

Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Council meeting on 6 October 2022.

Report 22.398

Public minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 25 August 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.32am

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (Chair)
Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair) (from 9.34am)
Councillor Blakeley
Councillor Brash
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban (until 12.53pm)
Councillor Lamason (from 9.34am)
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash

Karakia timatanga

The Council Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Blakeley

That Council accepts the apology for absence from Councillor van Lier, and apologies for lateness from Councillors Lamason and Staples.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Tracey Buick spoke to agenda item 19 - Three Waters update – Report 22.329.

Councillors Lamason and Staples arrived at 9.34am, during public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 30 June 2022 – Report 22.300

Moved: Cr Brash / Cr Connelly

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 30 June 2022 – Report 22.300.

The motion was **carried**

5 Confirmation of the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 30 June 2022 – Report RPE22.306

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council confirms the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 30 June 2022 – Report RPE22.306

The motion was **carried**.

6 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 6 July 2022 – Report 22.304

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Lamason

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 6 July 2022 – Report 22.304

The motion was **carried**.

7 Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 6 July 2022 – Report PE22.305

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council confirms the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 6 July 2022 – Report PE22.305

The motion was **carried**.

8 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee meeting on Wednesday 3 August 2022 and Thursday 4 August 2022 – Report 22.341

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Lamason

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee meeting on Wednesday 3 August 2022 and Thursday 4 August 2022 – Report 22.341.

The motion was **carried**.

9 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 18 August 2022 – Report 22.375

Moved: Cr Hughes / Cr Nash

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 18 August 2022 – Report 22.375

The motion was **carried**.

Strategy, policy or major issues

10 Adoption of the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan (Part of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan) – Report 22.339

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, introduced the report. Miranda Cross, Team Leader, Policy Development, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Staples

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan parts of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (Attachment 1) for reference to the Minister of Conservation, in accordance with Clause 18 Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act, by affixing the Seal of Council.
- 2 Notes that the Minister of Conservation has a function requiring the Minister to approve the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan parts (provisions) of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan in accordance with Clause 19 Schedule 1, Resource Management Act; that process will follow the Council's adoption of the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan parts of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan and may include requirements from the Minister to make amendments to the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan.
- 3 Requests that the Chair writes to the Minister of Conservation in relation to policies regarding dredging in harbours, requesting that they be made more flexible.

Moved as an amendment, to be an additional motion: Cr Nash / Cr Connelly:

- 4 Requests that the Chair writes to the Minister of Conservation regarding sedimentation in the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour.

The amendment was **carried** and became part of the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was then put to the vote, with voting taken in parts: Parts 1 and 2 were **carried**; part 3 was **lost**; and part 4 was **carried**.

Noted: Councillor Brash and Councillor Kirk-Burnnand requested that their vote in support of motion 3 be recorded.

11 Establishment of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee – Report 22.374

The Chair welcomed Dr Aroha Spinks (Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki), Denise Hapeta (Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki) and Melanie McCormick (Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai) to the meeting. The Chair acknowledged the contribution of Greater Wellington's mana whenua partners in the development of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee terms of reference.

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, introduced the report. Tim Sharp, Programme Manager, Whaitua, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Blakeley

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the proposed Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will use a Tiriti House decision-making process and were drafted in conjunction with, and approved by, Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira.
- 2 Notes that, as the Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee is currently in abeyance, the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will provide its advice directly to Council.
- 3 Notes that related work will continue informally in both sides of the Tiriti House leading up to the appointment of members of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee and its first meeting.
- 4 Establishes the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee from 1 September 2022.
- 5 Adopts the Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee (Attachment 1).
- 6 Agrees that non-elected members (who are not otherwise being remunerated) are each eligible to receive an annual taxable honorarium as follows:
 - a Member (excluding the Co-Chair) - \$15,000
 - b Co-Chair (only if the Co-Chair is not an elected member) - \$20,000.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 10.38am and resumed at 11am.

12 Update on Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Implementation Programme – Report 22.367

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, introduced the report. Matt Hickman, Manager, Environment Policy, and Gareth Edwards, Project Manager, Whaitua Implementation, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Brash / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Requests that officers prepare a report to inform the public and key stakeholders on the key elements of the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Implementation Programme, with the report attachment to be included as an appendix.

- 2 Requests that officers prepare a report to Council, in time for consideration in the development of the 2023/24 Annual Plan process, setting out costings, timeframes, priorities and governance structures for the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Implementation Programme.
- 3 Requests that officers engage with Wellington City Council on relevant recommendations in the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Implementation Programme.

The motion was **carried**.

