



Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme

PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

The purpose of this document is to promote project control and the achievement of the projects agreed outcomes by:

- Clearly stating the outcomes the project is seeking and associated objectives,
- Briefly reviewing the project's background and the reasons for undertaking it,
- Identifying the work programme and deliverables,
- Identifying budget and other resources required.

This project plan is intended to be a live document and subject to change as roles and responsibilities evolve and other project constraints change over the project timeframe.

GLOSSARY

Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme	(WRHAP)
Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008	(the Act)
Auckland Regional Council	(ARC)
Waitakere City Council	(WCC/the Council)
Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area	(Heritage Area)
Resource Management Act 1991	(RMA)
Local Area Plan/s	(LAP/s)
Local Government Act 2002	(LGA)
Sustainable Neighbourhoods	(SN)
Long Term Council Community Plan	(LTCCP)

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1. Project Name

The project is called the **Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme**

The acronym will be WRHAP

2. Overview

This Programme Plan provides information on the work to be carried out on projects within the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme from November 2010 to June 2011 and will be a useful guide for handover to the new Council. A detailed report was taken to the Policy and Strategy Committee on 2 September 2010 outlining the WRHAP. A copy of this report is attached at Appendix 1. The minutes are detailed below.

WAITAKERE RANGES HERITAGE AREA PROGRAMME UPDATE Minutes - Policy and Strategy Committee 4 2 September 2010

The Policy and Strategy Committee resolved to:

1. **Receive** the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme Update report.
2. **Agree** to direct the Chief Executive Officer to prepare a Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme Implementation Plan, to act as a resource for the community, Waitakere Ranges Local Board and other Boards, and the Auckland Council to assist in the future implementation of the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme.
3. **Approve** the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley Local Area Plan Background Report, subject to any minor amendments, for the purposes of public consultation in accordance with the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 and the Local Government Act 2002.
4. **Agree** to adopt the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guide for the purpose of influencing future building and subdivision in the Waitakere Ranges Foothills of the Waitakere Ranges.
5. **Agree** to delegate to the Chairman of the Policy and Strategy Committee final approval of any minor amendments to the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley Local Area Plan Background Report and the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guidelines prior to their release for public consultation.
6. **Approve** the appointment of Mr Gerald Rowan as an independent commissioner if necessary, to consider, hear and make decisions on any submissions to the proposal to gazette land at Te Henga as a Local Purpose (Marae and Papakainga) Reserve, pursuant to the Reserves Act 1977.
7. **Note** that Section 34 of the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 requires that the Auckland Council produce a report by 2013, outlining progress toward achieving the objectives of the Act. Substantial progress has been made towards implementing the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 to date as outlined in this report.

CARRIED

For further information please contact Matt Heale (Manager Sustainable Management), Lorraine Maguire (Programme Manager Waitakere Ranges), Kyle Balderston (Senior Strategic Advisor Sustainable Management), or Jane Andrews (Strategic Advisor Sustainable Management).

2.1 Background

The WRHAP had its genesis in 2004 as a joint project between the Auckland Regional Council (ARC), Rodney District Council, and Waitakere City Council (WCC) to better manage the Waitakere Ranges. A key focus of this project was to establish the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act 2008 (the Act) and accompanying statutory changes to the Auckland Regional Policy Statement and the Waitakere District Plan so that multiple layers of statutory protection would be in place to protect the Waitakere Ranges in perpetuity.

On 2 April 2008 the Act was passed and received the royal ascent on 8 April 2008 (see Appendix 2 for details of the Act). The Act establishes the Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area (Heritage Area) as being of national, regional, and local significance and promotes the need to protect and enhance its heritage features for present and future generations. The Act identifies a number of significant social, economic, environmental, and cultural heritage features and establishes a number of objectives that seek to protect, restore, and enhance these features and considers impacts in a holistic and precautionary manner.

The Act also promotes the avoidance of cumulative adverse effects on the heritage features and recognises that the area has little capacity to absorb further subdivision with particular reference to protecting landscapes and a rural character, ecosystems, water supply functions, and the Waitakere Ranges Regional Park, while enabling people's wellbeing. The Act also provides guidance to a number of statutory processes relating to the RMA and Local Government Act 2002 and mandates and outlines Local Area Plan (LAP) and tangata whenua processes.

Since 2008 the Council (in conjunction with ARC, iwi, and the community) has initiated and completed a number of projects that significantly contribute to meeting the objectives of the Act. These are described in detail below.

2.2 Objectives

The objectives of this programme are to implement the Act and to further protect the Heritage Area using a suite of tools, both statutory and non-statutory, including:

