

NORTHLAND | FORWARD TOGETHER

STRATEGIC PLANNING WORKSHOP

Notes of the strategic workshop held in,
WDC Council Chambers, Te Iwitahi, Rust Avenue, Whangārei
on Tuesday 19 March 2024, commencing at 1.00pm

Present (*part or full workshop, in person or via audio-visual link*):

Whangarei District Council (WDC)

Mayor Vince Cocurullo
Deputy Mayor Phil Halse
Councillor Gavin Benney (*Via audio-visual link*)
Councillor Nicholas Connop
Councillor Deb Harding
Councillor Scott McKenzie
Councillor Marie Olsen
Councillor Simon Reid
Councillor Paul Yovich (*Via audio-visual link*)
GM Planning and Development Dominic Kula

Kaipara District Council (KDC)

Mayor Craig Jepson
Councillor Mike Howard
Councillor Gordon Lambeth
Councillor Ash Nayyar (*Via audio-visual link*)
Councillor Mark Vincent
Chief Executive Jason Marris

Far North District Council (FNDC)

Mayor Moko Tepania
Deputy Mayor Kelly Stratford
Councillor Ann Court
Councillor Babe Kapa
Councillor Steve McNally
Councillor Tāmami Rākena (*Via audio-visual link*)
Councillor John Vujcich
Chief Executive Guy Holroyd

Northland Regional Council (NRC)

Chair Geoff Crawford
Councillor Joe Carr
Councillor John Blackwell
Councillor Amy Macdonald
Councillor Marty Robinson
Councillor Tui Shortland (*Via audio-visual link*)
Councillor Rick Stolwerk
Tāhūhū Rangapū – Chief Executive Jonathan Gibbard
Economist Darryl Jones
Governance Specialist Chris Taylor (*note taker*)

In Attendance:

Integral Group Director Frank Aldridge *(Via audio-visual link)*

NTA Section 17A Review Panel Member Tim Crow *(Via audio-visual link)*

NTA Section 17A Review Panel Member Blair King

NTA Section 17A Review Panel Member Rob Gilmore

Secretarial Note: WDC Mayor, Vincent Cocurullo, opened the strategic workshop at 1.01pm and extended appreciation to those in attendance for making the effort to participate in the strategic workshop.

Northland | Forward Together Strategic Document

NRC Economist, Darryl Jones, was in attendance to lead the briefing. Key aspects of the discussion included:

- The original Northland | Forward Together Strategic Vision and Values Document (the Document) was developed in 2015 and set the vision, goals and objectives for the four Northland councils to work together.
- There had been significant change since this time and the 2022 – 2025 Triennial Agreement signalled the commitment to review the Document. A streamlined two page summary had been prepared and was included in the agenda for consideration.
- The revised Document referenced the ‘four well-being pillars of local government’ and also the Mayoral Forum’s strategic priorities.
- Work had been undertaken to flesh out the content under the regional priority ‘Restoring the health of the environment’ which had not been addressed in the same level of detail as the other priorities (Connecting Northland, Infrastructure resilience and climate change, Northland as a regional economic hub, and Housing and associated infrastructure).
- Elected members were advised to channel their feedback on the Document via their respective Chair/Mayor.
- Each council would be asked to formally endorse the final document in due course.
- Initial comments included:
 - The waste to energy initiative was included because, as a region, there was support to do things differently. It was also suggested that reference should be made to ‘a resilient power system’ to reflect issues such as the need for resilient transmission line to send energy south of the region.
 - ‘Housing and associated infrastructure’ to make reference to the need for sufficient housing in rural areas (not just the urban environment).
 - Consideration to be given to the appropriate wording in relation to Predator Free 2050 and whether ‘expansion’ of the programme should be replaced by ‘continual review’.
 - It was suggested that the content of the Document be turned into ‘an elevated pitch’ that elected members could continually refer to when advocating for opportunities or projects.
 - It was further suggested that the Document could include a statement about three waters, and how Northland could work together. The Mayoral Forum and Chief Executives’ Forum would continue to work on this before coming back to Northland | Forward Together.
 - It was further suggested that ‘Restoring the health of the environment’ should also reference the impacts of pollution from the urban environment.
 - ‘Connecting Northland’ to be reworded to reflect that SH1 Mangamuka Gorge needed to be restored to a fit for purpose state (as opposed to its original condition).

- It was stressed that it was the intent of the document that was critical, not the detail, and that the Mayors and Chief Executives were united when approaching central government.

Northland Transportation Alliance – Section 17A Review

Discussion was had by all councillors present about the inner workings of the NTA, and the items that were and were not working. At the end it was stressed that working together would be the ultimate goal for Northland, as this provided the best look for central government, and the councils needed to find a way through the review to get a functioning model.

Conclusion

The WDC Mayor extended appreciation to all attendees for a 'respectful discussion' and proceedings concluded at 3.47pm with a prayer by WDC Councillor Olsen.



Transportation Services Review

Northland Forward Together

March 19th 2024

Options

	1 – Revert Back to Council	2 – Enhanced Status Quo	3 – Single Employing Agency Shared Services Agreements	4 – Targeted Change	5 - CCO
Rationale Report					
The Integral Group Ltd – “Independent Report”					

What might it look like?

