

**Community & Services Committee
18 May 2017**

Report for Agenda Item: 2

Department: Corporate Services

Progressing towards QLDC joining the Local Authorities of the Otago Region in a Te Rōpū with the Papatipu Rūnanga of the Kai Tahu ki Otago Takiwa

Purpose

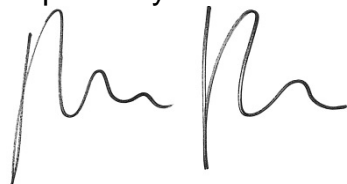
The purpose of this report is to outline the proposal for QLDC to join with Otago Councils in a Governance Charter for Te Rōpū Taiao Otago. The Te Rōpū is a forum to assist Kai Tahu ki Otago in the delivery of programmes and projects in conjunction with Otago Councils.

Recommendation

That the Community & Services Committee:

1. **Note** the contents of this report;
2. **Recommend to Council** that it adopt and sign the Te Rōpū Taiao Otago Governance Charter and commit to becoming a fully participatory member of the Otago Te Rōpū.

Prepared by:



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GM Corporate Services

4/05/2017

Reviewed and Authorised by:



Mike Theelen
Chief Executive

4/05/2017

Background

- 1 The membership of the Te Rōpū Taiao Otago consists of the four Papatipu Rūnanga:

- Hokonui Rūnanga
- Ōtākou Rūnanga
- Kati Huirapa Rūnanga ki Puketeraki
- Te Rūnanga o Moeraki

and five members of local government from the Otago Region:

- Otago Regional Council

- Dunedin City Council
 - Clutha District Council
 - Central Otago District Council
 - Waitaki District Council
- 2 The Queenstown Lakes District Council was the only Otago Regional Council that chose not to sign up to the charter in 2013. At the time it was considered sufficient to hold a Te Rōpū Taiao agreement with Murihiku Rūnanga.
 - 3 Mayor Jim Boulton, Chief Executive Mike Theelen and I met with Edward and Matapura Ellison as representatives of the Otakou Runaka and the Chris Rosenbrock General Manager of Kai Tahu Ki Otago Limited (KTKO Ltd) in February 2017.
 - 4 At this meeting Mayor Boulton expressed a desire and commitment to joining the Otakou Te Rōpū Taiao.

Comment

- 5 The proposal with Otakou is in line with the Southern (Murihiku) Te Rōpū Taiao agreement and importantly signifies and recognises the need for the QLDC to hold close working relationships with the Runaka of both regions.
- 6 In recognition of the need for all parties to work efficiently and effectively both Te Ao Marama Incorporated (Murihiku) and KTKO Ltd have been working together to create an accord to streamline our engagement on matters of significance to Māori (for example the District Plan Review).

Funding

- 7 Members meet their own costs of representation, but a “subscription” for services is paid to KTKO Ltd for assisting the Papatipu Rūnanga to be able to resource their contributions to Te Rōpū.

Objective

- 8 The primary objectives of Te Rōpū Taiao Otago are:
 - *To create an Otago Takiwa-wide collective forum between Kāi Tahu ki Otago and the Local Authorities of Otago to facilitate better mutual understandings; improve efficiency of Iwi engagement and resourcing for Council oriented business; and foster and grow Iwi capacity in local government activities, processes and governance.*
 - *To develop a combined work programme that will help establish stable resourcing levels and avoid duplication of effort for Iwi participation with local authorities; establish priorities of work demand; and move work demands into a medium term perspective in which future needs can be planned.*
 - *Assist Local Authorities to fulfil obligations to Iwi under all relevant statutes.*

Meetings

- 9 Te Rōpū Taiao Otago will meet at least three times per year. These meetings are held as part of the Otago Mayoral Forum and therefore attended by the Mayor and CEO.
- 10 Because of Council administrative processes one meeting should be held in October/November (ahead of Annual Plan preparation), one meeting should be held in February (ahead of finalisation of draft Annual Plan notification) and one meeting in July (when Council budgets and work programmes are finalised).

Options

- 11 This report identifies and assesses the following reasonably practicable options for assessing the matter as required by section 77 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 12 Option 1 Choose not to recommend that the Council adopt and sign the Te Rōpū Taiao Otago Governance charter.
- 13 Option 2 Recommend that the Council adopt and sign the Te Rōpū Taiao Otago Governance charter
- 14 This report recommends **Option 2**.

Significance and Engagement

- 15 This matter is of low significance, as determined by reference to the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

Financial Implications

- 16 A placeholder of \$4,000 was included in the 2017/18 draft Annual Plan to cover the Council's proposed participation cost. This cost is proportionate with the Central Otago District Council contribution but less than the fee paid by the Otago Regional Council and the Dunedin City Council.

Council Policies, Strategies and Bylaws

- 17 The following Council policies, strategies and bylaws were considered:
 - Significance and Engagement Policy
 - Ten Year Plan (2015) and Annual Plan 2016/17 and Draft Annual Plan 2017/18.
- 18 The recommended option is consistent with the principles set out in the named policy/policies.
- 19 This matter is included in the 10-Year Plan/Annual Plan

Local Government Act 2002 Purpose Provisions

- 20 The recommended option:

- Will help meet the current and future needs of communities for good-quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is most cost-effective for households and businesses];
- In particular this proposed agreement will enhance the Council's commitment to firstly grow and enhance our Iwi relationships and secondly to ensure contribution to decision-making by Maori as per Section 81 of the LGA.

Attachments

A Te Rōpū Taiao Otago Governance Charter