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Mana Tohu Mātauranga o Aotearoa
New Zealand Qualifications Authority

Level 1 Geography 2024

91935 Demonstrate understanding of decision-making in response to a geographic challenge in the wider Pacific region

Credits: Five

Achievement	Achievement with Merit	Achievement with Excellence
Demonstrate understanding of decision-making in response to a geographic challenge in the wider Pacific region.	Explain decision-making in response to a geographic challenge in the wider Pacific region.	Evaluate decision-making in response to a geographic challenge in the wider Pacific region.

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

There is ONE question to answer in this booklet.

Pull out Resource Booklet 91935R from the centre of this booklet.

If you need more room for any answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–8 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in the margins (/////). This area will be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Excellence

TOTAL 07

Make sure you have the paper Resource Booklet 91935R. This contains **new** material, as well as the resources you have viewed in class.

The following definitions may assist your answers:

Viewpoints: What people think about geographic issues.

Perspectives: Ways in which people view and interpret environments. Including, but not limited to: economic, social, political, indigenous, and spiritual.

Vehicle access to Waimārama Beach has been a challenging issue for many years. In the summer of 2023 / 24, it reached boiling point when a spokesperson for the Ngāti Kahungunu iwi blocked an access point to the beach with limestone boulders. As Waimārama falls under the umbrella of the Hastings District Council, it is the council's responsibility to make a decision to solve this challenge.

- (a) Explain the challenge that beach access is causing at Waimārama Beach. Include supporting evidence from the resources in your discussion.

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Vehicles having beach access to Waimārama Beach is having significant effects. The challenge is that the people and community are in danger from the use of vehicles on the beach as well as the risk of coastal erosion from the compromised sustainability from the damage vehicles are doing to the dunes. The vehicles are ultimately putting the people on the beach in danger. There are regular reports on the serious safety concerns related to vehicle use on the beach and even had a person killed and seriously injured after a falling from a ute. However many people use and enjoy the vehicles access along the beach for numerous recreational activities and so on which the beach is known for and makes it such a popular holiday destination. A solution to this problem needs to be decided as the community is ultimately put in danger by the vehicle use.

Three possible options the Hastings District Council could take to meet the challenge of vehicle access to Waimārama Beach include:

- Option 1 – no change to the current restrictions – vehicles are allowed on part of the beach
- Option 2 – put a permanent and complete vehicle ban on the entire beach
- Option 3 – remove all vehicle bans from Waimārama Beach.

- (b) For each of the people in the table below, explain their viewpoint on the future actions that should be taken to solve the challenge of vehicle access onto Waimārama Beach. Include their perspective and supporting evidence from the resources in your discussion.

People

Their viewpoint / perspective

Jason and Kelly Smith:

B *I* U

Jason and Kelly Smith have an economic perspective on this issue, they like to catch their own seafood as they find the prices at the shops to be expensive especially with the cost of living being so high. This means option 3 to remove all vehicle bans from Waimārama Beach best aligns with their perspective. This is because they can continue to surf cast but then at any time and wherever they would like. They have a negative viewpoint on option 2 because Jason and Kelly spend a lot of time surf casting. This means the full vehicle ban is not what they want as they use their vehicle to transport their fishing gear down to the Waimārama beach meaning with this ban they will not be able to do so and may have to find somewhere else to surf cast.

Ngāti Kahungunu spokesperson:

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Ngāti Kahungunu spokesperson has a cultural perspective on this issue. The iwi are sick of having the sand dunes being damaged and are worried about the safety of their children being run off the beach by vehicles. Their perspective best aligns with option 2 to put a permanent and complete vehicle ban on the entire beach. They have a negative viewpoint on option 3 as they believe that all vehicles should not be allowed on the beach. Some of the beach area is Māori owned land and they do not appreciate the damage these vehicles are doing especially as the land has a huge cultural significance to them. Option 3 with the lift of the ban would not be in favour of them as this could mean furthermore damage to the dunes and could result in injuries or fatalities on the beach.

Sophie Stevens:

B *I* U     

Sophie Stevens has a social perspective on this issue. She is a resident of Waimārama and is worried about peoples safety, however she still believes that some vehicles should continue to have access to the beach. Her perspective best aligns with option 1 to have no change to the current restrictions meaning all vehicles are allowed on part of the beach. However she has a negative viewpoint on option 2 and 3 because she believes that "There's a culture now that the beach is somewhere to come and play in your vehicles" and that many people use utes or quad bikes to transport fishing equipment, chairs and chilly bins onto the beach and so on, so with a complete ban people they would no longer be able to use their vehicles. However she has noticed that there has been a great number of intimidating encounters with vehicles on the beach and is becoming worried for the safety of the people which is why with a lift of these bans this could result in the people on the beach in more danger. This is why this option 1 best aligns with Sophie.

Peter Johnston:

B *I* U     

Peter Johnston has an environmental perspective on this issue. He is worried that the vehicles are having significant affects on the dunes, community and species of Waimārama. This is why option 2 to put a permanent and complete vehicle ban on the entire beach best aligns with his perspective. He has a negative viewpoint on option 3 to remove the bans as this would put the community at risk by having vehicles allowed to drive over the dunes and seriously compromise the sustainability of these dunes. The dunes are very important as they are protecting the Waimārama community from the sea level rise and the effects of climate change. He is also deeply concerned because the vehicles are causing major disturbance to species and this lift of the ban could have major impacts on them. This is why option 2 is the option that best aligns with Peter Johnston perspective.

