

Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Council meeting on 5 December 2024.

Report 24.593

Public minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 31 October 2024

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 9.31am.

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (Chair)
Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Bassett
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Saw
Councillor Woolf

Councillors Laban and Lee participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25A 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

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Gaylor

That Council accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Ropata.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Graeme Clarke, Wellington Residents' Coalition, spoke, regarding water meters, in relation to agenda item 7 – Local Water Done Well – Update and Preferred Model.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 26 September 2024 – Report 24.540

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Duthie

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 26 September 2024 – Report 24.540, as corrected.

The motion was **carried**.

Note: The minutes were corrected to record that for agenda item 13, Decisions on Proposed Change 1 and Variation 1 to the Regional Policy Statement for Wellington Region – Report 24.408, the motion was carried.

5 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Representation Review Committee meeting on 10 October 2024 – Report 24.557

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Nash

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Representation Review Committee meeting on 10 October 2024 – Report 24.557.

The motion was **carried**.

6 Adoption of the 2023/24 Annual Report – Report 24.580

Sam Ripley, Advisor Planning and Reporting, Ashwin Pai, Financial Controller, Clint Ramoo, Audit Director, Audit NZ, and Nosiviewe Tsotso, Audit Manager, Audit NZ, spoke to the report. Example pages of the Annual Report design were tabled.

Mr Ramoo thanked Greater Wellington officers for their assistance to the audit. He advised that, as in 2023, Audit NZ would issue a qualified audit report, with a qualification relating to Greater Wellington's Carbon Emission measures regarding greenhouse gas emissions' calculations. He noted that Greater Wellington has undertaken very good work on this, which sets a strong foundation for reporting in the next year.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Duthie

That Council:

- 1 Adopts Greater Wellington Regional Council's Annual Report (Attachment 1) and the Summary of the Annual Report (Attachment 2) for the year ended 30 June 2024.
- 2 Authorises the Chief Executive to make minor changes that may arise as part of finalising the audited Annual Report and Summary of the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2024.

The motion was **carried**.

7 Local Water Done Well – Update and Preferred Model – Report 24.582

Julie Knauf, Group Manager Corporate Services, spoke to the report.

The meeting adjourned at 11.05am and resumed at 11.20am.

Moved: Cr Connelly/ Cr Duthie

That Council:

Water Services Delivery Plan requirements

- 1 Notes the legislative changes enacted through the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024, to address long standing water infrastructure challenges.
- 2 Notes that the Government intends to introduce further water services legislation in December 2024, to be enacted in mid-2025, that will establish the enduring settings for the new water services system.
- 3 Notes that Council is required to submit a Water Services Delivery Plan to the Secretary for Local Government by 3 September 2025 and that this plan will be binding.
- 4 Notes that the Local Government (Water Services Preliminary Arrangements) Act 2024 provides alternative decision making and consultation arrangements that councils must use when considering the future water services delivery model.
- 5 Notes that under these arrangements Council must consider and consult on the (enhanced) status quo and the proposed or anticipated model, and may consider and consult on additional options if it chooses to.
- 6 Notes that the option to establish a water services Council Controlled Organisation would involve transferring the ownership of water assets to an independent water entity.
- 7 Notes that the consultation on the options to establish a new water services entity, will take place in early 2025.
- 8 Notes that New Zealand's water management regime has consistently undermined Māori rights and interests in water.

- 9 Notes that Council will continue to work to strengthen the level of involvement and influence that mana whenua partners have at all levels of the design process and in any proposed new model.
- 10 Notes Council's commitment to upholding Te Mana o te Wai and its relevance to the delivery of water services.

Regional collaboration to date

- 11 Notes that on 11 April 2024 Council agreed to adopt the non-binding MoU to jointly investigate a water service delivery plan with the other councils in the region.
- 12 Notes that all councils within the Wellington Region plus Horowhenua District Council have worked collaboratively on exploring a joint approach to water management across the region.
- 13 Receives the report dated 4 October 2024 - Recommended regional approach to a joint Water Services Delivery Plan and delivery model report - which is the result of the work so far on this joint regional option (Attachment 1).
- 14 Notes the report sets out a proposed regional asset owning Water Services Council Controlled Organisation model for participating councils to consider and compare with their current service delivery model.
- 15 Notes that the proposed joint regional model will be considered by each of the participating councils in late October and November 2024, with some expected to consider other options, such that the new model may not include all ten participating councils.

