

Strategy and Policy Committee

Item Circulated under Separate Cover for:

Strategy and Policy Committee Meeting to be held in
Council Chambers, Bay of Plenty Regional Council,
Regional House, 1 Elizabeth Street, Tauranga on:

Thursday, 18 June 2020 commencing at 9.30 am

Fiona McTavish
Chief Executive
15 June 2020



Strategy and Policy Committee

Membership

Chairperson	Cr Paula Thompson
Deputy Chairperson	Cr Stuart Crosby
Members	All Councillors
Quorum	Seven members, consisting of half the number of members
Meeting frequency	Six weekly rotation between committee meetings and strategic sessions

Purpose

- Inform the strategic direction for the Council and implement through approved planning and policy frameworks.
- Identify regional issues resulting from emerging trends, providing thought leadership on matters of regional significance, analysing implications and developing a strategic response.

Role

- Develop, implement and review best practice strategy, policy and planning framework for decision making which enables connection across committees of Council.
- Consider emerging environmental issues and provide advice on the implications for effective resource management within the region.
- Inform Council's strategic direction, including prioritisation and policy responses.
- Enhance awareness and understanding of emerging issues and trends relating to meeting Councils strategic direction.
- Develop Council's position on regionally significant issues and provide guidance on sub-regional and regional strategy matters such as spatial planning and SmartGrowth.
- Approve submissions on matters relating to the committee's areas of responsibility that are not delegated to staff.
- The provision of governance oversight into the development and review of policies, plans, and strategies.

- Approve statutory and non-statutory plans, strategy and policy other than those required to be adopted and consulted on under the Local Government Act 2002 in association with the long-term plan or developed for the purpose of the local governance statement.
- Develop, review and approve Council's position on regional economic development.
- Consider any issues delegated by Council that have a regional, environmental, social or economic focus.
- Develop and review bylaws.
- Delegate to hearings commissioners under section 34A of the Resource Management Act 1991 to exercise the powers, functions duties in relation to any authorities that have been delegated by Council to the committee.

Power to Act

To make all decisions necessary to fulfil the role and scope of the committee subject to the limitations imposed.

The Strategy and Policy Committee is not delegated authority to:

- Approve the Regional Policy Statement and bylaws;
- Review and adopt the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan;
- Develop and review funding, financial, Risk and Assurance Policy and frameworks;
- Approve Council submissions on Maori related matters;
- Develop, approve or review non statutory policy for co-governance partnerships.

Power to Recommend

To Council and/or any standing committee as it deems appropriate.

Public Forum

1. A period of up to 15 minutes may be set aside near the beginning of the meeting to enable members of the public to make statements about any matter on the agenda of that meeting which is open to the public, but excluding any matter on which comment could prejudice any specified statutory process the council is required to follow.
2. The time allowed for each speaker will normally be up to 5 minutes but will be up to the discretion of the chair. A maximum of 3 public participants will be allowed per meeting.
3. No statements by public participants to the Council shall be allowed unless a written, electronic or oral application has been received by the Chief Executive (Governance Team) by 12.00 noon of the working day prior to the meeting and the Chair's approval has subsequently been obtained. The application shall include the following:
 - name of participant;
 - organisation represented (if any);
 - meeting at which they wish to participate; and matter on the agenda to be addressed.
4. Members of the meeting may put questions to any public participants, relevant to the matter being raised through the chair. Any questions must be asked and answered within the time period given to a public participant. The chair shall determine the number of questions.

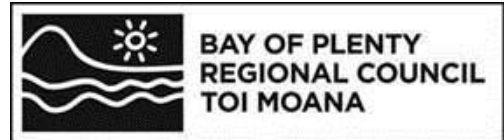
Item Circulated under Separate Cover

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council.

Report

8.2 Recovery Project Update and Confirmation of Direction	11
---	----

Report



Report To: Strategy and Policy Committee

Meeting Date: 18 June 2020

Report From: Namouta Poutasi, General Manager, Strategy & Science

Recovery Project Update and Confirmation of Direction

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to seek confirmation of the direction provided at the Regional Recovery Project Workshop held on 9 June 2020.

