



Minutes & Actions

SMP Coastal Panel Meeting 6 – Adaptation Pathways Whitianga Area

Date: 27th May 2021

Time: 9:00AM – 12:00 PM

Venue: TCDC Whitianga Community Board Room & via MS Teams

Attendees: TCDC – Amon Martin (via MS Teams), Jamie Boyle, Karen Moffatt-McLeod
SMP Consultants (Royal Haskoning DHV) – Sian John, Nick Lewis

Coastal Panel Members: Graeme Osbourne - Chair, Carrie Parker, Dave Lamason, Howard Saunders, Jamie Ryan, Jill Pierce, Kim Lawry, James Hutt, Christopher Devenoges
WRC - Rick Liefing

Apologies: Joe Davis Ngati Hei

Meeting Objective

- To initiate the discussion regarding adaptation options and pathways for each Policy Unit.

Agenda Items

1. **Welcome and introduction to the session.**

Chair noted a preference for minutes from the previous meeting to be attached to the agenda and an agenda item for these to be approved.

2. **Progress**

- a. Actions (see page 2) most completed. Uncompleted one's updated in the action table.

Action 9: Given what has happened in the last week with the storm and king tides WRC are doing an analysis of Sunday's storm – will classify what level it was.

Noted: Similar to event 2015.

Action 16: Amon covered – confirmation of committee members Joe Davies Ngāti Hei & John Lynskey Ngāti Hauā.

Combined with Paul Majurey and David Taipari representing governance for the whole project.

Paul Majurey late apology – no iwi nominations were received for the SMP. Paper this afternoon highlights that Coastal Panels are still lacking in iwi engagement. Two matters of note:

- Door is still open for iwi to come on to coastal panels. Although iwi are well represented at Governance level there is value in iwi also being engaged at operational (SMP) level.
- Need for engagement on specific issues noted.

On-going process, but good to get Joe Davis on board at Governance level.

Chair – understands that Mana Whenua and Tangata Whenua want to be engaged in this project, but it is a shame that participation at this level is not happening. Their considerations need to be taken into account. Amon was asked to represent this view to the Governance Committee.

Action 17: WRC plans. Request that WRC Catchment Management plans be shared with the SMPs so that they can be considered by SMPs. Amon has put a request in with Dean – WRC. (Amon reports that four plans are online already, two are in draft, and Whitianga Mercury Bay Plan due in Oct/Nov, Coromandel/Manaia due in Dec.

River/storm water ponding (inundation) is not part of the scope of this work (SMP). [Chair – questioned how river/stream inundation can be ‘out of scope’ when it has coastal relevance?

AM – these are looked at when looking at solutions and management options. Detailed plan would need to be done in partnership with WRC.]

Chair queried whether there were any submissions to the LTP that might be relevant to the Shoreline Management Panels and whether any likely changes to the LTP that were relevant to the SMPs had been identified? Chair suggested the SMP process was light on community engagement & collaboration and thought the wider promotion of scientific evidence had merit.

AM / SJ will produce a refined version and put in front of governance committee.

AM noted that the ‘Objectives’ for Project do include community & scientific engagement.

3 LTP submissions – other items occurring. (Long Term Plan).

- Feedback from the panels was that there is more work required around the higher frequency weather events. More work needed around the consultation and some of this can be targeted e.g. Colville and some other areas need targeted discussion.
- Understanding mitigation costs across the district. Are the plans affordable? Do they serve the purpose? What are the consequences? What is being protected? Need to fill in knowledge gaps.
- Regional council representation going to the committee 1pm today (Denis Tegg the WRC nominee).
- Mitigation will include risk assessment in 20cm steps (rather than the now and 100 years)
- ½ doz houses at Kuaotunu/West & Kennedy Bay at risk – not picked up in the modelling. More work being done on this.
- Spreadsheet to be updated and re-circulated. (Chair suggested that the spreadsheet be aligned with the response criteria)
- The original scope has been revised =- originally money was set aside for end of project for resource consent – that money has now been bought forward to use on the ‘Real options analysis’ e.g. 20cm increment modelling for 7 high risk locations. Approach is to design ‘book end’ solution. Provides costs so decisions can be made around alternatives by looking at economics of solutions. Already been done for Thames as a trial.
- Targeted iwi consultation - Specific Hui and consultation for these areas.

b. Waka Kotahi SH25 strategy, Thames to Te Mata.

Have commissioned study to look at their long-term strategy on this area of coast.

