



AGENDA Ordinary Meeting

Tuesday 10 December 2024, 10.00am

Ordinary Council 10 December 2024

10 December 2024 10:00 AM



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Whakataka te hau

Karakia to open meetings

Whakataka te hau ki te uru
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
Kia mākinakina ki uta
Kia mātaratara ki tai
Kia hī ake ana te atakura
He tio, he huka, he hauhu
Tūturu o whiti whakamaua kia tina.
Tina!
Hui ē! Tāiki ē!

Cease the winds from the west
Cease the winds from the south
Let the breeze blow over the land
Let the breeze blow over the ocean
Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air
A touch of frost, a promise of glorious day
Let there be certainty
Secure it!
Draw together! Affirm!



Date: 10 December 2024

Subject: Confirmation of Ordinary Council Minutes - 29 October 2024

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-138

Recommendations

That Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) takes as read and confirms the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held at Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on 29 October 2024.

Appendices/Attachments

[TRCID-1492626864-125: Ordinary Council Minutes 29 October 2024](#)



Date:	29 October 2024	
Venue:	Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford	
Document:	TRCID-1492626864-125	
Present:	C L Littlewood	Chairperson
	N W Walker	Deputy Chairperson
	M J Cloke	
	M G Davey	
	C S Williamson	
	D H McIntyre	
	D M Cram	
	D L Lean	zoom
	B J Bigham	zoom
Attending:	S Ruru	Chief Executive
	M Nield	Director – Corporate Services
	A Matthews	Director – Environmental Quality
	A D McLay	Director – Resource Management
	D Harrison	Director - Operations
	N Chadwick	Executive Assistant to Chief Executive and Chairperson
	M Jones	Governance Administrator
	C Woollin	Communication lead

Three representatives from Wild for Taranaki were present

The meeting opened with a group Karakia at 10.30am

Apologies: apologies were received and sustained from Councillor Hughes and Councillor Jamieson.

Littlewood/Cloke

1. Wild for Taranaki Presentation

- 1.1 Wild for Taranaki gave a presentation to provide an update on activities undertaken over the past 12 months.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received Wild for Taranaki's 2023/2024 Annual Report and presentation of activities.

Littlewood/Williamson

2. Confirmation of Ordinary Council Minutes – 24 September 2024

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- b) took as read and confirmed the minutes and resolutions of the Ordinary meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on 24 September 2024.

Littlewood/Cloke

3. Receipt of Operations and Regulatory Committee Minutes – 15 October 2024

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the minutes of the Operations and Regulatory Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 15 October 2024 at 9.00am
- b) adopted the recommendations therein.

Cloke/Cram

4. Receipt of Policy and Planning Committee Minutes – 15 October 2024

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 15 October 2024 at 10.30am
- b) adopted the recommendations therein.

Williamson/Littlewood

5. Receipt of Executive Audit and Risk Committee Minutes – 21 October 2024

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the unconfirmed minutes of the Executive Audit and Risk Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten, Stratford on Monday 21 October at 10.00 am
- b) adopted the recommendations therein.

Cloke/Walker

6. Receipt of Yarrow Stadium Joint Committee Minutes – 2 October 2024

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the unconfirmed minutes of Yarrow Stadium Joint Committee held at Suit One, Yarrow Stadium, Maratahu Street, New Plymouth on 2 October at 9.00 am
- b) adopted the recommendations therein.

Lean/Cloke

7. Taranaki (Yarrow) Stadium Management Agreement

- 7.1 M Nield introduced an options paper for the renew of the Taranaki (Yarrow) Stadium Management Agreement.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received this memorandum Taranaki (Yarrow) Stadium Management Agreement
- b) resolved to not undertake a review of the Taranaki (Yarrow) Stadium Management Agreement
- c) determined that this decision be recognised not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- d) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Cram/Cloke

(11.11am Councillor Lean left the meeting)

8. Approach to the Preparation for the 2025/2026 Annual Plan

8.1 M Nield provided an overview of the preparation for the 2025/2026 Annual Plan. Requesting guidance from Council on what direction they would like to pursue in the preparation and adoption of the 2025/2026 Annual Plan.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum entitled "Approach to the Preparation of the 2025/2026 Annual Plan"
- b) provided guidance and feedback to inform the process of preparing and adopting the 2025/2026 Annual Plan, noting the preferred option of amending the 2025/2026 plans based upon the changing environmental background
- c) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- d) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Littlewood/Williamson

9. Establishment of the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee

9.1 N Chadwick provided background on the proposed establishment of the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the Establishment of the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee memorandum
- b) approved the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee Agreement
- c) established the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee
- d) adopted the Terms of Reference for the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee
- e) selected and appointed Councillors Littlewood and Hughes to the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee
- f) selected and appointed Councillor Jamieson to be the alternate on the Taranaki Passenger Transport Joint Committee
- g) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- h) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Williamson/Walker

10. Local Government New Zealand Tour and Conference 2024

10.1 C Littlewood gave a presentation on the 2024 LGNZ Regional Tour and Conference.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the Local Government New Zealand Tour and Conference 2024 memorandum
- b) noted the points in the presentation from Chairperson Charlotte Littlewood, Deputy Chair Neil Walker and Councillor Alan Jamieson

Littlewood/Cloke

(11.56am Councillor Walker left meeting)

11. Upcoming Meeting Dates for November 2024

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received and noted the memorandum Upcoming Meeting Dates.

Littlewood/Williamson

12. Public Excluded

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolves that the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Ordinary Council Meeting on 29 October 2024 for the following reason/s:

The matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 are as follows:

Item 16:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Ordinary Council Minutes – 24 September 2024

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 under section 6 (a) and [section 7](#) (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Item 17:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Operations and Regulatory Minutes – 15 October 2024

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 under section 6 (a) and section 7 (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Item 18:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Executive Audit and Risk Minutes – 21 October 2024

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 where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; and/or enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice, commercial activities.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
<p>Item 19: Chair’s Report- Chief Executive Review and Recommendations</p>	<p>7(2)(a) Protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.</p> <p>Information about an individual’s performance in an employment context is highly personal and would generally be considered to be confidential.</p>	<p>48(1)(a) 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: (i) Where the local authority is named or specified in Schedule 1 of this Act, under section 6 or 7 (except 7(2)(f)(i)) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.</p>

Cloke/Cram

There being no further business the Chairperson, C L Littlewood, declared the meeting of the Ordinary Council meeting closed with a karakia at 12.10pm.

