

**GREATER WELLINGTON REGIONAL COUNCIL PROPOSED NATURAL RESOURCES
PLAN FOR THE WELLINGTON REGION**

28 June 2017

**Terms of Reference for the
Independent Integration Review of Objectives of the PNRP**

Introduction

1. As signalled in Minute 10 dated 26 June 2017, this is the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the independent integration review of the objectives of the PNRP.

The Review

2. The purpose of the integrated review of objectives is to clearly identify where linkages exist from one objective to another, and how those linkages are intended to function. This applies to all objectives in the Plan, not just those addressed in Hearing Stream 1.
3. As set out in Minute 10, the review should include consideration of the following:
 - (a) the explicit and implicit linkages between objectives, including between the 'over-arching' and 'activity or topic specific' objectives;
 - (b) any 'mixed messages', duplication or conflict in terms of the collective outcomes expressed for matters common to more than one objective;
 - (c) whether any duplication could be removed without changing the collective outcomes sought in the objectives; and
 - (d) whether, if any objectives might be more appropriately recast as policies if they are deemed to be 'implementing' other objectives.
4. In addressing the above, we recognise that the reviewer will, by necessity, need to give some consideration, to the interrelationship of Objectives with Policies. For example, and to continue the example provided in paragraph 10 of Minute 10, there may be specific policies which replicate Objective 25 which could have a bearing on

how, and if, Objectives O25 and O5 are recast. We do not, however, expect a full review of the plan's policies as part of this review.

5. With the above in mind and once this information is available, possible flow-on effects that may arise include:
 - (a) a hierarchy of overarching objectives (e.g. Objective 5) may need to be explicitly identified and some the *activity* or *topic-specific* objectives (e.g. Objective 25) may need to be deleted and or recast as policies; or
 - (b) it may become apparent that some or all of the implicit overarching objectives are redundant (or partially redundant) and may be edited so that the duplication and confusion is avoided with the activity or topic-specific objectives and to enable surety about which lower order provisions implement their corresponding objective(s); or
 - (c) no changes may be necessary, other than minor drafting changes.

6. The reviewer is reminded that the output of the review is to assist the Panel in their section 32 obligations; namely, are the objectives appropriate in:
 - (a) achieving the sustainable management purposes of the RMA; and
 - (b) giving effect to any national policy statement, the Regional Policy Statement, the New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, and other relevant statutory direction.

7. The manner in which the outputs are delivered should take the above into account. We are also mindful that on the basis of evidence and submissions received Council officers may recommend, and/or the Panel may subsequently determine that substantive changes are made to the objectives. That being the case, the focus of the review should not be on the finer detail of the wording of objectives but remain focused on structure, linkages and broad direction.

Relevant Background Material

8. Documentation that may assist the reviewer includes Panel Minutes 3 and 10, the PNRP as notified, the relevant s32 and s42A reports, expert evidence from various submitters, and the responses from officers to Minute 3.

Outputs

9. A report setting out the findings of the review along with any recommendations for changes to the structure, grouping and general wording to Objectives O1 to O59.

Timeframes

10. With reference to the hearing Panel Minute 10 it is envisaged that the task of this integrated review will take two weeks (10 working days) to complete. Assuming the reviewer is appointed by Friday 30 June 2017 this will make the delivery date for the review of **14 July 2017**.
11. The integrated review will, upon completion, be available to all hearing participants and considered in the Officers reply statements which have been formally delayed until the receipt of the review.



Mark St. Clair
Chair

For and on behalf of
Proposed Natural Resources Plan Hearing Panel

28 June 2017

Note 1: The Hearings Officer is the Council's 'point of contact' for submitters and the media.
The contact email address is: regionalplan@gw.govt.nz

Note 2: The Councils website address is: <http://www.gw.govt.nz/proposed-natural-resources-plan/>.