

Farming Reference Group (An advisory body to the Environment and Climate Committee)

1 Purpose

Advise on matters related to Greater Wellington's functions that affect the well-being of the Wellington Region's farming communities.

2 Specific responsibilities

2.1 Apply Council's Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles when conducting the Farming Reference Group's business:

- a **Pātuitanga | Relationships and Partnerships** – ensure decisions are based on shared knowledge, expertise and values maintained and sustained through active relationships and meaningful partnerships with mana whenua. These relationships and partnerships will contribute to Greater Wellington's core business services, functions, and systems to develop and deliver our shared aspirations across our Greater Wellington rohe;
- b **Kōwhiringa | Options** – actively partner with mana whenua to enable effective governance decision making that is informed by kaupapa Māori and mātauranga Māori analytical frameworks and knowledge systems in identifying feasible and meaningful options and solutions;
- c **Tino rangatiratanga | Self Determination** – position Greater Wellington to give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and uphold the interests of mana whenua in exercising their tino rangatiratanga in planning and promoting quality services that enable self-determination for whānau and community;
- d **Whakamaru | Active protection** – assess how decisions work towards protecting mana Motuhake (rights and interests of mana whenua) through relevant mutually beneficial strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives; and
- e **Oritetanga | Equity** - uphold the principle of fairness in the design and distribution of Greater Wellington's resources and services through the Long Term Plan to meet the needs and aspirations of whānau within our Greater Wellington rohe.

2.2 Ensure that the Farming Reference Group's advice:

- a Considers climate change-related risks (mitigation and adaptation); and
- b Is consistent with Council's plans and initiatives to give effect to Council's declaration of a climate emergency on 21 August 2019, including agreed emissions reduction targets.

- 2.3 Advise on the sustainable management of the Wellington Region within a framework of environmental and economic sustainability as it relates to the following issues:
- a Soil conservation;
 - b Flood protection;
 - c Plant and animal pests;
 - d Climate change;
 - e Nutrient management;
 - f Biodiversity protection and enhancement; and
 - g Riparian management.
- 2.4 Advise on:
- a Farming matters during the development of the Wellington Region's Natural Resources Plan; and
 - b Matters related to Greater Wellington's other functions that affect the farming communities within the Wellington Region.
- 2.5 Establish robust and enduring partnerships between Greater Wellington and the Wellington Region's farming communities and stakeholders.

3 Reporting and servicing

- 3.1 After each meeting, the Chair of the Farming Reference shall provide, and speak to, a written report on the business conducted at that meeting to the next Environment and Climate Committee meeting.
- 3.2 The Farming Reference Group is serviced and facilitated by the Environment Group.

4 Members

Up to eleven persons appointed by Council, as follows:

- a Two Councillors; and
- b Up to nine persons, nominated for each person's skills, attributes, or knowledge to assist the work of the Farming Reference Group (including their networks in the Wellington Region's farming communities).

5 Chair

Council appoints the Chair from the non-Councillor members, on nomination of the Farming Reference Group.

6 Quorum

Six members.

7 Term of appointment

A member's term of appointment ceases if the member resigns or misses two consecutive meetings without tendering an apology.

8 Remuneration and expenses

Members (who are not otherwise being remunerated) may claim Greater Wellington's standard daily meeting fee and mileage allowances and/or public transport expenses.

9 Meeting procedure and frequency

9.1 All members have equal speaking and voting rights (one vote per member).

9.2 The Farming Reference Group shall meet up to six times each year, with additional meetings as required.

10 Status of the Farming Reference Group

10.1 The Farming Reference Group is an advisory body established by Council.

10.2 The Farming Reference Group is not a subordinate decision making body of Council and is not a committee under the Local Government Act 2002.

11 Duration of the Farming Reference Group

In the absence of Council's prior decision to continue the Farming Reference Group in the next triennium, the Farming Reference Group is dissolved at the end of the 2025—28 triennium.