Council Chairperson: _____

C L Littlewood



Date: 10 December 2024

Subject: Receipt of Operations and Regulatory Minutes

Author: N Chadwick, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive and Chairperson

Approved by: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-183

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the Minutes of the Operations and Regulatory Committee meeting held at the Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford on Tuesday 26 November 2024 at 9.00am
- b) adopts the recommendations therein.

Appendices/Attachments

[TRCID-1492626864-139: Unconfirmed Operations and Regulatory Minutes November 2024](#)



Date:	26 November 2024	
Venue:	Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford	
Document:	TRCID-1492626864-139	
Present:	S W Hughes	Chair
	M J Cloke	
	D M Cram	
	M G Davey	
	D M McIntyre	
	C L Littlewood	ex officio
	R Buttimore	Iwi Representative
	D Luke	Iwi Representative
	Ā White	Iwi Representative
	P Muir	Federated Farmers
Attending:	A J Matthews	Director - Environment Quality
	M J Nield	Director – Corporate Services
	A D McLay	Director – Resource Management
	L Miller	Manager – Recourse Consents
	V McKay	Manager - Environmental Assurance
	P Davidson	Team lead - Compliance
	N Chadwick	Executive Assistant
	M Jones	Governance Administrator

Karakia: The meeting opened with a group karakia at 9.00am.

Apologies: Were received and sustained from Councillor Lean and Councillor Bigham Buttimore/Cram

1. Confirmation of Minutes Operations and Regulatory Committee 15 October 2024

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- took as read and confirmed the minutes of the Operations and Regulatory Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council held on 15 October 2024 at Taranaki Regional Council 47 Cloten Road Stratford
- noted the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on Tuesday 29 October 2024.

Cloke/Littlewood

2. Consent Monitoring Annual Reports

- 2.1 V McKay provided an update on eight tailored compliance monitoring reports for the 2023/24 reporting year.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the eight compliance monitoring reports listed in Table 1
- b) noted any specific recommendations therein.

Littlewood/Luke

3. Resource Consents Issued under Delegated Authority & Applications in Progress

- 3.1 L Miller advised of consents granted, consents under application and of consent processing actions since the last meeting.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the schedule of resource consents granted and other consent processing actions, made under delegated authority.

McIntyre/Walker

4. Incidents, Compliance Monitoring Non-Compliances and Enforcement Summary – 20 September to 31 October 2024

- 4.1 P Davidson Team Lead - Compliance, provided a summary of the incidents, compliance monitoring non-compliances and enforcement for the period 20 September to 31 October 2024.
- 4.2 M Davey declared a conflict and abstained from the vote.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received this memorandum Incident, Compliance Monitoring Non-Compliances and Enforcement Summary – 20 September to 31 October 2024
- b) received the summary of the incidents, compliance monitoring non-compliances and enforcement for the period from 20 September to 31 October 2024
- c) noted the action taken by staff acting under delegated authority
- d) adopted the recommendations therein.

Walker/White

Public Excluded

Item 10: Confirmation of public excluded Operations and Regulatory minutes – 15 October 2024

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 under section 6 (a) and [section 7](#) (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Cloke/White

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, Councillor S W Hughes, declared the meeting of the Operations and Regulatory Committee closed at 9.28am.

**Operations and
Regulatory**

Committee Chairperson: _____

S W Hughes



Date: 12 December 2024

Subject: Receipt of Executive Audit and Risk Committee Minutes

Author: N Chadwick, Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive and Chair

Approved by: M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services

Document: 3317636

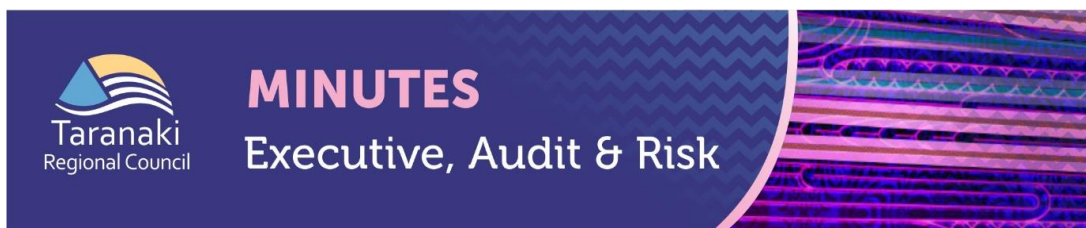
Recommendations

That Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the minutes of the Executive, Audit and Risk Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road on Monday 2 December 2024 at 10am
- b) adopts the recommendations therein.

Appendices/Attachments

[TRCID-1492626864-161: Unconfirmed Executive Audit and Risk Minutes 2 December 2024](#)



Date:	2 December 2024	
Venue:	Taranaki Regional Council Boardroom, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford	
Document:	TRCID-1492626864-161	
Present:	M J Cloke	Chairperson
	C S Williamson	
	A Jamieson	
	D H McIntyre	
	C L Littlewood	ex officio (Zoom)
	N W Walker	ex officio
Attending:	M J Nield	Director – Corporate Services
	B Muir	Senior Health, Safety and Wellness Adviser
	R Johnson	Finance Manager
	A De Faria	Finance Manager
	N Chadwick	Governance Administrator

The meeting opened with a group Karakia at 10.00am.

Apologies were received and sustained from Councillor Hughes and Mr Bruce Robertson.