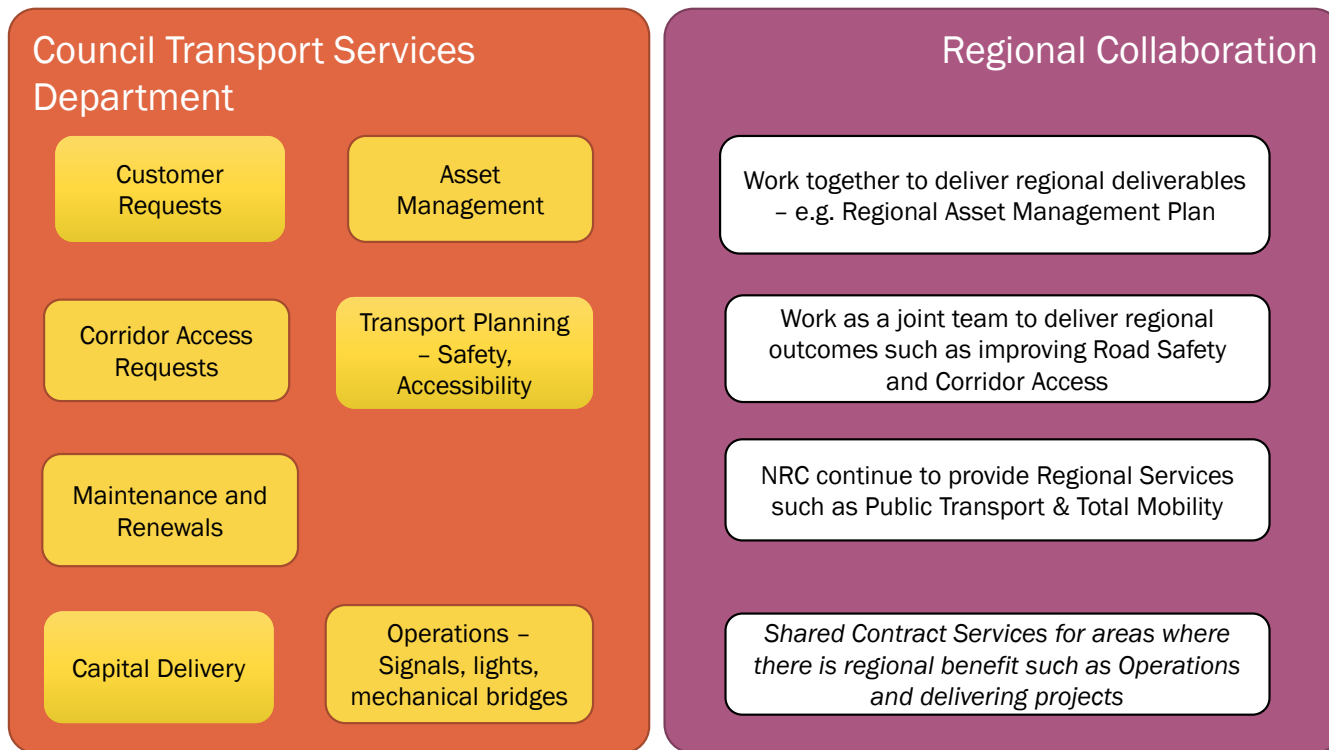
Council

- Council Accountability
 - Sets budgets, direction and Level of Service
 - GM accountable
 - Reports to Elected Members, RTC and NZTA/Waka Kotahi on delivery
- Community consistency
 - Engagement expectations aligned with Council
 - Consistent across infrastructure
- Team
 - Council based, working to one system
 - Clearer accountability for decision making

Regional Collaboration

- Technical Collaboration to deliver key outputs
 - Regional Asset Management Plan
 - Standards and Legislation
- Northland Regional Council Activities
 - Public Transport and Total Mobility
- Contracted Services / Regional Procurement
 - Lighting, traffic signals
 - Renewals – Design, delivery and advice
 - Shared services as required
 - Road Safety Education

Based in the District ...collaborating for the region



Options and next steps

Time to reassess roading in the region

Councils want to be accountable for their investment decisions

Options

1. Council Controlled Organisation to deliver roading for the region
2. Mixed model delivery (including District based services and region-based services)
3. All roading activities return to individual councils
4. Status quo – roading delivered by NTA with changes

Next Steps ... post Northland Forward Together

- Finalise Section 17a proposal – **March**
- Each Council briefed and feedback incorporated – **April.**
- Council decision-making – **May**
- If change happens - follow appropriate processes with our people
- Develop transition plan and execute
 - Transition commences from June to align with any Council decisions regarding Maintenance Contracts

Contract model = 3yrs + 1yr + 1yr x 2 LTP
(review at 3 years)

MAINTENANCE CONTRACTS

FNDC

WDC

KDC

*Plan &
Design
Team*
(formerly NTA)

Eagle
*(surveys the
scene from
a distance)*

Councils to staff their own contract management

WDC : 3 contracts

NORTH 1 supervisor
SOUTH 1 supervisor
URBAN 1 supervisor



1 overview :
cover for supervisors

- Contractors : option – tier level 1, 2 or 3
- Councils & contractors share the risk
- Fiscal responsibility becomes a monthly budget item
Spend determined by overview/contractor
- Forward funding model : money 6 months in front of contact at all times