

Adoption of the Coastal Management Strategy

TO	Thames-Coromandel District Council
FROM	Erin Bates - Principal Strategic Planner
DATE	14 June 2018
SUBJECT	Adoption of the Coastal Management Strategy

1 Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to present the Coastal Management Strategy for adoption.

2 Background

On 8 August 2017 Council approved an *Engagement Document - Development of a Coastal Management Strategy for the Thames Coromandel District* for the purposes of community engagement on the themes and proposed actions that Council was considering for inclusion in a comprehensive coastal management strategy.

The document and engagement were intended as key steps in the development of a district wide Coastal Management Strategy. This informed the development of the Long Term Plan 2018-2028, and how Council advocates to other stakeholders (like Waikato Regional Council and government departments), determines priorities, makes decisions, and funds coastal management practices into the future.

A consultation plan was drawn up which included community workshops and opportunities for submissions online.

Community Workshops

Prior to the community sessions, a wide range of invitations were sent to elected members, Community Board members, community groups, iwi and residents and ratepayers associations. In addition, the consultation meetings were advertised on the TCDC website, through email messaging, Facebook, radio (Coromandel More FM, Sea FM, Gold FM), twitter and via posters positioned at key places around the district. Advertising was also placed in all local newspapers and through "Our Coromandel" advertising.

The workshops were facilitated by Robin Britton (consultant planner) along with TCDC and Waikato Regional Council (WRC) staff.

Eleven consultation sessions were held, each over a three-hour period. The following table sets out where the meetings were held and the attendance numbers. An overall total of 138 people attended the meetings.

Date: Time	Place	No. Attended
10/10: 10-1pm	Matarangi	8
10/10: 3-6pm	Coromandel	14
11/10: 10-1pm	Te Puru	17
12/10: 10-1pm & 3-6pm	Thames	29
13/10: 10-1pm & 3-6pm	Whitianga	27
17/10:10-1pm & 3-6pm	Whangamata	13
18/10:10-1pm	Tairua	15
18/10:3-6pm	Hahei	15
Total No. Attending		138

A range of resources were used, including summary posters, wall maps, laptop interaction and handouts. The maps in particular, provided a strong focus for people to raise their concerns and engage with staff. Having several computers allowed for different perspectives on coastal hazards to be shown at any one time, and also reduced waiting times for people interested in the coastal inundation tool. Feedback was provided via use of post it notes and there were one-on-one discussions between attendees and staff.

The community workshops allowed the public for deeper engagement and understanding than the usual information sessions which are run as part of consultations like the Long Term Plan.

Online Submissions

The online submission portal attracted 38 submissions, with a mix of individuals, community groups and organisations. This included a submission from the Thames Community Board.

Concurrently, community feedback was sought on a proposed Coastal Hazard Policy. A draft of this policy will be presented to Council in August.

A Council workshop on 20 February 2018 discussed the feedback received through public engagement processes and any necessary changes recommended by Council as a result, and a further workshop on 3 April 2018 was held to consider the final formulation of a Coastal Management Strategy. This 3 April workshop also included further consideration of the impact of storm events and coastal hazards on the district and how coastal hazard risk should be reflected in the strategy.

3 Issue

Council has historically had an ad hoc and reactive approach to coastal management. Development of a Coastal Management Strategy provides for Council to clearly articulate its district wide direction on management of the coastal environment and natural hazards.

4 Discussion

The engagement document has been reviewed and adapted into a new Coastal Management Strategy, included as **Attachment A**, to reflect feedback provided by the community and elected members. In brief, this includes:

- inclusion of forest debris as a key issue; and consideration of the NES for Plantation Forestry
- an update to include reference to the Ministry for the Environment document *Coastal Hazards and Climate Change: Guidance for local government*
- amendment to the mangrove section to reflect their benefits/disbenefits and legislative constraints
- changes to the Natural Environmental and Amenity Values goals and objectives to reflect Council's commitment to the good health of water bodies; amending the definition of "water body" to align with the Resource Management Act 1991; and that Council will undertake ecologically appropriate plantings along waterways within its reserves.
- amendment to Theme 2 - Coastal Hazard, Physical Processes and Community Resilience to include commentary about Council's proposed Coastal Hazard Policy and inclusion under Goal 2.3 of collaboration with infrastructure and utility providers to ensure their assets are resilient, able to respond to and recover from emergencies;

and inclusion of NZTA as a party to development of an RMA s330 emergency protocol.

- Inclusion of "honouring future Treaty settlement obligations" as an objective under Goal 3.1 in the Māori Values theme
- under Theme 4 "Recreation, Open Space and Access" the addition of a new objective under Goal 4.2 "Council will actively seek and advocate for central government funding to support infrastructure at key destinations." A new action has also been included: "Council will assess pest and weed control on its reserves regularly and following the review of its Reserve Management Plans".
- the deletion of reference to provision of a safe, resilient and convenient coastal transport network and associated actions as it is outside the scope of the Coastal Management Strategy.

Of note, Council has utilised the development of the Coastal Management Strategy to inform its LTP 2018-28 decision making in relation to its work programme and accompanying financials. At its deliberations meeting on 15 May 2018 Council approved the recommendation for a total budget of \$2,592,620 across three years to implement the coastal hazard risks investigation; including community based resilience, coastal hazard response planning and a shoreline management plan.

5 Suggested resolution(s)

That the Thames-Coromandel District Council:

1. Receives the 'Adoption of the Coastal Management Strategy' report, dated 14 June 2018.
2. Adopts the "Thames-Coromandel District Council Coastal Management Strategy" included as **Attachment A** in the agenda.

References-Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A *Thames-Coromandel District Council Coastal Management Strategy*

Attachment A

FINAL Thames-Coromandel District Council Coastal Management Strategy ...