

**Minutes of the Policy and Planning
Committee Meeting of the Taranaki
Regional Council, held in the Taranaki
Regional Council Chambers, 47 Cloten
Road, Stratford, on Tuesday 5 February
2019 at 10.35am.**



Members	Councillors	N W Walker	(Committee Chairperson)
		M P Joyce C L Littlewood D H McIntyre B K Raine C S Williamson	
		D N MacLeod	(ex officio)
Representative Members	Councillor	G Boyde	(Stratford District Council)
	Mr	J Hooker	(Iwi Representative)
	Mr	P Muir	(Taranaki Federated Farmers)
	Councillor	P Nixon	(South Taranaki District Council)
Attending	Messrs	B G Chamberlain	(Chief Executive)
		A D McLay	(Director-Resource Management)
		G K Bedford	(Director-Environment Quality)
		C L Spurdle	(Planning Manager)
		S Tamarapa	(Iwi Communications Officer)
		P Ledingham	(Communications Officer)
	Mrs	K van Gameren	(Committee Administrator)
	Mr	R Phipps	(Science Manager)
	Mrs	V MacKay	(Science Manager)
	Mrs	H Gerrard	(Science Manager)
	Ms	K Langton	(Policy Analyst)
Mr	Q Amore	(Environment Team Leader)	
Mr	J Clough	(Wrightson Consulting)	

One Member of the media.

Apologies

The apologies from Councillor D L Lean, Councillor R Jordan (New Plymouth District Council) and Mr M Ritai (Iwi Representative) were received and sustained. Ms E Bailey (Iwi Representative) requested to attend the meeting via ZOOM, but due to technical problems was unable to connect into the meeting. Ms Bailey emailed questions to the Council for response and clarification.

**Notification of
Late Items**

There were no late items of business.

1. Confirmation of Minutes – 20 November 2018

Resolved

THAT the Policy and Planning Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council

1. takes as read and confirms the minutes and confidential minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on Tuesday 20 November 2018 at 10.30am
2. notes that the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on 11 December 2018.

Walker/McIntyre

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

2. Ministry for the Environment – current work programme

- 2.1 Mr A D McLay, Director-Resource Management, spoke to the memorandum updating the Committee on the work the Ministry for the Environment has planned over the next 12 to 18 months and provided commentary on the implications for the Council, in particular the small Policy team.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum *Ministry for the Environment – current work programme*
2. notes the many areas of interest or concern to the Council.

Littlewood/MacLeod

3. Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment on *Overseer and regulatory oversight*

- 3.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director-Environment Quality, spoke to the memorandum introducing a report prepared by the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment on Overseer and regulatory oversight, together with commentary by the Chief Executive of Overseer Limited and independent experts, and provided commentary on the significance of the findings for the Council particularly with regard to the preparation of a *Regional Freshwater and Land Management Plan*.
- 3.2 The Council's position on the use of Overseer for regulatory purposes has been validated by the report.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum *Report of the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment on Overseer and regulatory oversight*
2. notes that the Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment has recommended that if the Government wants to see Overseer used as a regulatory tool it needs to undertake a comprehensive evaluation of the model, including its suitability, uncertainties and inaccuracies, ownership, governance and funding
3. notes that the Council has already commissioned an independent analysis of the suitability of using a model like Overseer as a regulatory tool as part of the review of the *Regional Fresh Water Plan*, and the conclusion of that analysis was that Overseer was not suitable for use in a regulatory context because of accuracy issues.

Williamson/Raine

Councillor M J Joyce left the Policy and Planning Meeting at 11.15am.

4. Proposed regulation of municipal waste water discharges

- 4.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director-Environment Quality, spoke to the memorandum to outline and present commentary on a recent Cabinet paper proposing future regulation of wastewater management in New Zealand.

Recommended

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum *Proposed regulation of municipal waste water discharges*
2. notes the information contained therein concerning the regulatory management of wastewater systems in Taranaki
3. confirms that an evidential basis for the Government's proposals is not apparent in Taranaki and that this position forms the basis for any future engagement with the Ministry for the Environment in respect of an appropriate regulatory framework for wastewater management.

MacLeod/Nixon

5. Key Native Ecosystems programme update

- 5.1 Mr A D McLay, Director-Resource Management, spoke to the memorandum presenting an update to the Committee on the identification of 11 new Key Native Ecosystems (KNE) sites.

Recommended

THAT the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives this memorandum and the attached inventory sheets for Mount View, Cotebrook, Kaka Creek Bush, Hann Bush and Kahikatea Block, Te Huia Holdings Wetlands, Lowe South Block, BMW Farms, Corbett Road QEII Covenants, Te Urenui and Pohokura Pa, Ralph Arnold, and Mathews QEII
2. notes that the aforementioned sites have indigenous biodiversity values of regional significance and should be identified as Key Native Ecosystems.

Raine/Williamson

Closing Karakia Mr J Hooker (Iwi Representative) gave the closing Karakia to the Policy and Planning Committee and Karakia for kai (lunch).

There being no further business, the Committee Chairperson Councillor N W Walker, declared the meeting of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting closed at 11.30am.

Confirmed

Chairperson _____
N W Walker

Date 19 March 2019