



If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Council

Thursday 25 August 2022, 9.30am

Taumata Kōrero, Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council,
100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington

Members

Cr Ponter (Chair)

Cr Staples (Deputy Chair)

Cr Blakeley

Cr Brash

Cr Connelly

Cr Gaylor

Cr Hughes

Cr Kirk-Burnnand

Cr Laban

Cr Lamason

Cr Lee

Cr Nash

Cr van Lier

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council

Council

Thursday 25 August 2022, 9.30am

Taumata Kōrero, Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council,
100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington

Public Business

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Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Council meeting on 25 August 2022.

Report 22.300

Public minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 30 June 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 9.30am.

Members Present

Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Brash
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand participated at the meeting remotely, via Microsoft Teams, and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25B of the Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair) presided at the meeting, in the absence of the Council Chair.

Karakia timatanga

Councillor Staples opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Gaylor/ Cr Nash

That Council accepts the apologies for absence from Councillors Blakeley, Hughes, Ponter, and van Lier.

The motion was **carried**.

Francis Ryan, Manager, Democratic Services, advised Council of the tabling of documents:

- An updated meeting agenda, reflecting that item 20, Report PE22.243 in the published meeting agenda, would be considered by Council as item 12, Report 22.243, in the public part of the meeting.
- An updated Attachment 1 to Report 22.287.
- An updated Report 22.243, and an updated Attachment 1 to this report.
- An updated Resolution to Exclude the Public (Report 22.295).

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 16 June 2022 - Report 22.283

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Nash

That Council confirms the Public minutes of the Council meeting on 16 June 2022 – Report 22.283.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Update on Progress of Action Items from Previous Council Meetings – June 2022 – Report 22.256 [For Information]

Strategy, policy or major issues

6 Adoption of the 2022 Revenue and Financing Policy - Report 22.276

Alison Trustrum-Rainey, Chief Financial Officer, and Kyn Drake, Project Manager, Revenue and Financing Policy Review, spoke to the report

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Brash

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the 2022 Revenue and Financing Policy (Attachment 1).
- 2 Delegates to the Chief Executive the ability to make minor editorial changes to the Policy prior to publication to correct errors and improve public understanding

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: Council thanked officers for their work on the 2022 Revenue and Financing Policy.

7 Whakaitinga Rēti Mō Te Whenua Māori | Rates Remissions On Māori Land Policy – Adoption – Report 22.284

Scott Summerfield, Project Manager, Te Hunga Whiriwhiri, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Nash

That Council:

- 1 Adopts the Whakaitinga Rēti mō te whenua Māori | Rates Remissions on Māori Land Policy (Attachment 1).
- 2 Delegates to the Chief Executive the ability to make minor editorial changes to the policy prior to publication to correct errors and improve public understanding.

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: Council thanked officers for their work on Whakaitinga Rēti Mō Te Whenua Māori | Rates Remissions on Māori Land Policy.

8 Adoption of the 2022/23 Annual Plan – Report 22.273

Alison Trustrum-Rainey, Chief Financial Officer, and Zofia Miliszewska, Team Leader, Corporate Planning and Reporting, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Lee

That Council:

- 1 Notes that in accordance with section 95(2A) of the Local Government Act 2002, no public consultation was undertaken in the preparation of the 2022/23 Annual Plan as no significant or material changes have been proposed from year two of Greater Wellington's 2021-31 Long Term Plan.
- 2 Adopts the 2022/23 Annual Plan (Attachment 1).
- 3 Authorises the Chief Executive the ability to make minor editorial changes to the 2022/23 Annual Plan prior to publication to correct errors and improve public understanding.
- 4 Notes that the following policies related to the 2022/23 Annual Plan have been considered for adoption by Council at this meeting:
 - a Revenue and Financing Policy (Report 22.276)
 - b Whakaitinga Rēti mō te whenua Māori | Rates Remission on Māori Land Policy (Report 22.284).
- 5 Notes that separate reports are being considered at this Council meeting to set the:
 - a Wellington Regional Council rates for 2022/23 (Report 22.287)

- b Wholesale water levy for 2022/23 (Report 22.269).

The motion was **carried**.

Noted: Council requested that officers include reference to the Porirua Whaitua Implementation Plan in the list of projects outlined on page 16 of Attachment 1 to the Report.

9 Setting of the Wellington Regional Council Rates 2022/23 – Report 22.287

Alison Trustrum-Rainey, Chief Financial Officer, and Ashwin Pai, Financial Controller, spoke to the report, and noted the updated Attachment 1 – Setting of the Wellington Regional Council Rates for 2022/23, which had been tabled.

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Brash

That Council:

- 1 Sets, pursuant to sections 23 and 24 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, the rates as set out in the updated Attachment 1 (as tabled) for the period commencing 1 July 2022 and concluding 30 June 2023, with all dollar amounts being inclusive of Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- 2 Sets the instalment due dates as set out in Attachment 2.
- 3 Resolves, pursuant to sections 57 and 58 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, to add penalties to unpaid rates as outlined in Attachment 2.
- 4 Requests officers to send a copy of these resolutions to all territorial authorities acting as Wellington Regional Council's agents for rates collection.
- 5 Requests officers to place these resolutions on Greater Wellington's website.

The motion was **carried**.

10 Wholesale Water Levy 2022/23 and End of Year Adjustment for Levy 2021/22 – Report 22.269

Alison Trustrum-Rainey, Chief Financial Officer, and Sue McLean, General Manager, Corporate Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Brash / Cr Lee

That Council:

- 1 **Approves**, pursuant to section 91 of the Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972, the wholesale water contributions payable by constituent authorities for 2022/23 as follows:

	2022/23 Levy
	\$ (GST exclusive)
Hutt City Council	10,964,435
Porirua City Council	4,972,459
Upper Hutt City Council	4,613,068
Wellington City Council	21,518,811

Total **42,068,773**

2 **Approves** the end of year adjustment levies for 2021/22 as follows:

	2021/22 Adjustments
	\$ (GST exclusive)
Hutt City Council	(57,961)Credit
Porirua City Council	12,282 Debit
Upper Hutt City Council	28,025 Debit
Wellington City Council	17,654 Credit

The motion was **carried**.

11 Second Stage Response to Receipt of Whaitua Te Whanganui-A-Tara Implementation Programme And Te Mahere Wai O Te Kāhui Taiao – Report 22.258 [For Information]

Alastair Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, Gareth Edwards, Project Manager, Whaitua Implementation, and Matt Hickman, Manager, Environmental Policy, spoke to the report.

12 Wellington Rail Programme Business Case – Wellington Strategic Rail Plan – Report 22.243

Samantha Gain, General Manager, Metlink, and Barry Fryer, Manager, Rail Assets, spoke to the updated report, and noted the updated Attachment 1 – as tabled.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Brash

That Council:

- 3 Notes that the Draft Wellington Rail Programme Business Case – Wellington Strategic Rail Plan (Draft Wellington Rail PBC) aligns with, and builds on the priorities outlined in, Section 5.3 of the Wellington Regional Rail Strategic Direction in Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o Pōneke Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-2031.
- 4 Endorses the proposed strategic direction as set out on the Draft Wellington Rail PBC, and the selection of the preferred programme - Drive Mode Shift.
- 5 Endorses the content of the Draft Wellington Rail PBC, Attachment 2 to this report.
- 6 Notes that there are no direct financial implications stemming from endorsement of the Draft Wellington Rail PBC.
- 7 Notes that there may be minor changes to the Draft Wellington Rail PBC before it is finalised for submission.
- 8 Authorises the Council Chair, and Chair and Deputy Chair of the Transport Committee, acting jointly, to approve the finalised Wellington Rail Programme Business Case – Wellington’s Strategic Rail Plan for submission to Waka Kotahi.

The motion was **carried**.

The meeting adjourned at 10.52am, and resumed at 11.10am.

Governance

13 Changes to Council's Delegations of Power, Functions and Responsibilities – June 2022 – Report 22.198

Will Ogier, Principal Advisor, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Nash

That the Council:

- 1 Notes the Local Government (Rating of Whenua Māori) Amendment Act 2021 amends the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 and has implications for the:
 - a Council's powers, functions and responsibilities
 - b Chief Executive's powers, functions and responsibilities.
- 2 Revokes the current delegation of Council's powers, functions and responsibilities under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 made on 10 December 2020.
- 3 Delegates its powers, functions and responsibilities under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to specified officers, except those powers not capable of delegation or retained explicitly by Council (Attachment 1), with effect from 30 June 2022.
- 4 Notes the Chief Executive will delegate his powers, functions and responsibilities under new sections 90A and 90B of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to specified officers, with effect from 30 June 2022.

The motion was **carried**.

14 WRC Holdings Statement of Intent 2022/23 – Report 22.290

Sean Mahoney, Company Portfolio and Economic Development Manager, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That Council receives the Statement of Intent from WRC Holdings for 2022/2023.

The motion was **carried**.

15 Wellington Regional Stadium Trust Statement of Trustees' Intent – Report 22.250

Sean Mahoney, Company Portfolio and Economic Development Manager, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Laban / Cr Lamason

That Council receives the Statement of Trustees Intent from Wellington Regional Stadium Trust for 2022/2023.

The motion was **carried**.

- 16 **Wellington Water Committee Meeting - 27 May 2022 – Report 22.289** [For Information]
- 17 **Wellington Regional Leadership Committee Meeting – 31 May 2022 – Report 22.245** [For Information]
- 18 **Wellington Region Civil Defence Emergency Management Group Meeting – 31 May 2022 – Report 22.277** [For Information]
- 19 **Regional Transport Committee Meeting – 14 June 2022 – Report 22.274** [For Information]

Resolution to exclude the public

- 20 **Resolution to exclude the public – Report 22.295 (updated)**

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Lee

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

Chief Executive Performance Indicators for 2022/23 – Report RPE22.225.

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:

Chief Executive Performance Indicators for 2022/23 – Report RPE22.225	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>The information contained in this report relates to the Chief Executive’s performance agreement for 2022/23. Release of this information would prejudice the privacy of Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, by disclosing information pertaining to the employment relationship between the Chief Executive and the 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 would override his privacy.</p>	<p>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act (to protect the privacy of 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 11.21am.

Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date:



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Council meeting on 25 August 2022.

The matters referred to in these minutes were considered by Council in Public Excluded business. These minutes do not require confidentiality and may be considered in the public part of the meeting.

Report RPE22.306

Restricted Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on Thursday 30 June 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 11.21am.

Members Present

Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Brash
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand participated at the meeting remotely, via Microsoft Teams, and counted for the purpose of quorum in accordance with clause 25B of the Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair) presided at the meeting, in the absence of the Council Chair.

1 Chief Executive Performance Indicators for 2022/23 – Report RPE22.225

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand/ Cr Gaylor

That Council adopts the Chief Executive key performance indicators for 2022/23 (Attachment 1).

The motion was **carried**.

The Restricted Public Excluded part of the meeting closed at 11.28am.

Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date:



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Council meeting on 25 August 2022.

Report 22.304

Public minutes of the Council meeting on Wednesday 6 July 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 9.36am.

Members Present

Councillor Ponter (until 10.37am)
Councillor Staples (Presiding Member)
Councillor Blakeley
Councillor Brash
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban (until 10.37am)
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash

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

Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair) presided at the meeting.

Karakia timatanga

Councillor Staples opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Nash/ Cr Brash

That Council accepts the apologies for absence from Councillor Connelly and Councillor van Lier.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Let's Get Wellington Moving: Mass Rapid Transit / State Highway Improvements Preferred Programme Option – Report 22.227

Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, introduced the report and welcomed the Let's Get Wellington Moving staff to the meeting. Dave Humm, Partner Lead, Let's Get Wellington Moving, spoke to the report and tabled updated recommendations. Dave Brash, Chair, Let's Get Wellington Moving Partnership Board, and Dave Dunlop, Acting Programme Director, Let's Get Wellington Moving, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Blakeley

That Council:

- 1 Notes the conclusions in the Preferred Programme Option Report that Option 1 (Light rail from Wellington Station to Island Bay, bus priority¹ from Kent/Cambridge Terrace to Miramar and the Airport, a new Mt Victoria Tunnel and grade separated Basin Reserve) is the best performing Mass Rapid Transit (MRT)/Strategic Highway Improvements (SHI) Programme Option under the intensified land use scenario against the LGWM Programme objectives.
- 2 Notes that a combination of the existing and new Mount Victoria tunnels will provide one dedicated lane for dedicated public transport and one lane for private vehicle, in each direction, with improved capacity for active modes. The Hataitai bus tunnel will be retained for local bus services.
- 3 Notes that the provision of one lane dedicated for public transport in each direction through Mount Victoria in addition to the existing Hataitai bus tunnel is integral to the Programme achieving its objectives.
- 4 Agrees that Option 1 is the preferred option to proceed through to the Detailed Business Case.
- 5 Notes that the Option 1² endorsement relies on the following conditions to deliver the full Programme outcomes:
 - a Ability to enable or support the delivery of high levels of intensification in the southern corridor

¹ Bus priority and enhanced bus can be used interchangeably

² This also applies to options 2, 3 & 4 to varying degrees

- b No significant cost escalation or scope change
 - c Current assumptions regarding population growth and travel demand patterns
 - d The ability to integrate with the current and future public transport network
 - e The ability to deliver the infrastructure required, including road space allocation, stabling and power supply.
- 6 Agrees that, given the current levels of uncertainty in the above conditions in relation to Option 1 at the current Indicative Business Case stage, and close performance of Option 1 and 2 highlighted in the Preferred Programme Option Report, both Light Rail Transit and Bus Rapid Transit modes should continue to be investigated in the next stage (Detailed Business Case) along with the following:
- a ways of minimising cost risk and ensuring affordability
 - b planning for intensive urban development³ and urban amenity to give greater confidence that the urban development can be delivered over next 30 years and beyond
 - c defining high quality Mass Rapid Transit characteristics required for Wellington City's southern corridor to enable urban development
 - d improvements in Light Rail Transit and Bus Rapid Transit technology and equivalent modes that could better deliver high-quality and sufficient-capacity Mass Rapid Transit.
 - e further ways of optimising carbon-reducing impacts of the programme
 - f impacts of changes in demands and travel patterns (e.g. post-Covid trips patterns and travel behaviour change)
- 7 Notes that Options 3 and 4 do not deliver on the LGWM Programme objectives to the extent that Options 1 and 2 do, as concluded in the Preferred Programme Option Report, however they remain open for consideration until the current partner decision making process⁴ in relation to a Preferred Programme Option is complete. At this stage no further work is planned to be undertaken on Options 3 and 4 in the Detailed Business Case phase.
- 8 Notes that the uncertainties and assumptions (outlined in recommendations 5 and 6) above should be further investigated in the next Detailed Business Case stage to provide greater certainty before an investment decision to move to implementation phase will be considered by LGWM partners.
- 9 Notes that the do-nothing or counterfactual option of dispersed regional urban growth does not deliver the vision and/or achieve the objectives of the LGWM Programme.

³ Informed by key statutory land use processes (including the Wellington City Council Spatial Plan, District Plan, Housing and Business Capacity Assessment and a Future Development Strategy).

⁴ Varies for partners, noting that councils are required to follow the Special Consultative Procedure under the LGA.

- 10 Notes the intention to take opportunities to accelerate aspects of the Programme such as early delivery staging and sequencing identified within road reserve, faster approval pathways and early enabling works.
- 11 Delegates approval of the final MRT/SHI Indicative Business Case to Council's Chief Executive Officer, subject to it being consistent with the Council's decisions on this paper.
- 12 Agrees to fund the Detailed Business Case phase of the MRT/SHI programme (\$120.7 million⁵ total; Greater Wellington Regional Council \$24.1 million; Wellington City Council \$24.1 million), based on the previously agreed interim funding split for business case development and LGWM management costs being 60/20/20 (Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency/Greater Wellington Regional Council/Wellington City Council).
- 13 Notes the budget for the Detailed Business Case assumed a single preferred mode for the purpose of scope, costs, and timeframes. This budget and associated partner funding requirements may need to be increased to investigate both Light Rail and Bus Rapid Transit modes once more detailed scope and timing requirements are understood.
- 14 Notes Council has sufficient budget for its share of the Detailed Business Case in its Long-Term Plan 2021 - 2031 and draft Annual Plan 2022/23. Council's share is debt funded and repaid over 20 years. The central government share will be sought through Waka Kotahi's funding approval process.
- 15 Notes that cost allocation and funding mechanisms for implementation of the LGWM MRT/SHI programme will be considered as part of future Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan processes.
- 16 Notes the affordable funding envelope for the LGWM Programme is \$7.4b⁶ total.
- 17 Notes the Government announcement of 29 June 2022⁷ which aligns with the Preferred Programme Options Report in Attachment 1 by supporting light rail from Wellington Station to Island Bay, a new tunnel through Mt Victoria for public transport, and walking and cycling, and upgrades to improve traffic flow at the Basin Reserve and noting the detailed business case will consider bus rapid transit as an alternative mode option along the Mass Rapid Transit route.
- 18 Notes the importance of travel demand management and behaviour change to maximise achieving the agreed programme objectives and preparing for disruption associated with construction of mass rapid transit and other projects in the city (especially the Golden Mile transformation).

⁵ excluding the Waka Kotahi admin fee which is not relevant to the council share

⁶ includes the whole of life cost over a 30-year period to 2049/50 and on-going operational and financing charges for the entire LGWM programme.

⁷ [Wellington's rapid transit option progresses to next stage | Beehive.govt.nz](https://www.beehive.govt.nz/news/wellingtons-rapid-transit-option-progresses-to-next-stage)

- 19 Endorses the working objectives for LGWM urban development to guide collective cross-agency work on urban development within the Mass Rapid Transit corridor catchment set out in Attachment 5 to this report.
- 20 Endorses the expressions of collective and organisational commitment agreed by cross-agency partners associated with LGWM work on urban development set out in Attachment 5 to this report.
- 21 Endorses LGWM on behalf of partners, including mana whenua, preparing a proposal for a Specified Development Project with Kāinga Ora, noting that LGWM will report back to partners with final recommendations on a Specified Development Project proposal.
- 22 Notes that the cost of purchasing and consolidating land parcels and delivering community outcomes around Mass Rapid Transit stations as part of facilitating comprehensive urban development and intensification are not included in any option or programme costs but will be subject to ongoing work including through the Detailed Business Case phase.
- 23 Notes that the LGWM Courtenay to Newtown Corridor has been agreed by the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee as one of seven Complex Development Opportunities (priority growth areas) under the Wellington Regional Growth Framework.
- 24 Notes that continued investment in the regional rail network is critical to support the LGWM programme outcomes - including the Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility package and the Wellington Strategic Rail Plan package, which are yet to be fully funded.

Voting on the motions was taken in parts: Motions 1 to 3 were **carried**; Motion 4 was **carried**; and Motions 5 to 24 were **carried**.

Noted: Councillor Kirk-Burnnand requested that his vote against each motion be recorded. Councillor Lee requested that his vote against Motion 4 be recorded.

The meeting adjourned at 10.37am and resumed 11.04am.

Councillors Laban and Ponter left the meeting at 10.37am, at the conclusion of the above item, and did not return.

5 Local Electoral (Advertising) Amendment Act 2022 – Report 22.307 [For Information]

Francis Ryan, Manager, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Resolution to exclude the public

6 Resolution to exclude the public – Report 22.302

Moved: Cr Kirk-Burnnand / Cr Brash

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

Appointment of member to the Wairarapa Committee – Report PE22.194

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 member to the Wairarapa Committee – Report PE22.194	
<i>Reason/s for passing this resolution in relation to each matter</i>	<i>Ground/s under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
<p>Information contained in this report includes personal and identifying information about a proposed candidate for appointment to the Wairarapa Committee. Release of this information prior to Council’s decision is likely to prejudice the privacy of natural persons as releasing this information would disclose their consideration for appointment as a member of the Committee.</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>The public conduct of this part of the meeting is excluded as per section 7(2)(a) of the Act - 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 11.07am.

Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date:



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Council meeting on 25 August 2022.

The matters referred to in these minutes were considered by Council in Public Excluded business. These minutes do not require confidentiality and may be considered in the public part of the meeting.

Report PE22.305

Public Excluded minutes of the Council meeting on Wednesday 6 July 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 11.07am

Members Present

Councillor Staples (Presiding Member)
Councillor Blakeley
Councillor Brash
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash

Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair) presided at the meeting.

Public excluded Business

1 Appointment of Member to the Wairarapa Committee – Report PE22.194

Francis Ryan, Manager, Democratic Services, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr Blakeley

That Council:

- 1 Appoints Amber Craig as the Rangitāne ō Wairarapa Inc representative on the Wairarapa Committee.

- 2 Notes that the Wairarapa Committee and its membership cease at the end of the triennium.
- 3 Notes that no nomination has been received by Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Charitable Trust.

The motion was **carried**.

Karakia whakamutunga

Councillor Staples closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The Public Excluded part of the meeting closed at 11.09am.

Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date:



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Council meeting on 25 August 2022.

Report 22.341

Public minutes of the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee meeting on Wednesday 3 August 2022 and Thursday 4 August 2022

Wednesday 3 August 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 9.30am.

Members Present

Councillor Blakeley (Chair)
Councillor Brash
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ponter

Councillor Ponter participated at the 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 Committee Chair invited Councillor Lee to open the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Process for Considering Feedback on the Future Fares Direction – Report 22.320

Alex Smith, Senior Democratic Services Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Lee

That the Subcommittee:

- 1 Agrees to the hearing process set out in this report.
- 2 Accepts the late feedback received on the Future Fares Direction.

The motion was **carried**.

4 Analysis of Submissions on the Future Fares Direction – Report 22.315

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Brash

That the Subcommittee:

- 1 Considers the submissions on the Future Fares Direction 2022 (Attachment 1), together with the findings, analysis, and summary of submissions completed by Global Research (Attachment 2) and with the officer comments and recommendations set out in this report.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Hearing of submissions

A schedule of the hearing of submissions was tabled.

Submitters were scheduled in half hour blocks and heard in the following order:

Hearing order	Submission number	Name and organisation
1	FF005	Chris Clarke – Age Concern Wairarapa
2	HYS51	Adam Manihera
3	HYS469	Nick Ruane
4	HYS76	Jeremy Parry-Thompson
5	HYS149	Nikau Wi Neera
6	HYS626	Tony Randle
7	HYS699 and FF012	Raewyn Hailes – CCS Disability Action Wellington

The meeting adjourned at 11am and resumed at 11.15am.

Hearing order	Submission number	Name and organisation
8	HYS444	Marion Leighton

The Chair advised that the meeting would adjourn and reconvene at 9.30am on Thursday 4 August 2022. The meeting adjourned at 11.23am.

Thursday 4 August 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.30am.

Members Present

Councillor Blakeley (Chair)
Councillor Brash
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ponter

Councillor Ponter participated at the 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.

6 Apologies

There were no apologies.

7 Hearing of submissions (continued)

An updated timetable of oral submissions was circulated.

Submitters were scheduled in half hour blocks and heard in the following order:

Hearing order	Submission number	Name and organisation
9	FF002	Paula Warren
10	HYS106	Daniel Spector
11	HYS294	Charissa Bartlett – read by Cr Nash
12	HYS653	Yadana Saw

The Subcommittee discussed its approach to deliberations and asked questions of officers.

The meeting adjourned at 10.32am and resumed at 10.56am.

Hearing order	Submission number	Name and organisation
13	HYS437	Nick Bell

Hearing order	Submission number	Name and organisation
14	FF015	Mika Havel, Wesley Gyles-Bedford, Khushboo Singh and Jack Chapman – Pōneke Collective
15	FF009 and FF007	Lisa Matthews – Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils

The meeting adjourned at 12.21pm and resumed at 12.53pm.

8 Analysis of Submissions on the Future Fares Direction – Report 22.315

The Subcommittee undertook its deliberations.

Samantha Gain, General Manager Metlink, Tim Shackleton, Manager, Commercial, Strategy and Investment and Emmet McElhatton, Manager, Policy, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Lee

That the Subcommittee:

- 2 Following consideration of the submissions on the Future Fares Direction 2022, and relevant officer advice, additions and amendments to the Future Fares Direction 2022 as agreed by this Subcommittee, as outlined below:
 - a Notes the overwhelming support for Council’s adoption of the government’s Community Services Card half-price fares initiative.
 - b Notes that the Ministry of Transport has explicitly excluded the Total Mobility scheme from the half-price fares initiative.
 - c Requests that Council advocates to central government that the Community Services Card half price fares initiative be extended to include the Total Mobility scheme.
 - d Requests that officers conduct further modelling, options analysis and discussions with the Ministry of Transport on potential additional support for Total Mobility for future Council decision-making, including investigating the potential for public transport authorities to procure their own fleets of total mobility vehicles to increase capacity, and report back to the Transport Committee.
 - e Recommends that Council move from a 25% to a 50% off-peak discount with subsequent Net Revenue loss of \$5 million (with a modest cost offset in the mid-long term through reducing peak service capacity requirements), subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding and capacity implications of a 50% discount.
 - f Recommends that Council amend the current Regional Public Transport Plan definition of off-peak for buses to “weekdays before 7 am, between

9 am and 3 pm and after 6.30 pm and all-day weekends and public holidays”.

- g Requests that officers conduct further modelling to determine whether this pre-7 am off-peak discount be applied to the rail network including the Wairarapa Line (all peak services from Masterton depart prior to 7 am. See paragraphs 102 to 113).
- h Recommends the adoption of cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders.
- i Notes that officers will work with Snapper to identify implementation timings, costs and simplicity report options for Council decision as part of the annual fares review process.
- j Recommends that Council introduce a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding implications of this decision.
- k Recommends that Metlink harbour ferry services and the Airport Express be excluded from the free child travel on weekends and public holidays policy.
- l Notes that parents and caregivers of children with disabilities can travel free under existing policy and that there is a need to convey this information more clearly.
- m Requests that officers clarify the policy, and address any anomalies, with respect to parents and caregivers travelling with persons with disabilities.
- n Recommends that Metlink move toward a fare capping approach, in the context of account-based ticketing in the National Ticketing Solution.
- o Recommends an initial fare capping discount of 35 percent on a daily and weekly basis.
- p Recommends that Council support the introduction of new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the Region.
- q Recommends that Council support the emerging work programme with WellingtonNZ, with regard to event travel across the Region.
- r Requests that officers update the Transport Committee regarding progressing the work programme with WellingtonNZ.
- s Recommends that Council introduce a distance based Integrated Fare Structure.
- t Requests that officers conduct further modelling and options analysis on potential changes to the Wairarapa Line for off-peak users, including Super Gold Card users for future Council decision making.
- u Notes the roll out of free Snapper Cards for Community Connect scheme.

- v Notes that this fare strategy review has taken place in the context of uncertainty in relation to patronage as a result of COVID-19.
- w Notes that this fare strategy review has taken place in the context of legislative and central government policy reform, including in relation to fare free, fare discount initiatives and Public Transport Operating Model (PTOM) reforms.
- x Notes that this fare strategy review has taken place in the context of constraints related to funding, technology, network capacity and the timing of major projects such as the National Ticketing Solution, funding and procurement of regional rail services.

The motion was **carried**.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair invited Councillor Lee to close the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public meeting closed at 2.41pm.

Councillor R Blakeley

Chair

Date:



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Council meeting on 25 August 2022.

Report 22.375

Public minutes of the Council meeting on 18 August 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 1pm.

Members Present

Councillor Ponter
Councillor Staples
Councillor Blakeley
Councillor Brash
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor van Lier

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

Karakia timatanga

The Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

Strategy, policy or major issues

4 Public Notification of Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement – Report 22.316

The Chair welcomed Dr Aroha Spinks (Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki), Dr Onur Oktem-Lewis (Ngāti Toa Rangatira), Rawiri Smith (Kahungunu ki Wairarapa), Kereana Sims (Kahunugu ki Wairarapa) and Melaine McCormick (Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai) to the meeting. The Chair acknowledged the contribution of Greater Wellington’s mana whenua partners to the preparation of Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement.

Al Cross, General Manager, Environment Management, introduced the report. Matthew Hickman, Manager, Environment Policy, Matthews, Team Leader, Policy Implementation, and Jo Frances, Senior Policy Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Blakeley / Cr Lee

That the Council:

- 1 Notes and recognises the contribution of mana whenua/tangata whenua to the preparation of Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement.
- 2 Notes and acknowledges the expressions of Te Mana o te Wai from Kahungunu ki Wairarapa and Rangitane o Wairarapa contained in Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement.
- 3 Notes that the Manager, Environmental Policy, will utilise their delegation from Council to approve an extension to the submissions period on Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement from the minimum 20 working days to 40 working days.
- 4 Notes that the Manager, Environmental Policy, will utilise their delegation from Council to amend the Regional Policy Statement to change references to the ‘Treaty of Waitangi’ to ‘Te Tiriti o Waitangi’ under the Resource Management Act Schedule 1 clause 20A.
- 5 Notes that the Manager, Environmental Policy, has the delegation from Council to approve any minor corrections or alterations of minor effect in the proposed Regional Policy Statement Change 1 under the Resource Management Act Schedule 1 clause 16(2).
- 6 Agrees that the pre-notification consultation requirements set out in Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act, and the Wellington Regional Triennial Agreement (2019-2022) have been met.
- 7 Approves public notification of Change 1 to the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region having had regard to the Section 32 Evaluation report.

- 8 Approves public notification of the provisions identified in the Regional Policy Statement Change 1 document under the Freshwater Planning Process as a freshwater planning instrument, and the remaining provisions under the standard Schedule 1 process.
- 9 Approves an amendment to the Regional Policy Statement to include Housing Bottom Lines in the Wellington Tier 1 urban environment, under the Resource Management Act Schedule 1 clause 55(2A), as directed by the National Policy Statement on Urban Development (paragraph 27).

The motion was **carried**.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 1.33pm.

Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date:

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.339



For Decision

ADOPTION OF THE PROPOSED REGIONAL COASTAL PLAN (PART OF THE PROPOSED NATURAL RESOURCES PLAN)

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To present Council with the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan parts of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (provisions) for adoption, which will then be referred to the Minister of Conservation for approval under the Resource Management Act 1991.

He tūtohu

Recommendations


That Council:

1. **Adopts** the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan parts of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan (Attachment 1) for reference to the Minister of Conservation, in accordance with Clause 18 Schedule 1 of the Resource Management Act, by affixing the Seal of Council.
2. **Notes** that the Minister of Conservation has a function requiring the Minister to approve the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan parts (provisions) of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan in accordance with Clause 19 Schedule 1, Resource Management Act; that process will follow the Council's adoption of the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan parts of the Proposed Natural Resources Plan and may include requirements from the Minister to make amendments to the Proposed Regional Coastal Plan.

Te horopaki

Context

2. The Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) was originally notified on 31 July 2015 and the Decisions Version of the PNRP was publicly notified on 31 July 2019. Parts of the Decisions were appealed to the Environment Court with mediation held between March 2020 to November 2021. All appeals have now been resolved and all consent orders issued. The rules are therefore deemed operative under section 86F of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA). The current version of the PNRP shows all changes to the provisions since the Decisions Version as a result of consent orders, clause 16 amendments and/or additions/changes required by a national direction.

3. The PNRP will not be fully operative until a number of steps have been completed. This includes Council adopting the Regional Coastal Plan part of the PNRP under clause 18 of the First Schedule to the RMA and then referring that part to the Minister of Conservation under clause 19 of the First Schedule to the RMA for any amendments by the Minister and then approval. The Council then needs to approve the part of the PNRP that is not part of the Regional Coastal Plan under clause 17 of the First Schedule to the RMA and set the date it will become operative under clause 20 of the First Schedule to the RMA. The Council is required to publicly notify the date on which it will become operative – at least five working days before the date on which it becomes operative.
4. The RMA requires there to be a Regional Coastal Plan (RCP) at all times for the coastal marine area (CMA) of the region. The purpose of a RCP is to assist the Regional Council, in conjunction with the Minister of Conservation, to achieve the purpose of the RMA in relation to the coastal marine area.¹
5. The RCP may form part of a Regional Plan where it is considered appropriate in order to promote the integrated management of the CMA and any related part of the coastal environment.²
6. The PNRP for the Wellington Region is a single integrated plan and it includes the RCP. It manages all the natural resources (which the Wellington Regional Council has a function to manage) across the entire region. The PNRP combines and updates five operative regional plans for air quality, freshwater, soil, discharges to land, and the coast.
7. Within the PNRP, if provisions form part of the RCP, they are labelled with the  icon. This icon identifies the parts of the PNRP that the Minister is required to approve under section 64(3) and clause 19, Schedule 1, RMA.
8. It is also noted that in some cases the provisions identified by the coastal icon are also relevant to areas outside of the CMA, where the Council has jurisdiction. Indeed, the majority of provisions that form the Proposed RCP are not exclusive to the Proposed RCP. This is consistent with one of the key aspects of the overall policy framework of the PNRP - promoting integrated catchment management.
9. The PNRP was publicly notified by the Council on 31 July 2015 following the process set out in Schedule 1 of the RMA and submissions and further submissions were received by the Wellington Regional Council. A panel of independent hearing commissioners were appointed by Council on 30 September 2015 and delegated to conduct a formal hearings process, to hear and decide on submissions on the PNRP. Hearings commenced in May 2017 and concluded in August 2018.
10. The significance and substantive nature involved with reviewing and integrating five regional plans and conducting a hearing process to enable fair participation by submitters across a large region, covering a complex range of topics resulted in the

¹ Section 63(2) of the RMA

² Section 64(1) and (2) of the RMA

Panel being granted four extensions to notify its decisions on submissions and further submissions (31 July 2017, 31 July 2018, 30 November 2018 and 31 July 2019).

11. The Panel completed their deliberations, in advance of 31 July 2019, to allow Council some time to receive their decisions and complete the necessary administrative components of the process to publicly notify the decisions on submissions. The Council publicly notified the Decisions on submissions and further submissions on 31 July 2019.
12. The amendments to the rules in the Decisions Version of the PNRP took legal effect from the date of public notification, 31 July 2019. Those provisions replaced those in place since notification of the PNRP (31 July 2015) in accordance with section 86B of the RMA.
13. Any person who made a submission or further submission on the PNRP was able to appeal on a provision or a matter in the decision, if they had referred to that matter in their submission or further submission. 30 appeals were lodged with the Environment Court and 45 section 274 parties joined the appeals. The Minister of Conservation was involved in a large number of those appeals.
14. Environment Court assisted mediation and direct engagement took place in March to December 2020. Mediation proceedings were significantly impacted by the COVID-19 event when New Zealand was placed into Alert Level 4 and by COVID-19 resurgence in 2021.
15. Further mediation and expert conferencing were held in January to November 2021 to narrow and finally resolve all appeal matters placed before the Court. Hearings set down to commence in November 2021 were vacated upon resolution of all appeals. All consent order documentation was lodged with the Court and the final consent orders were issued on 29 June 2022.
16. The resolution of all appeals has removed the requirement for matters to be heard before the Environment Court. This is a significant achievement for a planning process not to be fully litigated, not only at a regional level but nationally. A direct positive impact is reduced costs to Council and all appellants/section 274 parties involved.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

17. The RMA requires that the Proposed RCP is adopted by the Council prior to sending it to the Minister of Conservation for final approval. The Minister is given the power to require changes to the Proposed RCP as part of that approval process.
18. There are several steps now required under the RMA to make the PNRP operative:
 - a The adoption of the Proposed RCP parts of the PNRP (**Attachment 1** – to come).
 - b The adopted Proposed RCP parts of the PNRP are sent to the Minister of Conservation as soon as practicable, for approval under clause 19, Schedule 1, RMA. The Minister may require the Council to make changes to the Proposed RCP parts of the PNRP as part of that process.
 - c The Council then needs to approve those parts of the PNRP which are not RCP provisions under clause 17, Schedule 1 RMA and make the entire PNRP operative

under clause 20, Schedule 1, RMA. This requires an operative date to be publicly notified, once approved by Council.

19. Officials at the Department of Conservation have advised they work to a target of 60 working days for briefing the Minister on her approval decision, but this may take longer if the Minister directs any changes. Accordingly, officers are hoping to come back to Council for the final approval/making operative steps set out above by the end of 2022.

