



Unconfirmed

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE HAWKE'S BAY DRINKING WATER GOVERNANCE JOINT COMMITTEE

- Date:** Thursday 11 April 2019
- Time:** 1.00pm
- Venue:** Council Chamber
Hawke's Bay Regional Council
159 Dalton Street
NAPIER
- Present:** G Cowie (Independent Chair)
A Apatu (HB DHB)
K Atkinson (HB DHB)
P Bailey (HBRC)
W Jack (NCC)
C Lambert (WDC)
S Nixon (HDC alternate)
K Price (NCC)
K Watkins (HDC)
K Wise (NCC)
- In Attendance:** T Skerman – HBRC
C Edmonds – HBRC
T Goodlass – NCC
M Heaney – HBRC
N Jones – HB DHB
M Miller – HBRC
Dr J Smith – HBRC
A Roets – Governance Administration Assistant

1. Welcome/ Apologies/ Notices

Resolution

DWG18/19 That the apologies for absence from Councillors Tom Belford and Shelly Burne-Field and Mayors Bill Dalton, Sandra Hazlehurst and Craig Little be accepted.

**Watkins/Apatu
CARRIED**

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and Charles Lambert offered a karakia.

2. Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

3. Confirmation of Minutes of the Hawke's Bay Drinking Water Governance Joint Committee meeting held on 7 November 2018

Councillor Simon Nixon advised that was at the meeting and therefore the Minutes are to be corrected accordingly.

DWG19/19 Resolution

Minutes of the Hawke's Bay Drinking Water Governance Joint Committee held on Wednesday, 7 November 2018, a copy having been circulated prior to the meeting, were taken as read and confirmed as amended.

**Nixon/Wise
CARRIED**

4. Call for Items of Business Not on the Agenda

Recommendations

There were no items raised.

5. Regional and National "Three Waters" Reviews

The Chair advised the agenda item has been withdrawn and asked Toni Goodlass, HB LASS Programme Manager, to deliver a presentation on the regional 3 Waters review. Discussions covered:

- Review of service delivery of drinking water, stormwater and wastewater
- Main challenges identified are meeting community expectations, meeting regulatory requirements and the ability to replace ageing infrastructure or fund and manage new infrastructure
- Two work streams of Central Government review are overarching shape and form of regulatory arrangements and service delivery and supply
- Proactively engaging with Central Government as 'key region' to provide input to and influence the national review
- Challenges to be addressed include funding pressures, rising environmental standards, climate change, seasonal pressure from tourism, and the recommendations of the Havelock North Inquiry
- Stage one assessed the current state, issues and opportunities of three waters services and infrastructure
- Stage two is short-listing options and models for improving three waters management and service delivery leading to recommendation of a preferred service delivery model for the region
- drainage and flood protection service functions of the Regional Council are not in the scope of this review

- Detailed analysis will be completed and preferred option report delivered to the five CEs at the end of May
- The joint councils workshop identified key objectives and principles for funding of infrastructure, resilience (Physical infrastructure, people and systems), impacts of the three waters systems on the environment, Community values for water, the role of Māori and the efficient, effective provision of services
- Stakeholders have communicated their broad and varied interests, emphasising that water and the environment are interconnected, the cultural significance of water and the impact of stormwater and wastewater on taonga waterways, understanding that Te Ao Māori, governance and tikanga, need to be integrated into any new model
- Examples of different Models were:
 - Centre of Excellence (RATA)
 - Shared Services (like Masterton & Carterton)
 - Joint Procurement
 - Shared Services Business Unit (like Northland Transport Alliance)
 - Management CCO (like Wellington Water)
 - Asset Owning CCO (like Watercare in Auckland)
- Options undergoing detailed evaluation are:
 - “Status Quo” – noting that the future status quo will be considerably different and will therefore be evaluated as a modified status quo.
 - Three waters shared services business unit with current Council funding
 - Three waters regional management CCO with current council and regional funding
 - Three waters regional asset owning CCO with regional funding
 - marginal costs and benefits of a sub-national management CCO will also be considered
- potential government funding support for transition costs
- Regulatory changes proposed for private drinking water supplies that will also impact on TAs
- Private supplies are very variable and proposed regulation would add risk to TAs
- DHB requested that quantity and peak demand periods be considered as part of the review, and offers a different perspective that could add value to the process with participation of the Public Health team
- Issues of inequity are a key part of options assessment

DWG20/19 **Resolution**

That the Hawke’s Bay Drinking Water Governance Joint Committee receives and notes the “*Regional and National “Three Waters” Reviews*” staff report.