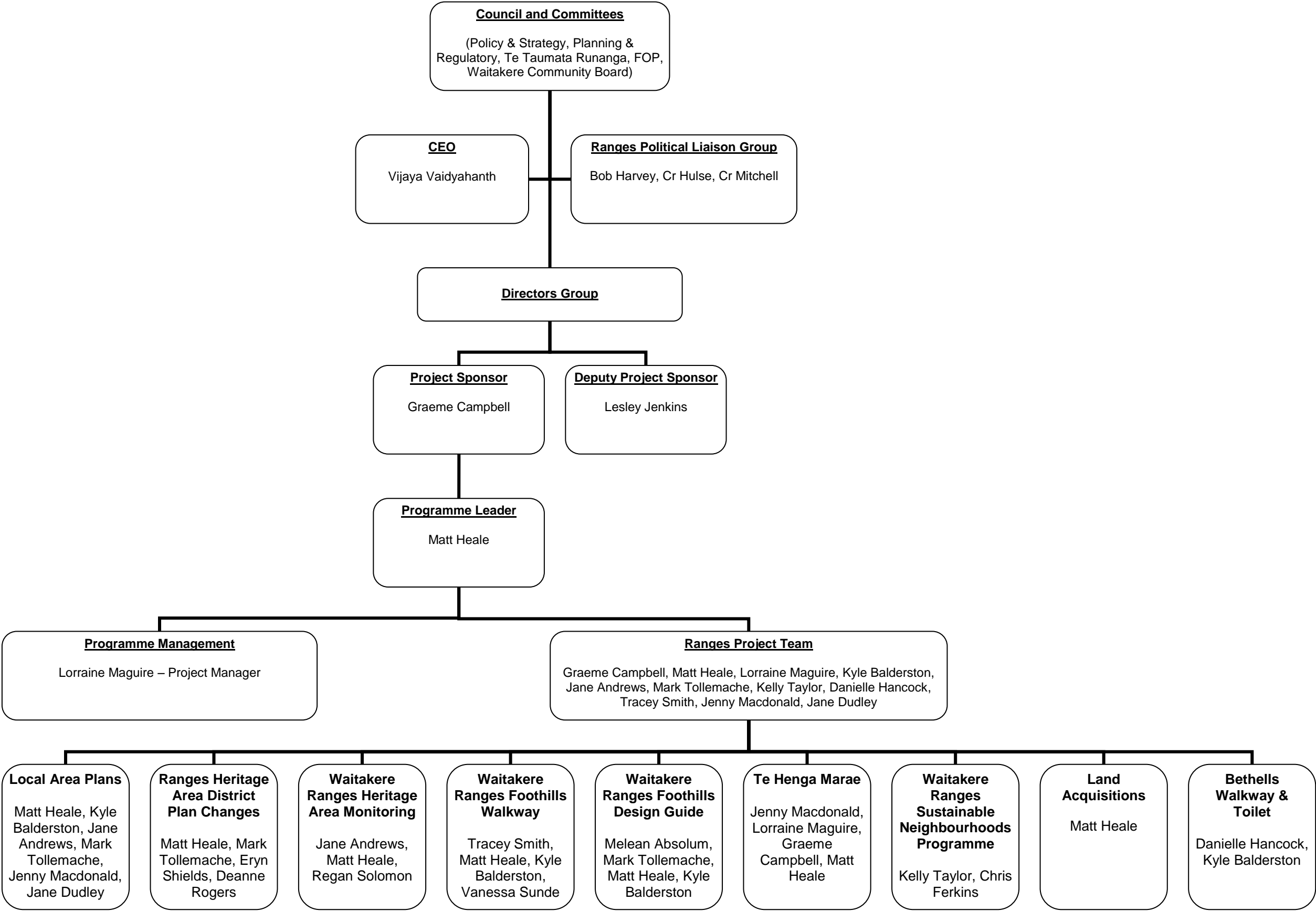
- Development of Local Area Plans
- District Plan Changes
- Heritage Area Monitoring
- Development of a Ranges Foothills Walkway
- Development of a Ranges Foothills Design Guide
- Working with Te Kawerau a Maki to develop a Marae in the Bethells area
- Working with local communities on the Waitakere ranges Sustainable Neighbourhoods programme
- Development of a walkway in Bethells and associated amenities
- Other community and council led initiatives that arise from local area planning

2.3 Governance

Attached overleaf is the governance structure for the programme. The roles and responsibilities of the team are outlined in s 6.0.

With the exception of Councillor Penny Hulse the entire governance layer of the programme is not represented in the Auckland Council (although a number of Policy and Strategy Committee members are represented in the Local Boards). Of the project team no staff are being located in the team (Area Spatial Planning) or the directorate (Regional and Local Planning) that will manage the programme of work in the Auckland Council. More than 50% of the existing staff will not be working for the Auckland Council.

WRHAP Governance and Projects Chart



3. Project background and next steps

3.1 Local Area Plans

Section 25 of the Act provides for the preparation of LAPs. LAPs are a new planning mechanism specifically framed around the geography, heritage and social conditions of the Heritage Area and the objectives of the Act. LAPs were included to localise the Acts objectives and to identify distinctive local heritage features. The LAPs also recognise that there are different opportunities and constraints in each community, and quite different elements that contribute to the character and amenity of these distinctive communities. A LAP is concerned with long-term community planning and certainty, and will have a focus on addressing matters within a local area for the long term, well beyond the planning horizon of the District Plan.

Council has committed to complete two LAPs per annum in the 2009-2019 LTCCP and has achieved this in the 2009 financial year and is well on the way to meet this target in 2010.

3.1.1 Policy Position on LAPs

LAPs are an essential element of the Act, designed to counterbalance the national interest of the Act with guidance on what the features and objectives of the Act mean in a local context. LAPs have an important role to play in the implementation of the Act and will address and contribute towards the achievement of:

- i. Long-term certainty about the character of the area and long term consistency of approach by regulatory agencies and land use planning.
- ii. The avoidance of adverse cumulative effects of development on the amenity, environment and liveability of places in the Heritage Area.
- iii. Defining “amenity” and “future amenity”, so that they have improved certainty of meaning. That is, so that ‘amenity’ is no longer treated as just an ephemeral, subjective, personal and changing matter, but one that can be measured, planned for, and used to give long-term confidence.
- iv. Enunciating the parameters and boundaries of “transition” from historical but redundant rural character to new, vital rural character in the foothills to maintain a qualitatively different (non-urban) edge to metropolitan Auckland.
- v. Providing for the limits to growth of isolated and confined coastal villages, the rural foothills and those parts of the Heritage Area inside the Metropolitan Urban Limits around Titirangi.
- vi. Bridging the policy gap and making policy connections between land-use planning and social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of communities in the Heritage Area.
- vii. Ensuring the maintenance and enhancement of community distinctiveness, character and identity within the Heritage Area framework.
- viii. Framing futures for these areas that take a sustainable development approach, where people are the centre of concern, and where people have the expectation to live healthy, productive lives in harmony with nature.

