

Confirmed Public minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 7 December 2023

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 9.30am.

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (Chair)
Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie (from 9.31am)
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ropata (from 9.33am until 10.56am)
Councillor Saw
Councillor Woolf (from 9.31am)

Councillor Ropata attended the meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams, and counted for the purposes of quorum in accordance with clause 25B 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 Laban / Cr Staples

That Council accepts the apologies for absence from Councillors Bassett and Gaylor, and apology for lateness from Councillor Woolf.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Duthie arrived at the meeting at 9.31am, during the above item.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

Councillor Woolf arrived at the meeting at 9.31am, at the beginning of the above item.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 26 October 2023 – Report 23.556

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Laban

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 26 October 2023 – Report 23.556

The motion was **carried**.

5 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 31 October 2023 – Report 23.558

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Connelly

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 31 October 2023 – Report 23.558

The motion was **carried**.

Strategy, policy or major issues

6 Wellington Metropolitan Rail Network: Performance and Funding – Report 23.480

Samantha Gain, Group Manager Metlink, and Fiona Abbott, Senior Manager, Assets and Infrastructure, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the Rapid Review Report into KiwiRail's Handling of Recent Disruptions to Passenger Services identifies insufficient funding for the Wellington Metropolitan Rail Network and that KiwiRail have a significant backlog of renewals on the Wellington Metropolitan Rail Network.
- 2 Notes that the Crown's commitment in 2009, as part of the Metropolitan Rail Operating Model, to lift the rail network to an agreed serviceable standard has yet to be delivered.
- 3 Notes that the 30-year Wellington Strategic Rail Plan endorsed by Council on 30 June 2022 (refer Report PE22.243) and ratified by the Waka Kotahi Board in November 2023, has shown that approximately \$5.0 to \$7.8 billion of investment will be required in the Wellington Metropolitan Rail Network to

deliver desired national and regional outcomes over the next 30 years; the achievement of this Plan is dependent on a reliable and serviceable network.

- 4 Notes that the consequences of underinvestment in the Wellington Metropolitan Rail Network are:
 - a Continual managed decline of rail assets
 - b Long term reductions to passenger services
 - c Potential safety impacts
 - d Further significant and ongoing increases to funding required to bring the network to an agreed serviceable standard.
 - e Inability to implement planned timetable or service improvements.
- 5 Notes that a Joint Governance Group has been established for KiwiRail and Greater Wellington senior executives to collaborate on rail network challenges.
- 6 Agrees that while Greater Wellington contributes to the maintenance of the Wellington Metropolitan Rail Network (via the Wellington Network Agreement), delivering on the extent of investment identified as being required for the Wellington Metropolitan Rail Network should not fall on the ratepayers of Greater Wellington but on the Crown.
- 7 Notes that the Chair has updated the incoming Minister of Transport and the shareholder ministers of KiwiRail on the under-investment in the Wellington Metropolitan Rail Network and identifies a pathway for an updated and agile funding model and future investment.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Ropata arrived at the meeting at 9.33am, during the introduction of the above item.

7 Insertion of Housing Bottom Lines into the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region – Report 23.630

Fathima Iftikar, Director Strategy, Policy and Regulation, and Mika Zollner, Senior Policy Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Staples

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the changes to the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region to insert the updated housing bottom lines from the 2023 Wellington Regional Housing and Business Capacity Assessment Update using the format recommended by officers in Attachment 1, and the specific numbers from that report.
- 2 Approves the draft public notice in Attachment 2.

The motion was **carried**.

8 Adoption of Greater Wellington’s Significance and Engagement Policy 2023 – Report 23.641

Zofia Miliszewska, Head of Strategy and Performance, and Tyler Dunkel, Manager Corporate Planning and Reporting spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Adopts Greater Wellington's Significance and Engagement Policy 2023 (Attachment 1), subject to the "Partnering with Mana Whenua" section being placed as subclause under the "Engagement" section.
- 2 Authorises the Chief Executive to make minor editorial changes to the Policy prior to publication, to correct errors and improve public understanding.
- 3 Notes that the Significance and Engagement Policy 2023 will be used to support the preparation of the consultation and engagement approach for the 2024-34 Long Term Plan.

The motion was **carried**.

9 Low Carbon Acceleration Fund Allocation for Parks Restoration 2025-27 – Report 23.624

Zofia Miliszewska, Head of Strategy and Performance, and Jake Roos, Manager, Climate Change, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Saw

That Council approves a further allocation of \$2.6 million from the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund towards the Recloaking Papatūānuku Parks Restoration Project for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years.

The motion was **carried**.

10 Government's Policy Direction – Understanding what it means for Greater Wellington – Report 23.642 [For Information]

Luke Troy, Group Manager, Strategy, and Fathima Iftikar, Director, Strategy, Policy and Regulation, spoke to the report.

Noted: The Council requested that Council and committees received relevant updates on progress with implementation of the Government's commitments with regard to matters of relevance and impact for Greater Wellington.

Councillor Ropata left the meeting at 10.56am, during questions on the above item, and did not return.