Ngā hua ahumoni Financial implications

20. The costs associated with approving the RCP are accounted for in Council's Long-Term Plan. The regulatory regime is already in place and has been for several years. Costs required to implement the PNRP are included in both the Annual Plan and Long-Term Plan; further funding may be required as implementation proceeds.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori Implications for Māori

21. Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua have been involved throughout the statutory process set by the RMA. All six Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua in the Region submitted on the PNRP, Rangitāne were also an appellant and Kahungunu Ki Wairarapa were a section 274 party.
22. Prior to these processes, officers were engaging with Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua in drafting the Plan. In addition, Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Management Committee oversaw the development of the PNRP and made the final recommendation to Council to notify the PNRP in July 2015.
23. The PNRP contains several objectives, policies, and rules that seek to empower Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua to act as kaitiaki in the management of natural resources, including in the context of effects on water quality, mahinga kai, and Māori customary values. The PNRP has extensively mapped sites of significant value to Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua and provides these with a higher degree of protection. These sites were collated by Council officers in collaboration with all our Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua partners. These provisions support the active exercising of kaitiakitanga.
24. The PNRP also strongly supports the protection of Māori relationships with the environment. For instance, the PNRP requires that mauri is sustained and enhanced and that the cultural relationship of Māori with air, land and water shall be recognised and the adverse effects on this relationship itself be minimised.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi

Consideration of climate change

25. The PNRP contains policies that direct how Council considers climate change in the context of natural resource management and consenting (noting that these policies have had legal effect since notification in July 2015). The PNRP also includes policy direction on ensuring that use and development in the CMA and the beds of lakes and rivers accounts for natural processes (e.g., erosion) that are affected by climate change and sea level rise.
26. In the context of natural hazards, the policies clearly refer to a 100-year timeframe. This means use and development in the CMA and the beds of lakes and rivers needs to consider the effects of climate change, adaptation, and resilience over that long timeframe. Development such as infrastructure that will be in use for decades should therefore be located in a way that enhances long-term resilience, even if there is not an imminent threat from climate change.
27. The PNRP also includes a suite of policy direction that supports developing renewable energy capacity in the Region. This suite of policies empowers Council and its officers to encourage the development of renewable energy generation activities in the region.

Ngā tikanga whakatau

Decision-making process

28. Under clause 18, Schedule 1, RMA, Council shall adopt the Proposed RCP parts of the PNRP by affixing the Seal of Council.
29. Following this, Ministerial approval of Proposed RCP is required, in accordance with clause 19, Schedule 1, RMA. As soon as practicable after adopting the Proposed RCP, it shall be sent to the Minister of Conservation for approval. Once approved by the Minister (potentially after directing changes), the steps set out above need to be completed to make the entire PNRP operative.

Te hiranga

Significance

30. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of this matter, taking into account Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and Greater Wellington's Decision-making Guidelines. Officers recommend that this matter is of low significance.
31. This is effectively an administrative step in the RMA process. It is a decision to adopt the Proposed RCP parts of the PNRP and send those to the Minister of Conservation. It is the Minister who has the final approval power for the RCP parts of the PNRP.

**Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement**

32. The Proposed RCP has been subject to an extensive public engagement process as required by the RMA. This included public notification of the entire PNRP, the hearing of submissions, and resolution of appeals. 435 parties submitted on the PNRP and took part in the hearings, including TAs, Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua, infrastructure providers, environmentalist groups, residents’ associations, advocacy groups, and individual residents. A significant number of parties were involved in the Environment Court mediation and direct engagement process which resulted in all appeals being resolved. This included the Minister of Conservation.

**Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps**

33. The next steps are set out above in the Analysis section.

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment**

Number	Title
1 (<i>To come</i>)	The PNRP (track changes show all changes to the PNRP since the Decisions Versions, either by way of clause 16 minor amendments by Council, consent orders issued by the Court or required additions from National Direction documents)

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writers	Richard Sheild, Kaitohutohu Matua/Senior Policy Advisor, Environmental Policy Miranda Cross, Kaitaki-a-tīma/Team Leader, Environmental Policy
Approver	Al Cross, Kaiwhakahaere Matua Taiao/General Manager, Environment Group

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> Council has not delegated the functions under Clause 18 of Schedule 1 to the Resource Management Act 1991 and therefore this must be a decision of Council.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> Promulgation of the Natural Resources Plan and key steps in achieving this are set out in the Annual Plan.
<i>Internal consultation</i> Internal departments have been informed of and consulted throughout key stages of the RMA Schedule 1 process, and were involved in the development of the PNRP.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> It is a statutory requirement under the RMA that the Council adopt the Proposed RCP before sending to the Minister of Conservation for final approval.

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.374



For Decision

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WHAITUA KĀPITI COMMITTEE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To advise Council of the proposed establishment of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee from 1 September 2022.

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1 **Notes** that the proposed Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will use a Tiriti House decision-making process and were drafted in conjunction with, and approved by, Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira.
- 2 **Notes** that, as the Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee is currently in abeyance, the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will provide its advice directly to Council.
- 3 **Notes** that related work will continue informally in both sides of the Tiriti House leading up to the appointment of members of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee and its first meeting.
- 4 **Establishes** the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee from 1 September 2022.
- 5 **Adopts** the Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee (Attachment 1).
- 6 **Agrees** that non-elected members (who are not otherwise being remunerated) are each eligible to receive an annual taxable honorarium as follows:
 - a Member (excluding the Co-Chair) - \$15,000
 - b Co-Chair (only if the Co-Chair is not an elected member) - \$20,000.

Te horopaki

Context

2. Council is required to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) 2020 by 31 December 2024.
3. The establishment of whaitua committees as a method for advising on the implementation of the NPS-FM was noted by Council at its meeting on 12 December 2012 (Report 12.531). This method has been subsequently endorsed and funded by Council. Each whaitua committee uses a collaborative model to develop

recommendations for better land and water management in their whaitua and to recommend targets and limits for water quantity and quality. The Whaitua Programme aims to improve the integration of activities and achieve better resource management practices that reflect local aspirations.

4. Three whaitua processes have been completed to date for the Ruamāhanga Whaitua, Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua, and Whaitua Te Whanganui-a-Tara whaitua. The committees for these whaitua processes have now been disestablished.
5. Whaitua Kāpiti is the fourth of five (Wairarapa Coast being the fifth) whaitua processes to be run by Council.
6. The boundaries of the five whaitua across the catchment are illustrated in Figure 1:

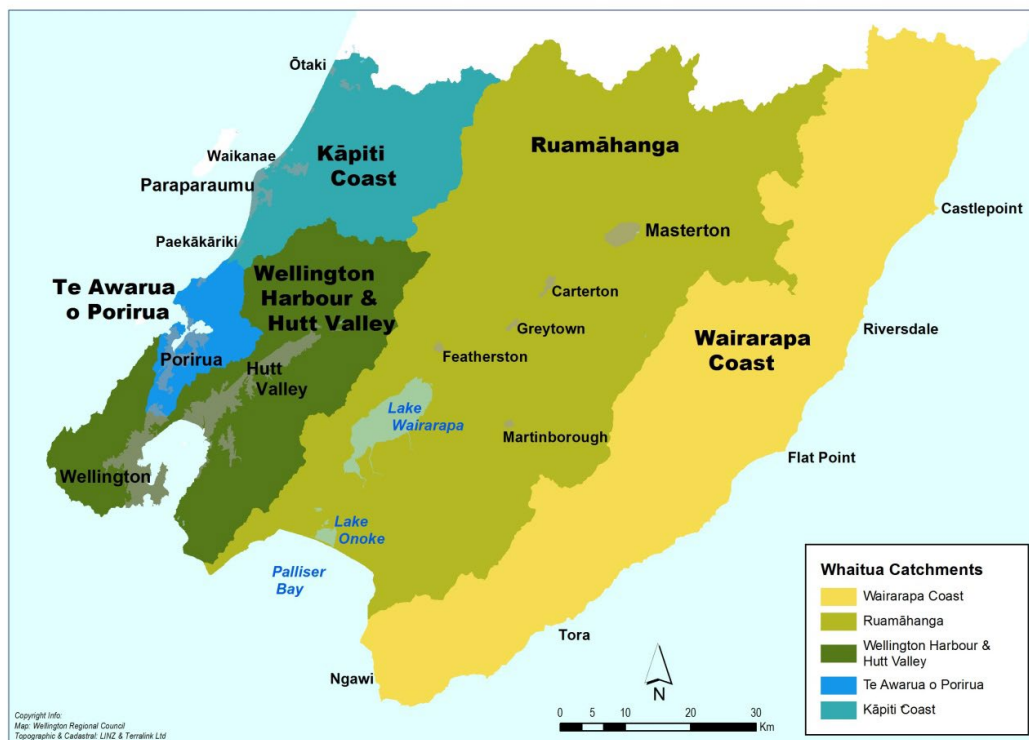


Figure 1. Map of the five whaitua

Terms of Reference drafting process

7. To support Council’s commitment to working in partnership with mana whenua; giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi; and delivering on Te Mana o te Wai, officers have drafted the proposed Terms of Reference ([Attachment 1](#)) with the three iwi that have mana whenua status within the Kāpiti Coast District - Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira.
8. Kāpiti Coast District Council officers also contributed to the drafting of the Terms of Reference.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

9. The proposed Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee differ from those used for previous whaitua committees in the following ways:
 - a Equal representation of mana whenua (six) and other members (six)
 - b A requirement for three mana whenua members and three other members to form a quorum
 - c Provision for work to be undertaken and decisions to be made separately by mana whenua (in the Mana Whenua House), by councillors and the community members (in the Kāwanatanga House), and collectively (in the Tiriti House / Whaitua Kāpiti Committee)
 - d Provision for iwi to participate differently in the Mana Whenua House depending on where they hold mana whenua status
 - e Mandate to provide direction only on matters that assist in giving effect to the NPS-FM 2020
 - f Requirement for regulatory proposals to be consistent with Te Tiriti o Waitangi; Iwi Environmental Management Plans; and Treaty Settlement Acts (as well as other higher order legislation)
 - g Increasing the proposed honoraria for non-elected members to match a significant increase in anticipated workload due to the shortened time frame for this whaitua process.
10. Officers recommend that Council establishes the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee from 1 September 2022 and adopts the proposed Whaitua Kāpiti Committee Terms of Reference (**Attachment 1**).
11. An informal process is currently underway to enable related work to be undertaken by mana whenua and the two councils prior to the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee's first meeting in the new triennium.
12. The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee's work will operate using a similar Tiriti House model with both houses working separately and complementarily to develop positions and interim advice for deliberation in the Tiriti House / Whaitua Kāpiti Committee. Resourcing has been provided to enable this work through the Whaitua Programme budget.
13. A marketing and communications campaign to support the Whaitua Kāpiti process is to begin in September 2022, running through to Christmas 2022. This campaign involves promotional material encouraging the Kāpiti community to complete a survey or attend a workshop. The information gathered from this research will be provided to the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee to help inform its decision-making and advice.
14. We propose that the Whaitua Kāpiti process is completed by September 2023 to enable Council to process the regulatory recommendations for the Natural Resources Plan by 31 December 2024.

Honoraria

15. As with previous whaitua committees, we recommend that Council agrees to pay an annual taxable honorarium to the non-elected members.
16. Due to the shorter timeframe for this whaitua committee's proposed work, there will be a much higher workload for members. It is anticipated that there will be 24 days' work for each member. Previous whaitua processes (which ran for 2.5 to 4.5 years) had an average of 12 days' work per year for members. Officers therefore recommend that the annual taxable honoraria for non-elected members increase to the stated amount from the past amount (in brackets), as follows:
 - a Member (excluding the Co-Chairs) - \$15,000 each (from \$10,000)
 - b Co-Chair - \$20,000 each (from \$15,000).

Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resources Plan Committee

17. As the Te Upoko Taiao – Natural Resource Plan Committee is currently in abeyance, there is no intermediary decision-making body of Council operating at present. This means the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee's advice will be provided directly to Council.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

18. The Whaitua Programme is funded in Council's Long Term Plan 2021-31. As there are additional costs in 2022/23 associated with the establishment of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee (due to the shortened timeframe, proposed increase in honoraria, and increased workload), this will be funded through reprioritisation within the Environmental Policy department. There is budget in the 2023/24 financial year to cover work in that year.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

19. Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira are the three iwi that hold mana whenua status in the Whaitua Kāpiti as they have ancestral connections that support their right to exercise tino rangatiratanga and kaitiakitanga in this area.
20. The decisions contained within this report will support the use of a Tiriti House decision-making framework to support collaborative decision making by the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee. This framework will support the different relationships, knowledge, understanding and values to be considered where it is most appropriate. In addition to broader environmental matters, Māori interests also reflect spiritual and cultural connections to the taiao (environment) and to wai (water).
21. The proposed Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee have been drafted in conjunction with, and approved by, Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira.
22. Council officers have been engaging with the three mana whenua partners to determine a preferred work approach and resource requirements. New resources have been

provided to the three mana whenua partners through the Whaitua Programme. Conversations and engagement have been extremely positive and pūkenga taiao are keen to be involved in the next steps.

23. These iwi continue to meet regularly via the ĀRT Confederation, and individually to support their interests and views.

Ngā tikanga whakatau
Decision-making process

24. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga
Significance

25. Officers considered the significance of the matters, taking into account Council’s *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington’s *Decision-making Guidelines*. Officers recommend that the matters are of low significance, due to the administrative nature of establishing an advisory group / whaitua committee.

Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement

26. Officers drafted the Terms of Reference with staff at Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, and Ngāti Toa Rangatira.
27. Kāpiti Coast District Council is aware of the Whaitua Kāpiti process and its officers were involved in drafting the Terms of Reference.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

28. Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki, Ngāti Toa Rangatira, and Kāpiti Coast District Council will be informed of Council’s decisions.
29. Officers will work to provide advice to Council in November 2022 on the appointment of members of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee.

Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment

Number	Title
1	Terms of Reference – Whaitua Kāpiti Committee

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

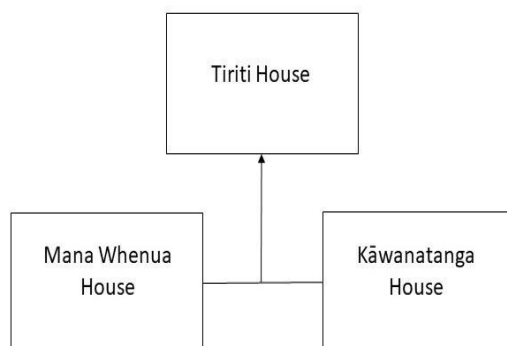
Writer	Tim Sharp – Kaiwhakahaere Whaitua, Whaitua Programme Manager
Approver	Al Cross – Kaiwhakahaere Matua mo te Taiao General Manager, Environment Management

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> Council has the authority to establish advisory bodies and their terms of reference.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee contributes to Council's: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Obligations to give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) through engagement with Mana Whenua and the community• Commitments to partner with Mana Whenua.
<i>Internal consultation</i> Te Hunga Whiriwhiri and Democratic Services were consulted in the preparation of this report.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There is a risk that the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee is not able to complete its work in the proposed timeframe. This would reduce the time available for Council to, by 31 December 2024, process the regulatory recommendations to give effect to the NPS-FM.

Terms of Reference for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee

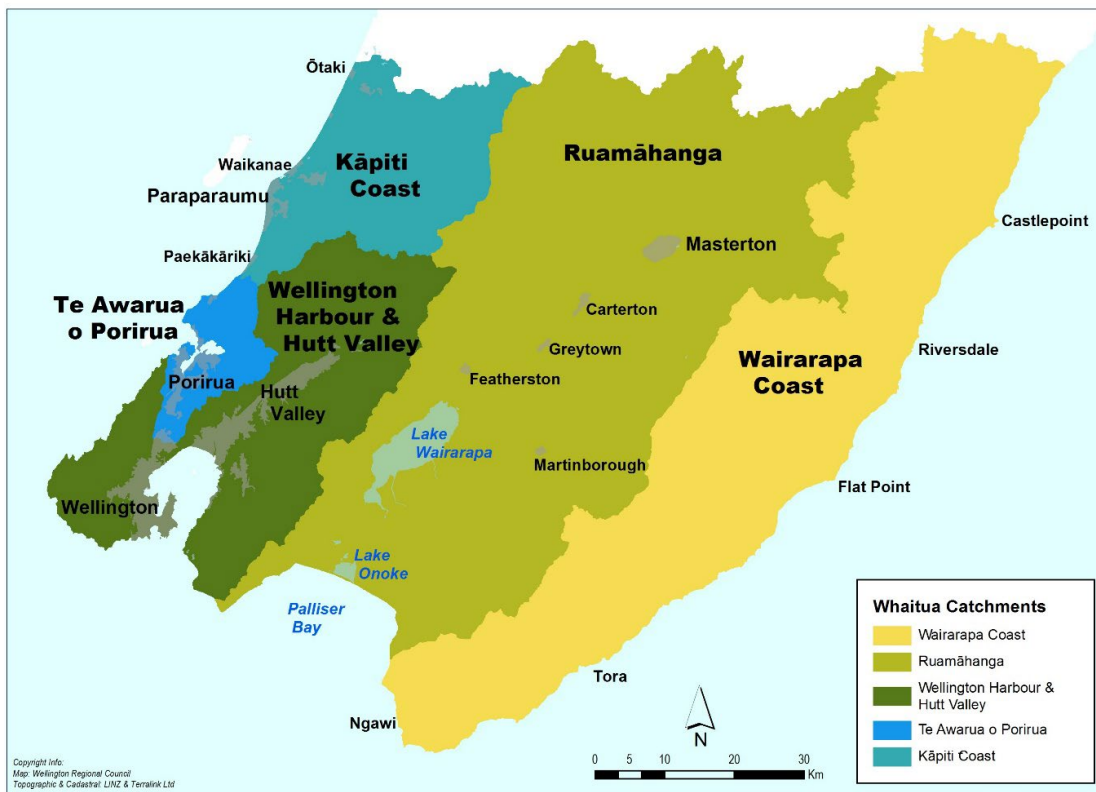
Whaitua Kāpiti Committee

Te Tiriti o Waitangi / Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti) are the founding documents of Aotearoa New Zealand. The signing of Te Tiriti in 1840 guaranteed mana whenua tino rangatiratanga over lands, forest, fisheries and other taonga. Rangatiratanga differs from other forms of authority, such as kāwanatanga of local and central government which is also subject to the tino rangatiratanga of mana whenua. The agreements within Te Tiriti, among other important aspects can be viewed as a partnership. That partnership recognises both types of authorities (rangatiratanga and kāwanatanga) functioning together. Professor Whatarangi Winiata proposed a Tiriti House Model that has origins from the ĀRT Confederation (Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Ngā Hapū o Ōtāki (hapū of Ngāti Raukawa within the district mandated organisation) and Ngāti Toa Rangatira Inc). The Tiriti House Model proposes a Tiriti approach to decision-making that provides for the equal recognition of, and input from each house (Mana Whenua House and Kāwanatanga House). The diagram below presents a visual representation and for further explanation refer to Webster and Cheyne, 2017¹:



‘Whaitua’ is a Te Reo Māori term for a region, designated area or domain. The Natural Resources Plan for the Wellington Region (the Regional Plan) utilises the word ‘whaitua’ to describe a catchment or sub-catchment (zone) managed as an integrated system. The area of the Kāpiti Coast whaitua is labelled on the map below.

¹ Webster, K. And Cheyne, C., 2017, Creating Treaty-based local governance in New Zealand: Māori and Pākehā views, Kōtuitui:New Zealand Journal of Social Sciences online 2017, Vol 12, No 2, 146-164. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/pdf/10.1080/1177083X.2017.1345766>.



1. Tiriti House Model

- 1.1. The Tiriti House model provides a framework and principles to guide representation and collaborative work that is grounded in Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The Tiriti House model will inform the principles, structures, and processes of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee.
- 1.2. Whilst a Tiriti-based, partnered decision-making process and work is the outcome of the model, the model requires consideration of how all three ‘houses’ function effectively and equitably, including their processes of accountability and how they are resourced.

2. Tiriti House

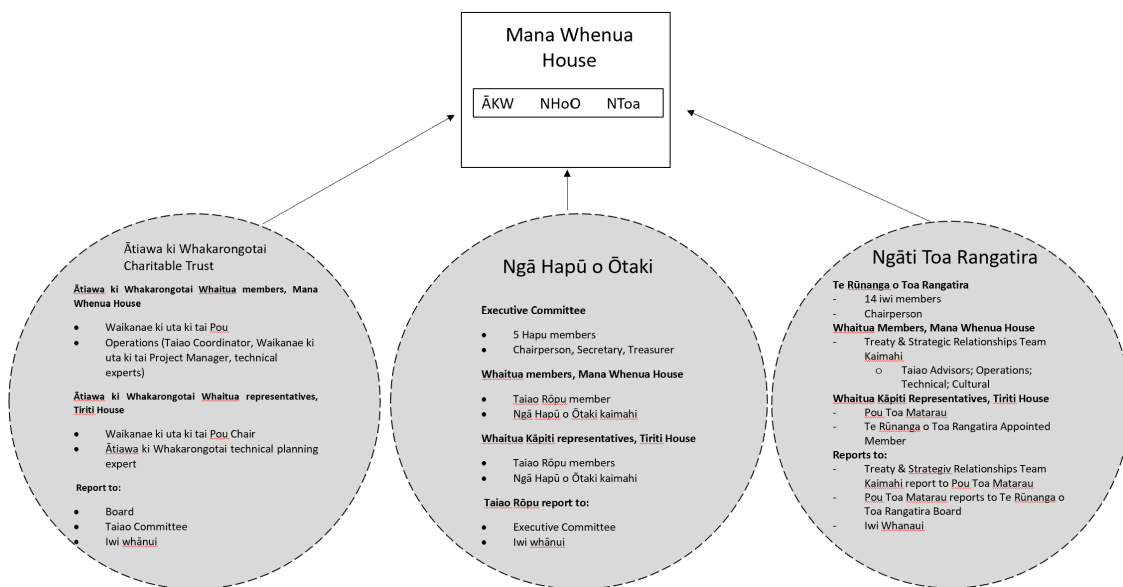
- 2.1. The Tiriti House will be the forum that facilitates decision-making across representatives chosen by both mana whenua and kāwanatanga in the spirit of Tiriti partnership. This forum will provide for decision-making across both of the spatial scales that the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will be required to address:
 - a District-wide decisions on broader policy that are rightfully made at the district scale
 - b Local decisions on specific Freshwater Management Units (FMUs) and waterways.

Attachment 1 to Report 22.374

- 2.2. Where Tiriti House decisions have a district wide scale, all three iwi of the ĀRT Confederation will participate in the Tiriti House process. Where Tiriti House decisions are specific to certain waterways and FMUs, the iwi who hold mana whenua status in relation to those waterways will participate in the Tiriti House process. The Mana Whenua House will agree at the scale participation required.
- 2.3. All members of the Kāwanatanga House will participate in all decisions at both district and local scales.

3. Mana Whenua House

- 3.1. Alongside the six Mana Whenua House representatives on the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee, the Mana Whenua House will include Pou (key advisors) and operational staff and experts from each of the three mana whenua organisations – Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki (hapū of Ngāti Raukawa within the district mandated organisation) and Ngāti Toa Rangatira Inc (ĀRT). The three iwi who have mana whenua status within the Kāpiti Coast will meet on a regular basis as the Mana Whenua House for the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee. Additionally, it should be recognised that each iwi will have its own internal structures and processes including communications, reporting and accountability requirements. For example, monthly hui with iwi/hapū members, board papers, presentations, wānanga, taiao rōpu hui etc.
- 3.2. When working within the Mana Whenua House, the Pou, as key advisors, will wānanga key policy issues and proposed environmental standards, with the support of the operational members. These wānanga will inform the positions that the six Mana Whenua House representatives will take into the Tiriti House - Whaitua Kāpiti Committee. This ensures the positions put forward by the Mana Whenua House representatives at the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee are informed by the wider Mana Whenua House and are authentic, transparent, accountable and robust. It also ensures that Mana Whenua House representatives do not make unilateral decisions without further consultation with iwi. The diagram below which sets out the structure for the Mana Whenua House.



4. Kāwanatanga House

- 4.1. The Kāwanatanga House will comprise the elected members of Greater Wellington Regional Council and Kāpiti Coast District Council, and community members.
- 4.2. The Kāwanatanga House will also comprise advisors from Greater Wellington and Kāpiti Coast District Council, including external consultants, to help support decision making. Positions taken by members of the Kāwanatanga House into the Tiriti House will be those of the members themselves, not the advisors.
- 4.3. Consensus will be sought within the Kāwanatanga House prior to meeting in the Tiriti House. Where consensus cannot be reached, options and analysis to inform decision making shall be brought to the Tiriti House.

5. Purpose and function

- 5.1. To give effect to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020 (NPSFM) through the development of regulatory and non-regulatory proposals to be documented within the Whaitua Kāpiti Implementation Programme (WIP)².
- 5.2. The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will operate in equal partnership with Mana Whenua to reflect Te Tiriti o Waitangi Principle of partnership.
- 5.3. The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will be guided by the five principles of the Regional Plan Review process:
 - a Ki uta ki tai – interconnectedness

² A WIP is a non-statutory report for Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) that will contain recommendations for the integrated management of land and water resources within the whaitua boundary.

Attachment 1 to Report 22.374

- b Wairuatanga – identity
- c Kaitiakitanga – guardianship
- d To matou whakapono – judgement based on knowledge
- e Mahitahi – co-operative partnership.

6. Status

The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee is an advisory body established by Council. The Committee is not a subordinate decision-making body of Council and is not a committee under the Local Government Act 2002.

7. Specific responsibilities

- 7.1. To develop the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP that will outline regulatory and non-regulatory proposals for integrated land and water management within the Kāpiti Coast Whaitua, including measures to implement the NPFSM³.
- 7.2. Include in the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP direction on the following:
 - a A long-term freshwater vision for the Whaitua Kāpiti
 - b Locally identified values, including Mana Whenua values and how these will be provided for
 - c Applying all national values (compulsory and other)
 - d Implementation of the six principles of Te Mana o te Wai
 - e Environmental outcomes for freshwater
 - f Freshwater Management Units
 - g Target Attribute States for all relevant attributes in the National Objectives Framework
 - h Targets for additional attributes for locally specific values, including a baseline from the best available evidence
 - i Targets in subclauses (g) and (h) to be set as numeric targets, including timeframes to achieve those targets and to be measured at specific reporting points
 - j Limits where applicable, including direction on regulatory and non-regulatory methods to achieve limits
 - k Minimum flow and allocation limit for surface and groundwater bodies in Whaitua Kāpiti
 - l Primary contact monitoring sites

³ This is to provide locally appropriate direction for how Te Mana o te Wai is applied in freshwater management.

Attachment 1 to Report 22.374

- m How territorial authorities can promote positive effects for the health and wellbeing of freshwater and receiving environments.

7.3. Consider, in developing the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP, the following:

- a The hierarchy of Te Mana o te Wai
- b Identification of the issues, challenges, and opportunities for integrated management, ki uta ki tai, of the waterways for the Kāpiti Coast whaitua
- c A diversity of systems of values and knowledge, including mātauranga Māori
- d The impacts of climate change
- e The impacts of stormwater and wastewater
- f The impacts of urban development
- g Interactions between groundwater and surface water
- h Interactions of freshwater with estuaries and other coastal environments
- i The requirements of other national direction.

7.4. Ensure advice to Council on regulatory proposals within the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP is consistent with the following:

- a Te Tiriti o Waitangi
- b Resource Management Act 1991
- c National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020
- d Local Government Act 2002
- e Iwi Environmental Management Plans
- f Treaty Settlement Acts.

7.5. Advise Council on regulatory and non-regulatory proposals within the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP.

8. Consideration of proposals within the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP

8.1. Council is responsible for reviewing and approving regulatory proposals within the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP, including ensuring compliance with relevant statutory requirements.

8.2. Approved regulatory proposals within the WIP will be further developed by Greater Wellington for incorporation into the Natural Resources Plan through a plan change process.

8.3. Council is responsible for reviewing and approving non-regulatory proposals within the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP. Approved non-regulatory proposals will then be:

- a Developed further within Greater Wellington in conjunction with relevant external organisations, including Kāpiti Coast District Council and Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Ngā Hapū o Ōtāki and Ngāti Toa Rangatira.
- b Considered in the development of Council's next Long-Term Plan.

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9. Members

9.1. In following the Tiriti House Model, the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will consist of Mana Whenua House representatives and Kāwanatanga House representatives.

9.2. Council will appoint:

- a Six Mana Whenua House representatives, two nominated by each of:
 - i Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai
 - ii Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki
 - iii Ngāti Toa Rangatira.
- b Six Kāwanatanga House representatives:
 - i The Councillor elected by the Kāpiti Coast constituency
 - ii One member, being an elected member of the Kāpiti Coast District Council, nominated by that council
 - iii Up to four members from the community with a range of backgrounds and interests related to land and water management within the community.

9.3. To be eligible to be considered for appointment to the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee:

- a Each member must:
 - i Live in, or be able to demonstrate a close connection with the Whaitua Kāpiti;
 - ii Demonstrate a commitment to achieving Tiriti House based decision making.
- b Community members must also:
 - i Reflect the interests of a wider group within the community;
 - ii Have the skills, experience, and knowledge to ensure that these interests are considered in the deliberations of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee.

9.4. Greater Wellington officers are not eligible to be considered for appointment to the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee.

10. Co-Chairs

10.1 The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee shall have two Co-Chairs, with one Co-Chair appointed by the Mana Whenua House and the other Co-Chair appointed by the Kāwanatanga House.

10.2 Each Co-Chair shall be the presiding member at meetings of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee on an alternate basis. If a Co-Chair is absent from a meeting of the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee for which they are scheduled to be the presiding member, then the other Co-Chair shall preside at the meeting.

11. Quorum

Half of the membership of the Mana Whenua House, and half of the membership of the Kāwanatanga House, shall be present to form a quorum.

12. Committee meetings and workshops

It is expected the completion of the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP will take 12 months and will include 24 days' work for each Committee member. This work will include 12 meetings that will run from 9:30am to 4:30pm; as well as preparing for and debriefing each meeting.

13. Reporting and servicing

13.1 The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee is serviced by Greater Wellington.

13.2 Greater Wellington officers will prepare a regular update report that members can use to keep their respective representative bodies informed.

14. Consensus

The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will use a Tiriti House decision making process to determine consensus.

15. Remuneration

15.1 The expenses of the elected members shall be met by the council they represent.

15.2 Non-elected members (who are not otherwise being remunerated) are eligible to receive an annual taxable honorarium as follows:

- a Member (excluding the Co-Chairs) - \$15,000 each
- b Co-Chair (only if the Co-Chair is not an elected member) - \$20,000 each.

15.3 This honorarium covers the work stipulated in paragraph 12.

16. Duration

16.1. The Whaitua Kāpiti Committee shall exist for the duration of the development and completion of a Whaitua Kāpiti WIP and shall cease to exist at the conclusion of this process.

16.2. Although the Whaitua Kāpiti Committee will cease to operate at the completion of the Whaitua Kāpiti WIP, mana whenua participation in the Kāpiti Coast Whaitua will reflect the ongoing and enduring partnership between Greater Wellington and all three iwi of the ĀRT Confederation.

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.367



For Information

UPDATE ON TE AWARUA-O-PORIRUA WHAITUA IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To provide detailed information on the implementation of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua Implementation Programme (Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP).

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

2. At the Environment Committee Workshop on 12 May 2022, an update was provided on the implementation of all three Whaitua Implementation Programmes (WIPs). The update included summarised data. Councillors requested a detailed breakdown of this data.
3. Officers have developed a format to show this data, broken down by individual recommendations in the WIPs. The information in these reports is compiled from individual assessments, undertaken for each recommendation, by a working group of Greater Wellington officers.
4. The report for Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP is provided as **Attachment 1** to this report.
5. Porirua City Council officers have assisted by reviewing assessments for recommendations where Porirua City Council is the implementation lead.
6. A similar report was provided to Council for Te Whanganui-a-Tara WIP (Report 22.258).

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

7. The format of the report for Te Whanganui-a-Tara WIP included a link to the WIP itself where the recommendations being reported against could be viewed. For Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP, the format has been extended to include the wording of each recommendation in the report. This is likely to be the format used for all similar reporting in future.
8. Reference should still be made to the full WIP document for context to the recommendations and the environmental outcomes they will contribute to.

9. The report shows progress to date in implementing Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP, including identifying recommendations yet to be implemented and the proposed mechanism to implement those recommendations.
10. The mechanisms are open to interpretation and challenge as to whether they achieve the intention of the recommendations. Officers have been seeking cross-partner governance, in particular with Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Porirua City Council, which could provide a review of Greater Wellington's assessments, help prioritise remaining work and drive implementation.
11. Such governance remains important, but we will proceed on the basis of existing assessments if necessary, focusing on Greater Wellington led recommendations.
12. Officers have also sought engagement with Ngāti Toa Rangatira to clarify their expectations of Greater Wellington in implementing the Ngāti Toa Rangatira Statement.
13. Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP document contains 75 recommendations, which we have broken down further for implementation purposes to 94 recommendations (including sub-recommendations).
14. These recommendations span regulatory and non-regulatory initiatives. Some are ambitious and will require many years to fully implement them or represent an enduring expectation rather than having a clear end point.
15. We have identified Greater Wellington as the implementation lead for 56 of the 94 recommendations, with the remainder to be led by other organisations including Porirua City Council and Wellington City Council.
16. To date, 74 percent of recommendations are underway or fully complete and 26 percent require new work to initiate them. This remaining work is the main focus of our implementation programme and includes the identification of clearly defined deliverables that can be commissioned.
17. There are nine chapters in the WIP, of which four have all their recommendations underway or complete. These are Discharge limits and targets, Stream form and function, Wastewater discharges, and Rural topics.
18. Good progress is being made on implementing the regulatory recommendations which Greater Wellington is the lead for. Changes to the Regional Policy Statement being notified shortly are expected to implement a number of regulatory recommendations, with others to be implemented through changes to the Proposed Natural Resources Plan in 2023 and 2024.
19. The majority of Greater Wellington's non-regulatory recommendations are currently being implemented. The remaining recommendations have all had deliverables identified but some of these will require confirmation that they satisfy the recommendation and will need to have resources assigned to them.
20. Greater Wellington has commenced internal consultation on a proposed organisation structure for its Environment Group under its Fit for the Future change programme. The Fit for the Future changes will support integrated and effective delivery to achieve better environmental outcomes for catchments. Once these proposals are finalised, officers will look to migrate the remaining Greater Wellington led work into the

Environment Group's integrated business plan. This will ensure ongoing prioritisation decisions for any recommendations remaining to be implemented.

Ngā hua ahumoni Financial implications

21. Implementation of WIPs requires resourcing more generally from Greater Wellington and territorial authorities. It also requires resourcing for mana whenua/tangata whenua for involvement in implementation.
22. The assessments noted in this paper will help to inform and quantify Full Time Equivalent (FTE) and cost impacts and will also ensure that these inform prioritisation and help maximise value.
23. Some of the new deliverables to be commissioned may require business cases and new/reprioritised funding through Council Annual Plan/Long Term Plan processes. Parallel activities will also be required through mana whenua/tangata whenua governance and long-term planning processes.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori Implications for Māori

24. Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP was developed with substantial input from mana whenua/tangata whenua over four years with the WIP completed and approved in April 2019. The recommendations in the WIP need to be implemented to achieve the aspirations for water quality improvement.
25. Implementing Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP is a significant opportunity for mana whenua/tangata whenua to fulfil their kaitiakitanga responsibilities in relation to freshwater. Mana whenua/tangata whenua involvement with implementation can be enabled and supported through the Kaupapa funding programme. Resourcing requirements could be significant based on their priorities.
26. Mana whenua/tangata whenua involvement in implementation will be a key driver to achieving successful outcomes.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei Next steps

27. Officers will continue to seek governance arrangements to support a partnership approach to implementation of Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP.
28. Officers will also progress remaining recommendations internally, including ensuring that remaining work is transferred to the work programmes of teams under the new structure for the Environment Group.

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment**

Number	Title
1	Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP implementation by category

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writers	Kat Banyard – Policy Advisor, Whaitua Gareth Edwards – Programme Manager – Whaitua Implementation
Approvers	Matt Hickman – Manager, Environmental Policy Al Cross – General Manager, Environment Management Group Wayne O’Donnell – General Manager, Catchment Management Monica Fraser – General Manager, Te Pou Whakarae

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> Implementing Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP recommendations is a means of implementing the NPS-FM 2020, a statutory document that Council is required to give effect to. This aligns with Council's role.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> Implementing Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP is essential if Council is to meet its statutory requirements set by the NPS-FM 2020.
<i>Internal consultation</i> Internal consultation has been undertaken with Te Hunga Whiriwhiri.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There is a significant environmental and reputational risk. If the WIP is not implemented, water quality in the whaitua will continue to decline. The reputational risk lies in our partners, stakeholders and communities thinking that the implementation has not been given sufficient priority, whilst Te Awarua-o-Porirua Committee and mana whenua/tangata whenua invested a significant amount of time and knowledge in developing the WIP.

Attachment 1 to Report 22.367

Te Awarua-o-Porirua WIP implementation by category

Important note on the limitations of this data

Information provided here is provisional until it has been reviewed and endorsed by officer groups and/or governance groups which are yet to be established. In particular, it includes implementation attributed to organisations other than Greater Wellington Regional Council without their agreement to this being obtained yet and may need to be revised.

The interpretation of some more generally worded recommendations, and therefore their implementation category, is also likely to be changed by officers and governance groups.