3.1.2 LAP process

For each community where Council have committed to undertaking a LAP, the general format/structure that has been used to prepare LAPs is as follows:

- Preparation of an initial background report. This identifies the area in question and a potential or 'working' boundary (taking into consideration water catchments, landscapes, LAPs in neighbouring communities, town planning and District Plan processes such as Structure Plans) and describes the heritage features of the area (as stated in the Act). This also includes collecting and summarising existing reports and information on the area, as well as the commissioning of reports on various aspects that may be missing. The report is used to identify potential issues that can be addressed through the LAP. The preparation of the report runs parallel to other LAP processes with a finalised background report presented to the designated committee alongside the draft LAP.
- Preparation and delivery of an initial community workshop. The meeting is used to explain the Act and the LAP process to the community of the Local Area, provide some historical context and then look into the future by posing a series of questions around visioning the future of the area. The workshop also makes provision for the community to identify a boundary for the area, based on the attendees' local knowledge and sense of community.
- If necessary hold a series of small cottage meetings with individuals /groups /stakeholders to discuss key issues (e.g. subdivision, future land use, environmental management). These meetings are often run in parallel to the wider community workshop.
- Summarise and write up findings from the community workshop and cottage meetings. Prepare and deliver a second meeting to inform the community of key findings/issues, provide suggestions for the issues that will be addressed through the LAP and discussions of the possible approaches.
- Preparation of a draft LAP based on the preceding identification of heritage features, community consultation and pertinent issues.
- Preparation of a community consultation report (summarising the process taken) and boundary report (outlining the boundary of the Local Area and why this boundary has been chosen).
- Draft LAP and associated documents (background, consultation and boundary reports) to delegated Council committee for endorsement, with a subsequent public notification and submission period. In some instances a public hearing may be appropriate to hear submissions.
- Amended LAP to designated Council committee for adoption.
- Preparation of an implementation plan (including any resulting Plan Changes).

Appendix 3 provides the LAP process used for the first LAP in Oratia.

3.1.3 Oratia and Waiatarua LAPs

In 2008, following the inception of the Act, the Council committed to undertaking two LAPs per year with an expectation that the Heritage Area would be covered within seven years. Consultation was undertaken with a number of resident and ratepayer groups and a decision was made to start the LAPs preparation in the Foothills area. Oratia was the first LAP commenced on the basis that subdivision issues had largely been addressed through the introduction of the Oratia Structure Plan. Following extensive community consultation the Waiatarua community felt that they were a separate local area from Oratia and a LAP was jointly developed for both areas.

Through the development of the Oratia and Waiatarua LAPs a significant amount of background research was completed for Oratia and Waiatarua and the wider Foothills area. This included built heritage, landscape, ecological, and economic studies and transport, demographic, and capacity analysis. This work not only formed the basis for the Oratia and Waiatarua LAPs but also provided a platform to launch the next LAP in Henderson

Valley/Opanuku. Copies of the Oratia and Waiaatarua LAPs are attached at Appendix 4 and 5.

3.1.4 Henderson Valley LAP

Building on the Foothills Background information collated for the Oratia and Waiaatarua LAPs, and in accordance with the sequencing established, formal consultation on a LAP in the Henderson Valley/Opanuku Area commenced in October 2009. Unlike Oratia, subdivision issues had not been previously addressed through a Structure Plan Process. There is a range of opinion in the community about subdivision and therefore the management of further change in the area and what the future of the area might be like.

There is a general agreement in the community that the Valley contains a number of heritage features that should be protected into the future irrespective of the eventual level of development in the area, including a quiet, safe rural community.

The Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP will be considered at a hearing on 4 October 2010. A copy of the notified LAP is attached at Appendix 6.

3.1.5 Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere LAP

In February 2010 the Council agreed that work should commence on a LAP for the Bethells/Anzac Valley areas. A decision was made to prioritise the Bethells/Te Henga area ahead of the remaining foothills areas as a range of issues at Bethells surfaced that required resolution and key subdivision issues in the remaining foothills catchments had not yet been finalised via the Environment Court (e.g. Dilworth and Swanson Structure Plan).

To inform the Bethells LAP, a supporting document, the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley background report has been prepared. The report brings together information on the natural and human heritage of the area, the protection, restoration and enhancement of these features, and the social and economic wellbeing of the community. This background report will assist consultation with the community of Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley and development of a future LAP for the area. A copy of the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley background report is attached at Appendix 7.

3.1.6 Coastal Villages Background report

Other background work for the wider coastal areas of the Ranges has been commenced and will be used to inform future LAPs including Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley. Preparation of a background report has begun for the Coastal Villages (covering the west coast and Manukau Harbour settlements). It is anticipated that this will be completed by January 2011.

3.1.7 Anzac Valley LAP

At the time of writing the WRHAP plan a LAP has not commenced in Anzac Valley as the Council is waiting for a decision on the Dilworth Structure Plan to ensure clarity around subdivision standards. The preparation of a background report to inform a LAP for the area began in 2010 but was put on hold while information on the Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley was gathered. The report will bring together information on the natural and human heritage of the area, the protection, restoration and enhancement of these features, and the social and economic wellbeing of the community, in accordance with the WRHA Act. This background report will assist consultation with the community of Anzac Valley and development of a future LAP for the area.

3.1.8 Next Steps

Following the hearing for the Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP, it is expected the LAP will be adopted and the next stage is implementing the actions of the LAP. See the programme plan for the HVO LAP for next steps.

The finalised Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley background report has been approved for release for public consultation and will be utilised to inform the LAP for Bethells.

A report providing an overview of the Coastal Villages is currently being drafted. This report will need to be endorsed by the Auckland Council prior to public release. The report is also expected to provide a platform to launch the LAP for Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley and other LAPs for the coastal areas.

It is envisaged that LAPs will then commence in Swanson once the final decision on the Swanson Structure Plan has been released.

3.2 District Plan Appeals

A number of key consent orders relating to subdivision in the Waitakere Ranges were finalised as a precursor to declaring the District Plan partially operative in 2003. These consent orders prohibit subdivision beyond 4.0ha in the Waitakere Ranges Environment and subdivision thresholds in the Bush Living Environment outside the Metropolitan Urban Limit. The Oratia Structure Plan was also finalised. Subdivision beyond the density identified in structure plans (except Oratia) in the Foothills Environment was also prohibited. The Titirangi/Laingholm subdivision standards also provide greater certainty on large landholdings.

