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**Strategy and Policy Committee**  
**MINUTES**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Strategy and Policy Committee held in Council Chambers, 401 Grey Street, Hamilton East on 27 March 2018 at 10.30am

<b>Chairperson</b>	<b>Present:</b> Cr B Simcock
<b>Members</b>	Cr B Quayle Cr J Hennebry Cr S Husband Cr S Kneebone (from 1.15pm) Cr F Lichtwark Cr A Livingston (from 11.55pm) Cr D Minogue Cr R Rimmington Cr T Mahuta (from 1.40pm) Cr K Hodge Cr H Vercoe (from 1.45pm) Cr J Hayman Cr K White
<b>Staff</b>	V Payne (Chief Executive) M Garrett (Chief Financial Officer) G Dawson (Democracy Advisor)

**Apologies**

(Agenda Item 1)

The apologies from Councillors Livingston and Kneebone for late arrival and Councillors Vercoe and Mahuta for absence while on Council business were accepted.

**Confirmation of Agenda**

(Agenda Item 2)

Cr Simcock moved/Cr Minogue seconded

SPC18/11

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the agenda of the meeting of the Strategy and Policy Committee of 27 March 2018, as circulated, be confirmed as the business for the meeting.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC18/11)**

**Disclosures of Interest**

(Agenda Item 3)

There were no disclosures of interest.

With consent of the meeting Item 7 was considered at this time.

**SECTION A: UNDER DELEGATION AND FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL****Updated Future Proof Strategy Adoption**

(Agenda Item 7, Doc 11854380)

The report was presented by the Project Advisor of the Waikato Plan (K. Tremaine). It outlined the proposed updates to the existing and agreed Future Proof plan that is currently in place. It was explained that the updates would bring the existing plan up to speed with the current environment and government aims.

The following discussion points were raised:

- It was noted that there is a need for a co-ordinated and responsive approach to planning around the Waikato region that incorporated the Urban Growth Agenda and the National Policy Statement on Development. In addition, to this approach the Council has the regulatory tools to deliver a co-ordinated plan, although the direction of the plan may change depending on the direction that Central Government would like to follow.
- It was noted that Central Government desire to empower the Auckland to Hamilton corridor, in terms of improving transport, housing and employment. Future Proof would be important for influencing the approach and plan that is implemented in the Waikato region. The rate and type of growth that may result was noted as a concern, along the impact of this may have on the rest of the Waikato region. Infrastructure was noted as a major issue that needs to be considered throughout the plan.

- The existing gaps in the plan regarding public transport will be picked up during phase two of the plan and seek to bring the transport strategy in line with the planning and design practices that are best practice at that specific time.
- It was noted by committee members that there is concern on the matter of urban density, in relation to the impact that high density housing has on the community around it and infrastructure. Although the targets have been in planning documents for some time, the need to review these on an ongoing basis was highlighted. The presenters emphasised that the plan does not go into such deep detail and only takes a high level view of development in the Waikato region.
- The impact on rural properties in relation to planning rules was discussed and how it related to the plan. It was explained that the Plan only applied to urban growth and not rural properties. The pressure between urban and rural growth creates a need for a balanced approach to future development.
- It was noted that the Plan is an important part of the model of funding used by the New Zealand Transport Agency. It was added that the adoption of the updated plan was a vital part of the ongoing investment into infrastructure in the Waikato region and the reputation of the Council. Not to adopt could impact in a negative way. In addition to this, committee members were reminded that the Council has already adopted the original plan within the Regional Policy Statement.

Cr Simcock moved/Cr Hodge seconded

SPC18/12

**RESOLVED**

1. **That the report 'Updated Future Proof Strategy Adoption (Doc 11854380 dated 12 March 2018) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC18/12)**

Cr Simcock moved/Cr Hodge seconded

**RECOMMENDED**

2. That the Council adopt the 'Updated Future Proof Strategy - Planning for Growth 2017'.

The motion was lost

**Social Media Report February to March 2018**

(Agenda Item 4, Doc 11966363)

The Communications Manager (N. Crisp) presented the report that outlined the level and types of engagement with the public and other stakeholders for period stated.

The following discussion points were raised:

- It was noted and explained that ads and other advertising still need to be included in traditional print media to ensure that all sectors of the community are informed about what is happening at the Council and to request in local government processes.

- Support for the work done to date and other ongoing work in the online space were supported and the Committee looked forward to about developments in the way that the public can engage through social media, especially around the 2018 – 2028 Long term Plan.

Cr Quayle moved/Cr Lichtwark seconded

SPC18/13

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the report ‘Social media Report March 2018’ (Doc 11966363 dated 15 March 2018) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC18/13)**

**Regional Growth Management Update**

(Agenda Item 5, Doc 11910698)

The report provided an update on current regional growth activities, which included the status of cross boundary and other initiatives that the Council have an interest in.

The following discussion points were raised:

- It was noted by some members of the committee that because the updated Futureproof Plan was not recommended to Council that the contents of the paper needs to be reconsidered in that context. A feeling of disappointment was also expressed by some members of the Committee that the Plan was not adopted. These members had concerns regarding the reputational and credibility issues that might occur as a result.
- It was noted that policy changes made by Central Government generally must be implemented in regional policies with no option to opt out of doing so.
- The need for an evidence and collaborative approach to planning and development is needed and the region needs to adjust to the high rate of growth, especially in North Waikato. This is where quality planning processes and implementation becomes important as the Council guides how and where development occurs and the manner in which it happens.

Cr Hodge moved/Cr Quayle seconded

SPC18/14

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the report ‘Update on Growth Management and Related Activities’ (Doc 11910698 dated 8 March 2018) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC18/14)**

**North Waikato Integrated Growth Management Draft Programme Business Case**

(Agenda Item 6, Docs 11947208 & 11871445)

The report sought the endorsement for the business case which was developed alongside the Future Proof Strategy and Auckland Council’s Supporting Growth – Delivering Transport Networks Strategy.

*Cr Livingston in the meeting at 11.55am.*

The following discussion points were raised:

- It was noted that the 2018 – 2028 Long Term Plan includes the planned outcomes and spending required for the programme.
- The need for a diverse type of housing is needed to ensure that housing needs for the population are met where possible. This requires sound planning approaches and a need to be evidence based on the vision for strategy for this matter.
- The impact on the flood control system was raised. It was noted that Council staff are working on the matter and developing models on how the system might be impacted. More will be known as time progresses.
- It was noted that a timely, careful, and considered approach to planning across the region was needed, especially in areas such as Raglan where there are high instances of growth and development. The need to think about the quality of life and land use were important needs to be considered at a local and regional level.

Cr Livingston moved/Cr Hayman seconded

SPC18/15

**RESOLVED**

1. **That the report 'Endorsement of the Draft North Waikato Integrated Growth Management Programme Business Case' (Doc 11947208 dated 12 March 2018) be received.**
2. **That the Committee endorses the Draft North Waikato Integrated Growth Management Programme Business Case.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC18/15)**

The meeting adjourned at 12.50pm and reconvened at 1.10pm

**Submission on Waipa District Council – Proposed Plan Change No. 4 – Provision for Cycleways**

(Agenda Item 8, Doc 11951394 & 11952373)

The report sought the retrospective approval for the submission made to the Waipa District Council regarding the provision for cycle ways proposed by that Council.

*Cr Kneebone in the meeting from 1.15pm.*

The following discussion points were raised:

- It was noted that the cycleway is a positive project that will have a number of benefits for the local community and other users of the path. However, some concerns were expressed around the cost of the project and the desire to see the project through to completion. The submission was approved for sending to the Waikato District Council.

Cr Quayle moved/Cr Kneebone seconded.

SPC18/16

**RESOLVED**

1. **THAT the report 'Submission on Waipa District Council – Proposed Plan Change No. 4 – Provision for Cycleways'(Doc 11951394 dated 13 March 2018) be received.**

2. **THAT the Committee retrospectively approve the submission on Waipa District Council – Proposed Plan Change No. 4 – Provision for Cycleways’ (Doc 11952373 dated 9 March 2018).**

The motion was put and carried (SPC18/16)

## SECTION B: FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

### **Giving Effect to the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry**

(Agenda Item 9, Doc 11943002)

The report informed the Committee about the changes that will need to be made to existing Waikato Regional Plans, following the enactment of the National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry.

