

Meeting: 6 July 2017: NZ Transport Agency Majestic Centre Office with video links to Agency offices at 1 Queen St, Auckland, and Whangarei.

Meeting summary

- Minutes of 20 April were confirmed with slight amendments.
- Though few sector comments were received on the draft Gravel Roads and Dust Action Plan, NZ Transport Agency presented an updated review on risk categories and distribution.
- Discussions occurred regarding availability and fidelity of air quality data, among other issues, that must underlie any robust plan to mitigate the impacts of dust.
- It was agreed J Cox would contact Kaipara DC, Far North DC, Whangarei DC and Marlborough Roads (with options to contact Auckland Transport and Gisborne provided time is available).
- It was agreed that after council submittal of the requested information, a subcommittee would be formed to work closely to complete the Action Plan and begin to augment the dust matrix to circulate to the Working Group for comment.
- A subcommittee would be convened in the short term to progress work and plan for a work session with the Working Group at a later date.
- The group will reconvene in six weeks to review and comment on progress.

Actions

1. **J. Cox** to re-circulate the individual work streams of the Action Plan and get feedback, and coordinate.
2. **G Haldane** to affirm that the a proposed “high level” mapping approach, presented through an Agency RfP, would be beneficial for the initial purposes of mapping most important areas of dust.
3. **G Haldane** to circulate the HAPINZ study/model.
4. **T Simonson** to lead creating a subcommittee to work closely with the Transport Agency to develop improvements to the dust risk matrix. Further, coordination will occur to draft a communications plan designed to go out to councils to explain how to include dust mitigation in LTP and how to make applications for mitigation funding.
5. **K Parcell** to report activity of working group and need for broad cross-Government response to National Air Quality Working Group.
6. **T Simonson** to set up meeting date and venue for mid-August.

1. ATTENDING AND APOLOGIES

Present:

Jamie Cox	Wairoa DC	Convenor
Tom Simonson	Local Government NZ	Convenor
Wayne Newman	RCAF R&G Steering Group	Secretary
Karen Parcell	Bay of Plenty RC (National Air Quality Working Group)	
Cr Ann Court	Far North DC	

Jeff Devine
Glen Mackie
Greg Haldane
Chris Gasson
Rob Hannaby
Louise Wickham
Suz Halligan

Whangarei DC
NZForest Owners Association
NZTransport Agency
NZTA – Auckland
NZTA – Auckland
Ministry of Health (Emission Impossible)
Ministry of Health

Apologies:

Jacqui Robson
Garry McGraw
Bernard Petersen
Rui Leitao
Travis Ancelet
Steve Murrin
Grant Rutledge
Janette Williams

Far North DC
Kaipara DC
Kaipara DC
Whanganui DC
Ministry for the Environment
Marlborough Roads
NZFOA – Nelson Forests
NZTA – Hamilton

2. MINUTES OF MEETING ON 20 April 2017

The meeting confirmed the minutes of 20 April 2017, but agreed that any statements relating to Whangarei CE statements toward the relationship between dust and health effects under Other Business should be removed.

3. GRAVEL ROADS AND DUST ACTION PLAN – NZTA PRESENTATION

Greg Haldane presented updated information and an approach for the Draft Action Plan. His summary included: review of risk categories, examples of dust risk distribution, dust risk mapping and an outline of the work plan.

He presented dust risk data aggregated from 800 km within one RCA district to demonstrate how the length of road at each risk level can be shown graphically, and this tends to adhere to a distinctive curve. The meeting agreed that obtaining local risk prioritisation data is a priority action.

Greg reported that a RfP issued a month ago sought proposals for high level risk mapping for dust. The RfP requested data be in a format able to be adjusted following calibration against local data and to use 40m, 60m, 80m and 100m bands for dwelling distance from roads to better define risk. The map is not expected to be as detailed as local data, but is intended to be tested against that data and should allow calculation of the cost of dust nationally and, therefore, the benefit/cost of dust mitigation. It is hoped this project can be completed in three months.

This project was strongly supported and it was agreed that collecting local data must be progressed in parallel, including getting PM₁₀ data from local monitoring sites. It was also agreed that local RCA comment on the work plan needs to be sought from key districts.

4. REVIEW OF ACTIONS AND TIMINGS

The specifics of actual timing of steps were not outlined, but it was decided that the next meeting would occur in six weeks. Prior, the Working Group

would create a subcommittee and work closely with NZTA to address data collection to inform the dust matrix and to finalise the Action Plan to: improve a council's ability to present substantiating data to obtain financial resources to mitigate dust; and outline how the Agency will engage and communicate to councils the tools available to measure dust and how to use them effectively to obtain mitigation funding.

5. OTHER BUSINESS

Cr Court reminded the meeting that the original intent of the remit to the LGNZ Conference last July was to achieve recognition of this issue by other central government agencies. She noted in particular that MBIE and MPI have proposed and advanced policies that substantially aggravate dust risks for local communities, but have ignored or discounted this cost. The effect of road dust cannot be treated as a purely transport-related or local roading issue.

Karen Parcell agreed that the response needs to be broader than just Transport or investment and she undertook to take this matter back to the National Air Quality Working Group.

8. FUTURE MEETING DATES

The group will reconvene in mid-August.

Meeting concluded at 11.25 am.