Jamieson/McIntyre

1. Confirmation of Minutes Executive Audit and Risk Committee Minutes – 21 October 2024

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- took as read and confirmed the minutes of Executive Audit and Risk Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council held at 10.00am on Monday 21 October 2024 at Taranaki Regional Council 47 Cloten Road Stratford
- noted the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on Tuesday 29 October 2024.

Walker/Williamson

2. Speed Management Changes

- 2.1 M Nield provided an update on the changes to the national speed management policies which have removed regional authority involvement and a consequential recommendation to rescind the MOU that was previously put in place.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum speed management changes
- b) noted that the policy approach for speed management and road safety have shifted significantly with the change in Government
- c) noted the release of the final Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2024 which removes the regional authority involvement in speed management planning which was assigned by the Land Transport Rule: Setting of Speed Limits 2022
- d) agreed to formally rescind the Memorandum of Understanding put in place to develop the first Regional Speed Management Plan and to cease associated work
- e) determined that this decision be recognised not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- f) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determined that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Jamieson/McIntyre

(Councillor Littlewood joined the meeting at 10:07am)

3. Financial and Operational Report

- 3.1 M Nield provided an update on operational and financial performance.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the memorandum Financial and Operational Report and the August and September 2024 Monthly Financial Reports
- b) noted the digital media update.

Cloke/Walker

4. Health and Safety Report

- 4.1 M Nield and B Muir provided an update on health and safety performance.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the October 2024 Health and Safety report.

Cloke/McIntyre

5. Regional Software Holding Limited Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2024

5.1 M Nield provided an overview of Regional Software Holdings Limited's Annual Report.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received Regional Software Holding Limited's Annual Report for the period ending 30 June 2024.

Williamson/Walker

6. Civic Services Limited Half Yearly Accounts to 30 June 2024

6.1 M Nield provided an overview of Civic Services half yearly accounts.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received Civic Services Limited's Half-Yearly Report to 30 June 2024.

Jamieson/Cloke

7. Taranaki Stadium Trust 2023/2024 Annual Report

7.1 M Nield provided an overview of Taranaki Stadium Trust's 2023/2024 Annual Report.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received Taranaki Stadium Trusts 2023/2024 Annual Report.

Cloke/Walker

8. Review of Risk Management Practice

8.1 N Chadwick and M Nield provide an overview of the Review of Risk Management Practice that was undertaken by Mr Bruce Robertson.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the Review of Risk Management Practice memorandum, the Review of Risk Management Practice report and the Risk Management Framework, Policy and Guidelines document
- b) adopted the Risk Management Framework, Policy and Guidelines
- c) noted the Executive, Audit and Risk Committee will receive additional reporting on risk management
- d) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- e) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter

Williamson/McIntyre

9. Director Appointment Policy Review

9.1 N Chadwick provided an overview of the reviewed Director Appointment Policy

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received this memorandum titled Director Appointment Policy review along with the attached revised Director Appointment Policy
- b) adopted the Directors Appointment Policy
- c) determined that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- d) determined that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Jamieson/Williamson

10. Accommodation Project Update

10.1 M Nield provided an update on the Accommodation Project.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) received the Accommodation Update Report December 2024
- b) received the final design package of the new building
- c) noted the progress to date and the next steps on the Accommodation Project.

McIntyre/Walker

(J. Paterson joined the meeting at 10:46am)

11. Yarrow Stadium Plus: Project Update

11.1 M Nield and J Paterson provided an update on the Yarrow Stadium Project.

Resolved

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) noted the progress to date and the next steps on the Yarrow Stadium Plus Redevelopment Project.

Cloke/McIntyre

12. Public Excluded

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolved that the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Executive Audit and Risk Meeting on 2 December 2024 for the following reason/s:

The matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 are as follows:

Item 17 – Confirmation of Public Excluded Executive Audit and Risk Minutes – 21 October 2024

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 where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; and/or enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice, commercial activities.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
Item 18: Yarrow Stadium Plus: Project Steering Group Report	The report contains information relating to performance of the contractor which is subject to ongoing monitoring and negotiation.	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 under section 7 (2) (h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987
Item 19: Accommodation Update	The report contains information relating to performance of the contractor which is subject to ongoing monitoring and negotiation.	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 under section 7 (2) (h) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

Williamson/Jamieson

There being no further business the Committee Chairperson, M J Cloke, declared the meeting of the Executive Audit and Risk Committee meeting closed at 10:53am.

Executive Audit and Risk

Committee Chairperson: _____

M J Cloke



Date: 10 December 2024

Subject: Receipt of Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee Minutes

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director – Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-136

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to receive the minutes of the:
 - Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee (TSWM) held on 14 November 2024.

Executive summary

2. The Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee is a Joint Committee between the Taranaki Regional Council and the three district councils of Taranaki.
3. *The Local Government Act* (Schedule 7, clause 30(8)) states that a joint committee is deemed to be both a committee of the local authority and a committee of the other local authorities or public body.
4. Each council has therefore been given the minutes of the joint committee meeting for their receipt and information.

Recommendations

That Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held on 14 November 2024.

Appendices/Attachments

[TRCID-1492626864-108: Unconfirmed TSWM Committee Minutes 14 November 2024](#)



Date:	14 November 2024	
Venue:	Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford	
Document:	TRCID-1492626864-108	
Present:	D H McIntyre	Taranaki Regional Council (Chairperson)
	B Roach	South Taranaki District Council
	M Chong	New Plymouth District Council
	M McKay	Stratford District Council
Attending:	A Matthews	Taranaki Regional Council
	M Jones	Taranaki Regional Council
	N Chadwick	Taranaki Regional Council
	V McKay	Taranaki Regional Council (zoom)
	A Brasch	New Plymouth District Council
	G Cotter	New Plymouth District Council
	C Koen	New Plymouth District Council
	J Ingram	South Taranaki District Council
	L Campbell	South Taranaki District Council

Apologies: There were no apologies.

