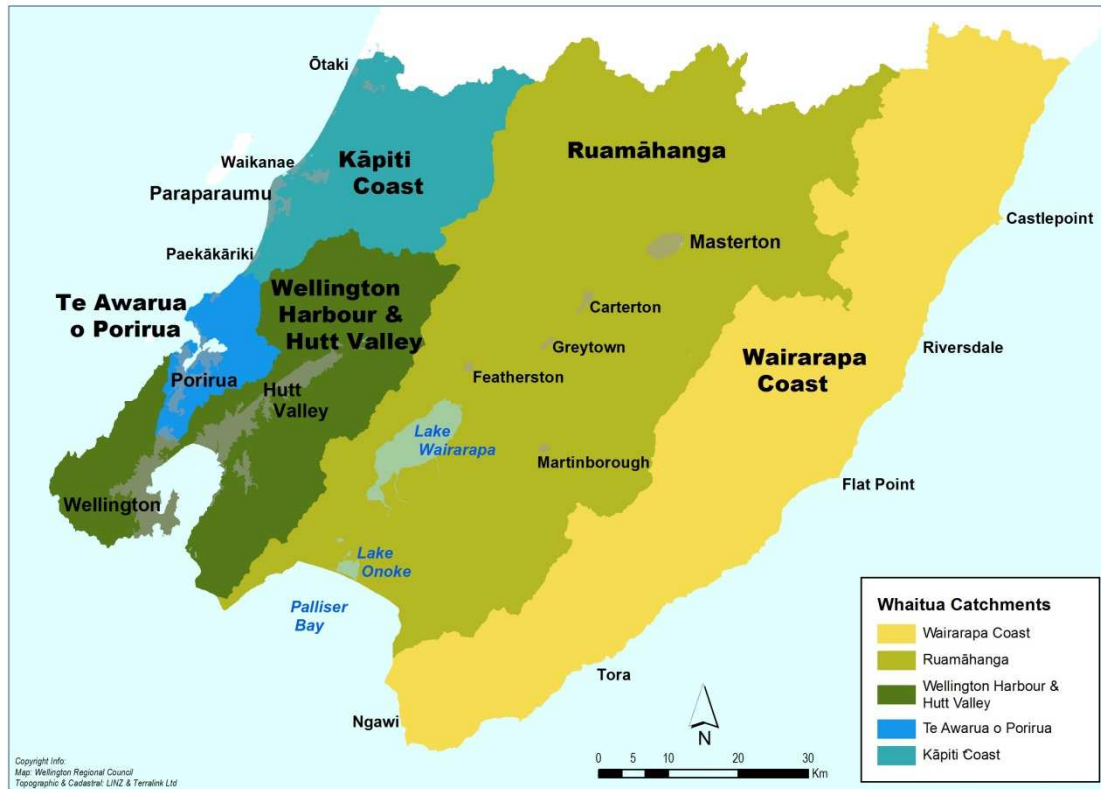


Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee

'Whaitua' is a traditional Te Reo Māori term for a designated area.

The Regional Plan utilises the word 'whaitua' to describe a catchment or sub-catchment (zone) managed as an integrated system.

The area of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee is shown on the map below.



Purpose and function

The purpose of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee is to facilitate community and stakeholder engagement in the development of a Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP). A WIP is a non-statutory report to Greater Wellington Regional Council (the Council) which will contain recommendations for specific plan provisions and work programmes for the integrated management of land and water resources within the whaitua boundary. The WIP may contain both regulatory and non-regulatory proposals.

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will operate in partnership with mana whenua and develop recommendations guided by the five principles created as part of the Regional Plan Review process:

Ki uta ki tai – interconnectedness

Wairuatanga – identity

Kaitiakitanga – guardianship

To matou whakapono – judgement based on knowledge

Mahitahi – partnership (co-operative)

Status of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee is an advisory body established by the Council. The Committee is not a subordinate decision-making body of the Council and is not a committee under the Local Government Act 2002.

Specific responsibilities

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee is responsible for developing a Whaitua Implementation Programme (WIP) that will outline regulatory and non-regulatory proposals for integrated land and water management within their whaitua boundary, including measures to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management.

The WIP developed will include:

1. An assessment of region wide objectives contained in the proposed or operative regional plan, as they relate to the whaitua
2. Specific whaitua objectives for water quality and quantity outcomes
3. Discharge limits, including for sediment, nutrients and other contaminants if appropriate, including setting timeframes and priorities, and management methods, to achieve freshwater and coastal objectives
4. An assessment of, and recommendations to alter, existing water allocation limits, to achieve identified objectives for the whaitua
5. Identification of mana whenua values and interests in the harbour and fresh water, and how these might be reflected in the regional plan
6. Programmes or activities that will support or contribute to the achievement of the established objectives for water quality and quantity outcomes, including such tools as environmental accords and post-settlement arrangements and,
7. Opportunities for the active integration of existing programmes and plans to achieve the objectives and targets for water quality and quantity outcomes.

