

HUTT CITY COUNCILKOMITI KAUPAPA TAIAO
CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held via Zoom

on

Thursday 3 March 2022 commencing at 2.00pmPRESENT:

(via audio-visual link)

Cr J Briggs (Chair)

Mayor C Barry

Deputy Mayor T Lewis

Cr S Edwards

Cr S Rasheed (Deputy Chair)

Cr A Mitchell

Cr N Shaw

APOLOGIES:

Cr Brown

IN ATTENDANCE:

(via audio-visual link)

Ms A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities

Ms H Oram, Director Environment and Sustainability

Mr K Puketapu-Dentice, Director Economy and Development

Mr J Scherzer, Head of Climate Change and Solid Waste

Mr D Koenders, Manager Financial Strategy and Planning

Mr D Uppal, Solid Waste Manager

Ms K Crandle, Head of Parks and Reserves

Mr D Burt, Senior Advisor Climate and Sustainability

Ms D Gharbaoui, Policy Advisor

Ms K Glanville, Senior Democracy Advisor

Ms H Clegg, Minute Taker

PUBLIC BUSINESSOPENING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Kia hora te marino

May peace be wide spread

Kia whakapapa pounamu te moana

May the sea be like greenstone

He huarahi mā tātou i te rangi nei

A pathway for us all this day

Aroha atu, aroha mai

Let us show respect for each other

Tātou i a tātou katoa

For one another

Hui e Tāiki e!

Bind us together!

1. APOLOGIES

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Shaw)

Minute No. CCASC 22101

"That the apology received from Cr Brown be accepted and leave of absence be granted."

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

**4. RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL | TE KAUNIHERA O TE AWA
KAIRANGI - 23 MARCH 2022**

Te Ara Whakamua o Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt Climate Action Pathway (22/431)

The Head of Climate and Solid Waste elaborated on the report. He advised the Te Ara Whakamua O Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt Climate Action Pathway (the Pathway) had been produced by a co-design approach with the community. He said that climate change solutions required community effort. He thanked the members of the Lead Group for their work.

The Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised the goal of diverting 1,100 tonnes of green waste (page 97 of the agenda) should read 2,100 tonnes. He believed the use of the word 'planned' when referring to the District Plan Review was appropriate due to the process being paused while resources were diverted to the intensification aspect of the review. He said the Pathway was a living document and any updates could be included at a later date.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste confirmed the Pathway document would be available on Council's website and would contain all relevant links. He agreed to report back to members regarding the origin of the '*survey of businesses*' referred to on page 52 of the agenda.

Mr Bruce Anderson, Lead Group member, said the Pathway document was a first step to progressing actions required to slow the effects of climate change in the city. He confirmed it was a living document, which would change as time went by to reflect changes made and challenges faced. He believed there was more to be done regarding the population's consumption behaviour.

Ms Virginia Horrocks, Lead Group member, thanked Council for setting

up the co-design process and for their work. She especially thanked the Head of Climate and Solid Waste. She noted that Council was a leader in New Zealand with its climate change response.

Ms Karen Yung, representing the Zero Carbon Hutt Network on the Lead Group, said she was thankful to Council for setting up the co-design group and opening the process to the community. She agreed the Pathway document was a living document and noted there would be updates on the progress of actions. She thanked all members of the Lead Group for their contributions.

In response to a question from a member regarding the learnings of individual Lead Group members, Mr Anderson said the process had enabled beneficial conversations with agencies. He added this communication would lead to better outcomes.

In response to a question from a member, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised paragraphs 9-12 of the report detailed the next steps, including how to update the document once actions commenced.

Cr Mitchell thanked the Lead Group for their time and passion in developing the Pathway. He looked forward to it transitioning into action.

Cr Briggs believed the Pathway would begin to empower the community to take action against climate change.

Cr Shaw commended all those involved in the Pathway. She expressed concern that currently not enough was being done to achieve carbon zero by 2050.

Mayor Barry stated the Pathway was one of the most important pieces of work for the future of the city, region, country and world. He thanked everyone for their effort and work. He said the next step was obtaining the buy-in of the community.

RECOMMENDED: (Cr Rasheed/Cr Mitchell) **Minute No. CCASC 22102**

"That the Committee recommends that Council:

- (1) endorses and supports the finalised Te Ara Whakamua o Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai Lower Hutt Climate Action Pathway entitled 'Ka whati te tai, ka pao te tōrea! Our race against time' attached as Appendix 1 to the report;*
- (2) acknowledges the Lead Group members for their significant contribution and leadership in the design of the engagement process and the development of the Pathway document; and*
- (3) notes the transition of the existing Lead Group into the Lower Hutt Climate Action Pathway Steering Group to oversee the implementation of the Pathway."*

5. **CLIMATE CHANGE RELATED REPORTING** (21/1868)

Report No. CCASC2022/1/43 by the Manager Financial Strategy & Planning

The Manager Financial Strategy and Planning elaborated on the report.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Shaw) **Minute No. CCASC 22103**

"That the Committee:

- (1) *receives the report; and*
- (2) *notes that officers will undertake work with the intention of including climate change related disclosures in or alongside Council's Annual Report for future annual reports beginning in the 2022/23 financial year."*

6. **UPDATE ON COUNCIL'S SOLID WASTE AND WASTE MINIMISATION WORK**
(22/25)

Report No. CCASC2022/1/45 by the Solid Waste Manager

The Solid Waste Manager elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised projected revenues for rubbish and recycling were \$5.8M and \$3.9M respectively and that the projected costs were in line with these figures. He added the projected costs of the greenwaste service were \$600,000 and revenue was \$420,000. He noted this was a new service and full cost recovery was not expected at this stage. He stated that \$55,000 had been added to the 2022/23 budget for contamination penalties. He noted that currently contamination rates were 16%-17%, and if that level continued, the budget would not be sufficient. He was optimistic that work in education and behavioural change could bring the contamination rate down to more manageable levels.

