Wellington
Regional Leadership Committee

Report 26.111

Confirmed Public minutes of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee meeting on Tuesday 17 March 2026

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 11.06am

Members Present

Councils

Mayor Anita Baker	Porirua City Council
Mayor Steve Cretney	Carterton District Council
Mayor Janet Holborow	Kāpiti Coast District Council
Mayor Ken Laban	Hutt City Council
Mayor Andrew Little	Wellington City Council
Council Chair Daran Ponter	Greater Wellington Regional Council
Mayor Fran Wilde	South Wairarapa District Council
Mayor Peri Zee	Upper Hutt City Council

Iwi

Darrin Apanui	Rangitāne Tū Mai Rā Trust
Denise Hapeta	Raukawa ki te Tonga
Ray Hall	Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki-nui-a-Rua Settlement Trust
Helmut Modlik	Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Inc
Huia Puketapu	Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust

Observers

Council Chair Nikki Riley	Horizons Regional Council

Denise Hapeta and Ray Hall 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.

Lucas Stevenson, Kaitohutohu Ratonga Manapori | Democratic Services Advisor, presided at the meeting until the Deputy Chair was elected at agenda item 4.

Karakia timatanga

The Presiding Chair invited Darrin Apanui to open the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Council Chair Daran Ponter / Mayor Andrew Little

That the Committee accepts the apologies for absence from Mayors Johnson and Wanden.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Process for the election of the Chair and Deputy Chair – Report 26.85

Lucas Stevenson, Democratic Services Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Mayor Anita Baker / Darrin Apanui

That the Committee:

Considerations for the appointment of chairperson

1 Notes that the Committee resolved at its meeting on 5 December 2023 that:

a the Committee Chairperson will not be independent but will be drawn from the local government and iwi members of the Committee

b if the Committee Chairperson position is filled by a local government member, then the Committee Deputy Chairperson position shall be filled by an iwi member, and vice versa

c the iwi member being either the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson will be remunerated for this position in addition to the current member remuneration, with the additional remuneration determined by Greater Wellington Regional Council, as the Administering Authority

d the Committee Chairperson and the Deputy Chairperson will operate as if they are "dual chairs".

2 Agrees that the Committee Chairperson will not be independent but will be drawn from the local government and iwi members of the Committee.

3 Agrees that if the Committee Chairperson position is filled by a local government member, then the Deputy Chairperson position shall be filled by an iwi member, and vice versa.

4 Agrees that for the purpose of leading the business of the Committee, that the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will operate as if they are Co-Chairs.

5 Notes that the iwi member being either the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson will be remunerated for this position in addition to the current member remuneration, with this additional remuneration determined by Greater Wellington Regional Council, as the Administering Authority.

6 Notes that the person nominated by the Committee to fill the role of Committee Chairperson is appointed by Greater Wellington Regional Council, as the Administering Authority, on the recommendation of the Committee.

7 Notes that the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson hold office until the next triennial local government elections.

Election process

8 Adopts, pursuant to Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002: Appointment by statutory voting system A.

9 Agrees that any voting that requires a resolution by 'lot' to exclude any person/s will use the procedure where candidates' names (with the same number of votes) are placed in a container and the name of the person drawn out by an independent person is deemed the winner (i.e. elected, or not excluded from the next round).

10 Adopts the voting system and procedure outlined in recommendations 4 and 5 for the nomination of the Chairperson and appointment of the Deputy Chairperson.

The motion was **carried**.

4.1 Appointment of Chair

Lucas Stevenson advised that the Committee Agreement outlines the appointment of Chairperson. The Committee nominates a member for the Administering Authority to appoint. Lucas Stevenson called for nominations for the position of Chairperson of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

Moved: Mayor Zee / Huia Puketapu

That the Committee recommends to Greater Wellington Regional Council to appoint Council Chair Daran Ponter as Chair of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

Moved: Mayor Baker / Mayor Laban

That the Committee recommends to Greater Wellington Regional Council to appoint Mayor Andrew Little as Chair of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

There were no further nominations.

Voting was done via show of hands, with eight votes for Council Chair Daran Ponter and four votes for Mayor Andrew Little.

Council Chair Daran Ponter was declared to be nominated as Chairperson for appointment by the Administering Authority.

4.2 Appointment of Deputy Chairperson

Lucas Stevenson called for nominations for the position of Deputy Chairperson of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

Moved: Darrin Apanui / Council Chair Ponter

That the Committee appoints Helmut Modlik as Deputy Chair of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

There being no further nominations, Helmut Modit was declared the Deputy Chairperson of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

Council Chair Daran Ponter presided at the meeting in the absence of the Chair being appointed and the Deputy Chair attending online.

5 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Committee meeting of 18 March 2025 - Report 25.123

Moved: Huia Puketapu / Mayor Janet Holborow

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Committee meeting of 18 March 2025 – Report 25.123.

The motion was **carried**.

6 Adoption of the 2026 meeting schedule – Report 26.84

Moved: Mayor Steve Cretney / Mayor Peri Zee

That the Committee:

1 Adopts the 2026 meeting schedule as follows:

   a 23 June

   b 22 September

   c 8 December

2 Authorises the Head of Governance and Democracy, Greater Wellington, in consultation with the Head of Secretariat, Wellington Regional

Leadership Committee, and the Committee Chair and Deputy Chair, to amend the schedule as required.

3 Notes that, as the Administering Authority, Greater Wellington will circulate the meeting schedule to members and stakeholders.

The motion was **carried**.

7 Wellington Regional Leadership Committee members introduction – Report 26.87 [For information]

Jaine Lovell-Gadd, Head of Secretariat, and member Darrin Apanui, spoke to the report.

8 Wellington Regional Leadership Committee Secretariat Report March 2026 – Report 26.95 [For information]

Allen Yip, Programme Manager, Ellie Tuckey, Programme Advisor, and Mark Oldershaw, Chief Executive WellingtonNZ spoke to the report.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public meeting closed at 11.44am.

Council Chair D Ponter
Chair

Date: 23 June 2026