

TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL

PLAN CHANGE HEARING COMMITTEE

ADDENDUM TO PLANNERS REPORT FOR PLAN CHANGE 34 – FLOOD HAZARD

FOR HEARING COMMENCING:	23 October 2018
REPORT DATED:	11 October 2018
SUBMITTED BY:	Sue Mavor Senior Policy Advisor, Taupō District Council

FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE TAUPŌ DISTRICT COUNCIL

1. INTRODUCTION

The planning officers report dated 1 October 2018 states, in section 6 issue 4 on page 21, that the details of the issues discussed and agreements made at the meeting between Ngāti Kurauia Taiao and Council staff on 2 October 2018 will be circulated to submitters and hearings commissioners prior to the hearing. The report also states that the recommendations and reasons to address the issues raised by Ngāti Kurauia and Mercury in their submissions on consultation and consideration of iwi/hapu values will be circulated to submitters and hearings commissioner prior to the hearing.

This addendum completes the planning officer's consideration of the submission points for these issues and outlines the recommended approach to responding to these issues and the reasons why the recommended approach is considered appropriate.

2. ISSUE 4. CONSULTATION AND IWI AND HAPU VALUES

Discussion

Taupo District Council staff met with representatives of Ngāti Kurauia Taiao on 2 October 2018 to discuss the Ngāti Kurauia submission on PC 34, clarify the issues raised and to facilitate resolution of the issues. The following issues that were raised in their submission were discussed:

- That the Council needs to adopt a collaborative process with Ngāti Kurauia hapu, whanau and land owners, and in doing so:
 - develop objectives and policies for risk avoidance, mitigation and to identify tolerable levels of hazard risk;
 - share all information and facilitate more active involvement in the evaluation, impact assessment and innovations that may be related to the issues relevant to Ngāti Kurauia stakeholders;
 - clarify what “a two-step engagement process” really means;
 - determine the “degree of impact on, or interest from iwi/Maori”;
 - develop a clear understanding of the impacts of flooding on Ngāti Kurauia, their values and taonga;
 - develop innovative and effective measures to urgently address the potential and actual impacts of flooding on Ngāti Kurauia hapu, whanau, land owners and property owners; and
 - amend objectives 3I.2.1, 3I.2.3 and 3I.2.4 to take into account the social, cultural, spiritual and economic interests and rights of Ngāti Kurauia.
- That the plan change must recognise and provide for:
 - sections 6(e), 6(f), 6(g), 7(a) and 8 of the RMA;
 - the Ngāti Tūwharetoa Iwi Management Plan;
 - protection of areas of culturally significant land including waahi tapu, historical occupation, geothermal taonga and fertile soils used for extensive gardening; and
 - protection of the environmental, economic, social and cultural well-being of Ngāti Kurauia hapu.
- That the Council:
 - Implement mitigation measures to ensure that flooding does not displace Ngāti Kurauia from their ancestral lands and taonga.
 - Provide a dispensation and/or reward to Maori owners of flood affected land that recognizes the contribution of their land and/or its loss of productive capacity or opportunity cost
 - Engage with Ngāti Kurauia to find viable solutions and mitigate the risks not only to our future buildings but more importantly to the mauri (life essence) of Ngāti Kurauia.

Details of the meeting are outlined in Appendix 7 of the Section 32 Report¹.

The outcomes of the meeting were as follows:

It was agreed that:

- in future Council would engage with Ngāti Kurauia in person, through meetings rather than through letters, at the formulation of a plan change.

¹ Taupo District Council (2017) Plan Change 34 - Flood Hazard. Section 32 Report

- the development of an extreme wave activity section of the district plan will be undertaken through the district plan review.
- the district plan permits, within some zones, subject to relevant performance standards, fill to be placed on land to raise it above the flood level.
- the issue of loss of Ngāti Kurauia ancestral land and access to their occupation and cultural sites due to the Township Act 1897, flooding from the development of the Tongariro Power Scheme in 1973 and the raising of the lake levels in 1941 and the 1950s cannot be directly addressed by Taupo District Council through this plan change.
- the issues raised in Ngāti Kurauia's submission can be more effectively addressed through the development of the District Plan review. Regular meetings, working together and the development, by Ngāti Kurauia of their hapu management plan will help inform the development of the District Plan review.
- the District Plan Team will meet with Ngāti Kurauia regularly starting in February 2019 to establish how in Ngāti Kurauia and Council can work together during the District Plan review.

As a result of this meeting it has been agreed that this plan change is not an effective mechanism to address the issues raised by Ngāti Kurauia's submission. Instead Ngāti Kurauia and Council will work together through the District Plan review to address these issues.

Recommendations and reasons

1. That the plan change is not amended and that Ngāti Kurauia and Council work together through the District Plan review to address these issues.