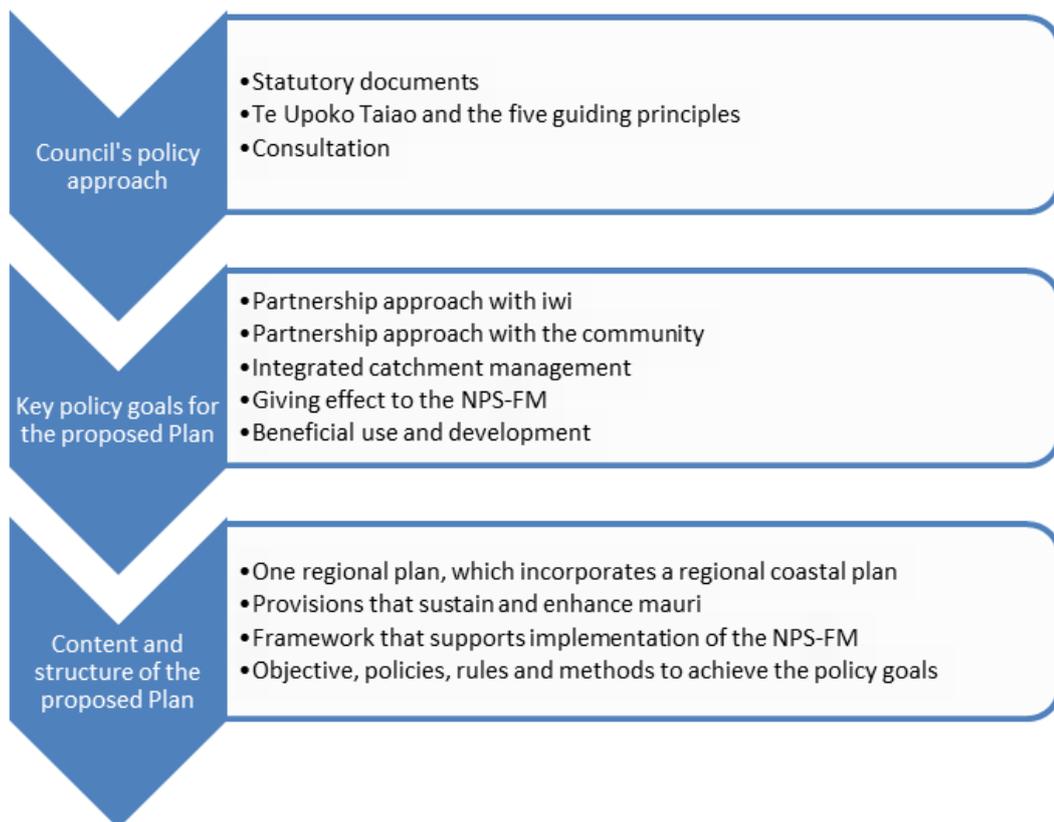


Section 42A Overall policy framework of the proposed Plan – Part A Report Overview

Prepared by Emily Greenberg

1. Background to the s42A Report

1. My s42A officer’s report, Part A: Overall policy framework describes how the overall framework responds to statutory documents and the aspirations of the community and Council’s iwi partners. As shown in the diagram at paragraph 31 of my Part A report (and on the slide above) I identify five policy goals that are then



achieved through the structure and content of the proposed Plan.

2. This Part A s42A report does not address any submissions or make any recommendations on the proposed Plan.

3. The purpose of this report is to provide guidance to the Hearing Panel on the overall policy goals that the proposed Plan seeks to achieve. Because the s42A officers' reports on the proposed Plan are divided by topic and the hearings on submissions will be held over a long period of time, there is a risk that these fundamental policy goals may be 'lost' in the subject-specific detail.
1. The key policy goals described in this report are my interpretation and is based on my experience during the development of the plan as a Council officer, my review of workshop papers and reports, the expert statements of Mr Grace and Mr Smaill, the information in Chapter 1, and the content and structure of the proposed Plan itself.
2. I describe the five policy goals as to:
 1. recognise and provide for Council's partnership approach with iwi through provisions that sustain and enhance mauri
 2. support Council's partnership approach with the community
 3. promote integrated catchment management
 4. give effect to the NPS-FM through progressive implementation and a collaborative community process
 5. recognise the benefits to the Wellington Region derived from the use and development of land and water resources, while managing adverse effects.
3. These goals are achieved through the content and structure of the proposed Plan, which has:
 - a) been developed as one regional plan, which incorporates a regional coastal plan, as a way to better support integrated catchment management
 - b) provisions that sustain and enhance mauri
 - c) a framework that supports the progressive implementation of the NPS-FM, through:
 - i) region-wide provisions that address the two compulsory national values of fresh water
 - ii) region-wide provisions that address mana whenua values of water

- iii) five separate chapters (whaitua chapters) for catchment-specific provisions
- d) objectives that provide a basis for interpreting and informing the overall policy approach of the proposed Plan
- e) policies to implement the objectives and rules and methods to implement the policies, and
- f) extensive schedules of sites with significant values.

2. How the proposed Plan works – Roadmap

4. The Hearing Panel has requested a roadmap illustration of how the provisions in the proposed Plan work in relation to each other. The objectives relate to all policies, rules and methods in the proposed Plan. This is stated in the interpretation provided in Section 2.1.1 of the proposed Plan. In this section it states that objectives ‘*should be read together*’ and are ‘*designed to work together*’. Similar wording in Section 2.1.2 states that policies, ‘*must be read and considered together*’ (see Figure 1 below). This reflects the integrated nature of the proposed Plan.

