

Minutes of the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee Meeting held in Mauao Rooms, Bay of Plenty Regional Council Building, 87 First Avenue, Tauranga on Wednesday, 29 March 2017 commencing at 9.30 a.m.

Present:

Chairman: P Thompson

Deputy Chairman: A von Dadelszen

Councillors: L Thurston, D Love, N Bruning, A Tahana, J Nees, Chairman D Leeder, W Clark, S Crosby, K Winters

In Attendance: M Macleod (Chief Executive), F McTavish (General Manager, Strategy & Science), C Ingle (General Manager, Integrated Catchments), E Grogan (General Manager, Regulatory Services), J Graham (General Manager, Corporate Solutions), I Morton (Strategy & Science Manager), N Poutasi (Water Policy Manager), S Lamb (Natural Resource Policy Manager), J Low (Senior Planner), J Noble (Senior Planner), K Parcell (Senior Policy Analyst), L Mason (Integrated Catchments Programme Manager), L Goldsmith (Rotorua Catchments Manager), N Green (Senior Planner), R Donald (Science Manager), R Cross (Team Leader Land Resources), S Craig (Communications Manager), R Garrett (Committee Advisor).

Apologies: J Cronin and T Marr; A Tahana and D Leeder for lateness

1 **General Business**

The following item was raised for consideration:

1. Storm damage in Paradise Valley

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

1. Received and considers the General Business item.

**Winters/Thompson
CARRIED**

2 **Declaration of conflicts of interest**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

3 Minutes

3.1 Regional Direction and Delivery Committee minutes - 23 February 2017

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Notes that the minutes of the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee meeting on 23 February 2017 incorrectly record Councillor von Dadelszen as absent rather than as an apology;
- 2 Agrees that the minutes should be corrected to record Councillor von Dadelszen's apology;
- 3 Confirms, with the above correction, the minutes of the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee meeting held 23 February 2017.

Bruning/Crosby
CARRIED

4 Reports

4.1 Presentation – Operating Environment

General Manager, Strategy and Science Fiona McTavish introduced this presentation and outlined the four topics to be covered.

Plan Change 10 Update

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2579826

Natural Resources Policy Manager Stephen Lamb provided an overview and updated members on the progress of the Proposed Plan Change 10 hearing currently underway in Rotorua. Members asked that their appreciation for the professionalism of the staff involved, particularly Rebecca Burton, be recorded.

Ministry for the Environment (MFE) Clean Water Package

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2578841

Chief Executive Mary-Anne Macleod, Water Policy Manager Namouta Poutasi, Strategy and Science Manager Ian Morton and Science Manager Rob Donald spoke to this presentation.

Ms Poutasi outlined the main points of the amendments to the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (NPS-FM) and their implications for Council and noted that submission were due by 28 April.

Ms Macleod updated members on the government's swimmability targets and noted that the overall target was that 90% of New Zealand's waters be swimmable by 2040. Ms Macleod noted that a taskforce had been established between regional Chief

Executives and the Ministry, to further develop swimmability targets, with each regional council identifying what rivers could be moved up target categories in each region. Staff clarified the bodies of water the targets would apply to, noting that Council could include more than the “fourth order rivers and lakes” prescribed by the Ministry and seek improvement across all levels, and that community expectations could vary between regions. Clarification was also provided that the 90% swimmability target was a national target, and could raise equity issues between regions.

Strategy & Science Manager Ian Morton noted that the package requirements relating to stock exclusion were in line with Council’s normal business although there may be funding decisions to consider. Mr Morton also updated members on the MFE Freshwater Fund, noting that it only applied to Ministry identified vulnerable catchments and that applications closed 13 April. Clarification was provided around the definition of “vulnerable”, which included social and economic vulnerability. Ms Macleod informed members that three potential applications were being considered.

OECD Environmental Performance Reviews: NZ 2017

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2578914

Chief Executive Mary-Anne Macleod and General Manager, Strategy & Science Fiona McTavish summarised the key messages from the OECD report and the findings relevant to the Regional Council. Points noted included the importance of considering the impacts of climate change in and on Council activity, the need for more national direction and integration between legislation and a lack of funding and tools at regional and territorial authority level. It was noted that the report findings were recommendations only with the government determining which ones it would progress, if any. .

