

ORDINARY MEETING

OF

STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

Time: 9:30am
Date: Thursday, 12 March 2020
Venue: Ngake (16.09)
Level 16, Tahiwī
113 The Terrace
Wellington

PRESENT

Councillor Calvert (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Condie
Councillor Day (Chair)
Councillor Fitzsimons
Councillor Foon
Councillor Free
Councillor Matthews
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Pannett
Councillor Paul
Councillor Rush
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Woolf
Councillor Young

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1. Meeting Conduct

1.1 Karakia

The Chairperson declared the meeting open at 9:30 am and invited members to stand and read the following karakia to open the meeting.

**Whakataka te hau ki te uru,
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga.
Kia mākinakina ki uta,
Kia mātaratara ki tai.
E hī ake ana te atākura.
He tio, he huka, he hauhū.
Tihei Mauri Ora!**

Cease oh winds of the west
and of the south
Let the bracing breezes flow,
over the land and the sea.
Let the red-tipped dawn come
with a sharpened edge, a touch of frost,
a promise of a glorious day

(Councillor Calvert joined the meeting at 9:32 am)

1.2 Apologies

Moved Councillor Day, seconded Deputy Mayor Free

Resolved

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Accept the apologies received from Mayor Foster for absence and Councillor Young for lateness.

Carried

1.3 Conflict of Interest Declarations

No conflicts of interest were declared.

1.4 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Councillor Day, seconded Councillor Fitzsimons

Resolved

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Approve the minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee Meeting held on 5 March 2020, having been circulated, that they be taken as read and confirmed as an accurate record of that meeting.

Carried unanimously

1.5 Items not on the Agenda

There were no items not on the agenda.

1.6 Public Participation

1.6.1 Inspiring Stories

Representing Inspiring Stories, Guy Ryan presented to the committee about "festival for the future".

1.6.2 Fastr Society

Representing Fastr Society, Stephen More and Peter Dodwell presented a new transport system to the committee.

1.6.3 Mary Hobbs

Mary Hobbs spoke to item 2.3 Social Housing Policy.

1.6.4 Bridget Baker

Bridget Baker spoke to item 2.3 Social Housing Policy.

Tabled items at public participation

- 1 Inspiring Stories
- 2 Fastr Society
- 3 Bridget Baker

(Councillor O'Neill joined the meeting at 9:47 am)

(Councillor Young joined the meeting at 10:00 am)

Note: In accordance with standing order 3.9.2, the Chairperson accorded precedence to some items of business and announced that the agenda would be considered in the following order:

- | | | |
|------|-----|--|
| Item | 2.4 | Wellington City Council Standing Orders Review |
| Item | 2.1 | Update on the Wellington City Council Housing Strategy and Housing Action Plan 2020-22 |
| Item | 2.3 | Social Housing Policy |
| Item | 2.2 | Wellington Convention & Exhibition Centre Naming (item withdrawn) |

2. General Business

2.4 Wellington City Council Standing Orders Review

Moved Deputy Mayor Free, seconded Councillor Day

Amended officers' Recommendation/s

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. ~~Recommend~~ **Approve** the amended set of standing orders (Attachment 1), **tabled at the meeting, and recommend the final document** to Council for adoption.
3. **Delegate to the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Leader for Governance the authority to revise the standing orders to include any amendments made by the Strategy and Policy Committee and any associated minor consequential edits.**

Secretarial note: The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10:43 am and reconvened at 11:12 am with the following members present: Councillor Calvert, Councillor Condie, Councillor Day (Chair), Councillor Fitzsimons, Councillor Foon, Councillor Free, Councillor Matthews, Councillor O'Neill, Councillor Pannett, Councillor Paul, Councillor Rush, Councillor Sparrow, Councillor Woolf and Councillor Young

Moved Councillor Pannett, seconded Councillor Fitzsimons, the following amendment

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

4. Agree to the following further amendments:

- a) *New SO 28.1 Financial conflicts of interest*

Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect financial interest that they hold in any matter being discussed at the meeting, other than an interest that they hold in common with the public.