The meeting adjourned at 11.02am and resumed at 11.25am. Cr Duthie was not present when the meeting reconvened.

Governance

11 Statements of Expectations for Council Organisations 2024/25 – Report 23.639

Sarah Allen, Principal Advisor, Company Portfolio and Economic Development, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Nash

That Council:

- 1 Approves the key themes for the Statements of Expectations (Attachment 1), for the following Council Organisations:
 - a WRC Holdings Limited
 - b Wellington Regional Stadium Trust
 - c Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency (WellingtonNZ)
- 2 Delegates to the Council Chair authority to sign off the final Statements of Expectation for delivery to each Council Organisation.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Duthie returned to the meeting at 11.26am, following the vote on the above item.

12 Power of Attorney to Sign Deeds – Report 23.605

Francis Ryan, Head of Governance and Democracy, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Staples

That Council:

- 1 Revokes, effective 11 December 2023, the Power of Attorney to sign deeds on behalf of Council, granted to Sue McLean, Group Manager.
- 2 Grants, effective 11 December 2023, a Power of Attorney to Julie Knauf, Group Manager, to sign deeds on behalf of the Council.
- 3 Confirms the Power of Attorney granted to Samantha Gain, Group Manager.
- 4 Confirms the Power of Attorney granted to Nigel Corry, Chief Executive.
- 5 Authorises two Councillors to sign the Power of Attorney document for Julie Knauf, Group Manager (Attachment 1) as a deed.

The motion was **carried**.

13 Financial Delegations for Emergency Expenditure – Report 23.405

Francis Ryan, Head of Governance and Democracy, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Duthie

That Council:

- 1 Notes that officers have reviewed Council's delegation for emergency expenditure, given this delegation has not changed since 2005, and the inflated costs associated with the increasing number and severity of emergency events affecting New Zealand.
- 2 Revokes the delegation made by Council on 15 February 2005 to the Chief Executive for emergency expenditure (Reports 04.701 and 05.59).
- 3 Authorises the Chief Executive to commit emergency expenditure in accordance with the financial delegation set out in Attachment 1, subject to the words "or relevant committee chair" being added after the words "Deputy Chair" in the delegation.
- 4 Authorises the Group Controller Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management to commit emergency expenditure in accordance with the financial delegation set out in Attachment 2.

The motion was **carried**.

14 Greater Wellington's Quarter One Summary Report 2023/24 – Report 23.640

Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Woolf

That Council accepts Greater Wellington's performance report for the three months to 30 September 2023 (Greater Wellington's Quarter One Summary Report as at 30 September 2023 – Attachment 1).

The motion was **carried**.

15 Financial Update – October 2023 – Report 23.644 [For Information]

Darryl Joyce, Manager, Accounting Services, spoke to the report.

Resolution to exclude the public

16 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 23.654

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Laban

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

Land transfer – Porirua – Report PE23.651

Appointment to the Waiohine River Plan Advisory Committee – Report PE23.561

Appointment of director to the Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency – Report PE23.637

Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility: proposed Procurement Strategy and Rolling Stock Procurement Plan – Report RPE23.604

Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility: operator options – Report RPE23.603

Bus Contract Procurement: timing – Report RPE23.626

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:

Land transfer – Porirua – Report PE23.651	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Certain information contained in this report relates to a proposed transfer of Greater Wellington Regional Council owned land to Porirua City Council on terms that have not finally been agreed. Excluding the public from the proceedings of the meeting is necessary as considering this information in public would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington to carry on negotiations for the land transfer.</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 to enable Greater Wellington to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p>
Appointment to the Waiohine River Plan Advisory Committee – Report PE23.561	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about proposed candidates for appointment to the Waiōhine River Plan Advisory Committee. Release of this information prior to Council’s decision 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 members of Waiōhine River Plan Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring</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>

disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.	
Appointment of director to the Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency – Report PE23.637	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>The information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about the proposed candidate for appointment. Withholding this information prior to Council's decision is necessary to protect the privacy of that natural person (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as releasing this information would disclose their consideration as a Director of the Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency (WellingtonNZ).</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)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.</p>
Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility: proposed Procurement Strategy and Rolling Stock Procurement Plan – Report RPE23.604	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Certain information contained in this report relates to the future rail service procurement and contracting in the Wellington Region. Excluding the public from the proceedings of the meeting is necessary as considering this information in public would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage commercial activities (section 7(2)(h) of the Act).</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(h) of the Act in order to enable Greater Wellington to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</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>Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility: operator options – Report RPE23.603</p>	
<p><i>Reason/s 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 rail service procurement and contracting in the Wellington Region. Excluding the public from the proceedings of the meeting is necessary as considering this information in public would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to carry on negotiations with a potential operator/s for the Metlink public transport network (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 to enable Greater Wellington to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p>
<p>Contract tranching options – Report RPE23.626</p>	
<p><i>Reason/s 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 procurement and contracting in the Wellington Region. Excluding the public from the proceedings of the meeting is necessary as considering this information in public would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(h) of the Act in order to enable Greater Wellington to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p>

commercial activities (section 7(2)(h) of the Act).

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.

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 11.53am.



Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date:

29/2/24