Two streams of work have developed under the Regional Recovery Project - a Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC)-specific Recovery Programme focusing on immediate job creation and a Bay of Connections (BOC) led Recovery Strategy that looks across and supports the wider region (including Taupō). This two phase approach was endorsed at the Council meeting on 2 June. Completion of work is anticipated by September 2020 to inform the development of the Long Term Plan 2021-31.

On the 9th June, a workshop was held with the Strategy and Policy Committee to seek direction, insights, expectations and feedback on the two streams of work.

The Committee confirmed the general approach of the Regional Recovery Project and provided the following direction:

BOPRC's role in regional recovery is to seek where it can add value, integrate and demonstrate leadership by doing what it does well and by:

- a) supporting local programmes and democratic local decision-making by and behalf of local communities;
- b) supporting Bay of Connections and Māori Economic Development.
- c) demonstrating value for money by establishing clear outcomes and deliverables to measure success;
- d) working closely with partners, central government agencies, and key stakeholders;
- e) being agile and nimble to pivot and align to central government priorities and the needs of partners, key stakeholders and the community;
- f) building understanding of what is important for our community when prioritising recovery expenditure and efforts;
- g) aligning engagement opportunities with other parts of Council work. Youth

engagement is particularly important.

Recommendations

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

- 1 Receives the report, Recovery Project Update and Confirmation of Direction;**
- 2 Confirms the key directions set out in this report.**

1 Background

COVID-19 has created an unprecedented situation, the impact of which is still being determined. Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) plays several roles in COVID-19 recovery including leading emergency response via its coordination of the Group Emergency Coordination Centre (GECC), and through the Regional Recovery Project.

At the time this paper was prepared it is understood government ministers had not settled on a COVID-19 recovery model, as mentioned in previous briefing sessions we are exploring and supporting regional leadership collaboration opportunities.

The Regional Recovery Project's overall objective is to assist the region to recover from COVID-19 while delivering lasting well-being benefits for the community with an overall outcome of a vibrant connected region that has recovered quickly and well as evidenced by sustained job creation.

Two obvious streams of work have developed within the Regional Recovery Project - a Bay of Connections Recovery Strategy that looks across and supports the wider region (including Taupō) and a BOPRC-specific Recovery Programme. The overarching two stream approach was endorsed at the Council meeting on 2 June. Completion of work is anticipated by September 2020 to inform the development of the Long Term Plan 2021-31.

Regional Recovery Strategy

The BOC-led Recovery Strategy will support iwi leaders, territorial authorities and local economic development agencies with their local projects and priorities, while also engaging with industry, the business sector and communities from a regional point of view. The intention is to provide regional advocacy to central government, build on partners' own recovery plans and aspirations and focus on regional and local strengths. Further the Recovery Strategy will particularly pose and seek to address the region-wide opportunities and challenges approved in the 17 April Council meeting – transition to low carbon economy including reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the Māori economy.

This is seen as a BOC-led strategy under the BOC banner in order to try and achieve regional collaboration – the positioning would be around “connecting the dots” across the region and working with communities to build a vision and picture of a post-COVID-19 future. The Strategy would take the long-term view, working closely with Central Government Agencies.

The proposed approach is consistent with the BOC refresh and direction to develop a transitions plan towards a low carbon economy (endorsed by BOPRC in February 2020). It is envisaged that the Recovery Strategy will eventually “morph” into the Transitions Plan, which will support the region to achieve various low carbon targets by 2030 and 2050

BOPRC Recovery Programme

The BOPRC Recovery Programme is a suite of BOPRC-led initiatives to support recovery post COVID-19. The programme comprises infrastructure, environment, economic and information-led work that is a mix of business as usual and additional work BOPRC that would otherwise do. The programme involves:

- Supporting Māori Economic Development - identifying ways in which Council can add value to Māori economic recovery, such as through its recent approval to provide funding to Toi Kai Rawa for 2020/21.
- Data Support, Dashboard and GIS series to support data needs for councils and EDAs and to develop a regional overview.
- Economic Stimulus Work – submitting projects for Crown Funding, including 30 “Green Projects”, three Crown Infrastructure Projects (CIPS) and transport infrastructure projects.
- Developing a sustainable procurement policy.
- Supporting recovery through BOPRC processes – to look at efficiencies to support process; not to circumvent process.