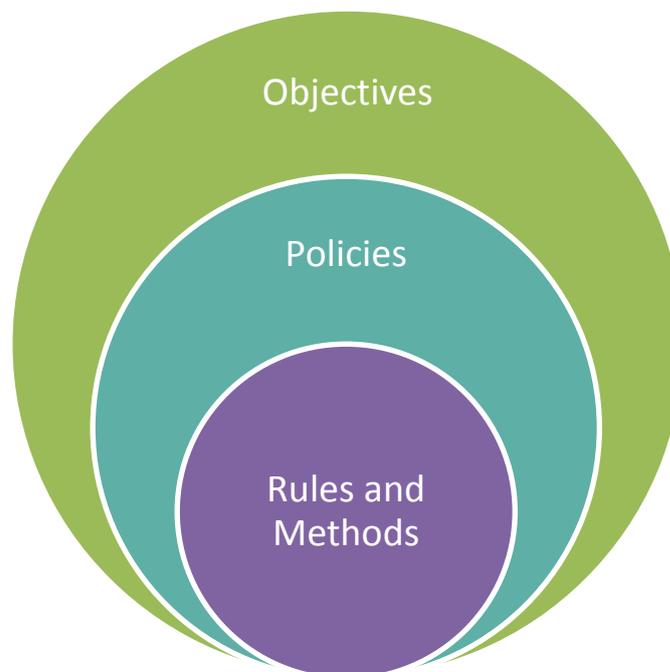


Figure 1. Illustration of how the objectives, policies, rules and methods interact in the proposed Plan.

5. The same relationship applies between the region-wide and whaitua-specific provisions. Section 2.1.5 of the proposed Plan states that the whaitua chapters, *'should not be read in isolation and the region-wide provisions in Chapters 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 still apply* (see Figure 2 below).

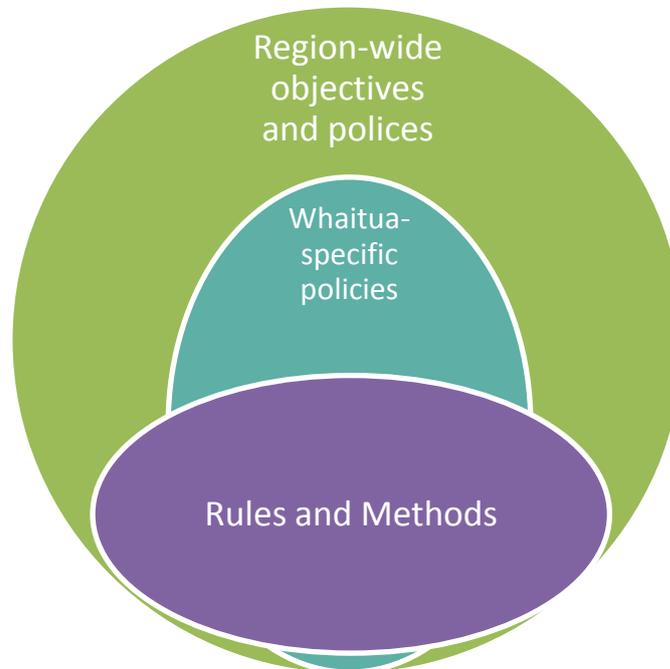


Figure 2. Illustration of how the region-wide and whaitua-specific provisions interact in the proposed Plan.

6. Table 2 at paragraph 63 of my Part A report is another example that shows the integrated nature of the objectives and policies. That table illustrates the objectives that address mauri and the policies, rules and methods that implement these objectives. This table is provided to specifically illustrate the integration of mauri throughout the plan.
7. The proposed Plan is more streamlined than the operative Plans, as discussed at paragraph 144 of my report. This is in part because it is one plan that incorporates a Regional Coastal Plan and also because it does not contain explanations, information on what to be included in applications for resource consent, a list of issues, reasons for adopting the policies and methods, expected environmental results or procedures for monitoring efficiency and effectiveness.
8. The proposed Plan contains five whaitua-specific chapters (Chapters 7-11). Whaitua, or catchment-specific, policies and rules for water quantity are located in the whaitua chapters. The region-wide provisions also apply to the whaitua chapters.

9. The proposed Plan contains several lists of identified sites of significance in Chapter 12 (Schedules). In particular, the identification of extensive and discrete sites with significant mana whenua values is a significant change from the operative Plans. This is described in more detail in the expert statements of Mr Mike Grace, which is attached in Appendix A of my s42A report.

3. Conclusion

10. My view is that the structure and content of the proposed Plan was developed to specifically achieve a set of five policy goals that reflect Council's partnership with iwi and the extensive consultation that occurred during the development of the proposed Plan.
11. This has resulted in a proposed plan that:
 - a. is one regional plan as a way to better support integrated catchment management
 - b. contains a suite of provisions that sustain and enhance mauri,
 - c. provides a framework that supports the progressive implementation of the NPS-FM, and
 - d. includes extensive schedules of sites with significant values.
12. I recommend that this overall framework is considered for submissions on structure and content so that the decision version retains the integrated nature of the provisions, and preserves the overall goals and aspirations for the Region.