

Confirmed Public minutes of the Council meeting on 27 June 2024

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 9.30am

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (Chair)
Councillor Bassett
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban (from 9.30 am to 11.18am)
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ropata
Councillor Saw
Councillor Staples
Councillor Woolf

Councillors Laban and Lee participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of the quorum in accordance with clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Council Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Additional agenda item

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Staples

- 1 That under Standing Order 3.5.5, Report 24.351 – Disestablishment of the Waitua Kāpiti Committee - is dealt with at this meeting.
- 2 This report is not on the agenda for this meeting as at the time the agenda was prepared officers were still working through matters relating to the disestablishment of the Committee.
- 3 Discussion on matters contained in this report cannot be delayed until the Council's next meeting due to the need to put in place transitional disestablishment arrangements for the Committee.
- 4 This additional report will be dealt with after item 13 on the agenda.

The motion was **carried**.

3 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

The Chair accorded priority to agenda items 4 to 7 in accordance with Standing Order 3.5.2.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Long Term Plan Committee meeting of 14 March 2024 – Report 24.127

Moved: Cr Ropata / Cr Nash

That the Council confirms the Public minutes of the Long Term Plan Committee meeting of 14 March 2024 – Report 24.127.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Long Term Plan Committee meeting of 21 and 23 May 2024 – Report 24.262

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That the Council confirms the Public minutes of the Long Term Plan Committee meeting of 21 and 23 May 2024 – Report 24.262.

The motion was **carried**.

6 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting of 11 June 2024 – Report 24.316

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Bassett

That the Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting of 11 June 2024 – Report 24.316.

The motion was **carried**.

7 Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting of 11 June 2024 – Report 24.317

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Duthie

That the Council confirms the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting of 11 June 2024 – Report 24.317.

The motion was **carried**.

8 Public participation

Denise Hapeta, on behalf of Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, spoke to agenda item 12 - National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management Plan Change Work Programme.

Strategy, policy or major issues

9 Adoption of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan – Report 24.314

Zofia Miliszewska, Head of Strategy and Performance, spoke to the report.

Nosiviwe Tsotso, Audit Manager, Audit New Zealand, thanked officers for their excellent relationship with the Audit New Zealand team throughout the audit process.

Clint Ramoo, Audit Director, Audit New Zealand, spoke to the independent auditor's report and provided the audit opinion on the Long Term Plan. He advised that the opinion is a standard audit report with one emphasis of matter regarding the uncertainty of funding for the Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility project (LNIRIM).

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Saw

That the Council:

- 1 Notes that Audit New Zealand will provide their Audit opinion on the 2024-34 Long Term Plan at the meeting and the opinion will be included in the document.
- 2 Adopts the 2024-34 Long Term Plan (Attachment 1).
- 3 Authorises the Chief Executive to make minor editorial changes to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan prior to publication to correct errors and improve public understanding.
- 4 Authorises the Group Manager Finance & Risk to enter into any debt facilities or borrowing that are required to implement the 2024-34 Long Term Plan for the 2024/25 year that are in accordance with the Council's Treasury Management Policy.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillors Kirk-Burnnand, Staples and Woolf voted against the motion and requested that their votes against the motion be recorded.

10 Setting of Wellington Regional Council Rates for 2024/25 – Report 24.243

Ashwin Pai, Head of Finance, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Ponter

That Council:

- 1 Sets, pursuant to sections 23 and 24 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, the rates as set out in paragraphs 14 to 27 of this report, for the period commencing 1 July 2024 and concluding 30 June 2025, with all dollar amounts being inclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- 2 Sets the instalment due dates as set out in paragraph 28.
- 3 Resolves, pursuant to sections 57 and 58 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, to add penalties to unpaid rates as set out in paragraphs 28 and 29.
- 4 Requests officers to send a copy of these resolutions to all territorial authorities acting as Wellington Regional Council's agents for rates collection, with a request that each territorial authority provides a receipt of acknowledgment for the changes to rates and the funding methods.
- 5 Requests officers to place these resolutions on Greater Wellington's website.

The motion was **carried**.