A number of site specific appeals were not finalised when the District Plan was declared partially operative in 2003. In the Waitakere Ranges this includes the Mawhinney appeal (Dilworth Special Area appeal), Swanson Structure Plan appeals, Babich Area B (RMA 734/98 and RMA 729/98) and the Lockington and Lyon Appeal (RMA 835/98 Henderson Valley).

The District Plan cannot be declared fully operative until the Mawhinney, Babich, Lockington and Lyon and, Swanson Structure Plan appeals are fully resolved. Legal Advice on these matters has been provided by Heather Ash of Simpson Grierson.

3.2.1 Next Steps

It is envisaged that the Environment Court will release decisions on the Mawhinney and Swanson Structure Plan appeals prior to the end of the 2010 calendar year. Any appeal matters will need to be reported to the Auckland Council for information and where necessary further guidance. It is likely that appeal management will transfer to the Operative Plans team in the Auckland Council.

3.3 Waitakere Ranges District Plan Changes

In February 2010 three Waitakere City Operative District Plan (District Plan) Changes were notified that directly affect the Heritage Area. Plan Change PC 35 establishes a new Policy Section 5B in the District Plan that recognises and protects the unique features of the Heritage Area. It also includes in the District Plan those elements of the Oratia and Waiatarua LAPs that relate to the management of natural and physical resources; and provides for the establishment of a neighbourhood-scale rural village in Oratia to serve the needs of the local community.

Plan Change 36 supports the establishment of a limited range of non-residential activities on privately owned land in the Heritage Area to provide for the economic wellbeing of landowners, particularly within the rural areas of the Foothills. These economic activities must be consistent with the character of the Heritage area (e.g. small scale bed and breakfast accommodation, produce sales, artist's studios and other such businesses).

Plan Change 36 also proposes to improve regulatory provisions within the Heritage Area associated with rural activities, the enabling of future uses of rural land to retain a rural character, and to provide for the social, cultural and economic wellbeing of the people and communities in the Heritage area. It seeks to amend rules for the Foothills, Coastal Village, Bush Living and Waitakere Ranges Environments.

Plan Change 37 proposes to remove outdated District Plan provisions relating to Titirangi Village, and proposes new policy guidance and matters of assessment that seeks to provide long-term certainty for the desired future character and amenity of Titirangi Village. No LAP has been completed for Titirangi although a staff workshop and community meeting (attended by 20 people) was held on 25 May 2010 in Titirangi and 27 May 2010 in Oratia respectively to inform the Plan change.

The Plan Changes attracted approximately 1000 submissions. Hearings were held in August 2010 with 20 people speaking to their submissions. Decisions on these plan changes were released on 15 October 2010.

3.3.1 Next Steps

Following the release of decisions on Plan Change 35, 36 and 37 it is anticipated that there will be appeals on the decisions.

Any plan changes that arise from the policies and actions of the Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP and the proposed Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley LAP are also likely to be notified. These changes are better to be deferred until the Swanson LAP is completed so that these changes can be managed as a package. This will also allow for PC35-37 appeals to be determined.

3.4 Te Henga Marae

The objective of this project is to implement the resolutions from Council to gazette the land at 240 Bethells Road (approximately 2.5 ha) (see map at Appendix 10) as a local purpose reserve (marae and papakāinga), to vest the land in the Crown and to lease the land to Te Kawerau a Maki for the purpose of the development of the marae and papakāinga.

The Council has, for many years, pursued policies that would lead to the establishment of a marae for Te Kawerau a Maki at Te Henga. A site was identified in the District Plan as a '*marae special area zone*'. The Council has adopted marae establishment policies supporting the development of this site. These matters have previously been reported to the Council in full (Finance and Operational Performance Committee, November 2009). Funding for this purpose has been included in the Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) /Annual Plan over several years.

On 10 August 2010 the Council publicly notified the intent to gazette the land as a Local Purpose (marae and papakāinga) reserve under the Reserves Act 1977. Submissions closed on 13th September 2010 and a hearing was held on the 16th September 2010.

3.4.1 Next Steps

After hearing the submissions on Council's intent to gazette the land at 240 Bethells Road, the commissioner:

APPROVES the proposal that the land owned by Waitakere City Council, having an area of 2.6836 hectares more or less and being Section 1 SO Plan 427404, Part Lot 1 DP52977 and part Computer Freehold Register NA 48C/477, be declared to be a reserve within the meaning of the Reserves Act 1977, to be held for the purpose of a Local Purpose Reserve (Marae and Papakāinga),

SUBJECT TO the Council providing in the proposed Deed of Lease, or any other agreement entered into with Te Kawerau a Maki for the use of the reserve, provision for the community to have the opportunity for effective input into the type and scale of the facilities to be built on the site.

A copy of the commissioners decision report is attached at Appendix 11. A draft lease agreement is being drafted for the site.

3.5 Non Statutory Projects

Each LAP documents a series of objectives, policies and actions to prioritise work for each community. A number of non statutory projects have commenced that directly relate to these actions and include:

3.6 Waitakere Ranges Sustainable Neighbourhoods Programme

The Waitakere Ranges Sustainable Neighbourhoods programme (formerly Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration Initiative) was developed and piloted in January 2008 to support multiple environmental and social objectives and to protect, restore and enhance the heritage features of the Heritage Area. It also sought to find ways to improve the effectiveness of the Green Network Community Assistance Programme. In 2008 the initiative was piloted in two Heritage Area neighbourhoods, Piha and Henderson Valley. Following the success of the pilot, the programme expanded and in 2010 operates in communities throughout the Ranges, including neighbourhoods in Piha, Titirangi, Henderson Valley and Oratia. A number of these neighbourhood groups established as a direct result of consultation through the LAP process in Oratia and Waatarua and the plan change process in Titirangi.

