

## STAFF REPORT

**TO:** Environment & Planning Committee

**FROM:** Steve Markham, Policy Manager

**REFERENCE:** R420

**SUBJECT:** **RESOURCE POLICY PROGRAMME UPDATE - EP09/12/02 -**  
Report prepared for meeting of 11 December 2009

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### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

This report provides an updated resource policy programme description and briefing on the current and likely situation with present and programmed projects and recommends a review of priorities under current budget.

### 2. BACKGROUND

In July 2009 the Committee last considered the resource policy programme (EP 09/07/12 refers). Since July 2009 the following key achievements with Committee approval have taken place:

- Live plan appeals reduced by five relating to Change 8 (eastern Golden Bay)
- Richmond West DA Change 10 decisions notified; eight appeals received
- Proposed Part IV (Rivers & Lakes) adopted for notification as package of variations and a change in early 2010
- Plan Change 16 on cultural heritage sites management notified for submissions
- Water allocation reviews Moutere and Motueka catchments heard, decided and to be notified 19 December
- Draft plan change for Richmond east development area to be considered (this meeting)
- South Takaka urban development : draft structure plan to be considered (this meeting)

In July the Committee resolved to indicate projects for eastern Golden Bay – Pohara to Tata, and the rural policy review, as less than Brightwater and Wakefield development reviews, in their priority 1 status.

As in July the outlook for 2010 and beyond is for further progress on a large number of priority 1 projects. These are shown in the updated resource policy programme appended to this report.

### **3. PROJECTS FOR PRIORITY REVIEW**

Recent staff and impending staff changes mean that we will struggle to effectively meet our priority 1 targets. We are currently seeking to cover gaps with a contract planner and the LTCCP provides from 2010/11 year, for an additional planner for the resource policy section. However projected staff time budgets within the resource policy section, and the availability of key staff and related investigations work in other departments, mean that we should review the status of projects with a view to setting a more realistic and achievable programme.

Strategic development projects, with priority 1 commitments from previous Council decisions, for which there are current capacity issues, are:

- Brightwater and Wakefield projects (No.s 18, 19); where in July a resolution sought priority action. These are yet to commence, as available staff are committed to other live projects.
- Golden Bay rural landscape and settlement work (No. 10) where a contractual commitment applies to progressing to a plan change by end 2009 for at least coastal landscape matters, and
- Marahau to Kina (No. 39) as the same type of project for end 2010. These timeframes are not going to be achieved.
- Eastern Golden Bay for the Pohara – Tata urban area (No. 9) where the drivers are Port Tarakohe development and infrastructure links, and dealing with lifestyle development demand in a visible and sensitive coastal landscape more strategically than historical planning decisions from the 1990s. This work is linked with the landscape aspects of project 10.

All these projects have strategic drivers that are in general an expected need for urban development space, or dealing with the risk of inappropriate development in high-valued locations. The difficulties with pursuing these projects are the cumulative demand from live policy projects and to an extent, on other departmental services especially the network asset managers. The Richmond West Change 10 project has absorbed substantial resources and time from late 2008 to the present, and appeals resolution will continue this demand. In relation to projects 10 and 39, a renegotiated delivery process is to be pursued with the party with whom the Council has an agreement (incidental to appeal resolution).

Other longstanding priority work includes the rural policy review, with work having been deferred for nearly four years pending the operative plan. Currently with staff committed in urban strategic work, there is limited capacity to at least scope this project for some months. For this reason this was signalled as less than priority 1 in July. However, it is suggested that a re-scope can be brought to the Committee for approval in 2010.

The updated resource policy programme contains “new” projects (no.s 14 – 16) that are linked to and essential in completing related projects, and one for which from urban development review work, is an outstanding need.

These are:

- Natural hazard risk reviews for active fault systems and slope instability affecting Richmond and St Arnaud. The updated geological investigations have been waiting to be included in plan changes for some years; and are currently under way for early 2010 and are linked to the Richmond East (project 5)
- A targeted review of key land disturbance issues including urban catchment earthworks management and the appropriateness of controlled earthworks affecting rural catchments where lowland receiving environments are high value. This review is considered as urgent from managers across the department and is linked with a further review of asset engineering standards. As with the hazards work, there is capacity within the current team to make efficient progress with these areas without impacting on our capacity to progress the urban development planning work, and adding value to urban development outcomes on the way.

