

Waikato Regional Council
Strategy and Policy Committee
OPEN MINUTES

Date: Tuesday, 7 May, 2019, 10:00 am
Location: Council Chamber
Waikato Regional Council
401 Grey Street, Hamilton East

Members Present: Cr B Simcock - Chair
Cr J Hennebry
Cr F Lichtwark
Cr A Livingston
Cr D Minogue
Cr S Kneebone
Cr B Quayle
Cr R Rimmington
Cr K White

Staff Present V Payne - Chief Executive
T May - Director - Science and Strategy
S McLeay - Democracy Advisor

1. Call to Order and Apologies

The meeting commenced at 10.03am. Apologies were received from Crs Hodge, Husband, Vercoe and Mahuta.

SPC19/14

Moved by: Cr R Rimmington

Seconded by: Cr A Livingston

THAT the apologies of Crs Hodge, Husband, Vercoe and Mahuta be accepted.

The motion was put and carried

2. Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda, subject to order changes was confirmed. The Waikato Regional Council Manager, Communications and Engagement (N Crisp) provided an update on public usage of Council digital platforms including social media.

SPC19/15

Moved by: Cr S Kneebone

Seconded by: Cr R Rimmington

THAT the agenda of the meeting of Waikato Regional Council's Strategy and Policy Committee of Tuesday 7 May 2019, as circulated, be confirmed as the business of the meeting, subject to changes in item order to the order set out in the minutes.

The motion was put and carried

5. Environment Aotearoa 2019 – Our State of the Environment Report

Report to summarise the key findings of 'Environment Aotearoa 2019' recently released by the Ministry for the Environment and Statistics New Zealand.

The report was presented by Waikato Regional Council Principal Strategic Advisor (B Huser). The following was noted:

- There was a need to proactively reverse environmental trends and to recognize sustainable thresholds in the use of environmental resources.
- Habitat protection was an area of significant concern.
- Future Proof had taken into account pressure on soils with urban expansion.
- The use of language that emphasised people as part of, rather than separate to, the environment may provide benefits.
- Levels of river Ecoli had, in part, been addressed by stock exclusion, but not the level of nitrogen.

- The high use of water per person in the region was concerning. Water metering was the most effective way to address the issue. However, it was acknowledged that water metering was a topic that has been politically charged.

SPC19/16

Moved by: Cr F Lichtwark

Seconded by: Cr R Rimmington

THAT the report 'A summary of the Environment Aotearoa 2019 report' (Strategy and Policy Committee 7 May 2019) be received.

The motion was put and carried

6. Te Waka Six Monthly Report

Report to present the first report of Te Waka, covering the period July 2018 to March 2019.

The report was presented by Te Waka's Chief Executive Michael Bassett-Foss and covered activity during the period July 2018 - March 2019. The following was noted:

- Applications to the Provincial Growth Fund had lacked sufficient regional cohesion. As a result, many had been declined.
- The Provincial Growth Fund recognised the need of sub-regions, but wanted investment to fit with a cohesive regional approach.
- It was great to see Te Waka up and running and acting as a coherent regional body to promote regional issues and projects.
- It was noted that a key criteria of the Regional Development Fund was that benefits needed to be across more than one part of the region.
- The South Waikato Economic Development Action Plan (SWEAP) linked to the larger Waikato region. South Waikato did not just cover the South Waikato district boundary, but encompassed Waitomo and Otorohanga.

SPC19/17

Moved by: Cr R Rimmington

Seconded by: Cr A Livingston

THAT the report 'Te Waka six-monthly performance report and update' (Strategy and Policy Committee 7 May 2019) be received.

The motion was put and carried

4. Momentum Waikato Update on the Waikato Regional Theatre Project

Report to provide an update on the Waikato Regional Theatre project.

The report was presented by the Chief Executive of Momentum Waikato Community Foundation (K Eglinton). The following was noted:

- The theatre project was now in design phase.
- A plan was in place to cover the possibility that the application to the Provincial Growth Fund was unsuccessful.
- The hotel development was separate to the theatre project. The hotel would be on a separate title and have separate ownership and management.
- It was important that messaging was clear that the project was for the development of the theatre alone.

SPC19/18

Moved by: Cr A Livingston

Seconded by: Cr K White

THAT the report 'Project update – Waikato Regional Theatre' (Strategy and Policy Committee 7 May 2019) be received.

The motion was put and carried

7. Resolution to Exclude the Public

This resolution was made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. The interest protected by section 6 and 7 of that Act, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows - **Waikato Regional Approach to Natural Hazard Risk Management** - Enable any local authority holding the information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) (Section 7(2)(g)).

The meeting moved into closed session at 12.30pm

SPC19/19

Moved by: Cr S Kneebone

Seconded by: Cr R Rimmington

THAT the Committee move into closed session.

The motion was put and carried

The meeting moved back into open session at 1.15pm

9. Submissions Quarterly Update

Report on submissions made to consultation processes, and upcoming opportunities for Waikato Regional Council involvement.

SPC19/22

Moved by: Cr A Livingston

Seconded by: Cr R Rimmington

THAT the report 'Submissions summary report' (Strategy and Policy Committee 7 May 2019) be received.

The motion was put and carried

10. Meeting Closed

The meeting was closed at 1.16pm