- Ensuring access and transport routes are functional is key. Waka Kotahi have initiated study for Thames coast road using SMP data – good outcome.

- Note Tony Fox on Regional Transport Committee (RTC) – Waka Kotahi will engage with RTC.
 - Will make sure list of areas ‘at risk’ list is complete and included on the paper prior to presenting.
 - Have recognised Waka Kotahi need to do more work on their climate adaptation strategies.
- c. Updated SMP Objectives and Overarching Principles (paper attached)
Overarching principals have been updated to take last 4 meeting comments into account.
Comments received used for updates – again re-distributed. Written comments to Sian or Karen are welcome. SJ acknowledged Chair’s feedback.
- d. Comments on the Second Pass Risk Assessment (exposure, vulnerability and consequence tables) and assessment of tolerance (via MS Teams folder)

3. Adaptation options

- a. What is and isn’t viable? (from adaptation menu – 12 options)

By default options 1 & 2 & 11 apply to all.

E01 New Chums Beach

Option 1 – be prepared.

Option 3 – no active intervention.

Add -Monitor.

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment. Need to focus more on restoration in this message. Comment – dune system declining due to weed and pig infestation.

Option 11 change planning practices, land management practices.

E01 Whangapoua Beach Estuary

Option 2 – be prepared – implement hazard warnings.

May need to have a look at if some areas are high rather than moderate.

Option 12b – provide accommodation space.

E01 Whangapoua Beach

Option 1 – be prepared.

Option 3.5 – avoid (southern end of beach – flood plain where houses are being built)

Northern End Option 4. Short term – some dunes areas may need to be back further.

Southern end – option 7

Option 10d – artificial reef.

Options -11 implement now for longer term. Avoidance needed to be incorporated into options.

Option 12 – relocation of assets.

E02 Whangapoua Harbour

Option 5 – retrofit – raise the road.

Option 4 – planning practices around mangroves.

Option 12a - accommodation space.

E03 Matarangi (Harbourside)

Option 10e – stop bank for longer term.

Option 11 – change planning practices – point out hazards and for new builds to be higher.

Option 12 – relocation of assets.

Wastewater treatment plant – can be moved, protected, stay in medium term.

E03 Matarangi Beach (West)

Tip of spit eroding away – may need to be reviewed as may impact the flushing of the harbour. (Would harbour correct itself?) Will have a closer look.

Golf course can adapt and change over time. Also large reserve at western end

Option 1 – be prepared.

Option 3 – no active intervention.

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment. Inappropriate plants in dunes.

E03 Matarangi Beach (East)

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment.

Option 7a - Enhance natural protection.

Option 10d – artificial reef.

Option 12b – provide accommodation space.

Point: when does the greater good trump the private owners? Many property owners in certain areas – including Matarangi and Pauanui are not conforming to regulations regarding beach/property front management e.g. native June planting – putting private access ways through dunes etc.

Issue with 'sealegs' type boats going through dunes – need to accommodate future public needs and access. Managing access for changing requirements – e.g. access for sea legs

E04 Rings Beach

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment.

Option 5 - Realign small section of road.

Better walkways needed so private land owners don't cut across the dunes.

E04 Rings Beach to Kuaotunu West

Option 3 – no active intervention.

E04 Kuaotunu West

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment.

Option 5 - Realign small section of road.

Option 12a - relocate assets.

Option 12b – provide accommodation space.

E04 Kuaotunu West to Kuaotunu

Option 10a seawall

E04 Kuaotunu

Issues with inland inundation rather than coastal.

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment.

Option 11 – change planning practices

Option 12b – accommodation space.

E04 Kuaotunu River

Option 3 – no active intervention. (Although inundation risk noted in the event the stream mouth is blocked)

E04 Kuaotunu / Black Jack – Otama

Option 3 – no active intervention.

E05 Otama Beach

E05 Opito Bay

Short term

Option 3 – no active intervention. – Monitor.

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment.

Long term

Option 11 – change planning practices.

Option 12a Retreat relocate assets.

F01 Opito Bay to Wharekaho

Option 3 – no active intervention.

F01 Wharekaho Estuary

Option 3 – no active intervention.

F01 Wharekaho (Simpson's Beach)

Less risk at top end.

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment.

Option 10a sea wall

Option 12a Retreat relocate assets.

Option 12b – accommodation space.

F01 Wharekaho Estuary

Option 4 – maintain health of natural environment.

F02 Ohuka (Brophy's Beach)

Option 4 – short term Defence – hold the line.

Option 5 raise the road. – State highway 25 medium term.