Resource Legislation Amendment Bill

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2579796

General Manager, Strategy & Science Fiona McTavish updated members on the progress of this legislation, and noted that key changes revolved around collaborative planning and streamlined planning processes. Ms McTavish noted that a fuller analysis would be provided to the Committee when the Bill was enacted.

Attendance

D Leeder joined the meeting at 10.40 am.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10.45 am and reconvened at 11.00 am.

4.2 Freshwater Futures: National Scene, Regional Approach and Next Steps

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2579837

Water Policy Manager Namouta Poutasi and Senior Planner (Water Policy) Nicola Green provided an update on Council’s role in water from a national and regional context, sought direction from the Committee on the current approach being taken and outlined next steps for implementation of the NPS-FM.

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, **Freshwater Futures: National Scene, Regional Approach and Next Steps**.
- 2 Approves investigating and reporting back on options for working with Territorial Local Authorities at a governance level and linking this well with collaboration at an operational level.
- 3 Approves the proposed adaptive approach for Plan Change 12 project objective setting, engagement, and addressing issues, the updated timeline and process review points, in particular:
 - a) the approach to objective setting as outlined in Appendix 3.
 - b) the continuation of the 'involve' approach to engagement for Plan Change 12 and future Water Management Areas as outlined in Appendix 3 and 4.
 - c) there are issues in the Rangitaiki and Kaituna-Pongakawa-Waitahanui Water Management Areas that mean objectives and management will need to halt water quality decline and in some cases improve' water quality as outlined in Appendix 3.
 - d) a 12 month extension for phase 3 of plan change 12 project is needed to address issues, apply lessons learnt, and to establish planning frameworks as outlined in Appendix 3.
- 4 Notes that approval will be sought on the order of the next WMAs at the RDD meeting in May 2017.
- 5 Notes that the implementation timeline will be reviewed in light of proposed NPS-FM changes, with a view to notifying an amended timeline in March 2018.
- 6 Confirms that the decision has a medium level of significance as determined by the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. Council has identified and assessed different options and considered community views as part of making the decision, in proportion to the level of significance.

Thompson/Nees
CARRIED

4.3 Update on Regional Plan Amalgamation

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2577513

Natural Resources Policy Manager Stephen Lamb and Senior Policy Analyst (Natural Resources Policy) Karen Parcell updated members on progress with the amalgamation of regional plans into the Regional Natural Resources Plan. Ms Parcell explained that the amalgamated Plan would include all regional specialist plans except for the Regional Coastal Environment Plan, which was nearly operative; noted that legal feedback received on the draft amalgamated plan was positive and reassured the

Committee that the draft plan was consistent with the national template currently being developed.

Members emphasised the need for clear communication with the community around the changes being form rather than substance; queried whether links could be created with territorial authorities to make a “one-stop shop” for ratepayers and suggested that a Māori sub-name be added to the amalgamated plan .

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, *Update on Regional Plan Amalgamation*.**
- 2 Approves the title of the amalgamated plan as the “Regional Natural Resources Plan”.**
- 3 Notes the current progress on the amendment to the Regional Water and Land Plan.**

Thompson/Tahana
CARRIED

4.4 Streamlining Regional Plans

Refer PowerPoint Presentation Objective ID A2577514

Refer Tabled Document 1: Chart, Summary of Regional Plan Contents

Natural Resources Policy Manager Stephen Lamb and Senior Policy Analyst (Natural Resources Policy) Karen Parcell presented this report which sought the Committee's endorsement of a streamlined approach to regional plans. Ms Parcell outlined the minimum requirements for plan content, being objectives, policies and rules; and noted that any other content could be valuable but was optional. Ms Parcell explained staff's recommendation to remove “issues” as a separate category from plans and to only include methods where determined appropriate, based on meeting method selection criteria.

Members endorsed the streamlined approach but emphasised the importance of maintaining clarity, and noted staff comment that issues and methods could be included in other documents such as an implementation plan if required.

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, *Streamlining Regional Plans*.**
- 2 Endorses a streamlined approach to regional plans which focuses on having:**
 - a. Objectives, policies and rules**

4.6 **Resolution of Appeals on the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan**

Senior Planner Jo Noble updated the Committee on progress made toward resolving appeals on the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan and sought approval for the rules in the Plan to take immediate legal effect. Ms Noble clarified that as the outstanding Motiti appeal was area-specific it should not hold up the rest of the Plan becoming operative.

