



**I, Matthew Lawson, Tumu Whakarae | Chief Executive, hereby give notice that
a Māori Standing Committee Meeting will be held on:**

Date: Tuesday, 8 July 2025
Time: 10:00 am
Location: Council Chamber, Wairoa District Council,
Coronation Square, Wairoa

AGENDA

Māori Standing Committee Meeting

8 July 2025

MEMBERSHIP: His Worship the Mayor Craig Little, Mr Henare Mita, Ms Theresa Thornton, Ms Fiona Wairau, Cr Benita Cairns, Cr Roslyn Thomas, Ms Erena Hammond, Ms Amanda Reynolds, Ms Whaiora Maingdonald

The agenda and associated papers are also available on our website: www.wairoadc.govt.nz

For further information please contact us 06 838 7309 or by email info@wairoadc.govt.nz

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- 1 KARAKIA**
- 2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 3 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
- 4 CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- 5 LATE ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS**
- 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 15.1 requests to speak must be made to the Chief Executive Officer at least one clear day before the meeting; however this requirement may be waived by the Chairperson. Requests should also outline the matters that will be addressed by the speaker(s).

7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Ordinary Meeting - 3 June 2025

**MINUTES OF WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL
MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WAIROA DISTRICT COUNCIL, CORONATION SQUARE, WAIROA
ON TUESDAY, 3 JUNE 2025 AT 10:00 AM**

PRESENT: Mr Henare Mita, Ms Theresa Thornton, Ms Fiona Wairau, Cr Roslyn Thomas, Ms Erena Hammond, Ms Amanda Reynolds, Ms Whaiora Maindonald

IN ATTENDANCE: **Te Aroha Cook** (Pouwhakarae Rātonga Hapori me te Whakawhanake | Kaiaarataki Whakaoranga Group Manager – Community Services and Development | Recovery Manager), **Langley Cavers** (Acting Group Manager Assets and Infrastructure), **Duane Culshaw** (Pouahurea Māori | Māori Relationships Manager), **Hinemoa Hubbard** (Kaiurungi Mana Ārahi | Governance Officer), **Hira Campbell** (Transport Asset Manager), **Nathan Heath** (Hawkes Bay Regional Council Māori Relationships Manager)

1 KARAKIA

The opening karakia was given by the Chair, Mr Henare Mita.

2 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/268

Moved: Ms Fiona Wairau

Seconded: Ms Whaiora Maindonald

That the apology received from Cr Benita Cairns, and His Worship the Mayor, Craig Little be accepted and leave of absence granted.

CARRIED

3 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

To be declared as the agenda progresses.

4 CHAIRPERSON'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair apologised for not attending the Ordinary Council Meeting on 27th of May 2025.

The Chair then invited the Pouahurea Māori to speak about the rāhiri for the incoming Chief Executive, Matthew Lawson.

5 LATE ITEMS OF URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

6 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Nil.

7 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/269**

Moved: Ms Erena Hammond

Seconded: Ms Fiona Wairau

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 22 April 2025 be confirmed with amendments.

CARRIED

Item 8.1 was amended to:

- Add “Forest” at the beginning of the second bullet point, so it reads “Forest harvesting scheduled...”
- Note that no formal consent application had been submitted to Council regarding quarrying activity.

8 GENERAL ITEMS**8.1 WALKING AND CYCLING STRATEGY****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/270**

Moved: Mr Henare Mita

Seconded: Ms Fiona Wairau

The Committee receives the report for informational purposes.

CARRIED

The Acting Group manager of Assets & Infrastructure introduced himself to the committee.

The Transport Asset Manager then provided an overview of the strategy, noting that no funding had been approved by New Zealand Transport Agency (NZTA) for walking and cycling strategies nationwide. NZTA recommended having an approved plan in place to enable future funding applications. It was also noted that the strategy is broad in scope, with detailed route planning to follow.

The Committee sought clarification on several points.

A query was raised about the definition of a pump track, which was explained by the Acting Group Manager of Assets & Infrastructure. Members asked whether a rail line cycle trail could be incorporated into the strategy; The Transport Asset Manager advised that part of the rail line in Nuhaka had been removed, and it hasn't been fully considered yet.

The Committee requested more detail on the makeup of the 'local community.' In response, The Transport Asset Manager noted that consultation had taken place with a broader health and fitness group, and individuals expected to use the walking and cycling network, and confirmed that he would include an explanation of how community input was considered in the strategy.

8.2 HAWKE'S BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL - MONTHLY REPORT

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/271

Moved: Ms Whaiora Maindonald

Seconded: Ms Fiona Wairau

The Māori Standing Committee receives this report.

