

Minutes of the fifteenth meeting of the tenth triennium of the Strategy and Policy Committee held at 10.00am on Tuesday 14 August 2018, in the Tararua Room, Horizons Regional Council, 11-15 Victoria Avenue, Palmerston North.

PRESENT Crs EB Gordon JP (Chair), JJ Barrow, LR Burnell QSM, DB Cotton, RJ Keedwell, GM McKellar, NJ Patrick, PW Rieger QSO JP, BE Rollinson, WK Te Awe Awe.

IN ATTENDANCE Chief Executive Mr MJ McCartney
Group Manager
Corporate and Governance Mr C Grant
Committee Secretary Mrs JA Kennedy

ALSO PRESENT At various times during the meeting:

Dr N Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation), Dr J Roygard (Group Manager Natural Resources & Partnerships), Mr R Strong (Group Manager River Management), Mr G Shirley (Group Manager Regional Services & Information), Mr T Bowen (Principal Advisor), Ms L Baish (Senior Policy Analyst), Ms P Tucker (Policy Analyst), Mr B Gilliland (Manager Policy & Strategy), Ms C Morrison (Media & Communications Manager), Mayor T Collis and Deputy Mayor A Benbow (Tararua District Council), members of the public, and a member of the Press.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Cr TeAwe Awe to say a karakia.

APOLOGIES

SP 18-94 *Moved* **Rollinson/Cotton**
that the Committee receives an apology from Cr Sheldon.

CARRIED

PUBLIC FORUMS / DEPUTATIONS / PETITIONS

There were no requests for public speaking rights.

SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

There were no supplementary items to be considered.

MEMBERS' CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**SP 18-95****Moved****Burnell/McKellar***That the Committee:*

confirms the minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting held on 11 April 2018 as a correct record, and notes that the recommendations were adopted by the Council on 24 April 2018.

CARRIED**PROPOSED PLANNING PACKAGE TO ADDRESS INTENSIVE LAND USE RULES AND POLICIES AND WIDER CATCHMENT PLANNING***Report No 18-112*

This paper updated Members on developments in relation to intensive land use rules and policies (nutrient management) under the One Plan and sought agreement to a three-stage programme toward full resolution of the issues. Dr Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation) introduced the paper. Mr Bowen (Principal Advisor) commented on the completion of the Section 35 report attached at Annex A, which highlighted a number of issues associated with the Plan. He then guided Members through the detail of the proposal for a three-staged approach, and explained each stage. Dr Peet outlined the current key risks associated with the project, and noted that the timelines outlined in paragraph 11 were indicative.

Members discussed the continued changes to the OVERSEER model used to measure nitrogen leaching, the difficulties associated with how to future-proof the Plan to reflect changes in OVERSEER, and provided their views around Council's proposed three-staged approach. Mr Bowen and Dr Peet responded to Members questions relating to OVERSEER changes, the proposed approach to update Table 14.2, the discussion documents (Annexes C and D), and community engagement.

Cr Barrow believed the predatory effects of Trout had not been considered and therefore proposed a new recommendation (e). Members provided their views and comments either for, or against, the new recommendation.

The Chair put recommendations a-d.

SP 18-96**Moved****Barrow/Rollinson***That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 18-112 and Annexes;*
- b. *directs the Chief Executive to proceed toward notification of a plan change to update Table 14.2 of the One Plan as soon as possible;*
- c. *directs the Chief Executive to develop a plan-change proposal to ensure Rule 14-2 of the One Plan that provides a realistic consenting pathway aligned to the Regional Policy Statement;*
- d. *directs the Chief Executive to finalise the regional approach to Our Freshwater Future, and continue with preparatory work for a collaborative planning process for the Manawatū; and*

CARRIED

Cr Patrick proposed an amendment to the wording of recommendation (e).

Moved **Patrick/Keedwell**

- e. *directs the Chief Executive, as part of the collaborative planning process, to seek feedback on the key threats to native biodiversity in the region's freshwater ecosystems.*

LOST

Cr Barrow's original recommendation (e) was then put.

SP 18-97 **Moved** **Barrow/Rollinson**

- e. *directs the Chief Executive, as part of the collaborative planning process, to seek feedback on the place of non-native trout in the region's freshwater ecosystems*

Against: Crs Keedwell, Patrick

CARRIED

CLIMATE CHANGE: A CASE FOR A REGIONAL STRATEGY?

Report No 18-113

This item updated Council on developments in climate change policy nationally and sought Council direction on a regional climate change strategy. Dr Peet (Group Manager Strategy & Regulation) introduced the item and noted that both the government and regional sector were looking to develop climate change strategies. Mr Bowen (Principal Advisor) took Members through the detail of the item and responded to Members questions. The Chief Executive responded to Members' questions about the resources available to develop a climate change strategy, and highlighted some of the work currently being undertaken by the regional sector which could help inform Horizons climate change strategy. Accordingly additional wording was added to recommendation (b).

