



Waiora Co-Governance Committee

5 May 2026

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Waiora Co-Governance Committee – Resource Management System reforms

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Waiora Co-Governance Committee – Resource Management System reforms

- Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill, and national direction changes are driving high uncertainty
- Strategic decisions need to wait until national direction and methods are available

Recommendation

- Temporarily pause freshwater policy review policy development and engagement
- Continue Science, Economic, and technical work that will remain relevant (including Te Ture Whaimana review, PC1, and where there is certainty of emerging national direction)

Waiora Co-Governance Committee – Resource Management System reforms

- Hold detailed drafting, limit setting decisions and wider engagement until new framework is clearer
- Finalise existing engagement outputs and maintain relationships

Full project restart

- Planning Bill and Natural Environment Bill enacted
- National direction timelines clearer
- Te Rōpū Hautū reports back with revised workplan

Waiora Co-Governance Committee – Engagement update

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Waiora Co-Governance Committee – Engagement Update

- Freshwater Policy Review, engagement built across tangata whenua, sector and community workstreams
- Tangata whenua engagement strengthened through tailored, co-designed processes
- Ngā Tira Mātauranga (NTM) and Technical advisory groups have shaped thinking (CSAG)
- Engagement to date reduces restart risk and strengthens co-governance foundations

Waiora Co-Governance Committee – Engagement Update

- Staff will develop a refreshed engagement plan, once more certainty is known
- Relationship-based engagement with iwi continues through established forums and updates
- On-going updates will continue to the Committee and Te Rōpū Hautū

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