13 Extension to Half Price Public Transport Fares – Report 22.335

Tim Shackleton, Manager, Commercial, Strategy and Investments, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Blakeley

That Council:

- 1 Notes that on 17 July 2022, the Government announced that it would extend funding of the universal half-price fares initiative for a further period, until 31 January 2023.
- 2 Notes that the extension of the half-price fares initiative also changed the time for start of the Community Connect Scheme from 1 September 2022 to 1 February 2023.
- 3 Notes that that the Government funding for reduced Total Mobility taxi fares has also been extended in line with the extension of the half-price fares initiative.
- 4 Notes that amending Public Transport fares is a decision that rests with Public Transport Authorities, in this case Council.
- 5 Agrees to extend the reduced Metlink Public Transport fares by a minimum of 50 percent for an additional period concluding on the date when Government funding for this initiative ends.
- 6 Notes that on 16 March 2022, Council agreed to implement the Community Connect Scheme on Metlink Public Transport services commencing on 1 September 2022, with transitional arrangements for the period between 1 September and 1 December 2022.
- 7 Agrees to change the date for implementing the Community Connect Scheme on Metlink Public Transport services, to the date following the conclusion of the half-price fares initiative.
- 8 Notes that the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee requested that the Chair writes to the Minister of Transport, requesting that Total Mobility be included in the Community Connect Scheme.

The motion was **carried**.

14 COVID-19 2021/22 Revenue Gap Funding Update – Report 22.248

Alison Trustrum-Rainey, Chief Financial Officer, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Lee

That Council:

- 1 Notes that \$17.689 million will be debt funded to fund the gap (not already funded by Waka Kotahi) caused by the public transport COVID-19 farebox reduction, being \$9.689 million more than the budgeted amount of \$8 million.
- 2 Notes that this debt funding is part of Greater Wellington's COVID-19 recovery plan.

The motion was **carried**.

15 Report of the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee – Report 22.356

Councillor Blakeley spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Connelly

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the Subcommittee requested that Council:
 - a Agrees to move from a 25 percent to a 50 percent off-peak discount with subsequent Net Revenue loss of \$5 million (with a modest cost offset in the mid-long term through reducing peak service capacity requirements), subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding and capacity implications of a 50 percent discount (further advice provided in Report 22.363 'Adoption of Future Fares Direction')
 - b Agrees to implement a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding implications of this decision (further advice provided in Report 22.363 'Adoption of Future Fares Direction').
- 2 Amends the current Regional Public Transport Plan definition of off-peak for buses to "weekdays before 7 am, between 9 am and 3 pm and after 6.30 pm and all-day weekends and public holidays".
- 3 Agrees to the adoption of cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders (noting that officers will work with Snapper to identify implementation timings, costs and a simplified communications approach for Council decision as part of the annual fares review processes).
- 4 Agrees that Metlink move toward a fare capping approach, in the context of account-based ticketing in the National Ticketing Solution.
- 5 Agrees to develop and introduce an initial fare capping discount of 35 percent on a daily and weekly basis.
- 6 Supports the development and introduction of new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the Region.
- 7 Supports the emerging work programme with WellingtonNZ, with regard to event travel across the Region.

- 8 Agrees to introduce a distance based Integrated Fare Structure.
- 9 Agrees to advocate to central government that the Community Services Card half price fares initiative be extended to include the Total Mobility scheme.

The motion was **carried**.

16 Adoption of the Future Fares Direction Initiatives – Report 22.363

Tim Shackleton, Manager, Commercial, Strategy and Investments, and Emmet McElhatton, Manager, Policy, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Blakeley

That Council:

- 1 Agrees to the adoption of an 'off-peak fares package' which includes:
 - a An increase to the current off-peak discount of 25 percent discount on the full adult fare and;
 - b The introduction of cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders.
- 2 Agrees to move from a 25 percent to a 50 percent off-peak discount with subsequent fare revenue impact for Greater Wellington of minus \$2.3 million (3.1%).
- 3 Notes that the 'off-peak fares package' will be implemented from the beginning of FY23/24.
- 4 Notes that officers will work with Snapper to identify implementation timings, costs and a simplified communications approach for Council decision as part of the annual fares review processes.
- 5 Amends the current Regional Public Transport Plan definition of off-peak for buses to "weekdays before 7 am, between 9 am and 3 pm and after 6.30 pm and all-day weekends and public holidays".
- 6 Notes that public consultation for the review proposed introducing a policy that allows children to travel free on buses and trains on weekends and public holidays when accompanied by their parent or guardian.
- 7 Notes that, at the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee deliberations, officers recommended that a 'carve out' for premium services (ferry and Airport Express) be introduced to the proposed policy for fiscal and capacity reasons.
- 8 Notes that the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee requested that Council agrees a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding implications of this decision.

- 9 Agrees to introduce a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays when accompanied by their parent or guardian.
- 10 Notes that officers recommend that this policy be implemented in FY23/24 to enable the development of an operational model for policy implementation with operators.
- 11 Agrees in principle that Metlink move toward a fare capping approach, in the context of account-based ticketing in the National Ticketing Solution (NTS).
- 12 Agrees in principle to develop and introduce an initial fare capping discount of 35 percent on a daily and weekly basis.
- 13 Agrees in principle to introduce a distance based Integrated Fare Structure.
- 14 Notes that more detailed modelling, design and proposal analysis will be brought to Council and/or its Committees for further decision-making in the next triennium.
- 15 Supports the development and introduction of new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the Region.
- 16 Supports the emerging work programme with WellingtonNZ with regard to event travel across the Region.
- 17 Agrees to advocate to central government that the Community Services Card half price fares initiative be extended to include the Total Mobility scheme.
- 18 Notes that officers will conduct further modelling, options analysis and discussions with the Ministry of Transport on potential additional support for Total Mobility for future Council decision-making, including investigating the potential for Greater Wellington to procure its own fleet of total mobility vehicles to increase capacity.