Option – dredge & pump

Option 8 – improving resilience of existing defences.

Option 10a sea wall

Option 11 – change planning practices.

Option 12a Retreat relocate assets.

What is more important/priority here – the beach or the reserve?

Environmentally appropriate solutions.

F02 Buffalo Beach Reserve

Option 4 – short term Defence – hold the line.

Option 5 raise the road. – State highway 25 medium term.

Option 8 – improving resilience of existing defences.

Option 10a sea wall

Option 11 – change planning practices.

Option 12a Retreat relocate assets.

Option 12b accommodation of dunes.

Option – dredge & pump

What is more important/priority here – the beach or the reserve?

Environmentally appropriate solutions.

Back up with restoration of wetlands behind – area around Sports Park

Much of Whitianga will be underwater in the event of a 2m sea level rise?

Amon spoke about the Thames report and the cost to protect Thames.

5.5m wall (2km) includes 4-5 pumps

Protect from sea and also from catchment area.

Price approx. \$200 million vs relocation of 1 billion + (where would you go to?) does there need to be planning now to find those areas?

This is the type of information that will come back about Whitianga.

F02 Whitianga Outer Harbour

Option 10e – stop banks.

Option 11 – change planning practices.

F04 Maramaratotara Bay (Flaxmil)

Existing rock wall, Ford, Cliff reinforcement – sandbank, Groyne's

Option 4 – short term Defence – hold the line.

Option 5 – retro fit

Option 8 – improving resilience of existing defences.

Option 10a sea wall

Option 10c – new groyne's

Option 10f -stabilisation

Option 11 – change planning practices.

Option 12a relocate assets.

F04 Cooks Beach

Existing sea wall – not designed for inundation.
Option 4 – short term Defence – hold the line.
Option 5 – retro fit
Option 8 – improving resilience of existing defences.
Option 10a sea wall
Option 11 – change planning practices.
Option 12a relocate assets.

G01 Hahei Beach

Option 4 – short term Defence – hold the line.
Option 5 – retro fit
Option 10a sea wall
Option 11 – change planning practices.
Option 12a relocate assets– carparks etc
Option 12b – accommodation space.

G01 Hahei Beach to Hot Water Beach

Option 3 – no active intervention.

G01 Hot Water Beach

Option 3 – no active intervention.
Option 4 – short term Defence – hold the line.
Option 11 – change planning practices.

G01 Hot Water Beach to Pumpkin Hill

Option 3 – no active intervention.
b. Strategy discussion by Policy Unit (overview attached)
c. Pick a path - time horizons and triggers. Next meeting

Next steps;

LTP submission will be drafted to implement mitigation plans.

Some meetings will be moved back but project time frame will not be extended.

Plan is to report back to the community – September 2021.

Date for next meeting (M7): to be scheduled in July due to more investigation needed in some areas.
Date, time & location to be advised in due course by KMM.

Meeting closed: 12pm.

Actions Table

No.	Action	Responsible	Status
7	Details of the MS Teams shared data folder to be shared with participating Council observers.	Project Office	Completed
9	Timeline of storm events for the East coast sought.	JB/WRC	Outstanding- still in progress. WRC will do analysis of May 2021 storm.
11	Draft meeting notes to be reviewed by the Chair prior to circulation	Project Office	Completed

12	SMP Objectives to be updated following feedback from Coastal Panels	Project Office	Completed
13	Awareness of the SMP Project to be raised with the Regional Transport Committee	Project Office	In progress -
14	Belinda Storey's report on insurance retreat to be shared	Project Office	Completed
15	Jonathon Boston's report on public funding to be shared	Project Office	Completed
16	Iwi representation to be discussed at the SMP Governance Meeting in March 2021	Project Office	Completed, feedback to be provided – covered in submission. Nominations for panel – not achieved at meeting
17	Catchment Management Plans to be considered by Coastal Panel	Project Office/AM	Link to be provided – project team/Dene
18	Neville – road at Waitete Bay should not be 'moderate' (2020) risk is higher now. Refer to 2018 event which has been the most significant.	Project Office	
19	B05 Koputauaki Bay Further consultation required due to complexities of the situation.	Project Office	
20	C01 Papa Aroha – check inundation on this model	Project Office	
21	Make Catchment Plans available to Coastal Panels	??	
22	Actions – Change definitions of 4 and 7 to reflect restoration, and Avoid.	Project Office	
23	WRC can help with mapping contaminated sites around Buffalo Beach and have these added to the map.	Project Office/WRC	