Note that it is a staff view that projects 9, 18, 19, 22, and 28 be relegated to priority 2 which means they will not commence until the beginning of 2011 at the earliest dependent on completion of priority 1 projects.

Principles applied in previous priority-setting situations by the Committee are:

1. Follow through on current projects to completion in terms of TRMP outputs
2. Do not start uncommitted projects until resource constraints allow it
3. Consider additional budgetary provision on the merits.

#### 4. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. **note** the capacity limitations and budgetary commitments for 2010; and
2. **review** or **confirm** the priority status of projects in the updated programme.

Steve Markham  
**Policy Manager**

**APPENDIX 1:  
RESOURCE POLICY WORK PROGRAMME**

<b>2010 AND BEYOND RESOURCE POLICY PROGRAMME AS AT 1 DECEMBER 2009</b>					
<b>Project No</b>	<b>Priority No.</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Process Steps and Current Situation</b>	<b>Staff</b>	<b>Next Steps</b>
1.	1	Live appeals resolution	<b>Steps</b> Resolution by consent order to EC, hearing by EC or withdrawal, of live appeals (13): Archaeological sites (3); Richmond south (1); Change 8 (1); Change 10 (8)	SM, SL, NJ, MH	Mediation, Court hearings or consideration of consent memoranda.
2.	1	Richmond west development plan - Change 10	<b>Steps</b> Planning investigations and structure planning to support plan change; notified variations (now Change 10); Submissions, hearings, decisions and appeals. <b>Situation</b> Hearings October 2008, February, March 2009; decisions notified 26 September 2009; 8 appeals received. Variation 1 Change 10 to be notified 19 December 2009.	SM, MH, DL, NJ, RS	Appeals resolution
3.	1	Richmond South development plan	Appeals resolution from Change 5: EC hearing for one live appeal.	MH, SM, DL, SL	December 2009 for EC hearing.
4.	1	Richmond CBD/central area development plan	<b>Steps</b> Joint council project with three stages inquiring into Nelson-Richmond urban intensification: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. feasibility and pathways</li> <li>2. locations and actions</li> <li>3. Implementation.</li> </ol> <b>Situation</b> Approved as joint project February 2007. Stage 1 pathways report considered	RB, SM, with MW, RP NCC	Implementation pathways reporting; including a review of urban design framework for intensification in early 2010

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			12 September 2007. Joint council launch November 2007. Implementation programme across stages 2 and 3 in development (recommended 16 July 2009 to include review of residential intensification regimes).		
5.	1	Richmond east development plan	<b>Steps</b> Report on services and intensification options; draft plan change; consultation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals. <b>Situation</b> Joint council project for draft structure plan for Nelson south – Richmond East approved February 2007. Project report considered 12 September 2007. Draft structure plan and services implementation programme community feedback April – May 2008, review and policy analysis of issues August 2008; further policy directions July 2009.	MH, SM, DL	Policy report 11 December 2009 with draft change ?20 for consultation in early 2010.
6.	1	Mapua-Ruby Bay development:	<b>Steps</b> Reporting on situation re services, and scope for rezoning; plan changes and infrastructure provision in LTCCP <b>Situation</b> Reports to EPC June 2006, March 2007, and draft structure plan community feedback March - April 2008. Policy issues reported June 2008, progress updates December 2008, June 2009.	RB, DL, JC, EV, RS	Revised structure planning and coastal hazard risk assessment; waterfront development; reserves. Draft change to come in early 2010.
7.	1	Change 8 (Variation 57) Golden Bay East settlement strategy.	<b>Steps</b> Urban settlement options reporting to formulate an EGB preferred settlement pattern; community feedback; plan change; follow up structure	LM, etc.	Resolution of appeal by consent or EC hearing.

