



Minutes

Northland Local Advisory Committee Meeting

Date: 25 February 2022

Time: 9:30am-1:30pm

Venue: Virtual meeting – via MS Teams

Present:

Gordon Lambeth	Chair
Mita Harris	Deputy Chair
Sarah Hoyle	Member
Rolien Elliot	Member
Karen Joyce-Paki	Member
Colin (Toss) Kitchen	Member

Apologies:

Ken Rintoul	Member
Mitchell Brown	Community Risk Manager

In Attendance:

Lucy Chamberlain	National Manager, Local Advisory Committees
Ian Futcher	Principal Advisor, Local Advisory Committees
Christine Watson	Senior Advisor, Local Advisory Committees
Wipari Henwood	Area Manager, Muri Whenua
Ron Devlin	Region Manager, Te Hiku
Antonia Butler	Auckland Strategic Advisor
Natalie Morris	Business Operations Manager
Jules Sim	Senior Advisor, Volunteer Leadership Development

The Northland Local Advisory Committee (the Committee) met online due to COVID-19 restrictions, accompanied by members of the Region Leadership Team (RLT).

Minutes

The minutes of the Committee's meeting on 1 November were confirmed as a correct record.

LAC Chairs' Forum

The Chair reported back to the Committee on the LAC Chairs' Forum which was held in three separate online sessions in November, after the planned face-to-face meeting was postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions.

LAC Chairs met to pull together common threads and concerns across LACs and discuss them with Board members. The Chairs also met with the National Manager, Kaupapa Māori and with Fire and Emergency and National Emergency Management Agency Chief Executives, to discuss agency cooperation at a local level.

COVID-19 protocols

Members were provided with an update on Fire and Emergency's COVID-19 Protection Framework and upcoming consultation on protocols relating to the Board and Local Advisory Committees.

District update

The Region Manager thanked members for their work, particularly their engagement in Kaipara, Rāwhiti, Hokianga and the Far North. He also acknowledged the amount of work the new District team has had on its plate recently, with vaccination mandate work in addition to an extremely busy fire season that coincided with the summer holidays.

The District Manager updated the Committee on business and local planning as well as recent incidents and current opportunities and challenges in Te Tai Tokerau. He reported on approaches and lessons from the Ahipara, Waiharara and Waikarā Marae fires and noted that CDEM and Fire and Emergency worked together well on evacuations. Social media was used to positive effect and the Committee noted the value of video updates and explanatory posts provided during these incidents.

Feedback was requested from the Committee on business planning and local planning for Northland and the Te Hiku region. This feedback will be provided via a survey in March.

Community engagement

In spite of some constraints due to COVID-19, LAC members have continued to engage with their communities and with iwi. COVID-19 has created some strong new networks in Northland and there may be opportunities for Fire and Emergency and the LAC to work through these.

A member attended a community meeting in Pipiwai alongside the District team and noted the value of post-incident debriefs for working with communities to increase their resilience. She also felt it was a useful place for LAC members to learn about the needs, values and concerns of communities.

During the last quarter members also engaged with Dargaville Lions Club, with volunteers at Te Kōpuru Fire Station alongside the Community Risk Manager, with DOC and the Kaipara Council, Whakawhiwhi Ora Pai Maori health provider in the Far North, with Summit Forestry about community relationships in Mitimiti, and with CDEM. The opening of Okaihau Fire Station provided an opportunity for kōrero with volunteers.

Iwi and hapū engaged with include Ngāti Whātua o Kaipara, Te Rōroa and Te Uri o Hau. At the Hōreke Treaty of Waitangi commemorations a member engaged with the Hokianga community alongside Fire and Emergency's Pou Takawaenga Māori. The Committee once again agreed that while he is doing a fantastic job with iwi and hapū in Te Tai Tokerau, more Fire and Emergency Māori liaison capacity is needed.

Engagement planning

Engagement planning going forward will focus on strategic relationships, as well as on communities by location. Iwi and hapū are a good example of this relationship approach. Some councils and iwi in Te Tai Tokerau have signed mana-enhancing relationship agreements and this may be something Fire and Emergency could consider. Engagement planned for the next quarter includes that with Ngāti Kuri.

Volunteer Leadership Development

The Committee met with Senior Advisor, Volunteer Leadership Development and discussed the leadership development training and support available to volunteers.

Meeting dates

The Committee set its meeting dates for the first and second quarters of the 2022-23 year, agreeing on 19 August and 14 October.

Board report

The LAC Chair discussed and agreed content for Northland's contribution to the LAC quarterly report to the Board.

The meeting closed at 1:30pm.

Action Log

Date	Action	Responsible	Due	Status/Notes
25 Feb 2022	Complete engagement reports for the last quarter (Q2)	LAC members	Ongoing	Completed
25 Feb 2022	Provide feedback to Wipari on district/local planning – via survey or email	LAC members	1 April 2022	Completed
25 Feb 2022	Schedule a communications session with Snr Regional Comms and Engagement Advisor at May meeting	National LAC Team	April 2022	Completed
25 Feb 2022	Talk with Pou Takawaenga about mana-enhancing relationship agreements with iwi/hapū	District Manager	May 2022	Completed

25 Feb 2022	Send Kaipara District Council mana-enhancing relationship agreement with Te Roroa to Wipari	Karen	February 2022	Completed
25 Feb 2022	Meet to plan engagement planning session for Q4 LAC meeting	LAC Team / Chair / Deputy Chair	April 2022	Scheduled for 1 April
25 Feb 2022	Ask CRM team to provide messages for the LAC	Wipari	May 2022	Provided at May meeting
25 Feb 2022	Talk with the CRM team and Comms Advisor about concise, targeted communications collateral the LAC could use when engaging	Wipari	May 2022	Discussed at May meeting