Interpreting references

The table below is broken down by recommendation.

Some recommendations in the WIP list multiple actions to be completed. Where these actions require different mechanisms to implement them, the recommendation is shown in the table as sub-recommendations. For example, recommendation 3 is shown as broken down into 3.1, 3.2 and 3.3. These in turn show that the recommendation will be implemented through a mixture of PNRP by 2024 and two new deliverables to be commissioned.





When a recommendation is broken down into sub-recommendations in this way the full wording of the recommendation is shown for each of the sub-recommendations. However, any wording that does not apply for that particular sub-recommendation is shown as crossed out (~~strike through~~). For example, in 3.1 the second and third bullet points are crossed out to show that they are not being addressed in that sub-recommendation.

To be commissioned by deliverables

Note that 'To be commissioned by deliverables' indicates that the work is not currently being implemented so needs to be commissioned. The role of the Whaitua Operational Implementation Programme includes defining and getting agreement to what the new deliverable is to implement the recommendation, including which organisation (and the person within the organisation) will lead its implementation. This is how the Programme will ensure that the WIPs are being implemented.

Attachment 1 to Report 22.367


Status colour key

	Category	Explanation
	Already implemented	<p>The recommendation has been implemented.</p> <p>No further work will be undertaken on these recommendations.</p>
	Being implemented	<p>The recommendation has been matched to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a non-regulatory work programme ('currently being implemented') or • to a regulatory mechanism to implement it (Regional Policy Statement (RPS), Proposed Natural Resources Plan (PNRP) by 2024). <p>The work will be periodically monitored to check whether it remains on a work programme and to know when it has been implemented.</p>
	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>Sufficient existing work to implement the recommendation was not found so a new deliverable has been identified to implement the recommendation.</p> <p>This category represents the gap between existing work programmes and what it will take to fully implement the WIP.</p> <p>The deliverable might still be subject to agreement from the person/organisation who would implement it. The timing of implementing the deliverable may be subject to prioritisation of resources by Greater Wellington or others.</p>
	Will not be implemented	<p>The recommendation will not be implemented.</p> <p>This category will be used when a recommendation has no implementation aspects, such as being a general statement only. It will also be used, in the longer term, if implementation of a recommendation is found to not be feasible and is abandoned.</p> <p>These recommendations are shown in reporting for transparency that a recommendation is not being implemented.</p>




Te Awarua-o-Porirua recommendation by category

Rec. #	Recommendation wording	Implementation category	Comment	Status
Te Awarua-o-Porirua Objectives				
1	Greater Wellington amends the PNRP to include the objectives set out in Table 3 and 4 (including the numeric objectives in Appendix 3) and the narrative objectives in Section 4.8.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
2	Greater Wellington undertakes a full review at the next regional plan review (in 10 years) on progress towards achieving the objectives in this WIP and the effectiveness of the management responses and makes changes as necessary to the PNRP to ensure progress is satisfactory.	Currently being implemented	Greater Wellington led. This is a regulatory review but won't be completed through either of the 2023 or 2024 plan changes as it's a review of the progress from the changes made in the plan changes.	●
3				
3.1	<p>Greater Wellington works with Ngāti Toa Rangatira, PCC and Wellington Water through various mechanisms (including the Harbour Strategy) to implement this WIP and prioritise actions within the Rangituhi WMU and the catchments that contribute to hotspot areas of elevated metal concentrations within the harbour. This work will comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying the catchments that contribute to the harbour hotspot areas identifying areas of piped stream in the lower reaches of the Rangituhi WMU that could be daylighted targeting a pollution prevention programme (Recommendation 36) within these catchments. <p>[Note: text shown as crossed out shows which parts of a recommendation are being implemented through other sub-recommendations. The text that has been crossed out here in sub-recommendation 3.1 can be found in recommendations 3.2 and 3.3]</p>	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
3.2	<p>Greater Wellington works with Ngāti Toa Rangatira, PCC and Wellington Water through various mechanisms (including the Harbour Strategy) to implement this WIP and prioritise actions within the Rangituhi WMU and the catchments that contribute to hotspot areas of elevated metal concentrations within the harbour. This work will comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying the catchments that contribute to the harbour hotspot areas identifying areas of piped stream in the lower reaches of the Rangituhi WMU that could be daylighted targeting a pollution prevention programme (Recommendation 36) within these catchments. 	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Map of streams that could be feasibly daylighted.</p> <p>Porirua City Council led.</p> <p>NB: relates to second bullet point in the recommendation.</p> <p>Proposed as a digital map showing all streams that could be daylighted. To be succeeded by a feasibility assessment and identify next steps for subsequent implementation (for this deliverable to provide value). Could help form part of a wider catchment plan.</p>	●
3.3	Greater Wellington works with Ngāti Toa Rangatira, PCC and Wellington Water through various mechanisms (including the Harbour Strategy) to implement this WIP and prioritise actions within the	To be commissioned by deliverables	New deliverable name: Reinstate Take Charge Programme.	●

	<p>Rangituhi WMU and the catchments that contribute to hotspot areas of elevated metal concentrations within the harbour. This work will comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying the catchments that contribute to the harbour hotspot areas identifying areas of piped stream in the lower reaches of the Rangituhi WMU that could be daylighted targeting a pollution prevention programme (Recommendation 36) within these catchments. 		<p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Proposed as reinstatement of Greater Wellington's previous Take Charge Programme.</p> <p>NB this is also the deliverable for recommendations 36.2,36.3,37 and 39 (also Te Whanganui-a-Tara recommendation 46).</p>	
Discharge limits and targets				
4	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework of the PNRP to set water quality limits and targets for E.coli for each freshwater WMU within Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua, in accordance with the E.coli objectives set out in Table 14 (Appendix 3).	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
5	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework of the PNRP to set water quality limits and targets for ammonia for each freshwater WMU within Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua, in accordance with the ammonia objectives in Table 15 (Appendix 3).	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
6	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework of the PNRP to set total nitrogen and total phosphorus load limits entering the Onepoto Arm WMU and Pauatahanui Inlet WMU to maintain the current loads (as shown in Tables 5 and 6).	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
7	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework of the PNRP to set total zinc and copper load limits and targets entering the Onepoto Arm WMU and Pauatahanui Inlet WMU, in accordance with Tables 7 and 8.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
8	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework of the PNRP to set sediment load limits and targets entering the Onepoto Arm WMU and Pauatahanui Inlet WMU, in accordance with Table 9.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
9	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework of the PNRP to include incrementally decreasing limits for each contaminant over time.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
10	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework of the PNRP to set nutrient concentration criteria for DIN and DRP concentrations for each freshwater WMU within Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua, in accordance with Table 10.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
Stream form and function				
11	<p>Together with Harbour Strategy partners PCC, WCC and Ngāti Toa Rangitira, Greater Wellington develops and implements an aquatic ecosystem and habitat strategy for Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua to achieve the freshwater and coastal water objectives.</p> <p>Greater Wellington amends the PNRP to include this strategy as a method for achievement of the objectives.</p>	Currently being implemented	<p>Multiple leads.</p> <p>This recommendation is being implemented through a number of different mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Catchment plans, including where required through the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) would encompass an ecosystem action plan. 	●

	<p>The strategy must include the following components.</p> <p>1) Baseline assessment including identification, analysis and mapping of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - aquatic habitats, including wetland seep areas and streams (perennial, intermittent and ephemeral) - existing riparian vegetation and its protection (e.g. fenced areas) and - areas of ecological significance, including spawning areas. <p>2) Identification of factors affecting ecosystem health including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - locations with streambank erosion - stormwater outfalls and retaining structures - high-risk sediment source areas - fish passage barriers and - modified areas of water courses (e.g. straightened, piped, hard edged or bottomed streams). <p>3) Implementation plan, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - prioritisation - criteria for re-vegetation and other measurable targets - targets and timeframes to protect and restore aquatic habitats and - a description of commitments by Greater Wellington and landowners. <p>When developing and implementing the strategy, Greater Wellington should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - work with landowners, councils, sectors and community groups - incorporate traditional and local knowledge - ensure all riparian margins on Greater Wellington land are protected and planted (where practicable) as a matter of priority to showcase best practice - align with existing programmes, including those in the <i>Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour and Catchment Strategy and Action Plan</i> and - recognise, review and align with PNRP changes, including schedules identifying areas of significance. <p>This aquatic ecosystem and habitat strategy will inform the actions of Harbour Strategy partners (Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Ngāti Toa Rangatira) in the updated Harbour Strategy.</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PNRP changes will include policies and methods under the NPS-FM to formulate action plans which include limits and timeframes. • Greater Wellington Environmental Science department work to inform limits. • Ecosystem health work on attributes has been done. • Porirua City Council commissioned Cardno report which looks at existing riparian vegetation across the catchment and opportunities. • Wetlands not currently assessed but will be before 2030 as part of national regulation requirements (National Environmental Standard for Freshwater). • Work has been undertaken on spawning areas. • Locations of streambank erosion and high-risk sediment source areas have been identified at the sub-catchment scale, based on whaitua modelling. Greater Wellington technical action plans will be further refined through catchment plans. • Fish passage barriers have been mapped by Greater Wellington (but excluding piped etc where no access). • NB Wellington Water will hold information on outfall structures. • Greater Wellington is currently prioritising areas and interventions with greatest impact through technical actions plans. • Porirua City Council has a lot of baseline information in GIS layers. Through Cardno work a lot of this baseline assessment has already been done. • Have clear shared vision for the harbour. 	
<p>12</p>				
<p>12.1</p>	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC and PCC amend the policy and rule framework in the PNRP and district plans to control the effects of urban development on riparian margins. The framework must require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setbacks from streams for any activity (excluding riparian restoration activities) • restrictions on hard surfaces. 	<p>PNRP by 2024</p>	<p>Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"></p>

12.2	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC and PCC amend the policy and rule framework in the PNRP and district plans to control the effects of urban development on riparian margins. The framework must require:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • setbacks from streams for any activity (excluding riparian restoration activities) • restrictions on hard surfaces. 	Currently being implemented	<p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>NB relates to second bullet point in the recommendation.</p> <p>District plan implementation. Addressed through Greater Wellington submitting on District Plans where necessary. Forms part of forums between Greater Wellington and Territorial Authorities.</p>	●
13	<p>Greater Wellington work with WCC and PCC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to identify options to protect, restore and enhance riparian margins in greenfield and brownfield developments • on a Whaitua-wide riparian protection, planting and maintenance programme by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - increasing funding (and awareness of existing funding) for riparian protection and restoration (including fencing, planting and maintenance) - building partnerships and supporting existing and new restoration projects - providing educational programmes and expert advice. 	Currently being implemented	<p>Porirua City Council and Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Porirua City Council have a Ministry for the Environment (MfE) funded programme that encompasses all parts of the recommendation.</p> <p>Also addressed through consenting business as usual (developments).</p> <p>Greater Wellington Catchment Management Plans will also provide assurance in this area.</p>	●
14	<p>Greater Wellington amends the PNRP policy and rule framework to require, where necessary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protection and restoration of all aquatic ecosystems in the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua • the avoidance of reclamation and/or drainage of beds of lakes, streams (including intermittent) and wetlands, with no exemption for special housing areas and urban growth areas. 	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
15	<p>Greater Wellington works with PCC, WCC and Wellington Water to identify opportunities to enhance the natural form, character, ecosystem health and capacity for mahinga kai of streams and the harbour, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • restoring modified streams, including hard-edged, hard-bottomed (e.g. concreted) or channelled sections, to provide physical diversity of banks and bed habitat • restoring natural meander in straightened channels • restoring piped or culverted reaches to a more natural state by daylighting streams • protecting native aquatic species habitat • protecting fish passage, including removal of tide valves from stream outlets or use of valves which enable fish passage and • investigating fish passage barriers in piped streams and developing methods to enhance their ecological connectivity. 	Currently being implemented	<p>Will be achieved through implementation of Recommendation 11 and other initiatives.</p> <p>Like other recommendations related to opportunities, there is not a specified deliverable to articulate and commission.</p>	●
16	<p>Greater Wellington works towards reducing streambank erosion by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • investigating the causes of streambank erosion • identifying land-use activities that contribute to streambank erosion 	Currently being implemented	<p>This recommendation is being implemented for rural settings.</p> <p>Wellington Water has established an urban stormwater design standard (relates to third bullet).</p>	●

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> exploring options for streambank protection and rehabilitation, including options to support and incentivise landowner action. 			
Whaitua-wide responses				
17	Greater Wellington works together with Ngāti Toa Rangatira, PCC, WCC and other relevant stakeholders to help set up and/or support catchment and community groups to identify and implement optimal local solutions to achieve the objectives, limits and targets in this WIP.	Currently being implemented	<p>Multiple leads.</p> <p>Currently being implemented through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contestable fund (Greater Wellington and Ngāti Toa). Porirua City Council riparian planting starting new community groups and existing groups. Greater Wellington’s Land Management Team is supporting a community catchment group. 	
18				
18.1	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC, PCC and Wellington Water work together to raise water literacy, awareness of receiving freshwater and marine environments, and consumption and conservation practices. This work will be coordinated and delivered through various mechanisms (including the Harbour Strategy) and should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCC and WCC adding an ‘Environmental Water Zone’ to residential and commercial Land Information Memorandum (LIM) reports to link properties with receiving freshwater and marine environments naming streams from headwaters to the harbour, including piped sections and drains, and using these in stormwater network infrastructure and asset plans installing signs at all freshwater outlets into the harbour, including pipes, to indicate that they are streams Greater Wellington developing an online interactive mapping tool with a GIS layer identifying WMUs and associated streams, including headwaters. 	Currently being implemented	<p>Porirua City Council led.</p> <p>NB relates to bullet points 2-4.</p> <p>These three bullet points are currently being implemented through Porirua City Council initiatives. However the last is to catchment level not Water Management Unit (WMU) specifically although this is not expected to undermine the usefulness of this information.</p> <p>Need to measure what the current level of awareness is (baseline) so we can measure the success of future work.</p>	
18.2	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC, PCC and Wellington Water work together to raise water literacy, awareness of receiving freshwater and marine environments, and consumption and conservation practices. This work will be coordinated and delivered through various mechanisms (including the Harbour Strategy) and should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCC and WCC adding an ‘Environmental Water Zone’ to residential and commercial Land Information Memorandum (LIM) reports to link properties with receiving freshwater and marine environments naming streams from headwaters to the harbour, including piped sections and drains, and using these in stormwater network infrastructure and asset plans installing signs at all freshwater outlets into the harbour, including pipes, to indicate that they are streams 	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Receiving environments on Land Information Memorandum (LIM) reports.</p> <p>Porirua City Council and Wellington City Council led.</p> <p>NB relates to the first bullet point in the recommendation.</p> <p>Proposed deliverable is work programme to develop a process to identify information to be applied to LIMs. Then implement and notify the changes.</p> <p>Potentially a more effective outcome might be achieved by providing information as part of the new resident packs sent out by Porirua City Council.</p>	





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater Wellington developing an online interactive mapping tool with a GIS layer identifying WMUs and associated streams, including headwaters. 			
19				
19.1	<p>Innovation in land and water management practice in Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua is encouraged and actively facilitated by Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regularly monitoring and reviewing progress towards achieving the freshwater and coastal water objectives as set out in this WIP and the updated Harbour Strategy and the effectiveness of the management responses adding a policy into the PNRP, to be considered in resource consent processes, that recognises the value of innovative practice in the achievement of the objectives of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour Whaitua taking opportunities for ongoing plan changes and updates to guidance documents to provide for innovative practice avoiding resource consent conditions that would prevent trialling of alternative management approaches encouraging and providing opportunities for landowners and sector groups to develop innovative practice investing in research and development to identify and adopt innovative practice. 	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Whaitua Monitoring Plan encompassing each FMU. Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>NB relates to the first bullet point in the recommendation.</p> <p>Proposed as a Word document for each Whaitua. Each FMU is to be represented. To meet requirements of NFS-FM 2020 s3.18.</p> <p>Note: although each FMU will be addressed, this will not necessarily mean monitoring sites will be implemented. Modelling or extrapolation may be utilised.</p> <p>To action the plan, a revised monitoring programme will need to be put in place.</p> <p>NB this deliverable is also used for recommendations 22 and 73 (and also across other WIPs).</p>	●
19.2	<p>Innovation in land and water management practice in Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua is encouraged and actively facilitated by Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regularly monitoring and reviewing progress towards achieving the freshwater and coastal water objectives as set out in this WIP and the updated Harbour Strategy and the effectiveness of the management responses adding a policy into the PNRP, to be considered in resource consent processes, that recognises the value of innovative practice in the achievement of the objectives of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour Whaitua taking opportunities for ongoing plan changes and updates to guidance documents to provide for innovative practice avoiding resource consent conditions that would prevent trialling of alternative management approaches encouraging and providing opportunities for landowners and sector groups to develop innovative practice 	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●




	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> investing in research and development to identify and adopt innovative practice. 			
19.3	<p>Innovation in land and water management practice in Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua is encouraged and actively facilitated by Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> regularly monitoring and reviewing progress towards achieving the freshwater and coastal water objectives as set out in this WIP and the updated Harbour Strategy and the effectiveness of the management responses adding a policy into the PNRP, to be considered in resource consent processes, that recognises the value of innovative practice in the achievement of the objectives of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour Whaitua taking opportunities for ongoing plan changes and updates to guidance documents to provide for innovative practice avoiding resource consent conditions that would prevent trialling of alternative management approaches encouraging and providing opportunities for landowners and sector groups to develop innovative practice investing in research and development to identify and adopt innovative practice. 	Currently being implemented	<p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>NB relates to bullet points 3-6 in the recommendation.</p> <p>Greater Wellington is constrained by the Resource Management Act (RMA) to implement good management practice, rather than adaptive management. However, innovation is accommodated as part of the consents rather than conditions. Greater Wellington is already working to allow innovation where possible within the constraints.</p> <p>Land Management Department provides incentives to improve good management practice understanding and Greater Wellington is actively engaging in grant support for water quality improvement.</p>	●
20				
20.1	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water maximise opportunities to demonstrate good management practice in respect of ecosystem health and water management, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrating water-sensitive urban design practice on projects such as town centre redevelopments, transport hubs and buildings replacing copper brake pads in fleet vehicles with low copper or copper free alternatives increasing targeted street sweeping in high traffic locations demonstrating and showcasing good practice land and ecosystem management on council land, including in Greater Wellington's regional parks promoting good practice by community and industry identifying opportunities to promote best practice water management messages through the media. <p>These opportunities will be identified and delivered through the various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy. They may also be included in other planning documents developed by Greater Wellington and the contributing agencies such as the Parks Network Plan.</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Water sensitive design practice lessons workshop</p> <p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>NB relates to the first bullet point of the recommendation.</p> <p>Proposed as a workshop with any identified actions from the workshop implemented.</p> <p>Porirua City Council note that Wellington Water have developed WSUD guidelines but getting the economics right and responsibility for ongoing maintenance need to be addressed.</p>	●
20.2	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water maximise opportunities to demonstrate good management practice in respect of ecosystem health and water management, including by:</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Letter to Greater Wellington Leadership Team to switch from copper brake pads.</p>	●

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrating water sensitive urban design practice on projects such as town centre redevelopments, transport hubs and buildings • replacing copper brake pads in fleet vehicles with low copper or copper-free alternatives. • increasing targeted street sweeping in high traffic locations PCC and WCC to lead • demonstrating and showcasing good practice land and ecosystem management on council land, including in Greater Wellington's regional parks • promoting good practice by community and industry • identifying opportunities to promote best practice water management messages through the media. <p>These opportunities will be identified and delivered through the various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy. They may also be included in other planning documents developed by Greater Wellington and the contributing agencies such as the Parks Network Plan.</p>		<p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Memo asking Greater Wellington Leadership Team to replace copper brake pads in the Greater Wellington fleet with alternatives. Discussion with fleet managers in other organisations.</p>	
20.3	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water maximise opportunities to demonstrate good management practice in respect of ecosystem health and water management, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrating water sensitive urban design practice on projects such as town centre redevelopments, transport hubs and buildings • replacing copper brake pads in fleet vehicles with low copper or copper free alternatives • increasing targeted street sweeping in high traffic locations • demonstrating and showcasing good practice land and ecosystem management on council land, including in Greater Wellington's regional parks is being implemented through GW parks. • promoting good practice by community and industry PCC and WCC led urban focussed (picking after dogs, industry discharge etc) • identifying opportunities to promote best practice water management messages through the media. Implemented Wellington Water led. Also GW Listen to the Water etc. <p>These opportunities will be identified and delivered through the various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy. They may also be included in other planning documents developed by Greater Wellington and the contributing agencies such as the Parks Network Plan.</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Increased street sweeping</p> <p>Porirua City Council and Wellington City Council led.</p> <p>Expanded street sweeping programmes. To include more regular periodic cleaning plus cleaning in advance of major rain events. [Note that this will need discussion with Wellington City Council].</p> <p>Porirua City Council has implemented an increased programme including preceding storm events. They are concerned that this deliverable should also include Waka Kotahi for highways.</p> <p>Note that this deliverable is also used for implementation of recommendation 35 and Te Whanganui-a-Tara recommendation 50.</p>	●
20.4	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water maximise opportunities to demonstrate good management practice in respect of ecosystem health and water management, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • demonstrating water sensitive urban design practice on projects such as town centre redevelopments, transport hubs and buildings • replacing copper brake pads in fleet vehicles with low copper or copper free alternatives • increasing targeted street sweeping in high traffic locations 	Currently being implemented	<p>Greater Wellington and Wellington Water led.</p> <p>NB relates to bullet points four and six of the recommendation.</p> <p>Bullet point 4 is being implemented through Greater Wellington Parks department.</p> <p>These opportunities will be identified and delivered through the various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy.</p>	●

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrating and showcasing good practice land and ecosystem management on council land, including in Greater Wellington’s regional parks. promoting good practice by community and industry identifying opportunities to promote best practice water management messages through the media. <p>These opportunities will be identified and delivered through the various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy. They may also be included in other planning documents developed by Greater Wellington and the contributing agencies such as the Parks Network Plan.</p>		<p>They may also be included in other planning documents developed by Greater Wellington and the contributing agencies e.g., the Parks Network Plan.</p> <p>Bullet point 6 is being implemented through a number of initiatives, particularly by Wellington Water. Greater Wellington also have Listen to the Water, etc.</p>	
20.5	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water maximise opportunities to demonstrate good management practice in respect of ecosystem health and water management, including by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> demonstrating water sensitive urban design practice on projects such as town centre redevelopments, transport hubs and buildings replacing copper brake pads in fleet vehicles with low copper or copper free alternatives increasing targeted street sweeping in high traffic locations demonstrating and showcasing good practice land and ecosystem management on council land, including in Greater Wellington’s regional parks promoting good practice by community and industry identifying opportunities to promote best practice water management messages through the media. <p>These opportunities will be identified and delivered through the various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy. They may also be included in other planning documents developed by Greater Wellington and the contributing agencies such as the Parks Network Plan.</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Promoting good practice for community and industry.</p> <p>Porirua City Council and Wellington City Council led.</p> <p>Format of the deliverable to be determined by leads (Wellington City Council and Porirua City Council).</p> <p>Urban focussed (picking after dogs, industry discharge, etc).</p> <p>Nb Porirua City Council have noted that in the first instance this will require definition of good management practice as intended by the Whaitua Committee which Greater Wellington will need to lead.</p>	●
21	<p>Greater Wellington undertakes an exercise to determine additional investigations and monitoring needed to better understand the causes and effects of poor water quality to inform future management.</p>	Currently being implemented	<p>Fundamental role of Environmental Science team which is being implemented. No specifics mentioned beyond this that can be identified as new deliverables.</p>	●
22	<p>Greater Wellington works with relevant agencies and groups to support citizen science initiatives that enable communities to assess stream health and evaluate management activities.</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Whaitua Monitoring Plan encompassing each FMU.</p> <p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>See recommendation 19.1 for details which shares this deliverable</p>	●
P23				
23.1	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water reviews their compliance and enforcement practices to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a consistent and reliable approach between institutions to the enforcement of all water-related policies, bylaws and regulations, creating a clear pathway for changing practice 	Currently being implemented	<p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Nb relates to the first three of four bullet points in the recommendation.</p>	●



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> regulations are applied fairly and consistently sufficient resource is committed for compliance and enforcement activities, including the collection of financial fines for infringements local communities are provided with enough information to enable them to more effectively assist with reporting of non-compliance and pollution incidents to the council. 		<p>'REPO' forum provides coordination across Councils. Other Councils refer to Greater Wellington for wetlands and streams, etc. Greater Wellington has employed an additional three FTEs for enforcement with a further three planned through the Long Term Plan (LTP).</p> <p>Re last bullet point, work is underway on national compliance monitoring and enforcement, which crosses territorial authorities. Greater Wellington is undertaking a strategic compliance review which will align with the national compliance framework. As part of this, the recommendations of the WIPs are being reviewed and includes incident response (hotline).</p>	
23.2	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water reviews their compliance and enforcement practices to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a consistent and reliable approach between institutions to the enforcement of all water related policies, bylaws and regulations, creating a clear pathway for changing practice regulations are applied fairly and consistently sufficient resource is committed for compliance and enforcement activities, including the collection of financial fines for infringements local communities are provided with enough information to enable them to more effectively assist with reporting of non-compliance and pollution incidents to the council. 	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Promoting Pollution Hotline.</p> <p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Nb relates to the last bullet point in the recommendation.</p> <p>Comms Plan and subsequent implementation. Could include who to contact and what to do (e.g. taking photos).</p> <p>May be absorbed into other related work, including if Take Charge if resurrected, Drains to Seas etc. Also closely linked to Rec 18.</p> <p>The working group recommends that Take Charge be resurrected instead of this as an independent deliverable which would address multiple recommendations.</p>	●
Urban development				
24	Greater Wellington, WCC, PCC and Wellington Water look at options for spatial planning for the future development of Te-Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua.	Currently being implemented	Greater Wellington led.	●





25	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC, PCC and Wellington Water work to align urban growth planning within Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua to achieve social, cultural, economic and environmental objectives that provide for the values of Ngāti Toa Rangatira and the community. Consideration must be given to the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Policy Statement for Urban Development Capacity, including the results from the Wellington Housing and Business Capacity Assessment • National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management, including the freshwater objectives, limits and targets for Te Awarua-o-Porirua Harbour and streams • full cost of urban development, including construction and maintenance of infrastructure over its lifetime • specific characteristics of Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua, including the relationship with Ngāti Toa Rangatira, topography, demography, transport infrastructure and urban form. 	RPS	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	
26	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water work together to provide a clear cohesive policy direction and align and streamline planning processes. This work may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • amendments to the Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region to guide regional and district plan changes • alignment of strategic plans, regional plans, district plans, and infrastructure plans and supporting documentation including water-sensitive urban design guidelines • joint resource consent application processing • joint plan change processing to add new urban areas to existing zoned areas • distinction in respect of any jurisdictional overlap • utilising the transfer of powers or delegated authority provisions in the RMA. 	Currently being implemented	<p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>This recommendation will be largely achieved as a consequence of government reform of local government system and related Acts.</p>	
27	<p>Greater Wellington amends the PNRP to include a policy and rule framework that identifies the urban area and controls the location and extent of new urban development areas within Te-Awarua-o-Porirua. The framework must set a more stringent rule activity status for new urban development outside of the identified urban area.</p>	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	
P28				
28.1	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC and PCC amend the policy and rule framework in the PNRP and the district plans to control the effects of urban development on water quality and catchment hydrology. In particular the policy and rule framework must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • require the design, construction and maintenance of developments to demonstrate good practice in water sensitive urban design • specify that a certain percentage of the mean annual volume of the catchment be treated by an approved device(s) to achieve a certain percentage reduction in total zinc and copper, these being proxies for a suite of other contaminants • manage the effects from both small infill developments and larger scale brownfield and greenfield developments through permitted activity conditions and the resource consenting process. 	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	

28.2	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC and PCC amend the policy and rule framework in the PNRP and the district plans to control the effects of urban development on water quality and catchment hydrology. In particular the policy and rule framework must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> require the design, construction and maintenance of developments to demonstrate good practice in water sensitive urban design specify that a certain percentage of the mean annual volume of the catchment be treated by an approved device(s) to achieve a certain percentage reduction in total zinc and copper, these being proxies for a suite of other contaminants manage the effects from both small infill developments and larger scale brownfield and greenfield developments through permitted activity conditions and the resource consenting process. 	RPS	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	
29	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water look for opportunities to initiate and incentivise the adoption of good practice in water-sensitive urban design, including through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> development and implementation of an education programme for consultants, developers and council staff on the new policy direction and ways to meet requirements programmes that improve industry and council capability and capacity financial incentives recognition and acknowledgement of good practice through certification schemes and design competitions. 	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Water Sensitive Urban Design Work Programme</p> <p>Greater Wellington, Porirua City Council, Wellington City Council and Wellington Water to identify lead organisation.</p> <p>Work programme with specified deliverables – details TBC.</p>	
P30				
30.1	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC and PCC amend the policy and rule framework in the PNRP and/ the district plans, to control hydrological impacts of urban development by ensuring that the design, construction and maintenance of new developments manage stormwater runoff to mitigate changes in runoff volumes and flow rates. This will be achieved through good practice in water-sensitive urban design. In particular the policy and rule framework must require the following from developers.</p> <p>For greenfield development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the modelled mean annual runoff volume generated by the fully developed area must not exceed the mean annual runoff volume modelled from the site in an undeveloped (pastoral) state 	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the modelled mean annual exceedance frequency of the 2-year Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) so-called 'channel forming' (or 'bankfull') flow for the point where the fully developed area discharges to a stream must not exceed the mean annual exceedance frequency modelled for the same site and flow event arising from the area in an undeveloped (pastoral) state. <p>For brownfield and infill development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the modelled mean annual runoff volume generated by the fully developed area must, when compared to the mean annual runoff volume modelled for the site prior to the brownfield or infill development, be reduced as far as practicable towards the mean annual runoff volume modelled for the site in an undeveloped state the modelled mean annual exceedance frequency of the 2-year ARI so-called 'channel forming' (or 'bankfull') flow for the point where the fully developed area discharges to a stream, or stormwater network, shall be reduced as far as practicable towards the mean annual exceedance frequency modelled for the same site and flow event in an undeveloped state. (See also implementation notes, below.) <p>Implementation notes for Recommendation 30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential developers will be required to demonstrate compliance with the above hydrological limits through the process of obtaining resource consent. The policy and rule framework will include a permitted activity threshold for small brownfield and infill developments, above which a consent pathway is required to demonstrate compliance with the hydrological limits. The permitted activity provision will include conditions requiring prescriptive, demonstrable minimum standards of practice to be met for small activities to be permitted. Guidance will be provided on acceptable models for developers to use in their consent application to demonstrate compliance with limits. This will include guidance on acceptable assumptions around the meaning of 'undeveloped state'. The same model must be used to assess the pre-, post- and undeveloped state for a given development application, in order to provide a robust assessment against the limits. For brownfield and infill developments, the practicability of the proposed reductions in mean annual runoff volume and mean annual exceedance frequency must be justified in the consent application for the proposed development. 			
30.2	<p>Greater Wellington, WCC and PCC amend the policy and rule framework in the PNRP and/ the district plans, to control hydrological impacts of urban development by ensuring that the design, construction and maintenance of new developments manage stormwater runoff to mitigate changes in runoff volumes and flow rates. This will be achieved through good practice in water-sensitive urban design. In particular the policy and rule framework must require the following from developers.</p> <p>For greenfield development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the modelled mean annual runoff volume generated by the fully developed area must not exceed the mean annual runoff volume modelled from the site in an undeveloped (pastoral) state 	RPS	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the modelled mean annual exceedance frequency of the 2-year Average Recurrence Interval (ARI) so-called 'channel forming' (or 'bankfull') flow for the point where the fully developed area discharges to a stream must not exceed the mean annual exceedance frequency modelled for the same site and flow event arising from the area in an undeveloped (pastoral) state. <p>For brownfield and infill development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the modelled mean annual runoff volume generated by the fully developed area must, when compared to the mean annual runoff volume modelled for the site prior to the brownfield or infill development, be reduced as far as practicable towards the mean annual runoff volume modelled for the site in an undeveloped state the modelled mean annual exceedance frequency of the 2-year ARI so-called 'channel forming' (or 'bankfull') flow for the point where the fully developed area discharges to a stream, or stormwater network, shall be reduced as far as practicable towards the mean annual exceedance frequency modelled for the same site and flow event in an undeveloped state. (See also implementation notes, below.) <p>Implementation notes for Recommendation 30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Potential developers will be required to demonstrate compliance with the above hydrological limits through the process of obtaining resource consent. The policy and rule framework will include a permitted activity threshold for small brownfield and infill developments, above which a consent pathway is required to demonstrate compliance with the hydrological limits. The permitted activity provision will include conditions requiring prescriptive, demonstrable minimum standards of practice to be met for small activities to be permitted. Guidance will be provided on acceptable models for developers to use in their consent application to demonstrate compliance with limits. This will include guidance on acceptable assumptions around the meaning of 'undeveloped state'. The same model must be used to assess the pre-, post- and undeveloped state for a given development application, in order to provide a robust assessment against the limits. For brownfield and infill developments, the practicability of the proposed reductions in mean annual runoff volume and mean annual exceedance frequency must be justified in the consent application for the proposed development. 			
P31				

<p>31.1</p>	<p>Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework in the PNRP to manage and progressively improve stormwater discharges to achieve the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets for Te Awarua-o-Porirua. In developing the amended framework Greater Wellington must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tailor the framework to the different scales and types of stormwater discharges such as for individual properties, state highways and local authority stormwater networks • include a more stringent rule activity status for stormwater discharges that discharge into waterbodies where the current water quality is worse than the limit or target compared to those catchments where current water quality is better than the limit for a respective contaminant • investigate the potential to increase the alignment of the resource consent requirements with the service planning function undertaken by Wellington Water • include requirements for resource consent applications and stormwater management strategies to demonstrate how they will meet the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets in this WIP, including a staged approach to meet progressively reducing limits • include policy direction to target 'priority' areas in both freshwater and coastal environments by prioritising improvements in the stormwater network. 	<p>Fully implemented</p>	<p>Implemented.</p>	
<p>31.2</p>	<p>Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework in the PNRP to manage and progressively improve stormwater discharges to achieve the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets for Te Awarua-o-Porirua. In developing the amended framework Greater Wellington must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tailor the framework to the different scales and types of stormwater discharges such as for individual properties, state highways and local authority stormwater networks • include a more stringent rule activity status for stormwater discharges that discharge into waterbodies where the current water quality is worse than the limit or target compared to those catchments where current water quality is better than the limit for a respective contaminant • investigate the potential to increase the alignment of the resource consent requirements with the service planning function undertaken by Wellington Water • include requirements for resource consent applications and stormwater management strategies to demonstrate how they will meet the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets in this WIP, including a staged approach to meet progressively reducing limits • include policy direction to target 'priority' areas in both freshwater and coastal environments by prioritising improvements in the stormwater network. 	<p>PNRP by 2024</p>	<p>Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.</p>	




31.3	<p>Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework in the PNRP to manage and progressively improve stormwater discharges to achieve the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets for Te Awarua-o-Porirua. In developing the amended framework Greater Wellington must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tailor the framework to the different scales and types of stormwater discharges such as for individual properties, state highways and local authority stormwater networks • include a more stringent rule activity status for stormwater discharges that discharge into waterbodies where the current water quality is worse than the limit or target compared to those catchments where current water quality is better than the limit for a respective contaminant • investigate the potential to increase the alignment of the resource consent requirements with the service planning function undertaken by Wellington Water • include requirements for resource consent applications and stormwater management strategies to demonstrate how they will meet the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets in this WIP, including a staged approach to meet progressively reducing limits • include policy direction to target 'priority' areas in both freshwater and coastal environments by prioritising improvements in the stormwater network. 	Currently being implemented	<p>NB relates to bullet points 3 and 5.</p> <p>Bullet 3 we understand is underway with Wellington Water who are considering a bylaw (but will take several years). Fifth bullet already in schedule N of PNRP but potentially there will be amendments to align with new limits framework.</p>	
32	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water identify opportunities and investigate methods for incentivising stormwater mitigations within the existing urban footprint and maximise the opportunities provided by infill and brownfields redevelopments. This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identifying potential brownfield redevelopment areas and supporting master planning at the outset to integrate water management with other development drivers • identifying potential locations for stormwater mitigations • providing public investment into upgrading existing stormwater infrastructure • providing incentives to treat stormwater from the wider stormwater network within brownfield development sites • exploring and promoting public-private partnerships and funding models to encourage redevelopment of brownfield sites. 	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Stormwater mitigations and opportunities workshop and next steps</p> <p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Workshop with documented and agreed next steps.</p>	
33	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water investigate and implement options to progressively upgrade or replace high zinc and copper-yielding building materials from existing urban areas. This may include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing and implementing an incentive scheme to paint or replace large-scale high zinc-yielding industrial and commercial roofs • identifying and targeting high contaminant contributing areas • prioritising catchments that contribute to the hotspot areas of degradation. 	Fully implemented	<p>In Porirua City Council District Plan to use low zinc and copper material in new builds and replacements.</p> <p>Bullet 2 will also be addressed through National Objectives Framework (NOF) process as part of implementing the NPS-FM.</p>	
34	<p>Greater Wellington advocates to central government that it initiate change at a national level to restrict the use of high zinc- and copper-yielding building materials.</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Letter from Greater Wellington Chair to Minister for the Environment, Minister of Transport and Minister of Building and Construction.</p>	