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			planning for preferred development locations; Further consultation and plan changes – see projects following. <b>Situation</b> One live appeal from Change 8. .		
8.	1	Golden Bay East settlement strategy: Takaka and south Takaka Refer EP07-09-06 for description	<b>Steps</b> Takaka rezoning to avoid flood risk exposure of further land; and south Takaka (Park Avenue) structure planning to provide for first stages of concept additional township <b>Situation</b> Project priority confirmed May 2008 but paused pending appeals resolution Change 8. Takaka – south Takaka investigations and structure planning current; draft SP for 11 December EPC	LM etc.	Further development of SP, draft plan change for south Takaka. Takaka floodplain modelling to proceed early 2010.
9.	2	Golden Bay East settlement strategy: Pohara-Tarakohe-Ligar-Tata Refer EP07-09-06 for description	<b>Steps</b> Investigations and structure planning to provide for shape and extent of settlement development in the area integrated with rural land management (non-settlement protection) <b>Situation</b> Project priority confirmed May 2008 but paused pending appeals resolution Variation 57	LM etc.	Investigations and draft structure plan; plan change
10.	1	Golden Bay West strategic planning Refer EP07-12-04 for description	<b>Steps</b> Strategic issues investigations; Issues and options paper; consultative process leading to TRMP changes 2008 onwards. This work is to include the addressing of rural land management (non-settlement values and their protection) in Golden Bay (Kahurangi Point to Separation Point) integrated with GB East settlement and rural policy review projects.	DH, NJ, DL	Issues and options paper early in 2010.

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			<p><b>Situation</b> Project commenced December 2007; investigations and targeted stakeholder engagement early 2008; preparatory to issues and options discussion paper and community feedback. Work remains paused while Richmond west has proceeded.</p>		
11.	1	Motueka west & central development plan Refer EP08-03-04 for description	<p><b>Steps</b> Update on services; Demand estimates for urban land (business; residential); Structure plan options; Liaison with iwi landowners; Plan change and services programming.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Investigations for demand estimations and outline services plan to support concept structure plan. Liaison with iwi landowners. Report on demand and supply information and planning process March 2008; draft structure plan reported November 2008; community consultation February – April 2009. Issues reporting July 2009 with review of draft structure plan. Motueka transportation study commenced May 2009.</p>	RB, DL, JC, SM, GC	Consider findings of Motueka Transportation Study early 2010, review draft SP followed by draft plan change.
12.	1	Change 14 frost protection devices	<p><b>Steps</b> Planning investigations; notified change; Submissions, hearing and decisions</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Change notified 9 May 2009; submissions received; SAR prepared</p>	NJ	Hearing to schedule early 2010

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13.	1	Change 16 cultural heritage sites management	<p><b>Steps</b> Planning investigations; notified change; Submissions, hearing and decisions</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Change notified 26 September 2009; submissions close 11 Jan 2010</p>	SL	Further submissions; reporting and hearing 2010
14.	1	Active faults hazard area review - Change ?21	<p><b>Steps</b> Investigations into active fault systems; review of plan provisions; plan change.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Updated mapping and rupture hazard advice received 2006, 2008. updating needed in conjunction with draft change ?20. Draft change in preparation.</p>	SM, NJ	Release draft change in conjunction with REDA draft change ?20
15.	1	Slope instability risk area review at Richmond – Change ?22	<p><b>Steps</b> Investigation into current information on Richmond east slope instability hazard risk; review of plan provisions; plan change.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Updated mapping and hazard risk advice received 2009. Updating needed in conjunction with draft change ?20. Draft change in preparation.</p>	SM, NJ	Release draft change in conjunction with REDA draft change ?20
16.	1	Land disturbance area 1 - targetted review	<p><b>Steps</b> Investigation into current issues with sediment and erosion risks in targetted situations eg. urban earthworks. Review of plan provisions; plan change.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Priority programme of land disturbance</p>	MAB, LV, DS, WG, TJ, LP	Project scope and process to be agreed.