1. Confirmation of minutes – 22 August 2024

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) took as read and confirmed the minutes and resolutions of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee meeting held at Taranaki Regional Council, 47 Cloten Road Stratford on 22 August 2024
- b) noted that the unconfirmed minutes of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee held at on Thursday 22 August 2024 at Taranaki Regional Council have been circulated to the New Plymouth District Council, Stratford District Council and South Taranaki District Council for receipt and information.

Roach/McIntyre

2. Regional Waste Minimisation Officers Report

2.1 G Cotter provided an update on the activities undertaken by the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer in collaboration with the district councils. In particular the zero waste fund and recent events throughout the region.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) received the memorandum Regional Waste Minimisation Officer's Activity Report July 2024
- b) noted the activities of the Regional Waste Minimisation Officer and district councils.

McIntyre/Chong

3. Regional Solid Waste Operations Report

3.1 G Cotter provided an update on the solid waste services within the region and the reduction of recycling contamination of rates.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) received the memorandum regional Solid Waste Operations Report.

Roach/McKay

4. Regional Annual Data Report 2023/2024

4.1 G Cotter provided an update on the regional waste data for the 2023/2024 financial year.

4.2 The report will be presented in detail at the first TSWM meeting of 2025

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee:

- a) received the memorandum Annual Data Report 2023/2024.

McIntyre/Roach

There being no further business, Committee Chairperson, D H McIntyre declared the meeting of the Taranaki Solid Waste Management Committee closed at 11.32am.

Taranaki Solid Waste

Management Chairperson: _____

D H McIntyre



Date: 10 December 2024

Subject: Submission on Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill

Author: F Kiddle, Strategy Lead

Approved by: A D McLay, Director - Resource Management

Document: TRCID-1492626864-166

Purpose

1. To seek endorsement of a proposed Council submission on the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill.

Executive summary

2. The Government's Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill (the Bill) aims to define the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi / te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty/te Tiriti) in statute.
3. It contains three principles, which broadly cover that:
 - a. The Executive Government of New Zealand has full power to govern, and the Parliament of New Zealand has full power to make laws.
 - b. Differential rights for hapū and iwi Māori only apply in the settlement of a historical treaty claim under the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975.
 - c. Everyone is equal before the law and entitled to the equal enjoyment of the same fundamental human rights.
4. The Council's proposed submission sets out that the Bill could harm the good work we are currently doing with iwi and hapū, has been progressed in a way that undermines the Treaty/te Tiriti, is inconsistent with the Treaty/te Tiriti, risks poorer legislation and social cohesion, and could make resource management more complex.
5. For these reasons, the submission opposes the Bill.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum Submission on the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill
- b) endorses the submission in attachment One on the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill
- c) determines that this decision be recognised as not significant in terms of section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002
- d) determines that it has complied with the decision-making provisions of the Local Government Act 2002 to the extent necessary in relation to this decision; and in accordance with section 79 of the Act, determines that it does not require further information, further assessment of options or further

analysis of costs and benefits, or advantages and disadvantages prior to making a decision on this matter.

Background

6. The Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill (the Bill) aims to define the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi / te Tiriti o Waitangi (the Treaty/te Tiriti) in statute. The stated aim is to:
 - a. create greater certainty and clarity to the meaning of the principles in legislation:
 - b. promote a national conversation about the place of the principles in our constitutional arrangements:
 - c. create a more robust and widely understood conception of New Zealand's constitutional arrangements, and each person's rights within them:
 - d. build consensus about the Treaty/te Tiriti and our constitutional arrangements that will promote greater legitimacy and social cohesion.
7. If passed into law, the provisions of the Bill would come into force if a majority of electors voting in a referendum support it. The provisions would be used exclusively to assist with the interpretation of an enactment where Treaty principles would normally be considered relevant, in addition to legislation that refers to Treaty principles directly. For example, section 8 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA), which requires persons exercising powers under the RMA to take into account the principles of the Treaty/te Tiriti. The provisions would not apply to the interpretation of Treaty settlement legislation.
8. Submissions close on 7 January 2025 and the Select Committee hearing submissions is due to report back to Parliament by the end of February 2025.
9. The Bill contains three principles, which are quoted below.

Principle 1

10. Principle 1: The Executive Government of New Zealand has full power to govern, and the Parliament of New Zealand has full power to make laws,—
 - a. in the best interests of everyone; and
 - b. in accordance with the rule of law and the maintenance of a free and democratic society.

Principle 2

11. The Crown recognises, and will respect and protect, the rights that hapū and iwi Māori had under the Treaty of Waitangi/te Tiriti o Waitangi at the time they signed it.
12. However, if those rights differ from the rights of everyone, subclause (1) applies only if those rights are agreed in the settlement of a historical treaty claim under the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975.

Principle 3

13. Everyone is equal before the law.
14. Everyone is entitled, without discrimination, to—
 - a. the equal protection and equal benefit of the law; and
 - b. the equal enjoyment of the same fundamental human rights.

Issues

15. The principles of the Treaty directly impact the discharge of a range of Council functions, particularly under the RMA. Accordingly, the Bill would substantively impact how Council delivers its services.

Discussion

16. The discussion of the issues within the Bill are well canvassed in the submission contained in Attachment One. The key matters the submission covers are that:
 - a. The Bill will not add value to the Council's existing relationships with iwi and hapū. It may indeed undermine these relationships and the good work currently being done.
 - b. The consultation process to develop the Bill is inadequate and itself undermines the high level of trust needed for the parties of a treaty to engage positively with each other.
 - c. The principles within the Bill itself are inconsistent with the Treaty/te Tiriti and do not accord with existing jurisprudence on the Treaty principles, or the historical circumstances of the text and spirit of the Treaty/te Tiriti.
 - d. The Bill is potentially harmful to Crown-Māori relations. In-turn, this could lead to poor legislation, worse community outcomes and make the ability for the Council to do its work more challenging.
 - e. Further, the Bill places wider social cohesion at risk. This is at a time where society needs to be pulling together if it is to overcome major issues such as climate change or biodiversity loss.
 - f. The Bill could make resource management practice more complex. It would do this by creating a two-track resource management system. One system for work that is captured by Treaty settlement legislation, and one system for work that is not.
17. Overall, the submissions sets out that the Council does not support the Bill.