11 Wholesale Water Levy 2024/25 and end of year adjustment for Levy 2023/24 – Report 24.301

Ali Trustrum-Rainey, Group Manager Finance and Risk, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Connelly

That Council:

- 1 Approves the wholesale water contributions payable by constituent authorities for 2024/25, pursuant to section 91 of the Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972, as follows:

	2024/25 Levy (GST exclusive)
Hutt City Council	\$18,214,513
Porirua City Council	\$7,605,871
Upper Hutt City Council	\$7,788,821
Wellington City Council	\$34,122,161
Total:	\$67,731,366

2 Approves, the end of year adjustment levies for 2023/24 as follows:

	2023/24 Adjustments \$ (GST exclusive)	
Hutt City Council	(\$18,599)	Refund
Porirua City Council	(\$407,883)	Refund
Upper Hutt City Council	(\$76,466)	Refund
Wellington City Council	\$502,948	To Pay

The motion was **carried**.

12 Adoption of Resource Management Charging Policy 2024-2027 – Report 24.324

Stephen Thawley, Project Leader, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the Resource Management Charging Policy 2024-2027 (Attachment 1).
- 2 Delegates to the Chief Executive the ability to make minor editorial changes to the Policy prior to publication to correct errors and improve public understanding.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Staples voted against the motion and requested that her vote against the motion be recorded.

13 National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management Plan Change Work Programme – Report 24.244

Lian Butcher, Group Manager Environment, Fathima Iftikar, Director Strategy, Policy and Regulation, Nicola Patrick, Director Catchment and Evan Harrison, Manager Knowledge, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ropata / Cr Gaylor

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the Government has announced its intention to begin work on a replacement for the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management in 2024.
- 2 Notes that the Government has also amended the Resource Management Act 1991 to extend the date by which councils are required to notify freshwater plan changes by three years to 31 December 2027.
- 3 Recognises the Council's continued partnerships with mana whenua in the ongoing development and delivery of the Whaitua Implementation Programmes.

- 4 Agrees to continue Plan Change 1 through the Schedule 1 process of the Resource Management Act 1991.
- 5 Agrees to continue work to develop further plan changes to the Natural Resources Plan and Regional Policy Statement (as necessary) to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management for the following catchments (in alphabetical order):
 - a. Kāpiti
 - b. Ruamāhanga
 - c. Te Whanganui-a-Tara (water allocation)
 - d. Wairarapa Coast.
- 6 Agrees to expand the work programme for National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management related plan changes to the Natural Resources Plan and Regional Policy Statement, as funded through the adoption of the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan.

The motion was **carried**.

14 Establishment of Proposed Change 1 to the Natural Resources Plan: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel – Report 24.19

Nicola Arnesen, Manager Policy, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Staples

That Council:

- 1 Establishes the Proposed Natural Resources Plan Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel.
- 2 Delegates its authority to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel, as follows:
 - a. To hear public submissions and provide the recommendations report to Council, for Council to make the final decisions on the recommendations.
- 3 Adopts the Terms of Reference for the Proposed Natural Resources Plan Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel (Attachment 1).
- 4 Delegates to the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Council Chair, the setting of remuneration arrangements for the Proposed Natural Resources Plan Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel.

The motion was **carried**.

15 Disestablishment of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee – Report 24.351

Nicola Patrick, Director Catchment, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee has completed its substantive tasks, with a small number of wrap-up events scheduled before the end of 2024.
- 2 Determines that the honorarium payable to eligible external members of the Committee shall cease effective on 28 June 2024.
- 3 Determines that external members who were previously eligible to receive the honorarium shall be eligible to be paid Greater Wellington's standard meeting fee, (plus mileage and reimbursement of public transport costs) for the Committee's remaining wrap-up events.
- 4 Disestablishes the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee, effective on 1 November 2024.

The motion was **carried**.

16 Disestablishment of Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Reference Group – Report 24.311

Nicola Patrick, Director Catchment, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ropata / Cr Duthie

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Reference Group's Terms of Reference provide that the Reference Group shall exist until 30 June 2024, but may be extended following a review by Council in June 2024.
- 2 Notes that the Reference Group has completed its specific responsibilities, and that other engagement approaches are being established for Whaitua Implementation Programme implementation.
- 3 Agrees, as an outcome of its review, that the Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara Reference Group shall be disestablished on 1 July 2024 consistent with the Reference Group's terms of reference.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 10.43am and resumed at 11.01am.