			Greater Wellington led. Signed letter as word document sent by email. NB this deliverable is also shared by recommendation 38 and Te Whanganui-a-Tara recommendation 105.	
35	PCC, WCC and Wellington Water work together in high-risk areas to increase and prioritise regular street sweeping and sump clearance and investigate other opportunities to capture and clear contaminants from stormwater drains.	To be commissioned by deliverables	New deliverable name: Increased street sweeping. See recommendation 20.3 for details.	●
P36				
36.1	Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC, Wellington Water and relevant industry groups develop and implement a pollution prevention programme. This will be outlined, delivered and monitored through various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy. The programme must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> raise the awareness of the public about what they can do to reduce their impacts on harbour and stream health promote and incentivise industry good management practice targeting high-risk land-use activities that contribute relatively high levels of contamination identify and target priority areas for contaminant reduction based on the identification of catchments that contribute to localised hot-spot areas investigate opportunities to enable change by streamlining regulatory processes and removing barriers to businesses and industry initiating change work with specific industries/suppliers to increase understanding around risks from exterior chemical cleaning products with an aim to reduce usage through point of sale warnings and changes in product care advice. 	Currently being implemented [Note this is an amendment from earlier report which showed as fully implemented]	[Note this is an amendment from earlier report which showed as fully implemented] Relates to first bullet point. Barriers removed through PNRP hearings have reduced regulation in terms of discharging hydrocarbons. Periodic communications campaigns have been run including by Greater Wellington e.g. save the drain for the rain which are implementing some of the bullets and are ongoing. Porirua City Council has just completed a communications strategy, which is now being implemented, for reducing impacts on the harbour and streams. This includes working with Wellington City Council and Sustainable Coastlines. Need to check with Wellington City Council about what they're currently doing.	●
36.2	Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC, Wellington Water and relevant industry groups develop and implement a pollution prevention programme. This will be outlined, delivered and monitored through various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy. The programme must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> raise the awareness of the public about what they can do to reduce their impacts on harbour and stream health promote and incentivise industry good management practice targeting high-risk land-use activities that contribute relatively high levels of contamination identify and target priority areas for contaminant reduction based on the identification of catchments that contribute to localised hot-spot areas investigate opportunities to enable change by streamlining regulatory processes and removing barriers to businesses and industry initiating change 	To be commissioned by deliverables	New deliverable name: Reinstate Take Charge Programme Relates to second, fourth and fifth bullet point. See recommendation 3.3 for details.	●

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> work with specific industries/suppliers to increase understanding around risks from exterior chemical cleaning products with an aim to reduce usage through point of sale warnings and changes in product care advice. 			
36.3	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC, Wellington Water and relevant industry groups develop and implement a pollution prevention programme. This will be outlined, delivered and monitored through various mechanisms, including the Harbour Strategy. The programme must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> raise the awareness of the public about what they can do to reduce their impacts on harbour and stream health promote and incentivise industry good management practice targeting high-risk land use activities that contribute relatively high levels of contamination identify and target priority areas for contaminant reduction based on the identification of catchments that contribute to localised hotspot areas investigate opportunities to enable change by streamlining regulatory processes and removing barriers to businesses and industry initiating change work with specific industries/suppliers to increase understanding around risks from exterior chemical cleaning products with an aim to reduce usage through point of sale warnings and changes in product care advice. 	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Reinstate Take Charge Programme</p> <p>Relates to the third bullet point.</p> <p>See recommendation 3.3 for details.</p>	●
37	<p>Greater Wellington investigates options to revise the controls on chemical cleaning products (such as '30 seconds' type cleaning products) and advocates to central government for better control of these products at a national level.</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Reinstate Take Charge Programme</p> <p>See recommendation 3.3 for details.</p>	●
38	<p>Greater Wellington advocates to central government that high zinc and copper yielding materials in vehicles be progressively replaced with lower yielding alternatives.</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Letter from Greater Wellington Chair to Minister for the Environment, Minister of Transport and Minister of Building and Construction.</p> <p>See recommendation 34 for details.</p>	●
39	<p>Greater Wellington, PCC and WCC raise the awareness of the public of the effects of copper brake pads and actively promote low-copper/copper-free alternatives.</p>	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Reinstate Take Charge Programme</p> <p>See recommendation 3.3 for details.</p>	●
Wastewater discharges				
40	<p>Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework in the PNRP as necessary to manage and progressively improve wastewater discharges in Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua to achieve the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets in this WIP. The policy and rule framework must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> require resource consent applications and wastewater management strategies to demonstrate how they will meet the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets in this WIP, including through a staged approach 	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●








	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> recognise and address the complexities of the wastewater network, including issues with capacity, overflows, leaks, and cross connections require assessment of the progress towards achieving the <i>E.coli</i> and enterococci objectives and amendments of programmes and strategies if expected progress is not achieved acknowledge the interrelationship of stormwater and wastewater. 			
P41				
41.1	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework in the PNRP and PCC and WCC amend the relevant district plans as necessary to ensure that new urban development and redevelopment do not exacerbate issues with the wastewater network by providing adequate on-site storage, including requirements for applicants to demonstrate how wastewater generated by development will be managed.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
41.2	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework in the PNRP and PCC and WCC amend the relevant district plans as necessary to ensure that new urban development and redevelopment do not exacerbate issues with the wastewater network by providing adequate on-site storage, including requirements for applicants to demonstrate how wastewater generated by development will be managed.	RPS	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●
42	Wellington Water develops and implements wastewater programmes, strategies and/or plans to improve the wastewater network to achieve the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets in this WIP. The development and implementation of these programmes, strategies and plans must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> clearly set out the steps, actions and milestones to deliver the necessary improvements inform the investment strategies of the 2021-2031 Long Term Plans for Greater Wellington, PCC and WCC assess all wastewater management options and identify priority areas for actions provide an integrated assessment and management approach for all forms of wastewater discharges from the network and the associated effects on freshwater and coastal receiving environments address both dry weather wastewater discharges and wastewater network overflows adopt an integrated catchment approach that recognises the interconnected nature of the wastewater network and the receiving environments for these discharges align funding and investment with Greater Wellington, PCC and WCC for these actions and improvements to occur. 	Currently being implemented	Wellington Water led. NB also supported through PNRP.	●
43	Greater Wellington, WCC and PCC work together to integrate and align regional plans, district plans and infrastructure service plans to achieve the freshwater and coastal water objectives, limits and targets in this WIP.	RPS	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●

44	PCC and WCC align their policies on the licencing, monitoring and enforcement of trade waste discharges into the wastewater network.	Fully implemented	Porirua City Council have a revised bylaw which corresponds with the Wellington City Council bylaw. Have also changed monitoring and licencing and now requires greater monitoring from specific contaminants.	●
45	PCC, WCC and Wellington Water work together to identify sub-catchments within the Whaitua that have the most widespread issues with private laterals and cross connections, and prioritise these sub-catchments for improvement.	Fully implemented	Porirua City Council have introduced a new bylaw and have two teams doing tests for leaks and getting these fixed through the Infiltration and Inflow (I&I) programme, Porirua City Council are aware that Wellington Water have also funded the I&I programme.	●
46	PCC, WCC and Wellington Water initiate a comprehensive work programme to identify and address issues with the private wastewater network within the Whaitua, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> education and guidance for home and business-owners in relation to leaking laterals, cross-connections and the consequences of non-compliance promotion of redevelopment as an opportunity to address existing cross-connections and leaking laterals financial mechanisms and incentives, such as rates relief or targeted rates in priority sub-catchments, to assist property owners to get their pipes checked and fixed investigation and implementation of the best regulatory methods to address cross connections, e.g. through a by-law that requires the pipes to be checked and certified at the time of sale or through a warrant of fitness scheme. 	Fully implemented	Fully implemented already by Porirua City Council, through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Know Your Pipes education programme (how to check cross connections, inflows, etc). Redevelopment – building and assurance team look for cross connections etc at time of building permit. Re financial mechanisms, have met with DIA with the intention of enabling targeted rates – this was rejected and has been exhausted as an option, but further work will progressed if possible. Improved bylaw for laterals and made enforceable. 	●
47	Greater Wellington, PCC, WCC and Wellington Water target redevelopment and regeneration projects, such as those led by Housing New Zealand, as an opportunity to address existing wastewater and stormwater network issues through education, advocacy and regulation.	Fully implemented	Regulatory side of this recommendation is largely in place now. Stormwater consents for over 3000m2. Eastern Porirua Development – conversations have taken place between Greater Wellington and Kāinga Ora about resource consents in relation to this. There is also a proposal for a community stormwater system at Cannons Creek, as well as replacing the wastewater pipe which goes along Kenepuru Stream – both of which will improve the water quality. Overtaken by current NRP plan change process.	●
48	PCC and WCC building compliance officers undertake proactive, consistent compliance monitoring of connections in new builds and renovations to ensure there are no cross connections, including a system for recording which properties have been checked and assessed and when issues have been resolved.	Currently being implemented	Porirua City Council and Wellington City Council led. Porirua City Council and Wellington City Council building compliance officers undertake proactive, consistent compliance monitoring of connections in new builds and renovations to ensure there are no cross connections, including a system for recording which properties have been checked and assessed and when issues have been resolved.	●
Earthworks and forestry				
49	Greater Wellington amends the policy and rule framework in the PNRP to set discharge standards for earthwork activities that require consent in order to achieve the sediment targets and limits in the WIP.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	●

50	WCC and PCC have consistent bylaws and guidance for silt and sediment control within the Whaitua. Consideration must be given to the effects of climate change to ensure control measures are designed to meet increasing intensity and duration of rainfall events.	Currently being implemented	Porirua City Council and Wellington City Council led Porirua City Council have implemented a new bylaw and increased enforcement, which includes adaptation for Climate Change as much as possible. Liaising with Wellington City Council who would implement similar steps. Nb requires discussion with Wellington City Council.	
51	Greater Wellington reviews and updates publications, including Small earthworks – Erosion and sediment control for small sites (2006), and Erosion and sediment control guidelines (2000), to ensure the methods and principles they set out reflect current good practice. Amendments may include increasing the design standards to deal with more significant but less frequent rainfall events.	Fully implemented	The named guidelines were updated in 2021.	
52	Greater Wellington, WCC and PCC develop a compliance programme to ensure good practice in relation to silt and sediment control is followed for all earthworks, particularly in relation to permitted activities. This should also include a required frequency of cleanout and monitoring of retention basins to reduce the risks of retention basins being overwhelmed.	Fully implemented	Intent was clarified – the recommendation is about co-ordination between district councils and Greater Wellington around small-scale sites to ensure integration and consistency. Greater Wellington has good practice guidelines for small sites for sediment and erosion control. Greater Wellington doesn't do proactive compliance on permitted activities as often we don't know about these sites. Greater Wellington has a compliance programme in relation to larger, consented earthworks sites. Porirua City Council has implemented a new bylaw and increased enforcement on earthworks sites. Porirua City Council has introduced a silt and sediment education programme. Porirua City Council is doing compliance on small scale permitted sites.	
53	Greater Wellington, in conjunction with WCC and PCC, develops an education programme to ensure that good practice for silt and sediment control is understood by those carrying out earthworks.	Fully implemented	Porirua City Council led Silt and Sediment education programme is in place.	
54	Greater Wellington works with the forestry sector to identify potential barriers and risks to good practice in reducing sediment from forestry operations and works with the industry to overcome the risks and barriers.	Currently being implemented	Greater Wellington led New Greater Wellington role is being established which will perform this. Initially one-year fixed-term and expected to span regulatory and non-regulatory.	
55	Upon receiving notice under the NESPF of earthworks, forestry quarrying or harvesting in the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua, Greater Wellington requests a copy of the Forestry Earthworks Management Plan and Harvest Plan or Quarry Erosion and Sediment Management Plan and actively monitors compliance to ensure sediment discharges to waterbodies are minimised.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	
56	Greater Wellington provides sufficient resources to deliver consistent advice on forestry good practice and compliance, both within the Whaitua and across the region.	Currently being implemented	Greater Wellington led. New forestry roles that are planned will achieve this recommendation.	

57	Greater Wellington develops a charging policy under the NESPF for the monitoring of permitted activities.	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Policy for NESPF charging for monitoring of permitted activities.</p> <p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>An addition to Greater Wellington fees and charging policy (Currently valid for 2021-24 – to be incorporated in next review). Consultation with the forestry sector will be needed in the development.</p>	
Rural topics				
58	Greater Wellington undertakes further work to determine priority areas for reducing sediment in the Whaitua's streams and harbour. Once priority areas have been identified, Greater Wellington should work with landowners to develop environment plans that set out how sediment losses will be reduced at a farm/property scale.	Currently being implemented	<p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Largely implemented by Greater Wellington. Maps are available etc. Catchment plans are underway. National Environmental Standard for Freshwater will require farm plans. Greater Wellington already working with landowners but will do more.</p>	
59				
59.1	<p>Greater Wellington develops a regulatory framework in the PNRP to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> undertake farm/property-scale mapping to identify erosion-prone land in priority areas identified in Recommendation 58 require land owners to develop an environment plan setting out how sediment losses will be reduced where erosion-prone land is identified above a certain threshold (e.g. more than specified number of hectares) require that, where identified erosion-prone land is vegetated in scrub, shrubs and/or non-plantation forestry, that vegetation should not be cleared for uses that are likely to increase sediment loss. 	Currently being implemented	<p>Nb relates to the first two bullet points.</p> <p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>MfE are introducing freshwater environment plan requirements which will obligate landowners to participate if they haven't previously engaged.</p>	
59.2	<p>Greater Wellington develops a regulatory framework in the PNRP to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> undertake farm/property-scale mapping to identify erosion-prone land in priority areas identified in Recommendation 58 require land owners to develop an environment plan setting out how sediment losses will be reduced where erosion-prone land is identified above a certain threshold (e.g. more than specified number of hectares) require that, where identified erosion-prone land is vegetated in scrub, shrubs and/or non-plantation forestry, that vegetation should not be cleared for uses that are likely to increase sediment loss. 	PNRP by 2024	<p>Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.</p> <p>Nb relates to the third bullet point.</p>	
60	Greater Wellington aligns its programmes, planning, funding and support of sediment mitigation activities, including both riparian restoration and reductions in hill-slope and landslide erosion, within the identified priority areas.	Currently being implemented	<p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Greater Wellington already doing although could be improved further through catchment plans. Funding not currently fully aligned.</p>	

			Porirua City Council have already implemented riparian restoration.	
61	Greater Wellington provides sufficient resources in the Whaitua to deliver land management advice, provide expert input into environment plans and to deliver on the work programmes identified.	Currently being implemented	Greater Wellington led. As a result of recommendation additional staff were employed by Greater Wellington. A business case is seeking additional forestry related staff. Greater Wellington's Fit for the Future Programme is identifying functions and resources required. Porirua City Council have resources in place doing a similar role.	●
62	Greater Wellington prioritises opportunities to mitigate sediment loss from erosion-prone lands in council-administered regional parks within the Whaitua.	Currently being implemented	Greater Wellington led. Ongoing before and after the WIP was completed. Being addressed through restoration plans in regional parks. Other work has been undertaken to identify erosion prone areas. To be supported further through catchment plans.	●
63	Greater Wellington amends the PNRP policy and rule framework to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> map low-slope land areas for livestock exclusion using finer scale land-slope criteria that also take into account the average land slope within a specified distance from a water body require livestock exclusion from water bodies with an active bed of greater than 1m in width within the mapped low-slope areas apply to livestock as defined in <i>Section 2 (Interpretation)</i> of the PNRP. 	Fully implemented	Already fully implemented via the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater.	●
64	Greater Wellington works with rural landowners to promote and implement good management practices, including integrated farm environment planning.	Currently being implemented	Greater Wellington led. Ongoing work is occurring. Currently doing farm plans which will increase when these become mandatory under the National Environmental Standards for Freshwater.	●
65	Greater Wellington and PCC develop and implement a proactive compliance monitoring programme for on-site wastewater systems in the Whaitua to ensure they comply with the rules in the PNRP and PCC wastewater by-law.	Currently being implemented	Porirua City Council led. Porirua City Council completed inspection and compliance programme in 2021. This found all operating systems were compliant (some discharges remaining from older decommissioned/replaced systems).	●
66	PCC prioritises initial compliance monitoring efforts on unlicensed on-site wastewater systems and takes appropriate enforcement action as necessary to ensure all on-site wastewater systems in the Whaitua are licensed and compliant.	Currently being implemented	Porirua City Council led.	●
67	Greater Wellington and PCC provide information and raise the awareness of property owners about the importance of maintaining on-site wastewater systems and how to identify and address performance issues.	Currently being implemented	Porirua City Council led.	●

Water abstraction				
68	Greater Wellington amends the rule and the associated policy framework in the PNRP to take water from a stream in the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua so that it incorporates the limits listed in Tables 12 and 13. Amendments to the rule and policy framework should also ensure that no more than 30% of MALF (of the tributary) can be taken from a tributary within the WMUs listed in Tables 12 and 13.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	
69	Greater Wellington removes the permitted activity rule in the PNRP that allows water to be taken from a waterbody in the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua. Note: water for reasonable domestic use and animal drinking water is authorised under section 14(3)(b) of the RMA.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	
70	Greater Wellington amends the PNRP policy and rule framework to allow for 'one off' incidental uses of water in the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua (such as for water required for farm-spraying operations). The rate of water taken must be no greater than 2.5L/s, the volume no greater than 5,000 litres per day and no more than 10,000 litres in any one calendar month. Water must not be taken when the affected waterway is below the minimum flow. Users must keep records of the amount taken.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	
71	Greater Wellington defines the meaning of domestic and animal drinking water use in the PNRP, using narrative and (as appropriate) numbers (volume/day), for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> water for an individual's reasonable domestic needs is the amount sufficient to provide for hygiene, sanitary and domestic requirements. Consideration should be given to how vegetable garden watering could be allowed for while lawn or pasture irrigation may be beyond the scope of reasonable domestic needs water for reasonable needs of a person's animals for drinking is the amount sufficient to provide for the health and welfare of animals. 	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	
72	Greater Wellington investigates mechanisms to incentivise or encourage the installation and use of roof-collected rainwater (tanks) for domestic and non-domestic uses.	To be commissioned by deliverables	New deliverable name: Rainwater Storage Options paper. Greater Wellington led. Policy paper capturing options as outlined in recommendation 71.	
73	Greater Wellington collects better information on water take and use volumes, including for takes under 14(3)(b) of the RMA, in order to provide for more accurate and transparent accounting of water use, better management of the Whaitua's waterways, and to ensure the requirements of the NPSFM are met.	To be commissioned by deliverables	New deliverable name: Whaitua Monitoring Plan encompassing each FMU. Greater Wellington led. See recommendation 19.1 for details.	
74	Greater Wellington amends the PNRP to ensure all takes requiring resource consent within the Te Awarua-o-Porirua Whaitua require metering to ensure accurate and reliable records of abstractions are maintained.	PNRP by 2024	Being managed by Greater Wellington through its regulatory programmes of work.	

75	Greater Wellington develops an information and education programme to ensure land owners affected by the removal of the permitted activity rule are aware of the new resource consent requirements and provided with assistance with the resource consent process.	To be commissioned by deliverables	<p>New deliverable name: Permitted activity changes comms plan and implementation.</p> <p>Greater Wellington led.</p> <p>Communications plan and implementation of deliverables/activities specified within it.</p>	●
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Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.335



For Decision

EXTENSION TO HALF PRICE PUBLIC TRANSPORT FARES

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To request that Council, following the Government's recent announcement, consider:
 - a extending the current government funded half-price public transport fares on Metlink Public Transport services for an additional period (currently to 31 January 2023); and
 - b realigning implementation of the Community Connect Scheme so that it starts after the half-price fares initiative ends (currently from 1 February 2023).

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1 **Notes** that on 17 July 2022, the Government announced that it would extend funding of the universal half-price fares initiative for a further period, until 31 January 2023.
- 2 **Notes** that the extension of the half-price fares initiative also changed the time for start of the Community Connect Scheme from 1 September 2022 to 1 February 2023.
- 3 **Notes** that that the Government funding for reduced Total Mobility taxi fares has also been extended in line with the extension of the half-price fares initiative.
- 4 **Notes** that amending Public Transport fares is a decision that rests with Public Transport Authorities, in this case Council.
- 5 **Agrees** to extend the reduced Metlink Public Transport fares by a minimum of 50 percent for an additional period concluding on the date when Government funding for this initiative ends.
- 6 **Notes** that on 16 March 2022, Council agreed to implement the Community Connect Scheme on Metlink Public Transport services commencing on 1 September 2022, with transitional arrangements for the period between 1 September and 1 December 2022.
- 7 **Agrees** to change the date for implementing the Community Connect Scheme on Metlink Public Transport services, to the date following the conclusion of the half-price fares initiative.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

2. On 14 March 2022, the Government announced a suite of initiatives to respond to the rising cost of fuel and associated cost of living implications.
3. One of the initiatives announced was for funding to be provided to allow for all public transport fares to be halved for three months commencing on 1 April 2022.
4. On 17 March 2022, Council resolved to reduce Metlink Public Transport fares by a minimum of 50 percent for a three-month period commencing 1 April 2022.
5. On 19 May 2022, as part of Budget 2022, the Government announced:
 - a That it was extending its half price fares initiative for an additional two-month period (ending 31 August 2022)
 - b An initiative, called Community Connect. Community Connect provides funding and legislative framework to support Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) to provide 50 percent concession for community services card (CSC) holders on bus, train and ferry services in their regions from 1 September 2022.
6. On 16 June 2022, Council resolved to:
 - a Reduce Metlink Public Transport fares by a minimum of 50 percent for an additional two-month period (ending 31 August 2022)
 - b Implement the Community Connect scheme on Metlink Public Transport services commencing on 1 September 2022, with transitional arrangements for the period between 1 September and 1 December 2022.
7. On 17 July 2022, the Government announced that it was extending its half price fares initiative for an additional period (ending 31 January 2023) on all public transport services and Total Mobility taxi services. Greater Wellington was subsequently advised that the Community Connect scheme was not required to be implemented until 1 February 2023 (at the conclusion of the half price fares initiative).

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

Extension of half price public transport fares for all users

8. Metlink will continue utilising the established mechanisms to provide for half price fares on the Metlink public transport network until 31 January 2023.
9. Operators and public have been advised of the proposed extension.
10. Officers are working with operators and Snapper to develop a plan to revert to normal fare payment from 1 February 2023.

Impact on the Community Connect scheme for Community Services Card holders

11. As a result of the Government's extension of the half price fares scheme until 31 January 2023, the Community Connect scheme will not need to be implemented until 1 February 2023.

12. Snapper is scheduled to be available on all rail lines by the end of November or early December 2022, replacing paper-based ticketing (except for on-board cash sales).

Ngā hua ahumoni Financial implications

13. As set out above, we will be reimbursed for fare reductions resulting from the half-price fare initiative.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori Implications for Māori

14. Māori will be positively impacted by providing more affordable Public Transport options. Implementation on the new fare initiatives will make Public Transport more accessible for all communities including Māori.
15. This contributes to the principles behind Te Tiriti o Waitangi: Partnership, Protection, and Participation. Public Transport allows Māori to travel affordably to places such as employment, social services, education, and culturally significant events. Public Transport also aims to decrease the amount of greenhouse gas emissions in the environment which appeals to the protection of the environment which is important in te ao Māori given a special connection to the whenua (land).

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi Consideration of climate change

16. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers in accordance with the process set out in the Greater Wellington's Climate Change Considerations Guide.

Mitigation and adaptation assessment

17. There is no need to conduct a climate change assessment on these matters. Officers note that should this proposal be adopted it may result in mode shift and may increase patronage.

Ngā tikanga whakatau Decision-making process

18. The matter requiring decision in this report was considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga Significance

19. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of the matter, taking into account Council's *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington's *Decision-making Guidelines*.

20. Officers consider that the matter is of low significance, on the basis that this decision implements a Government initiative and the reduction of fares will be fully funded.

**Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement**

21. Officers have engaged with Waka Kotahi on the Government’s initiative.
22. Officers have undertaken preliminary engagement with Snapper and operators to determine the viability of reducing fares on the network.

**Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps**

23. Officers will continue to work with the Ministry of Social Development, Waka Kotahi, Operators and Snapper to implement the Community Connect scheme.
24. In addition, officers will develop an appropriate customer and media campaign to advise CSC holders of the new scheme.

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writer	Nicki Lau Young – Manager, NTS, Metlink
Approver	Tim Shackleton – Commercial, Strategy and Investments Manager, Metlink Samantha Gain – General Manager, Metlink

<p style="text-align: center;">He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations</p>
<p><i>Fit with Council or Committee's Terms of Reference</i></p> <p>The Council has authority to make the decisions in relation to funding fares initiatives for the Wellington Region.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>The proposals in this report contribute to the delivery of public transport aspects of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>In preparing this report there has been consultation with officers in the Finance and Community Engagement departments.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>Officers have not identified any risks associated with matters set out in this report.</p>

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.248



For Decision

COVID-19 2021/22 REVENUE GAP FUNDING UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To advise Council of the finalised debt funding for 2021-22 financial year, to fund farebox revenue loss caused by the impact of COVID-19 on public transport patronage.

He tūtohu

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Notes** that \$17.689 million will be debt funded to fund the gap (not already funded by Waka Kotahi) caused by the public transport COVID-19 farebox reduction, being \$9.689 million more than the budgeted amount of \$8 million.
2. **Notes** that this debt funding is part of Greater Wellington's COVID-19 recovery plan.

Te horopaki

Context

2. In 2020/21 the farebox revenue lost due to COVID-19 lockdowns and its ongoing impact on patronage was 100 percent funded by Waka Kotahi.
3. In the Long Term Plan (LTP) budget for 2021-23 Council approved an \$8 million debt funding as allowance for funding Public Transport activity should fare revenue during the year drop below expectations due to COVID-19 pandemic outcomes.
4. Waka Kotahi funded 51 percent of the Covid farebox reduction through the 2021/22 year.
5. Officers had anticipated that Waka Kotahi would increase this funding, given the precedence of 100 percent funding in 2020/21. This was discussed with Waka Kotahi but ultimately declined.
6. For the 12 months to June 2022 Greater Wellington fare revenue gap, caused by COVID-19 was \$36.101 million. \$18.411 million was funded by Waka Kotahi.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

7. This debt funding is part of Greater Wellington’s COVID-19 recovery plan. The debt will be taken over ten years and recovered through the public transport targeted rate. This amount will increase rates in total by 0.58%, of which 0.28% is already budgeted for.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

8. All ratepayers will be rated for the debt funding for the farebox revenue shortfall, in accordance with the Revenue and Financing policy.

Ngā tikanga whakatau
Decision-making process

9. The matter requiring decision in this report was considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga
Significance

10. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of this matter, taking into account, Council’s *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington’s *Decision-making Guidelines*. Officers recommend that this matter is of low significance.

Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement

11. The debt funding at the original budgeted amounts was included in the LTP 2021 to 2031 and this was consulted on in 2021.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

12. The LTP 2021 to 2031 and the Annual Plan 2022/23 have debt funding in the 2022/23 and 2023/24 year for a continuing COVID-19 revenue gap. This is budgeted at \$15 million in the 2022/23 Annual Plan and \$4 million in 2023/24, year three of the LTP.

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writer	Alison Trustrum-Rainey - Chief Financial Officer
Approver	Sue McLean - General Manager, Corporate Services

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> Council approved debt funding as part of the LTP process and this paper notes the required changes to the amounts agreed.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> The report notes the change in the actual implementation and the changed amount compared with the budgeted debt funding in the LTP year one.
<i>Internal consultation</i> Finance, and Public Transport have been consulted in the writing of this paper
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> The financial impact has been noted in the paper.

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.356



For Decision

REPORT OF THE FUTURE FARES DIRECTION HEARING SUBCOMMITTEE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. This report outlines the recommendations to Council of the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) on the proposed Future Fares Direction arising from the consideration of submissions.

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That Council agrees to the following recommendations by the Future Fares Direction Subcommittee, for inclusion in the final Future Fares Direction for adoption:

- 1 **Notes** that the Subcommittee requested that Council:
 - a Agrees to move from a 25 percent to a 50 percent off-peak discount with subsequent Net Revenue loss of \$5 million (with a modest cost offset in the mid-long term through reducing peak service capacity requirements), subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding and capacity implications of a 50 percent discount (further advice provided in Report 22.363 'Adoption of Future Fares Direction')
 - b Agrees to implement a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding implications of this decision (further advice provided in Report 22.363 'Adoption of Future Fares Direction').
- 2 **Amends** the current Regional Public Transport Plan definition of off-peak for buses to "weekdays before 7 am, between 9 am and 3 pm and after 6.30 pm and all-day weekends and public holidays".
- 3 **Agrees** to the adoption of cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders (noting that officers will work with Snapper to identify implementation timings, costs and a simplified communications approach for Council decision as part of the annual fares review processes).
- 4 **Agrees** that Metlink move toward a fare capping approach, in the context of account-based ticketing in the National Ticketing Solution.

- 5 **Agrees** to develop and introduce an initial fare capping discount of 35 percent on a daily and weekly basis.
- 6 **Supports** the development and introduction of new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the Region.
- 7 **Supports** the emerging work programme with WellingtonNZ, with regard to event travel across the Region.
- 8 **Agrees** to introduce a distance based Integrated Fare Structure.
- 9 **Agrees** to advocate to central government that the Community Services Card half price fares initiative be extended to include the Total Mobility scheme.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

2. The Future Fares Direction initiatives have been developed to help achieve the strategic objectives set out in Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o Pōneke Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-2031 (RPTP) of an “efficient, accessible and low-carbon public transport network” by providing greater choice and flexibility for journey planning, fares and fare payment options.
3. The initiatives were designed to achieve four key outcomes which align with policies outlined in the RPTP:
 - a Affordability - with an emphasis of targeting those who may need it most
 - b Modeshift - encouraging greater public transport uptake, with a focus on growth outside peak travel periods
 - c Fairness - price an individual pays relative to distance travelled
 - d Simplicity - making fares easier to use and understand.
4. On 16 June 2022, the Transport Committee approved the Future Fares Direction 2022 consultation document for public consultation (Report 22.149). At this same meeting, the Committee established the Subcommittee (Report 22.193) to consider and hear submissions on the Future Fares Direction Consultation.
5. The public consultation period ran from 17 June to 15 July 2022. Public engagement activities during the consultation included virtual engagement sessions.
6. 1148 submissions were received on the proposed Future Fares Direction.
7. The Subcommittee met on 3 and 4 August 2022 to hear 23 submitters speaking to their written submissions and consider all 1148 submissions on the proposed Future Fares Direction.
8. Each speaker was allowed up to 10 minutes to speak to their submission and respond to questions by Subcommittee members.
9. An analysis of the written submissions was prepared for consideration by the Subcommittee (Report 22.315).

Te tātaritanga Analysis

10. Immediately following the hearing of oral presentations on 4 August 2022, the Subcommittee commenced deliberations. In deliberating on the proposed Future Fares Direction, the Subcommittee considered the views and information presented in:
 - a Written submissions (emailed and online forms via 'Have Your Say')
 - b Oral presentations made by submitters
 - c Analysis of submissions (Report 22.315) including feedback received by officers during virtual engagement sessions with the public during the consultation period.

Government's Community Services Card half-price fares initiative

11. The Subcommittee noted there was general support for Greater Wellington's adoption of the government's Community Services Card half price fares initiative and that officers included this question in the consultation document as a means to gather insights on public perception of the initiative rather than as a guide to decision making. No further action is required other than to note the feedback.
12. The Subcommittee discussed the extension of the Community Connect half-price fares initiative to the Total Mobility scheme. Deliberations and recommendations are set out in paragraphs 37-39.

Off-peak travel discount

13. The Subcommittee noted general support for increasing the off-peak discount, but that a significant number of submitters believed that moving from 25 percent to 35 percent would have a limited impact on patronage growth.
14. The Subcommittee deliberated on whether Council should retain the current off-peak discount of 25 percent, increase the discount to 35 percent as per the consultation question, or further increase the off-peak discount to 50 percent in line with consultation sentiment and for simplicity of understanding.
15. The Subcommittee agreed to recommend that Council move from a 25 percent to a 50 percent off-peak discount with subsequent Net Revenue loss of \$5 million (with a modest cost offset in the mid-long term through reducing peak service capacity requirements), subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding and capacity implications of a 50% discount (further advice provided in Report 22.363 'Adoption of Future Fares Direction').
16. In addition to the substantive question, the Subcommittee considered officers' recommendation that the current Early Bird bus discount initiative be formally incorporated into the definition of off-peak through an amendment to the RPTP.
17. The Subcommittee agreed to recommend amending the current RPTP definition of off-peak for buses to "weekdays before 7 am, between 9 am and 3 pm and after 6.30 pm and all-day weekends and public holidays".

18. The Subcommittee discussed whether this pre-7 am off-peak discount be applied to the rail network including the Wairarapa Line. Deliberations and recommendations on this are set out in paragraphs 39-41.

Cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders.

19. The Subcommittee noted submitters were largely supportive of introducing cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders for equity and public good.
20. The Subcommittee noted that the introduction of cumulative discounts is a mid-term initiative which will either require a degree of software development by existing ticketing provider Snapper or integration into the longer-term National Ticketing Solution (NTS).
21. Now that public consultation has determined broad, if qualified, support for the introduction of cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders, Officers will work on determining the cost and effective timing for implementation.
22. The Subcommittee agreed to recommend that Council adopt cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders (Noting that officers will work with Snapper to identify implementation timings, costs and simplicity report options for Council decision as part of the annual fares review processes).

Children to travel free on weekends when accompanied by their parent or guardian

23. Consultation was on adoption of a policy for “children to travel free on weekends when accompanied by their parent or guardian”. The Subcommittee noted that, while generally supportive, submitters did raise practicality and equity concerns about the “accompanied by their parent or guardian” clause in the proposed policy.
24. The Subcommittee noted that further modelling and operator discussions by officers indicated that, for commercial and contractual reasons, the policy should include a ‘carve out’ to exclude two premium services; the harbour ferry services and the new Airport Express (report 22.315).
25. Deliberations resulted in an amendment to the proposed policy with the Subcommittee agreeing to recommend that Council introduces a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium service buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, subject to receiving further advice from officers regarding funding implications.
26. The Subcommittee also discussed anecdotal comments made during the submissions process which indicated a small number of parents and caregivers of children with disabilities were not receiving free travel benefits on some services. It was noted that parents and caregivers of children with disabilities can travel free under existing policy and that there is a need to convey this information more clearly.
27. The Subcommittee requested that officers clarify the policy, and address any anomalies, with respect to parents and caregivers travelling with people/children with disabilities.

Fare capping discount of 35 percent on a daily and weekly basis

28. The Subcommittee noted the widespread support from submitters for the general concept of fare-capping. It was noted that this was an NTS initiative dependent on the introduction of account-based ticketing.

29. The Subcommittee noted the widespread support from submitters for the general concept of fare-capping. It was noted that this was an NTS initiative dependent on the introduction of account-based ticketing.
30. The Subcommittee recommended that the initial fare capping discount of 35 percent on a daily and weekly basis is included in the Future Fares Direction recommendations to Council.

New targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the region

31. The Subcommittee noted the widespread support from submitters for the new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the region with many submitters suggesting particular initiatives for officers to pursue.
32. It was noted that officers were working closely with WellingtonNZ on sustainable tourism initiatives for the region and are in the process of completing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which will lead to the development of a series of initiatives.
33. The Subcommittee recommended that new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the region is included in the Future Fares Direction recommendations to Council.
34. In addition, the Subcommittee requested that officers advise the Transport Committee of the emerging work programme with WellingtonNZ in this area.

Distance-based Integrated Fare Structure

35. The Subcommittee noted the qualified support from submitters for the general concept of an integrated fare structure. It was noted that a significant portion of submitters felt they could not supply meaningful feedback on this proposal without more detail from Council on the structure itself and its cost and user experience impact on public transport users.
36. The Subcommittee noted that this was an NTS initiative and recommended that introducing a distance based Integrated Fare Structure is included in the Future Fares Direction recommendations to Council.

