



## Unconfirmed

### MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND INTEGRATED CATCHMENTS COMMITTEE

**Date:** Wednesday 4 December 2019

**Time:** 9.00am

**Venue:** Council Chamber  
Hawke's Bay Regional Council  
159 Dalton Street  
NAPIER

**Present:** R Barker - Chairman  
W Foley  
C Foss  
R Graham  
N Kirton  
C Lambert  
H Ormsby  
J van Beek  
M Williams

**In Attendance:** J Palmer – Chief Executive  
C Dolley – Group Manager - Asset Management  
E Lambert – Group Manager Regulation  
I Maxwell – Group Manager Integrated Catchment Management  
T Skerman – Group Manager Strategic Planning  
A Roets – Governance Administration Assistant  
C Leckie – Manager Catchment Services  
A Madarasz-Smith – Team Leader Marine & Coasts  
Dr J Smith – Manager Science  
J Powrie – RedAxe Consulting  
A Clark – PF Olsen Ltd  
L MacGillivray – AgFirst Pastoral Hawke's Bay Ltd  
S Taylor – Fresh Perspective Insight

## 1. Welcome/Apologies/Notices

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and Hinewai Ormsby offered a karakia.

## 2. Conflict of Interest Declarations

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

## 3. Call for Minor Items of Business Not on the Agenda

There were no minor items raised.

## 4. Confirmation of the Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee Terms of Reference

The item was taken as read with suggestions for amendments to the terms of reference covering:

- Potential to widen the policy remit to cover all policies related to the environment, while avoiding overlap with RPC and other committees' functions
- Single agreed amendment to re-order climate change to 1.1 in the Policy section.

## EICC1/19 Resolutions

1. That the Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee:
  - 1.1. Receives and considers the "*Confirmation of the Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee Terms of Reference*" staff report
  - 1.2. Confirms the Terms of Reference for the Committee, including amendments agreed at the 4 December 2019 meeting.
2. The Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee recommends that Hawke's Bay Regional Council:
  - 2.1. Agrees that the decisions to be made are not significant and that Council can exercise its discretion and make these decisions without consulting directly with the community or others having an interest in the decision.
  - 2.2. Adopts the Terms of Reference for the Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee, incorporating amendments agreed by the Committee at its 4 December 2019 meeting, for the 2019-22 triennium as follows.

### Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee Terms of Reference

The purpose of the Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee (EICC) is as follows.

#### 1) Policy

To consider and recommend to Council:

- 1.1 carbon reduction and Climate Change adaptation and mitigation policies and strategies developed to guide the establishment of work plans
- 1.2 policies with regard to Council responsibilities and involvement in flood protection and drainage
- 1.3 policies with regard to Council's responsibilities for biosecurity, biodiversity and pest management
- 1.4 policies, strategies, and by-laws and compliance and enforcement programs relating to maritime and navigational safety under the Maritime Transport Act.

#### 2) Environmental Monitoring and Research

- 2.1 To consider and recommend to Council environmental monitoring strategies and

research and investigation programmes, including the State of the Environment Reports.

- 2.2 To consider technical reports on the findings of research and investigations into the impact of activities on the receiving environments and recommend to Council the development of new policy frameworks based around such information.

### **3) Policy/ Plan Implementation**

- 3.1 To periodically review the effectiveness of Council's non-regulatory resource management operational work programmes within the ambit of the Committee and make recommendations to Council for any changes.
- 3.2 To recommend to Council management plans or any similar such documents for the effective implementation of environmental enhancement and improvement programmes of Council.
- 3.3 To assist staff, where appropriate, in identifying a preferred option and/or funding mechanism for Council consideration of biosecurity/ biodiversity initiatives, proposals for new or expansion of existing open spaces and regional parks, and infrastructure asset construction or improvement work; and in promoting the preferred option to the beneficiaries/ community.
- 3.4 To consider and recommend to Council all other policy implementation issues of Council.

### **4) Financial Authority**

- 4.1 To recommend to Council, consideration of possible financial implications of specific initiatives.

### **5) Use of Delegated Powers for the Environment & Integrated Catchments Committee**

This Committee may, without confirmation by the local authority that made the delegations, exercise or perform them in the like manner and with the same effect as the local authority could itself have exercised or performed them, provided that the decision deserves urgency and the decision to make the resolution a decision of Council is carried unanimously.

