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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 the Council Chamber, 401 Grey Street, Hamilton on Tuesday 19 September 2017 at 10.00am.

**Chairperson** Cr B Simcock  
**Deputy Chairperson**

**Members** Cr J Hayman  
Cr J Hennebry  
Cr S Kneebone  
Cr F Lichtwark  
Cr A Livingston  
Cr D Minogue  
Cr R Rimmington  
Cr H Vercoe  
Cr K White  
Cr B Quayle

**Staff** V Payne (Chief Executive)  
M Garret (Chief Financial Officer)  
K Mayes (Manager - Strategy)  
S Ward (Senior Communications Advisor)  
K Jonson (Team Leader - Communications)  
B Dickie (Principal Strategic Advisor)  
G Morton (Senior Advisor - Integration and Infrastructure)  
A Lane (Manager – Science and Infrastructure)  
B McMaster (Team Leader – Transport and Infrastructure)  
T Quickfall (Manager – Science and Strategy)  
J Crane (Chief Information Officer)  
N Hubbard (Manager – Corporate Planning)  
I Ageel (Principal Advisor – Community and Services)  
A Williams – Democracy Advisor

**Apologies**

(Agenda Item 1)

The apologies received from Councillors Husband and Mahuta were accepted.

**Confirmation of Agenda**

(Agenda Item 2)

Cr B Simcock moved/Cr A Livingston seconded.

SPC17/26

**THAT the agenda of the meeting of the Strategy and Policy Committee of 19 September 2017, as circulated, be confirmed as the business for the meeting.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/26)**

**Disclosures of Interest**

(Agenda Item 3)

There were no disclosures of interest.

Prior to the commencement of the substantive meeting a member raised concern about information in the media claiming that Waikato Regional Council Chair had undertaken secret meetings with Tuwharetoa for water royalties. The member queried Waikato Regional Council Chair Alan Livingston as to what the response to the accusation would be. Chairman Livingston responded that he had been invited by the Environment Minister to Wellington to attend an effectiveness evaluation regarding the Waikato River Settlements that occurred every 5 years. He had not attended as a Crown representative but as Chairman of Waikato Regional Council, along with the Prime Minister, the Environment Minister and representatives from the 5 Waikato River Iwi. A report had been pre-circulated that outlined the effectiveness of the Joint Management Agreements and the Waikato River Authority. There had been no discussion beyond this report, and no discussion as per the media release above.

Members thanked the Chairman for his explanation.

**Verbal Update from Communications**

(Agenda Item 4)

Team Leader for Communications (Kim Jonson) provided a verbal update, noting the following:

- The Hamilton Halo photo competition was completed, there had been a total of 70 entries.
- Communications team had supported events including working with Integrated Catchment Management on Piako Catchment drop in days, and Koroneihana.
- Communication team had undertaken the promotional work alongside Tairanga Whenua for the successful release of the Kawe Korero application.

During discussion, the following points were noted:

- The communications team had undertaken a visual and interactive story telling mode of promotion for the Kawe Korero application that was driving a

great interest on Waikato Regional Council social media pages. The Committee congratulated the team on their work with successful social media promotion.

## **SECTION B: (FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL)**

### **Community Facilities Funding Framework**

File:20 00 09 (Agenda Item 5) Doc # 11018312 & 10374937

Manager Strategy (K Mayes) sought approval of the Community Facilities Funding Framework (the framework) attached to the report to guide investment in regional community facilities.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- Concern was raised that the framework required Waikato Regional Council to fund any project that was of regional benefit. In clarification, staff advised that while there was that expectation, it was up to Council to decide if the project was of regional benefit or not. This was the same process undertaken by territorial authorities in regards to sub –regional facilities.
- Concern was raised that this has been approved by all members of the Mayoral Forum and they might expect that regional facilities would be funded by Regional Council. A member requested that an amendment to the framework be made under section 5.4.4 that the Waikato Regional Council **may** be expected to provide funding towards a regional facility, as opposed to “will be expected” to. Further to this, a member suggested that the requirements at 5.4.4 for a facility to be considered regional include all listed (i-iii) as opposed to the and/or for the list. This would be achieved by removing the “or” from 5.4.4 i and ii. Staff advised that any changes to the framework would need to be considered by all Councils involved again before being implemented.
- A member suggested removing the reference to “independent experts” in the framework noting that this usually referred to experts hired by those wanting to put the facility in place and excluded input from others. The member suggested this should instead refer to “consultants”.
- Some members raised concerns that the framework required them to step outside of their usual business (environmental issues) and consider other regional projects involving the arts and sports. Staff advised that in the next 10 years the only arts and sporting facilities that were identified as being potentially regional were the Regional Cycle Trail network and the proposed Regional Theatre. The framework provided the outline for considering whether facilities met the criteria as being of regional significance, and then decisions about funding followed this consideration.
- A member suggested that the framework under section 5.4.4(ii) should require all territorial authorities to receive benefits before a project was considered regional.
- Concern was raised about the cost to those who would not receive benefit, or would receive minimal benefit from regional facilities. Staff outlined that funding mechanisms were available and outlined in the framework for consideration once a facility was considered regional. This included a “differential rate” which would alleviate the issue outlined above.