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			management measures derived from workshops on erosion and sediment control in late 2009. project scoping for regulatory review to commence.		
17.	1	TRMP land use administration issues requiring review.	<b>Steps</b> Series of reports on specific issues arising from administration; Plan change processes for priority issues. <b>Situation</b> Reported on issues and priorities February 2007. Technical amendments Change 18 to come.	RB; NJ and team	Change 18 to be adopted and notified early 2010. Further assessment of priority issues.
18.	2	Brightwater strategic development planning Refer EP07-12-04 for description	<b>Steps</b> Review of urban development strategy for Brightwater: issues paper; structure planning; TRMP change process	RB, MB and others	Investigations report and issues paper in 2009
19.	2	Wakefield strategic development planning Refer EP07-12-04 for description	<b>Steps</b> Review of urban development strategy for Wakefield: investigations; issues paper; structure planning; TRMP change process	RB, MB, DL and others	Investigations report and issues paper in 2009
20.	1	Change 4 (Variation 44) transport and ESP	<b>Steps</b> Change notified; review of issues in light of Richmond planning, ESP review and Project Stormwater; further advice; further change; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals. <b>Situation</b> Reporting on issues and options for ESC, EPC. Hearing of submissions on Change 4 deferred pending resolution of content in Plan and reviewed Engineering Standards and Policies.	NJ, LM, DL, GC	Advice on issues and options and plan change.
21.	1	Variations 25/33 (Change 3)	<b>Steps</b>	LV, SM	Reporting; and hearing

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		CE land disturbance	Hearings; decisions; appeals. <b>Situation</b> Reporting on submissions.		of submissions.
22.	2	Rural futures: rural policy review	<b>Steps</b> Investigations and reporting on priority rural policy issues arising from Rural Futures feedback with updated situation assessment; TRMP change processes. <b>Situation</b> Review of issues paused since 2006; project rescoping with updated situation assessment required.	MH, MAB, SL, AB, SM and others	Briefing on situation update and rescope of project to run from early 2010.
23.	1	Indigenous biodiversity management and action plan for advocacy (Native Habitats Tasman)	<b>Steps</b> Situation report; possible review of TNAES; SNA investigation; possible plan change. <b>Situation</b> Situation reports to EPC May, June 2007 on biodiversity management and SNA investigation agreement. Reporting to EPC December 2007. Commencement of SNA investigation tasks as agreed. Launch of Tasman Native Habitats project early 2008. Ongoing liaison in priority area of district with reporting and landowner assistance actions. Governance through oversight group.	LV, SM, external stakeholders	Ongoing advocacy with landowners across priority parts of district. Review in 2013 of biodiversity management achievements, risks and responses.
	1	Operative in part, Parts III (excluding aquaculture), V and VI	<b>Steps</b> Approve in part the three parts and update text and maps for operative in part status	SM, NJ, MAB	Approval collation to EPC by early 2010
24.	1	Waimea estuary and catchments integrated	<b>Steps</b> Stocktake of resource values, issues; review of	NJ, TJ, RS, SM, BW	Further investigations and community events

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		management strategy Refer EP07-12-04; EP09/10/2 for description	options; formulation of new actions for integration into informal strategy <b>Situation</b> Approval to commence project December 2007. Inception meeting July 2008 with key stakeholders. Project management proposal to July, October 2009 meetings. Project jointly with NCC launched late November 2009.	with MW, PS of NCC	through 2010. Estuary vulnerability assessment by April 2010.
25.	1	TRMP Part IV: Rivers and Lakes	<b>Steps</b> Draft policy paper for consultation; policy decisions; consultation with draft Part IV; TRMP variations notified; submissions; decisions; appeals. <b>Situation</b> Briefings on issues and draft policy options on 19 July and 23 August 2006; further drafting of regulatory means of implementing preferred policy options in paper ongoing through 2007 and into 2008 (EP08/12/12). Reporting on issues EP09/04/13; EP09/06/09. Draft part consultation July – September 2009. Revised draft adopted October 2009 EP 09/10/10.	MAB, EV, TJ, PD, AB, RS	Package of Change 17 and Variations 67 – 69 to be notified early 2010.
26.	1	Deep Moutere groundwater allocation review and waiting lists - Change 12 & Variation 65	<b>Steps</b> Resource statement and issues and options paper, consult with users; draft variation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals <b>Situation</b> Reported to EPC on situation following investigations August 2006; reported 12 July 2007 on issues and preferred option; 23 August 2007 draft variation adopted for notification subject to staff management of waiting lists.	MAB, JT, Commissioner AF.	Appeals.

