Previous work on the now adopted Spatial Plan for Key Urban areas of Dargaville, Maungatūroto and Kaiwaka and the still to be considered Spatial Plan for Mangawhai will be incorporated into the Sub-Regional Spatial Plan to make this Spatial Plan a comprehensive representation of development proposals of the whole District.

The initial consultation on the draft Plan had been interrupted due to Covid-19 related matters and the item sought direction for further community consultation before a final draft would be presented to Council.

This was approved and a further round of consultation was undertaken, which closed on 9 August 2020. At that meeting Council also provided some initial direction for the content and approach of the draft Plan. The focus of this report is on the incorporation of Council's feedback and the outcomes of the consultation and the subsequent implications for a final draft Plan to be presented to Council for consideration.

Discussion/Ngā kōrerorero

Elected member initial feedback

The minutes of the briefing of 3 June 2020 noted the following matters for further discussion:

- New, more laypeople-friendly name for the Sub-Regional Spatial Plan
- Land use capability and viable farmland
- Riparian planting
- Consistency with the other Spatial Plans
- Previous community and iwi engagement.

Council directed staff to engage the community with the draft Sub-Regional Spatial Plan, with minor corrections as a result of the feedback received. Elected members were invited to email the Policy Team with any minor corrections and contact details of people who may be interested in giving feedback.

New Name

Staff and Elected Members suggested 11 proposed titles for the Sub-Regional Spatial Plan which have been internally discussed.

Three titles stood out:

- The Big Picture: Kaipara's 30-year Plan

- Kaipara District Spatial Plan - Ngā wawata 2050
- Kaipara 30-year Spatial Plan

The staff recommended title is '**Kaipara Spatial Plan - Ngā Wawata 2050**'

Ngā Wawata means meaning 'hopes, aspirations or desires.'

Land use capability and viable farmland

With the Kaipara Kai project coming to fruition, the information will be added to the Plan and reference the study material. The Ecological Network as well as the Rural Land-use and Land Environment discussed in Part 1.8 will be completed. The Water Storage project will also be included in this chapter.

Some feedback was received on aggregate sources. It is out of scope to include this matter into the Plan now as this would require further detailed research, analysis and reporting. However, the matter will require addressing as part of the District Plan review process and will be brought back to Council for consideration at that stage. A future review of the Plan could also consider this matter. The settlement of the Kaipara Moana Treaty Claim may also have outcomes that will be considered in future reviews of the Plan.

Riparian Planting

This matter has not been addressed as the implementation of the Resource Management (Stock Exclusion) Regulations 2020 which came in force on 3 September 2020 identifies this as a Regional function (Regulation 5). Other matters under the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management may impact on the District Council's work but have not yet been fully investigated. It is not envisaged that this will necessarily become part of the Plan.

Consistency with other Spatial Plans

There are no prescriptions yet of how Spatial Plans should be compiled, although the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) reform predicts that spatial planning will become a future element of planning approaches. Staff work with the other two Northland District Councils on spatial planning matters and it is intended that all three spatial planning approaches will have some degree of integration and/or alignment where achievable. Auckland Council's Auckland Plan is subject to specific legislative spatial planning requirements, which in turn has an impact on the content and approach of that Plan. The Kaipara Spatial Plan will fit in with the national standard of spatial planning and align with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Waka Kotahi (NZTA) work on corridor planning.

Previous community and iwi engagement

Staff consider that even despite the derailing of some engagement activities due to Covid-19, the engagement undertaken to inform this project has been of high quality and ensured the voices of the community as well as Mana Whenua and Iwi/Hapu have been heard.

Covid-19 did hamper the programmed engagements but that was followed up with zoom meetings as well as telephone calls to many known interested individuals in the District. The Plan was then further notified for feedback via a survey mechanism and the closing date was extended to allow more time for feedback. Some on-site visits were re-convened after level 2 lockdown, however the second lockdown in Auckland meant this work had to be completed by phone, rather than on-site.

Recent engagement feedback

This Briefing will focus on the outcomes of the most recent consultation activities (from 6 July – 9 August), which focused on obtaining feedback from the smaller communities and settlements in the District. Submissions were made on the full document, but this briefing will focus on finalising the proposals for the smaller communities.

A total of 27 submissions were received from people using the on-line survey form, some of which had additional information attached. **Attachment A** provides a summary of these submissions. Several additional submissions were received by letter or email. These submissions are not included in the summary in **Attachment A** but have informed the development of the proposed

changes and are incorporated into the information provided in the engagement summaries provided in **Attachment B**.

The more detailed submissions received commented both on the overall Plan approach as well as on some of the identified communities or settlements. These are summarised as follows:

- Horticulture NZ - in support with the request to preserve high class soils and develop appropriate zoning in the District Plan
- NZ Defence Force - comments on a weapons range at South Head across Poutō Point with the effect on development but not opposed
- Aggregate and Quarrying Association - identifying quarrying as a rural production activity and preserving the source of aggregate
- Department of Conservation - balancing conservation and tourism needs within a rural/natural setting
- Northpower - supporting the future planning approach and emphasising the need for electricity to be included in the Infrastructure Strategy
- Waka Kotahi (NZTA) - referring to the Housing and Urban Development Government Policy Statement (HUD GPS) on integration of transport and land-use
- various – comments regarding commercial developments in Hakaru
- various – a range of additional feedback regarding Paparoa
- various – a range of additional feedback regarding Baylys Beach (including a range on matters not relevant to the draft Plan).

Some matters were raised by submitters that are outside the scope of the Plan, such as beach user conflict and conservation focussed tourism development. These matters have been provided to the relevant staff for their information.

This Briefing will discuss the submission matters raised, their impact on the draft Plan and present options for possible changes as a result of submissions. **Attachment B** provides an overview of all the feedback received, details the proposed changes to the maps of the draft Plan as well as providing more detailed notes on the outcomes of the consultation for each community.

A presentation will be made at the meeting to discuss **Attachment B** in more detail.

Next steps/E whaiake nei

Based on feedback and direction received at this meeting, a final draft Plan will be prepared for Council's further consideration at the 7 November Briefing.

Attachments/Ngā tapiritanga

	Title
A	Phase 5- Online Survey Submissions
B	Kaipara Spatial Plan 2050 October update