*Cr Mahuta in the meeting at 1.40pm.*

*Cr Vercoe in the meeting at 1.45pm.*

The following discussion points were raised:

- It was noted that changes being requested by Central Government are compulsory and need to be included in Council plans. However, amendments to Council plans will not go beyond what is required.
- It was explained that the Ministry for Primary Industry have mapped the region and have determined high risk areas for erosion and other environmental impacts. This will enable for better planning in the future.
- A workshop was requested by a committee member to look into the matter further.

Cr Kneebone moved/Cr Minogue seconded.

SPC18/17

### **RESOLVED**

1. **THAT the report ‘Giving effect to the National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry’ (Doc # 11943002 dated 12 March 2018) be received.**

### **RECOMMENDED**

2. **THAT Council approve the amendments required to the Waikato Regional Plan, Waikato Regional Coastal Plan and Waikato Regional Proposed Plan Change 1 – Waikato and Waipa River Catchments, as a result of aligning and giving effect to the National Environmental Standards for Plantation Forestry.**

The motion was put and carried (SPC18/17)

Cr Lichtwark and White voted against the motion

## SECTION A: UNDER DELEGATION AND FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL

### **Hauraki Gulf Marine Park – State of the Environment Report 2017**

(Agenda Item 11, Doc 11951339, 11950944 & 11948882)

The report was presented by B Bunting. The report provided an update on the release of the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park – State of the Environment Report 2017.

The following discussion points were raised:

- It was noted that the challenges and experiences of the past impact on what is happening now and a lessons learned approach has been adopted. There is a proactive and positive approach to achieving the best outcomes for the marine park.
- The need for a holistic approach and scope to reporting was highlighted. It would enable a better picture of what is happening and where, along with providing an opportunity for all stakeholders to be aware of any issues related to the marine park.
- The connection between Sea Change and the Hauraki Gulf Marine Park was discussed in the context of programmes and planning for both. It was explained that Plan Change Two will support those processes. The Council is actively working with Auckland Council on a more collaborative and inclusive approach to developing connectivity between the two.

Cr Kneebone moved/Cr Lichtwark seconded

SPC18/18

**RESOLVED**

**That the report 'Hauraki Gulf Marine Park State of Environment Report 2017' (Doc #11951339 dated 12 March 2018) be received.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC18/18)**

**Hauraki Gulf Forum Update**

(Agenda Item 12, Doc 11951339, 11950944 & 11948882)

This report was presented by B Bunting. The report provided an update on the work and effectiveness of the Forum.

The following discussion points were raised:

- The need for more meaningful and genuine political engagement between all governors and the organisations they represent was discussed. It was agreed that governors would achieve improved outcomes and work more effectively, if there was a more proactive approach to building common understanding on goals and increasing the level and quality of collegial relationships.
- It was noted that a proactive approach must consider the complex dynamics of the forum that exist and any discussion should add clarity to the role, function, and structure of the forum and its members.
- There was discussion on how the forum could be improved through improved accountability processes and possible legislative and governance structure changes. It was agreed that this matter must be advanced in a deliberate and considered manner that will build public confidence in the forum.

Cr Kneebone moved/Cr Lichtwark seconded

SPC18/19

**RESOLVED**

1. **THAT the report 'Hauraki Gulf Forum – Update March 2018' (Doc 11951339 dated 12 March 2018) be received.**
2. **THAT the Chair of the Waikato Regional Council and the Mayor of Auckland invite the Minister of Conservation to join in discussions on matters connected to the Hauraki Gulf Forum.**

The motion was put and carried (SPC18/19)

**Submission on Auckland Council Proposed Regional Pest Management Plan**

(Agenda Item 13, Doc 11960076 & 11962330)

The Chief Executive of the Council (V. Payne) presented this report. It sought approval for a submission to Auckland Council in relation to the proposed Auckland Council Pest Management Plan. A draft copy of the submission and approved by the Committee.

Cr Kneebone moved/Cr Rimmington seconded.

SPC18/20

**RESOLVED**

**THAT the Committee approve the content and structure of the submission and the submission be sent to Auckland Council for consideration.**

The motion was put and carried (SPC18/20)  
Cr White opposed

Meeting closed at 2.00pm.