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			Further reporting April 2008. Variation 65 (includes Change 12) notified 26 July 2008; hearing of submissions September 2009. Commissioner report and recommendations adopted November 2009. Decisions to be notified 19 December 2009.		
27.	1	Motueka water allocation review – Change 13 and Variation 66	<p><b>Steps</b> Review of CPZ allocation limit following modelling results; plan variation process.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Variation preparation and report to EPC in October 2008. Variation 66/Change 13 notified 13 December 2008; Hearing of submissions September 2009. Commissioner report and recommendations adopted November 2009. Decisions to be notified 19 December 2009.</p>	MAB, JT	Appeals.
28.	2	Richmond air quality (PM <sub>10</sub> ) management	<p><b>Steps</b> Variation 51 in place in 2007 with PM<sub>10</sub> emission management measures in Richmond airshed, including modelling investigations, education and funding methods for delivery.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Change completed; advocacy and investigations actions under way.</p>	MAB, TJ	Model building using data from additional sites to develop through 2010 – 11. Review of situation once model in place.
29.	1	Project Stormwater	<p><b>Steps</b> Review of across-council stormwater management outcomes; systems and process issues; tasks; and review of planning documents and arrangements and other actions as required.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Review of outcomes for stormwater</p>	SL, LM, SE, consents, assets, community services staff	Confirmation of priority workstreams with management and funding to be confirmed early 2010.

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			management, systems and processes 2006 – 2009. Briefing to managers May 2009. Priority workstreams to be confirmed.		
30.	1	Advice on policy issues raised by central government or other agencies: legislation, policy statements, management plans, water conservation order processes	Reporting ongoing through 2009/2010 and beyond	Policy team, Manager and others	Responses as required.
31.	1	Fate of Tasman Regional Policy Statement	<p><b>Steps</b> Review content and consistency of TRMP with TRPS; assess options of retaining separate TRPS or combining with TRMP and process involved; review of essential TRPS content for merging with TRMP (Maori policy issues of significance); process management.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Support for Tasman iwi management plan to provide basis for review of Maori policy issues.</p>	SM and team	Report on options 2010.
32.	2	Riparian land management strategy	Situation report; possible review of RLMS; plan change.	LV et al.	Situation report.
33.	2	Natural hazards strategic policy review	<p><b>Steps</b> Review of District approach: Specific investigations into floodplain, coastal, ground instability hazard risks; review of policy issues and options; TRMP change processes.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Specific investigations under way for hazards risk management at Mapua-Ruby Bay, Takaka, Motueka, and Richmond under separate projects. Review will integrate approaches.</p>	NJ, EV, GS, PD, SM	Project scope and process to be briefed.

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34.	2	Coastal craft issues (incl. Abel Tasman coastline)	<p><b>Steps</b> Advice on craft management under foreshore reserve MP and TRMP.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Policy advice on managing effects of coastal craft following establishment of foreshore reserve management plan.</p>	NJ	Policy advice to Council 2010.
35.	2	Upper Motueka water allocation development	<p><b>Steps</b> Complete investigations; define issues and options; consult with stakeholders; draft variation; notification; submissions; decisions; appeals.</p> <p><b>Situation</b> Investigations reported 28 August 2006.</p>	MAB, JT	Reporting to EPC in 2010.
36.	2	Takaka catchment water management	<p><b>Steps</b> Issues and options with resource statement; TRMP change process</p>	MAB, JT, GS	Resource investigations summary and issues paper in 2010
37.	3	Onsite wastewater management:	<p><b>Steps</b> Review of district approach: Risk assessment of settlement pattern re domestic wastewater contamination; Investigations with policy review; TRMP change process</p>	MAB, DL, JB	Issues and options paper for community in 2010
38.	3	Tasman (village) strategic development review Refer EP07-12-04 for description	<p><b>Steps</b> Investigations; issues paper; structure plan for Tasman; TRMP change process</p>		Investigations report and issues paper in 2011
39.	3	Marahau to Kina strategic development review Refer EP08-04-13 for description	<p><b>Steps</b> Investigations; issues paper, settlement and rural land management issues and options; TRMP change process.</p>		Investigations report and issues paper in 2010
40.	3	Plan implementation monitoring, evaluation and	<p><b>Steps</b> RMA requires five yearly reporting on operative</p>	SM and team	2010 and ongoing

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		reporting system development:	plans: Database and monitoring process development in conjunction with EMRS and website reporting. System setup required.		