No member may vote on, or take part in, a discussion about any matter in which they have a direct or indirect financial interest unless an exception set out in s.6 Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 applies to them, or the Auditor-General has granted them an exemption or declaration under s.6.

Members with a financial interest must leave the room. The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Neither the Chairperson nor the meeting may rule on whether a member has a financial interest in the matter being discussed. The minutes must record any declarations of financial interests and the member's abstention from any

discussion and voting on the matter.

[s. 6 & 7, Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968]

b) New SO 28.2: *Non-financial conflicts of interest*

Non-financial interests always involve questions of judgement and degree about whether the responsibility of a member of a local authority (or local or community board) could be affected by some other separate interest or duty of that member in relation to a particular matter. If a member considers that they have a non-financial conflict of interest in a matter they must not take part in the discussions about that matter or any subsequent vote.

Members with a non-financial interest must leave the room. The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Neither the Chairperson nor the meeting may rule on whether a member has a non-financial interest in the matter being discussed.

c) Revise the first paragraph of SO 32.1 *Forms of petition* as follows:

Petitions may be presented to the local authority or any of its committees, local boards or community boards. Petitions must contain at least ~~20 signatures~~ **one signature** and consist of fewer than 150 words (not including signatories). - Lost

d) Revise SO 33.1 *Questions regarding items on an agenda* to read as follows:

Officers may, at the request of the chairperson, present an item on the agenda of any committee. Any member may ask any question of the relevant officer on any matter relating to the item being presented.

In the course of any debate at any local authority meeting, any member may, at the chairperson's discretion, ask any question of the relevant officer on any matter under debate. Such questions are to be directed through the chairperson, **and officers will provide their professional opinion but must maintain political neutrality.**

e) Replace SO 21.1 *Proposing motions* with the following:

Any member present may move a motion or amendment (subject to standing order 22. General procedures for speaking and moving motions). If a member wishes to move a motion that differs from the officers' recommendations, then they must state that they are moving the motion "pro-forma", and must specify the changes they wish to make to the officers' recommendations. The seconder of the motion may also support the changes introduced by the mover.

Secretarial note: Under clause 27(3) of Schedule 7 of Local Government Act 2002, amendments to standing orders require a vote of not less than 75% of the members present.

Secretarial note: The amendment moved by Councillor Pannett and seconded by Councillor Fitzsimons was taken part by part, the divisions for which are as follows:

Clause 4(a): New SO 28.1 *Financial conflicts of interest:*

Every member present at a meeting must declare any direct or indirect financial interest that they hold in any matter being discussed at the meeting, other than an interest that they hold in common with the public.

No member may vote on, or take part in, a discussion about any matter in which they have a direct or indirect financial interest unless an exception set out in s.6 Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968 applies to them, or the Auditor-General has granted them an exemption or declaration under s.6.

Members with a financial interest must leave the room. The minutes must record the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Neither the Chairperson nor the meeting may rule on whether a member has a financial interest in the matter being discussed. The minutes must record any declarations of financial interests and the member's abstention from any discussion and voting on the matter.

[s. 6 & 7, Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968]

For:

Councillor Condie
Councillor Day (Chair)
Councillor Fitzsimons
Councillor Matthews
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Pannett
Councillor Paul
Councillor Woolf

Against:

Councillor Calvert (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Foon
Councillor Free
Councillor Rush
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Young

Absent:

Mayor Foster

Majority Vote: 8:6

Lost

Clause 4(b): New SO 28.2 *Non-financial conflicts of interest:*

Non-financial interests always involve questions of judgement and degree about whether the responsibility of a member of a local authority (or local or community board) could be affected by some other separate interest or duty of that member in relation to a particular matter. If a member considers that they have a non-financial conflict of interest in a matter they must not take part in the discussions about that matter or any subsequent vote.

Members with a non-financial interest must leave the room. The minutes must record

the declaration and member's subsequent abstention from discussion and voting.

Neither the Chairperson nor the meeting may rule on whether a member has a non-financial interest in the matter being discussed.

