

Confirmed Public minutes of the Council meeting on Tuesday 27 August 2024

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council | Te Pane Matua
Taiao
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.32am

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (Chair)
Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Bassett
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ropata
Councillor Saw
Councillor Woolf

Councillors Duthie and Gaylor participated at this meeting remotely via Microsoft Teams and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Council Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Laban

That Council accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Connelly.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Gavin Beattie spoke to agenda item 9 – Initial Representation Proposal for the 2025 Triennial Local Elections.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 27 June 2024 – Report 24.356

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Laban

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 27 June 2024 – Report 24.356.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Confirmation of the Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 27 June 2024 – Report PE24.357

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 27 June 2024 – Report PE24.357.

The motion was **carried**.

6 Confirmation of the Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on 27 June 2024 – Report RPE24.358

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Bassett

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 27 June 2024 – Report RPE24.358.

The motion was **carried**.

7 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 30 July 2024 – Report 24.404

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Ropata

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 30 July 2024 – Report 24.404.

The motion was **carried**.

8 Māori Constituency Matters – Report 24.407

Francis Ryan, Head of Governance and Democracy, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ropata / Cr Laban

That Council:

- 1 Notes that in 2023 Council voted unanimously to put in place a Māori constituency for the Wellington Region.
- 2 Notes that the unanimous decision by the 13 directly elected regional councillors reflected the best interests of the Wellington Region as well as the views of the communities represented by those regional councillors.
- 3 Notes that the unanimous decision of Council came following unanimous support from the six mana whenua groups in the Wellington Region.
- 4 Notes that no formal objection to a Māori constituency was received from the public at the time Council made its decision.
- 5 Agrees that the Government has taken an unfortunate approach with its recent legislative amendment which overrides the Council's democracy and adds significant cost for ratepayers.
- 6 Disagrees with the need for a poll on the Māori constituency that it has already democratically agreed to.
- 7 Affirms its resolution of 26 October 2023 to establish a Māori constituency for the 2025 and 2028 triennial local elections, subject to the outcome of any further engagement with mana whenua prior to the 27 August 2024 Council meeting.
- 8 Notes that the proposed name of the Māori constituency – “Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui Māori Constituency” has previously been communicated to mana whenua (March 2024) with no alternative name having subsequently been received.
- 9 Adopts “Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui Māori Constituency” as the name of the Māori constituency in its initial representation proposal for the 2025 triennial local elections.

The motion was **carried**.

9 Initial Representation Proposal for the 2025 Triennial Local Elections – Report 24.129

Francis Ryan, Head of Governance and Democracy spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Bassett

That Council:

- 1 Notes that as an outcome of the Council’s resolution of 26 October 2023 to establish a Māori constituency for the 2025 and 2028 triennial local elections, the application of clause 4 of Schedule 1A to the Local Electoral Act 2001 provides for a single Māori constituency member to be elected from one Māori constituency covering the area of the Wellington Region.
- 2 Agrees that the seven scenarios for general constituencies outlined in paragraphs 59 to 83 of Report 24.129 represent the range of reasonably practicable general constituency options for Council’s consideration.

- 3 Having assessed the general constituency options in terms of the requirements for effective and fair representation, and considering that it is necessary to depart from the population formula of section 19V(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 in order to provide effective representation for the distinct communities of interest of Kāpiti Coast, Porirua-Tawa, Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt, Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt, and Wairarapa, resolves its initial representation proposal for the 2025 triennial local elections, providing for a Council of 14 members, of which one member is to be elected from one Māori constituency and 13 members are to be elected from six general constituencies, as follows:

Constituency name	Number of members	Constituency area
Te Upoko o te Ika a Māui Māori Constituency	1	The area of the Wellington Region
Pōneke/Wellington General Constituency	5	The area of Wellington City, excluding the area of the Tawa Community
Te Awa Kairangi ki Tai/Lower Hutt General Constituency	3	The area of Lower Hutt City
Porirua-Tawa General Constituency	2	The area of Porirua City, and the area of the Tawa Community of Wellington City
Kāpiti Coast General Constituency	1	The area of the Kapiti Coast District
Te Awa Kairangi ki Uta/Upper Hutt General Constituency	1	The area of Upper Hutt City
Wairarapa General Constituency	1	The area of South Wairarapa District, Carterton District and Masterton District, and that part of Tararua District that falls within the Wellington Region

- 4 Notes that this proposal changes the Council's existing representation arrangements into the general constituency arrangements, with the addition of a Māori constituency, through which the proposal:

- a provides for a Council of 14 members, taking account of the geographic size of the Wellington Region, which encompasses both urban and rural areas, and the diversity of Greater Wellington's functions
 - b provides consistency and familiarity for the electors of the general constituencies with the current representation arrangements
 - c facilitates the efficiency of elections' administration through the boundaries of the constituencies aligning with territorial authority boundaries, to the extent considered practicable.
- 5 Establishes the Representation Review Committee and adopts the terms of reference for the Committee, as set out in Attachment 3 to Report 24.129.
 - 6 Appoints Councillors Bassett, Connelly, Duthie, Gaylor, Kirk-Burnnand, Laban, Lee, Nash, Ponter, Ropata, Saw, Staples and Woolf to the Committee and appoints Councillor Ponter as Chair.
 - 7 Invites the Chair to write to the Minister of Local Government, requesting consideration of a law change to allow for two constituency seats in the Wairarapa.

The motion was **carried**.

10 Adoption of the Policy on Dangerous Dams 2024 – Report 24.434.

Jo Frances, Lead Consenting Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Duthie / Cr Saw

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the Policy on Dangerous Dams, Earthquake-prone Dams, and Flood-prone Dams 2024 (Attachment 1).
- 2 Delegates to the Chief Executive the ability to make any minor editorial changes to the Policy prior to publication to correct errors and improve public understanding.

The motion was **carried**.

11 Wetlands Policy – Update to the Natural Resources Plan – Report 24.409 [For Information]

Fathima Iftikar, Director Strategy, Policy and Regulation, spoke to the report.

12 Regional Pest Management Plan Operational Plan for 2024/25 – Report 24.381 [For Information]

Jack Mace, Director Delivery, spoke to the report.

13 Due Dates and Penalty Dates for Regional Rates – Carterton District – Report 24.448

Ashwin Pai, Acting Group Manager, Finance and Risk, and Kyn Drake, Principal Finance Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Bassett

That Council:

- 1 Notes that it is the established practice for the due dates and penalty dates set in Greater Wellington's rates resolutions to align with the due dates and penalty dates set by the territorial authorities.
- 2 Determines that it is desirable to set the 2024/25 regional rates again because of a relevant change in circumstances, being that Carterton District Council has decided to change its dates for the collection of rates.
- 3 Notes that the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 requires Greater Wellington to give 14 days' public notice of its intention to reset the due dates and penalty dates for regional rates collection for the Carterton District.
- 4 Notes that officers will prepare a report for Council to resolve the resetting of due dates and penalty dates for regional rates for Carterton District at the Council meeting on 26 September 2024.

The motion was **carried**.

14 Final Statements of Intent for 2024/25 – Report 24.444

Sarah Allen, Head of Company Portfolio and Economic Development, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Nash

That Council receives the Statements of Intent for WRC Holdings and the Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency and the Statement of Trustee Intent for the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust, for 2024/25.

The motion was **carried**.

15 Adoption of the 2025 Meeting Schedule – Report 24.359

Lucas Stevenson, Democratic Services Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Saw / Cr Ropata

That Council:

- 1 Notes that the meeting schedule for the 2025 calendar year is through to 9 October 2025, due to the local government triennial elections.
- 2 Adopts the meeting schedule for Council and its committees for the 2025 calendar year, as outlined in Attachment 1.
- 3 Notes the 2025 meeting schedule for the joint committees of which Council is a member (Attachment 2).

- 4 Authorises the Head of Governance and Democracy to circulate the adopted meeting schedule to key stakeholders and to modify the meeting schedule as and when required.

The motion was **carried**.

16 Finance Update – Year Ended 30 June 2024 – Report 24.438 [For Information]

Ashwin Pai, Acting Group Manager Finance and Risk, spoke to the report.

17 Regional Deals – Lessons from the United Kingdom [For Information]

The Council Chair, Councillor Ponter, spoke to the report.

Resolution to exclude the public

18 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 24.442

Moved: Cr Bassett / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council excludes the public from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely:

Appointment of members to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee – Report PE24.312

Appointment of Trustee to the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust – Report PE24.443

Chief Executive performance review for 2023/24 – Report RPE24.346

Chief Executive remuneration review for 2023/24 – Report RPE24.347

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific ground/s under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (the Act) for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

Appointment of members to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee – Report PE24.312	
<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about candidates for appointment to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee. Release of this information is likely to prejudice the privacy of natural persons (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as releasing this	The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.

<p>information would disclose their consideration for appointment as a Committee member.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has considered whether the public interest outweighs the need to withhold the information and has determined that there is no public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	
<p>Appointment of Trustee to the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust – Report PE24.443</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>
<p>The information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about the proposed candidate for appointment to the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust. Withholding this information prior to Council’s decision is necessary to protect the privacy of that natural person (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as releasing this information would disclose their consideration for appointment as a Trustee of the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.</p>
<p>Chief Executive performance review for 2023/24 – Report RPE24.346</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>
<p>The information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about the Chief Executive. Withholding this information is necessary to protect the privacy of that natural person (section 7(2)(a) of the Act)</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural</p>

<p>as releasing this information would disclose information pertaining to the employment relationship between the Chief Executive and Council.</p> <p>Greater Wellington Regional Council has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information</p>	<p>persons, including that of deceased natural persons.</p>
<p>Chief Executive remuneration review for 2023/24 – Report RPE24.347</p>	
<p><i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i></p>	<p><i>Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i></p>
<p>The information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about the Chief Executive. Withholding this information is necessary to protect the privacy of that natural person (section 7(2)(a) of the Act) as releasing this information would disclose information pertaining to the employment relationship between the Chief Executive and Council.</p> <p>Greater Wellington has not been able to identify a public interest favouring disclosure of this particular information in public proceedings of the meeting that would override the need to withhold the information.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act in order to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.</p>

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Act and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act or section 6 or section 7 or section 9 of the Official Information Act 1982, as the case may require, which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public.

The motion was **carried**.

The public part of the meeting closed at 10.29am.



Councillor A Staples

Chair

Date: 26 Sept 2024.