To date the programme has seen groups of residents in different streets and neighbourhoods jointly collaborate and manage local environmental concerns including weed and pest management. The programme has the potential to incorporate and manage other localised issues such as road safety, pedestrian access and maintenance of road verges as footpaths.

The Sustainable Neighbourhoods Programme Development Report 2010 (Appendix 12) provides the strategy, vision, objectives and principles associated with the Sustainable Neighbourhoods (SN) programme. The document also details staff and contractor roles and processes for administering the SN programme and lists the resources that have been developed to assist those roles.

3.6.1 Next Steps

The programme has funding provided for through the 2010-2011 financial year. At the time of writing the WRHAP plan, it was unclear where the SN programme will sit within the new council structure. A steering group of council staff members has been set up to ensure the current level of service delivery continues from November 1st 2010.

In the 2009/2010 period, neighbourhood groups in Titirangi and Oratia joined the programme along with new neighbourhood groups establishing in Henderson Valley and Piha. It is anticipated that there will be a significant increase in the amount of work undertaken in many

of these neighbourhoods in the coming months as these groups evolve and additional groups establish.

Significant opportunities exist to expand the programme in Henderson Valley, in particular the neighbourhoods on Welsh Hills Road and Opanuku Road. Neighbourhood based weed management strategies will be written for groups in Opanuku Road (Henderson Valley), Welsh Hills Road (Henderson Valley), Arapito Rd (Titirangi) and Carter Rd (Oratia) and the opportunity also exists to develop planting plans for these groups.

A series of networking events are planned for Neighbourhood Co-ordinators. This is a new action to promote the exchange of information and shared experiences between the different neighbourhoods. The first is being held on 24 September 2010.

It is expected that management of the SN programme will sit within the Environmental Programmes unit of the Infrastructure and Environmental Services department, with some of the work also anticipated to be taken up by the Natural Environment Management unit (North/West).

3.7 Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guide

Throughout the LAP consultation with communities in the Waitakere Ranges Foothills a number of issues were raised that focussed on retaining the rural character and amenity of the foothills. In 2010 as a direct result of actions from the Oratia LAP, the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guide was prepared for the foothills of the Waitakere Ranges to assist landowners, developers, the community and the Council in managing the design, character and amenity considerations resulting from the subdivision of rural land and the design and location of new dwellings and other buildings (Appendix 13).

The design guide focuses on solutions and best practice to maintain and enhance rural character and ensure that any new development is located appropriately in the City's important rural landscapes. The design guide will assist in the implementation of the Act and key recommendations of the Oratia, Waitatarua and Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAPs.

3.7.1 Next Steps

The Foothills Design guide is intended to assist in the processing of resource consent applications for subdivisions or new dwellings in the foothills of the Ranges (encompassing the communities from Oratia to Swanson). Copies of the guide should be distributed to Auckland Council staff in the western resourcing consent and compliance team, natural resources and specialist input team, counter services, natural environment management team (North/West), and Waitakere Ranges local board advisors.

3.8 Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway

Discussions with local communities during the LAP processes highlighted the need for safer pedestrian walking routes as well as a desire to connect communities in the eastern foothills with each other and the past. An investigation study has shown that a 48 km Waitakere Ranges foothills walkway could readily be created over time from Titirangi Village in the south to the Swanson Railway Station in the north by utilising 19 km of current footpath and track infrastructure along with the construction of 29 km of new tracks/paths.

The recommended route would provide a diverse walking trail of interesting, rural experiences rich in heritage and scenic values that is somewhat different to those offered by the tracks in the Waitakere Ranges Regional Parkland.

Although much of the trail would traverse public land along road verges, unformed roads and through reserves, it would be difficult to accommodate a dual walk/cycle way of adequate width (3m+) over more than 8.7km of the trail. The foothills walkway would essentially be a walking trail that could accommodate some use by cyclists in areas where a track of adequate width could be constructed.

Investigation and analysis has also shown that the foothills walkway would provide many benefits to residents and, importantly, delivers on several of the key objectives of LAPs developed for the foothills area (Appendix 14). In particular, it would provide important pedestrian links between foothills areas and also with neighbouring urban areas. Links to key public transport services and into the Henderson town centre would be created via connections with the Twin Stream trails.

A catchment of approximately 50,000 residents would also have ready access to a rural walking trail and all the health and well being benefits this provides. The creation of the foothills walkway has the potential to provide some modest increase in economic opportunities for local businesses and residents, especially if the trail had a particular point of difference that would attract visitors e.g. a walking art trail.

Detailed discussions about the walkway have commenced with a number of landowners in Henderson Valley as part of District Plan appeal resolution (Lockington and Lyon) and resource consent proposals (Kiwi Valley) in order to secure public access over these key sites.

3.8.1 Next Steps

Construction of the full indicative 48 km route of the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway, at the recommended standard, is estimated to be at least \$3.7 million. Although costly, the walkway could be viewed as a long term objective and is able to be established progressively, in stages and over any period of time as resources and priorities allow. This would reflect the long term objectives that LAPs provide in relation to an area's amenity, character and environment.

There is currently no funding allocated by Council for the establishment of a walkway, apart from resources related to settling District Plan appeals and the development of LAPs. Construction costs related to the walkway would have to be considered, amongst other priorities, by the new Auckland Council.

An immediate issue and priority is securing access over key pieces of private land to ensure that the opportunity to possibly establish the foothills walkway in the future is not lost. One of the key parcels of private land in this project is the Lockington and Lyon estate on Gum Road. Adoption of the concept and inclusion of it in the Opanuku/Henderson Valley LAP and the District Plan, along with the progression of discussions with key landowners, will ensure that the Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway concept is a legacy action passed on to the new Auckland Council to consider implementing in the future.

The Resource consents team has been briefed so that any resource consent applications in the vicinity of the indicative walkway will consider future connection opportunities. Additional provisions to the District Plan have also been included in Plan Change 35 to ensure that any future assessment will consider the walkway.

3.9 Lake Wainamu Bethells track and toilet

As part of the 224 hectare conservation covenant and associated property management plan that was finalised in 2008 for the Large Property Management Area at 282 Bethells Road,

the construction of a public access track on the western side of Lake Wainamu (Stage 1) has been completed (see map at Appendix 15). The design phase of Stage 2 which links the track with Houghtons Track and continues up to Solomon Ridge (located on the Bethells property) has also commenced.

As part of the covenant agreement WCC agreed to only put in Stage 2 of the track if public toilets were installed to service the lake visitors.

The track work has been split into two stages as the covenant dictated that if Stage 2 was opened up to the public a park ranger and public toilets would be required on site. WCC Parks Operations and Contracts Manager Roscoe Webb will amend the Bethells Park Ranger contract to include Stage 2 track.

3.9.1 Next Steps

Stage 2 track design is on hold while three issues are resolved:

- Stage 2 track is not to be advertised as the Hillary Trail
- Auckland Regional Council must guarantee never to close the Houghton's track, forcing people onto Stage 2 track
- The toilets must be installed and operational before landowner approval will be signed off to get consents for track construction

Next steps for this project in the 2010/2011 financial year include:

- Create easement
- Register Stage 1 as national walkway
- WCC Parks Operations and Contracts Manager Roscoe Webb has contract with Zane Goldsmith to be ranger on track
- Obtain Auckland Council approval for toilet location

3.10 Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Monitoring

Section 34 of the Act sets out monitoring requirements for local authorities. These include monitoring of the state of the environment, progress made towards achieving the Act's objectives and any funding implications.

In September 2010 a report outlining progress on projects in the WRHAP was presented to WCC's Policy and Strategy Committee. The report is attached at Appendix 1. Monitoring work has also been commenced by the ARC in the Heritage Area.

3.10.1 Next Steps

Initial discussions should be undertaken with the Manager Research Investigations and Monitoring to establish a clear monitoring programme building on existing work undertaken by WCC and ARC.

3.11 Strategic Land Acquisition

Council has recently committed to contributing funds to the acquisition of a site in Karekare that is being led by the ARC.

3.11.1 Next steps

ATA approval has been given for the transfer of funds to the ARC for the land acquisition at Karekare. These funds are in the process of being transferred to the ARC.

4. Project Plans

Project plans for relevant projects are completed in accordance with Council procedures.

5. Roles and Responsibilities

This section provides an overview of the specific roles and responsibilities for everyone within the project team plus contributors to the project and external consultants

Programme Team	Role(s)	Tasks	Reporting
Graeme Campbell	Programme Sponsor	Maintains an overview. Approves the project plan and any variations, reports and project outputs. Attends meetings Reports to Council	Council and CEO
Matt Heale	Programme Leader	Oversees resource allocation, budget, project outputs and project monitoring. Review content.	Programme Sponsor, Council Committees
Lorraine Maguire	Programme Manager	Organises project processes, maintains actions & risk register, assists team, logistics, workshop preparation, communications, updates project plan, budget tracking	Programme Sponsor & Programme Manager
Kyle Balderston	Strategic Advisor: Sustainable Management	Henderson Valley LAP Project Manager	Programme Manager
Jane Andrews	Strategic Advisor: Sustainable Management	Evaluation of ecological issues, background research, heritage feature identification and tasks identified by the Project Sponsor and Programme Manager Workshop and meeting preparation, attendance and group facilitation.	Programme Manager
Kelly Taylor	Strategic Partnerships Advisor: Environmental	Ranges Community Initiative	Programme Manager
Danielle Hancock	Parks Ecology & Policy Co-ordinator	Parks Projects	Programme Manager
Tracey Smith	Strategic Advisor - Environment	Foothills Walkway Project Manager	Programme Manager
Jane Dudley	Strategic Advisor - Environment	Policy Advisor – Bethells and Coastal Villages Background report, Code of Practice review.	Programme Manager

Project Contributors	Role(s)	Tasks	Reporting
Brian Osborne	Researcher - Statistical Info & Analysis	Statistical analysis Demographic data provision	Programme Manager
Steve Wilcox	Manager Economic Development Strategy	Advice on Rural Economic Development	Programme Manager

Rose Leonard	Senior Advisor: Strategic Governance	Advice on long-term planning	Programme Manager
Naomi McCleary	Manager Arts		Programme Manager
Helen Chin	Stormwater Catchment Planning Engineer	Advice on 3 waters	Programme Manager
Eryn Shields	Principal Planner Resource Management	District Plan, Structure Plan and Plan Change	Programme Manager
Angela Penteado	Strategic Communicator - Public Participation	Communications	Programme Manager
Andrew Wood	Social Infrastructure Planner	Social Infrastructure Planning	Programme Manager
Mark Allen	Strategic Advisor: Community Outcomes	Facilitation Linkage to Community Outcomes Development	Programme Manager
Alina Wimmer	Principal Advisor – Heritage	Heritage Advice	Programme Manager
Tim Watts	Urban Design Manager	Urban Design Advice	Programme Manager
Peter Joyce			

External Consultants	Company	Tasks	Reporting
Mark Tollemache	Strategic Advisor: Waitakere Ranges	District Plan Changes Local Area Plans	Programme Manager
Jenny Macdonald	Jenny Macdonald Consulting	Te Henga Marae Bethells/Te Henga/ Waitakere Valley Background Report Coastal Villages Background Report	Programme Manager
Melean Absolum	Melean Absolum Ltd	Landscape and visual assessment advice Foothills Design Guide	Programme Manager

6. Budget and Resources

The Long Term Council Community Plan 2009-2019 and the Annual Plan 2010/2011 have included provision for resourcing projects within the WRHAP to promote the objectives of the Act.