Specific issues to note

Issue 1: Total Mobility services subsidy

37. While it was not in the original scope of the fares review, the Subcommittee noted that a significant number of submitters, including those who had responded to the Generation Zero fares review campaign, raised the subsidisation of Total Mobility and availability of services in some parts of the region as an area of concern for Total Mobility users and disability advocates.
38. The Subcommittee noted that Total Mobility was under review by the Ministry of Transport and that the legislative changes from the current PTOM review may provide future scope for PTAs to incorporate services similar to that provided by Total Mobility into public transport funding and procurement frameworks.
39. The Subcommittee recommended that the Transport Committee request that officers conduct further modelling, options analysis and discussions with the Ministry of

Transport on potential additional support for Total Mobility for future Council decision-making.

Issue 2: Gold Card timetabling impacts for Wairarapa customers

40. While not included in the fares review consultation, the topic of Super Gold Card holder access to Wairarapa services was raised in submissions from Carterton District Council (CDC), South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) and a small number of Wairarapa residents.
41. The general theme of these submissions was that service access for Super Gold Card holders in the Wairarapa was constrained due to the current timetabling of services, primarily rail.
42. Officers recommend that the Subcommittee ask Transport Committee to request that officers conduct further modelling and options analysis on potential changes to the Wairarapa Line for off-peak users, including Super Gold Card users for future Council decision-making.

**Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications**

43. Financial implications of the Subcommittee's recommendations will be addressed in Report 22.363.

**Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori**

44. The fares review aims to target groups within the community who may benefit from or rely on public transport services.
45. Māori will be positively impacted by the implementation providing more affordable Public Transport options. Further, the fares will be easier to use and understand. The changes will make Public Transport more accessible for all communities including Māori.
46. This contributes to the principles behind Te Tiriti o Waitangi: Partnership, Protection, and Participation. Public Transport allows Māori to travel affordably to places such as employment, social services, education, and culturally significant events.
47. Public Transport also aims to decrease the amount of greenhouse gas emissions in the environment which appeals to the protection of the environment which is important in te ao Māori given a special connection to the whenua (land).
48. The consultation on the Future Fares Direction gave Māori, mana whenua and other communities a voice to have their say and input into the implementation of the proposed fare initiatives.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi

Consideration of climate change

49. The future fare system is expected to contribute to the Region's mode-shift and decarbonisation targets – by:
 - a Retaining the current public transport users
 - b Targeting groups with higher potential for mode-shift
 - c Targeting areas with lower public transport mode-share
 - d Competing with the cost of alternative non-sustainable modes of transport
 - e Targeting journeys with higher decongestion and decarbonisation benefits.
50. The principles advance the commitment to provide a low emissions public transport network.
51. The principles have no adverse implications for greenhouse gas emissions over their lifetime and therefore do not require an approach to reduce them.
52. Climate change impacts are unlikely to have any direct effect upon the fare structure and fare products over its lifetime.

Ngā tikanga whakatau

Decision-making process

53. The subject matter of this report is part of a decision-making process that will lead to the Council making a decision of high significance within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002.
54. This report outlines the recommendations of the Subcommittee as a result of consultation on the proposed Future Fares Direction

Te hiranga

Significance

55. The subject matter of this report is part of a decision-making process that will lead to the Council making a decision of high significance within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te whakatūtakitaki

Engagement

56. The Significance and Engagement Policy criteria was used to determine that the appropriate level of engagement was to publicly consult on the proposed changes. Further detail on consultation and engagement processes and the results of the consultation were provided to the Subcommittee in Report 22.315.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

57. Following the Council meeting of 25 August 2022 to approve the final Future Fares Direction, all submitters will receive a final response confirming the decisions of the Council and a copy of the final Future Fares Direction.

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatory

Writer	Cr Roger Blakeley, Chair, Future Fares Direction Hearings Subcommittee
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He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>The Transport Committee established this Subcommittee. Under the Transport Committee's Terms of Reference, the Committee is responsible for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Approving strategies, policies and guidelines to deliver public transport in accordance with the Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan (RPTP). b Review periodically the performance and effectiveness of transport strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives. <p>Council committed in the RPTP to provide: "A fares and ticketing system that attracts and retains customers and balances user contribution with public funding".</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>This aligns with the NTS programme of work identified in Greater Wellington's Long Term Plan.</p> <p>This also aligns with policies set out in the RPTP</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>None.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>There are no known risks arising from the matter for decision.</p>

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.363



For Decision

ADOPTION OF FUTURE FARES DIRECTION INITIATIVES

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To provide Council with further information, as requested by the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee, in order for it to adopt the Future Fares Direction initiatives.

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1 **Agrees** to the adoption of an 'off-peak fares package' which includes:
 - a An increase to the current off-peak discount of 25 percent discount on the full adult fare and;
 - b The introduction of cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders.
- 2 **Agrees** to either:
 - a Move from a 25 percent to a 35 percent off-peak discount with subsequent fare revenue impact for Greater Wellington of minus \$1.2 million (1.6%);OR
 - b Move from a 25 percent to a 50 percent off-peak discount with subsequent fare revenue impact for Greater Wellington of minus \$2.3 million (3.1%).
- 3 **Notes** that officers will work with Snapper to identify implementation timings, costs and a simplified communications approach for Council decision as part of the annual fares review processes.
- 4 **Amends** the current Regional Public Transport Plan definition of off-peak for buses to "weekdays before 7 am, between 9 am and 3 pm and after 6.30 pm and all-day weekends and public holidays".
- 5 **Notes** that public consultation for the review proposed introducing a policy that allows children to travel free on buses and trains on weekends and public holidays when accompanied by their parent or guardian.
- 6 **Notes** that, at the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee deliberations, officers recommended that a 'carve out' for premium services (ferry and Airport Express) be introduced to the proposed policy for fiscal and capacity reasons.

- 7 **Notes** that the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee requested that Council agrees a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding implications of this decision.
- 8 **Agrees** to introduce a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays when accompanied by their parent or guardian.
- 9 **Notes** that officers recommend that this policy be implemented in FY23/24 to enable the development of an operational model for policy implementation with operators.
- 10 **Agrees** in principle that Metlink move toward a fare capping approach, in the context of account-based ticketing in the National Ticketing Solution (NTS).
- 11 **Agrees** in principle to develop and introduce an initial fare capping discount of 35 percent on a daily and weekly basis.
- 12 **Agrees** in principle to introduce a distance based Integrated Fare Structure.
- 13 **Notes** that more detailed modelling, design and proposal analysis will be brought to Council and/or its Committees for further decision-making in the next triennium.
- 14 **Supports** the development and introduction of new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the Region.
- 15 **Supports** the emerging work programme with WellingtonNZ with regard to event travel across the Region.
- 16 **Agrees** to advocate to central government that the Community Services Card half price fares initiative be extended to include the Total Mobility scheme.
- 17 **Notes** that officers will conduct further modelling, options analysis and discussions with the Ministry of Transport on potential additional support for Total Mobility for future Council decision-making, including investigating the potential for Greater Wellington to procure its own fleet of total mobility vehicles to increase capacity.

Te horopaki

Context

2. Following consultation on the Future Fares Direction, the Future Fares Direction Hearings Subcommittee (the Subcommittee) made a number of recommendations to Council for inclusion in the final Future Fares Direction for adoption (see Report 22.341 *Public minutes of the Future Fares Direction Hearing Subcommittee* and Report 22.356 *Report of the Future Fares Direction Hearings Subcommittee*).
3. These recommendations are for short-term initiatives – those which can be formally implemented following the annual fares review in February 2023 – and longer-term initiatives – those largely dependent on the implementation of integrated ticketing through the National Ticketing Solution (NTS). These initiatives considered as a whole constitute the Future Fares Direction.

Recommendations to Council – subject to further advice

4. Two of the recommendations to Council (see Report 22.341) are subject to the Council being provided with further advice. Namely, the Subcommittee requested that Council:
 - a agrees to move from a 25 percent to a 50 percent off-peak discount with subsequent Net Revenue loss of \$5 million (with a modest cost offset in the mid-long term through reducing peak service capacity requirements), subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding, patronage and capacity implications of a 50 percent discount
 - b agrees to introduce a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding implications of this decision
5. This report provides information to facilitate decision-making on all aspects of the Future Fares Direction with particular focus on the shorter-term initiatives 'off-peak fares package' and free travel for children at weekends.

**Te tātaritanga
Analysis**

6. The analyses provided in this note are based on the following assumptions:
 - a Fare initiatives will come into effect in the FY23/24.
 - b 2020/21 patronage and fare revenue are used as the baseline – this is equivalent of about 85 percent of 2018/19 levels by the time of implementing the fare changes in 2024 (current forecast). Estimates may be lower or higher depending on recovery from COVID-19 and the timing for implementing the discounts. A 25 percent contingency is recommended for fare revenue estimates.
 - c The Community Connect Scheme will be in place from 1 February 2023.
 - d Snapper card will be available on all rail lines from November 2022.
 - e The half-price fare initiative will terminate on 31 January 2023.
 - f The estimates do not account for the impact of any general fare change or inflationary impact on operating costs.
7. Analysis in this report is structured in four parts:
 - a Increase to off-peak discount and introduction of cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders.
 - b Free weekend travel for children.
 - c NTS account-based ticketing initiatives.
 - d New targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel.
8. In addition, Total Mobility interventions are discussed.

Increase to off-peak discount and introduction of cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders

9. Greater Wellington consulted on two initiatives relating to off-peak discount provision:

- a increasing the off-peak travel discount from 25 to 35 percent to encourage greater off-peak usage.
 - b introducing cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders.
10. These two initiatives should be considered as a single 'package' of discounts as it is only through adoption of both initiatives that increased off-peak discounts will be made available to all public transport users.
11. This package was designed to achieve the key outcomes which align with policies outlined in Te Mahere Waka Whenua Tūmatanui o te Rohe o Pōneke Wellington Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-2031 (RPTP):
- a *Affordability* - with an emphasis of targeting those who may need it most.
 - b *Modeshift* - encouraging greater public transport uptake, with a focus on growth outside peak travel periods.
 - c *Fairness* – applying discounts fairly and consistently across all public transport users.
 - d *Simplicity* - making fares easier to use and understand.
12. Public response to these proposals is presented in Report 22.315 *Analysis of Submissions on the Future Fares Direction*. During the consultation period, the government's half price public transport fares initiative was in place, and the announcement of its extension beyond 1 September 2022 to 31 January 2023 was made (on 17 July 2022).

Current off-peak discounts by user group

13. Greater Wellington's current off-peak discount of 25 percent only effectively applies to full fare-paying adults and tertiary students. This is because:
- a Children already receive a 50 percent discount on adult fares so are not currently eligible for a further off-peak discount.
 - b Accessibility concession holders already receive a 50 percent discount on adult fares so are not currently eligible for a further off-peak discount.
 - c Tertiary students already receive a 25 percent discount on peak adult fares that applies to both peak and off-peak travel. The current 25 percent off-peak discount is therefore the same as the 25 percent discount for tertiary students.
 - d The new 50 percent Community Service Card concession will not be fully implemented until the government's current half price public transport fares initiative finishes on 31 January 2023.

The proposed new off-peak discount package

14. When considered as a single package of discounts, increasing the off-peak travel discount from 25 to 35 percent, and introducing cumulative off-peak discounts for all concession holders will have the effect of:
- a introducing a greater off-peak discount for full fare-paying adults and tertiary students.
 - b introducing an off-peak discount 'on top of' the existing and planned concessions.

Deliberations on scale of off-peak discount

15. The Subcommittee noted general support for increasing the off-peak discount, but that a significant number of submitters believed that moving from 25 percent to 35 percent would have a limited impact on patronage growth.
16. The Subcommittee deliberated on whether Council should retain the current off-peak discount of 25 percent, increase the discount to 35 percent as per the consultation question, or further increase the off-peak discount to 50 percent in line with consultation sentiment and for simplicity of understanding.
17. The Subcommittee agreed to recommend that Council move from a 25 percent to a 50 percent off-peak discount with subsequent Net Revenue loss (with a modest cost offset in the mid-long term through reducing peak service capacity requirements), subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding and capacity implications of a 50 percent discount.
18. The following section will present impact modelling (fare revenue, on users, on patronage) for two scenarios:
 - a An increase off the off-peak discount package to 35 percent.
 - b An increase off the off-peak discount package to 50 percent.

Impact on patronage and fare revenue

19. The table in paragraph 20 shows the estimated impacts of increasing the current 25 percent off-peak discount to 50 percent compared with the 35 percent proposed in the consultation documents. The estimates are provided for cumulative and non-cumulative application of the discounts to existing concessions.
20. The difference between the 35 percent and 50 percent is estimated to be about \$1 million for Greater Wellington or \$2 million before accounting for Waka Kotahi's funding contribution.

Net patronage and revenue impacts of increasing the current 25% off-peak discount

Options	Total patronage (million trips)	Fare revenue (\$ million GST exc)	Revenue impact for GW (\$ million GST exc)
Non-cumulative (adult and tertiary only – no benefit for other concessionary groups)			
35% off-peak discount	+ 0.3 (+1.0%)	- 1.1 (-1.5%)	- 0.6 (-0.7%)
50% off-peak discount	+ 1.0 (+2.9%)	- 3.0 (-4.0%)	- 1.5 (-2.0%)
Cumulative (concessionary groups only – including tertiary excluding adults)			
35% off-peak discount	+ 0.8 (+2.4%)	- 1.5 (-2.0%)	- 0.7 (-1.0%)
50% off-peak discount	+ 1.4 (+4.1%)	- 2.2 (-2.9%)	- 1.0 (-1.4%)
Cumulative (all groups)			
35% off-peak discount	+ 1.1 (+3.2%)	- 2.4 (-3.2%)	- 1.2 (-1.6%)
50% off-peak discount	+ 2.2 (+6.5%)	- 4.7 (-6.2%)	- 2.3 (-3.1%)

21. Percentages (%) in brackets are of total baseline patronage or fare revenue. Estimates assume the 50% Community Connect Concession will be available and fully funded under the scheme at the time of implementing the regional fare initiatives. The baseline

patronage and fare revenue data is adjusted to reflect the potential effect of the 50% Community Connect discount for CSC holders.

22. Estimates assume Snapper card or NTS will be available on all bus and rail services. Fare revenue impact for Greater Wellington assumes 51% Waka Kotahi funding contribution and 49% Greater Wellington share.

Impact on users

23. Tables below show how cumulative concessions and off-peak discounts could affect adults and concession holders.
24. The non-cumulative discounts will only affect adults and tertiary students as the current 25% discount level is lower than the proposed discounts of 35% and 50%.
25. Without compounding discounts:
 - a adult passengers and tertiary students will pay about 13% less with the 35% off-peak discount and about 33% less with the 50% off-peak discount.
 - b other concessionary groups including CSC holders (with the 50% Community Connect Concession) will not benefit from the proposed off-peak discounts as they all get 50% discount at all times.
26. By applying the off-peak discounts to concessions (or cumulative discounts):
 - a Adults and non-concessionary groups will still pay 13% less with the 35% off-peak discount and about 33% less with the 50% off-peak discount compared to their current fares
 - b All concessionary groups will get the proposed off-peak discount (35% or 50%) on top of their existing concessions.
27. Officers note that increasing off-peak discount would mean that tertiary students will pay 25% for their peak travel and 35% or 50% less for off-peak travel, under the non-cumulative scenario. The difference in the peak versus off-peak discount will be bigger under the cumulative scenario.
28. For tertiary students, the 50% non-cumulative off-peak discount equates to about 33% discount relative to the amounts they currently pay. This 33% is close to the 35% discount that they will receive under the 35% cumulative off-peak discount scenario.
29. Example of the 50% off-peak fares for concession holders and allowing the off-peak to compound with concession:

Total Discount during offpeak			1 Zone example				3 Zones Example				10 Zones example			
	Current discount level	Proposed discount level	Base adult peak fare	Current off-peak	Proposed off-peak	Price change	Base adult peak fare	Current off-peak	Proposed off-peak	Price change	Base adult peak fare	Current off-peak	Proposed off-peak	Price change
Adult	25%	50.0%	1.74	1.31	0.87	-33%	3.80	2.85	1.90	-33%	10.41	7.81	5.21	-33%
Tertiary	25%	62.5%	1.74	1.31	0.65	-50%	3.80	2.85	1.43	-50%	10.41	7.81	3.90	-50%
CSC / Accessibility / Child	50%	75.0%	1.74	0.87	0.44	-50%	3.80	1.90	0.95	-50%	10.41	5.21	2.60	-50%

30. Example of the 35% off-peak fares for concession holders and allowing the off-peak to compound with concession:

Total Discount during offpeak			1 Zone example				3 Zones Example				10 Zones example			
	Current discount level	Proposed discount level	Base adult peak fare	Current off-peak	Proposed off-peak	Price change	Base adult peak fare	Current off-peak	Proposed off-peak	Price change	Base adult peak fare	Current off-peak	Proposed off-peak	Price change
Adult	25%	35.0%	1.74	1.31	1.13	-13%	3.80	2.85	2.47	-13%	10.41	7.81	6.77	-13%
Tertiary	25%	51.3%	1.74	1.31	0.85	-35%	3.80	2.85	1.85	-35%	10.41	7.81	5.07	-35%
CSC / Accessibility / Child	50%	67.5%	1.74	0.87	0.57	-35%	3.80	1.90	1.24	-35%	10.41	5.21	3.38	-35%

31. Officers note that current and proposed discount levels are relative to base adult smartcard fares.

Potential impact on network and operations

- 32. The 2.2 million (or 6.5%) estimated patronage uplift for the cumulative application of 50% discount may require some consideration of potential localised capacity issues on some routes prior to, and after peak periods.
- 33. Increasing the current 25% off-peak discount to 50%, and applying this cumulatively to concessions, could potentially encourage an uplift in off-peak patronage of about 15% of the off-peak demand or 6% to 7% of total patronage, with a fare revenue loss of up to 20% of the off-peak fare revenue.
- 34. Considering the trip profile across the shoulder peak entering the interpeak period (specifically 9am and 2pm hours), the estimated uplift in patronage is considered a positive effect that could potentially help with providing extra shift work for peak drivers.
- 35. Considering the current off-peak capacity and relatively lower utilisation rate during off-peak hours, the current network is expected to be able to accommodate the estimated 15% increase in off-peak patronage.
- 36. However, increasing off-peak discount to 50% (or about 33% reduction in fares relative to current levels) is only expected to have a modest impact on ‘spreading the peak’ and reducing peak demand.
- 37. Any shift from peak to off-peak is likely to be also driven by those that have the ability to change to travel habits and working hours.
- 38. Officers will monitor the impacts of these policies on off-peak and shoulder-peak patronage, and the capacity impacts on individual routes, and believe that any potential need for additional capacity will be manageable through service changes.

RPTP amendment: definition of ‘off-peak’

- 39. In addition to the substantive question of off-peak discounts, the Subcommittee considered officers’ recommendation that the current Early Bird bus discount initiative be formally incorporated into the definition of off-peak through an amendment to the RPTP.
- 40. The Subcommittee agreed to recommend amending the current RPTP definition of off-peak for buses to “weekdays before 7 am, between 9 am and 3 pm and after 6.30 pm and all-day weekends and public holidays”.

41. This will have the effect, for bus users, of increasing the off-peak discount to before 7 am weekdays.

Free weekend travel for children when accompanied by their parent or guardian

42. Public consultation for the review proposed introducing a policy that allows children to travel free on buses and trains on weekends and public holidays when accompanied by their parent or guardian.
43. For Subcommittee deliberations, officers introduced a recommendation that a ‘carve out’ for premium services (ferry and Airport Express) be introduced to the proposed policy for fiscal and capacity reasons. For ferry, these related to contractual and financial implications for the ‘net contract’ model with the ferry operator.
44. For the Airport Express, these related to: capacity impacts on the service from the policy when airport arrivals are projected to exponentially increase as tourism resumes post-Covid; and financial impacts for Greater Wellington from the need to pay a per-passenger access fee to Wellington International Airport regardless of what fare a passenger had (or had not) paid for the service (see Report 22.315, paragraphs 52-61).
45. In deliberations, the Subcommittee resolved to further amend the policy to remove the need for the child to be accompanied by their parent or guardian.
46. While there was widespread public support for the initiative, a significant number of submitters argued for the removal of the “when accompanied by their parent or guardian” clause on human rights, equity and practicality grounds. These calls were echoed by submitters at the public hearings.
47. The Subcommittee resolved to recommend that Council agree a policy that allows children to travel free on non-premium services, buses and trains on weekends and public holidays, subject to Council being provided further advice regarding the funding implications of this decision.
48. The table in paragraph 49 provides patronage and fare revenue estimates for the free weekend travel for children unaccompanied. Modelling estimates a 0.7 million annual increase in trips, equating to over 60% uplift in total child weekend trips and +2.2% patronage increase. Estimating the effect of the adoption of this free fares policy has been challenging and, given the size of the target group, the estimated 60% uplift (which is at the highest quantum) is considered a relatively small and manageable impact.
49. Fare revenue impact has been modelled as negative \$0.6 million overall (0.8% of overall annual fare revenue), with a fare revenue impact on Greater Wellington of negative \$0.3 million (0.4% of impact) once Waka Kotahi’s funding contribution is factored in.

Options <i>(%s in brackets are of total baseline patronage or fare revenue)</i>	Total patronage <i>(million trips)</i>	Fare revenue <i>(\$ million GST exc)</i>	Fare revenue impact for GW <i>(\$ million GST exc)</i>
Free weekend travel for children	+ 0.7 (+2.1%)	- 0.6 (-0.9%)	- 0.3 (-0.4%)

50. The original initiative was expecting to have a sizeable degree of new adult travel to largely offset any child fares lost - hence it was relatively close to cost neutral.

51. In addition to the fare revenue impact, officers have commenced work to consider the operational and customer experience impacts of removing the need for the child to be accompanied by their parent or guardian in the policy. At the time of preparing this report, the operational and customer experience impacts are uncertain and officers are only able to refer to the experience in other regions from the introduction of similar policies.
52. Officers are mindful of the recent experience of Bay of Plenty Regional Council (BOPRC) where the unintended consequences of their introduction of an unrestricted child free-travel policy was considered by operators, NZ Police and BOPRC officers to have significantly contributed to escalating violence and anti-social behaviour on Tauranga bus routes. On 18 May 2022, BOPRC rescinded the policy, returning to the prior policy of free travel for school-aged children for the peak school-run period.
53. Greater Wellington officers do not expect that unrestricted child free-travel policy at weekends will have the same negative social impacts experienced in Tauranga. However, further consultation with operators, their staff and potentially unions will be required before officers are confident that all unintended consequences from implementation of this policy is considered, and an operational model for its roll-out is developed.
54. Officers recommend that a more conservative policy approach be maintained and that Council agrees in principle to introduce a policy that allows children to travel free on buses and trains on weekends and public holidays when accompanied by their parent or guardian. This has been modelled as a relatively cost neutral initiative.
55. In addition, officers recommend that this policy be implemented in FY23/24 to enable the development of an operational model for policy implementation with operators.

NTS account-based ticketing initiatives

56. Future Fares Direction consultation introduced the concepts of fare-capping and distance-based Integrated Fare Structure, both dependent on the implementation of the NTS. The Subcommittee noted general support for these initiatives and recommended that Council agree to:
 - a moving towards a fare capping approach, in the context of account-based ticketing in the National Ticketing Solution (NTS).
 - b developing and introducing an initial fare capping discount of 35 percent on a daily and weekly basis
 - c introducing a distance based Integrated Fare Structure
57. Decision-making for these initiatives is on a 'in principle' basis, with more detailed modelling, design and proposal analysis to be brought to Council and/or its Committees for further decision-making in the next triennium.

New targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel

58. Public consultation demonstrated strong support for the introduction of fares and ticketing initiatives for group, visitor, family, and event travel across the region.
59. Consultation suggested a range of initiatives which Metlink should explore including:

- a concessions for events and groups
 - b transport fares to be included within event ticketing prices
 - c family and other group concessions
 - d tourism concessions including a three day pass popular
 - e regional travel concessions and connectivity across modes.
60. Consultation emphasised that the system needs to be simple to access and understand with enhanced Snapper capability as a mechanism to achieve this.
61. Officers have been working closely with WellingtonNZ on sustainable tourism initiatives for the region and are in the process of completing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which will lead to the development of a series of tourism and travel initiatives.
62. A report on this joint initiative will be brought to Transport Committee on 22 September 2022.
63. With the public feedback on this initiative showing strong support for new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel across the region, officers recommend that this initiative be rolled into the developing work programme with WellingtonNZ and be reported to Council on an ongoing basis for the purposes of decision-making and planning.

Total Mobility interventions

64. While not included in the fares review consultation, the topic of Greater Wellington and central government support for Total Mobility was raised by a considerable number of submitters, rising to very large number when submissions through the Generation Zero campaign were factored in.
65. The general theme of these submissions was that Total Mobility services be subject to the same level of discounts as traditional PT services. There was also uncertainty as to whether Total Mobility customers are included in the recently announced Community Connect Scheme which affords a 50% discount to Community Service Card holders.
66. Deliberations noted that the Total Mobility scheme has been under review by the Ministry of Transport for some years and that progress with the review may be dependent on the proposed replacement of the Public Transport Operating Model with the proposed new Sustainable Public Transport Framework.
67. The Subcommittee requested that officers conduct further modelling, options analysis and discussions with the Ministry of Transport on potential additional support for Total Mobility for future Council decision-making, including investigating the potential for public transport authorities to procure their own fleets of total mobility vehicles to increase capacity, and report back to the Transport Committee.
68. In addition, the Subcommittee recommended that Council advocate to central government that the Community Services Card half price fares initiative be extended to include the Total Mobility scheme. Officers will progress this through working group forums with the Ministry of Transport and Waka Kotahi.

Ngā hua ahumoni Financial implications

69. Financial analysis in this report is confined to the shorter-term initiatives ‘off-peak fares package’ and free travel for children at weekends for which data and modelling exists.
70. Financial analysis for the longer-term ‘NTS account-based ticketing initiatives’ and ‘new targeted fares products for group, visitor, family and event travel’ will be presented for Council consideration and decision-making as those initiatives progress in the medium-term.
71. A summary of the financial impacts of the off-peak discount package are shown in the table below:

Fare initiative	Patronage (millions)		Fare revenue (\$ millions)	
	35%	50%	35%	50%
Off-peak discount (non-cumulative)	+0.3 (+1.0%)	+1.0 (+2.9%)	-1.1 (-1.5%)	-3.0 (-4.0%)
Compounding off-peak discounts with concessions	+0.8 (+2.4%)	+1.4 (+4.1%)	-1.5 (-2.0%)	-2.2 (-2.9%)
Total for cumulative off-peak discounts for all groups	+1.1 (+3.2%)	+2.2 (+6.5%)	-2.4 (-3.2%)	-4.7 (-6.2%)

72. Note that percentage (%)s in brackets are of total baseline patronage or fare revenue.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori Implications for Māori

73. The fares review aims to target groups within the community who may benefit from or rely on public transport services.
74. Māori will be positively impacted by the implementation providing more affordable Public Transport options. Further, the fares will be easier to use and understand. The changes will make Public Transport more accessible for all communities including Māori.
75. This contributes to the principles behind Te Tiriti o Waitangi: Partnership, Protection, and Participation. Public Transport allows Māori to travel affordably to places such as employment, social services, education, and culturally significant events.
76. Public Transport also aims to decrease the amount of greenhouse gas emissions in the environment which appeals to the protection of the environment which is important in te ao Māori given a special connection to the whenua (land).
77. The consultation on the Future Fares Direction gave Māori, mana whenua and other communities a voice to have their say and input into the implementation of the proposed fare initiatives.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi **Consideration of climate change**

78. The future fare system is expected to contribute to the Region's mode-shift and decarbonisation targets – by:
 - a Retaining the current public transport users
 - b Targeting groups with higher potential for mode-shift
 - c Targeting areas with lower public transport mode-share
 - d Competing with the cost of alternative non-sustainable modes of transport
 - e Targeting journeys with higher decongestion and decarbonisation benefits.
79. The principles advance the commitment to provide a low emissions public transport network.
80. The principles have no adverse implications for greenhouse gas emissions over their lifetime and therefore do not require an approach to reduce them.
81. Climate change impacts are unlikely to have any direct effect upon the fare structure and fare products over its lifetime.

Ngā tikanga whakatau **Decision-making process**

82. The subject matter of this report is part of a decision-making process that will lead to the Council making a decision of high significance within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga **Significance**

83. The subject matter of this report is part of a decision-making process that will lead to the Council making a decision of high significance within the meaning of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te whakatūtakitaki **Engagement**

84. The Significance and Engagement Policy criteria was used to determine that the appropriate level of engagement was to publicly consult on the proposed changes. Further detail on consultation and engagement processes and the results of the consultation were provided to the Subcommittee in Report 22.315.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei **Next steps**

85. Following adoption of the Future Fares Direction, all submitters will receive a final response confirming the decisions of the Council and a copy of the final Future Fares Direction.

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writers	Reza Chalabianlou – Senior Advisor, Strategy and Funding Emmet McElhatton – Manager, Policy Metlink
Approvers	Tim Shackleton – Manager, Metlink Commercial, Strategy and Investment Samantha Gain – General Manager, Metlink

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> Council is required to make decisions on fares changes.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> This aligns with the NTS programme of work identified in Greater Wellington's LTP. This also aligns with policies set out in the RPTP.
<i>Internal consultation</i> In preparing this report, consultation was undertaken with relevant officers including across the Metlink group, and Te Hunga Whiriwhiri.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known risks arising from the matter for decision.

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.342



For Decision

NATIONAL TICKETING SOLUTION PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT: DELEGATION TO TRANSPORT COMMITTEE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To request that Council delegates to the Transport Committee authority to:
 - a consider the proposed participation agreement (the P2 Agreement) between Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) and Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) which, if entered into, will commit Greater Wellington to implement the National Ticketing Solution (NTS).
 - b delegate to the Chief Executive authority to enter into the P2 Agreement.

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That Council:

- 1 **Notes** that the P2 Agreement between Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) and Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) sets out the governance, transition and operational arrangements of the National Ticketing Solution.
- 2 **Notes** that, once signed by all parties, the P2 agreement commits PTAs to implement the NTS within their region, subject to limited withdrawal rights.
- 3 **Notes** that there remain some residual issues around the NTS governance arrangements that need to be resolved prior to the P2 Agreement being ready for approval.
- 4 **Notes** that PTAs need to enter into the P2 Agreement prior to Waka Kotahi concluding a contract with the preferred ticketing supplier and the expected timing of this is before the next Council meeting.
- 5 **Delegates** to the Transport Committee authority to:
 - a **determine** Greater Wellington's formal commitment to implement the NTS when it becomes available, considering the benefits and risks of such a commitment; and
 - b **consider** the proposed participation agreement between Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency (Waka Kotahi) and Public Transport Authorities (PTAs) (P2 Agreement) which sets out governance, transition and operational

arrangements of the NTS and which commits Greater Wellington to implement the NTS subject to limited withdrawal rights.

- c **delegate** to the Chief Executive authority to enter into the P2 Agreement, subject to any requirements imposed by the Committee.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

2. In February 2016, Council endorsed Greater Wellington participating in a national partnership for the specification, procurement and implementation of ticketing solution(s) to meet the nationwide requirement
3. In August 2020, Council agreed to enter into Participation Agreement 1 (P1) which set out Council's in principle support for the national solution and agreement that Waka Kotahi would manage the procurement process on behalf of PTAs from that point onwards.
4. The procurement process for the ticketing supplier for the national solution has taken over 4 years and is now nearing completion. The agreement with the preferred ticketing supplier is in the final stages of negotiation and is expected to be finalised prior to 30 September 2022.
5. The NTS detailed business case was approved by the Waka Kotahi Board in July 2022.
6. A workshop was held in July 2022 with Councillors to advise of the benefits and risks associated with Greater Wellington's participation in the NTS.
7. The P2 Agreement requests formal commitment by PTAs to join the NTS noting that the contract counterparty with the ticketing supplier will be Waka Kotahi who will, in turn, provide ticketing services to PTAs. There are very limited provisions for Greater Wellington to withdraw from the P2 Agreement, once executed.
8. The signing of the P2 Agreement by PTAs will enable Waka Kotahi to sign the contract with the preferred ticketing supplier and therefore start planning transition. Waka Kotahi has advised that they intend to sign the preferred ticketing supplier contract by 30 September 2022.
9. The next Council meeting is scheduled to be held on 6 October 2022, which is after the date of preferred signing date.
10. The next Transport Committee meeting is scheduled to be held on 22 September 2022, which is before the preferred signing date.
11. If Council delegates powers to the Transport Committee in this instance, the preferred signing date will be able to be met.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

12. There are no financial implications stemming from the decisions made in this report.
13. Subject to Council's delegation, the Transport Committee will be provided with financial implications when it considers the P2 report.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori
Implications for Māori

14. There are no implications for Māori.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi
Consideration of climate change

15. The matter for decision in this report was considered by officers in accordance with the process set out in Greater Wellington’s Climate Change Consideration Guide.

Mitigation and adaptation assessments

16. The matter for decision in this report is of a procedural nature, and there is no need to conduct climate change assessments.

17. The Transport Committee will be provided with climate change implications when it considers the P2 report – noting that this project is a key initiative proposed by central Government under the Emission Reduction Plan 2022.

Ngā tikanga whakatao
Decision-making process

18. The matter requiring decision in this report was considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga
Significance

19. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of the matter, taking into account Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy and Greater Wellington’s Decision-making Guidelines. Officers consider that the matter is of low significance due to its procedural nature.

Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement

20. Officers are working with Waka Kotahi on the timely PTA approval of the P2 Agreement.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

21. A report will be presented to the Transport Committee at its 22 September meeting.

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writer	Nicki Lau Young – Manager, NTS
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Approvers	Tim Shackleton – Manager, Commercial, Strategy and Investments Samantha Gain – General Manager, Metlink
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He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> Council has authority under the Local Government Act 2002 to issue delegations, and specify conditions, except on matters it is not legally able to delegate.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> Integrated Ticketing and the National Ticketing Solution are set out in the Long Term Plan and Regional Public Transport Plan
<i>Internal consultation</i> There was consultation with the Legal department.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> This decision is procedural and therefore no risks are associated with this decision. The Transport Committee will receive a report on the benefits and risks associated with entering P2 Agreement as part of the P2 report.

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.373



For Decision

LOW CARBON ACCELERATION FUND ROUND ONE 2022-23 RECOMMENDATIONS

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To advise the Council of applications to the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (LCAF) and the Climate Committee's recommendations regarding them.

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That Council:

1. **Approves** the allocation of a \$39,500 grant from the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund to the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust for fuel switching, energy efficiency and renewable energy project feasibility studies at Sky Stadium.
2. **Approves** the allocation of \$550,000 to Metlink from the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund to convert a diesel bus to a battery electric drive train, establish charging facilities for it, and put it into operation in the Metlink fleet.

Consideration by Committee

2. At its meeting on 16 August 2022, the Climate Committee considered the two applications and recommended that Council approves the allocation of LCAF funding to the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust (WRST) and Metlink.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

3. The LCAF is funding borrowed against the value of Council's 255,660 free allocation New Zealand Units (NZUs), or emissions units, gifted to it by the government for its pre-1990 forests at the inception of the NZ Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS).
4. In February 2022, Council agreed to expand the total amount of funding under the LCAF to reflect the increasing value of Council's free allocation NZUs (Low Carbon Acceleration Fund - Report 22.66). Council also agreed to limit the funding to no more than 70 percent of the present value of the Council's 255,660 free allocation NZUs across all LCAF projects, past and present, determined by the current NZU spot price at the time of funding decisions.