(c) (i) Choose ONE option that you think the Hastings District Council should follow to best solve the challenge of vehicle access to Waimārama Beach.

- ☐ no change to the current restrictions – vehicles are allowed on part of the beach
- ☒ put a permanent and complete vehicle ban on the entire beach
- ☐ remove all vehicle bans from Waimārama Beach.

Explain why you chose this option. To do so you should:

- consider the viewpoints and perspectives of the different groups of people involved
- consider why this option is better than the others
- integrate specific evidence from all the resources supplied.

B I U

I believe that the option to put a permanent and complete ban on the entire beach is the most suitable option for Waimārama. It is the only option to fully fix the geographic challenge which is why it makes it the best option. A consultation website was opened to gauge public opinions on the issue as well as seek solutions associated with vehicles on the beach. The responses came back as majority for the total ban of vehicles as well as majority to have no change to current restrictions. This option does not align with the viewpoint of Jason and Kelly Smith as their viewpoint is for vehicles to have full beach access so they can transport their fishing gear down to beach using their vehicles. With the beach being filled with people over the summer season this would put many at danger making this option not suitable for the Waimārama community. There are regular reports of serious concerns related to vehicle use and even been a accident where one was killed and another seriously injured. This means that this option would still put others safety at risk. As well as the full time allowance of vehicles would create immense damage to the dunes and therefore compromise the sustainability of the dunes. Ngāti Kahungunu iwi will be in favour of this decision as it aligns with their viewpoint. This ban will mean they will no longer have to put their own action against the issue. The land has a huge cultural significance to the iwi and with this ban this means the dunes and land will be protected from any vehicles driving over and damaging them which is very important to them. The ban will also mean they will not have to be as worried for their children's safety being run of the beach by vehicles and prevent injuries and fatalities as family is very significant to their culture. Peter Johnston also has the same viewpoint as the Ngāti Kahungunu iwi. He believes that there should be a permanent and complete ban of vehicles across the whole beach. This decision aligns with his viewpoint as it protects the community from coastal erosion from climate change and sea level rise. The southern Waimārama beach has experienced erosion rates of up to 0.85m/year with the use of vehicles being allowed on the beach. With the ban of them this would mean the sustainability of the dunes would be kept in tact and not compromised therefore protecting the residential area from coastal erosion. He is also deeply concerned about the disturbance of the endangered species dotterels. The vehicles have been driving through their feeding and nesting areas, with the ban this would mean the endangered species would be protected. However a disadvantage of this decision is that many people use vehicles for recreational activities and beach use and would be disappointed not being able to use them. The beach is know for fishing and surfing and people who partake in these actives may need to find somewhere else to do this meaning the local economy will miss out as it is said that many surfcasters spend money at the local shops. Sophie Stevens viewpoint was to have no change to the current restrictions meaning vehicles are allowed on part of the beach. This option would not be suitable as this option would not fix the geographic challenge. This is because there has been bans put in place to stop people from driving in front of the Waimārama Domain Reserve between 8 a.m and 8 p.m from end of October until 1st of April. However the bans are not being followed by and the police and council can not manage the traffic on the beach meaning the ban is not being enforced. This means they dunes and safety of people would still be compromised. However this option is suitable for people to do recreational activities as well as transport equipment. Overall although this decision will not benefit all viewpoints this is the only suitable decision to fix the challenge Waimārama is facing. It is the best decision to keep the community safe which is ultimately what I think makes it the best option.

(ii) Explain which viewpoint or perspective was most important when making your decision in part (i).

B I U     

I think the most important viewpoint when making the decision is Peter Johnston viewpoint. This is because his viewpoint has other accounts in mind and not just his own. His viewpoint is the same as the Ngāti Kahungunu as they both want the complete and permanent ban on all vehicles on the beach. Peter Johnston is worried for the communities safety. Because ultimately if vehicles continue to drive over the sand dunes this will damage the sustainability of the dunes which are very significant because they are what is protecting the whole Waimārama community from beach erosion. With climate change and sea level rise without these dunes the community could be at risk of the beach shortening and the residential area put in danger. The viewpoint of Jason and Kelly Smith is not as important to consider as this option would only benefit them and not the communities safety. This decision will only make the problem worse as the dunes will rip and be damage causing coastal erosion. As well as the ongoing risk of injuries or fatalities of people and vehicle users on the beach. The viewpoint of Sophie Stevens is also not important to consider as this option will not fix the geographic challenge. Although this viewpoints will benefit the users of vehicles it will not fix the problem. The bans are clearly not working nor being enforced enough. This means another action needs to be taken to fix the problem. Overall the most important viewpoint to be considered is Peter Johnston. This is because he has the best in mind for not only him but the whole community and their safety.

Excellence

Subject: Geography

Standard: 91935

Total score: 07

Grade score	Marker commentary
E7	Despite a lack of detail in part (a), the holistic nature of decision-making is shown, with several perspectives being taken into account. These are effectively evaluated in (c)(ii).