

Wai Ora Tāmaki Makaurau
Auckland's Water Safety and Drowning Prevention Strategy

Progress Report February 2024. The month has been focused on:

1. Re-connecting stakeholders.
2. Supporting current workstreams.
3. Drawing new insights for 2024.
4. WOTM Governance.

1. Re-connecting with stakeholders.

Many stakeholders are only now re-deploying resources from summer delivery or rescue service to WOTM's strategic work. One-to-one meetings over the month have enabled meaningful discussions and targeted planning for workstream outputs.

2. Supporting current workstreams.

Every month, workstreams are taken forward step by step and barriers are overcome by collective efforts.

Working Group 1 - Integrated Aquatic Pathway (IAP).

Stakeholders are still providing final comments and hyperlinks for this environmental scan, and a further update will be conducted in September by the sector.

Working Group 2 - Business Engagement Strategy

Given the results from the 'on-the-water' and 'blind-customer' surveys, WOTM has explored the 'ethical component' to the CPC scheme, and with the support of CNZ, and NZ Marine, marine retailers are being approached to assess their appetite for change. An article has been written for NZ Marine's April magazine, highlighting the research results and leading into our next phase of one-to-one presentations with retailers and suppliers. Con-currently, we are still following up on the invitation to engage with The Warehouse and Briscoes.

Working Group 3 - Employment Journey

Promotion of aquatic sector as an employment option is advancing well for the ASB PolyFest being held 20 – 23 rd March. A 6x6m booth, a basketball activity and collateral is all planned and stakeholders are collectively offering to man the booth (CBE; AC; DPA; SafeKids; SwimSation). Additionally, two stakeholders are collecting video clips of staff telling their employment story and these will be assessed through QR codes.

Working Group 4 - Tāmaki Makaurau Event Calendar

A 'TeamUp' platform for a regional calendar continues to be investigated with the help of Brooke, DPA and MNZ staff with little progress this month. Events through to April include: ASB PolyFest (in progress as mentioned above); University of Auckland International Student's orientation week completed on 19th Feb with over 800 students involved, with a following workshop and field trip planned for March and April respectively. Another 'package' of promotional events will be co-designed by and offered to stakeholders in May for the later half of the year.

Working Group 5 - Navigation Bylaw Amendment

Engagement with the Auckland Council's consultation process has not started but eight letters of support have been received from stakeholders in the interim and preparations to prepare the community for change are being planned. Radio NZ aired an interview on the 21st Feb highlighting our work (which can be heard [here](#)) and DPA's newsletter article and associated social media were identified as the catalyst for this radio interest.

Working Group 6 - Profile and Identity.

The WOTM strategy's 'Te Hononga' collection of artworks is on the DPA website and further collateral such as presentation templates are being completed. The refreshed website can be viewed [here](#).

Working Group 7 - Funding and Capacity.

NZSAR has committed to the \$10,000 but we await the provision of paperwork to complete the partnership. Iyanthi is assisting with additional funding avenues. Lead stakeholders have been approached to share fiscal responsibility and three have been forthcoming resulting in \$3,000 seeding funds. Our approach is to start with small project-based fiscal requests and to build trust in the first half of the year with the view to increase financial expectations later in the year.

3. Drawing new insights for 2024

The meeting of the Reference group held on the 13th February drew insights valuable for WOTM's future workstreams. These will be expanded during the March / April meetings. Briefly these included:

- Employment Journey - improve retention by reducing challenges through employment policies regarding mental health; staff ratios; and environmental conditions (heat/humidity).
- Promotion of competencies of 'Safe Entry' and 'Adult supervision' to prevent increasing child spinal injuries.

- Support consistency of language used within data collection, eg falls, and seek additional sources of fatal and non-fatal data from Min of Health; ACC; SLSNZ to tell more of the story.
- Focus more on adult male education, relevant to recreation activity. Intercept their day-to-day journey. As per WSNZ Drowning Report outcomes.
- Create a team from the aquatic sector, like Road Transport's 'Serious Crash Analysis' team, to capture more situational information to tell the story behind the incident and the contributing factors.

4. Governance

April 2024 was always the nominated time to revisit the role of the WOTM Steering Group and with the resignation of Dave Stewart from the Auckland Council due to employment in Tasmania, members discussed and agreed the role of the Steering Group was still required; new members would be appointed; and Nicola would become the new chairperson. Given this and the ceasesation of WSMZ funding in June, WSNZ's logo will be removed from co-partner positioning but representation by WSNZ, DPA, Iwi, Auckland Council and the sector would remain. New 'Terms of Reference' are being prepared and nominations being sought.

5. Engagement.

WOTM meetings	X 6 Working Group workshops. X 1 Reference Group X 1 Steering Group
Sector meetings	X 11 one-on-one meetings. X 1 Safety Collective X 1 MarComs
Sector activations/delivery.	X 1 MNZ - Hauraki Activation X 1 University of Auckland – Student Orientation