For:

Councillor Condie
Councillor Day (Chair)
Councillor Pannett

Against:

Councillor Calvert (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Fitzsimons
Councillor Foon
Councillor Free
Councillor Matthews
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Paul
Councillor Rush
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Woolf
Councillor Young

Absent:

Mayor Foster

Majority Vote: 3:11

Lost

Clause 4(c): Revise the first paragraph of SO 32.1 *Forms of petition* as follows:

Petitions may be presented to the local authority or any of its committees, local boards or community boards. Petitions must contain at least one signature and consist of fewer than 150 words (not including signatories).

For:

Councillor Fitzsimons
Councillor Matthews
Councillor Pannett
Councillor Woolf

Against:

Councillor Calvert (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Condie
Councillor Day (Chair)
Councillor Foon
Councillor Free
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Paul
Councillor Rush
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Young

Absent:

Mayor Foster

Majority Vote: 4:10

Lost

Clause 4(d): Revise SO 33.1 *Questions regarding items on an agenda* to read as follows:

Officers may, at the request of the chairperson, present an item on the agenda of any committee. Any member may ask any question of the relevant officer on any matter relating to the item being presented.

In the course of any debate at any local authority meeting, any member may, at the chairperson's discretion, ask any question of the relevant officer on any matter under debate. Such questions are to be directed through the chairperson, and officers will provide their professional opinion but must maintain political neutrality.

For:

Councillor Fitzsimons
Councillor Free
Councillor Matthews
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Pannett

Against:

Councillor Calvert (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Condie
Councillor Day (Chair)
Councillor Foon
Councillor Paul
Councillor Rush
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Woolf
Councillor Young

Absent:

Mayor Foster

Majority Vote: 5:9

Lost

Division for Clause 4(e): Replace SO 21.1 *Proposing motions* with the following:

Any member present may move a motion or amendment (subject to standing order 22. General procedures for speaking and moving motions). If a member wishes to move a motion that differs from the officers' recommendations, then they must state that they are moving the motion "pro-forma", and must specify the changes they wish to make to the officers' recommendations. The seconder of the motion may also support the changes introduced by the mover.

For:

Councillor Calvert (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Day (Chair)
Councillor Fitzsimons
Councillor Foon
Councillor Free
Councillor Matthews
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Pannett
Councillor Paul
Councillor Woolf
Councillor Young

Against:

Councillor Condie
Councillor Rush
Councillor Sparrow

Absent:

Mayor Foster

Majority Vote: 11:3

Carried

Moved Councillor Rush, seconded Councillor Young

That the Strategy and Policy Committee

5. Agree that SO 27.2 *Casting vote* be revised to give the casting vote to the mayor, failing whom, the chairperson or the person presiding at the meeting will exercise the casting vote power.

A division was called for, voting on which was as follows:

For:

Councillor Calvert (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Condie
Councillor Rush

Against:

Councillor Day (Chair)
Councillor Fitzsimons
Councillor Foon
Councillor Free
Councillor Matthews
Councillor O'Neill
Councillor Pannett
Councillor Paul
Councillor Sparrow
Councillor Woolf
Councillor Young

Absent:

Mayor Foster

Majority Vote: 3:11

Lost

Moved Deputy Mayor Free, seconded Councillor Day, the following substantive motion

Resolved

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Approve the amended set of standing orders (Attachment 1), tabled at the meeting, and recommend the final document to Council for adoption.
3. Delegate to the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Leader for Governance the authority to revise the standing orders to include any amendments made by the Strategy and Policy Committee and any associated minor consequential edits.
4. Agree to replace SO 21.1 *Proposing motions* with the following alternative:
Any member present may move a motion or amendment (subject to standing order 22. General procedures for speaking and moving motions). If a member wishes to move a motion that differs from the officers' recommendations, then they must state that they are moving the motion "pro-forma", and must specify the changes they wish to make to the officers' recommendations. The seconder of the motion may also support the changes introduced by the mover.

