

**Report** 05.492  
**Date** 9 September 2005  
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**Committee** Council  
**Author** Chris Turver, Chairperson Environment Committee and Ian Buchanan,  
Council Chairperson

## **Ara Tahi Meeting - 7 September 2005**

### **1. Purpose**

To report to Council the proceedings of the meeting of Ara Tahi held on 7 September 2005.

### **2. Significance of the decision**

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### **3. Background and Comment**

#### **3.1 Maori constituencies**

Ara Tahi considered the ability of the Council to establish a Maori constituency in the Wellington region and formed the view that the Council should not make a decision on this matter for the 2007 elections.

#### **3.2 Consultation with iwi**

Several officers spoke with Ara Tahi about consulting iwi on the following documents:

- Draft Indigenous Forests Action Plan
- RLTS Review – Strategic Options Consultation Document
- Growth Framework
- State of the Environment Report and Regional Policy Statement

### **3.3 Environment management systems**

Officers advised Ara Tahi of the main points emerging from the Technical Report on Iwi Environment Management Systems. They said the assessment showed that some of the provisions of the Iwi Environment Management Systems chapter of the Regional Policy Statement were not being implemented as well or as consistently as they could be. Officers also noted that both Greater Wellington and iwi were currently involved in reviews that seek to move forward from the current relationship and address concerns identified in the technical report. These include the ongoing Iwi Relationships Review, the Consents Review and Hui-a-Ara Tahi.

## **4. Communication**

A report about establishing Maori constituencies will be submitted to the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee at its meeting on 18 October 2005. This report will relay the view of Ara Tahi as noted in subsection 3.1. No other matter in this report requires further communication.

## **5. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*

Report approved by:

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**Chris Turver**  
Chairperson, Environment Committee

**Ian Buchanan**  
Council Chairperson