**Members:**

- All Councillors being: Rick Barker, Will Foley, Craig Foss, Rex Graham, Neil Kirton, Charles Lambert, Hinewai Ormsby, Jerf van Beek and Martin Williams
- One appointed member of the Māori Committee, being
- One appointed member of the Regional Planning Committee, being

**Chair:**

A member of the Committee as elected by the Council being:  
Councillor Rick Barker

**Deputy Chair:**

A member of the Committee as elected by the Council being:  
Councillor Hinewai Ormsby

**Meeting Frequency:**

Two-monthly

**Staff Executive:**

Group Manager Integrated Catchment Management  
Group Manager Asset Management  
Group Manager Strategic Planning

**Kirton/Ormsby  
CARRIED**

## **5. Pandora Pond Water Quality Monitoring**

Iain Maxwell introduced Anna Madarasz-Smith, Team Leader Marine & Coasts, and Dr Jeff Smith, Manager Science who spoke to the update and history of water quality in

Ahuriri Estuary including 'hotspots' work undertaken to date. Discussions traversed:

- During the 2017-18 and 2018-19 summer period, a number of exceedences of national guidelines (used to assess risk) for contact recreation
- Comprehensive monitoring undertaken from January through May 2019 using ColiMinder™
- Looking into when exceedences occur to determine 'causation' and develop trends in order to predict when exceedences are more likely to occur
- Faecal source analyses indicate the presence of bird faeces in dry weather periods, followed by ruminant sources during wet weather, and sheep and cow faeces was detected from the Thames/Tyne confluence
- Stock exclusion currently voluntary, with TANK plan change requiring fencing for stock exclusion
- Engagement with Department of Conservation as agency with "legal responsibility" for the estuary as a gazetted wildlife refuge, NCC with some areas they are legally responsible for particularly in relation to stormwater discharges, and with Mana Ahuriri, still in the Treaty Settlement process which will include provisions for the formation and associated authority of Te Komiti Muriwai o te Whanga
- No exceedences so far this season and estuary water quality overall is pretty good, enabling the estuary to function properly, however sediments are a major stressor
- Suggest that the "traffic light" system be reconsidered in consultation with the Public Health Unit, the regional sector and LAWA
- To provide councillors with an outline of next steps and where to in regard to 'improving' water quality in the estuary once available

*Cr Martin Williams apologised to the meeting for early departure and left at 10.17am.*

- Science provides the evidence base for environmental interventions

## EICC2/19 Resolutions

That the Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee receives and notes the "Pandora pond water quality monitoring" staff report.

**Kirton/Graham  
CARRIED**

*The meeting adjourned at 10.25am and reconvened at 10.42am.*

### 6. Right Tree Right Place

James Palmer introduced James Powrie, of RedAxe, who was engaged as Project Manager for the Right Tree Right Place project.

- James Powrie introduced the collaborative project team including Andrew Clark, Registered Forestry Consultant for PF Olsen Ltd; Lachie MacGillivray, Farming Consultant for AgFirst Pastoral Hawke's Bay Ltd; and Simon Taylor, Fresh Perspective Insight and Dan Druzianic (HBRIC)
- James Palmer noted the 2018-28 Long Term Plan provided for a significant step change in the level of activity Council undertakes to support afforestation across the region including allocating \$30m for the Erosion Control Scheme and co-funding, with HBRIC and Central Government's "One Billion Trees" funding, the investigation of regional scale afforestation opportunities in Hawke's Bay
- Initial project investigation stage is complete and now for Council to discuss next steps leading into development of the next LTP
- Region faces significant challenges in climate change resilience, water quality, biodiversity and carbon sequestration, and RTRP is a critical part of the solution
- The project summary report suggests key approaches to the regional afforestation challenges/opportunities
- Significant win/win opportunities exist (financial returns, erosion, water quality, biodiversity, carbon and sustainability)
- Overall impact of RTRP is increased farm viability
- factors to drive success include behaviour change, exploring the role of

HBRC/HBRIC and potential co-investors, ecosystem service benefits and balancing economic returns

- enable farmers entry into forestry with good cashflow, basing long term economics on the real market return
- RTRP project supports decision making and development of Council toolkits but does not answer key questions on strategy, investment context and pace
- The Summary report has been provided to Central Government and suggest wider circulation to the regional community.

**EICC3/19 Resolution**

That the Environment and Integrated Catchments Committee receives and considers the "*Right Tree Right Place*" staff report.

**Kirton/van Beek  
CARRIED**

**7. Discussion of Minor Items Not on the Agenda**

There were no minor items for discussion.

**Closure:**

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 12.54pm on Wednesday 4 December 2019.

Signed as a true and correct record.

**DATE:** .....

**CHAIRMAN:** .....