

Memorandum



To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED] § 7(2)(f)(ii)

From: [REDACTED]

Subject: MAUAO RESERVE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Date: 13 July 2000

In Reply Please Quote: P260-1-13

This memo is in response to your request for information regarding progress on the Mauao Reserve Management Plan. This request has come from concerns that actions from the management plan such as the formation of an Advisory Group have not been followed through.

I have met with [REDACTED] § 7(2)(f)(ii) to discuss progress on the implementation of the Mauao Reserve Management Plan. The majority of actions required from the management plan have been undertaken and/or are ongoing. These include:

- restoration of native vegetation
- implementation of a fire action plan
- protection of native fauna such as the grey faced petrel
- protection and preservation of the summit from further development
- on-going consultation with iwi
- botanical survey of Mauao
- weed management strategy
- protection of the amenity and recreation values of Mauao through ensuring activities are conducted in a manner that respects the mana of Mauao.

In addition to this, attempts have been made by Council officers to achieve policies such as the removal of the reservoir, but these have not been successful in gaining funding for various reasons.

Outstanding policies that have yet to be actioned include the establishment of an Advisory Group. Policy 3.3.1f states that the Advisory Group is intended to be representative of the Crown, District Council, iwi and the community. The management plan refers to the purpose of the Advisory Group as:

- establishing performance objectives for each year of operation
- annually assessing the readiness of all relevant agencies in actioning the fire plan should the need arise
- making applications to the Annual Plan for funding works on Mauao.
- determining what cultural, heritage and traditional rights or ceremonies are associated with Mauao and determine a mechanism for implementing these activities
- documenting a consensus as to the events that would initiate rahui (self imposed prohibition) and to make provision and determine a mechanism for implementing this consistent with the Reserves Act

The role of the Advisory Group would have to be clearly defined with respect to the level of responsibility and decision making the group would hold, the purpose of the group,

resourcing of the group, and the processes that the group would follow. The Management Plan refers broadly to “community” as participants on the Advisory Group. This would need to be clearly defined as to who represents the community on the Advisory Group.

Other policies in the management plan refer to the preparation of Conservation Plans and a detailed historical assessment of Mauao to provide information on the development and use of sites and areas. These policies have not been actioned by Facilities and Reserves Officers as it is considered that specialists in those particular fields such as the Department of Conservation and/or archaeologists should carry out the formation of Conservation Plans and historical assessments. This will be subject to the availability of funding.

Concerns raised over delays in responding to recent slip events have referred to the possibility of changing policies in the management plan to enable stability works to be implemented as soon as possible after a slip. Policies in the management plan do refer to the maintenance and upgrading of existing paths for pedestrian use. Delays in implementing safety works have been primarily due to funding, Proposed District Plan requirements, and iwi consultation.

Iwi consultation should be considered as an integral part of any major work requirements on Mauao specifically when the site is located adjacent to a midden. However in some cases where remedial works are required urgently due to public safety issues, it may be appropriate to ensure that there are mechanisms in place that enable this type of work to be carried out immediately. The process for achieving this could be considered by the Advisory Group. This would require planning advice from Council Officers.

In conclusion, Facilities and Reserves Officers have achieved a significant amount of the actions required in the management plan for the two years that the plan has been operative. Throughout this process, officers have forged relationships with iwi and have ensured their continual input into the implementation of the reserve management plan. There are outstanding matters, however these require further consideration and planning to clearly define objectives and the financial requirements of implementation. This may be achieved through establishing a working group within Council consisting of Facilities and Reserves officers and planners, and the s 7(2)(f)(ii) to establish a suitable course of action for achieving these outstanding objectives.

s 7(2)(f)(ii)