CARRIED

The Hawkes Bay Regional Council (HBRC) Māori Relationships Manager introduced the report, and noted:

- Collaborative planning discussions occurred between HBRC and Gisborne District Council, acknowledging the cross-boundary importance of this work. HBRC had paused all freshwater planning in response to the central government's decision to halt national freshwater planning.
- The Ministry for the Environment (MfE) had released three discussion papers in relation to the Resource Management Act reforms. From an iwi and mana whenua rights perspective, significant changes were proposed, including reduced council powers to apply restrictions on forestry, changes to aquaculture rules, and allowance for trials and research without engaging mana whenua or recognising claims. The freshwater paper discussed removing *Te Mana o te Wai* and introducing a rebalanced objective framework, potentially limiting flexibility under the National Objectives Framework. Submissions on the proposals close at the end of July, and the Manager encouraged making submissions given the significant implications for freshwater management.

8.3 MSC - RAKAIPAAKA TAKIWĀ REPORT

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION 2025/272

Moved: Mr Henare Mita

Seconded: Ms Erena Hammond

The Māori Standing Committee receives the report with amendment of the definition of MEC.

CARRIED

The Chair clarified that MEC stands for the Māori Executive Committee, not the Mārae Executive Committee (as stated in the report.) The Committee inquired about the role of the MEC, and the

Chair explained that it serves as a conduit between Marae and Kahungunu Executive (KE.) The Māori Relationships Manager added that the MEC is a part of the Māori Development Act. The Committee also noted that KE offers an affordable dentistry option.

VERBAL TAKIWĀ UPDATES

Ms Reynolds (Te Wairoa Hōpūpū):

- Advised she had discussed providing feedback with marae representatives.
- Sought clarity on compliance schedules for marae buildings and how completion is determined.
- Raised concerns about delays in CSR responses and uncertainty regarding the completion of lodged requests.

Ms Maindonald (Te Wairoa):

- Attended a māramataka wānanga at EIT and discussed the potential for planting fruit trees along Kopu Road post-flood mitigation works.
- Reported an increase in water rats along Marine Parade and queried if HBRC set traps. The HBRC Māori Relationships Manager confirmed trapping only occurs in predator-free zones.

Ms Wairau (Mahia Mai Tawhiti):

- Received correspondence from the Māhia Māori Committee Secretary requesting relevant documents and issues relating to the Māhia rohe.
- Noted Morere reopened on 26 May following a breakdown.
- Ahuwhenua Awards scheduled for June 6 in Palmerston North.
- Noted a hui was held at Te Rakato Marae regarding the Māhia Recycling Centre.

Ms Thornton (Pāhauwera):

- Queried the timeline for erecting a fence at the Raupunga Recycling Centre, noting a lack of separation from the neighbouring property.
- Raised concerns about poison spraying on land; the Māori Relationships Manager explained that Council has a spraying register and advised requests can be made to exclude specific areas.
- Highlighted ongoing illegal dumping, with rubbish at risk of entering the Mohaka River. The Māori Relationships Manager suggested reporting via the Council's CSR process.
- Requested signage for Putere Road near Kahungunu Marae, identifying it as a frequent accident site.

Ms Hammond (Ruakituri):

- Reported a successful working bee and hui a hapū at Te Reinga Marae, with positive progress in committee relationships since becoming formalised via the Māori Land Court.
- Attended the Ordinary Council hui on 29 April, where the Local Water Done Well (LWDW) document was presented. Requested it also be brought to the Māori Standing Committee

(MSC) and expressed concern about decentralising waterway control. Cllr Thomas acknowledged the oversight.

- Noted her role as a MSC representative on the Strategy, Wellbeing and Economic Development Committee. She noted the Interim Chief Executive clarified that the co-option of members had not been confirmed by Council resolution. The Group Manager of Community Services and Development confirmed this also applies to MSC representative attendance at Ordinary Council. The matter is being addressed with the Chief of Operations.

The Meeting closed with a closing karakia by the Chair, Mr Henare Mita at 11:15am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Māori Standing Committee Meeting held on 8 July 2025.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

Māori Standing Committee – Action Sheet

<u>ACTION</u>	<u>MEETING THE ACTION WAS RAISED IN</u>	<u>DUE DATE</u>	<u>OFFICER RESPONSIBLE</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>	<u>STATUS</u>	<u>PUBLIC EXCLUDED</u>
				16/04/2025 Update	03/06/2025 Update		
Marae specific building compliance schedules to be created and to be tabled to MSC	01/10/2024		Graham Johnston transferred to Hinetaakoha Viriaere	Māori Relationships Manager is working alongside the Senior BCO on the development of this document.	Māori Relationships Manager to work with the Group Manager of Community Services and Development to prioritise and progress this action with greater urgency	In progress	No
Ensure CSR's are in place for burnt out cars (Takiwā updates)	11/03/2025		Duane Culshaw & Luke Knight			In progress	No
Informally share the Local Waters Done Well Consultation Document with members	03/06/2025		Hinemoa Hubbard	Document shared on June 4 th .		Completed	No

8 GENERAL ITEMS

8.1 MSC TAKIWA REPORT - RAKAIPAACA - 8 JULY 2025

Author: Duane Culshaw, Pouahurea Māori Māori Relationships Manager

Authoriser: Juanita Savage, Chief of Operations

Appendices: 1. MSC Takiwa Report - Rakaipaaka [↓](#)

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 This report provides information for the Māori Standing Committee on the MSC takiwā report for Rakaipaaka. No decisions are required by the Committee at this stage.

