

WOTM – Reference Group Meeting Notes

Thursday 18th July, 2024

10.00am – 11.00am, Online

Present

Nicola Keen-Biggelaar, DPA.

Ants Lowe, DPA.

Matt Wood, MNZ.

Naadira Hassen de Medeiros, SafeKids.

Amber Wallace, Auckland Council.

Tracey Hickman, Te Mahi Ako.

Bridget Hesketh, NZSAR.

Steve Cooper, KASK.

Charles Hayward, CNZ.

Lyn Cartwright, CLM.

Tux Cocker, ACC.

Heather Robinson, Safety Collective Tāmaki Makaurau.

Bronwyn Coers, WOTM.

Gavin Walker, WSNZ.

Zac Franich, SLSNR.

Dan Carter, CLM.

Tom Kearney, SLSNR.

Megan Garforth, Aktive.

Kerri Hartley-Jones, Te Mahi Ako.

Thomas Dickson, AC.

Nicola Jeffery, NZ Sailing Trust.

Pippa Sommerville, Auckland Council.

Apologies

Danni Turner, Swimsation.

David Comery, Vector Wero.

Garth Dawson, Auckland Council.

Tracey Prince, Recreation Aotearoa

Dave Abercrombie, YNZ.

Tania Seward, NZSAR.

Snr Sargent Gary Larsen, Maritime Police.

Welcome and Introductions (Nicola)

Attendees were welcomed and each introduced themselves with a brief personal view of collaboration and what it means to them.

WOTM – Workstream Updates (Bron)

A brief overview was offered on each of the workstreams and an indication of which workstreams were 'active; mature; or developing'. See attached July's WOTM Progress report and power point for details.

WOTM - Independent Evaluation, Tania Domett, COGO (Nicola)

Findings from the report were shared and reference was made to the recommendations in the full report, circulated prior to the meeting. See summary infographic attached.

Stakeholder reflections (All)

Based on these findings, attendees were asked to comment. Of note were comments regarding:

- Recognising DPA had led and managed the strategy very successfully and collaboration factors, such as trust, honesty and communication, were rated highly by survey responders.
- Acknowledgement that the evaluation was useful in generating a snapshot of where we are at, and how people are feeling.
- The evaluation notes the trust built and it was communicated that there is an appetite to build on the foundation of trust created within the collective to better understand and identify the work that could really make a difference and how we collaborate, fund and resource and push this work further.
- Agreeing the workstreams need to be reduced in number and prioritised and that we will all have differing views on what this looks like and what the priorities are. Identified that the critical actions that we collectively need to take to support Aucklanders to be safe in the water and who can add value to make those changes real.
- Acknowledgement that it is difficult to solve the high-level issues, the strategic issues and then actually operationalise the strategy and deliver on it in a way that saves lives.
- Interesting to explore the crossovers between the various strategies and work programmes.
- Funding acknowledged as a key issue and felt within the participating organisations as well.

WOTM – Next steps

These questions were circulated prior to the meeting for consideration:

- *Should we continue? How invested are everyone in the potential work to be done? Could you financially contribute to its continuation?*
- *What changes would you like to see?*
- *What structure do you think would work best? (Currently we have a Steering Group, Reference Group and four Working Groups).*
- *What would you miss if this work was wound up and redistributed out to sector leaders?*

Discussion and comments generated by these questions, supported the evaluation findings and expanded to include:

Continuation

- Strong desire from those in attendance to see this work continue.

Strategic refresh and reprioritisation

- It is an opportune time to refresh the strategy and the 'why' of workstreams.
- Streamlining and scaling back so that we are focused on the right things to ensure maximum progression.
- CE discussions needed to determine what priorities are that organisations can commit to – what are the things we are prepared to give up or do differently.

- Noted that we can't solve all parts of the problems at once, but we could commit to make a difference in one or two areas by working together and driving change in a particular way.

Organisational commitment

- Having the right people in the room who have the mandate to make decisions.
- Operationally we are working well – however it was felt that barriers existed at higher management levels and that these decisions can affect the collaboration at the operational level. Therefore, how do we collaborate at a higher level?
- Two discussions needed, acknowledging that they are completely different – today's discussion at an operational level, and a strategic discussion at CE level.
- Organisations can more easily contribute people but not financial support and there is potentially an untapped resource within the volunteer bodies of our organisations. Although clearer understanding and transparency needed for what is expected in terms of contribution from participating organisations.
- Ensuring equity for smaller organisations, by engaging more widely than the Wai Ora leader's group.

Immediate next steps

- Noted that DPA cannot continue with the strategy in its current form.
- The work may look different in the short term as some workstreams are paused while a pivot is considered.
- Clarity needed at CE level about how the work of WOTM could look to then determine the resourcing needed, noting that the evaluation was clear that the success to date has been due to the dedicated resource focused on WOTM.
- The DPA Board will then be able to make an informed decision about the role of DPA resources (people and funding) in WOTM moving forward.

Ngā mihi

All those attending were warmly thanked, and a farewell was kindly offered to Bron for all that she has done in stewarding WOTM to this point.

Meeting closed 11.05am.

Email Attachments:

- *WOTM Progress Report Reference Group 18th June 2024.*
- *WOTM Reference Gp 9. PPoint. 18 June 2024.*
- *WOTM Evaluation Results Infographic FINAL.*