In response to further questions from members, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised the overheads for the combined cost of rubbish, recycling and green waste were \$632,000 with \$874,000 for other operating costs. He explained officers were looking at employing a consultant for food waste. He said it was preferable for all councils in the region to work jointly on food waste, however each council was at a different stage. He confirmed more households were using Council's rubbish and recycling system and that this added more potential for contamination. He agreed working with the community with effective education programmes was a good way to reduce contamination rates.

In response to a question from a member, The Solid Waste Manager advised contamination occurred due to a lack of education and care. He added that officers were currently analysing which suburbs had the highest contamination levels and which materials were causing the contamination. He advised the results of the analysis would help to target education programmes. He agreed to present the findings in future reports to the Committee.

In response to a question from a member regarding how the contamination penalties would be funded, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised they were currently funded through the kerbside collection budget.

Cr Edwards suggested that once the education programme had commenced, households identified as contaminators should move to a three strike system as costs were high and unsustainable. He advocated for zero tolerance of abuse of Council's recycling system.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Edwards) **Minute No. CCASC 22104**

"That the Committee notes the update on various solid waste management and minimisation matters."

7. WHAITUA TE WHANGANUI-A-TARA: UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION (22/26)

Report No. CCASC2022/1/46 by the Senior Advisor Climate and Sustainability

The Senior Advisor Climate And Sustainability elaborated on the report.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Deputy Mayor Lewis) **Minute No. CCASC 22105**

"That the Committee receives and notes the report."

8. UPDATE ON COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE WORK (22/24)

Report No. CCASC2022/1/44 by the Head of Climate and Solid Waste

The Head of Climate and Solid Waste elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised that targets from the Carbon Reduction and Climate Resilience Plan 2021-2031 could be reported in future. He further advised that the Head of Transport would report back to members regarding progress on converting street lighting to LED. He noted that once all street lights had been converted, approximately 110 tonnes of carbon emissions would be saved.

In response to questions from members regarding liability numbers for the methane flare at the Silverstream Landfill, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised the calculations were difficult. He said this was due to the amount of gas being destroyed by the flare using material that had been in the landfill for the past 10 years. He added other calculations for liability were based on the tonnage of waste for the current year.

In response to questions from a member regarding the car share initiative, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised there were currently two car share companies operating in Wellington city – Mevo and City Hop. He said that Mevo had recently approached Council officers requesting a commitment from Council for its services should Mevo expand into the Hutt Valley. He said there had been no requests received from Mevo for

a reduction in parking fees for their vehicles. He referred to a 2018 report which recommended Council enable car share operators to pay for parking on an annual basis. He reiterated talks were continuing with Mevo.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Edwards)

Minute No. CCASC 22106

"That the Committee notes the update on various climate change work streams."

9. INFORMATION ITEMS

a) Update on pest and animal control work programme (22/406)

Report No. CCASC2022/1/47 by the Head of Parks and Reserves

The Head of Parks and Reserves elaborated on the report.

In response to a question from a member, the Head of Parks and Reserves advised the Silverstream Landfill site would be included in the 2022 deer culling operation. She explained deer numbers had been increasing in the area as deer moved between Stokes Valley and the landfill area.

Cr Mitchell said that community groups would like to be involved in the eradication programme, especially in monitoring pest animal numbers. He supported moves to eradicate pest animals.

Deputy Mayor Lewis supported an extra deer cull. She noted a resident in Wainuiomata had recently installed barbed wire around his property to prevent deer eating his vegetable garden.

Cr Briggs thanked officers for their work on what he believed would be an on-going problem. He was pleased with the increase in contractor capacity. He requested officers include an update on culled deer numbers in future reporting, along with a commentary on capacity and resources required. He added that in future he hoped other pest animals would be similarly controlled.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Mitchell)

Minute No. CCASC 22107

"That the Committee notes and receives the report."

b) Climate Change and Sustainability Committee Work Programme 2022 (22/360)

Report No. CCASC2022/1/34 by the Democracy Advisor

In response to a question from a member, the Head of Climate and Solid Waste advised that government's Emissions Reduction Plan (the Plan) was scheduled to be released in May 2022. He advised he would update the Committee on the Plan at its meeting on 14 July 2022.

In response to a question from a member, the Director Environment and Sustainability advised that due to staffing resourcing issues, work was being undertaken to assess how the Whaitua recommendations would be implemented. She agreed to keep members updated with progress on the matter.

Members noted the future reporting on pest and animal control work.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Mitchell) **Minute No. CCASC 22108**

"That the work programme be received and noted."

10. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

CLOSING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Whakataka te hau ki te uru
 Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
 Kia mākinakina ki uta
 Kia mātaratara ki tai
 E hī ake ana te atakura
 He tio, he huka, he hau hū
 Tīhei mauri ora.

*Cease the winds from the west
 Cease the winds from the south
 Let the breeze blow over the land
 Let the breeze blow over the ocean
 Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air
 A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.*

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at 3.19 pm.

J Briggs
CHAIR

**CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
 Dated this 23rd day of March 2022**