**Price/Wise
CARRIED**

Craig Thew and Nic Jones summarised discussions at the joint working group workshop with DIA, Ministry of Health & MfE officials held mid-March, highlighting:

- Joint working group invited to make submissions to the Advisory on the presentations made
- Three breakout groups focussed on Drinking Water, Wastewater and Stormwater and the Cultural Values Iwi group discussion group was separate, which totally missed the “total awa” considerations
- very little awareness of the officials about what the Joint Working Group and Joint Committee are doing
- to present Governance structures, time concerns and issues raised at future joint committee meeting
- Key issues raised by the working group included the inability to be confident of safe drinking water, compliance does not translate to safe, a shortage of investment in research nationwide

including training for water providers, weak water source protection measures, the current system and infrastructure, affordability and willingness to pay, as well as risk appetite.

- two strategies being followed nationally, with the Drinking Water work on Regulatory change proposed to be presented to Cabinet in June
- concerns raised around the impact of the removal of Drinking Water assessors from the Public Health team and proposal for separate drinking water regulator (leading with drinking water)
- understanding choices and alternatives for disinfection of drinking water (Netherlands 20 year journey to current systems) – duty of care to demonstrate that you can do without reticulated disinfection is onerous, and extremely expensive exercise
- agreed by group to retain the option to investigate options other than reticulated disinfection with chlorine

Resolution

DWG21/19 That the Hawke’s Bay Drinking Water Governance Joint Committee receives and notes the “*Verbal report and response of the Joint Working Group*”

**Nixon/Apatu
CARRIED**

6. Update on CHB Water Issues

The Chair noted that this item specifically relates to quantity. Discussions highlighted:

- A Taskforce has been created and HBRC has an application to the Provincial Growth Fund relating to water security and quality in the region
- Central Hawke’s Bay District Council surveyed households in the Tikokino and Otane townships as part of investigating the security of private supplies
- Following the survey results, the CHB Water Taskforce agreed that the seemingly low number of residents still experiencing issues with their supply security will be dealt with on an individual basis – first and foremost through contact the Regional Council’s grant scheme
- Mark advised that the regional council can assist with funding water storage tanks through the Sustainable Homes programme where eligible ratepayers can now borrow up to \$20,000 at 6% over 10 years paid back through a voluntary targeted rate
- Regional policy to ‘give access’ to water and resource consent requirements to have ‘no more than minor’ effects on efficient water takes in the vicinity

DWG22/19 Resolution

That the Hawke’s Bay Drinking Water Governance Joint Committee receives and notes the “*Update on CHB Water Issues*” staff report.

**Lambert/Atkinson
CARRIED**

7. Update on HBRC TANK Plan Change Drinking Water Safety Provisions and the Development Of Source Protection Zones

Ceri Edmonds provided an update on the development of drinking water Source Protection Zones for inclusion in the TANK plan change with discussions highlighting:

- findings of the numerical model have been peer reviewed by GNS, who concluded the approach is appropriate and received “in principle” support from the joint working group 12 March
- the report will be presented to the next Committee meeting
- the ability to apply a flexible approach to the policy to allow for changes to groundwater conditions which may affect the extent of the zones has been adopted by Environment Canterbury and is being considered here
- the regional council has engaged with Environment Canterbury planners and been

advised that no specific legal advice in respect of the SPZ maps was sought, nor was this approach challenged through the plan change process

- Council commenced pre-notification consultation January-March and a number of responses received are yet to be considered by staff
- Staff will present the feedback to the 15 May Regional Planning Committee meeting

DWG23/19 **Resolution**

That the Hawke’s Bay Drinking Water Governance Joint Committee receives and notes the *“Update on HBRC TANK Plan Change (PC9) Drinking Water Safety Provisions and the Development of Source Protection Zones”* staff report.

**Bailey/Wise
CARRIED**

8. Joint Working Group Activities Update

The item was taken as read, with Ceri Edmonds providing an update highlighting:

- JWG continues to progress the priority actions in its work plan
- communications workshop was held 14 March to discuss the joint communication approach from the councils, DHB and iwi and draft protocols have been circulated for comment with the intention of being adopted at the next JWG meeting
- an Arsenic Information Sharing Protocol is currently being developed
- The Water Safety Plans for each Council, except NCC, are still to be presented
- A special JWG meeting was held 18 March to further discuss the 3 waters review workshop and consider the content for a joint submission to DIA, MfE and Ministry of Health on the proposed 3 Waters regulation
- The DHB advised they are currently updating their public health resources with JWG providing technical content, peer review and ongoing support as it is intended that the publications will be co-branded
- It was suggested a training session on the Six Principles of Safe Drinking Water targeted at Governance level be provided to the joint committee’s next meeting

DWG24/19 **Resolution**

That the Hawke’s Bay Drinking Water Governance Joint Committee receives and notes the *“Joint Working Group Activities Update”* staff report.

**Wise/Apatu
CARRIED**

9. Discussion of Minor Items Not on the Agenda

There were no items for discussion

Charles Lambert closed the meeting with a karakia.

Closure:

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 2.40pm on Thursday 11 April 2019.

Signed as a true and correct record.

DATE:

CHAIRMAN: