

# **Terms of Reference for the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee**

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**1. Name**

The Committee shall be known as the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee.

**2. Purpose**

To provide advice, information and recommendations on matters concerning the functions of Greater Wellington as they relate to the well being of the Wairarapa hill country.

**3. Membership**

The membership will be up to eight persons in total made up and appointed by the Council, as follows:

**Two Local Government Members**

- (a) The Regional Councillor representing the Wairarapa (who shall be interim chairperson until such time as all other appointees are in place).
- (b) One member nominated to represent the interests of the three Wairarapa District Councils. This person will be nominated jointly by the Masterton, Carterton and South Wairarapa Councils.

**Six Wairarapa Hill Country Landowner Members**

- (c) Up to six Wairarapa Hill Country Landowner Members, appointed by a subcommittee of the Rural Services and Wairarapa Committee on the basis of skills, experience, standing and networks in the Wairarapa hill country community relevant to the goals of the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee.

Chairperson: Appointment of the Chairperson and deputy to be determined by the full Committee when all members have been appointed.

Quorum: A quorum for any meeting will be at least 50% of the members.

**Term of Appointment**

The term of appointment shall be for three years.

**Alternates**

The Regional Councillor appointed to the Committee may have an alternate who may attend and vote at meetings of the Committee, in the event of the appointed Regional Councillor's absence or unavailability.

**Remuneration**

The remuneration of any Member of the Committee will be determined and approved by the Council, following consideration of any recommendation by the Committee.

#### **4. Vision Statement of the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee**

The Wairarapa hill country is managed according to its optimum long term capability while generating sustainable economic returns and incorporating the principles of sustainable land management.

#### **5. Objectives of the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee**

##### Objective 5.1

To promote, demonstrate and encourage the sustainable management of the Wairarapa hill country within a framework of economic wellbeing as it relates to the following issues;

- soil conservation and flood protection.
- plant and animal pests.
- climate change.
- nutrient management.
- biodiversity protection and enhancement.
- riparian management

##### Objective 5.2

To provide input into the development and implementation of a Total Catchment Management approach to the sustainable management of the Wairarapa hill country.

##### Objective 5.3

To provide a forum to consider matters related to Greater Wellington functions as they affect the rural communities within the Wairarapa hill country.

##### Objective 5.4

To establish robust and enduring partnerships between Greater Wellington and the communities and stakeholders within the Wairarapa hill country.

##### Objective 5.5

To promote best practice, effective monitoring and reporting systems that will ensure that the current non-regulatory approach to the sustainable management of the Wairarapa hill country is preserved.

##### Objective 5.6

To promote the use of land resource mapping and farm plans as the essential building blocks for sustainable management of land within the Wairarapa hill country.

## **6. Specific Responsibilities of the Wairarapa Hill Country Advisory Committee**

The Committees responsibilities include:

- (a) Appoint a member to the Wairarapa and Catchment Management committee
- (b) Make comment and recommendations to Greater Wellington's long term community plan and annual plan processes.
- (c) Be involved in the preparation of Greater Wellington's strategic plans and policy development with relevance to the Wairarapa hill country.
- (d) Make submissions on other strategic plans and policy documents with relevance to the Wairarapa Hill Country.
- (e) Ensure the Wairarapa Hill Country landowners are informed of issues and provided with information relevant to their business.
- (f) Provide a sounding board for new initiatives or techniques that will assist in the sustainable management of the Wairarapa hill country.
- (g) Advocate for the development of a monitoring and reporting framework that will ensure that a non-regulatory approach to land management is maintained.

## **7. Standing Orders**

### **Voting**

The acts of the Committee and questions before the Committee must be decided at a meeting by vote. Each member of the Committee will have one vote and decisions will be made by simple majority.

### **Chairperson voting**

The Chairperson or other person presiding at the meeting:

- (a) has a deliberative vote; and
- (b) in the case of an equality of votes, does not have a casting vote (and therefore the act or question is defeated and the status quo is preserved).