The Committee was reassured that this was a framework for funding new regional facilities only. The framework would provide a funding formula that was equitable and covered broader community considerations and gave consideration to collaboration and partnership. The framework did not bind any councils. The final decision would be made by the affected council.

An amendment to the recommendations was tabled to amend the framework as follows:

Cr D Minogue moved, Cr R Rimmington seconded that:

THAT the Community Facilities Funding Framework attached to the report (Doc # 10374937 dated 29 August 2017) is approved subject to the following amendments:

1. Para 5.4.4 “that the Waikato Regional Council may provide funding”, and
2. Para 5.4.4 ii “have potential beneficiaries drawn from all territorial authorities” and remove the word ‘or’ from 5.4.4i and 5.4.4ii
3. Para 5.4.4i be amended to read “receive central government funding if it is part of a national programme”.

The amendment was lost on a show of hands.

The original motion was considered.

Cr A Livingston moved/Cr B Simcock seconded.

SPC17/27

1. **THAT the report ‘Community Facilities Funding Framework’ (Doc # 11018312 dated 30 August 2017) be received for information.**
2. **THAT the Community Facilities Funding Framework attached to the report (Doc # 10374937 dated 29 August 2017) is approved.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/27)  
Councillors K White, J Hennebry, D Minogue and F Lichtwark opposed**

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

### **Regional Development Update**

File: 20 00 02(Agenda Item 6) Doc # 11018772

Manager Strategy (Katie Mayes) provided the Committee with an update of regional development work over the past six months of interest in the Waikato.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- There was no business case yet for the proposed Waikato Medical School. The Labour Party has advised it intends to provide more doctors if it is in government after the election, however Auckland and Otago universities would be hard pressed to cater for those extra students.

Cr B Simock moved/Cr B Quayle seconded.

SPC17/28 **THAT the report 'Regional development update' (Doc # 11018772 dated 29 August 2017) be received for information.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/28)**

**SECTION B: (FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL)**

**Submission Productivity Commission – Low Emissions Economy**

File: 22 11 23 (Agenda Item 7) Doc # 11065245 & 10555202

Principal Strategic Advisor (Blair Dickie) provided the Committee with a draft submission on the Productivity Commission's August 2017 Issues paper on the Low Emissions Economy for discussion, and seeks adoption of the submission by Council subject to any feedback from the Committee.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following amendments were suggested:

- While the wording in the submission recognised the need for agriculture to be a transition, the Committee suggested that the submission should specify that it is introduced over a 10 year period.
- The submission didn't effectively address the technological shifts that would occur in the future.
- Point 16 didn't cater strongly enough for the rising costs facing the nation.
- Point 34 should outline that incremental change can be achieved by actions of individuals from a 'ground up' basis as opposed to 'top down'.
- Point 11 needed more information about biofuels and the barriers to individuals taking up biofuels.
- The submission needed to take into mitigating factors such as riparian margins and CO<sup>2</sup> as part of the solution also.

Staff noted that amendments would be included and a final draft would go before Council for approval.

A member requested information come back to the Committee regarding electric vehicles and battery disposal.

Cr D Minogue moved/Cr S Kneebone seconded.