The LTCCP 2009-2019 makes provision for \$2,020,000.00 operating expenditure for Waitakere Ranges and Foothills Protection projects. This has been allocated across the 10 year plan as follows:

2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
\$210,000	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$310,000	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$210,000	\$120,000	\$120,000

In the 2010/2011 Annual Plan \$210,000 has been allocated as such:

<u>WBS Number</u>	Budget Line Item	Budget Allocated to:	Amount:

7LTSM-07-024	Waitakere Ranges & Foothills Protection	LAPs Dev & Implementation, Design Guide, Plan Changes, Ranges Area Monitoring	\$140,000.00
7LTSM-07-024/01	Ranges Neighbourhood Restoration & Weed Mgmt Plans	Waitakere Ranges Sustainable Neighbourhoods Programme	\$70,000.00

Capital expenditure is provided for in the 2010/2011 financial year for implementing WRHAP projects.

6.1 Document Management

All electronic documentation will be stored in appropriate Project folders.

6.2 Programme stakeholder(s)

1. Auckland Council (politicians and officers)
2. Landowners
3. Community groups
4. Te Kawerau A Maki
5. Ngati Whatua
6. Developers
7. Resident and Ratepayers Associations
8. Non governmental organisations
9. Department of Conservation
10. West Coast Plan Liaison Group

6.3 Contacts

Drew Kenny

Jenny MacDonald

Stephen Brown

Matt Heale

6.4 Risks

It is unclear where the WRHAP will sit in the Auckland Council. It is anticipated that the WRHAP will sit under the Manager Area Spatial Planning within the Plan Development team. As noted the existing programme team is being disestablished as staff either take roles in other directorates or do not have roles in the Auckland Council. This will create significant continuity and momentum issues and community concern given WCC commitments to roll out the programme over the period of the 2009-2019 LTCCP.

6.5 Mitigation

In order to ensure a level of continuity Jenny MacDonald has been retained on contract to the end of the financial year. This is largely due to her role on a number of projects that are midstream and require ongoing community interface. A copy of the WRHAP has been communicated to the community, relevant Local Boards and Council members and staff to clarify where the project is at and anticipated to continue. It is recommended that those people retaining positions in the Auckland Council should continue to meet on a monthly basis to provide some continuity and handover for new staff working on the programme. Monthly updates to the Local board and relevant Council committee should continue in accordance with the reporting requirements outlined above and to meet the monitoring requirements of the Act.

It is anticipated that the WRHAP projects will be handed over to the following teams:

LAPs – Area Spatial Planning (Ross Moffat)

District Plan Changes – Team Leader Area Planning and Policy West (Eryn Shields)

Monitoring – Team Leader Land use Built Environment Research and Monitoring (Regan Solomon)

Foothills Walkway – Natural Environment Management (North/West) Team under Manager Land and Water Services (Tracey Smith)

Design Guideline – Resource Consents West – (Gordon Griffin)

Te Henga Marae – Jenny MacDonald (Consultant)

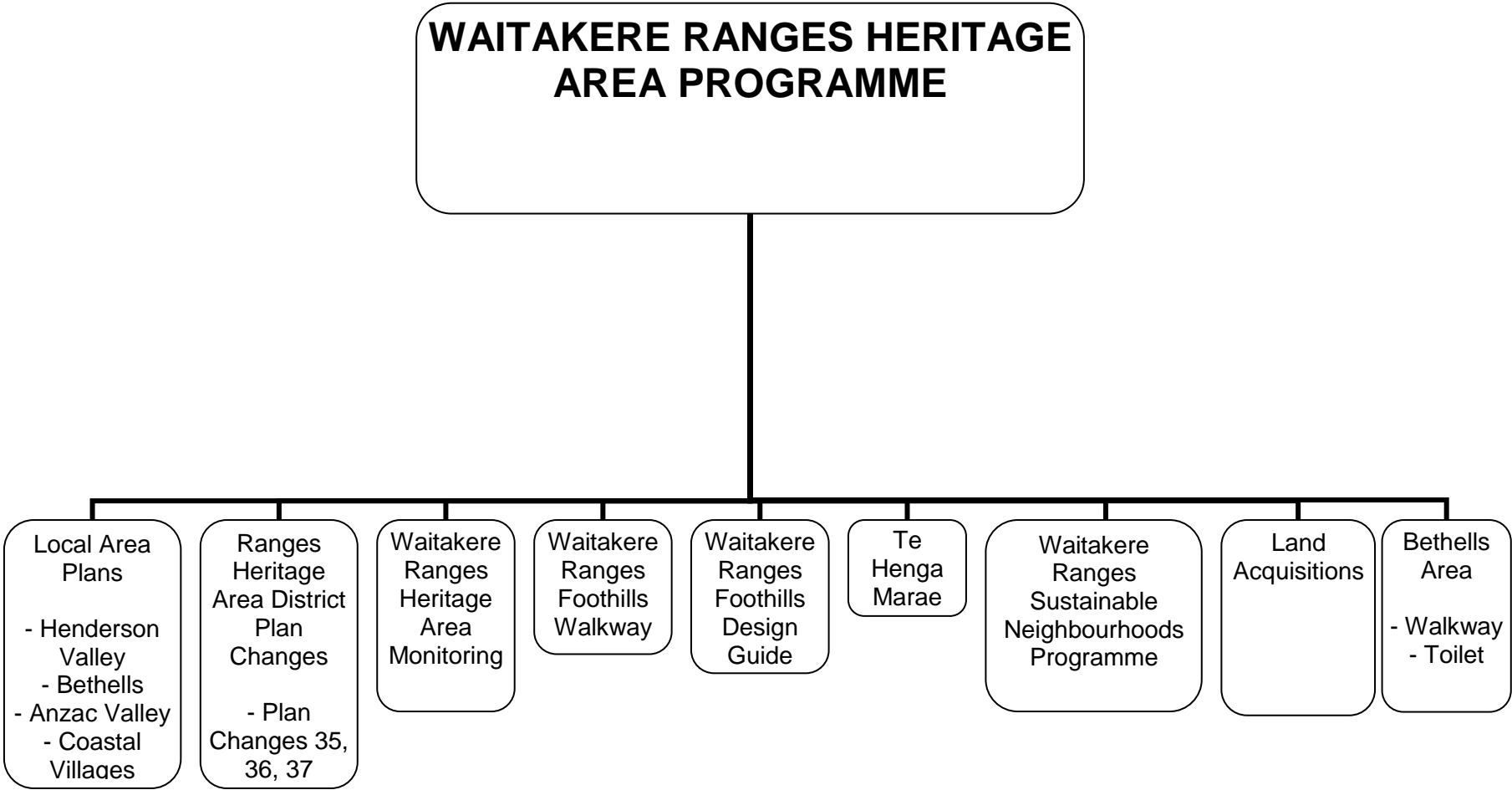
Sustainable Neighbourhoods project – Environmental Programmes (Kelly Taylor)