Moved as an amendment (to replace part 9 of the motion): Cr Hughes / Cr Nash:

9. Agrees to introduce a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays.

The amendment was **carried** and became part of the substantive motion.

Moved as an amendment, to be an additional motion: Cr Lamason/ Cr Laban

- 19 Requests that the General Manager, Metlink, liaises with NZ Police and local authorities in relation to the introduction of the policy on free travel for children on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, and reports to the Transport Committee.

The amendment was **carried** and became part of the substantive motion.

The substantive motion was then put to the vote and was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 12.53pm and resumed at 1.22pm. Cr Laban was absent for the remainder of the public part of the meeting.

17 National Ticketing Solution Participation Agreement: Delegation to Transport Committee – Report 22.342

Tim Shackleton, Manager, Commercial, Strategy and Investments, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Hughes

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the P2 Agreement between Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) and Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) sets out the governance, transition and operational arrangements of the National Ticketing Solution.
- 2 Notes that, once signed by all parties, the P2 agreement commits PTAs to implement the NTS within their region, subject to limited withdrawal rights.
- 3 Notes that there remain some residual issues around the NTS governance arrangements that need to be resolved prior to the P2 Agreement being ready for approval.
- 4 Notes that PTAs need to enter into the P2 Agreement prior to Waka Kotahi concluding a contract with the preferred ticketing supplier and the expected timing of this is before the next Council meeting.
- 5 Delegates to the Transport Committee authority to:
 - a determine Greater Wellington's formal commitment to implement the NTS when it becomes available, considering the benefits and risks of such a commitment; and
 - b consider the proposed participation agreement between Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) and Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) (P2 Agreement) which sets out governance, transition and operational arrangements of the NTS and which commits Greater Wellington to implement the NTS subject to limited withdrawal rights.
 - c delegate to the Chief Executive authority to enter into the P2 Agreement, subject to any requirements imposed by the Committee.

The motion was **carried**.

18 Low Carbon Acceleration Fund Round One 2022-23 Recommendations – Report 22.373

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

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Approves the allocation of a \$39,500 grant from the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund to the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust for fuel switching, energy efficiency and renewable energy project feasibility studies at Sky Stadium.
- 2 Approves the allocation of \$550,000 to Metlink from the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund to convert a diesel bus to a battery electric drive train, establish charging facilities for it, and put it into operation in the Metlink fleet.

The motion was **carried**.

19 Three Waters update – Report 22.329 [For Information]

Sue McLean, General Manager, Corporate Services, and Kyn Drake, Planning and Reporting Advisor, spoke to the report.

20 Wellington Water Committee Meeting – 29 July 2022 – Report 22.340 [For Information]

Noted: Council requested that officers arrange for representatives from Wellington Water to present at a Council workshop regarding water supply demand in the Wellington Region.

Resolution to exclude the public

21 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 22.378

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Brash

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

Lease opportunity – Report PE22.357

Port collaboration – Report PE22.376

Chief Executive performance review for 2021/22 – Report RPE.326

Chief Executive remuneration review for 2021/22 – Report RPE22.327

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:

Lease Opportunity – Report PE22.357	
<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>
Information contained in this report relates to a lease opportunity in southern Wellington. Release of this information would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to carry on negotiations (section 7(2)(i)). Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting	The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(i) of the Act – to enable any local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations.

that would override the need to withhold the information.	
Port collaboration – Report PE22.376	
<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 relates to the commercial position of CentrePort and Council and negotiations with Ports of Napier and Council. Release of this information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of CentrePort and Council (section 7(2)(b)(ii)) and would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage CentrePort and Council to carry on negotiations with Ports of Napier (section 7(2)(i)).</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 – to enable any local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations, and section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act – as disclosing the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.</p>
Chief Executive performance review for 2021/22 – Report RPE22.326	
<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 relates to the Chief Executive’s performance for 2021/22. Release of this information would prejudice the Chief Executive’s privacy by disclosing information pertaining to the employment relationship between the Chief Executive and the Council.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring the disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the Chief Executive’s privacy.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act (to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons).</p>
Chief Executive Remuneration review for 2021/22 – Report RPE22.327	

<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>This report contains information relating to the current Chief Executive's full year remuneration review. Release of this information would prejudice the privacy of the Chief Executive, by disclosing information pertaining to the employment relationship between the Chief Executive and the Council.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring the disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the Chief Executive's privacy.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act (to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons).</p>

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 1.42pm

Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date: