

Confirmed Public minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 30 March 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 Bassett
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie (from 9.31am)
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand (to 10.16am, from 10.19am to 10.45am, and from 10.47am)
Councillor Laban (remotely, via MS Teams)
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ropata
Councillor Saw
Councillor Woolf (from 9.31am)

Karakia timatanga

The Council Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

There were no apologies

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand declared a conflict of interest with regard to item 14, Policy on the Appointment and Remuneration of Directors of Council Organisations – Report 23.113.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 23 February 2023 - Report 23.68

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Saw

That the Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 23 February 2023 – Report 23.68.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Duthie and Councillor Woolf arrived at 9.31am during the above item.

5 Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 23 February 2023 - Report PE23.66

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Bassett

That the Council confirms the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 23 February 2023 – Report PE23.66.

The motion was **carried**.

6 Confirmation of the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 23 February 2023 - Report RPE23.69

Moved: Cr Ropata / Cr Staples

That the Council confirms the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 23 February 2023 – Report RPE23.69.

The motion was **carried**.

7 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 9 March 2023 - Report 23.90

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Bassett

That the Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 9 March 2023 – Report 23.90.

The motion was **carried**.

8 Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 9 March 2023 - Report PE23.91

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Staples

That the Council confirms the Public Excluded minutes on the Council meeting of 9 March 2023 – Report PE23.91.

The motion was **carried**.

Strategy, policy or major issues

9 2023/24 Annual Plan Engagement – Report 23.100

Zofia Miliszewska, Manager Strategy and Performance, Alex Smith, Team Leader Corporate Planning & Reporting, and Rebecca Gillet, Advisor, Planning & Reporting, spoke to the report. Design documents were tabled.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Nash

That Council:

- 1 Agrees the 'Inform and Engage' approach for the 2023/24 Annual Plan.
- 2 Approves the 2023/24 Annual Plan supporting information as set out in Attachment 1.
- 3 Authorises the Council Chair and Chief Executive to make minor editorial changes to the proposed 2023/24 Annual Plan supporting information to correct errors and improve public understanding.

The motion was **carried**.

10 Significance and Engagement Policy Consultation – Report 23.109

Zofia Miliszewska, Manager Strategy and Performance, Alex Smith, Team Leader Corporate Planning & Reporting, and Rebecca Gillet, Advisor, Planning & Reporting, spoke to the report. An Updated Attachment 1 was tabled.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Lee

That Council:

- 1 Approves the proposed Significance and Engagement Policy as set out in Attachment 1 for the purposes of public consultation.
- 2 Agrees to the consultation and engagement approach outlined in this report.
- 3 Approves the consultation document and supporting information for the proposed amendments to the Significance and Engagement Policy as set out in Attachment 2.
- 4 Authorises the Council Chair and Chief Executive to make minor editorial changes to the proposed Significance and Engagement Policy consultation document and supporting information to correct errors and improve public understanding.

The motion was **carried**.

11 Uplift in Bus Driver Wages – Report 23.94

Samantha Gain, General Manager, Metlink and Melissa Anderson, Manager Operations & Partnerships spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Notes that as part of Budget 2022, the Government funded through the Climate Emergency Response Fund (CERF) \$61 million nationally over four years to improve recruitment and retention of bus drivers.
- 2 Notes that CERF funding can be used to further increase wages up to \$30/hr in urban areas and up to \$28/hr in regional areas.
- 3 Notes that in order to access CERF funding, bus operators must agree to increase wages to at least match the future wage indexation, on an ongoing basis, and all parties (Greater Wellington/Metlink, bus operators, unions and Waka Kotahi) must agree to the changes and sign a Memorandum of Understanding to this effect.
- 4 Agrees that for the purposes of CERF funding, Wairarapa (operated by Tranzurban) and Kāpiti (operated by Uzabus) are to be considered 'regional', with all other areas in the Region are to be considered 'urban'.
- 5 Agrees to fully utilise the available funding by increasing bus driver pay rates to an average of \$30/hr for 'urban' and \$28/hr for 'regional'.
- 6 Agrees to implement the increased pay rates in the manner set out at paragraphs 21 and 22 of this report.
- 7 Notes that bus operators will be eligible to claim the additional funding from 1 April 2023 subject to the Memorandum of Understanding being agreed.
- 8 Notes that the funding required to support the additional payments to Public Transport Operating Model (PTOM) bus operators from 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023 is \$688,000 and that Greater Wellington's share is able to be met from within existing budgets.
- 9 Notes that the estimated total funding required to support the additional payments to PTOM bus operators is \$2,227,000 for the 2023/24 financial year and that Greater Wellington's share is included in the 2023/24 Annual Plan budget, and will be included in the next LTP budget for subsequent years.

The motion was **carried**.

12 Low Carbon Acceleration Fund Round Two 2022-23 Recommendations – Report 23.117

Lisa Early, Team Leader Climate Change, and Jake Roos, Climate Change Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Nash

That Council:

- 1 Approves the allocation of a \$266,651 grant to Metlink for the 'Solar power generation – Station roofs' project.
- 2 Approves the allocation of a \$750,000 grant to the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust (WRST) for the 'Energy efficient lighting opportunity' project.
- 3 Approves the extension of Low Carbon Acceleration Fund eligibility to CentrePort Limited.

The motion was **carried**.

Governance

13 Establishment of Proposed Regional Policy Statement Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel – Report 23.120

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, and Kate Pascall, Programme Lead (Proposed RPS Change 1), spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Lee / Cr Connelly

That Council:

- 1 Receives the report.
- 2 Notes the content of the report.
- 3 Establishes the Proposed Regional Policy Statement Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel.
- 4 Delegates its authority to the Proposed Regional Policy Statement Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel, as follows:
 - a To hear public submissions and provide the recommendations report to Council, for Council to make the final decisions on the recommendations.
- 5 Adopts the Terms of Reference for the Proposed Regional Policy Statement Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel (Attachment 1).
- 6 Delegates to the Chief Executive, after consultation with the Council Chair, the setting of remuneration arrangements for the Proposed Regional Policy Statement Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand departed the meeting at 10.16am at the conclusion of the above item.

14 Policy on the Appointment and Remuneration of Directors of Council Organisations – Report 23.113

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

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Gaylor

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the updated Policy on the Appointment and Remuneration of Directors of Council Organisations (Attachment 1).
- 2 Authorises the Chief Executive to approve any minor amendments to the Policy to address any typographical or presentational issues.

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: Councillor Connelly requested that her vote against the motion be recorded.

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand returned to the meeting at 10.19am following the conclusion of the above item.

15 WRC Holdings – draft Statement of Intent 2024 – Report 23.108

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

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Saw

That Council:

- 1 Receives the draft Statement of Intent from WRC Holdings.
- 2 Provides any further comment and feedback to be considered for the final Statement of Intent.
- 3 Delegates to the Chair to finalise a letter to the Chair of WRC Holdings with any comments and feedback to be considered for the final Statement of Intent.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 10.24am and resumed at 10.45am.

The Chair sought and obtained the consent of the meeting, in accordance with Standing Order 3.8.3, to discuss the altering of a resolution already resolved at the meeting, with regard to agenda item 14: Policy on the Appointment and Remuneration of Directors of Council Organisations – Report 23.113

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand left the meeting at 10.45am prior to the commencement of the below item.

14 Policy on the Appointment and Remuneration of Directors of Council Organisations – Report 23.113

The Chair outlined his proposal that the Chair of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi Komiti should be added to the membership of the nominations group outlined in the section 10 of the Policy.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Duthie

That Council:

- 1 Amends its resolution made at this meeting on the Policy on the Appointment and Remuneration of Directors of Council Organisations by including the Chair of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi Komiti in the membership of the nominations group provided for in the Policy.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand returned to the meeting at 10.47am following the conclusion of the above item.

16 WRC Holdings – Directors’ Fees – Report 23.116

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

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Bassett

That Council:

- 1 Approves Option Two – Increase the external directors’ fee for WRC Holdings from \$25,000 to \$32,000 per annum (paragraph 17) from 1 January 2024.
- 2 Notes that should Council, at any time, decide to appoint an independent Chair, then a recommendation on the independent Chair’s remuneration would be made at the time the appointment is being considered.

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: Councillors Duthie and Ropata requested their vote against the motion be recorded.

17 Changes to Council’s Delegation of Powers, Functions and Responsibilities – March 2023 – Report 23.92

Will Ogier, Principal Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Duthie

That Council:

- 1 Notes Greater Wellington’s changes to staff position titles arising from the creation of the Rōpū Taiao Environment Group and the updating of management position titles, both of which take effect from 22 May 2023.
- 2 Revokes, with effect from 22 May 2023, the delegations made by Council under the Resource Management Act 1991, on:
 - a 24 May 2017 to the Chief Executive and General Manager Environment Management to appoint hearings commissioners (Attachment 1)
 - b 24 May 2017 to a commissioner or panel of commissioners to determine a particular matter (Attachment 1)
 - c 30 June 2021 to specified officers (Attachment 2).

- 3 Delegates, with effect from 22 May 2023, its powers, duties and responsibilities under the Resource Management Act 1991, except those powers not capable of delegation or retained explicitly by Council, to:
 - a The Chief Executive and Group Manager Environment to appoint hearings commissioners (Attachment 3)
 - b A commissioner or panel of commissioners to determine a particular matter (Attachment 3)
 - c Specified officers (Attachment 4).
- 4 Revokes, with effect from 22 May 2023, the delegation made by Council on 30 June 2022 to specified officers under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 (Attachment 5).
- 5 Delegates, with effect from 22 May 2023, its powers, duties and responsibilities under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to specified officers, except those powers not capable of delegation or retained explicitly by Council (Attachment 6).

The motion was **carried**.

18 Amendment to the Public Transport Advisory Group's Terms of Reference – Report 23.121

Bonnie Parfitt, Manager Network & Customer, and Margaret Meek, Principal Advisor Public Transport Governance spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the Public Transport Advisory Group's (Advisory Group) Terms of Reference provide for Council to appoint up to 20 persons to represent stated perspectives.
- 2 Notes that officers and the Nominations Evaluation Group consider that the Advisory Group's membership should be increased to up to 25 persons to represent stated perspectives.
- 3 Notes that the Terms of Reference for the Advisory Group provides that, "taken as a whole, the membership of the Advisory Group should provide a broad representation of perspectives and community needs".
- 4 Notes that the current stated perspectives do not include LGBTQIA+.
- 5 Agrees that an LGBTQIA+ perspective would help the Advisory Group provide a broad representation of perspectives and community needs.
- 6 Adopts the updated Terms of Reference for the Public Transport Advisory Group, as set out in Attachment 1, and as amended to provide for up to 30 members including an LGBTQIA+ perspective, and for representation for all constituencies.

- 7 Requests that Greater Wellington seeks further applications for an LGBTQIA+ perspective.

The motion was **carried**.

19 Crown Representation Appointment to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee – Report 23.114

Francis Ryan, Manager Governance and Democracy, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council:

- 1 Notes that as the administering authority, Council is responsible for the non-local Government appointments to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee
- 2 Revokes the appointment of Hon Dr Megan Woods, Minister of Housing, as a member representing Crown interests on the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.
- 3 Appoints Hon Barbara Edmonds, Associate Minister of Housing, as a member representing Crown interests on the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

The motion was **carried**.

20 Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua Treaty Settlement Trust Membership of the Wellington Water Committee – Report 23.127

Francis Ryan, Manager Governance and Democracy, and Councillor Connelly, Council's representative on the Wellington Water Committee, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Staples

That Council:

- 1 Approves Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua Treaty Settlement Trust being a Mana Whenua Partner Entity under the Shareholders and Partners Agreement for Wellington Water Limited.
- 2 Notes that through being a Mana Whenua Partner Entity, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tāmaki nui-a-Rua Treaty Settlement Trust will be entitled to membership of the Wellington Water Committee.

The motion was **carried**.

Resolution to exclude the public

21 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 23.126

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Saw

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

Proposed RPS Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1, Hearings Panel appointment – Report PE23.103

WRC Holdings: director appointments – Report PE23.115

Appointments to Public Transport Advisory Group – Report PE23.95

Mana whenua appointment to Long Term Plan Committee – Report PE23.122

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 grounds 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:

Proposed RPS Change 1: Part 1, Schedule 1, Hearings Panel appointment – Report PE23.103	
<i>Reason 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 will include personal and identifying information about proposed candidates for appointment. 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 on the Part 1, Schedule 1 Hearings Panel.</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, to protect the privacy of natural persons.</p>
WRC Holdings: director appointments – Report PE23.115	
<i>Reason 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 candidates. 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</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.</p>

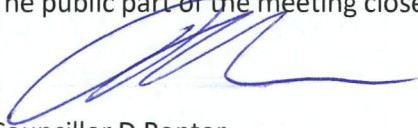
<p>this information would disclose their consideration as a board member of WRC Holdings.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	
Appointments to Public Transport Advisory Group – Report PE23.95	
<i>Reason 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 information provided by applicants for appointment to the Public Transport Advisory Group. Excluding the public from the proceedings of the meeting is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as holding this part of the meeting in public would release information that is private to the individuals concerned.</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, to protect the privacy of natural persons.</p>
Mana whenua appointment to Long Term Plan Committee – Report PE23.122	
<i>Reason 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 the proposed candidate for appointment to the Long Term Plan Committee. Release of this information 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 a member of the Committee.</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.</p>

Greater Wellington has considered whether the public interest outweighs the need to withhold the information and has determined that there is no public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.	
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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 11.33am.



Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date: 18 May 2023