Options

18. The Council can endorse the submission, endorse the submission subject to amendments directed by the Council, or not endorse the submission and ask the submission not be submitted. It is recommended that the Council endorse the submission. The issue is of national importance, and it is important that Council be heard on it.

Significance

19. This decision is assessed as not significant with regards to the Significance and Engagement Policy. It will have no impact on levels of service, incur more than \$10,000,000 budgeted or \$5,000,000 of unbudgeted expenditure, or involve the transfer of ownership or control of a strategic asset. More broadly, final decision-making authority rests with Parliament.

Financial considerations—LTP/Annual Plan

20. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's adopted Long-Term Plan and estimates. Any financial information included in this memorandum has been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice.

Policy considerations

21. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the policy documents and positions adopted by this Council under various legislative frameworks including, but not restricted to, the *Local Government Act 2002*, the *Resource Management Act 1991* and the *Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987*.

Climate change considerations

22. There are no climate change impacts to consider in relation to this item.

Iwi considerations

23. This memorandum and the associated recommendations are consistent with the Council's policy for the development of Māori capacity to contribute to decision-making processes (schedule 10 of the *Local Government Act 2002*) as outlined in the adopted Long-Term Plan and/or Annual Plan. Similarly, iwi involvement in adopted work programmes has been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Community considerations

24. This memorandum and the associated recommendations have considered the views of the community, interested and affected parties and those views have been recognised in the preparation of this memorandum.

Legal considerations

25. This memorandum and the associated recommendations comply with the appropriate statutory requirements imposed upon the Council.

Appendices/Attachments

[TRCID-1553446934-17: Submission on the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill](#)

[TRCID-1553446934-16: Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill](#)



26 November 2024
Document: TRCID-1553446934-17

Committee Secretariat
Justice Committee
Parliament Buildings
Wellington

ju@parliament.govt.nz

Submission on the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill

1. The Taranaki Regional Council (Council) values highly its relationships with Māori. They add significant value to the work that we do as a Council in managing the regions natural resources and make a significant contribution to development of the region as a whole.
2. Council is concerned that the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill (the Bill), and the principles it espouses, will not bring any added value to the relationships we have or the practical work that we need to do in partnership with tangata whenua. Indeed, there is a very real danger that it will undermine existing relationships and stymie the good work being done at present. As a result, the Council does not support the Bill.
3. It is disappointing that the Bill has been developed without extensive consultation with Māori. Treaties are agreements between two or more parties. For one party to unilaterally seek to change the treaty's interpretation and application without proper engagement with the other is a breach of that agreement and the high level of trust that needs to exist in such relationships.
4. The approach that the Government has chosen to pursue in developing this Bill is especially problematic. The Bill's regulatory impact statement indicates that the proposed principles are "inconsistent with the Treaty/te Tiriti". The interpretation they rely on do not "recognise the collective rights held by iwi and hapū, or the distinct status of Māori as the indigenous people of Aotearoa New Zealand." Effectively, the regulatory impact statement is indicating that the contents of the Bill and the process used to develop it are flawed. Council agrees with that view.
5. In effect the principles proposed would restate rights established elsewhere in law. This calls into question the purpose of the Treaty/te Tiriti and its status in our constitutional arrangements. As noted by the Waitangi Tribunal, "the 'principles' proposed to be used to define Treaty principles in statute do not accord with existing jurisprudence on the Treaty principles, or the historical circumstances of the text and spirit of the Treaty/te Tiriti."
6. In these circumstances the Bill could be harmful to Crown-Māori relations. As a creature of statute, the Council is dependent on effective and efficient legislation to be able to serve its community well. Council does not believe that the Bill meets either of these tests and is concerned that a deterioration in Crown-Māori relations will ultimately lead to poorer legislation, worse community outcomes and make Council's ability to do its work more challenging.
7. Wider social cohesion is also at risk. We are in an era of worsening social dislocation and increasing polarisation. Under these conditions, the Bill risks fostering greater division and

disorder. As noted by the Waitangi Tribunal, this will bring significant prejudicial impacts on Māori that “cannot be overstated.” All this is at a time where if society is to overcome the biggest challenges it faces, such as the impacts of climate change or biodiversity loss, then more cohesion and strength is needed, not less.

8. Finally, the Bill risks making resource management even more complex. Currently the alignment between the established interpretation of the Treaty / te Tiriti principles and existing settlement legislation allows for resource management practices that give effect to both. The Bill would create a significant disconnect between the two. This would effectively create a two-track resource management system, where one standard is applied in one area and another somewhere else. This could be especially problematic for those iwi with older settlements where the natural resource provisions are not as advanced as more modern settlements.
9. The Treaty of Waitangi/te Tiriti o Waitangi provides a foundation for all New Zealanders. The nature of the Treaty/te Tiriti is that its application to society is constantly evolving and developing. The ongoing evolution of the principles provides the space to have a robust and mature conversation about the place of the Treaty/te Tiriti. The proposed Bill, which seeks an erroneous crystallisation of the principles, does not and is therefore not supported by Council.
10. We do not wish to be heard in support of this submission.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S J Ruru', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

S J Ruru
Chief Executive

Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill

Government Bill

Explanatory note

General policy statement

The Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill implements the Government policy to introduce a Treaty principles Bill, based on existing ACT Party policy, and to support it to a select committee as soon as practicable.

The overarching objective of the Bill is to define what the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are in statute to—

- create greater certainty and clarity to the meaning of the principles in legislation:
- promote a national conversation about the place of the principles in our constitutional arrangements:
- create a more robust and widely understood conception of New Zealand’s constitutional arrangements, and each person’s rights within them:
- build consensus about the Treaty/te Tiriti and our constitutional arrangements that will promote greater legitimacy and social cohesion.