5. At the time of writing, the spot price of NZUs is \$80.60. If the Council's free allocation NZUs were sold at this price, they would net \$20.6 million.
6. \$8 million from the LCAF has been allocated to parks restoration work, including the restoration of the wetlands and dune forest at Queen Elizabeth Park and for forest planting at Kaitoke Regional Park.
7. Therefore, the total funding available within the 70 percent cap is \$6.4 million at the time of writing. Unless the price of NZUs rises, this is the total unallocated funding from the LCAF that can be used. The LCAF is not an annual or continuous source of funding and therefore is better suited to establishing low carbon assets than covering operating costs.
8. There are two funding rounds planned for the LCAF in 2022/23, this current one and another in six months' time.
9. In this first round, proposals were put forward by Metlink and WRST. These were assessed against the LCAF funding criteria by officers of the Climate Emergency Response Programme Board. Options put forward for consideration by Climate Committee were assessed as meeting the LCAF funding criteria. The proposals are provided in [Attachment 1](#) and [Attachment 2](#).
10. The criteria approved by Council are for projects that:
 - a Will reduce Greater Wellington's corporate carbon footprint
 - b Are additional carbon savings that would not otherwise have occurred (or occurred as soon).
11. Projects are favoured if they:
 - a Have a high value of carbon saved per dollar of funding
 - b Have additional benefits – e.g., biodiversity, flood protection, public amenity, carbon savings that accrue to others
 - c Are of strategic significance to achieving carbon reduction goals
 - d Have a high likelihood of being successfully delivered.
12. At their meeting on 16 August 2022, the Climate Committee considered officers' recommendations regarding which applications should be funded, agreed with these and resolved to put the final decision to Council, as per the agreed process for the LCAF.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

13. The Climate Committee recommends that the application from WRST ([Attachment 1](#) - Sky Stadium Energy Transition Plan) be approved. This is to investigate and develop business cases for decarbonisation projects. The application meets LCAF criteria and has a high likelihood of developing implementation-ready projects with relatively low \$/tonne cost. The funding requested is also very small relative to the fund.
14. The Climate Committee also recommend that Metlink's application for a diesel to EV bus conversion is approved as this meets LCAF criteria and takes a positive step towards a fully electric bus fleet. The bus that would be converted would be a 'transferring asset'

at the end of the current service contract period (2027) i.e. transferred into Greater Wellington ownership or to a third-party service provider, ensuring it would continue in service on the Metlink network. Due to commercial sensitivity, **Attachment 2** - Metlink diesel bus conversion to electric application – has been circulated to councillors separately.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

15. The total value of the recommended projects is \$589,500. This includes the WRST energy project investigation (\$39,500), and diesel to EV bus conversion of a single unit (\$550,000).
16. This will leave \$5.8 million of funding available. There are prospective projects that may be eligible for the second LCAF round. These could include renewable energy, fuel switching and energy efficiency projects at Wellington Stadium, additional diesel to EV bus conversions and renewable energy projects such as solar power installations within Council operations.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

17. There are no implications specifically for Māori as a consequence of this matter.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi

Consideration of climate change

18. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered in accordance with the process set out in Greater Wellington's climate change guidance.

Ngā tikanga whakatau

Decision-making process

19. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga

Significance

20. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of these matters, taking into account Council's *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington's *Decision-making Guidelines*. Officers consider that these matters are of low significance as they have only a minor impact on residents and ratepayers and they do not affect Greater Wellington's ability to perform its role.

Te whakatūtakitaki

Engagement

21. Given the low significance of the matters for decision, officers considered that no related public engagement was required.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

22. If Council approves the allocation of funding, the applicants will be informed so they can commence their projects. Their grants will be transferred to them when they require them.

Ngā āpitihanga

Attachments

Number	Title
1	Sky Stadium Energy Transition Plan – LCAF application
2	Metlink diesel bus conversion to electric – LCAF application (circulated separately)

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writer	Jake Roos – Climate Change Advisor
Approvers	Tracy Plane – Manager, Strategic and Corporate Planning Luke Troy – General Manager, Strategy Samantha Gain – General Manager, Metlink

<p style="text-align: center;">He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations</p>
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>Council has the authority to approve grants.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>Operation of the LCAF relates to one of the four overarching strategic priorities of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan - responding to the climate emergency - and to actions in the Corporate Carbon Neutrality Action Plan.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>Council staff and WRST staff were made aware of the opportunity to apply to the LCAF for eligible carbon-reduction projects.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>There are no risk and impacts arising from this paper.</p>



Greater Wellington Regional Council
Climate Committee
14 June 2022

Application to the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund

Applicant

This application is made by the Wellington Regional Stadium Trust (WRST or the Trust).

WRST is responsible for the planning, development, ownership, operation, and maintenance of Sky Stadium.

Sky Stadium is New Zealand's premier multi-purpose outdoor sports and events facility. Situated in the heart of the region on the Wellington waterfront, the venue is an iconic landmark with seated capacity for 34,500 people. The Stadium is home to rugby, football, cricket, and rugby league, as well as concerts, exhibitions, entertainment events and hospitality functions.

In a standard year, unaffected by Covid 19, Sky Stadium hosts over 50 major events and welcomes over 500,000 people through its doors, making it the busiest stadium in New Zealand.

Proposed Project

Sky Stadium – Energy Transition Plan

In 2021 WRST completed its first Carbon Footprint calculation for Sky Stadium. This assessment confirmed, as was expected, that electricity usage and stationary fuels are the venues biggest contributing emitters of carbon, making up over 50% of Sky Stadiums emissions.

To help WRST understand what modifications should be implemented across the venue to make the biggest carbon emission reduction, while considering the financial cost of each project, WRST have engaged an engineering consultancy that specialises in energy and carbon management. The consultant WRST have engaged has experience working on similar projects at other stadia in New Zealand and with other large buildings and facilities that are embarking on the same journey as WRST and Sky Stadium.

WRST has received a detailed proposal from the consultant to develop an Energy Transition Plan for Sky Stadium. The development of the Energy Transition Plan is expected to take between 8-12 weeks to complete. This project would enable WRST to make technically and commercially viable investment decisions that will support the transition to a low carbon energy future.

The primary deliverable of the Energy Transition Plan project would be the development of an energy transition pathway and roadmap for WRST, to reduce energy-related carbon emissions over the next 10 + years. This would include identifying, quantifying, and prioritising opportunities for carbon reduction in the following areas:

1. Building utilisation
2. Energy efficiency

Wellington Regional Stadium Trust
105 Waterloo Quay, PO Box 2080 Wellington 6140, New Zealand +64 4 473 3881
skystadium.co.nz

3. Fuel switching
4. Generation of energy on-site.

The key elements of the project are.

Data Analysis and Research

Retrieve and analyse energy, asset, sub-metering, building management system (BMS) and other relevant site data to develop a detailed understanding of the following:

- Energy consumption, costs, and associated carbon emissions for the organisation
- The condition of energy related assets, and any planned dates for replacement/upgrade
- Focus areas for further investigation during the site investigations.

The consultant would also develop baselines for energy and carbon performance. They would then research and compare these values to best practice where data is available.

Site Investigations

A detailed site investigation of Sky Stadium would be undertaken. The site visit would include:

- An initial brief site walk-through with experienced staff to give an overview of the energy systems and end uses.
- Detailed investigations of the buildings plant, and controls, including interviews with key operational staff.
- A closure meeting with the client to discuss site visit findings.

This would allow the consultant to establish an understanding of:

- Operational strategy and long-term asset management plans
- Building utilisation and potential utilisation improvement opportunities
- Energy efficiency, demand reduction and heat recovery improvement opportunities
- Fuel switching opportunities (such as hot water or air heat pumps, electric ovens, and electro-boilers)
- On-site generation opportunities

Technical and Financial Analysis

The consultant would undertake analysis to determine the practical and financial feasibility of the emissions reduction opportunities identified in the steps above. This would then provide the building blocks for an energy transition pathway, including development of a marginal abatement cost curve (MACC).

The consultant would first complete a mass and energy balance to form the basis for quantifying opportunities. Then for each opportunity identified they would determine the following (where applicable):

- Operating costs – energy, carbon, maintenance, and labour costs
- Capital costs – replacement equipment/plant, project delivery costs and any potential funding subsidies
- Practicality – space requirements, security of energy supply, reliability, maintainability, and redundancy.

Capital costs for near term opportunities (less than 2 – 3 years), would be costed to a high level of accuracy that would allow WRST to move to the business case stage if desired. Capital costs for longer-term opportunities (greater than 3 years), would be costed to a lower level of accuracy that would allow WRST to include these in long-term planning.

At the completion of the Sky Stadium – Energy Transition Plan project, WRST would receive a comprehensive report outlining the findings and recommended next steps, including detailed technical and financial analysis. This report would provide WRST the information needed to start implementing change to the venue and that will significantly reduce the carbon emissions of Sky Stadium.

Alternatives If Not Funded

As it currently stands, WRST does not have an alternative funding option for this project. Due to the financial impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic on the events and entertainment sector WRST is currently in a rebuilding phase, with events only just starting to return to normal.

Carbon Reduction

The focus of this project will be to identify key areas that WRST can invest in to make the biggest carbon reduction impacts to financial spend over the coming years. The project will outline a long-term suite of actions that WRST can implement, as funding is available, to make significant carbon reductions across the business.

Until the feasibility work is completed by the consultant, it is difficult for WRST to provide an indication of what the Trusts carbon reductions will be.

An example of the roadmap output is shown below including some of the opportunities the Trust would expect to identify based on the work carried out by the consultant.

Sky Stadium

Category	Opportunity	Year	Emissions Savings		Remaining emissions
			(t/yr)	(%)	
	Baseline emissions	2021	-	0%	100% (547 t CO ₂ -e/yr)
Building Utilisation	Optimise utilisation of buildings A & B	2022	5	1%	99%
	Optimise utilisation of buildings C & D	2022	5	1%	98%
	Building tuning	2022	27	5%	93%
Energy efficiency	LED upgrade	2023	30	5%	87%
	HVAC heat recovery	2023	11	2%	85%
	Building fabric upgrades	2023	27	5%	80%
Fuel switching	Option 1: Biomass	2024	211	39%	42%
	Option 2: Heat pump technology	2024	185	34%	47%
	Option 3: Electric	2024	122	22%	58%
Energy supply	Solar PV	2025	22	4%	38%
	Grid Emissions Factor	2030	63	12%	37%
Total			313-402	57%-74%	

Costs

The cost to WRST, to contract the expertise of the consultant's carbon management engineers, to develop the Sky Stadium – Energy Transition Plan is \$39,500.00 excl. GST.

WRST does not have any other funding budgeted to complete this work and is seeking the full amount to be funded by the GW Low Carbon Acceleration Fund.

Co-benefits

There will be no co-benefits from this project.

Risks

There are no significant risks to the completion of this project.

Carbon Calculations

No carbon calculations have been carried out yet. The feasibility work that the consultant will do for WRST as part of the Energy Transition Plan will include carbon reduction calculations.

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.329



For Information

THREE WATERS UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform Council of Greater Wellington's involvement to date with the Three Waters reform process, and next steps being taken by officers.

Te horopaki

Context

2. In July 2020 the Government launched the Three Waters Reform Programme with the ambition of significantly improving the safety, quality, resilience, accessibility, and performance of three waters services, in ways that are efficient and affordable for New Zealanders. The Three Waters Reform Programme is a major, intergenerational project.
3. The Government has developed a reform programme that seeks to transform the current system for delivering three waters services and infrastructure. It aims to ensure that New Zealand's three waters — drinking water, wastewater and stormwater — infrastructure and services are planned, maintained and delivered so that these networks are affordable and fit for purpose.
4. The reforms are being progressed through a comprehensive suite of legislation, the first component of which is the Water Services Entities (WSE) Bill followed by further legislation to provide for the specific powers, functions, and responsibilities of the entities, economic regulation and consumer protection, and details relating to the transfer of assets, liabilities, and employees from local authorities to new WSE.
5. Greater Wellington is affected by the reform as it provides bulk drinking water through Wellington Water Limited (WWL). Greater Wellington also has a key responsibility to provide flood protection to our communities that intersects with the outcomes of the stormwater management as part of three waters.
6. The reform is expected to lead to the transfer of accountability for delivery of three waters from councils to the new WSE on 1 July 2024 and this will include councils transferring staff, services, debt, assets and income associated with three waters.

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

7. Greater Wellington officers have been providing input into the reform to help deliver the best outcomes for our communities. Greater Wellington's engagement in the

process to date is outlined below along with subsequent processes expected in coming months and years.

Submissions

Economic Regulation & Consumer Protection for Three Waters Services

8. In December 2021, Greater Wellington contributed to a joint regional submission on economic regulation & consumer protection (refer [Attachment 1](#)).
9. It was developed with input from councils within the Wellington Region, WWL and external experts on economic regulation and consumer protections.
10. The areas for consideration were:
 - a Information disclosure regulation so consumers are able to assess how the performance of their Water Service Entity compares to others
 - b Economic regulation to control price and quality of services in the long-term interest of consumers
 - c Requiring the economic regulator to set a strong efficiency challenge to ensure that water services are as affordable as possible, and incentivise high quality consumer engagement
 - d Enabling a consumer protection regulator to set minimum service level and provide protections for vulnerable consumers
 - e Establishing a dedicated three waters consumer dispute resolution scheme.

Water Service Entities Bill (WSE Bill):

11. The WSE Bill is the first piece of legislation to enact the Three Waters reform and was introduced to Parliament on 2 June 2022.
12. The Bill sets out the ownership, governance, accountability arrangements relating to these entities and includes essential provisions for ongoing public ownership and engagement and safeguards against future privatisation and the geographical boundaries for the four entities and provides for transitional arrangements to ensure these are in place to deliver services from 1 July 2024.
13. The Bill is aligned with key recommendations made by the Working Group on Representation, Governance and Accountability including ensuring a stronger community voice in the new entities.
14. Greater Wellington made a submission to the Finance and Expenditure Committee on 22 July 2022 (refer [Attachment 2](#)). The submission focused on five key areas:
 - a The impact of establishing the WSE on Greater Wellington
 - b Planning
 - c Stormwater management
 - d Land assets
 - e Regional representative groups

Request For Information (RFI):

15. Greater Wellington has continued to deliver the Requests for Information (RFIs) that the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) and/or the National Transition Unit (NTU) have asked of us. The information provided in the RFIs is helping DIA understand and plan for the new WSE to take over in July 2024.
16. The RFIs completed in 2022 and in collaboration with WWL and shareholding Councils are:
 - a Data and Digital Information
 - b Legal and Commerce (Greater Wellington was one of 17 councils to complete this RFI)
 - c Local people and Workforce
 - d Resource Management Act compliance (Resource consent register).

Better-Off Funding Support Package:

17. The Better-off funding package is an investment by the Crown into the future for local government and community wellbeing and in recognition of the significance to the local government sector of the transfer of responsibility for water service delivery.
18. The \$2 billion package has been pre-allocated to councils based on a nationally consistent formula and has been made available in two tranches. The first \$500 million of Crown Funding is available from 1 July 2022 and the remaining \$1.5 billion is available from 1 July 2024.
19. Greater Wellington was allocated a total of \$20.31m. Tranche 1 is 25 percent (\$5.08m) of that total.
20. The DIA released the guide to the better-off funding package for local authorities in April 2022. The guide set out some key criteria for councils to meet in order to have their funding applications approved, including supporting transition to a low-emissions economy; delivering infrastructure and services that supports housing or local place-making.
21. After refining a register of 25 proposed initiatives, by assessing their alignment with the criteria, their expected outcomes, the costs, risks and issues; five initiatives were selected to be applied for. The initiatives demonstrate a wide variety of benefits for communities across the region and proactively contribute to the Strategic Framework and Māori Outcomes Framework outlined in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.
22. The initiatives are:
 - a Public Transport: Electric Bus Depot Feasibility and Design - This project intends to accelerate the decarbonisation of the bus fleet through rapid development of permanent, well located EV charging infrastructure.
 - b Nursery development(s) - Helping mana whenua partners establish nurseries to support their aspirations expressed through the 2024-34 Long Term Plan development. The nurseries will provide opportunities for education, skill development and local economic return, as well as supplying plants needed for restoration projects.

- c Storytelling in Regional Parks - The storytelling project will support manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga and enhance experiences, with individual projects developed in liaison with mana whenua and others.
 - d Environmental outcomes data platform - A significant data platform integrated with external data sources and presenting layers, building a capability that is fast forwarding Greater Wellington's environmental data maturity, in collaboration with Environment Canterbury.
 - e Carbon data management system implementation - This project is to implement an efficient and fit-for-purpose carbon data management system. It aims to improve the collection, analysis, verification, secure storage, reporting, communication and use of Greater Wellington's greenhouse gas emissions data.
23. The application describes in more detail the initiatives and the wellbeing outcomes (refer [Attachment 3](#)).

Council Transition Support Funding:

24. On 19 July 2022 the Government announced it is providing a further \$44 million to support councils transition to the Three Waters. Greater Wellington has been allocated \$523,000. (refer [Attachment 4](#)).
25. This transition funding is in addition to the wider Government support for the Three Waters Reform package, which includes \$500 million in Better Off funding.
26. Through this funding each council, regardless of their size, will receive \$350,000 over 12 months with further funding allocated based on the 'Better Off' funding method.

Staff impacts

27. The NTU has been working with Councils to identify staff that will be directly impacted by the establishment of the new WSE. The consultation with staff for feedback on the proposed staff transition guidelines closed 22 August 2022.
28. It is expected to have no impact on Greater Wellington as there are no Greater Wellington officers with a primary role relating to three waters. All bulk water functions were transferred to WWL. WWL employees will be impacted by this transition to the WSE and are working with the NTU on this.

Outstanding issues to work through

The repeal of Acts

29. The Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972 and Wellington Water Board Functions Act will be repealed and replaced by new legislation.
30. Both Greater Wellington and DIA have examined the provisions to identify any that will need to be carried through to new legislation and/or those that aren't required due to other Acts already prevailing.
31. Some financial provisions have been identified that will need to be covered by transitional provisions, however all other aspects of the existing legislation can be repealed. The general powers of the Local Government Act 2002 provide sufficient powers to manage remaining land assets.

32. Greater Wellington has been working with DIA on the proposed new legislation to ensure land, such as the water catchments and Regional Park land (Akatarawa and Pakuratahi forests), continue to be recognised as Greater Wellington owned and managed.

Subsequent legislation

33. In late 2022, we are expecting to see the first draft of the second Bill which will outline the transfer of assets.

Water catchment land assets

34. Greater Wellington has several key land assets that are managed for the purpose of providing safe, clean drinking water. Two of these are the Wainuiomata catchment and the Hutt catchment, both of which adjoin Regional Parks.
35. We understand the principles being applied to asset transfers are that only those essential to water functions will be transferred. The view expressed by the NTU and DIA at this stage is that the new WSEs are not looking to acquire land unless there is significant rationale to do so.
36. Greater Wellington has provided a strong rationale for the continued ownership and management of the water catchments, utilising MoUs or service level agreements with the WSE to maintain the high level of biosecurity, biodiversity and other management services that contribute to high standards of drinking water.
37. Another land asset that Greater Wellington owns is the Pakuratahi Farmland (otherwise known as Ag Research Land) in Upper Hutt, north of the Te Marua lakes. The land was purchased and is held for potential future water storage.
38. Greater Wellington has been told to continue business as usual until after the WSE is established, and then to have the discussions with the WSE about the requirements for the land, as other options for water storage/collection may be a better alternative. If that is the case, Greater Wellington will be able to consult on other uses for the land.

Asset Management Plans (AMPs)

39. AMPs will need to be developed by the Local Establishment Entities coming together with the multiple asset management plans already in existence.
40. The NTU's asset management workstream will develop national guidance such as:
 - a National three waters code of practice
 - b National Level of Service Performance Framework
 - c Consistent asset data standards for transition
 - d AMP and infrastructure framework
 - e Growth development and connections approval framework.
41. Utilising these guidance documents will assist in pulling together the various AMPs which will consider how to optimise the spend profile and where things can be smoothed.
42. The entity AMPs will have Funding Plans conjointly developed ready for consultation alongside the 2024-34 LTP. The iterative AMP work with Finance for the Funding Plan

will address issues round affordability with the timing of proposed projects adjusted should any “smoothing” of AMPs and capital and renewals works programmes be required.

43. Draft AMPs for each of the WSEs will be ready for public consultation by June 2023 and the finalised AMPs completed by June 2024.
44. Greater Wellington will work closely with WWL and the NTU on the AMP for our bulk water supply. This may have budget implications that need to be considered as part of the Annual Plan.

Service Level Agreements

45. Greater Wellington currently uses service agreements with WWL to ensure the collection of high-quality water for its customers.
46. The agreements are for services that involve activities such as (but not all):
 - a Biodiversity management (the control of pest animals and ecological weeds that threaten the quality or quantity of water supplied by the catchments)
 - b Terrestrial and Hydrological monitoring (Monitoring done at a number of river and groundwater sites focusing on health of the vegetative cover, effectiveness of pest control activities undertaken in the area and maintaining surveillance of threats to the forest health)
 - c Rainfall monitoring (The Regional Rainfall Monitoring Strategy)
 - d Park Ranger services for the water catchments (Maintenance and inspections, cleaning of bridges, roads, signs, culverts and mowing, checking water tables, as well as vegetation control etc).
47. There are approximately twelve different agreements that need to be updated, revised and collated into a single agreement that can be transferred to the new WSE in order to continue the supply of high-quality drinking water to communities without disruption.

Transfer of Three Waters Debt

48. By end of September 2022 it is expected the NTU will provide Greater Wellington with a proforma key financial information template, which will have to be completed by mid-October based on the council accounts as at 30 June 2022.
49. The NTU aims to agree and confirm three waters debt levels as at 30 June 2022 with Councils by 31 March 2023, having given councils the opportunity to review the debt calculation approach with the NTU. The process will be updated in 2023 by repeating the template from September 2022.
50. A similar process will be used to determine the final three waters debt position for each council as of 30 June 2024; recognising that the final outcomes will not be known until after completion of councils’ audited accounts as at 30 June 2024.
51. The NTU is currently seeking confirmation of the accounting treatments of the reform for councils and the new Water Service Entities. Any tax impacts will be shared with Councils when received.

52. The NTU has advised that Councils should continue to manage their financial and treasury position as they usually would, with the expectation of receiving cash payments on or about 1 July 2024.
53. Councils should also expect that specific debt instruments will be retained by councils. The NTU is aware of the potential for issues regarding the receipt of large payments and the ability of councils to apply payments they receive to retire debt they currently hold. The NTU is considering options to allow flexibility around the timing and phasing of payments.

Stormwater

54. The primary responsibility for stormwater (as one of the three waters) will be with WSEs and they will have to assess, monitor, maintain, upgrade, and operate the stormwater infrastructure. WSEs will have to work closely with TAs and regional councils to manage what enters the stormwater system.
55. A dedicated stormwater team was set with the DIA Policy team and the NTU to develop the future of the stormwater system partnering with councils. Additionally, two technical working groups were set up, one from TAs' stormwater technical staff and one made up of regional council and unitary authority staff working in stormwater and flood management. These groups have been working through the detail of transferring stormwater responsibilities to WSEs and what is retained by local government.
56. How the stormwater aspect of three waters will be transferred is still problematic and has not been articulated in legislation. Recently LGNZ has advocated for stormwater to be removed from the legislation, however this has not been actioned or even further discussed with councils. If it were to be considered, it would be problematic for councils as there is likely to be insufficient staff capacity remaining to manage and even more so for WWL shareholding councils once their staff are transferred to the new WSE, leaving no one to manage stormwater.
57. Legislation needs to provide more clarity on the purpose and content of the interface agreements between the WSE, TAs and Regional Councils. Clarity about which watercourses are managed by whom and the level of service that will be provided needs to be clearer for the community.
58. The link to Te Mana o te Wai provides some of direction but it's not clear in legislation. The new WSE will be driven by the Water Regulator and the Economic Regulator, but this does not appear to be a wide enough in scope to achieve outcomes that deliver on social, cultural, environmental and/or economic outcomes.
59. On 23 June 2022 Council discussed the potential opportunities and challenges arising for stormwater management. These are reflected in the following key issues that are continuing to be investigated:
 - a A review of the Watercourses Agreement will be needed to turn it into an interface agreement between Greater Wellington and the new WSE. The agreement will need to clearly articulate which watercourses and which parts will be managed by who, and to what level of service.
 - b There needs to be a clear link between the role of stormwater management plans and more wholistic catchment management planning as stormwater activities

have significant impacts on the wider catchment. The WSE will be directed to prepare stormwater management plans. However, Greater Wellington could be better placed to prepare holistic catchment plans.

- c The WSE is being set up to deliver large-scale physical works and there may be an opportunity to work together, with the WSE undertaking some of our delivery on our behalf.

60. The NTU has circulated the current programme timeline:

Activity	December 2022 Water Entities Service Bill passes	June 2023	December 2023 Water Entities Service amendment Bill (Bill 2 passes)	June 2024 Day 1
Transfer of SW assets and interests	Allocation schedule process confirmed (Transfer Principles) Confirm SW assets and Interest	Support councils to identify SW assets Methodology to identify and map SW system SW input to allocation (of assets and interests) schedule		Transfer of assets and Interests
Allocation of roles and responsibilities	Identify interface issues, and test with technical working groups to workshop and confirm allocation of roles and responsibilities Confirm SW roles and responsibilities	Support development of relationship agreements with territorial authorities, regional councils and transport corridor managers		Relationship agreements in place
Contracting arrangements for rural drainage	Confirm and develop contracting arrangements (templates, and client arrangements) Engagement with councils e.g. regional clusters		Support negotiation of contracts with councils (TBC)	Contracts in Place
Development of SW Management Plans	Develop template for SW Management Plans	Confirm approach and timeline for prioritisation	Develop first tranche of SW Management Plans	
Stormwater rules	Methodology, approach and timeline for development confirmed	Develop draft of SW rules	Final drafts of SW rules Consultation	Adoption of SW rules (by Establishment CE)

Elections

- 61. In 2023 national elections will take place and any change to the Government could have significant changes to the Three Waters reform. This risk will need to be carefully managed as it will impact the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process as well as the next Revenue and Finance Policy review.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori Implications for Māori

- 62. Government has a comprehensive process of engagement with mana whenua as part of the three waters reform process.
- 63. The process for Tranche 1 of the Better-off funding was too short to allow active engagement with mana whenua partners. Instead, the process used the information collected during the development of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, which captured a range of mana whenua aspirations which we were able to apply to this process.
- 64. There will be sufficient lead time to allow more meaningful engagement with our mana whenua partners in advance of Tranche 2 of the Better-off funding, which should become available from July 2024.

Te whakatūtakitaki Engagement

65. Public engagement about the Three Waters reform is being led by DIA.
66. Few Councils around the country have run their own public engagement processes, and those that have, have done it as an information gathering exercise as DIA has instructed the process for reform, removing the decision making process from local authorities.
67. Greater Wellington is not proposing to undertake any additional engagement but Greater Wellington has offered its support all the TAs in the Wellington Region to assist them with any engagement processes they may run with their communities.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei Next steps

68. There is still a lack of clarity for the roadmap ahead including process, timing, key deliverables and resource requirements of reforms.
69. It is expected that the second piece of legislation (Bill #2) will be released later this year and Greater Wellington is expecting to make a submission on it. A council workshop will be arranged once more information is available.
70. An 'Allocation schedule' is expected to be sent to all Councils before the year end. This schedule will define what assets will and will not be transferring to the new WSE and possible the expected timeframes for when they do.
71. The process to understand the transferring of three waters debt is beginning. In September, we are expecting to receive a proforma key financial information template which will need to be completed by mid-October based on the council accounts as of 30 June 2022.

Ngā āpitihanga Attachments

Number	Title
1	Economic Regulation & Consumer Protection for Three Waters Services
2	Water Service Entities Bill submission
3	Better-off funding application
4	Funding support for Councils

Ngā kaiwaitohu Signatories

Writer	Kyn Drake – Project Manager
Approvers	Sue McLean – General Manager, Corporate Services Luke Troy – General Manager, Strategy

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> It is appropriate for Council to be kept informed about the reform process.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> None – however the Three Waters reform will have significant impacts to the upcoming 2024-34 Long Term Plan.
<i>Internal consultation</i> None
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known risks or impacts arising from this report.

Submission on economic regulation and consumer protection for three waters services in New Zealand

This submission is made on behalf of councils in the Wellington region

- Carterton District Council
- Greater Wellington Regional Council
- Hutt City Council
- Kapiti Coast District Council
- Masterton District Council
- Porirua City Council
- South Wairarapa District Council
- Upper Hutt City Council
- Wellington City Council

We would welcome the opportunity to discuss this submission with Ministry of Business, Innovation, and Employment and be involved in ongoing policy development processes.

Our contacts for service and further discussions:

- Wendy Walker, CEO Porirua City Wendy.walker@poriruacity.govt.nz ; or
- Dougal List, Project Director, Wellington Water Reforms, Dougal.list@poriruacity.govt.nz ph. 021 242 8716

Executive summary of our submission

1. **Support for economic regulation:** The Wellington councils support the need for economic regulation and consumer protection as part of the Government's wider three waters reforms. We see that economic regulation and consumer protection in relation to the proposed Water Services Entities (WSE) is important to ensure:
 - fair and transparent pricing
 - incentivisation and transparency of performance
 - increased efficiencies, over time
 - an investment pathway for addressing long-term issues (rather than ad-hoc and reactive decision making)
 - consumers have clear channels for raising issues and can have confidence in fairness of pricing
 - effective resolution of disputes.
2. **Local Government feedback:** Through the 8-week engagement process, led by the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) councils have each raised a number of issues and concerns in relation to water reforms which are relevant to economic regulation.

We recommend that the feedback received from local government through the DIA engagement process is closely considered as part of determining options for economic regulation.
3. **Integrated and bespoke approach:** Economic regulation for water must be carefully designed as part of the wider three waters reforms. This includes how it relates to the wider design of legislation and

system stewardship arrangements; representation and governance; planning integration processes; how economic regulation works with the other water regulators to give economic effect to their requirements; and transition processes and timing, (this has a direct bearing on the capacity and capability of WSEs to meet economic regulation requirements).

We recommend that MBIE continues to work closely with DIA and local government to ensure economic regulation will be fully integrated and aligned with the design and policy decisions of the water reforms. Particular attention should be given to the wider community benefits and environmental outcomes expected.

4. **Focus economic regulation on the WSE:** Our view is that revenue control and investment scrutiny should focus on the four proposed WSE, rather than other smaller rural and community-based providers and schemes. This is to ensure that the regulation model focuses on where it can have the greatest benefit, is cost effective and can be effectively resourced. We note that economic regulation for water will require a different approach to that seen in other regulated sectors. The three waters are inherently more complex than those utilities currently regulated by the Commerce Commission.

We recommend that economic regulation focuses on WSEs and is designed to respond to the specific issues relevant to water.

5. **Consumers:** The discussion document does not adequately define the range of consumers, services provided to each consumer group, and whether these services are supplied by a WSE or another body. Defining what is meant by a consumer and understanding the range and variability of water consumers will be critical to successfully developing a regulatory framework that advances the long-term interests of consumers.

We recommend that further consideration and focus is given to defining consumer groups, services, and the role and statutory powers of WSE and economic regulation in relation to each group.

6. **Broader outcomes:** In addition to efficiency, investment by the WSE must also balance meeting regulatory requirements and delivery of broader social, cultural and environmental outcomes. There needs to be more recognition of climate change, resilience and the costs and service levels that this will require. There are also cost and service level implications for meeting specific environmental and social expectations.

We recommend that further consideration is required for how the economic regulation can recognise the importance of broader social, environmental and cultural outcomes; this may require a specific statutory objective.

7. **Te Tiriti:** Economic regulation will also need to consider how to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. This includes recognition of co-governance of the WSE and how economic regulation reflects and recognises the principles and outcomes sought through Te Mana o te Wai which puts the health of a waterbody first, human health needs second, followed by recreational, economic and other needs.

We recommend that further consideration is required for how economic regulation can give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the principles and outcomes sought through Te Mana o te Wai. This may require a specific statutory objective.

8. **Types of economic regulation:** We consider that the economic regulator has an important role to help reassure consumers that there has been proper scrutiny of costs for water services through the range of controls set out in our submission.

We recommend that a range of economic regulation is appropriate for water, including: information disclosure, price-quality, pricing, consumer protection and dispute resolution.

9. **Accountable organisation:** Water regulation is a substantial accountability which will require a bespoke approach.

We recommend that further consideration should be given whether the Commerce Commission is the best placed organisation to be the regulator. This might include what structural or cultural change might be required in order for Commerce Commission to take on such a substantive new accountability.

10. **Statutory Objective:** Our view is that the objective statements used in Part 4 of the Commerce Act and Part 6 of the Telecommunications Act provide a good starting point for economic regulation of WSE services. However, complementary objective statements may be required to cover all the relevant characteristics for WSE services.

We recommend a modified version of the objective statement from Part 4 of the Commerce Act should be developed, which balances a workably competitive market with community and environmental outcomes, and the principles of Te Mana o te Wai.

11. **Approach to regulation:** Water reforms will take time to embed and mature. In this environment, it will be vital that economic regulation plays a constructive and proactive role to support and work with WSE and Taumata Arowai to meet bottom lines and regulatory requirements. The discussion document appears to be based on existing regulatory 'propose and respond' dynamic, where suppliers develop investment plans for scrutiny and approval by the regulator. This approach requires a degree of sector maturity. Establishment and transition will require a learning culture and an approach based on sharing of lessons and raising sector capability.

We recommend that a strong focus is placed on the culture and behaviours to ensure economic regulation plays a constructive and proactive role to support and work with WSE and Taumata Arowai to meet bottom lines and regulatory requirements.

12. **Transition:** Water reforms will result in significant disruption and change across the water sector which will take at least 5-10 years to fully embed. Economic regulation also places a lot of demands on an organisation in terms of reporting and long-range planning. We therefore consider that it will be important to take a transitional approach to economic regulation while also ensuring that the pathway is clear and achievable so that this can be planned for and resourced.

We recommend that further consideration is given to transition pathway including the time, resources and capacity to enable economic regulation.

13. **Costs:** Our view is that the cost of economic regulation, both set up and ongoing costs, is significantly underestimated and will require further consideration.

We recommend further consideration is given to the costs and resource requirements for establishment and operation of economic regulation.

14. **Pricing:** Specific considerations for pricing and investment will include a range of factors. These do not all need to be resolved through legislation and should be phased in over time linked to regulatory control periods.

We recommend that clear direction on pricing and a realistic transition pathway will be required from the outset to guide pricing and revenue over time.

15. **Planning cycles:** Setting the optimal planning horizon and cycles are critical to ensure longer term innovation and investment planning to address complex issues. As noted above, these ideally need to align with broader spatial and investment planning by local government. The timing and alignment of these cycles will require further consideration through the Resource Management Act reforms and review local government processes.

We recommend that the planning cycles and control periods take a transitional approach and consideration is given to how these can be aligned with broader investment planning cycles of local government.

This submission is set out in two parts:

Part A focuses on key matters and issues relevant to the consideration of economic regulation and consumer protection of water services. This includes:

1. Support for economic regulation
2. The development of economic regulation needs to consider broader feedback from local government on water reforms
3. Integration with wider water reforms
4. Focus of economic regulation and approach to water
5. Consumers and services
6. Broader outcomes
7. Iwi / Māori and Te Tiriti
8. What types of economic regulation are appropriate for water?
9. Who should provide economic regulation?
10. Statutory objective
11. Approach to regulation – culture and behaviour
12. Importance of the transition process
13. Costs of economic regulation
14. Pricing, investment and efficiency
15. Planning cycles
16. Other considerations

Part B provides responses to specific questions in the MBIE consultation document.

Part A: Key matters relevant to the consideration of economic regulation for water services

1. Support for economic regulation and consumer protection

The Wellington councils support the need for economic regulation and consumer protection as part of the Government's wider three waters reforms. We see that economic regulation and consumer protection in relation to the proposed Water Services Entities (WSEs) is important to ensure:

- fair and transparent pricing
- incentivisation and transparency of performance
- increased efficiencies, over time
- an investment pathway for addressing long-term issues (rather than ad-hoc and reactive decision making)
- consumers have clear channels for raising issues and can have confidence in fairness of pricing
- effective resolution of disputes

2. The development of economic regulation needs to consider broader feedback from local government on water reforms

Recognising that the Government has decided on a legislated 'all-in' approach to water reforms, the Wellington councils hold a range of positions on various aspects of the proposed reforms model.

Through the 8-week engagement process (led by DIA), councils have each raised a number of issues and concerns which are relevant to economic regulation. Consistent themes include:

- The need for clear and effective representation, governance and accountability to enable local voice and influence.
- A desire for sub-Water Service Entity (WSE) representation and processes to support alignment and integration of planning and investment processes for water with other planning processes.
- The need to balance efficiency with local social and well-being outcomes, (including potential variation and influence over levels of service). Examples include Te Mana o te Wai statements, climate change and resilience requirements.
- Ensuring opportunities for community and council input to priorities, planning processes, pricing and service levels. This includes alignment with urban planning processes and planning for community facilities such as parks.
- Clarity of how disputes will be managed and how consumer needs will be met.
- Further clarity of how water reforms will apply to community and rural water schemes – this is of particular concern for consumer protection.

Consideration should also be had of the Wellington City Mayoral taskforce on water [report](#).

We recommend that the feedback received from local government through the DIA engagement process is closely considered as part of determining options for economic regulation.

3. Integration with wider water reforms

Economic regulation for water must be carefully designed as part of the wider three waters reforms. This includes how it relates to the wider design of:

- Legislation and system stewardship arrangements set by the Crown – this includes the Government Policy Statement for water services which should be co-developed between the

Government, councils and Iwi / Māori. This is key to ensure a focus on longer term outcomes such as water quality, climate change, and support for housing.