SPC17/29 **1. THAT the report 'Submission Productivity Commission – Low Emissions Economy' (Doc # 11021293 dated 30 August 2017) be received for information.**  
**2. THAT the 'Submission to the Productivity Commission (Doc # 11065245) be recommended to Council for adoption, subject to any changes or additions identified by the Strategy and Policy Committee.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/29)**

**SECTION A: (UNDER DELEGATION AND FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL)**

**Update on Growth Management and Related Activities**

File: 22 05 55 (Agenda Item 8) Doc # 10919116

Senior Advisor Integration (Greg Morton) provided the Committee with a report highlighting current growth management activities across the region. In speaking to the report he noted the relationships to and alignment with other key national and regional policies and policy planning activities in Auckland.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- Growth is occurring all around the region, despite forecasts to the contrary.
- The Future Proof Committee considered that growth projections were not high enough for the growth that was occurring in the Region. Concern was raised that Infrastructure was not keeping up with the growth, especially in accommodating migration to small settlement areas.
- A member requested that rail be included in the growth management plans.

Cr B Simcock moved/Cr A Livingston seconded.

SPC17/30

**THAT the report 'Update on Growth Management and Related Activities' (Doc # 10919116 dated 24 August 2017) be received for information**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/30)**

**Regional Transport Planning Update**

File: 03 04 11 (Agenda Item 9) Doc # 10966026

Section Manager (Annika Lane) and Team Leader Transport and Infrastructure (Bill McMaster) provided the Committee with highlights of the current regional land transport planning issues.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- Speed management had been an issue being considered by the Regional Transport Committee for over 2 years. At the October Regional Transport Meeting New Zealand Transport Authority Network Manager – Glenn Bunting would be speaking to the Committee on speed management. Staff suggested there was a Regional Council role to work with those involved (stakeholders and local authorities) to ensure understanding in this space, including understanding amendments to speed management bylaws.
- In referring to the Hamilton to Auckland passenger rail update a member noted that the relationship between Waikato Regional Council, Waikato District Council and Hamilton City Council in this space was strong. It was suggested this passenger rail line would be greatly beneficial beyond the Waikato and the business case that was being considered was the start point for taking the concept to the New Zealand Transport Authority. Depending on the outcome of the Central Government Elections, there was potential for further funding from central government.
- The Regional Transport Committee was currently establishing a working party to consider all transport issues between Hamilton and Auckland. Members included representatives from Waikato Regional Council, Waikato

District Council and Hamilton City Council and other stakeholders. The Committee had agreed that a public interest survey was required to move forward and put this in the hands of the working party, subject to funding.

Cr B Simcock moved/Cr A Livingston seconded.

**SPC17/31 THAT the report 'Regional Transport Planning Update' (Doc # 10966026 dated 29 August 2017) be received for information.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/31)**

**National Environment Standard – Plantation Forestry**

File:20 01 08 (Agenda Item 10) Doc # 10892798

Policy Manager (Tony Quickfall) briefed the Committee on the Government's recently released National Environment Standard for Plantation Forestry 2017.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- A member raised concern that the standard should be regional, or catchment based as opposed to national as soil types and requirements were different throughout New Zealand.
- A member raised concern was raised that there was not sufficient resources with the Council to manage forestry in the Waikato Region with forestry being a third of the business in the country and only one regulatory staff member.
- Cost recovery options were provided for in the NES and would be considered in the Long Term Plan.
- Erosion susceptibility zone maps were not yet finalised. Concern was raised that this meant there was not provision for submission on this issue. Staff noted that this National Environmental Standard (NES) was fully consulted on and the submission period for had passed, it would be up for review in 3 years. Staff agreed to provide the Committee with a report on the impact of the NES for Plantation Forestry on the Waikato

Cr B Simcock moved/Cr B Quayle seconded.

**SPC17/32 THAT the report 'National Environment Standard Plantation Forestry' (Doc # 10892798 dated 16 August 2017) be received for information.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/32)**

**National Environment Standard – Marine Aquaculture**

File: 22 03 96 (Agenda Item 11) Doc # 10929775 & 1068338

The Committee was briefed on the Government's recently proposed National Environment Standard for Marine Aquaculture (NESMA) and the staff submission forwarded to the Ministry of Primary Industries in response to the proposed NESMA.

Staff advised that while this submission should have come to Council for consideration before it was submitted to the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI), MPI had made provision for Waikato Regional Council to submit an amended version once it was considered by Council.

Cr B Simcock moved/Cr A Livingston seconded.

**SPC17/33 THAT the report 'National Environment Standard Marine Aquaculture' (Doc # 10929775 dated 28 August 2017) be received for information.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/33)**

**Upcoming Submissions**

File: 22 12 05 (Agenda Item 12) Doc # 11021656

The Committee was provided an update of submissions likely to develop prior to 2018.

There was no further discussion on this item.