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Resolution of appeals on the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan.**
- 2 Rescinds the decision made by the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee on 15 May 2014 concerning the legal effect of rules in the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan, and approves the release of a public notice to that effect under sections 86B and 86C of the Resource Management Act 1991.**
- 3 Notes that all rules in the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan will have legal effect the day after public notification occurs, and any of those rules beyond appeal will be treated as operative.**
- 4 Notes the progress made in resolving the Environment Court appeals received on the Proposed Regional Coastal Environment Plan under the guidance of the Regional Coastal Environment Plan Appeals Subcommittee.**

**Leeder/Nees
CARRIED**

4.7 **Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme 6 Month Report (2016-2017)**

Refer video presentation Objective ID A2606411

General Manager Integrated Catchments Chris Ingle, Rotorua Catchments Manager Linda Goldsmith and Team Leader - Land Resources Rosemary Cross spoke to this report. Ms Goldsmith noted that the report was a requirement of the Ministry for the Environment funding deed and did not require Committee approval. Ms Cross presented a video outlining the work undertaken by the Advice and Support team as part of the Rotorua Lakes programme.

Members sought and received clarification regarding achieving the gorse programme nitrogen reduction targets. The hard work of the Advice and Support team was also acknowledged by members.

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Rotorua Te Arawa Lakes Programme 6 Month Report (2016-2017);

Winters/Thurston
CARRIED

4.8 Further appointment to Hearing Committee for Proposed Change 3 (Rangitaiki River) to the Regional Policy Statement

General Manager, Strategy & Science Fiona McTavish spoke to this report which asked the Committee to appoint Councillor von Dadelszen as an additional member to the Hearing Committee for Proposed Change 3 (Rangitaiki River) to the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement. Ms McTavish clarified that if Hearing Committee member Antoine Coffin was successful in being elected to the vacant Mauao Māori constituency seat, he would still remain on the Hearing Committee to provide iwi representation. Members noted Councillor Cronin's current leave of absence.

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, Further appointment to Hearing Committee for Proposed Change 3 (Rangitaiki River) to the Regional Policy Statement; and
- 2 Appoints Councillor Andrew von Dadelszen as an additional member to the Hearing Committee for Proposed Change 3 (Rangitaiki River) to the Bay of Plenty Regional Policy Statement.

Thurston/Nees
CARRIED

4.9 Operations and Monitoring News

Refer video presentation Objective ID A2606513; Refer video presentation: <https://vimeo.com/209050599> password "coastcare"

General Manager Integrated Catchment Chris Ingle provided apologies from Kaituna Catchments Manager Pim de Monchy and presented two videos on his behalf. The first video looked at recent work undertaken on the Maketū Spit as part of the Biodiversity Management Plan; the second "Our Sand Dunes 1 – Meet the Dunes" was a Coastcare outreach video narrated by two schoolchildren.

4.10 RD&D Work Programme 2017

General Manager, Strategy & Science Fiona McTavish provided the updated Committee workplan for members' information.

Resolved

That the Regional Direction and Delivery Committee under its delegated authority:

- 1 Receives the report, RD&D Work Programme 2017

Thompson/Thurston
CARRIED

5 General Business

5.1 Paradise Valley Update

General Manager Integrated Catchments Chris Ingle provided members with a verbal update on the damage caused by the recent storm event. Mr Ingle noted that the issues concerned driveway damage for two properties and run-off into the Ngongotahā Stream. Mr Ingle explained that Rotorua Lakes Council (RLC) was taking the lead in addressing the access issues and that remediation costs would rest with the private landowners; however Regional Council was providing technical and design assistance. Mr Ingle further noted that better management of storm events could help mitigate or resolve several wider catchment issues in the Ngongotahā area, and that Council was funding a facilitator for the existing Ngongotahā catchment group.

Members asked several questions of clarification around roles and responsibilities in relation to the flood damage. Communications staff agreed to work with RLC to clarify this issue for the public.

6 Public Excluded Section

Resolved

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason 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 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General Subject of Matter to be Considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to this matter	Grounds under Section 48(1) LGOIMA 1987 for passing this resolution
7.1 – Public Excluded Regional Direction and Delivery Committee Minutes – 23 February 2017	Please refer to the relevant clause in the meeting minutes.	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
7.2 – Operations and Monitoring News	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the	That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely

	meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information.	to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.
--	---	---

Thompson/Nees
CARRIED

The meeting closed at 12.30 pm.