2 Workshop Discussion

Key themes from the discussion were:

2.1 Being Clear about BOPRC’s Role in Regional Recovery

Local, community-based programmes will be at the heart of recovery. BOPRC’s role is to create an operating environment for success, managing risk and adjusting to a situation that is constantly evolving. Its role is to seek where it can add value and enable and support democratic local decision-making by and behalf of local communities. BOPRC will continue to work closely with central government agencies, local territorial authorities, iwi, key stakeholders and the community as it responds to the implications of COVID-19. BOPRC can provide a whole of region lens to the recovery, to support and advance regional initiatives across the four well-beings, to identify impediments and opportunities, and to advocate for the Bay of Plenty interests. BOPRC can show leadership and add value within its statutory function by doing what it does well through its Civil Defence and Emergency Management role, leading or facilitating stimulus projects particularly environmental, adopting a “can do” attitude towards our regulatory function such as providing consenting navigators and collaborating on the provision of data and analytics and other information. Working with key partners will be integral to this approach.

2.2 Alignment between Bay of Connections and Toi Kai Rawa

BOPRC can further add value by supporting the Bay of Connections and supporting Māori Economic Development through linking with iwi authorities and Toi Kai Rawa in particular. The Bay of Connections leadership group will lead the development of the

Regional Recovery Strategy, partnering with others to deliver with a focus on strengthening the Māori Economy.

2.3 Demonstrating Value for Money

Council is investing significantly in both Bay of Connections and Toi Kai Rawa and will need to measure success through establishing clear outcomes and deliverables to demonstrate value for that investment, noting awareness of the differences and separate viewpoints of ascertaining Maori values and outcomes. The BOPRC Recovery Programme will monitor the projects that the BOPRC are leading and funding.

2.4 Alignment with other Agencies involved in Recovery

Central government stimulus support will be an important lever to drive recovery, building on the “Caring for Communities” work underway to address the social well-being and needs of our community. BOPRC recognises the significant recovery effort underway by many entities across the region and will continue to work closely with central government agencies and contribute to any regional leadership groups where appropriate. BOPRC does not seek to get in the way or to duplicate the efforts of other entities and aims to add value and support through integrating and providing regional perspectives where appropriate.

2.5 The need to be flexible, nimble and adjust to a changing situation

The operating environment continues to evolve rapidly as the response lessens and the focus shifts more to the economic impacts from COVID-19 and the lockdown on our community. The Regional Recovery Project will need to be agile and nimble to pivot and align to central government priorities and the needs of community and industries.

2.6 Engagement

We will seek to build our understanding of what is important for our community when prioritising recovery expenditure and efforts, and also when responding to government priorities and stimulus projects. Youth engagement is particularly important as their voice is key to informing long term recovery. As the proposed communication and engagement plans are being finalised in the near future, officers will work together to ensure alignment between this and other BOPRC planned engagement, particularly early engagement for the Long Term Plan.

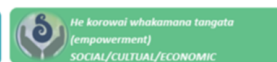
3 Implications for Māori

Partnership with Māori in this work remains a key priority and is considered inherent across this programme. COVID-19 is expected to have pronounced impacts on Māori due in part to the higher proportion employed in hard-it industries and the disproportionate impact on lower skilled occupations. The recovery provides an opportunity to make progress on Māori economic development.

4 Next Steps

Completion of work is anticipated by September 2020 to inform the development of the Long Term Plan 2021-31. An indicative timeline of key steps for both workstreams to September 2020 is set out below.

Timeline



5 Budget Implications

The BOC budget for 2020/21 with changes resulting from the Council Annual Plan meeting on 2 June 2020 is \$1,250,000. The BOPRC recovery programme will be funded from within existing budgets.

We await advice regarding whether we have been successful in securing economic stimulus project funding.

6 Community Outcomes

This project directly contributes to the Resilient Communities/A Vibrant Region Community Outcome in the Council's Long Term Plan 2018-2028.

Annika Lane
Acting Regional Development Manager

for General Manager, Strategy & Science

15 June 2020