- Representation and governance (noting the Minister of Local Government has established a working group to consider this matter).
- Planning integration processes – including documents the WSEs will be required to produce and the process, input and consultation requirements for these. These are likely to include longer term strategic plans, asset management plans, pricing and investment plans, and service level plans. This is a two-way process as WSE will also need to input into the planning of councils (district / regional plans, spatial planning) to ensure that the future needs are understood and can be accommodated.
- Planning processes and cycles – local authorities currently undertake 30-year infrastructure strategies, and 10-year investment planning with a 3-year review cycle, (this may however change depending on the outcomes of the various Government reforms). It will be important for the regulator to design regulatory process that ensures reasonable integration with relevant planning cycles, for example, on land use, roading, community facilities, and flood control.
- How economic regulation works with the other water regulators in order to give economic effect to their requirements.
- How economic regulation and in particular consumer protection will apply to community and rural water schemes. While we consider economic regulation focus should be on the 4 WSEs, we think further consideration should be given to a consumer protection regime that covers all water schemes - especially where consumers have no alternatives. This should be explored as part of the proposed DIA working group on community and rural water schemes.
- Transition processes and timing – this has a direct bearing on the capacity and capability of WSE to meet economic regulation requirements. In addition:
 - There should be coherence between asset valuations, depreciation and asset life assumed in setting up the WSEs and those used by the regulator to set revenues (these will vary across councils).
 - Similarly, there should be coherence between funding assumed to be lost to local government and permitted to be recovered by WSEs ahead of their first full revenue path determinations.
 - Existing asset owners and WSE establishment entities will have to represent the interests of the WSEs in any policy and regulatory process ahead of the WSE go-live date.

We recommend that MBIE continue to work closely with DIA and local government to ensure economic regulation will be fully integrated and aligned with the design and policy decisions of the water reforms. Particular attention should be given to the community benefits and outcomes expected.

4. Focus of economic regulation and approach to water

Our view is that revenue control and investment scrutiny should focus on the four proposed WSE, rather than other smaller rural and community-based providers and schemes. This is to ensure that the regulation model focuses on where it can have the greatest benefit, is cost effective and can be effectively resourced.

We note that economic regulation for water will require a different approach to that seen in other regulated sectors. The three waters are inherently more complex than those utilities currently regulated by the Commerce Commission. Reasons for this include:

- The WSEs differ from the other regulated monopolies in their degree of vertical integration and complexity – spanning from bulk water supply, to reticulation, servicing households and businesses across three waters, and the billing and customer relationship with end users. They must also grapple with security and scarcity constraints.

- The WSE will offer a fully integrated service – collection, treatment and distribution of three waters. There’s no separate retail layer (as in electricity, gas and telecommunications), so the firms will have to manage billing, revenue assurance, infrastructure planning and investment.
- The WSE will be subject to Government stewardship arrangements, including a Government Policy Statement.
- The WSEs will be bigger (by value) than any network the Commerce Commission currently regulates, and this will only grow based on the renewal, growth, service improvement and climate change adaptation investment anticipated. Investment will include significant CAPEX programmes across multiple projects in each WSE.
- Economic regulation for water will be closely interlinked with wider regulation and governance / representation. Roles, responsibilities and decision-making accountabilities need to be clear.
- In addition to economic regulation, WSE will be regulated by Taumata Arowai and by environmental planning controls (primarily through regional councils). These will directly drive investment requirements. Economic regulation needs to accommodate other regulatory requirements and how these will impact on costs, quality and management practices.
- Water is essential for the well-being of people. Water services cannot simply be disconnected if there are issues of non-payment or debt. This includes statutory requirements under the Health Act.

We recommend that economic regulation focuses on WSEs and is designed to respond to the specific issues relevant to water.

5. Consumers and services

The discussion document does not adequately define the range of consumers, services provided to each group and whether these services are supplied by a WSE or another body. Defining what is meant by a consumer and understanding the range and variability of water consumers will be critical to successfully developing a regulatory framework and consumer protection systems that advance the long-term interests of consumers. Consumers will include a range of types of users:

- households
- schools, hospitals and other social / community institutions
- Iwi / Māori
- local and regional councils
- land and property developers
- a range of corporate and commercial users, including very large industrial consumers
- rural consumers
- vulnerable consumers
- private and community water schemes and self-suppliers

Consideration of consumers also needs to take into account that there will be connected and non-connected beneficiaries of services. For example some properties will be directly connected to services, while other properties will directly benefit from the services (but are not directly connected) such as flood or stormwater protection. This includes private property, roads, parks and other public spaces.

Further clarity of what these different consumers mean for economic regulation is required. For example:

- Will the WSE contract with each consumer? If so how, what is the timeline and resource requirements? This might include a supply contract, like the one WaterCare deems connected drinking and wastewater parties to have accepted ([see here](#)). The regulator may oversee different versions of the contract for large vs. small entities, (or urban vs. rural consumers) but it doesn’t seem unreasonable for oversight to apply to all non-self-supply arrangements.

- Transition processes from councils (or any other special purpose entity) to WSE for charging consumers.
- What allowance, protections or tools will there be for vulnerable consumers or to recognise issues of deprivation and affordability? This is critical given the importance of access to clean drinking water and sanitation for community wellbeing and health.
- How will issues of unpaid debt be managed by or recovered by a WSE? Does this require amendments to the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002?
- Who is defined as the consumer – landlord, tenant? This might vary for different consumers and different services.
- Different classes or types of consumers may have differing interests, and different considerations in terms of how services should be priced and whether suppliers have an open-ended obligation to supply. This may have major implications for business investment decisions and some existing consumers may need to be excluded from services over time in order to comply with wider environmental outcomes.

What are the channels for different consumers and how will these be managed? How might these apply to different scales or types of water suppliers beyond the 4 WSE. For example:

- Extending the mandate of the consumer advisory council to include water seems wise to have a suitably resourced entity able to advocate at a policy and regulatory design level as well as helping to set performance expectations. This would strengthen any regulatory system.
- The consumer protection and dispute resolution components to address connected (and non-connected e.g. those impacted by stormwater services) consumer aspects of the service – ie, these need to address issues at an individual customer level
- how the WSEs will bring community preferences into their performance target setting, solution design, workplan prioritisation, and delivery. This will include both:
 - planned, such as through strategic asset management processes; and
 - unplanned, such as for a new development e.g. how does the 'consumer' once defined, work their way through all the other legislation and agencies to get approval for new developments, particularly given the housing crisis and changes that are being made to the consent process for development.

We recommend that further consideration and focus is given to defining consumer groups, services, and the role and statutory powers of WSE and economic regulation in relation to each group.

6. Broader outcomes

In addition to efficiency, investment by the WSE must also balance meeting regulatory requirements and delivery of broader social, cultural and environmental outcomes.

There needs to be more recognition of climate change and resilience and the costs and service levels that this will likely require. There are also cost and service level implications for meeting specific environmental and social expectations e.g. how wastewater is treated and how drinking water is disinfected. The new freshwater regulations will also require significant investment into wastewater treatment and retention ponds.

Such considerations are outside of a focus on efficiency and need to include thinking around resilience, (increased stormwater capacity, redundancy of pipe networks e.g. duplicated mains, wastewater sumps for overflows, and bigger water storage). Such matters will need to be factored into any price / quality regulations.

Clarity on the importance of these broader outcomes and expectations needs to sit as part of the statutory purpose of the WSE and objective of economic regulation as well as through the GPS for water. The GPS

should be co-developed between Government, councils and Iwi / Māori to ensure buy-in. This will inform longer term / strategic planning and flow through into regulatory investment plans.

We recommend that further consideration is required for how the economic regulation can recognise the importance of broader social, environmental, and cultural outcomes, this may require a specific statutory objective.

7. Iwi / Māori and Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Economic regulation will also need to consider how to give effect to the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, including Article 3. This includes recognition of co-governance of the WSE and how economic regulation reflects and recognises the principles and outcomes sought through Te Mana o te Wai which puts the health of a waterbody first, human health needs second, followed by recreational, economic, and other needs¹.

Te Mana o Te Wai requires the integrated management of freshwater in line with the principle of ki uta ki tai (from the mountains to the sea). This goes beyond the alignment of storm, waste and drinking-water management and must include flood management practices that shape our waterways, commercial allocation, changing land use, water sensitive urban design, the active role of Mana Whenua, and many other critical elements.

Giving effect to these principles may require a specific statutory objective. See section 10 below.

We recommend that further consideration is required for how economic regulation can give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the principles and outcomes sought through Te Mana o te Wai. This may require a specific statutory objective.

8. What types of economic regulation are appropriate for water?

We consider that the economic regulator has an important role to help reassure consumers that there has been proper scrutiny of costs for water services through the range of controls below. These types of scrutiny should all apply to the WSE.

Consideration needs to be given as to what extent the same controls should apply to rural and community-based schemes. This should be given consideration through the proposed DIA working group.

Our view is that the types of regulation listed below would be appropriate for water.

- **Information disclosure:** Yes - this is a bare minimum for large network monopolies providing essential services. However, information disclosure may have to start simple and grow in scope and depth as the new entities mature. Integrating donor financial and asset information systems is likely to take some time, as will developing clear information strategies and then bringing data completeness and quality up to standard.
- **Price-quality:** Yes – the entities are big enough and won't have competition, equity market or local democracy forces to discipline their performance. The reforms place significant focus on the benefits of efficiency gains and lower costs, but the entities will also have to lift investment to make sure they're managing long-term lifecycle costs and delivering acceptable service quality. It will be important for the regulator to understand this context and not look to efficiency gains as their primary measure of success.
- **Pricing:** Yes - pricing will be a big part of the transition. WSEs will have tough choices to make about geographic cost equalisation, allocating costs between consumer groups, (eg, residential vs. commercial), allocating costs between services and structures (eg, fixed vs. usage-based components). It would make sense for the Government Policy Statement to provide direction to the economic regulator on pricing principles and priorities. There will also be value in the

¹ Refer: <https://archive.gw.govt.nz/whaitua-te-whanganui-a-tara/>

economic regulator to provide oversight of pricing methodologies and monitoring for pricing issues.

- **Consumer protection:** Yes – this needs to be well integrated with price-quality regulation and oversight of pricing methodologies. If WSE are to contract with connected parties, then it would make sense for consumer protection regulation to focus on the form and operation of those contracts. This could include links to mechanisms such as customer charters, though it does not seem necessary for this to be resolved in primary legislation.
- **Dispute resolution:** Yes – this should be achievable from the outset. It would make sense to mandate membership of an approved scheme. Presenting the scheme with some risk of losing its mandated status, while not enabling WSEs to forum-shop would be ideal. A legislative framework for electricity, gas and broadband already exists as examples of the approach that can be taken. The framework is based on the principles found in the Australian *Benchmarks for Industry-based Customer Dispute Resolution*.

We recommend that a range of economic regulation is appropriate for water, including information disclosure, price-quality, pricing, consumer protection and dispute resolution.

9. Who should provide economic regulation?

Our view is that further consideration should be given to which entity is best placed to provide economic regulation. We agree that Taumata Arowai should not be the economic regulator – this organisation will already have considerable challenges which require focus and time to work through.

We also consider that further assessment should be undertaken of whether Commerce Commission is the best placed organisation. This might include what structural or cultural change might be required for the Commerce Commission to take on such a substantive new accountability. This includes the behavioural and collaborative approach required during establishment of regulation for water. Building on the issues outlined in section 4 above, reasons for considering a new entity or changes to Commerce Commission to enable it to succeed include:

- Adding WSEs would roughly double the regulatory asset base (RAB) value regulated by the Commerce Commission – ie, the WSEs are massive in terms of the scale of the assets.
- The Commerce Commission already has challenges balancing its resourcing across the sectors it regulates and scaling to meet peaks and troughs in workload.
- Concerns in the discussion document about economy of scope may be overstated – both regulators would be big enough to sustain expertise and ‘overhead’ costs would not be large.
- A water economic regulator could encompass price / quality, pricing and consumer protection. This would provide a wider sector mandate than the Commerce Commission has, (setting aside its generic pan-sector activities). The synergies of having all those functions in a dedicated water regulator may be more important than the cross-sectoral synergies the Commerce Commission could bring.
- There are potential benefits in having another major economic regulator attracting and developing the pool of economic regulatory staff which will in turn develop the capability of the water sector in relation to regulation.
- It could also be good for the Commerce Commission to have a comparator organisation. Good practice should develop more quickly with two sizeable organisations learning in parallel.
- WSE capacity, capability and maturity will be the limiting factors for the transition to economic regulation. There should be sufficient time to establish and grow a new regulator. The scale of the task relative to the Commerce Commission’s existing workload is such that allocating the role to the Commerce Commission will not greatly reduce the resourcing challenge. A new entity would add to New Zealand’s capacity to attract and grow suitable talent, including from the UK and Australia.

- In terms of breadth of functions and single-sector focus the new regulator would be similar to the UK's Water Services Regulation Authority (Ofwat), Communications Regulator (Ofcom), and Office of Gas and Electricity Markets (Ofgem).

We recommend that further consideration should be given whether the Commerce Commission is the best placed organisation to be the regulator. This might include what structural or cultural change might be required in order for Commerce Commission to take on such a substantive new accountability.

10. Statutory objective

Our view is that the objective statements used in Part 4 of the Commerce Act and Part 6 of the Telecommunications Act provide a good starting point for economic regulation of WSE services. However, complementary objective statements may be required to cover all the relevant characteristics for WSE services.

The Part 4 and 6 objectives seem a reasonably good fit for most aspects of drinking water services – these are consumed by connected parties and can be thought of as ‘rivalrous and excludable’ to some extent. This means that the idea of ‘consumers’ makes sense, and outcomes produced in ‘workably competitive markets’ can provide a relevant touchstone when thinking about quality of service, investment, efficiency and pricing structures. The same may also be true for the reticulation part of wastewater services.

It's less clear that the Part 4 and 6 objectives are a good fit for stormwater services, or for the treatment part of wastewater services. They mostly provide their services, such as property and environmental protection, to the community rather than connected consumers – they are more like public, or quasi-public goods. Stormwater protects roads, utilities, buildings, parks, and manages impacts on receiving environments. The assets that are protected are not the same as the properties that are connected. Stormwater management and wastewater treatment protects our freshwater and marine environments – again, not the properties or consumers who are connected to the network. This makes ‘consumers’ a less relevant focus for the objective statement and may make workably competitive markets a less apt touchstone for desirable outcomes.

The other aspect of WSE services that the objective does not address is Te Mana o te Wai. This goes beyond being a compliance obligation or service quality dimension for WSEs so may not be adequately addressed by an objective statement focussed on consumer outcomes.

From above, we think it may be best to develop three complementary objective statements rather than a primary objective with two secondary objectives. These would need to be aligned with the statutory objectives of WSE (this may require amendments to the Water Services Entities Bill). The three objectives would be:

1. Outcomes for consumers consistent with workably competitive markets – i.e., consistent with Part 4 and 6 and relevant to services provided to connected parties.
2. Outcomes for communities and the environment consistent with a well performing local authority. This part of the objective statement could borrow from s14 of the Local Government Act 2002, and most of the matters there are relevant to the provision of public or quasi-public services.
3. Outcomes consistent with Te Mana o te Wai. The part of the objective statement could borrow from section 3.2 of the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020.

The subclauses of the Part 4 and 6 objective statements would remain relevant to the task of the economic regulator – i.e., innovation and investment, efficiency, consumer focus, price levels and profits – and would work as subclauses for the first two objectives above.

We think the subclause relating to excessive profits remains relevant, in the sense that the WSEs will need to produce an operating surplus (profit) each year to ensure their investments programmes can be financed, even if they cannot distribute profits to their owners. It may be worth replacing “extract excessive profits” with “produce excessive profits” to reflect that the WSEs will retain profits rather than distribute them

externally. A core part of the regulator's role will be to calibrate operating profits such that they are sufficient to support efficient investment over time, but not higher than they need to be.

We recommend a modified version of the objective statement from Part 4 of the Commerce Act should be developed, which balances a workably competitive market with community and environmental outcomes and the principles of Te Mana o te Wai.

11. Approach to regulation – culture and behaviour

Water reforms represent a substantive change process across multiple organisations, with the establishment of new accountabilities. This system will take time to embed and mature. In this environment, it will be vital that economic regulation plays a constructive and proactive role to support and work with WSE and Taumata Arowai to meet bottom lines and regulatory requirements. This will require a learning culture and approach based on sharing of lessons and raising sector capability.

The consultation paper assumes approaches to regulation modelled on the Commerce Commission's existing regulatory practices. These include a 'propose and respond' dynamic, where suppliers develop investment plans for scrutiny and approval by the regulator. This is a well understood approach to regulation, but it does assume significant maturity on the part of the supplier and tends to operate in a relatively low-trust and non-collaborative style – i.e., with the regulator assuming that a profit-driven supplier will want to maximise the commercial value of their business.

The context for the WSEs will be unique, so it would be desirable to provide the economic regulator with more latitude to craft fit-for-purpose approaches to regulation. The WSEs will be new entities, without profit motive, delivering a mix of private, public and quasi-public services with unique governance and accountability arrangements. These factors mean that regulatory innovation should be encouraged, and it may be effective for the economic regulator to combine traditional tools of revenue building blocks and asset management scrutiny with a more collaborative style of developing and sanctioning investment plans and quality objectives.

This potential to develop a fit-for-purpose approach should be recognised in the legislation and could be supported by establishing a new water economic regulator.

As part of this, it will be important to:

- build in as much role clarity as possible,
- design economic regulation arrangements to be workable within this operating environment,
- allow time for the WSEs to digest and make sense of their operating environment before expecting them to lock in long-term revenue paths and quality standards,
- establish strong relationships and systems of working together across the WSE and with Taumata Arowai.

This needs to recognise that the WSEs will have to navigate a complex operating environment in terms of the number of agencies who have input or control of their strategies, plans, investments, and operations, including:

- Governance entities and mechanisms, which (in the current blueprint) includes a representation-based governance group who will issue strategic and performance expectations.
- A Government Policy Statement. This is a critical document for setting clear direction and expectations for water and will need to be jointly developed between Government, councils and Iwi / Māori.
- Consumer forums, and potentially other community and customer engagement channels.
- Tightly linked infrastructure planners, including roading authorities and local government.
- Taumata Arowai setting drinking water and occupational competency standards and providing oversight of wastewater and stormwater performance.

- New environmental regulation arrangements.

We recommend that a strong focus is placed on the culture and behaviours to ensure economic regulation plays a constructive and proactive role to support and work with WSE and Taumata Arowai to meet bottom lines and regulatory requirements.

12. The transition process is important

Water reforms will result in significant disruption and change across the water sector which will take at least 5-10 years to fully embed. At the same time the WSE will also need to respond to:

- new governance arrangements.
- increased drinking water regulation.
- increased regulation of stormwater and wastewater.
- capacity and capability challenges of scaling up investment to address regulation as well as historical under-investment.
- a pressing need to adapt to the impacts of climate change on water supply, receiving environment capacities, flooding severity, inundation risk, and physical threat. The current level of service for stormwater will decline without large increases in capacity.
- changes to relationships between consumers and water service providers.

Economic regulation also places a lot of demands on an organisation in terms of reporting and long-range planning. Achieving net gains from the reforms and beginning to demonstrate ongoing efficiency gains are likely to take years to manifest.

We therefore consider that it will be important to take a transitional approach to economic regulation while also ensuring that the pathway is clear and achievable so that this can be planned for and resourced. This requires further consideration in the discussion document.

Further issues we consider important in relation to transition are:

- The ability (and relative importance) of realising efficiency gains may be overstated in early years for the WSE. It will initially be more important to ensure effective transition and establishment of the new WSEs and the economic regulator, including clear processes and channels for consumers.
- Coherent long term investment plans will take time for the new WSEs to collate and refine. This requires aggregation of data and investment plans, and harmonisation of strategies, planning tools, delivery processes and operations across multiple councils.
- Aggregation of pricing and charging models from existing councils will be complex and take time to work through.
- Any process to move towards consistent and/or equalised tariffs and consumer outcomes (quality, service levels, relationships) will raise a range of challenges and significant changes for some consumers. How issues of fairness, equity and affordability are managed will need to be carefully considered.
- The process of change for consumers will be significant in terms of not only billing but also communications and engagement to ensure that consumers understand the change in service provider and what this means for them.
- There is limited regulatory system capacity, and time will be required to build human resource and expertise.
- It also takes management time and resource to engage with economic regulation, which has an opportunity cost given those people will have their hands full with amalgamation and associated changes processes. Economic regulation requirements should be aligned to match expected organisational maturity and capacity of the WSE.

- The costs of transition need to be further considered. These appear to be understated in the discussion document.

We recommend that further consideration is given to transition pathway including the time, resources and capacity to enable economic regulation.

13. Costs of economic regulation

Our view is that the cost of economic regulation, both set up and ongoing costs, is significantly underestimated and will require further consideration. For example:

- In 2020 the Commerce Commission budgeted just under \$20m for its energy and telecommunications regulation work – and water will be broader in scope compared to other regulated sectors.
- The availability of expertise and staffing will potentially be a constraining factor and impact on costs.
- The discussion document underestimates the complexities for the three waters, which will push up costs.
- The discussion document potentially overestimates the level of local input that will be feasible through the proposed representation and governance structures (noting that this is still being considered through the Minister of Local Government’s Working Group). This will result in the need for robust complaint processes at the sub-regional level, especially for vulnerable people. Currently every Council has systems for people to contest decisions, input into planning and follow through to elected members. A centralised internet-based system for complaints will not work for all communities and consumers.

We recommend further consideration is given to the costs and resource requirements for establishment and operation of economic regulation.

14. Pricing, investment and efficiency

Specific considerations for pricing and investment will include a range of factors. These should not all need to be resolved through legislation and should be phased in over time linked to regulatory control periods. Clear direction on pricing and a realistic transition pathway will be required from the outset to guide pricing and revenue over time.

- **Equalisation:** Our view is that legislation should not prescribe geographic averaging or equalisation of tariffs. We suggest a better model would be for the regulator to develop pricing principles, (this might include transition pricing methodology – how will prices be standardised, over what time, minimum / maximum movements) and review pricing methodologies. This would allow a more nuanced development of pricing arrangements as the WSE are established and a move towards equalisation over time.
- **Local conditions and historic investment:** Pricing will need to take into account the different cost pressures between the 4 WSEs, and within each WSE footprint. This will include different factors such as climates, soils, wealth, asset quality and historical investment and regional council regulation. This will drive different demands for investment, which can have implications for how much equalisation can be considered equitable or efficient.
- **Other pricing matters:** there are a range of other pricing matters that the economic regulator should address through pricing principles and oversight of supplier’s pricing methodologies such as:
 - **Differential pricing for use:** to what extent pricing should be usage based, how usage charges should be set, and how they should vary for different types of consumers, time of use, and service etc.

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- **Ability to pay:** how suppliers should manage affordability and handle non-payment, including through tools such as social tariffs, vulnerable consumers and coordination with social agencies.
- **Development contributions:** How development contributions are set and managed, including any process for these to be challenged.
- **Revenue and assets:** Entities would benefit from early clarity on revenue input methodologies, (including depreciation rules) and the opening value of their regulatory asset bases (RABs) – ie, the information they will need to model how their investment will translate into revenue. This will be essential for managing their financing arrangements, including understanding their ability to borrow and their need to retain cash reserves. Developing the input methodologies and fixing the opening RAB value will be complex and will require participation from the WSEs to represent their interests and to bring together relevant information. The process will include working through a variety of legacy valuation models, ensuring coherency with methods and assumptions used when establishing the WSEs, ensuring rules will enable WSEs to finance large investment programmes without access to equity markets, and working through the role that financial incentives and penalties can play in non-profit entities.
- **Depreciation:** How will these be standardised, agreed / disputed given the potential for impacting the “cost” of investment and the asset useful life (AUL). This is one of the largest drivers of Opex costs, and if increased, will result in substantial cost increases. Economic regulation will need to define how this is calculated. Most Councils do fund depreciation (to varying levels vs actual need) with excess income in any year going into depreciation reserves to fund renewals in later years driven by the asset age profile. Insufficient funding over time results in the reserve accounts declining into deficits.
- **Expenditure plans:** Entities are unlikely to have enough clarity about their long-horizon planning to be able to propose Capex and Opex plans within their first few years of existence. Consumers are looking for certainty of costs, affordability and fairness. That means it would make sense to:
 - start with a transitional price path based on existing council rates and fees and charges.
 - defer engagement on price-path rules until after the entities have formed.
 - not require a first regulatory proposal until several years in. This should be based on clear guidance about pricing, revenue and levels of change that are acceptable to consumers across any investment period.
 - have a short first regulatory period (two or three years).
 - provide flexibility for the duration of the second (and probably ongoing) regulatory periods (3-6 years, at the WSE’s option).
- **Level of service:** The price / quality regime needs to consider the different service levels that should apply, for example central Wellington vs a small rural community. The residents of small rural towns may not expect a similar level of service when they may generally be willing to cope with occasional ponding on roadsides or water restrictions in summer.
- **Use of surpluses:** Will this be restricted to re-investment in three waters assets and repayment of debt, or will WSEs be allowed to re-invest surpluses into non-regulated activities?
- **Non-regulated activities:** Because the WSEs are unable to pay dividend or raise equity, they are likely to build up substantial cash reserves. If the WSE are investing in non-regulated activities, will these be limited in scope to be in the same industry (such as electricity providers remaining in the same industry) or not? To what degree will economic regulation apply to these activities?

We recommend that clear direction on pricing and a realistic transition pathway will be required from the outset to guide pricing and revenue over time.

15. Planning cycles

Setting the optimal planning horizon and cycles are critical to ensure longer term innovation and investment planning to address complex issues. As noted above, these ideally need to align with broader spatial and

investment planning by local government. The timing and alignment of these cycles will require further consideration through the RMA reforms and review local government processes.

Price / quality regulation usually involves having to submit plans and expenditure forecasts covering years 3 to 7 (for a five-year regulatory period). The regulator scrutinises those plans and approves a funding envelope that the supplier can then use as they see fit – ie, they can reprioritise within the envelope, but aren't funded to exceed the assumed levels of expenditure.

The fixed envelop forces the supplier to prioritise when new spend pressures arise, which can be for unforeseen circumstances such as responding to a new development. This needs to be allowed for.

The regulator will need to design suitable arrangements for the WSEs that create cost discipline, while not stifling growth investment. This will require a transitional approach, potentially based on:

- starting with transitional revenue paths.
- after approximately 3 years, have the first proper control period (but make sure the regulator can defer this).
- make the first proper control period only 2-3 years in duration.
- allow subsequent periods to be between 4-6 years.
- allow for flexibility in plans, investment required and pricing to respond to changes in context or new demands for investment.
- The regulator may practically need to have “resets” between periods staggered so that only one WSE resets each year so the regulator can rotate its resources from one WSE review to the next. Resets usually consume 12-18 months of intensive resourcing, so one WSE per year would fit neatly into a 5-year cycle (with the ‘slack’ year focussed on input methodology (IM) reviews, etc).

We recommend that the planning cycles and control periods take a transitional approach and consideration is given to how these can be aligned with broader investment planning cycles of local government.

16. Other considerations

The discussion document discusses the administrative costs of the regulation, but there are some other important costs too:

- Regulatory error – regulators can get things wrong, which can be costly. They never have as much information as management, and they can have their own incentive challenges. The risk of error is higher when the regulator isn't well resourced, so WSE will want a good, capable, well-resourced regulator that won't make bad mistakes.
- Loss of agility – the flip-side of control is always some loss of agility. Good regulation tries to mitigate this problem, but the residual risk can be high if the regulated entities are not in a steady-state situation.

Part B: Specific matters

The table below contains our brief comments on topics covered in the MBIE briefing paper or refers to our more comprehensive feedback in part A of this submission.

MBIE Q #	Topic	Our comment
ECONOMIC REGULATION		
1	Case for economic regulation of three waters infrastructure.	Support. See section 1.
2	Regulation of stormwater network.	Support. Needs to include stormwater. Wastewater and stormwater management are difficult to separate – some systems are physically interconnected, the two systems often directly impact one another, and frequently they are managed by the same staff. Stormwater critical for water quality.
3	Economic regulation of WSEs.	Support. Focus should be on WSE for price quality. Information disclosure could apply to other large suppliers, and consumer protection and dispute resolution should apply to any supplier (excluding self-supply).
4	Regulation of community and private schemes.	The focus of economic regulation should be on the four WSEs. See discussion in section 4.
5	Information disclosure regulation.	Support – see discussion above in section 8.
6	Water Services Entities & price-quality regulation in addition to information disclosure regulation.	See discussion above in section 8.
7	Individual price-quality regulation.	Yes – the entities are large, and each will be unique.
8 a & b	Gradual implementation, or transitional price-quality path? Should a transitional price-quality path be developed and implemented by an independent economic regulator, or by Government and implemented through a Government Policy Statement?	Support gradual implementation. Further consideration required, see comments in section 12-14.
9	Applications for regulation.	See comments in section 4.
10	Purpose statements.	See comments in sections 6 and 10.
11	Specific economic regulation regime vs generic economic regulation.	Should be a new item of legislation and not the generic Part 4 or an addition to the Part 4 regime.

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12	Length of the regulatory period.	See discussion in section 15 on planning cycles- don't prescribe a fixed length. Allow for a transition period, then a short first control period (2-3 years) then a range from 4-6 years. This will allow flexibility to adapt as WSEs stabilise and mature and will help setup a staggered reset workload.
13a	Developed and published input methodologies.	Yes - but need early engagement before these come into force.
13b	Minimising price shocks to consumers and suppliers.	Ensure the regulator has regard to price shock, and has tools to address them, is important – but an objective of 'minimising' is too crude.
13c	Efficiency challenge for each regulated supplier.	See comments in submission– need to balance efficiency challenge with increased investment required and achieving broader outcomes
14a	Policy objectives for the structure of three waters prices.	Government should not directly control pricing. Direction should be set through co-development of a GPS working with councils and Iwi.
14b	Responsibility for determining the structure of three waters prices.	See the discussion on pricing in section 14.
14c	Role of the economic regulator in regard to pricing structure.	See discussion in section 14 on pricing.
15	Merits appeals.	Providing for merits appeals make sense. The fear of litigation can stifle regulatory processes somewhat, and suppliers will always be reluctant to challenge their regulator, but on balance it's an important safeguard given the power that economic regulators wield.
16	Compliance and enforcement tools.	Tools proposed seemed reasonable. We note that table 4 in the MBIE discussion paper (page 47) was missing a row for pricing oversight.
17	Which organisation should be economic regulator?	As discussed above in section 9, we recommend that consideration is given to setting up a new regulator to cover economic and consumer protection regulation.
18, 19, 20	Levies.	Levies provide a good alignment of interests – the WSEs will have to pass levies through to their consumers. They won't want the levies too high as to add to pricing pressure, or too low as to cause the regulator to be under-resourced (and unable to make good decisions). Crown funding can be too fickle. We would recommend the levy be calculated on the same basis as the Taumata Arowai levy.

CONSUMER PROTECTION		
21a	Are additional consumer protections warranted?	<p>Important to have sufficient consumer protection for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water is essential for life managed by a monopoly industry with limited to no alternatives for consumers. • Water is a scarce resource, and it is costly to ensure quantity and quality – leading to a need for transparency. • Consumers have very high standards of performance and water quality. <p>It is important to ensure there will be a meaningful process for handling consumer issues when service standards are not met.</p>
21b	Should regime contain a bespoke purpose statement?	<p>Purpose statement would be important to set the tone of the regime. The four elements outlined in the MBIE discussion paper at paragraph 166 are a start to the development of the purpose statement, but would benefit from the notion of fairness, and accountability being included.</p>
22	Minimum service level requirements via a mandated code.	As above – ensure adequate structures to set service levels.
23	Consumer protection regulator - empowered to issue guidance alongside a code?	As above – ensure adequate structures to set service levels.
24	Regulate water service quality in a single piece of economic regulation and consumer protection legislation?	<p>Needs to be transparent, fair and independent. Keep as simple and clear as possible. There are a large number of agencies with a say or interest in water and how it is delivered. The role of each needs to be clarified.</p> <p>See comments in section 1</p>
25	Variability of minimum service level requirements across different types of consumers.	<p>Generally should be similar. Needs more definition of different types of consumers. Vulnerable consumers need a separate set of requirements, such as restricted service for difficulty with ability to pay.</p>
26	Vulnerable consumers.	<p>Water is an essential commodity. Some consumers are ‘vulnerable’ because of their ability to pay, others are medically dependent on the supply of water.</p> <p>Minimum service level requirements, perhaps along the lines of the newly instituted Electricity Authority “Consumer Care Guidelines” should be considered.</p>

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27	How Treaty of Waitangi principles should be factored into the design of consumer protection.	See comments made in section 7. Coordinate with the work being done by the Māori Advisory Group, part of Taumata Arowai.
28	Should consumer protection regime should apply to all water suppliers?	For reasons set out in question 21 above. Apply to all water suppliers so consumers can have confidence in the industry and suppliers all operate on a level playing field.
29	Compliance and enforcement tools.	Make them clear and transparent, and identify which entity is responsible.
30	Which organisation should be the consumer protection regulator?	Refer section 9, we think a new regulator should be considered or changes to Commerce Commission to provide economic and consumer protection regulation. This will help ensure coherency between consumer protection measures and wider governance and control arrangements.
31	Should regulator be required to incentivise high-quality consumer engagement?	The providers in a 'mature' industry, should strive for high quality consumer engagement without regulator needing to provide incentives.
32	Expert advocacy body.	Beneficial to have a means for consumers to have representation on technical issues. However, is it already covered? Once there is a better understanding of the roles of the entities shown in Table 11, questions around the need for, and provision of, an expert advocacy body may become clear.
33	Should expert body be established via an extension to the scope of the Consumer Advisory Council's jurisdiction?	Note the CAC currently being established under the Electricity Price Review is not yet established or functioning and there is currently legislation in the Electricity Industry Amendment Bill includes the establishment of the Small Electricity Consumer Agency to protect the interests of domestic and small business consumers. It is too early to say if extending the jurisdiction of these bodies to the water sector would be appropriate.
34	Need for dedicated consumer disputes resolution scheme.	There is a need for a dedicated dispute resolution scheme. A well run, best practice scheme will provide confidence for consumers in dealing with providers, and access to justice through an independent, specialised scheme.
35	Should disputes be subject to a dispute resolution scheme? Any other kinds of issues that a consumer dispute resolution provider should be able to adjudicate on?	Subpart 4 of the Water Services Act 2021 deals with Consumer complaints and so any additional dispute resolution scheme should have clear jurisdiction, so consumers know which body is responsible. See comment in 36 below.

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36	Should a mandatory statutory consumer disputes resolution scheme should be established for the water sector?	<p>A mandatory scheme is essential for consumer confidence in the industry and for a level playing field for suppliers.</p> <p>It is easiest for consumers to have a one-stop-shop for all complaints, rather than a variety of complaints covered by different dispute resolution processes, which may have overlapping issues. One independent, mandatory scheme protects the integrity of the decision maker, as suppliers cannot 'walk' if a decision does not go their way. To ensure the integrity of the scheme, provisions must include the ability for the Minister responsible to seek independent reviews of the performance of the scheme and the ability to withdraw approval of the scheme if it is not performing.</p>
37	Do you consider that a new mandatory statutory consumer disputes resolution scheme should be achieved via a new scheme or expanding the jurisdiction of an existing scheme or schemes?	<p>Utilities Disputes has an existing scheme and experience in dealing with water complaints. Any scheme should adhere to the six principles – accessibility, independence, fairness, accountability, efficiency, effectiveness from the Australian benchmarks for industry-based customer dispute resolution.</p>
38	Do you consider that the consumer disputes resolution schemes should apply to all water suppliers, water suppliers with 500 or more customers, or just Water Services Entities?	<p>It is important to require all water suppliers to join the mandatory scheme for dispute resolution to prevent forum shopping and to create a level playing field for all suppliers. Setting an arbitrary number of say 500 complicates resolution for consumers, eg, their supplier has 499 consumers and a month later has 501 consumers. However this needs to take into consideration that rural and community run schemes differ considerably in scale and operation. This issues should be given further consideration through the DIA Rural / Community water working group.</p>
39	Do you think the consumer dispute resolution scheme should incentivise water suppliers to resolve complaints directly with consumers?	<p>Suppliers should be required to first attempt to resolve complaints directly with the consumer. Complaints provide an opportunity for improving service. See AS/NZS 10002 – <i>Guidelines for Complaint Management in Organisations</i>, which sets out the standards for complaint handling and the Australian benchmarks also provide some guidance around the principles of dispute resolution which would be useful for organisations.</p> <p>If not resolved, then suppliers must tell consumers of their right to take the complaint to an independent dispute resolution scheme.</p>

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40	Considerations for traditionally under-served or vulnerable communities?	Vulnerable communities, and those struggling with the ability to pay will need to be taken into account. Consider as part of the roles of the agencies in Table 11.
41	Should costs of consumer protection regime be funded via levies on regulated suppliers?	Levies should be paid by regulated suppliers as part of the cost of doing business. They also ensure ongoing recognition of the consumer protection regime.
42 & 43	Levy consultation and collection.	Refer to the answer above for questions 18, 19 and 20.
Implementation and regulatory stewardship		
44	Will regulatory charters and a council of water regulators arrangements provide effective system governance? Are there other initiatives or arrangements that you consider are required?	The objective should be clarity of roles and positive communication for all key players – regulator, Taumata Arowai and other regulatory bodies. See section 11.
45	Will regulatory charters and a council of water regulators arrangements will provide effective system governance?	Refer section 2. This needs to be considered as part of the system design of water reforms.
46	Do you consider it is useful and appropriate for the Government to be able to transmit its policies to the economic and consumer protection regulator(s) for them to have regard to?	Refer section 2. This needs to be considered as part of the system legislation and stewardship arrangements set by the Crown – this includes the Government Policy Statement for water services which should be co-developed between the Government, councils and Iwi / Māori. This is key to ensure a focus on longer term outcomes such as water quality, climate change, and support for housing
47	Should economic and consumer protection regulator be able to share information with other regulatory agencies?	Refer to Section 11



By email

22 July 2022

File Ref: EXTR-9-1344

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Submission on the Water Services Entities Bill

Attached is a submission on the Water Services Entities Bill (the Bill) on behalf of Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Greater Wellington generally support the Three Waters reform and the role Greater Wellington will play in the future once the Water Services Entities (WSE) are up and running.

