



Minutes

Northland Local Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: 7 March 2023

Time: 9:30am - 2:00pm

Venue: Houhora Fire Station

Present:

Gordon Lambeth	LAC Chair
Mita Harris	LAC Deputy Chair
Rolien Elliot	LAC Member
Colin (Toss) Kitchen	LAC Member

In Attendance:

Ron Devlin	Region Manager, Te Hiku
Wipari Henwood	District Manager, Northland
Mitchell Brown	Community Risk Manager, Northland
Denis Cooper	Group Manager, Northland
Lucy Chamberlain	National Manager, Local Advisory Committees
Christine Watson	Senior Advisor, Local Advisory Committees

Guests:

Piki Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive, Kaupapa Māori and Cultural Communities
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Apologies:

Sarah Hoyle	LAC Member
Karen Joyce-Paki	LAC Member

Welcome

The Chief Fire Officer of the Houhora Brigade welcomed the Local Advisory Committee (the Committee) to Houhora Fire Station and gave an overview of the Brigade.

Minutes

The minutes of the Committee's meeting on 14 October 2022 were confirmed as a correct record.

Region Manager update

The Region Manager, Te Hiku, provided the Committee with an update on recent events in Te Tai Tokerau and their focus on nurturing relationships with mayors elected in October 2022, drafting the region's 10 Year Plan, and on work programmes resulting from the Cyclone Gabrielle response.

The Te Hiku Region Leadership Team and the National LAC Team have begun preparations for the establishment of the Auckland LAC, a Committee which will cover a large population area and very diverse communities.

District update

District Manager, Northland, updated the Committee on the District Team's recent engagement, incidents, and work on community programmes. He noted his appreciation for LAC attendance and involvement in community events such as Waitangi Day Commemorations, Field Days and A&P Shows.

While wildfire incidents during the fire season have been fewer than usual, the District Team has been busy responding to severe weather and flood events. These events bring into sharp focus the need for community response plans and the value of local knowledge. The District Manager noted excellent agency collaboration during the floods, exemplified by instances such as the flooding of Ngunguru Fire Station, when nearby St John opened its station for Fire and Emergency use.

Staff from the Northland District were deployed to Hawke's Bay following Cyclone Gabrielle to support Fire and Emergency's work there. This not only provided support but was also a useful learning opportunity for team members.

Memorandums of Understanding have been signed with Whangarei and Bay of Islands Airports, with the District Team continuing to support the work of the Channel Terminal Services.

Northland Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) also advised that the Youth in Emergency Services (YES) Programme will not be held in 2023.

LAC members would like to see the District work on more mana enhancing agreements with iwi/hapū. The District Manager explained the team's strategy to complete two agreements as a first step, to ensure that they are executed well and that relationships are sustainably established. Iwi capacity to meet and work with Fire and Emergency is also a factor in the pace of this work.

Northland District Plan

LAC members reviewed the draft District Plan to provide feedback and support to the District Team in the development stage of the plan. The Fire and Emergency New Zealand Act (2017) requires LACs to provide advice to Fire and Emergency on its progress in relation to its local plans and District Plans are a key element of this.

Community engagement

In October 2022, LAC members attended the Rite Kia Rite Te Tai Tokerau Volunteer Leadership Hui in Kerikeri, providing Fire and Emergency volunteer leaders with an overview of the LAC role and current work in Northland. This meeting and the opening of Cavalli Fire Station in Matauri Bay in November 2022 provided opportunities for members to talk more informally with volunteers.

A member was approached by Te Kupenga Rangatira 'The Safety Net', a business and iwi group campaigning for better response capability at Kaitiāia airport, now that Air New Zealand no longer flies there, and services have been reduced. The District Team will follow up with the group about their concerns.

Members attended Field Days and A&P Shows in November and December 2022, and February 2023, as well as Waitangi Day commemorations at Waitangi, alongside the District Team.

The Deputy Chair will meet with Utakura 7 Incorporation in Hōreke again in March 2023. Fire and Emergency was involved in a whānau (family) day in December 2022, in anticipation of risk reduction work to be carried out in the community.

The District Team will liaise with Northland Rotary Clubs, offering an LAC member and a member of the District Team an opportunity to speak at Rotary meetings about how the Committee works in the community to advise and assist Fire and Emergency.

An agenda slot will also be arranged for the LAC to provide an introduction at the Local Government New Zealand Zone 1 meeting in Whangarei, on 27 March 2023.

National LAC Team update

The Committee received an update on the LAC appointment process for Northland. Fire and Emergency's Board has approved the appointment of 19 new members across six of the seven current LACs, and announcements will be made in coming weeks once those appointments have been confirmed.

New members have also been appointed to the Board of Fire and Emergency, with Amit Prasad appointed in September 2022, and Hon Ruth Dyson and Belinda Clark joining the Board in December 2022.

LAC Workplan 2023-24

The Committee reviewed a new LAC Workplan template that will provide both members and Fire and Emergency with an overview of the LAC's goals and aims, engagement priorities and approach for the 2023-24 year, as well as intended collaboration with the District Team and success measures. The Workplan will be completed at the LAC's quarter one meeting.

Updates to the Board

The Committee agreed on content to be included in its quarterly report to the Board.

The meeting closed at 2:00pm, with a karakia whakamutunga.

Action Log

#	Date	Action	Responsible	Due	Status
1.	19 Aug 2022	Connect with the Freemasons to gauge interest in engagement with the LAC.	Gordon Lambeth	May 2023	In progress
2.	19 Aug 2022	Raise engagement and speaking opportunities for LAC and District Team with local Rotary Clubs.	Community Risk Manager	May 2023	In progress
3.	7 Mar 2023	Contact CDEM re. YES Programme.	District Manager	Apr 2023	Complete
4.	7 Mar 2023	Arrange agenda slot for the LAC to provide an introduction at the Local Government New Zealand Zone 1 meeting in Whangarei, on 27 March.	District Manager	Mar 2023	In progress
5.	7 Mar 2023	Provide Workplan from the District Plan, once drafted, to the LAC for review.	Community Risk Manager	Apr 2023	In progress
6.	7 Mar 2023	Arrange a formal presentation for the LAC to Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee.	Mita Harris	May 2023	In progress
7.	7 Mar 2023	Connect the District Team with the Northland Intersectoral Forum.	Rolien Elliot	May 2023	In progress
8.	7 Mar 2023	Connect the District Team with Te Kupenga Rangatira the Safety Net – re. Kaitia airport concerns and opportunities.	Colin Kitchen	May 2023	In progress