Water Services Delivery Model – next steps

- 16 Notes that Council needs to progress this matter now so that there is sufficient time for the development of the Water Services Delivery Plan and an accompanying implementation plan which is required to be submitted to the Minister of Local Government by 3 September 2025.
- 17 Agrees to continue with the regional process to develop a joint regional option for a Water Services Council Controlled Organisation.
- 18 Notes that continuing with the joint regional option is not binding at this point in time.
- 19 Notes, in line with DIA guidance, that officers will work with other participating councils to prepare a draft joint regional Water Services Delivery Plan.
- 20 Agrees that Council consult on two options, being:
 - a new regional asset owning Water Services Council Controlled Organisation, as proposed; or
 - the status quo, with changes to meet new legislative requirements, of a non-asset owning Council Controlled Organisation, as currently exists with Wellington Water Limited.

- 21 Adopts in principle, as its preferred option for consultation, the proposed Water Services Council Controlled Organisation model requiring a joint Water Services Delivery Plan.
- 22 Agrees, in principle, that Greater Wellington works with other councils in the region on a joint consultation plan for undertaking the requisite public engagement on the future proposed model for the ownership and delivery of water services.
- 23 Notes that, as part of the 2025/26 Annual Plan process, officers will include provision for a contribution of up to \$500,000 towards Greater Wellington's share of the ongoing work required to progress the proposed regional model and joint Water Services Delivery Plan.
- 24 Agrees that it is in the interest of any new Water Services Council Controlled Organisation for Greater Wellington to remain as a shareholder for an establishment period, with the option to exit at a later date.
- 25 Agrees, that as part of the continued work on a Water Services Delivery Plan, the Chair requests that in the next stages of the work the Advisory Oversight Group explore the need for the development of a consumer charter.
- 26 Agrees that the Chair's request asks the Advisory Oversight Group to explore the need for a charter or similar mechanism to consider elements such as protecting and communicating the rights of local water users, safeguarding the environment, considering living wage and ethical procurement under any new entity, consistent with the regulatory and consumer protection framework which will be introduced via the Local Government Water Services Bill in December 2024.

The motion was **carried**.

8 Final Representation Proposal for the 2025 Triennial Local Elections – Report 24.473

Councillor Ponter spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Saw

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the reasons for rejection of the submissions on Council's initial representation proposal, as follows:

Alternative proposal	Description of alternative proposal	Reason for rejection of alternative proposal
1	That a total of 11 members should be elected, being one member from the Māori Constituency, and 10 members from six general constituencies whose boundaries align with the current territorial authority boundaries (constituencies	Rejected. This alternative proposal would not enable effective representation for communities of interest in the regional context, taking into account the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Geographic size and diversity of the Wellington Region with its urban and rural areas

Alternative proposal	Description of alternative proposal	Reason for rejection of alternative proposal
	covering the areas of Kapiti Coast District; Porirua City; Wellington City; Lower Hutt City; Upper Hutt City; and Wairarapa districts).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diversity of Council's statutory functions Need for efficient and effective governance of the Wellington Region Enabling of community access to members and vice versa.
2A	That Council's initial representation proposal should be amended to provide a second member for the Kāpiti Coast General Constituency, through a reduction in one member from the Pōneke/Wellington General Constituency.	Rejected. This alternative proposal would not provide effective representation for communities of interest in the regional context and fair representation for electors.
2B	That Council's initial representation proposal should be amended to provide a second member for the Kāpiti Coast General Constituency, through a reduction in one member from the Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt General Constituency.	Rejected. This alternative proposal would not provide effective representation for communities of interest in the regional context and fair representation for electors.

- Confirms its initial representation proposal as its final representation proposal for the 2025 triennial local elections.
- Adopts the final representation proposal for the 2025 triennial local elections that provides for a Council of 14 members elected from seven constituencies as follows:

Māori constituency name	Number of members	Community of interest represented by the Māori constituency	Māori Electoral Population represented by the member
Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui Māori Constituency	1	The area of the Wellington Region	45,000

General constituency name	Number of members	Community of interest represented by the general constituency	General Electoral Population represented by each member (Regional average population: 38,869) (+/-10% range from the average: 34,982 to 42,756)
Pōneke/Wellington General Constituency	5	The area of Wellington City, excluding the area of the Tawa Community	38,420

Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt General Constituency	3	The area of Lower Hutt City	33,767
Porirua-Tawa General Constituency	2	The area of Porirua City, and the area of the Tawa Community of Wellington City	34,050
Kāpiti Coast General Constituency	1	The area of the Kapiti Coast District	53,400
Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt General Constituency	1	The area of Upper Hutt City	44,400
Wairarapa General Constituency	1	The area of South Wairarapa District, Carterton District and Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region	46,000

The motion was **carried**.