RECOMMENDATION

The Pouahurea Māori Māori Relationships Manager RECOMMENDS that the Māori Standing Committee receives this report.

**WDC Komiti Māori Meeting 10am,
8 Turei/Rātu Hurae/Hongongi 2025,
Rakaipaaka Purongo ā-Takiwā – Na Henare Mita (Heamana)**

Whaikōrōria ki a Ihowa-o-Ngā-Mano nāna nei ngā mea katoa i hanga. Ka tuku whakamoemiti ki a ia me te tangi mōteatea ki a rātou kua mene ki te po. Haere koutou, haere. Moe mai ra koutou i raro i ngā manaakitanga o te Runga Rawa, a tōna wā ka heria e Pohutukawa ki a Matariki wheturangitā ai. Haere te po, nau mai te ao, rātou ki a rātou, ā, tātau ki a tātau. E ngā waha takiwā, e ngā ringa rorerore tēnā koutou, tēnā tātau.

Background:

The suggestions offered here are a consequence of an informal presentation given by Group Manager Community Services and Development, Te Aroha Cook, following our June 3rd Māori Standing Committee meeting. During this meeting, Te Aroha informed MSC members that unfortunately through administrative oversight, MSC members were now unable to attend a number of council meetings. Those meetings were: Ordinary Council meetings, Council Forums, Strategy, Wellbeing and Economic Development Committee meetings and the Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee meetings. She added that we could still attend these meetings as members of the public, but not as MSC and should any publicly excluded matters be raised during these meetings, we, like any other members of the public, must vacate council chambers. We would also not be privy to any agenda documents.

It appears concerns had been raised with interim CE, Malcolm Alexander, who was asked to examine the matter more closely and found council policy and procedures had not been adhered to, thus necessitating the immediate pause of MSC attendance at these meetings. Some of those concerns triggered by sensitivity issues relating to Publicly Excluded documents and the appropriateness of non-elected individuals - outside council staff or contracted personnel - gaining access to this information.

Benefits To MSC:

Although MSC members fully understood the reasoning behind this decision, we were none-the-less disappointed by these turn of events. For me, attendance at such meetings had numerous benefits. It kept MSC informed of the various projects falling under the patronage of council, a technical appreciation of many of them and offered some insight to the inner workings of council. The importance of comprehensive staff or consultant reports and there implications for elected members in exercising due diligence. But most importantly to me, was the feeling that MSC was being given greater responsibility within council, that there was gravitas to being an MSC members. Also, it is crucial to mention that at no time during these meetings was MSC ever made to feel unwelcome and where possible urged to contribute to discussions. For this MSC remain deeply indebted to elected members and council staff.

A Pathway Ahead:

And so, despite our disappointment, a path forward has been presented us, one that I trust we can build on and grow for the betterment of our committee and council:

Workshops: I think it would be really helpful if council were able to facilitate workshops for our members. Workshops that grow us as a committee and workshops that where possible keep us updated on the different projects council is involved with. For example, one of the criticisms often directed toward MSC is that our meetings can sometimes become bogged

down by 'operational matters' as opposed to focusing on governance and strategic matters. But to me, this overlap makes sense when you consider that both our elected members and MSC are viewed by residents as a community mouth-piece, a means by which issues like fly-dumping, abandoned wrecks or accident hotspots can be brought before council and actioned.

Of course, as MSC we are constantly reminded of council's Client Service Request (CSR) facility, but as long as I have been a MSC member, these issues, like it or not, have always played a part in our meetings. Perhaps then it is time for us to flesh this matter out more fully in a workshop setting and hopefully unveil a few solutions. Such workshops too may allow us to review documents of significance to MSC like our Terms of Reference or the council Te Reo Māori policy. If so, I think the pathway ahead offers some real opportunities for us.

Update On Nuhaka School:

The proposed re-opening of Nuhaka Primary School is scheduled for Monday 14th of July. It has been a long time coming and so staff, students, parents and board members need to be congratulated for their strength of spirit in the face of some very difficult times. Not only did they recently undergo a visit from the Education Review Office but are involved too in a troubling back and forth with the Ministry of Education, regarding the present state of their school grounds. According to the Ministry and much to the consternation of staff, parents and board, preparation of the school grounds was never a part of the rebuild. And as incredulous as this may sound, hopefully common sense will prevail, because it is going to take a minor miracle to ready their grounds for the impending arrival of highly energetic school children.



[This is an informational only takiwā report and as such does not require any decisions to be made on the part of this committee. It is recommended that this committee receive this report.]