



# **WORKSHOP MINUTES**

**Wednesday, 29 April 2026**

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## Waikato Regional Council

### OPEN WORKSHOP MINUTES

**Date:** Wednesday 29 April 2026, 11.16am

**Location:** Council Chambers  
Waikato Regional Council  
Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton

**Members Present:** Cr Warren Maher – Chair until 12.39pm  
Cr Robert Cookson – Chair from 1.10pm  
Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith  
Cr Mich’eal Downard (virtually via Teams until 2.37pm)  
Cr Kataraina Hodge (until 2.30pm)  
Cr Chris Hughes (from 11.36pm)  
Cr Keith Holmes  
Cr Tipa Mahuta (virtually via Teams)  
Cr Gary McGuire  
Cr Jennifer Nickel  
Cr Garry Reymer  
Cr Liz Stolwyk  
Cr Angela Strange (until 12.25pm)  
Cr Noel Smith (until 12.30pm)

**Staff Present:** Tracey May – Director, Science, Policy and Information  
Greg Ryan, Director – Integrated Catchment Management  
Mali Ahipene – Pou Tuhono  
Jordan Metz – Democracy Advisor

***The contents of these workshop minutes meet all legal requirements. Workshops are not official meetings and do not contain any decisions. They are for discussion purposes only.***

***An audio-visual recording of the open session of the workshop is available on Waikato Regional Council's public website.***

Recording	Document ID #	YouTube Link
Recording #1	Doc # 35769534	<a href="https://youtu.be/5PytXFKCnSc">https://youtu.be/5PytXFKCnSc</a>
Recording #2	Doc # 35769733	<a href="https://youtu.be/qSPzgCiA7G8">https://youtu.be/qSPzgCiA7G8</a>

**1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA**

Item commenced in workshop recording 1, at start.

The Democracy Advisor (Jordan Metz) opened the workshop with a karakia.

**2 WORKSHOP PAPER(S)****2.1 WAIKATO-TAINUI PROPOSED COLLECTIVE FRAMEWORK**

Item commenced in recording 1, at 25 seconds.

Presented by the Pou Tuhono (Mali Ahipene). Refer Document # 35791946 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

11.36am – Cr Chris Hughes entered the workshop.

12.25pm – Cr Angela Strange left the workshop.

12.35pm – Cr Noel Smith left the workshop.

12.39pm – The workshop adjourned and Cr Warren Maher vacated the Chair.

1.10pm – The workshop reconvened and Cr Robert Cookson assumed the Chair.

**2.2 ICM INDUCTION: BIOSECURITY AND BIODIVERSITY PROGRAMMES**

Item commenced in recording 2, at start.

Presented by the Manager Biosecurity and Biodiversity (Patrick Whaley), the Team Leader Biosecurity (Brett Bailey) and the Team Leader, Pest, Plants (Darion Embling). Refer Document # 35655288 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

2.30pm - Cr Kataraina Hodge left the meeting.

2.37pm – Cr Mich'eal Downard left the meeting.

**3 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA**

Item commenced in recording 2, at 2 hours 32 minutes.

The Director, Integrated Catchment Management (Greg Ryan) closed the meeting with a Karakia.

4.36pm – The workshop concluded.