9 National Land Transport Plan Funding – Implications – Report 24.491

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

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Gaylor

That Council:

- 1 Notes a \$134.5 million shortfall in future investment funding across the current triennium, created by declined funding applications from the National Land Transport Fund (NLTF) (in the Significant Investment Programme and Low Cost Low Risk funding classes).
- 2 Notes that the NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi decision to decline NLTF funding on Council's \$268m three year PT infrastructure plan will have a material negative impact on public transport in the Wellington Region.
- 3 Notes that ongoing funding envelopes for most existing operational costs, which fall under the 'Continuous Programme' funding class were close to Long Term Plan 2024-2034 budgets and that most unfunded projects relate to investments programmes and specific enhancement and renewal projects.
- 4 Notes that Council has indicated to officers that total investment budgets should remain within existing Long Term Plan 2024-2034 cost envelopes, which equates to 49% of the original Long Term Plan 2024-2034 budgets or the 'local share' for underfunded projects.

- 5 Notes that officers have undertaken a series of prioritisation sessions, which have looked at managing the investment shortfall while minimising the impact on activities critical to public services.
- 6 Notes that in developing the revised investment programme, officers have prioritised projects that deliver safety and accessibility improvements, and key enabling projects that unlock future network growth and value.
- 7 Approves the changes to the 'Significant Investment Programme' and 'Low Cost Low Risk Programme' as detailed below and financially summarised in Attachment 1 to this report.

The motion was **carried**.

10 Appointment of Carterton District Council Members to Committees – Report 24.566

Lucas Stevenson, Democratic Services Advisor, spoke to the report. Updated recommendations were tabled.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Staples

That Council:

- 1 Revokes the appointment of Councillor Dale Williams as alternate member for Carterton District Council on the Regional Transport Committee and the Wairarapa Committee.
- 2 Appoints Deputy Mayor Steve Cretney as alternate member for Carterton District Council on the Regional Transport Committee and the Wairarapa Committee.
- 3 Revokes the appointment of Councillor Robyn Cherry-Campbell to the Waiōhine River Plan Advisory Committee.
- 4 Appoints Councillor Brian Deller to the Waiōhine River Plan Advisory Committee.

The motion was **carried**.

11 Shareholder Resolutions in Lieu of Annual General Meeting: WRC Holdings Limited – Report 24.587

Sarah Allen, Head of Company Portfolio and Economic Development, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Bassett

That Council:

- 1 Agrees, as sole shareholder of WRC Holdings Limited, that the company is not required to hold an Annual General Meeting relating to the financial year ending 30 June 2024.
- 2 Resolves the written resolutions contained in Attachment 1 (Shareholder resolutions for WRC Holdings Limited).

- 3 Authorises the Council Chair to sign the resolutions of the sole shareholder contained in Attachment 1.

The motion was **carried**.

12 CCO Annual Reports 2023/24 – Report 24.568 [For Information]

Sarah Allen, Head of Company Portfolio and Economic Development, spoke to the report.

13 Finance Update – September 2024 – Report 24.585 [For Information]

Ashwin Pai, Head of Finance, and Alison Trustrum-Rainey, Group Manager Finance and Risk, spoke to the report.

Resolution to exclude the public

14 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 24.590

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Saw

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

Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 26 September 2024 – Report PE24.541

Appointment of member to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee – Report PE24.559

Bus services procurement - Confirming the draft commercial terms for operator and market engagement – Report RPE24.563

Confirmation of the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 26 September 2024 - Report RPE24.542

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:

Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 26 September 2024 – Report PE24.541	
<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>
Information contained in these minutes relates to a proposed land purchase and a lease arrangement, with each upon terms and conditions that are yet to be negotiated and	The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(i) of the Act in order enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without

<p>agreed. Having this part of the meeting open to the public would disadvantage Greater Wellington Regional Council in its negotiations as it would reveal Greater Wellington Regional Council's negotiation strategy (Section 7(2)(i)).</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in and has determined that there is no 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>prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p>
<p>Appointment of member to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee – Report PE24.559</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>
<p>Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about a candidate for appointment to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee. Release of this information 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 as a Committee member.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has considered whether the public interest outweighs the need to withhold the information and has determined that there is no 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>
<p>Bus services procurement - Confirming the draft commercial terms for operator and market engagement – Report RPE24.563</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>

<p>Certain information contained in this report relates to future bus service procurement and contracting in the Wellington Region. Release of this information would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington to carry on negotiations and may affect the probity of the bus services procurement process (section 7(2)(i) of the Act).</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)(i) of the Act in order enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p>
<p align="center">Confirmation of the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 26 September 2024 – Report RPE24.542</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>
<p>Information contained in these minutes relates to future bus service procurement and contracting in the Wellington Region. –Release of this information would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington to carry on negotiations, and may affect the probity of the bus services procurement process (section 7(2)(i) of the Act).</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)(i) of the Act in order enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p>

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**.

The public part of the meeting closed at 12.00pm.

Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date:

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