Cr B Simcock moved/Cr B Quayle seconded.

**SPC17/34 THAT the report 'Upcoming Submissions' (Doc # 11021656 dated 30 August 2017) be received for information.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/34)**

**SECTION B: (FOR RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL)**

**Online Services Roadmap**

File: 16 20 00 (Agenda Item 13) Doc # 11065563

Chief Information Officer (John Crane) presented the online services roadmap for final feedback prior to seeking approval from Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee on 2 October 2017.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- In regards to added resources, the Committee queried if there would also be further cost savings. Staff advised that operational improvement and time saved in this space meant staff time could be used elsewhere.
- Staff advised that when the KPI was set for the Chief Executive, while there was an awareness of the cost implications, the priority was to ensure customer focus and increase the level of customer service. It was also noted that the KPI was for the roadmap to be completed, now the decision was whether it would be utilised or not.
- A request was made that a report from the Chief Executive be provided to the Committee considering Human Resources across the organisation to achieve cost effectiveness and efficiencies.

Cr B Quayle moved/Cr R Rimmington seconded.

SPC17/35

1. **THAT the report 'Online Services Roadmap' (Doc # 11065563 dated 11 September 2017) be received for information.**
2. **That the Online Services Roadmap be approved for presentation to CEERC on 2 October 2017.**
3. **That the Committee support the request for funding being considered as part of the Long Term Plan 2018-2028 process.**
4. **THAT a report from the Chief Executive be provided to the Committee considering Human Resources across the organisation to achieve cost effectiveness and efficiencies.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/35)**

**SECTION A: (UNDER DELEGATION AND FOR THE INFORMATION OF COUNCIL)**

**2018-2028 Long Term Plan Development – September Update**

File: 01 12 18A (Agenda Item 14) Doc # 10995265

Manager, Corporate Planning (Nicole Hubbard) and Chief Financial Officer (Mike Garrett) updated the Committee on the Long Term Plan Development programme and sets out the work plan for the next few months.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- A member queried if rail was being considered as part of the Long Term Plan. Staff advised that rail had been flagged as part of the business case considering transport.

Cr B Quayle moved/Cr A Livingston seconded.

SPC17/36

**THAT the report '2018-2028 Long Term Plan Development – September Update' (Doc # 10995265) dated 19 September 2017 be received.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/36)**

**Organisational Performance Management Framework**

File: 01 10 15E (Agenda Item 15) Doc # 11002872

Principal Advisor (Ihsana Ageel) provided the Committee with an overview of the Organisational Performance Management Framework specifically focusing on those aspects that are related to the Long Term Plan.

There was no further discussion on this item.

Cr B Simcock moved/Cr A Livingston seconded.

**SPC17/37 THAT the report 'Organisational Performance Management Framework' (Doc # 11002872 dated 28 August 2017) be received for information.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/37)**

**Local Government Act Section 17A Service Delivery Reviews**

File: 01 00 20 (Agenda Item 16) Doc # 11032888

Corporate Planning Manager (Nicole Hubbard) and Chief Financial Officer (Mike Garrett) provided the Committee with an update on those services which are being reviewed under the Local Government Act section 17a.

There was no further discussion on this item.

Cr B Simcock moved/Cr S Kneebone seconded.

**SPC17/38**

- 1. THAT THAT the report 'Local Government Act Section 17A Service Delivery Reviews' (Doc # 11032888) dated 19 September 2017 be received.**
- 2. THAT the Committee endorse the updated approach for each service as outlined in Section 3 of this report.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/38)**

**Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee Minutes**

File: 03 04 31 (Agenda Item 17) Doc # 11028403

The minutes from the Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee meeting of 1 September 2017 were taken as read.

During questions, answers and related discussion the following points were noted:

- It was expected that new buses would be on the road within the next few weeks. These would feature Wifi, low level entry and real time display both on board and at bus stops. The decline in bus patronage has now plateaued and was on the rise again.
- The intention of the fare review was to standardise and simplify concessions. This would be before the Finance Committee for consideration after this meeting.
- Members advised they were pleased to see funds staying on cards for 3 years as opposed to the shorter time frames of other Councils.

Cr R Rimmington moved/Cr B Quayle seconded.

**SPC17/39**      **THAT the minutes of the Regional Public Transport Plan Development Subcommittee meeting held on 1 September 2017 be received.**

**The motion was put and carried (SPC17/39)**

The meeting closed at 12:56pm.

Doc # 11099658