Land Acquisitions – Area Spatial Planning (Ross Moffat)

Bethells Walkway and Toilet – Regional Parks

6.6 Process

The following diagram shows the WRHA programme and each of the projects that have associated work streams in the 2010/2011 financial year.



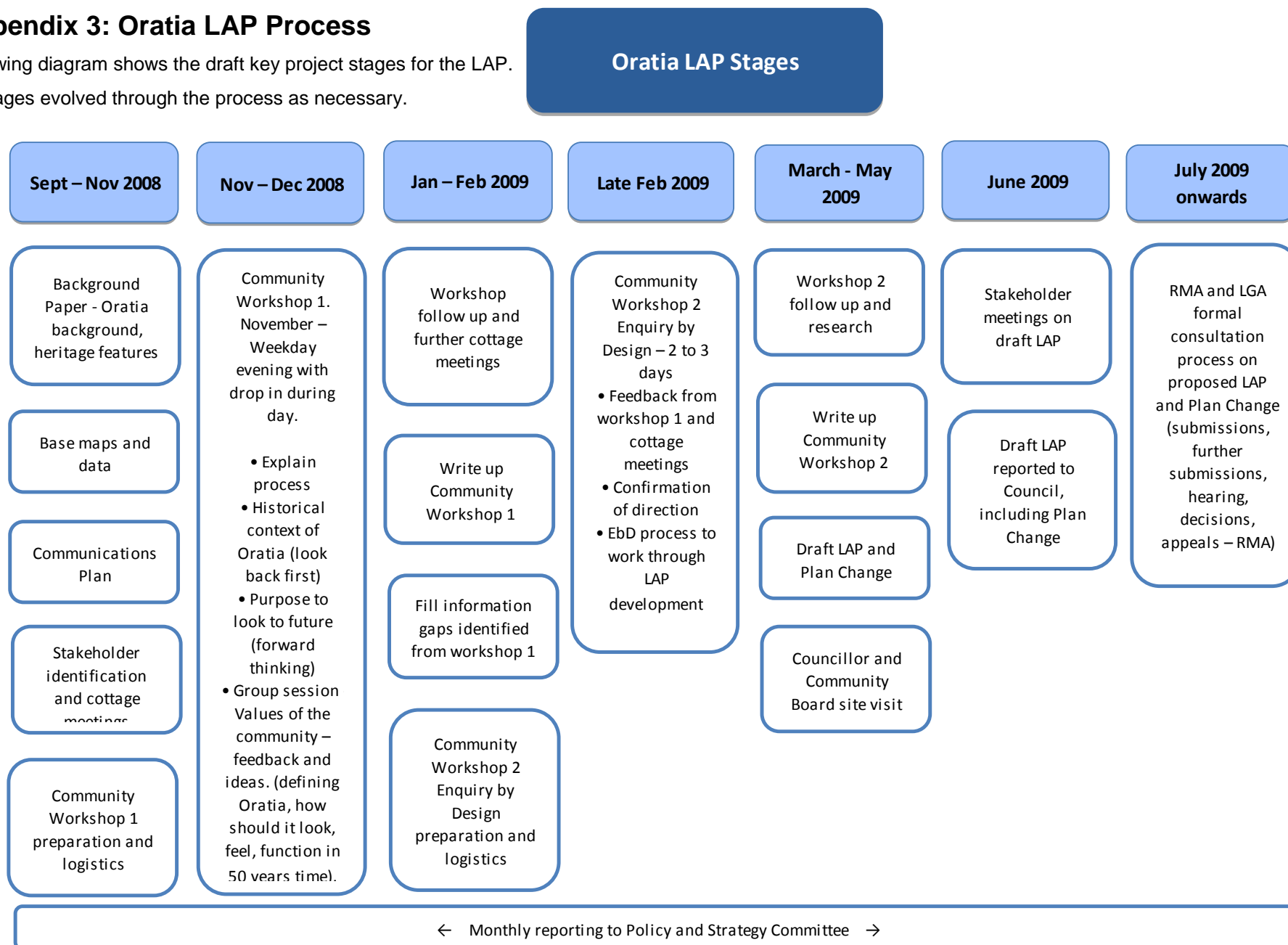
7. Appendix 1: Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Programme Update

8. Appendix 2: Waitakere Ranges Heritage Area Act

9. Appendix 3: Oratia LAP Process

The following diagram shows the draft key project stages for the LAP.

These stages evolved through the process as necessary.



10. Appendix 4: Oratia LAP

11. Appendix 5: Waiatarua LAP

12. Appendix 6: Henderson Valley/Opanuku LAP

13. Appendix 7: Bethells/Te Henga/Waitakere Valley background Report

14. Appendix 8: 240 Bethells Road

(proposed marae site in red)



**15. Appendix 9: Commissioners Hearing report on proposal to
gazette land at 240 Bethells Road**

16. Appendix 10: Sustainable Neighbourhoods Programme

17. Appendix 11: Waitakere Ranges Foothills Design Guide

18. Appendix 12: Waitakere Ranges Foothills Walkway Investigation

19. Appendix 13: Bethells Walkway Proposal