

BRIEFING - KAUPAPA HERE TAPANGA | NAMING POLICY



29 September 2021 - 4.30pm

via Zoom

ATTENDEES – Via audio-visual link

Elected Members: Mayor Barry, Deputy Mayor Lewis, Cr Briggs, Cr Brown, Cr Dyer, Cr Edwards, Cr Hislop, Cr Milne, Cr Mitchell, Cr Shaw, Cr S Rasheed, Ms P Hanna, Mr A Voutratzis, Mr G Tupou, Ms V Horrocks and Ms D McKinley.

Staff: Ms J Miller, Chief Executive; Ms A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities; Mr M Jennings, Kaitatari Tumuaki Māori; Ms W Moore, Head of Strategy and Planning; Mr J Pritchard, Principal Advisor Policy; Ms K Stannard, Head of Democratic Services, Ms K Glanville, Senior Democracy Advisor; Judy Randall, Democracy Advisor.

Mana Whenua: Mr H Modlik (Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira), Ms L Mellish (Palmerston North Māori Reserve Trust), Ms A Rewiti (Palmerston North Māori Reserve Trust), Ms V Hollywell (Hikoikoi Management Ltd), Mr K Moeahu (Waiwhetū Marae and Te Rūnanganui o te Āti Awa ki te Upoko o te Ika a Maui), Mr R Te One (Wellington Tenths Trust and Hikoikoi Management Ltd).

APOLOGIES / ABSENCES

Elected Member Apology: Cr Sutton

KEY OBJECTIVES OF THE BRIEFING

The purpose of the briefing is for officers to discuss the draft Kaupapa Here Tapanga | Naming Policy with elected members.

PRESENTATION

The Naming Policy (the Policy) has been part of quarterly discussions with Mana Whenua. Mana Whenua has endorsed the draft Policy and agreed the current Naming Policy does not reflect Council's Treaty partnership.

Slide 1 – **Arotake | Review:** The current process does not promote a partnership with Mana Whenua, deal with issues around appropriate road types or prioritise Māori

names. The process of putting names forward has led to inconsistent decisions. The current Policy has been reviewed against other Councils' policies from across the country. Officers have engaged with Mana Whenua throughout the review.

- Slide 2 – **Matapaki | Mana Whenua discussion:** This has involved guidance from Mana Whenua on the process' mechanisms for naming and the practicalities of engagement. The remuneration process for Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, the Naming Committee and Ngāti Toa need to be clear. Officers and Mana Whenua will develop a work instruction for the process.
- Slide 3 – **Aronga | Purpose and scope:** The Policy will set out the process for deciding the official names of all Council and city-wide infrastructure, places and roads under Council's control.
- Slide 4 – **Kaupapa hukihuki | Proposed/Draft policy:** The draft Policy addresses some of the issues with the current policy and places Mana Whenua at the head of the process. It provides one channel for proposing and accepting names.
- Slide 5 - **Tukanga | Process:** This provides a clear process for deciding a name. It will involve Mana Whenua, officers and community boards, targeted engagement and a recommendation to the Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee.
- Slide 6 - **Paearu | Criteria:** There are six criteria to be used when a name is put forward. A Te Reo name will have first priority.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

- The Naming Policy (the Policy) will only apply to facilities and spaces Council has control over.
- The Policy will place Mana Whenua as head of the naming process but there could also be engagement with local mārae when appropriate.
- The Principal Advisor Policy agreed to find out how much advertising will take place when names are put forward under the draft Policy.
- There will be targeted engagement with local community groups or individuals with a special interest. Officers and Mana Whenua will decide how to target this engagement.
- Naming will be less controversial with a process that has clear criteria. Mana Whenua will assess each name against the criteria then officers will make a decision based on those criteria. This draft Policy has simplified the criteria and has ensured all names go through due process.
- Retrospective name changes will be considered if a case can be made for the changes. Officers prefer to wait until the Naming Policy process is properly in place before any re-naming is considered.

- Any proposed name will need to meet one or more of the draft Policy's criteria. The criteria have not been scored. Māori names will take priority but other criteria will also be taken into account, including street themes and European historical names. Officers and Mana Whenua will explore how criteria will be used to assess names.
- The number of characters to be allowed in a name is a guideline only. Officers agreed this part of the Policy could have more clarity. The length of names will be part of the assessment process and decisions will be made alongside Mana Whenua.
- Often developers do not consider names for new roads or rights-of-way until near the end of their development and the process is rushed. Officers will consider ways to engage with developers as part of the original resource consent process. Developers who propose names for new streets and rights-of-way will be required to use this process. Officers will communicate with divisions across Council so they remain up to date with new developments.
- Tohutō/macrons will be used and added to names already in use where needed. There will be a process to ensure names have been spelt correctly. The process will include retrospective re-naming when names have been incorrectly spelt.
- Mana Whenua will have a say on the 'type' of road. Mana Whenua advised it might not always be appropriate to call a road 'Ara.'
- Māori hold the mana of the land but Mana Whenua considered that Māori names have been misused, misspelt, not respected and their stories have not been understood. Officers were commended for the work done on the Policy to address some of this mamae/hurt.
- Mana Whenua requested that the naming committee not be called the 'Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust Naming Committee' since it is not a Te Reo name.

NEXT STEPS

- The remuneration process for Port Nicholson Settlement Trust, the Naming Committee and Ngāti Toa needs to be clear. Officers and Mana Whenua will develop a work instruction for the process.
- The Principal Advisor Policy agreed to find out how much advertising will take place when names are put forward under the draft Policy.
- Officers will consider ways to engage with developers near the beginning of the development process. Officers will communicate with divisions across Council so they are up to date with new developments.
- Officers agreed there could be more clarity for the part of the Policy with guidelines for the number of characters in a name.

- The Policy will be reported to the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee on 16 November 2021 for a decision.

The briefing closed at 5.24pm.

Attachments:

PowerPoint Presentation: DOC/21/106388

Naming Policy: DOC/21/1106387