Parliament introduced the concept of the Treaty principles into legislation in the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975, partially to reconcile the differences between the 2 texts. Parliament, however, did not define those principles.

The Treaty principles, as defined at this time, help reconcile differences between the te reo Māori and English texts and give effect to the spirit and intent of the Treaty when applied to contemporary issues. They apply to policy and operational decisions by Government (exactly what this requires depends on the context and there is guidance available to assist decision makers). They are used in the interpretation of legislation and are used by the Tribunal to review proposed Crown action or inaction, policies, and legislation.

Summary of key features

Principles

Civil government—the Government of New Zealand has full power to govern, and Parliament has full power to make laws. They do so in the best interests of everyone, and in accordance with the rule of law and the maintenance of a free and democratic society.

Rights of hapū and iwi Māori—the Crown recognises the rights that hapū and iwi had when they signed the Treaty/te Tiriti. The Crown will respect and protect those rights. Those rights differ from the rights everyone has a reasonable expectation to enjoy only when they are specified in Treaty settlements.

Right to equality—everyone is equal before the law and is entitled to the equal protection and equal benefit of the law without discrimination. Everyone is entitled to the equal enjoyment of the same fundamental human rights without discrimination.

Application

The Bill is an instrument of Parliament created for the purpose of interpreting Parliament's intent when it passes legislation.

The defined principles would be used exclusively to assist with the interpretation of an enactment where Treaty principles would normally be considered relevant, in addition to legislation that refers to Treaty principles directly. This does not necessarily require Treaty principles to be explicitly referenced in the legislation in question. Their application in decision making is determined by the nature of the decision rather than the explicit reference in legislation.

The Bill does not alter or amend the text of the Treaty/te Tiriti itself and does not apply to the interpretation of a Treaty settlement Act.

Commencement

The Bill will come into force if a majority of electors voting in a referendum support it. The Bill will come into force 6 months after the date on which the official result of that referendum is declared.

If a majority of electors voting in a referendum do not support the Bill, it will automatically be repealed.

Departmental disclosure statement

The Ministry of Justice is required to prepare a disclosure statement to assist with the scrutiny of this Bill. The disclosure statement provides access to information about the policy development of the Bill and identifies any significant or unusual legislative features of the Bill.

A copy of the statement can be found at <http://legislation.govt.nz/disclosure.aspx?type=bill&subtype=government&year=2024&no=94>

Regulatory impact statement

The Ministry of Justice produced a regulatory impact statement on 28 August 2024 to help inform the main policy decisions taken by the Government relating to the contents of this Bill.

A copy of this regulatory impact statement can be found at—

- <https://www.beehive.govt.nz/release/next-steps-agreed-treaty-principles-bill>
- <https://treasury.govt.nz/publications/informationreleases/ris>

Clause by clause analysis

Clause 1 is the Title clause.

Clause 2 provides for the Bill to come into force 6 months after the date on which the official result of a referendum is announced if a majority of electors voting in that referendum support the Bill coming into force.

Part 1

Preliminary provisions

Clause 3 states the purpose of the Bill.

Clause 4 defines terms used in the Bill.

Clause 5 provides that the Bill, when enacted, will bind the Crown.

Part 2

Principles of Treaty of Waitangi

Clause 6 sets out the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi for the purposes of the Bill.

Clause 7 provides that the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi set out in the Bill must be used to interpret an enactment if principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are relevant to interpreting that enactment. This is the case whether the reference to principles is express or implied.

Clause 8 provides that the Bill does not apply to the interpretation of a Treaty settlement Act, or the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 in relation to the settlement of a historical Treaty claim entered into after the commencement of the Bill.

Clause 9 provides that the Bill does not amend the text of the Treaty of Waitangi/te Tiriti o Waitangi.

Hon David Seymour

Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill

Government Bill

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The Parliament of New Zealand enacts as follows:

- 1 Title**
This Act is the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Act **2024**.
- 2 Commencement**
 - (1) If a majority of electors voting in a referendum respond to the question in **sub-section (2)** supporting this Act coming into force, this Act comes into force **6** 5

- months after the date on which the official result of that referendum is declared.
- (2) The wording of the question to be put to electors in a referendum for the purposes of **subsection (1)** is—
- “Do you support the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Act **2024** coming into force?” 5
- (3) The wording of the 2 options for which electors may vote in response to the question is—
- “Yes, I support the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Act **2024** coming into force.” 10
- “No, I do not support the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Act **2024** coming into force.”
- (4) If a majority of electors voting in a referendum respond to the question in **subsection (2)** that they do not support this Act coming into force, this Act is repealed on the day after the date on which the official result of that referendum is declared. 15
- (5) This Act is repealed if it does not come into force under **subsection (1)** within 5 years after the date on which it receives Royal assent.
- (6) In this section, **referendum**—
- (a) means a referendum providing electors with an opportunity to decide whether this Act should come into force; and 20
- (b) includes any fresh referendum required to be held if the High Court, on a petition, declares the referendum under **paragraph (a)** to be void.

Part 1

Preliminary provisions 25

3 Purpose

The purpose of this Act is—

- (a) to set out the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi in legislation; and
- (b) to require, where relevant, that those principles must be used when interpreting legislation. 30

4 Interpretation

In this Act,—

historical Treaty claim has the same meaning as in section 2 of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

Treaty settlement Act means— 35

- (a) an Act listed in Schedule 3 of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975; and

- (b) any of the following:
- (i) the Maori Commercial Aquaculture Claims Settlement Act 2004:
 - (ii) the Ngā Mana Whenua o Tāmaki Makaurau Collective Redress Act 2014:
 - (iii) the Nga Wai o Maniapoto (Waipa River) Act 2012: 5
 - (iv) the Ngati Tuwharetoa, Raukawa, and Te Arawa River Iwi Waikato River Act 2010:
 - (v) the Treaty of Waitangi (Fisheries Claims) Settlement Act 1992 and secondary legislation that gives effect to section 10 of that Act: 10
 - (vi) any other Act that—
 - (A) provides collective redress or participation arrangements for claimant groups whose historical Treaty claims are, or are to be, settled by another Act; or
 - (B) otherwise relates to the settlement of a historical Treaty claim. 15
- 5 Act binds the Crown**
This Act binds the Crown.