SP 18-98 **Moved** **Keedwell/Patrick**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 18-113.*
- b. *instructs the Chief Executive to provide further advice on the scope and focus of a regional climate strategy, and that this work is informed by the Regional Sector work that is currently underway.*

CARRIED

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL STANDARD FOR PLANTATION FORESTRY - IMPLEMENTATION

Report No 18-114

This report updated Members on the proposed amendments to align the National Environmental Standard for Plantation Forestry (NES-PF) and One Plan. This involved inserting advice notes following Rule 13-3 Forestry and in the definition of Forestry in the Glossary. Mr Gilliland (Manager Policy & Strategy) spoke to the item seeking Council's approval to add the suggested changes outlined in Annexes A and B to the Plan. Mr Gilliland responded to Members' questions about the different types of forestry and explained the definition of plantation forestry.

SP 18-99 **Moved** **Gordon/Rieger**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 18-114 and Annexes.*
- b. *resolves to amend Chapter 13 and the Glossary of the One Plan in accordance with Annex A and Annex B respectively.*

CARRIED

DRAFT NATIONAL PLANNING STANDARDS

Report No 18-115

This item provided Members with an overview of the draft National Planning Standards (the Standards) and their main implications for Horizons and the One Plan. Ms Tucker (Policy Analyst) took the report and draft submission as read. She said it was very unlikely that the standards would not come into force by next April in some form or another. She believed the introduction of the standards in its current form would in practice require a significant amount of effort and resourcing to implement without very much benefit. She then outlined the focus of the submission. Ms Tucker explained two further amendments to the submission: the addition of support for the Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) draft submission; and to seek the definition of sites to be limited to district plan context. Ms Tucker then responded to questions about the contents of the LGNZ submission.

SP 18-100 **Moved** **Keedwell/Patrick**

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- a. *receives the information contained in Report No. 18-115; and*
- b. *instructs the Chief Executive to make the attached submission on the draft National Planning Standards and annex to the Ministry for the Environment.*

CARRIED

MEMBERS REMUNERATION 2018-19

Report No 18-116

This item presented for Council adoption, the recommended levels of remuneration for elected Members for 2018-19. Mr Grant (Group Manager Corporate and Governance) introduced the report and responded to questions about the claimable allowance rate for electric vehicles as signalled by the Inland Revenue Department. There was comment on the work that had begun around whether or not councils could or should provide childcare allowances for elected members.

SP 18-101**Moved****Gordon/Cotton***That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 18-116 and Annexes.
- b. endorses, without amendment, the Remuneration Policy outlined at Annex A.

CARRIED

COUNCILLORS' ALLOWANCES AND REIMBURSEMENTS POLICY REVIEW

Report No 18-117

This report presented to Members, some changes to the Councillors' Allowances and Reimbursements Policy (the Policy) following the release of the Local Government Members (2018/19) (Local Authorities) Determination 2018 (the Determination). Mr Grant (Group Manager Corporate and Governance) introduced the report and referred to the list of amendments outlined at paragraph 8.

SP 18-102**Moved****Rieger/Keedwell***That the Committee recommends that Council:*

- a. receives the information contained in Report No. 18-117 and Annex.
- b. endorses, without amendment, the Allowances and Reimbursements Policy outlined at Annex A;
- c. authorises the Chief Executive to make communication allowance payments to elected members as outlined in section 9 of the (Amended) Allowances and Reimbursements Policy (attached at Annex A) upon advice from each elected member in regard to paragraph 9.2.2.

CARRIED

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Chair's report had been distributed to Members prior to the meeting. The Chair commented on his attendance at the Local Government New Zealand Conference held in Christchurch and the pre-Conference Tour of Canterbury.

MEMBERS' REPORTS

Cr Te Awe Awe commented on requests he had received about iwi working with the regional council.

Cr Rollinson commented on his attendance at a meeting in Horowhenua about 'Future proofing Vegetable Production', chaired by Mr Dan Bloomer, and a meeting with Mr Mike Chapmen, Chief Executive Officer, and staff of Horticulture New Zealand. He attended a Ruapehu Federated Farmers meeting and discussed the One Plan, and attended a series of storm damage resilience workshops in the Ruapehu area. He chaired the Whangaehu Freshwater Improvement Fund Governance Group meeting. Cr Rollinson thanked the Horizons Regional Council staff, Ms Lyn Neeson, Rural Support Trust Co-Ordinator, and Cr David Cotton for their support and assistance with the storm damage resilience workshops. He then commented on his hosting of the management team from 'My Food Bag'.

Cr Rieger attended a Palmerston North transport advisory group meeting.

PX2

Council / Committee to consider whether any item in the Public Excluded minutes can be moved into the public domain and define the extent of the release

PX3

Members' Questions

The meeting adjourned to the Public Excluded part of the meeting at 12.17pm and resumed at 12.28pm.

The meeting closed at 12.29pm.

Confirmed

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

CHAIR