In developing the WIP the following matters will also be considered:

1. Identification of the land and water issues, challenges, and opportunities for the whaitua
2. Identification of a vision of the future of land and water management for the whaitua
3. The management of stormwater and wastewater infrastructure
4. The management of urban development

5. Interactions between groundwater and surface water, fresh water, land use and coastal environments

In developing objectives, targets, limits and activity programmes the members of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee must work within the ambit of the following:

- The Resource Management Act 1991
- The New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement 2010
- The National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2017
- The Regional Policy Statement 2013
- The National Environmental Standards for Sources of Human Drinking Water 2007
- The Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1941
- Local Government Act 2002
- Any other document referred to the Whaitua Committee by Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee or the Environment Committee, or the General Manager, Environment Management.

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall recommend to the Council that regulatory proposals within the WIP be referred to Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee for incorporation into the Regional Plan through a plan change process.

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall recommend to the Council that the non-regulatory proposals within the WIP will be further developed within Greater Wellington Regional Council and in conjunction with relevant external organisations. They will also be considered in the development of the next Long Term Plan.

Council consideration of proposals in the WIP

The Council is responsible for the review and approval of the regulatory proposals in the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee WIP, including ensuring consistency with relevant statutory requirements. Non-regulatory options put forward in the WIP will be considered by the Council in conjunction with relevant external organisations, including local and iwi authorities.

If the Council is not prepared to accept any specific elements of the regulatory proposals within the WIP, those specific elements will be referred back to the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee for further consideration.

Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee membership and operation

Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee membership

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will be appointed by the Council and will have the following membership:

1. Two elected GWRC Councillors
1. Two appointed iwi members of Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee acting as a voice of Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee
2. One member nominated from each iwi authority whose rohe falls entirely or partly within the whitua boundary, representing the interest of that mana whenua group
3. One member nominated by each territorial authority operating within the whitua boundary - Wellington City Council, Hutt City Council and Upper Hutt City Council, who shall be an elected member of that territorial authority
4. Up to eight members from the community with a range of backgrounds and interests related to land and water management within the community and a commitment to achieving consensus decision making. Council may approve additional members if it determines their necessity to ensure appropriate balance.

In determining the composition of the community members of the Whitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee, consideration shall be given to balancing the following land and water management values:

- Indigenous biodiversity/environmental values
- Mana whenua values
- Recreational values
- Wider economic development interests
- Urban ratepayer interests
- Mātāwaka interests
- General community interests
- Incorporating existing structures/programmes and how they will be represented.
- Infrastructure interests
- Commercial interests

To be eligible to be considered for appointment to a Whitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee, a community nominee must either live in, or be able to demonstrate a close connection with the whitua.

Each community member must also reflect the interests of a wider group within the community and have the skills, experience and knowledge to relay information between the Whitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee and the community.

Staff eligibility

Greater Wellington Regional Council officers will not be eligible to apply for membership of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee.

Co-Chairs

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall have two Co-Chairs, with one Co-Chair appointed by the Committee from the mana whenua appointees to the Committee, and one Co-Chair appointed by the Committee from the community appointees to the Committee. The Co-Chair appointments are to be made by the full Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee when all members have been appointed.

Quorum

A majority of the membership of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall be present to form a quorum.

Alternate members

No alternates/proxies shall take the place of Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee members.

Committee meetings and workshops

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will meet around 10 times per year for a full day with additional workshops and meetings as required. At times, the workload will be significantly higher.

It is expected the Committee will undertake regular engagement with the wider community which represents a significant time commitment in addition to the Committee workshops and meetings.

Reporting

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will provide updates, at least quarterly, on work undertaken to both the Environment Committee and Te Upoko Taiao - Natural Resource Management Committee.

Consensus

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will decide upon the recommendations proposed within their WIP by consensus.

Remuneration

Each council shall be responsible for remunerating its nominee appointed by Council on the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee for the cost of that person's participation on the Committee.

All other members of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee will be eligible to receive standard mileage allowances or reimbursement of travel expenses as determined by Council and shall be eligible to receive the following taxable honorarium:

- Appointed members (excluding the Chairperson): \$10,000 per annum each

- Co-Chairs (two): \$15,000 per annum each. This is only payable in the event that the Co-Chair is a non-Councillor member of the Committee.

Duration of the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee

The Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee shall exist for the duration of the development and completion of a WIP (Whaitua Implementation Programme) document, and shall cease to exist when Council has made decisions on regulatory proposals within the WIP.