Part 2

Principles of Treaty of Waitangi

20

6 Principles of Treaty of Waitangi

The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are as follows:

Principle 1

The Executive Government of New Zealand has full power to govern, and the Parliament of New Zealand has full power to make laws,—

- (a) in the best interests of everyone; and
- (b) in accordance with the rule of law and the maintenance of a free and democratic society.

Principle 2

- (1) The Crown recognises, and will respect and protect, the rights that hapū and iwi Māori had under the Treaty of Waitangi/te Tiriti o Waitangi at the time they signed it.
- (2) However, if those rights differ from the rights of everyone, **subclause (1)** applies only if those rights are agreed in the settlement of a historical treaty claim under the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975.

Principle 3

- (1) Everyone is equal before the law.
- (2) Everyone is entitled, without discrimination, to—
 - (a) the equal protection and equal benefit of the law; and
 - (b) the equal enjoyment of the same fundamental human rights.

7 Principles of Treaty of Waitangi set out in section 6 must be used to interpret enactments

- (1) The principles of the Treaty of Waitangi set out in **section 6** must be used to interpret an enactment if principles of the Treaty of Waitangi are relevant to interpreting that enactment (whether by express reference or by implication). 5
- (2) Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi other than those set out in **section 6** must not be used to interpret an enactment.
- (3) This section applies despite any other enactment, except **section 8**.

8 Act not to apply to interpretation of Treaty settlement Act or settlement of historical Treaty claim under Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 10

This Act does not apply to the interpretation of a Treaty settlement Act, or the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975 in relation to the settlement of a historical Treaty claim entered into after the commencement of this Act.

9 Treaty of Waitangi/te Tiriti o Waitangi not amended

Nothing in this Act amends the text of the Treaty of Waitangi/te Tiriti o Waitangi. 15



Date: 10 December 2024

Subject: 2025/2026 Annual Plan Update

Author: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Approved by: S J Ruru, Chief Executive

Document: TRCID-1492626864-179

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on the approach to the preparation and adoption of the 2025/2026 Annual Plan.

Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives this 2025/2026 Annual Plan Update memorandum
- b) notes that the approach to public consultation and engagement, including the issues to be consulted upon, will be addressed at the February 2025 Ordinary Meeting
- c) notes the progress to date in preparing the 2025/2026 estimates and the approach to addressing rates and any shortfall in Port Taranaki Limited dividends.

Background

2. In May 2024, the Council completed a comprehensive and lengthy process, to develop and adopt its 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan. This process included many strategic building blocks, such as an extensive review of the performance management framework, the revenue and financing policy and asset management plans (gardens and flood control schemes), as well as determining how Council might best deliver on its existing suite of regional policies, plans and strategies. A comprehensive public consultation and engagement process was completed following development of the draft plan and consultation document. The finalised 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan sets the strategic direction, levels of service, programmes of work and estimates for the next ten years. The next Long-Term Plan review is set for 2027.
3. The planning framework in the Local Government Act 2002 is designed with an expectation that local authorities will put significant effort into their long-term plan and then have a stream-lined, exceptions based, approach for the preparation of annual plans in the years in-between long-term plans. Indeed, if there are no material differences between the long-term plan and the annual plan for any particular year, then there is no further obligation to undertake public consultation and engagement.
4. Having just completed the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan and commencing the process of developing the 2025/2026 Annual Plan, at the last Ordinary Meeting, the Council agreed to look to modify the 2025/2026 Annual Plan to reflect the changing circumstances faced by local government generally and

the Council specifically, but as much as possible continue with the strategic outcomes, levels of service, activities, programmes and budgets set for 2025/2026 in the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan.

Consultation and Engagement

5. The Council is required to prepare and adopt a 2025/2026 Annual Plan.
6. The Local Government Act 2002 (LGA) allows a council to adopt an annual plan with no further public consultation if there are no significant or material differences from the Long-Term Plan for that year that the proposed annual plan refers.
7. The direction of travel on the preparation of the 2025/2026 Annual Plan is that there are unlikely to be any significant or material differences from the work plans and programmes established, and already fully consulted on, in the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan for 2025/2026. That is, there are no new identified issues that would, at this stage, require additional public consultation and engagement exercises.
8. The streamlined processes in section 95(2A) of the Local Government Act 2002 could be used in the preparation and adoption of the 2025/2026 Annual Plan, as the proposals and budgets have already been fully consulted on through the preparation and adoption of the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan. This involves adopting the 2025/2026 Annual Plan with no further public engagement or consultation.
9. A separate special consultative process would still be required for the adoption of fees and charges under section 36 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA).
10. The decision on the approach to preparing and adopting the 2025/2026 Annual Plan will be made at the February 2025 Ordinary meeting. If the Council wishes to undertake a special consultative procedure, it will need to identify the issues (and options) that it would want to consult on. If there are issues that the Council wishes to consult upon, these should be identified now so that the necessary preparation can occur before February's meeting.

