

**MINUTES OF WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
FINANCE, ASSURANCE & RISK COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL, CORONATION SQUARE, WAIROA  
ON TUESDAY, 20 FEBRUARY 2024 AT 1:30 PM**

**PRESENT:** Cr Jeremy Harker, Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare, Mr Philip Jones (via Zoom), Cr Benita Cairns, Cr Melissa Kaimoana

**IN ATTENDANCE:** **Gary Borg** (Pouwhakarae – Pūtea/Tautāwhi Rangapū | Group Manager Finance and Corporate Support), **Hinetaakoha Viriaere** (Pouwhakarae Whakamahere me te Waeture | Group Manager Planning & Regulatory), **Juanita Savage** (Pouwhakarae Rātonga Hapori me te Whakawhanake | Group Manager Community Services and Development), **Sarayde Tapine** (Kaiurungi Kaupapa Here | Policy and Governance Officer), **Hinemoa Hubbard** (Kaitauira Mana Ārahi | Governance Cadet), **Jacobus Meyer** (Kaiwhakahaere Pūtea | Finance Manager - via Zoom), **Steve Baker** (Recovery Support Officer - via Zoom)

## 1 KARAKIA

The Opening Karakia was given by the Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support, Gary Borg.

## 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

### APOLOGIES

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/200

Moved: Cr Jeremy Harker

Seconded: Cr Benita Cairns

That the apologies received from His Worship the Mayor Craig Little and the Chief Executive, Kitea Tipuna be accepted and leave of absence granted.

**CARRIED**

## 3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

None.

## 4 CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Item 8.5 – Planning and Regulatory Update** was not reported on at this meeting as it was mistakenly presented to the wrong committee.

## 5 LATE ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

**6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A maximum of 30 minutes has been set aside for members of the public to speak on any item on the agenda. Up to 5 minutes per person is allowed. As per Standing Order 14.14 requests to speak must be made to the meeting secretary at least one clear day before the meeting; however this requirement may be waived by the Chairperson.

**7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/201**

Moved: Cr Melissa Kaimoana

Seconded: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 28 November 2023 be confirmed.

**CARRIED**

**8 GENERAL ITEMS****8.1 WAIROA RECOVERY PLAN UPDATE JUNE 2023****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/202**

Moved: Mr Philip Jones

Seconded: Cr Jeremy Harker

The Committee receive the report.

**CARRIED**

The Recovery Support Officer spoke to this report, highlighting that the government's recent allocation of \$3M for woody debris funding would be managed by Hawkes Bay Regional Council. He also expressed uncertainty regarding the status of the funds from the special LOTTO draw dedicated to cyclone relief in March of 2023.

Elected members discussed:

- The attempts to establish contact with the DIA to learn how to access the LOTTO funds and determine their designated purpose.
- The possibility of directing any funds obtained from the special LOTTO draw through the Mayoral Relief Fund for distribution. This consideration hinges on the alignment of the accountabilities associated with the LOTTO fund matching those of the Mayoral Relief Fund.
- The reliability of the placard data, queried whether or not there is missing data for green placards, and suggested enhancing the clarity of the data explanation.

- The barriers preventing people from getting back into their homes.
- The need for strategies to enhance future recovery efforts, focusing on improving collaboration between local, regional and national organisations to avoid duplication of efforts and improve the use of resources.

The elected members acknowledged the efforts of the Recovery Team for the Hīnātore event.

## 8.2 TIMETABLE FOR LONG-TERM PLAN 2024-27

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/203

Moved: Cr Jeremy Harker

Seconded: Cr Melissa Kaimoana

The Committee endorses the LTP timetable, with particular attention to its availability for assurance and risk management matters.

### CARRIED

The Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support spoke to this report and apologised for not having a fully detailed budget model for review at the moment. He mentioned that it is expected to be completed within the current week and shared informally, as well as presenting it to Council and committees in the near future.

Cr Eaglesome-Karekare queried the necessity of consulting on levels of service and emphasised the need for the second iteration of the Wairoa Recovery Plan to contribute to the Long-Term Plan.

Cr Harker noted rates would play a role in the recovery process, indicating a strong likelihood of the necessity to engage in consultations regarding levels of service.

The Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support noted that if the second iteration of the Wairoa Recovery Plan is delivered by the end of February it would provide sufficient time for its inclusion in the Long Term Plan.

Cr Cairns suggested a workshop to determine the ‘Business as Usual’ aspects in terms of long-term plan levels of service and how the recovery has impacted levels of service.

The Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support noted he had communicated with all activity managers providing an example from the last long-term plan regarding levels of service. Inquiring about potential changes to their levels of service, how recovery presented challenges, and what implications recovery held for each activity.

### **8.3 MINOR UPDATES TO REVENUE AND FINANCING POLICY AND SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT POLICY**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/204**

Moved: Cr Jeremy Harker

Seconded: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

The Committee endorses the policy updates to Council and in doing so supports the position that, due to the editorial nature of the updates, no consultation is required.

**CARRIED**

The Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support spoke to this report, emphasising that updates to the significance and engagement policy are mainly editorial. He acknowledged the potential for improving the integration of risk management with the said policy. Additionally, he noted that there are slightly more comprehensive but still minor modifications in the revenue and financing policy, noting that he is anticipating changes post water reforms and acknowledged uncertainty in the recovery process. He also noted that this report will be tabled at the next Māori Standing Committee Meeting on 5 March.

Cr Cairns queried why there is a reference to Māori and iwi, concerned that it implied a separation between iwi and Māori. She also inquired about the potential return of surplus to the specific area where the sale had generated the surplus.

The Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support said that, theoretically, the surplus should return to the same area. However, an instance in the past was noted where uncoordinated policies allowed for the surplus to be utilised in a different area than where it originated. He also noted the wording for the development contribution policy is vague within the revenue and financing policy, attributing this to the council providing only informal direction of its creation through a workshop.

### **8.4 HALF YEAR REPORT TO 31 DECEMBER 2023**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2024/205**

Moved: Cr Jeremy Harker

Seconded: Cr Denise Eaglesome-Karekare

The Committee receive the report.

**CARRIED**

The Finance Manager briefly spoke to the report emphasising that the majority of variances in the profit and loss statement are from subsidies and grants covering response and recovery costs.

The Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support advised that the action relating to the audit of the drinking water standards for the years 2022 and 2023 have been implemented, with ongoing monitoring throughout the year.

Elected members discussed:

- Whether the initiatives undertaken by the waste minimisation officer encompassed only internal efforts or were also community focused, and assessing whether or not they contributed to the Councils solid waste strategy.
- Determining the threshold at which unmet performance measures become concerning enough to warrant a change in approach.
- Noticing a significant impact when roads receive funding for repair and recognising the cohesion in the funding process, from allocation to contractors and ultimately to staff.
- The incurred cost related to recovery, as reflected in the statement of comprehensive revenue and expense, more specifically in Transport, Planning and regulatory costs.

**The Meeting closed with a closing karakia given by the Group Manager – Finance and Corporate Support, Gary Borg at 2:54pm.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Finance, Assurance & Risk Committee Meeting held on 26 March 2024.**

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**CHAIRPERSON**