Greater Wellington Regional Council:

- Supports the principles of the Bill
- Requests specific clarification in the Bill that Greater Wellington Regional Council will not be a shareholder or voting member of the new entities.
- Requests that the Bill specifically acknowledge the need to repeal specific legislation that provides obligations and duties on Greater Wellington Regional Council as a provider of bulk water.
- Requests that the Bill be amended to provide for specific requirements for WSE's to consult regional councils in developing key planning documents.
- Requests that consideration be given in this Bill (or subsequent legislation) on how best to manage stormwater and to ensure coordinated planning with flood protection responsibilities held by regional councils and territorial authorities.

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- Requests that this Bill (or subsequent legislation) provides for regional council owned land assets to remain with the regional council to be managed for their conservation, recreation and cultural values alongside drinking water catchment functions.
- Requests clarification on how the process for council and iwi membership of the regional representative group will be undertaken and how those councils and iwi will ensure equity and transparency through such a process and democratic representation.

This Bill is being presented while the water sector and local government in particular is undergoing substantial reform discussions (the Three Waters Reform), alongside broader legislative changes to the Resource Management Act 1991, and the requirement to implement the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management 2020. The implications of all these reforms must be considered in an integrated way.

We wish to appear before the select committee.

The officer for contact purposes will be Kyn.Drake@gw.govt.nz

Ngā mihi

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Daran Ponter', written in a cursive style.

Daran Ponter

Chair

Greater Wellington Regional Council

Submission on the Water Services Entities Bill

From: Greater Wellington Regional Council

To: Finance and Expenditure Committee

Background

1. Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is unique in being the only regional council who own assets to source, provide and treat bulk drinking water. The operational bulk supply function includes the provision of bulk water to the four cities of Upper Hutt, Lower Hutt, Porirua and Wellington under the Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972 (WRWB Act) and the Wellington Regional Council (Water Board Functions) Act 2005. This role has seen the investment of significant resources in infrastructure and land assets to provide an environmentally secure water supply.
2. The bulk water supply service is managed through Wellington Water Limited (WWL) a council-controlled organisation of which GWRC is one of six shareholders. GWRC has a management services agreement with WWL and, in keeping with the other shareholder councils, remains the owner of our bulk water assets currently valued at \$565.8 million
3. GWRC has been supportive of the broad water reform programme and is supportive of the introduction of the new WSE subject to resolution of the following areas of concern.

The impact of establishing the WSE on GWRC

4. The WRWB Act gives GWRC the power to take water and carry out works necessary to supply water to Territorial Authorities (TA's) in the Wellington region's metropolitan areas. The Act also gives GWRC the power to set aside land for water collection and future water supply purposes.
5. The Bill provides a shareholding for all TA's (S16), appoints members to regional representative groups (s32), and provides opportunities for TA's to appoint members to a regional advisory panel (as owners) (S50). However, there are no equivalent provisions for regional councils.
6. The wording of the Bill raises uncertainty over how the assets and role of GWRC within the water system will be managed as part of the overall three waters reform process
7. The WRWB Act (or parts of it) will need to be repealed and clarification provided for how assets currently managed by GWRC and land management services to support water quality, supply and public access will be dealt with to provide certainty for GWRC. While GWRC is not opposed to remaining outside of the shareholding and ownership structure of the new entities, we would like clarification that the functions it currently provides under the WRWB Act, and associated legislation will be brought into the

scope of the new entities and the obligations and debt currently held by GWRC will be removed and/or transferred to the WSE when the WRWB Act is repealed.

Recommendation 1. The Bill should be revised to acknowledge and clarify the decision to not include Wellington Regional Council as a shareholder or entity with voting rights.

Recommendation 2. The Bill should be revised to acknowledge that the obligations of the Wellington Regional Water Board Act 1972 and the Wellington Regional Council (Water Board Functions) Act 2005 will be repealed (Subpart 5)

Planning

8. Schedule 3 – Preparation of planning documents. This schedule sets out planning documents to be prepared including a Statement of Intent, Asset Management Plans, Funding and Pricing Plan and an Infrastructure Strategy.
9. Alignment with related provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) and future Resource Management Act (RMA) changes such as spatial planning, are essential and should be more clearly articulated, with reference to the vital roles that Regional Councils will provide as regulators to the entities, key contributors to the preparation of regional spatial plans and as providers and managers of regional infrastructure. It is unclear how input for these strategic elements will be sought from Regional Councils (in addition to TA's) and this needs to be rectified.

Recommendation 3. The Bill should be amended to clarify the need for the WSEs to consult and engage with Regional Councils in developing key planning documents.

Stormwater Management

10. GWRC recognises that there are several issues that will be required to be clarified through other pieces of legislation as part of the broader water reforms. We would like to note some issues of concern raised through the publication of this bill.
11. Stormwater functions will transfer to the proposed entities. The assets and scope of responsibility to be transferred will be identified using criteria based on consideration of the predominant use and their criticality for effective functioning of the stormwater system currently managed by TA's. This could create a risk that some TA's are left without sufficient capacity to meet their flood protection mitigation responsibilities.
12. Close relationships to explore and clarify accountabilities will need to be established between WSE, Taumata Arowai, regional councils and TA's with flood risk mitigation / catchment management functions. For GWRC this will require an interface agreement (replacing existing Watercourses

Agreement) to be agreed between GWRC, TA's and the WSE and appropriate reference given to whole of catchment management plans. Consideration needs to be given to which organisation (regional councils, TA's or WSEs) is best placed to prepare wholistic catchment management plans that include key rivers and urban streams that require flood management plans. As many regional councils are already preparing catchment plans we consider regional councils are best placed to lead catchment management and planning for stormwater and flood protection in collaboration/consultation with WSEs and TA's.

Recommendation 4. That consideration be given in this Bill (or subsequent legislation) on how best to manage stormwater and to ensure coordinated planning with flood protection responsibilities held by regional councils and territorial authorities.

Land Assets

13. GWRC's support for the Bill is conditional on satisfactory resolution of asset transfers. It is clear and accepted that physical assets, such as dams, water treatment plants, pump stations etc will transfer to the WSE. However, it is GWRCs position that land assets (i.e. water catchments) should not be transferred.
14. Currently GWRC manages the water catchments as integrated forest bioregions with adjoining regional park (with limited public access to protect water quality). The forests of the catchments are defined as 'key native ecosystems' that are actively managed to maintain and enhance biodiversity and water quality outcomes. We have a service level agreement with WWL which details how these land assets will be managed and provides for appropriate safeguarding of the water catchment functions and access.
15. GWRC strongly maintains that the water catchment land assets should remain as GWRC assets, with an appropriate service level agreement with the WSE to guide their management in order to continue to support their conservation, recreation and cultural heritage values. These land assets have considerable social value for the regional community. They have regionally significant and extensive environmental values providing ecosystem services beyond water supply, that require active management. GWRC is best placed to continue this management going forward.

Recommendation 5. That this Bill (or subsequent legislation) provides for regional council owned land assets to remain with the regional council to be managed for their conservation, recreation and cultural heritage values alongside water catchment functions.

Regional representative groups (Subpart 4)

16. Establishment and membership of regional representative groups. GWRC supports the requirement for the regional representative group to include an equal number of TA's and mana whenua representatives (s24 (3) a, b).
17. However, the provisions state there would be no fewer than six and no more than 12-14 TA owners of the entity in the regional representative group (s24 (2) a, b). If the latter is to enable even numbers of Councils and mana whenua, it is unclear how this would work where the numbers differ. For example, in Entity C there are approximately 28 iwi and 22 councils. It is unlikely that any iwi will waive their water representative rights, nor should they be expected to. Requiring 6 iwi to step away from the group conflicts with giving effect to the principles of the Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi. The Select Committee is encouraged to consider how best to resolve this.
18. Method of appointing mana whenua representatives to regional representative group (s27). GWRC agrees with the intent that mana whenua must appoint mana whenua representatives to the regional representative group. However, it is unclear how the first group of mana whenua representatives would be appointed in accordance with the regional representative's constitution.
19. Collective capability relating to Te Tiriti o Waitangi/the Treaty of Waitangi and te ao Māori (s57). GWRC supports the requirement that the membership of a Board of a WSE must include members with knowledge of, and experience and expertise.

Recommendation 6. The bill should provide clarity on how the process for council and iwi membership of the regional representative group will be undertaken and how those councils and iwi will ensure equity and transparency through such a process.



THREE WATERS BETTER OFF GRANT FUNDING PROPOSAL: TRANCHE 1¹

Instructions to complete the Funding Proposal:

- The Funding Proposal is to be submitted through the DIA online Grant Management System. **To apply you will need access to this system.** Guidelines on accessing this system are provided in Appendix C of the guidance document *“Guide to better off package funding for local authorities”* found here: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/three-waters-reform-programme-reform-support-package>
- One Funding Proposal per Local Authority can be submitted for the total Tranche 1 Programme of Expenditure.
- Local Authorities do not have to apply for the full Tranche 1 notional amount upfront, funds not applied for in Tranche 1 will be available in the Tranche 2 application round.
- A Programme may consist of more than one Project or Initiative, and Local Authorities may elect to provide appendices with further details and breakdowns if that would assist in the approval process.
- The Programme may relate to expenditure over a period of up to 5 years.
- All figures in this Funding Proposal should be GST exclusive.
- A relationship manager will be available to support councils and can provide advice if the Local Authority has additional questions.
- Refer to the document *“Guide to better off package funding for local authorities”* which sets out the information needed for Local Authorities to engage with the Funding Agreements and the Funding Proposal template below.

The draft Funding Proposal can be submitted by the Local Authority any time between 4 April 2022 and 30 September 2022. The Funding Proposal will be assessed by the Department of Internal Affairs, who may provide feedback and require further detail, additions or alterations. The Funding Proposal is to be finalised, and Councils notified of the outcome within six weeks of receipt of the draft submission.

¹ The \$2 billion ‘better off’ package is available in two tranches. The first \$500 million is available from 1 July 2022 and the remaining \$1.5 billion is available after 1 July 2024.



Te Tari Taiwhenua
Internal Affairs

General Information

1. Programme Title:
2. Local Authority:
3. Organisation Lead Contact:
- | | |
|------------------|--|
| Name: | Kyn Drake |
| Position: | Project Manager |
| Email: | Kyn.drake@gw.govt.nz |

Programme of Expenditure Overview

4. Provide a brief description of the Programme of expenditure the funding will be applied to. If the Programme comprises more than one Project, or Initiative that you will be reporting on separately, please list:

1# Public Transport - Electric Bus Depot Feasibility and Design

Metlink Public Transport provides a public bus, rail and ferry transport network to the wider Wellington region, including Wellington City, Hutt Valley, Porirua, Kāpiti Coast and the Wairarapa. Our goal is to deliver an effective, efficient, and integrated public transport network for the people of Wellington.

The increase in new EV's will take Metlink's fleet of electric buses to 108 by December 2023, significantly reducing its carbon footprint and taking Greater Wellington a step closer on its target of carbon neutrality by 2030.

The project is to investigate potential EV bus depot locations and undertake feasibility and concept studies into the suitability of these sites. The studies are to outline whether a depot can be developed successfully, the environmental considerations, and potential to offer other complementary services such as EV charging for public and commercial use or solar power generation to reduce electricity consumption from the network.

The project also intends to accelerate the decarbonisation of the bus fleet through rapid development of permanent, well located EV charging infrastructure. This is one of the Council's primary climate change goals.

The project costs are mainly for professional services including technical reviews, engineering designs and environmental analysis.

List of Projects/Initiatives under this Programme

An initial feasibility study

A more detailed design concept and development plan

2# Nursery development –

Helping mana whenua partners establish nurseries to support their aspirations expressed through the 2024-34 Long Term Plan development. The nurseries will provide opportunities for education, skill

development and an economic return for mana whenua partners, as well as contribute to resourcing Greater Wellington and others with the plants needed for restoration projects.

This initiative will offer each mana whenua partner the opportunity to develop a nursery in their local area, therefore the benefits of this initiative will be region-wide.

List of Projects/Initiatives under this Programme
Nursery planning
Nursery construction and equipment set up
Seed sourcing

3# Storytelling in Regional Parks

The Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan 2020-30 (the management plan for eight regional parks) has a goal to improve the quality and depth of people’s experiences by revealing interesting and educational stories (based on 'key destinations' and other Plan actions). The storytelling project will support manaakitanga and kaitiakitanga and enhance experiences, with individual projects developed in liaison with mana whenua and others.

Everyone living in, and visiting the region, will benefit from interesting storytelling experiences in Regional Parks. Mana whenua and others will benefit from research and korero to explore and reveal stories (mātauranga). Everyone will benefit from learning about natural and cultural heritage values and issues and opportunities such as climate change resilience. Local heritage in Regional Parks will be showcased through these placemaking activities based on storytelling.

List of Projects/Initiatives under this Programme
Planning and project development phase
Develop the Wainuiomata Regional Park Dark Sky Museum supporting Matariki and education activities
Develop storytelling and supporting facilities along the ‘Akatarawa Traverse’ Kapiti Coast to Hutt Valley trail following a traditional Māori harvest route
Develop the Belmont Regional Park Bunkers WW11 discovery easy access circuit trail
Develop an all-abilities sensory storytelling trail at Battle Hill Farm Forest Park
Complete the Ramaroa building entry hub storytelling at Queen Elizabeth Park and upgrade the wetland loop to full accessibility
With the mana whenua Roopu Tiaki group, develop mātauranga stories at Parangarahu Lakes, East Harbour Regional Park

4# Environmental outcomes data platform –

A significant data platform integrated with external data sources and presenting layers. A collaboration between ECAN and GW building a capability that is fast forwarding GW’s environmental data maturity.

This will improve our ability to understand the impacts of our mahi now and in the future towards our environmental and climate change goals. It will also improve others understanding and increase their ability to understand more about specific areas of impacts that concern them the most, e.g. understanding when it will be safe and sustainable to harvest fish or seafood in estuaries and harbours if we do more or less riparian planting and by using which plants etc..

All areas of the region will benefit from a shared understanding of our environmental data. A centralised platform will enable consistency and sharing of data between Council teams and departments and other stakeholder groups to better understand and manage our region.

List of Projects/Initiatives under this Programme
This initiative requires several fixed term roles to develop it:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Full stack developer - Data engineer/modeler - UX designer

5# Carbon data management system implementation –

Greater Wellington declared a climate emergency in 2019 and set a target to be carbon neutral by 2030. Progress towards this target is measured annually against baseline with the production of an independently audited carbon footprint for the organisation. The process is currently inefficient and does not provide data with sufficient recent or granularity to support management planning and decisions to reduce carbon emissions.

This is a project to implement an efficient and fit-for-purpose carbon data management system. It aims to improve the collection, analysis, verification, secure storage, reporting, communication and use of Greater Wellington’s greenhouse gas emissions data. The first steps will be to research and consult on which systems, whether business improvement or technical, are best for Greater Wellington and to implement the chosen solutions. Next steps will be to use the carbon data management system to identify opportunities for making emissions reductions. Implementation across Greater Wellington will inform and drive reductions in emissions and the system will record progress towards those reductions.

The goal is to support ongoing achievement of carbon emission reductions at Greater Wellington. Provision of up-to-date data will enable planning to reduce and sequester carbon emissions, taking action on climate change for the benefit of the region’s communities and the environment.

List of Projects/Initiatives under this Programme

The key to realising project success is specialist expertise, therefore this project will employ two specialist fixed term roles:

A carbon data management specialist will identify the data needs of decision-makers regarding climate change and the steps needed to meet the ISO 14064 reporting standard, and implement the carbon data management system in a way to achieve emissions reductions

An IT project manager will support the carbon data and climate change initiative, assess and implement technical systems as required (which may include software-as-a-service), and project manage implementation.

5. Total Maximum Amount Payable as defined and stated in the Funding and Collaboration Agreement (NZD \$):

\$5,080,000

6. Total estimated cost of the Programme (NZD \$)?

\$5,080,000

7. Of the total estimated cost above, specify the amount (if any) that will be allocated to general management oversight and other administrative costs.

\$80,000

These funds will be used to allocate a part time project officer through our project management office (PMO) to oversee good project planning and delivery practice, expenditure of funds are being spent on what they were intended for, and to keep track of the spending as well as make sure all initiatives are accurately reported on internally and to DIA.

8. If the total estimated cost exceeds the Total Maximum Amount Payable, please specify the additional funding source(s) and amount(s):

Funding Source	Amount (NZ\$M)
N/A	\$

9. Please indicate below the expenditure programme funding status:

	Yes/No	Amounts in NZD \$	Year
Included in LTP	Choose an item.	\$0	
Included in the latest Annual Plan	Choose an item.	\$0	
Not funded in any plan	<i>All projects in this application have no other funding</i>	\$0	
Was funded but COVID-19 deferred	Choose an item.	\$0	
Local Authority co-funding being contributed	Choose an item.	\$0	

10. Has the programme been submitted and reviewed through another contestable funding source? (such as the Infrastructure Acceleration Fund). If Yes, please state the funding source and the stage of the funding process you reached below.

Funding Source	Stage Reached
N/A	

11. Describe the risks you have identified in completing the programme on time and on budget (eg: availability of and access to specialist skills) and any steps/actions you have taken to mitigate these risks.

Public Transport –

The project is part of wider risk mitigation to reduce the likelihood of depot availability losses. As depots are a critical part of the bus network losing these are a high risk with a potentially extreme impact on the bus network and follow-on impacts on mode shift and decarbonisation goals. There is a risk of the feasibility and/or concept studies being a sunk cost – depot control is not pursued beyond this point.

Nursery development –

The key issue with this initiative is for each mana whenua partner to find a suitable area of land to develop a nursery. Due to lack of foreseeable funds, this part of the planning had not yet been prioritized. In the Planning phase, each partner will look at Māori owned or freehold land to potentially use, or work with GW to possible use GW owned land, such as in the Regional Parks. For some mana whenua partners, potential areas for nursery development have already been identified.

Storytelling in Regional Parks –

Placemaking activities such as storytelling involve detailed planning, consultation and research, site development (site selection, consents etc.) and input from many people. Project delays can occur with dependencies within projects e.g., construction materials and supply line shortages resulting in delays. However, all projects are from the Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan Management Plan for parks, publicly endorsed through consultation processes, but not yet funded.

Environmental outcomes data platform –

Specialist capabilities required to build the platform are in high demand in the current job market. Data platform not being ready in time for 'Fit for the Future' (our new operating model being developed to better manage and respond to the increasing pressures going forward). New operating model and processes require the ability to integrate data and processes across teams.

Carbon data management system implementation

The specialist carbon management and IT capabilities required are in high demand in the current job market, so extra time has been allowed to achieve successful recruitment. An initial survey of carbon data management systems used by other councils reveals common risks and issues faced by all (including unsuitable business and technical solutions and a lack of national-level guidance and consistency in approach). Greater Wellington is engaged in ongoing dialogue with other councils to identify synergies and best practices for managing those risks. The project includes a research and consultation phase to identify the best systems to implement.



Wellbeing Assessment

12. Please set out how the expenditure programme promotes one (or more) of the key criteria of the better off package and the well-being of communities (social, economic, environmental, and/or cultural) in the table below. Add lines where necessary.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT - ELECTRIC BUS DEPOT FEASIBILITY AND DESIGN				
Better Off funding criteria	Criteria 1: Supporting communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy.	Criteria 2: Delivery of infrastructure and/or services that enable housing development and growth.	Criteria 3: Delivery of infrastructure that support improvements in community well-being.	
Wellbeing Area	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Wellbeing Outcomes				
Outcome	How Outcome will be Measured		How Outcome will be Monitored/Reported	
Environmental The depot will increase the ability for use of electric buses as the Public Transport work works towards electrification and phase out of diesel buses.	Available capability to support electrification of the bus fleet in southern wellington.		Reported through EV procurement and conversion of the fleet from ICE to electric.	
NURSERY DEVELOPMENT				
Better Off funding criteria	Criteria 1: Supporting communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy.	Criteria 2: Delivery of infrastructure and/or services that enable housing development and growth.	Criteria 3: Delivery of infrastructure that support improvements in community well-being.	
Wellbeing Area	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Wellbeing Outcomes				
Outcome	How Outcome will be Measured		How Outcome will be Monitored/Reported	
Social wellbeing through volunteer and paid employment opportunities, social capital from meaningful work supporting restoration	Customer satisfaction surveys		Set KPI's	
Economic wellbeing comes through employment opportunities, increased skills and the buying and selling of materials locally.	Number of full and part time staff including volunteers.		Set KPI's	
Environmental wellbeing via building resilience to	Volume of seeds sourced and trees/plants sold		Set KPI's	

climate change and natural hazards from restoration work facilitated by plant nurseries		
Cultural wellbeing , mātauranga enhanced	Mana whenua partnerships	Mana Whenua partnerships

STORY-TELLING IN REGIONAL PARKS

Better Off funding criteria	Criteria 1: Supporting communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy.	Criteria 2: Delivery of infrastructure and/or services that enable housing development and growth.	Criteria 3: Delivery of infrastructure that support improvements in community well-being.
Wellbeing Area	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing Cultural wellbeing
Wellbeing Outcomes			
Outcome	How Outcome will be Measured		How Outcome will be Monitored/Reported
Social wellbeing Storytelling supports local place-making and sense of local pride, community connectedness.	Park visitor satisfaction monitoring		Toitu Te Whenua Parks Network Plan - State of Parks reporting.
Economic wellbeing The storytelling projects are part of 'Key destination development' opportunities outlined in Toitu Te Whenua Parks Plan. The development work will provide employment opportunities and the destinations will likely attract more park visitors, with potential local expenditure in nearby communities	Park visitor satisfaction monitoring programme Parks visitor counting programme		Toitu Te Whenua Parks Network Plan – reporting – visitor satisfaction and Plan task completion.
Environmental wellbeing Story telling reveals important environmental features and issues, as well as awareness and understanding about climate change, natural hazards and resilience.	Park visitor satisfaction monitoring		Toitu Te Whenua Parks Network Plan - State of Parks reporting.
Cultural wellbeing Storytelling supports in-depth and interesting experiences in parks, sense of place and showcases local history	Park visitor satisfaction monitoring		Toitu Te Whenua Parks Network Plan - State of Parks reporting.

ENVIRONMENTAL OUTCOMES DATA PLATFORM

Better Off funding criteria	Criteria 1: Supporting communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy.	Criteria 2: Delivery of infrastructure and/or services that enable housing development and growth.	Criteria 3: Delivery of infrastructure that support improvements in community well-being.	
Wellbeing Area	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Wellbeing Outcomes				
Outcome	How Outcome will be Measured		How Outcome will be Monitored/Reported	
Environmental wellbeing	LTP measures and targets are easily reported on through the development of the environment outcomes platform due to development of reporting criteria. Monitoring and reporting on the impacts of decision making, enabling the prediction of outcomes through data modelling.		Cause and effect reporting on measures through our existing environmental monitoring and reporting channels	
Environmental wellbeing – responding to the climate emergency	Effective and efficient monitoring and reporting on the impacts of decision making, and ability to predict outcomes through data modelling through extra support in data engineering and data modelling.		The amount of data that can contribute to the Climate Change management system as a dependency.	
Cultural wellbeing	Engaging with iwi on intergenerational modelling approaches on environmental outcomes, through a digital twin of our environment; enabling codesign in planning through specialised UX Designer skillset.		Mana whenua feedback	

CARBON MANAGEMENT SYSTEM				
Better Off funding criteria	Criteria 1: Supporting communities to transition to a sustainable and low-emissions economy.	Criteria 2: Delivery of infrastructure and/or services that enable housing development and growth.	Criteria 3: Delivery of infrastructure that support improvements in community well-being.	
Wellbeing Area	Social wellbeing	Economic wellbeing	Environmental wellbeing	Cultural wellbeing
Wellbeing Outcomes				
Outcome	How Outcome will be Measured		How Outcome will be Monitored/Reported	
Environmental wellbeing – Responding to the climate emergency to support Greater Wellington’s stewardship of the environment, such as regional parks	Emissions data is used to support planning for reduced grazing, land restoration and planting trees for carbon sequestration.		Emissions reduction is a KPI. Data is independently audited. Reporting is via the Climate Emergency Response Programme governance structure.	
Social wellbeing –	Emissions data is used to support planning to reduce		Emissions reduction is a KPI. Data is independently	

<p>Responding to the climate emergency to support taking action to mitigate climate change for the benefit of our communities</p>	<p>emissions in areas of the organisation such as public transport.</p>	<p>audited. Reporting is via the Climate Emergency Response Programme governance structure.</p>
<p>Economic wellbeing – Responding to the climate emergency to support financial planning at Greater Wellington</p>	<p>Emissions data is used for financial planning regarding price of carbon.</p>	<p>Emissions reduction is a KPI. Data is independently audited. Reporting is via the Climate Emergency Response Programme governance structure.</p>

Iwi/Māori Engagement

13. Describe the process you used to identify relevant iwi/Māori parties in your region and specify which Māori groups / entities / organisations (eg, iwi, hapū, post-settlement governance entities, etc) you engaged with.

Greater Wellington partners with six mana whenua partners: Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust, Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira Inc, Port Nicholson Block Settlement Trust, Rangitāne O Wairarapa Inc. and Ngāti, Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Charitable Trust and Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki.

14. Provide details of the engagement you undertook with iwi/Māori in determining the use of the funding allocation. Include details regarding the methods of engagement (e.g. hui, wānanga, consultation on material, subsequent feedback).

In developing the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, Greater Wellington officers worked with our mana whenua partners to get an understanding of their aspirations for the next ten years and beyond. A range of hui and wānanga were held over a 12-month period to gather their aspirations. Through this process, they expressed a range of initiatives to help Greater Wellington improve outcomes for mana whenua and Māori as one of the four strategic priorities in the Long Term Plan and along with the Māori Outcomes Framework. Some of these initiatives were carried through for discussion with the executive leadership team and Councillors when deciding on what the funds should be spent on. Due to the short timeframe given to develop this application, this was the only feasible option to be able to include mana whenua partners in the Tranche 1 Better-off funding process.

15. Provide details of the ideas, suggestions, issues or concerns raised by iwi/Māori during your engagement process, along with the steps taken to address these.

Due to the short time frame for the Tranche 1 process, no comment can be made at this stage, but as we prepare for Tranche 2 and have more time to engage with mana whenua partners and record their ideas, suggestions, issues or concerns raised along with the steps taken to address these.

Council Transition Support Funding (Tranche 1) split by council

Council Transition Support Funding	(\$m)	Council Transition Support Funding	(\$m)
Water Service Entity Summary		Entity C	
Entity A (4 councils)	6.655	Carterton District Council	0.350
Entity B (22 councils)	12.883	Central Hawke's Bay District Council	0.350
Entity C (22 councils)	12.705	Chatham Islands Council	0.350
Entity D (20 councils)	11.685	Gisborne District Council	0.732
TOTAL	43.928	Greater Wellington	0.523
		Hastings District Council	0.879
Entity A		Horowhenua District Council	0.515
Auckland	4.393	Kapiti Coast District Council	0.541
Far North District Council	0.886	Lower Hutt	0.844
Kaipara District Council	0.422	Manawatu District Council	0.395
Whangarei District Council	0.954	Marlborough District Council	0.590
Entity A total	6.655	Masterton District Council	0.407
		Napier City Council	0.659
Entity B		Nelson City Council	0.534
Hamilton City Council	1.459	Palmerston North City Council	0.825
Hauraki District Council	0.397	Porirua	0.556
Kawerau District Council	0.450	South Wairarapa	0.350
Matamata-Piako District Council	0.450	Tararua District Council	0.399
New Plymouth District Council	0.799	Tasman District Council	0.579
Opotiki District Council	0.485	Upper Hutt	0.409
Otorohanga District Council	0.350	Wairoa District Council	0.483
Rangitikei District Council	0.353	Wellington	1.436
Rotorua Lakes Council	0.814	Entity C total	12.705
Ruaapehu District Council	0.430		
South Taranaki District Council	0.472	Entity D	
South Waikato District Council	0.481	Ashburton District Council	0.437
Stratford District Council	0.350	Buller District Council	0.369
Taupo District Council	0.509	Central Otago District Council	0.350
Tauranga City Council	1.210	Christchurch City Council	3.018
Thames-Coromandel District	0.423	Clutha District Council	0.350
Waikato District Council	0.797	Dunedin City Council	1.155
Waipa District Council	0.539	Gore District Council	0.350
Waitomo District Council	0.374	Grey District Council	0.350
Western Bay of Plenty District	0.549	Hurunui District Council	0.350
Whakatane District Council	0.580	Invercargill City Council	0.592
Whanganui District Council	0.612	Kaikoura District Council	0.350
Entity B total	12.883	Mackenzie District Council	0.350
		Queenstown Lakes District Council	0.421
		Selwyn District Council	0.574
		Southland District Council	0.496
		Timaru District Council	0.513
		Waimakariri District Council	0.569
		Waimate District Council	0.350
		Waitaki District Council	0.390
		Westland District Council	0.350
		Entity D total	11.685

**Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.340**



For Information

WELLINGTON WATER COMMITTEE MEETING - 29 JULY 2022

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

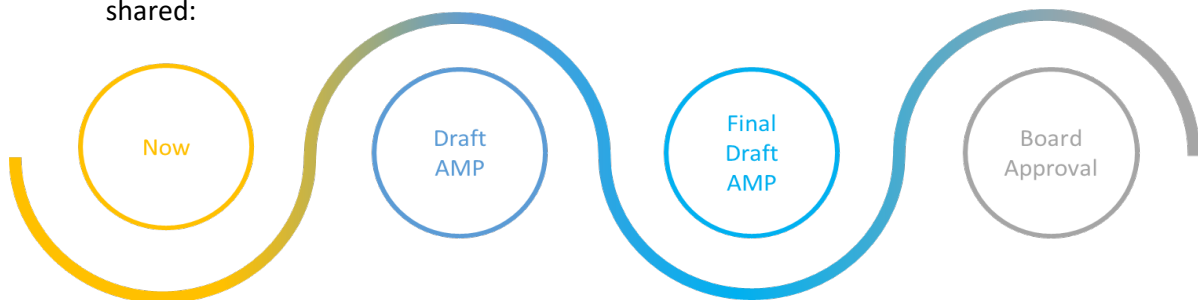
1. To inform Council of the deliberations of the Wellington Water Committee (the Committee) meeting held on 29 July 2022.

Te horopaki

Context

Three Water reform - Regional update

2. Dougal List provided a verbal update on the three waters reform programme.
3. A draft high-level National Transition Unit (NTU) asset management process was shared:



Commencement	2022 to June 2023	Mid – late 2023	February 2024
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working Groups • Financial Frameworks • Initial data / financial information based on high level updates • First draft by October • Enables start of funding and pricing plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second draft by March • LoS / Performance Measures • Growth • Capex, Renewals, Opex • Rationalisation • Deliverability • Prioritisation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing and refinement • Updated data • Engagement • Complete late 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board approval no later than 1 March 2024

4. The high-level process is workable but there are some timing and resourcing challenges as no clear resourcing model or costs have been arranged.

5. An agreement on prioritisation needs to be made as well as funding parameters.
6. The NTU recognises that councils are seeking further clarity and visibility on the nature and quantum of the payment they can expect to receive on transfer of assets to the Water Services Entities, so that this can be incorporated into forward financial, treasury and infrastructure planning. The NTU is working through the design of debt calculation.

Wellington Water Limited – working through the reforms

7. Wellington Water provided 1770 hours of input into water reform and received \$35,000 reimbursement for this input. At an average cost of \$120 per hour across Wellington Water this work amounts to \$212,000 of costs for \$35,000 in reimbursements. This means owners have subsidised the reform programme by \$177,000 in the 2021/22 financial year.
8. Wellington Water has extended both the Consultant and Contractor panels to provide certainty through water reform. With these extensions in place all our water whanau have certainty of both work and jobs through the transition.

Water Supply

9. The demand for water supply to the metropolitan areas is continuing to increase, causing risks that will require more assertive action to mitigate.
10. Water restrictions will need to be enforced during the summer period, such as banning the use of outdoor water supply. This may be required this summer and in the following years until major investments are completed.
11. The March 2022 update to the committee highlighted the increasing risk of more frequent, severe and extended summer water supply restrictions for the Wellington metropolitan area; the looming need for major supply and demand interventions to address this risk; and the need for careful management of water supply as water reform progresses. This is the “sustainable water supply and demand” strategic risk that was included in our 2021/31 Long Term Plan investment advice but that received only limited funding.
12. Currently, daily water use is approaching approximately 383 litres per day, per person, similar to levels normally only expected in the summer period. The available data, including from analysis using the Small Area Monitors, indicates the majority of this increase is due to leakages.
13. Significant increase in leakage management, including detection and repair activity is required to avoid this risk in the near term. The operational funding being made available in 2022/23 Annual Plans is not sufficient to achieve the required level of activity without severely compromising other operational activities.
14. The current demand level now exceeds WWL planning standards, meaning investment in supply augmentation and demand reduction is needed earlier than previously expected – a full report on the details of this will be presented to the Wellington Water committee meeting and workshop in September. The Te Mārua capacity optimisation project, currently scheduled for completion by 2025, will provide increased security for meeting peak daily demand but does not provide security for extended dry weather conditions.

15. Updated investment advice will be proposed for inclusion in the Asset Management Plan for the new water service entity, but it remains unknown when any investment will be committed and commenced.

Wastewater non-compliance in South Wairarapa District

16. The South Wairarapa District Council (SWDC) wastewater treatment plants continue to be non-compliant and SWDC has requested WWL to provide a costed year by year plan to rectify non-compliance to allow budget re-allocation in the current annual plan (22/23) and in the future financial year.
17. The ongoing non-compliance of treatment plants increases the likelihood of enforcement action by the environmental regulator.

Fluoridation and Martin Jenkins Report

18. The final report from the independent inquiry into the cessation of water fluoridation, and the implementation plan, were formally tabled and received by the committee. The inquiry report and implementation plan were previously socialised to the Committee at a workshop conducted on the 8 July 2022.
19. The Te Mārua dosing facility was investigated and modified in parallel to the development of the new containerised facility to ensure that any delay in the project would not result in a continued failure to fluoridate these communities.
20. The new containerised dosing facilities to be installed at Te Mārua and Gear Island are on track to be fully functional in September 2022 which will see the return of fluoridation to all of the metropolitan Wellington area (with the exception of Petone and Korokoro).
21. Waterloo and Wainuiomata fluoridation plant condition assessments are now complete and these plants are consistently dosing within Ministry of Health Guidelines.

Statement of Intent 2022-25

22. The Committee received the final Statement of Intent 2022-25 for Wellington Water Limited.
23. The draft statement of intent was provided to the Committee on 18 March and subsequent feedback around priorities, emissions and iwi engagement were incorporated.

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writer	Kyn Drake – Three Waters project manager
Approvers	Sue Mclean – General Manager, Corporate Services Councillor Josh van Lier – Wellington Water Committee member

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i> It is appropriate for Council to be kept informed of the business conducted by its committees.
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> None.
<i>Internal consultation</i> None.
<i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known risks or impacts arising from this report.

Council
25 August 2022
Report 22.378



For Decision

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

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

Lease opportunity – Report PE22.357

Port collaboration – Report PE22.376

Chief Executive performance review for 2021/22 – Report RPE.326

Chief Executive remuneration review for 2021/22 – Report RPE22.327

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 grounds 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:

Lease Opportunity – Report PE22.357	
<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>
<p>Information contained in this report relates to a lease opportunity in southern Wellington. Release of this information would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the ability of Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to carry on negotiations (section 7(2)(i)).</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)(i) of the Act – to enable any local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations.</p>