Progress

11. At the last Ordinary Meeting, the Council agreed to look to modify the 2025/2026 Annual Plan to reflect the changing circumstances faced by local government generally and the Council specifically, but as much as possible continue with the strategic outcomes, levels of service, activities, programmes and budgets set for 2025/2026 in the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan.
12. The work to date to prepare the 2025/2026 Annual Plan has been on this basis.
13. The Council continues to face significant cost pressures and a continually evolving central Government policy and legislative framework. Programmes of work and associated budgets have been fully reviewed to identify where savings can be achieved.
14. At this stage, the 2025/2026 estimates will include income and expenditure programmes consistent with the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan. The total planned rates increase for 2025/2026 in the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan was 13.23%. At the completion of the planning/budgeting process, it is anticipated that there may be a small reduction in this percentage increase. However, the majority of the increase will still be required to deliver the 2025/2026 programme as well as to continue to reimburse the dividend equalisation reserve over the life of the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan.
15. With the high energy prices and the shortage of gas over winter, Methanex decided to have a three-month period where they sold their gas to electricity generators rather than produce methanol. There remains ongoing uncertainty over gas supplies to Methanex. This has resulted in a downturn in trade through the port and adverse impacts on revenue, profitability and dividends. The first dividend payment for 2024/2025 was \$3m against a budget of \$4m. The second and final dividend for 2024/2025 will be declared in February 2025.

16. It is unclear whether this is a temporary impact on dividends or whether there will be a longer-term impact. At this stage, the quantum of that dividend is unknown. Port Taranaki Ltd will give an update of the forecast 2025/2026 dividend in late January/early February 2025.
17. The Long-Term Plan acknowledges that Port Taranaki dividend streams are the highest financial risk faced by the Council. Risk mitigation strategies are identified and are being implemented including the use of the Dividend Equalisation Reserve (DER) to manage fluctuations in dividend levels. The first few years of the Long-Term Plan use the DER to “balance the books” with the later years using rates to repay the DER to its starting level. This approach was supported by both the community and the auditors.
18. For the 2025/2026 Annual Plan, this approach will continue to be used. This will have the impact of accelerating the use of the DER over the next two years and increasing the level of reinvestment required in the DER for the following years. This does run the risk of the DER going into a negative balance in the short-term. If this occurs then effectively, the Council will use the strength of its balance sheet to fund short-term deficits by borrowing.
19. The 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan has an opening DER balance of \$3.8m (1 July 2024), which reduces to \$0.8m by 30 June 2027 before returning to \$8.1m by 30 June 2034. Any additional use of the DER for 2025/2026 would drop the balance quicker, but the repayments in later years recuperate that expenditure. The forecast use of the DER in the LTP is \$1.7m in 2025/2026. Repayments to the DER commence in 2027/2028 (refer to Page 101 of the 2024/2034 Long-Term Plan).
20. If the Council needed to use an additional \$1m for each of 2025/2026 and 2026/2027, then the impact of reduced dividends and assuming no changes to rating levels from those set out in the current LTP, the DER balance would be:
 - 1 July 2024 \$3.832m
 - 30 June 2026 \$0.256m
 - 30 June 2027 (\$1.185m)
 - 30 June 2034 \$6.141m
21. If this rose to \$2m for each year, and again, with no changes in rates then the DER balance would be:
 - 1 July 2024 \$3.832m
 - 30 June 2026 (\$0.743m)
 - 30 June 2027 (\$3.185m)
 - 30 June 2034 \$4.141m

Next Steps

22. The 18 February 2025 Ordinary Meeting will confirm the approach to finalising the 2025/2026 Annual Plan including the approach to public consultation/engagement, the issues and options for public consultation/engagement, the estimates for 2025/2026, the approach to rates increase for 2025/2026 and the approach to addressing level of dividends in 2025/2026.



Date: 10 December 2025

Subject: Meeting Dates for February 2025

Author: M Jones, Governance Administrator

Approved by: M J Nield, Director - Corporate Services

Document: TRCID-1492626864-133

Purpose

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to notify members of the scheduled meeting dates for October 2024.

Recommendations

That Taranaki Regional Council:

- a) receives the memorandum Meeting Dates for February 2025
- b) notes the upcoming meeting dates.

Meeting Dates

Operations and Regulatory Committee	9.00am Tuesday 4 February 2025
Policy and Planning Committee	10.30am Tuesday 4 February 2025
Executive Audit and Risk Committee	10.00am Monday 10 February 2025
Ordinary Council	10.30am Tuesday 18 February 2025
CDEM – Joint Committee	10.30am Thursday 27 February 2025

Public Excluded Recommendations – Ordinary Council 24 September 2024

In accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, resolves that the public is excluded from the following part of the proceedings of the Ordinary Council Meeting on 6 August 2024 for the following reason/s:

The matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 are as follows:

Item 12:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Ordinary Council Minutes – 29 October 2024

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 under section 6 (a) and [section 7](#) (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Item 13:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Operations and Regulatory Minutes – 26 November 2024

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 under section 6 (a) and section 7 (2) (a) and (2) (g) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Item 14:

Confirmation of Public Excluded Executive Audit and Risk Minutes – 2 December 2024

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 where the withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information; and/or enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice, commercial activities.



Kia uruuru mai

Karakia to close meetings

Kia uruuru mai	Fill me with
Ā hauora	Vitality
Ā haukaha	Strength
Ā haumaia	Bravery
Ki runga, Ki raro	Above, below
Ki roto, Ki waho	Within, outwards
Rire rire hau	Let the wind blow and bind
Paimārie	Peace upon you

Nau mai e ngā hua

Karakia for kai

Nau mai e ngā hua	Welcome the gifts of food
o te wao	from the sacred forests
o te ngakina	from the cultivated gardens
o te wai tai	from the sea
o te wai Māori	from the fresh waters
Nā Tāne	The food of Tāne
Nā Rongo	of Rongo
Nā Tangaroa	of Tangaroa
Nā Maru	of Maru
Ko Ranginui e tū iho nei	I acknowledge Ranginui above and Papatūānuku
Ko Papatūānuku e takoto ake nei	below
Tūturu o whiti whakamaua kia	Let there be certainty
tina	Secure it!
Tina! Hui e! Taiki e!	Draw together! Affirm!

AGENDA AUTHORISATION

Agenda for the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held on Tuesday 10 December 2024.

Approved:



3 Dec, 2024 11:53:09 AM GMT+13

M J Nield
Director Corporate Services

Approved:



3 Dec, 2024 2:36:44 PM GMT+13

S J Ruru
Chief Executive