

Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Climate Committee meeting on 8 December 2020.

Report 20.362

## **Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on Tuesday 22 September 2020**

Council Chambers, Greater Wellington Regional Council  
Level 2, 15 Walter Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.30am

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### **Members Present**

Councillor Nash (Chair)  
Councillor Lee (Deputy Chair) (Until 9.55am)  
Councillor Brash  
Councillor Connelly  
Councillor Gaylor (from 10.15am)  
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand  
Councillor Laban  
Councillor van Lier  
Dr Maria Bargh

### **Karakia timatanga**

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

### **Public Business**

#### **1 Apologies**

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Laban

That the Committee accepts the apology for lateness from Councillor Gaylor and for early departure from Councillor Lee.

The motion was **carried**.

#### **2 Declarations of conflicts of interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

### **3 Public participation**

Russell Bell, on behalf of Friends of Queen Elizabeth Park, spoke to agenda item 8 – Applications to the Low Carbon Acceleration fund.

### **4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 23 June 2020 – Report 20.255**

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Connelly

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 23 June 2020 – Report 20.255

The motion was carried.

### **5 Update on progress of action items from previous meetings – September 2020– Report 20.228 [For Information]**

Luke Troy, General Manager Strategy, and Andrea Brandon, Programme Lead – Climate Change, spoke to the report.

### **6 Performance measures for the strategic priorities for the Climate Committee – Report 20.332**

Andrea Brandon, Programme Lead – Climate Change, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr van Lier

That the Committee:

- 1 Agrees that the performance measures for two of the Climate Committee's strategic priorities for the 2019-22 triennium are:
  - a Greater Wellington measures and reduces its own carbon footprint – we “walk the talk”

Carbon budgets and emissions reduction pathways to enable Greater Wellington to reach its carbon reduction goals for corporate emissions are set for the period 2021-2035, are science-based and pragmatic, and an emissions reduction plan for achieving them is in place. Key Performance Indicators are:

    - i Greater Wellington's corporate carbon footprint is measured annually and certified on a regular basis
    - ii Carbon budgets, the emissions reduction pathway and plan are adopted by the Climate Committee
    - iii Corporate carbon emissions have peaked, meaning they will have begun to track downwards after 2020
    - iv Funding towards the emissions reduction pathway is allocated in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.

- b To demonstrate Greater Wellington leads the regional sector in climate action, equitable progress is made towards being a climate-resilient, low emissions region.

Greater Wellington works with the regional sector to build the evidence base required to develop a regional emissions reduction plan and adaptation plan, enabling climate safe decision-making across the Wellington Region in times of uncertainty. Key Performance Indicators are:

- i Regional climate change impacts and risk assessments are up to date and complete at the regional scale
  - ii Regional greenhouse gas emissions are inventoried biennially
  - iii Funding for taking regional climate action is allocated in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.
- 2 Notes that the third strategic priority to co-design Council's strategy and approach for the Wellington Region to mitigate, adapt and transition to a low emissions regional economy with mana whenua, requires further discussion, additional resourcing and an assessment method for monitoring performance will need to be developed at a later point.

The motion was **carried**.

**Noted:** The Committee requested that assessments of projects be amortised, so that the Committee can review the costs and benefits of each project, including associated carbon savings over each project's life time, and that the annual cost/benefit be shown in terms of carbon savings.

Councillor Lee left the meeting at 9.55am, during questions of the above item, and did not return to the meeting.

## **7 Carbon reduction pathways and budgets for the Long Term Plan – 20.337**

Jake Roos, Climate Change Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Connelly

That the Committee:

- 1 Agrees that the measures required to reverse our increasing emissions trend and achieve our carbon reduction goals require a significant change to current practices from 2021 onwards.
- 2 Recommends to Council that two or more options for the corporate carbon emissions pathways and their associated measures (including one option for a scenario that represents a similar level of net emissions reduction to that achieved in the scenario B2-R2-P2 in Attachment 1) be included in the Consultation Document for the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.
- 3 Notes that officers will prepare a report, for the 8 December 2020 Climate Committee meeting, to provide a greater level of analysis into offsetting

options, and to explore the environmental impacts and preferences expressed by Councillors at the 3 September 2020 workshop.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Gaylor arrived at the meeting at 10.15am, during the introduction of the above item.

## **8 Applications to the Low Carbon Acceleration fund – Report 20.333**

Andrea Brandon, Programme Lead – Climate Change, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Connelly

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes the two applications for funding from the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (Attachments 1 and 2).
- 2 Considers the cost/benefit ratio of the two applications in reducing our corporate carbon footprint along with the wider co-benefits each project brings to Greater Wellington Regional Council.
- 3 Agrees to recommend the revised application for Queen Elizabeth Park to Council for funding of \$1,399,101 (GST exclusive) from the 2020/21 allocation for the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund.
- 4 Agrees to recommend the application for Kaitoke Regional Park to Council for funding of \$370,810 (GST exclusive) from the 2020/21 allocation for the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund.
- 5 Agrees to explore opportunities for local iwi to contribute to the design and implementation of the projects in recommendations 3 and 4.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 10.38am and resumed at 10.46am, before the debate of the above item.

## **9 Update on the Wellington Region Climate Change Working Group – Oral Report**

Suze Keith, Climate Change Advisor, reported back to the Committee on the business of the Wellington Region Climate Change Working Group (the Working Group).

Ms Keith advised that the Working Group was set up as a forum to build relationships and share knowledge and ideas with elected representatives from each council in the Wellington Region, and three representatives from Ara Tahi. After being in place for one triennium, the Working Group is reviewing its Terms of Reference, to ensure that the Terms of Reference are fit for purpose. There is agreement within the Working Group that the representation arrangements provided for in the Terms of Reference are not sufficient.

Ms Keith also advised the Committee that at the last meeting, the Working Group elected its Chair and Deputy Chair. Councillor Nash was elected Chair, and Deputy Mayor Swales, from Upper Hutt City Council, was elected as Deputy Chair.

## Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 10.55am.

Councillor T Nash  
Chair



Date: 10/12/20

