



Minutes

Northland Local Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: 22 May 2023

Time: 8:30am - 3:00pm

Venue: Mōkau Marae, Ōakura

Present:

Gordon Lambeth	LAC Chair
Mita Harris	LAC Deputy Chair
Karen Joyce-Paki	LAC Member
Sheila Taylor	LAC Member
Kate Alexander	LAC Member
Isopo Samu	LAC Member
Rolien Elliot	LAC Member
Sarah Hoyle	LAC Member
Kubi Witten-Hannah	LAC Member

In Attendance:

Ron Devlin	Region Manager, Te Hiku
Wipari Henwood	District Manager, Northland
Mitchell Brown	Community Risk Manager, Northland
Albert Cash	Pou Takawaenga Māori, Te Hiku
Lucy Chamberlain	National Manager, Local Advisory Committees
Cullum Peni-Wesche	Senior Advisor, Local Advisory Committees

Apologies:

Colin (Toss) Kitchen	LAC Member
Sarah Benikowsky	LAC Member
JJ Ripikoi	LAC Member
Piki Thomas	Deputy Chief Executive, Kaupapa Māori and Cultural Communities
Christine Watson	Senior Advisor, Local Advisory Committees

Pōwhiri

The Northland Local Advisory Committee (LAC) and Fire and Emergency staff were welcomed to Mōkau marae with a pōwhiri, followed by hongī and harirū.

Welcome / Whanaungatanga

The Chair opened the meeting with a karakia tīmatanga and a welcome to attendees and newly appointed members.

A whanaungatanga session was held for attendees to introduce themselves.

Region Manager's welcome

The Region Manager welcomed newly appointed Committee members and reflected on his time working with the Northland LAC. He noted that members serve as a conduit for Fire and Emergency to connect with communities to understand their concerns and priorities across Northland.

The Region Manager provided an overview on Fire and Emergency's Te Hiku Region and its governance structure, outlining the region's direction in terms of planning, property, personnel, and fleet. There are four District Managers across the region, with each also holding additional portfolios to progress the region's strategic interests.

Minutes

The minutes from the Committee's meeting on 7 March 2023 were confirmed.

Update from the LAC Chair and Deputy Chair

The Chair and Deputy Chair provided an overview of the Northland LAC and reflected on the Committee's work and achievements from its first term. The Deputy Chair noted the difficulties associated with community engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic and highlighted the positive relationship between the Northland District team and the LAC.

Acknowledgement of retiring members

The Deputy Chair acknowledged and thanked retiring Committee members for their expertise and dedication to the LAC for the past three years. The Deputy Chair also acknowledged the Chair, who also retires at the end of this term, for his leadership and direction to help shape the Northland LAC during its first term.

District update

The District Manager provided an overview of the Northland District profile for new LAC members, and an update on the District team's activity over the past quarter.

Marae fire safety surveys continue to be a key community risk management initiative, with upcoming training for Fire and Emergency personnel to install Google Nest alarms in late May 2023. Committee members were invited to attend the training days and join future marae visits to undertake community engagement.

The District Manager holds the region's volunteerism portfolio and is working with the Community Risk Manager to scope volunteer roles across the 'four Rs' beyond response, where volunteer firefighters mostly work. There is an opportunity to focus on risk reduction roles, and consider what local volunteer brigade needs are, and what can be done to support risk reduction activities such as home fire safety visits.

LAC members received an updated on the draft District Plan, where the District Manager highlighted how the Committee provided feedback at their last meeting.

Personnel from the District have been deployed within a Fire and Emergency Deployment Team to Canada, as a part of the international effort to combat wildfires.

The District Manager will also deliver a presentation at the Australian Fire Authorities Council - National Council for Fire and Emergency Services Conference in August 2023, on the barriers to volunteerism.

Community engagement

An LAC member attended the Kaipara Hapū Advisory Committee hui in May 2023 where attendees shared lessons learnt from the recent Cyclone Gabrielle response. Communications infrastructure across Northland remains a barrier for rural and remote communities to stay connected in an emergency.

Another member attended the Climate Adaptation Te Tai Tokerau forum in March and gave local councils, agencies, and iwi representatives an overview of the LAC role and the Committee's work in Northland.

Committee members were also invited to attend a hui with Te Huinga, a hapū collective group, in late May 2023.

National LAC team update

The National LAC team updated the Committee on the Board's decision to stand-up nine additional LACs across New Zealand, noting that future LACs will be stood up from January 2024. The team also provided an update on the fees schedule for LAC members.

The LAC Chairs' Forum will be hosted in Wellington on 28 June 2023, where LAC Chairs will connect with each other, the Fire and Emergency Board, and the Executive Leadership Team. Following the forum, Chairs will receive strategic direction from the Board for the coming year, to help shape the LAC's work and engagement plans.

Updates to the Board

The Committee discussed and agreed the content for their quarterly update to the Board.

Action Log

#	Date	Action	Responsible	Due	Status
1.	7 Mar 2023	Arrange a formal presentation for the LAC to Te Tai Tokerau Māori Advisory Committee.	Chair	May 2023	In progress
2.	7 Mar 2023	Connect the District team with the Northland Intersectoral Forum.	Sarah Hoyle	May 2023	In progress
3.	7 Mar 2023	Connect the District team with Te Kupenga Rangatira The Safety Net – regarding Kaitaia airport concerns and opportunities.	Chair	May 2023	In progress
4.	22 May 2023	Provide information on Marae Fire Safety training to the LAC.	Community Risk Manager	May 2023	Complete
5.	22 May 2023	Recirculate the engagement plan to the LAC.	National LAC team	August 2023	Complete
6.	22 May 2023	Deliver a presentation on technology at the Q1 LAC meeting.	District Manger	August 2023	In progress