



MINUTES

Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 3 June 2026

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Waikato Regional Council
Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting
MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 3 June 2026, 9.00am

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

Members Present: Paul Connell – Independent Chair (virtually via Teams until 9.59am)
Cr Chris Hughes – Deputy Chair (assumed the Chair for the duration of the meeting)
Cr Robert Cookson (from 9.02am until 9.18am, back at 9.24am)
Cr Keith Holmes
Cr Warren Maher (from 9.10am)
Graham Naylor
Cr Noel Smith (virtually via Teams)

In Attendance: Cr Gary McGuire (from 9.06am)
Cr Garry Reymer (virtually via Teams from 9.15am until 10.41am)

Staff Present: Chris McLay – Chief Executive
Janine Becker – Director, Customer and Corporate Services
Jess Hood – Democracy Advisor

The contents of these minutes meet all legal requirements and include a full set of decisions.

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

Recording	Document ID #	YouTube Link
Open Recording #1	36319517	https://youtu.be/eqm5BXq_ak
Public Excluded Recording	36319409	–
Open Recording #2	36317683	https://youtu.be/5R4U7kylqVs

The Deputy-Chair (Cr Chris Hughes) assumed the Chair for the duration of the meeting.

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 36 seconds.

The Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 16 seconds.

APOLOGY

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/21

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes

Seconded: Graham Naylor

That the apologies of Cr Robert Cookson and Cr Warren Maher for lateness and Paul Connell for early departure be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 25 seconds.

9.02am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/22

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes

Seconded: Graham Naylor

- 1. That the agenda of the Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting of 3 June 2026, as circulated, be confirmed as the business of the meeting.**
- 2. That the order of items follows the order set out in the minutes.**
- 3. That the meeting may sit longer than two hours continuously and continue longer than six hours including adjournments.**

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 2 minutes.

No interests were disclosed pertaining to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

5 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 2 minutes 10 seconds.

RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – 16 MARCH 2026

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/23

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes

Seconded: Graham Naylor

That the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting held on 16 March 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 2 minutes 34 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter) and Chief Executive (Chris McLay).

9.06am – Cr Gary McGuire entered the meeting.

9.10am – Cr Warren Maher entered the meeting.

9.17am – Cr Garry Reymer entered the meeting.

9.18am – Cr Robert Cookson left the meeting.

9.24am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/24

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes

Seconded: Graham Naylor

That the report *Risk Management Activity Update* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.7 KEY PROJECTS UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 25 minutes 56 seconds.

Presented by the Business and Education Services Manager (Dean King), Director, Regional Transport Connections (Phil King) and Director, Integrated Catchment Management (Greg Ryan).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/25**Moved:** Cr Warren Maher**Seconded:** Graham Naylor**That the report *Key Projects Update* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.****CARRIED****6.2 STRATEGIC RISK REFRESH**

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 36 minutes 41 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker), Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter), Partner, PwC New Zealand (Jade Collins) and Director, PwC New Zealand (Aaron Steele).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/26**Moved:** Cr Robert Cookson**Seconded:** Graham Naylor

- 1. That the report *Strategic Risk Refresh* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.**
- 2. That the Risk and Assurance Committee recommends to Council the approval of the refreshed strategic risks and updated risk appetite statements set out in this report.**

CARRIED**6.3 PROPOSED INTERNAL AUDIT SCHEDULE 2026/27**

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 39 minutes 34 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker), Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter), Partner, PwC New Zealand (Jade Collins) and Director, PwC New Zealand (Aaron Steele)

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/27**Moved:** Cr Keith Holmes**Seconded:** Cr Warren Maher

- 1. That the report *Proposed Internal Audit Schedule 2026/27* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.**
- 2. That the Risk and Assurance Committee approves the 2026/27 Internal Audit Plan.**

CARRIED**6.4 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY UPDATE**

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 49 minutes 55 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter).

9.59am – Paul Connell left the meeting.

Action: That an update on ongoing audit task progress be tabled at the next meeting of the committee to provide context and understand where the organisation is at in the process.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/28

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the report *Internal Audit Activity Update* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.5 2026/27 KEY ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 59 minutes 52 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/29

Moved: Graham Naylor

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

- 1. That the report *2026/27 Key Accounting Estimates* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.**
- 2. That the Committee endorses the key accounting estimates and judgements presented, noting the revised approach for the reporting of these matters to each Committee meeting.**

CARRIED

6.6 TAX GOVERNANCE FRAMEWORK AND TAX RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour, 13 minutes 29 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah) and Partner, PwC New Zealand (Phil Fisher).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/30

Moved: Cr Warren Maher

Seconded: Graham Naylor

- 1. That the report *Tax Governance Framework and Tax Risk Management Strategy* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received; and**
- 2. That the Committee approve the Tax Risk Governance Framework and Tax Risk Management Strategy.**

CARRIED

6.8 ANNUAL LEAVE MANAGEMENT WELLBEING AND HEALTH AND SAFETY INDICATORS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour, 25 minutes.

Presented by the Executive Manager, People and Capability (Stuart Brown).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/31

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes

Seconded: Graham Naylor

That the report *Annual Leave Management Wellbeing and Health and Safety Indicators* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.9 POLICY REVIEW SCHEDULE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour, 32 minutes 35 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/32

Moved: Cr Warren Maher

Seconded: Cr Robert Cookson

That the report *Policy Review Schedule* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour, 37 minutes 35 seconds.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/33**

Moved: Cr Warren Maher

Seconded: Graham Naylor

That in accordance with section 48(1) of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987* (Act) and the interests protected by section 6 or 7 of that Act, the public is excluded from the following parts of this meeting. The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public are set out below:

Meeting item no. and subject	Grounds for excluding the public	Reason for excluding the public

7.1 - Fraud Risk Management Activity Update	s7(2)(j) of the Act - To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Act - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
7.2 - Cyber Security Update June 2026	s7(2)(j) of the Act - To prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Act - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7
7.3 - Potential Liability Report	s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information s7(2)(g) of the Act - To maintain legal professional privilege s7(2)(h) of the Act - To enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Act - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

CARRIED

10.37am – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

7.1 FRAUD RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at start.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

10.41am – Cr Garry Reymer left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/34

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

- 1. That the report *Fraud Risk Management Activity Update* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.**
- 2. That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.**

CARRIED**7.2 CYBER SECURITY UPDATE JUNE 2026**

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 9 minutes 9 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Information Officer (John Crane).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/35

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes

Seconded: Graham Naylor

1. That the report *Cyber Security Update June 2026* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.
2. That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.

CARRIED**7.3 POTENTIAL LIABILITY REPORT**

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 26 minutes 27 seconds.

Presented by the Senior Solicitor (Jonathan Ridling).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/36

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

1. That the report *Potential Liability Report* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 3 June 2026) be received.
2. That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.

CARRIED

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 34 minutes 45 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/37

Moved: Cr Warren Maher

Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the meeting return to the open session.

CARRIED

11.14am – The meeting moved back to open session.

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 2, at start.

The Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker) closed the meeting with a karakia.

11.14am – The meeting closed.