17 Adoption of Strategic Public Transport Asset Control Strategy – Report 24.315

Tim Shackleton, Senior Manager Commercial, Strategy and Investment, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Notes that on 24 August 2023, the Council approved the Proposed Public Transport Asset Control Strategy (Proposed Strategy) for:
 - a. Presentation to public transport operators in the Region for their comment

- b. Formal consultation as part of the Long Term Plan in accordance with the Local Government Act 2002 requirements.
- 2 Notes that the Proposed Strategy was:
 - a. Presented to public transport operators in the Region for their comment
 - b. Included as a matter for public consultation in the Consultation Document for the Long Term Plan 2024-2034.
- 3 Notes that:
 - a. Two of the four bus operators provided feedback on the Proposed Strategy
 - b. Following deliberations on the Draft Long Term Plan 2024-2034, the Long Term Plan Committee recommended that Council adopt the Proposed Strategy.
- 4 Notes that taking into account the responses received by the operators, no change is recommended to the Proposed Strategy
- 5 Adopts the Public Transport Asset Control Strategy as set out at Attachment 1 to this report.

The motion was **carried**.

18 Te Wai Takamori o Te Awa Kairangi – expected impacts on public transport – Report 24.334 [For Information]

Luke Troy, General Manager Strategy, Emma Hope, Senior Strategic Advisor, and Bonnie Parfitt, Senior Manager Network and Customer, spoke to the report.

19 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting – Report 24.296

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Ropata

That Council:

- 1 Approves the attendance of Councillors Ponter, and Staples, and Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, at the 2024 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting.
- 2 Appoints Councillor Ponter as the Presiding Delegate for the voting on behalf of Council at the 2024 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting.
- 3 Appoints Councillor Staples and Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, as Alternate Delegates for voting on behalf of Council at the 2024 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting if Councillor Ponter is absent.

The motion was **carried**.

20 Finance Update – May 2024 – Report 24.340 [For Information]

Ashwin Pai, Head of Finance, spoke to the report.

Resolution to exclude the public

21 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 24.342

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Gaylor

That the Council excludes the public from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Proposed Natural Resources Plan Change 1: Appointment of Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearing Panel – Report PE24.20

Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency Shareholders' Agreement Update and Appointment of Director – PE24.341

Appointment of Member to the Farming Reference Group – Report PE24.319

Appointment of Member to the Public Transport Advisory Group – Report PE24.325

Confirmation of the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 11 June 2024 – Report RPE24.318

Chief Executive Performance Indicators for 2024/25 – Report RPE24.328

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific ground/s under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Proposed Natural Resources Plan Change 1: Appointment of Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearing Panel – Report PE24.20	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Information contained in this report will include personal and identifying information about proposed candidates for appointment. Release of this information prior to Council's decision is likely to prejudice the privacy of natural persons (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as releasing this information would disclose their consideration for appointment on the Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel and nomination to the Freshwater hearings panel.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.</p>

the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.	
Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency Shareholders' Agreement Update and Appointment of Director – PE24.341	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>The information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about the proposed candidate for appointment. Withholding this information prior to Council's decision is necessary to protect the privacy of that natural person (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as releasing this information would disclose their consideration as a Director of the Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency (WellingtonNZ).</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.</p>
Appointment of member to the Farming Reference Group – Report PE24.319	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about a proposed candidate for appointment. Release of this information prior to Council's decision is likely to prejudice the privacy of natural persons (section 7(2) (a) of the Act) as releasing this information would disclose their consideration for appointment to the Farming Reference Group.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.</p>

Appointment of member to the Public Transport Advisory Group – Report PE24.325	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>The information contained in this report includes personal information provided by an applicant for appointment to the Public Transport Advisory Group. Excluding the public from the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as holding this part of the meeting in public would release information that is private to the individuals concerned.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.</p>
Confirmation of the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 11 June 2024 – Report RPE24.318	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>The information contained in these minutes relates to Greater Wellington’s financial support of CentrePort Limited. Release of the information contained in this report would be likely to prejudice Greater Wellington and CentrePort Limited’s commercial position as the report identifies interest rate margins.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override this prejudice.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded in accordance with section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.</p>
Chief Executive Performance Indicators for 2024/25 – Report RPE24.328	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>This report contains information relating to the current Chief Executive’s performance agreement. Release of this information would prejudice the privacy of the Chief Executive, by disclosing</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of</p>

information pertaining to the employment relationship between the Chief Executive and the Council.

Greater Wellington Regional Council has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the Chief Executive's privacy.


natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Act and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Laban left the meeting at 11.18am and did not return.

The public part of the meeting closed at 11.18am.



Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date: 27 August 2024