Collaborative Stakeholder Group's Community Engagement Plan

03 July 2015



Purpose/Goals/Objectives - The high level reasons behind the Community Engagement Plan:

Purpose of the Collaborative Stakeholder Group's (CSG) Community Engagement Plan:

To outline the suggested course of action for the wider engagement process of the Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora project. This will involve the implementation of the Stakeholder Engagement Strategy (SES), in particular engagement with land users, stakeholders from local communities and engagement with community and general public stakeholders.

Goal:

 The goal of the Community Engagement Plan is to assist the development of the CSG's proposals to decision makers on the plan change by proactively involving the communities who will be most affected by the plan review process.

Objectives:

- (A) Obtain responses on the CSG's focus statement. (ACHIEVED)
- (B) Collect feedback on the CSG's policy selection criteria. (ACHIEVED)
- (C) Test the initial results of the modelling work, integrated assessment framework and CSG's working suite of policies against the on-the-ground realities of those who will be most affected by the plan change.
- (D) Test the CSG's preferred toolkit of policy options to ensure solutions are robust, implementable, and acceptable to sectors and the wider community.
- (E) Test the CSG's Freshwater Management Units (FMUs) option and selected attributes. (ACHIEVED)
- (F) Inform stakeholders of the current state and 'problem(s)' in FMUs and what is driving the 'problem(s)' in these FMUs.

Constraints – The constraints and assumptions for the Community Engagement Plan

Constraint	Description
Time	The project has a limited timeframe. As a result, engagement with some stakeholders will need to be focused on key points in the process, rather than ongoing and broad-based engagement
	Everyone's time is valuable – we want to create an engagement process that makes the best use of people's valuable time.
	Time is also required to synthesise and analyse the feedback received so that it can be fed back into and used by the CSG.
Budget	There are resources in the Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora budget for the wider engagement process. The project resourcing is funded by the rate payer – we need to ensure our limited resourcing is put to good use. An honorarium is available to support the CSG member's attendance at some of the engagement activities outlined in this plan.
	There may be a need to cap the number of attendees at engagement events in order to ensure the project stays within budget.
Assumptions	That material relating to the 'science' and scenarios is available in time for use during the proposed 2 nd intensive engagement period. Due to tight timeframes, engagement material will need to be in a format that can be quickly turned around. That there will be support from Council staff for the CSG's engagement events, including the
	development of easy to understand information on matters already covered.
	That the CSG will have adequate time to prepare for engagement events

Principles - The principles for stakeholder engagement and implementation:

Principles of Engagement	Description	
Trusting Relationships	Build trusting relationships through well-run processes and positive behaviours, such as providing adequate information, active listening, and providing feedback loops	
Quality Engagement	Engage in a way that suits that person or group and maintains open, honest and transparent communication. We believe it is better to under promise and over deliver.	
Evidence-based processes	Understand the technical issues and givens in the project and encourage innovative solutions.	
Sustain Momentum	Sustain momentum by acknowledging success, reinforcing the positive and focusing on the outcome and asking 'can we move on?'	
Principles of Implementation	Description	
Active Engagement	We will actively engage with stakeholders who wish to be engaged	
Existing Information	We will use existing information whenever possible (we won't reinvent the wheel)	
Respect the partnership charter and protocols	River lwi intend to lead Tāngata Whenua engagement, as per the partnership charter and protocols.	
Consistent messages	We will ensure a common understanding approach is taken to engagement.	
Early Involvement	We will strive for early involvement at key points in the process	
No Surprises	We will ensure stakeholders are kept well informed via the Healthy Rivers/Wai Ora webpage, through our existing networks and through engagement activities.	

Role of the CSG - The role of the CSG in implementing the Community Engagement Plan:

Role:

The CSG will utilise their networks in order to assist in achieving the objectives of this plan. This will involve encouraging their networks to sign up for project updates, distributing the summary points and confirmed notes from the CSG workshops, distributing the progress reports to their networks and participating in the engagement activities detailed in this plan where appropriate. Any feedback collected by members should be recorded using the feedback template found on the CSG's portal and sent to the Healthy Rivers email address. This feedback will be collated and reported back to the Group at each meeting.

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Methods – A description of the methods that will be utilised for the CSG's Community Engagement Plan

Method	Description	
Large Open Workshop	An all inclusive event that involves inviting a wide pool of stakeholders, including community and general public stakeholders, to engage in a facilitated session. Aimed at understanding an issue from all sides and/or generating workable solutions.	
'Out and About' day	Involves spending a day engaging with stakeholders at a location that best suits them. Aimed at understanding the on-the-ground realities.	
E-newsletter	A document aimed at keeping stakeholders informed on the project.	

Method	Description
Community workshop	An event open to the general public and wider community that involves both informing stakeholders and receiving feedback from them. Aimed at understanding concerns and gaining local input from community perspectives.
Online Survey	A series of questions aimed at obtaining feedback from a large quantity of stakeholders via an online survey tool, e.g. Survey Monkey

Breakdown of the 2nd Intensive Engagement Period

Strategy	August 2015	September 2015	October 2015	November 2015
Leaders and Governance (L&G)	Use existing meetings for leaders to meet, understand and feed back into the project	Use existing meetings for leaders to meet, understand and feed back into the project	Use existing meetings for leaders to meet, understand and feed back into the project	Use existing meetings for leaders to meet, understand and feed back into the project
Tāngata Whenua (TW)		Utilise existing hui undertaken by River iwi to adequately involve Tāngata Whenua	Utilise existing hui undertaken by River iwi to adequately involve Tāngata Whenua	
Farming and Local Communities (FLC) and Community and General Public (CGP)		 Online survey to inform re objective F and for feedback on objective C Community Workshop for Upper Waikato stakeholders (Tokoroa) 2x Community Workshops for Lower Waikato stakeholders (Huntly, Tuakau) Community Workshop for Waipa stakeholders (Otorohanga) Community Workshop for Central Waikato stakeholders (Hamilton) Multiple 'Out and About' days for sectors 	Online survey for feedback on objective D	
Communications	E-newsletter and press release	E-newsletter and press release	E-newsletter and press release	E-newsletter and press release
Large Stakeholder Workshop			End the 2nd intensive engagement period with a large stakeholder workshop in mid October 2015 – Objectives C, D & F	

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