Carried unanimously

Attachment 1

Amended standing orders tabled at the meeting

2.1 Update on the Wellington City Council Housing Strategy and Housing Action Plan 2020-22

Moved Councillor Fitzsimons, seconded Councillor O'Neill

Resolved

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Note the Housing Strategy was adopted in June 2018 and sets the outcomes for the next 10 years. The Strategy has a long-term focus; the short to medium term priorities and actions to deliver on that strategy are set by action plans.
3. Adopt the **amended** Housing Action Plan 2020-22 **as per Attachment 1 (tabled at the meeting)**. This plan sets the priorities for the next three years in terms of Wellington City Council's work toward delivering on the long-term outcomes set by the Housing Strategy.
4. Note that the draft Action Plan (the Plan) is focused around six priority programmes of work. Outlined within this report, the Plan covers consenting improvements, planning for the future growth of Wellington, improving Council's City Housing service, supporting our partners to provide places and services to end homelessness, and facilitating delivery of a variety of housing options. Delivery will be supported by continuing to develop and formalise strategic partnerships which ensure a collaborative approach to delivering housing outcomes for the city.
5. Note that the Wellington Housing Affordability Model (WHAM) has been developed to support the Strategy. This model is based on the premise that assessing affordability depends on each household's circumstances and composition. Council is working with partners to continue to improve the model, including making it available for other organisations. Further updates on this will be shared with the Strategy and Policy Committee during 2020.
6. Note following adoption of the Action Plan, the Plan will be published on the Council website and officers will proactively engage with key delivery partners, including Kāinga Ora, Community Housing Aotearoa, Community Housing Providers and Universities.
7. Note that officers will report back to the Strategy and Policy Committee on progress of the Action Plan **and identified strategic risks every six months in conjunction with second quarter and annual reporting** ~~on an annual basis~~.

Carried unanimously

Attachment 1

- 1 Amended draft Action Plan

2.3 Social Housing Policy

Moved Councillor Fitzsimons pro-forma, seconded Councillor Rush

RECOMMENDATION/S

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Agree to consult on the proposed draft *Social Housing Policy* and *City Housing Policy: Rent Setting*.
3. Note that the Social Housing Policy reflects the principles and service delivery parameters as agreed by Councillors on 21 June 2018 and proposes a policy framework that includes a separate progressive rent setting policy.
4. Note the proposed City Housing Policy: Enhanced Services to Door (Attachment 2) acknowledges and benchmarks City Housing's commitment to enhancing the renting experience of its tenants.
5. Note that the City Housing Policy: Asset Management is being developed as a part of the Council's long term planning (LTP) process. A summary of this policy can be viewed in Attachment 3.
6. Note that the City Housing Policy: Prioritisation and Needs Assessment (Attachment 4) captures all the relevant detail from the Social Housing Policy 2010 and creates a separate focused policy. No significant change is being recommended.
7. Note that the most significant changes are the removal of a blanket discount of 30% off market rent and implementation of a discounted market rate based on a tenant's circumstances, and the removal of ad-hoc discounts. These changes are summarised in Table 3: Summary of Policy Recommendations.
8. Note that a more equitable rent setting policy has been developed that takes into account household size, composition and income received to determine the level of discount to be applied to the market rent.
9. Note that the Council approved Wellington Housing Affordability Model (WHAM) has been used to test the affordability of the proposed new rent settings.
10. Note that transition options have been investigated and that the proposed rent setting policy includes a move to reviewing rents for tenants on the anniversary of a tenancy.
11. Note that consultation with tenants and with the wider public, if approved, will be undertaken from 19 March to 19 April 2020, with a final report back to Council on consultation in June 2020.
12. Note that public consultation is appropriate given the proposal is a significant change to the current practice of discounting market rent of 30%. The decision to undertake consultation in this manner is also consistent with Council obligations under Section 82(4)(c) of the Local Government Act 2002.
13. Delegate to the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Leader for Community Well-Being the

authority to amend the proposal to include any amendments made by the Strategy and Policy Committee and any associated minor consequential edits.

Moved Councillor Fitzsimons, seconded Councillor Pannett, the following amendment

Resolved

That the Strategy and Policy Committee

14. Agree that Council officers prepare a report detailing options for resolving the long-term financial sustainability of City Housing to be considered during deliberations on the next LTP.

Carried unanimously

Moved Councillor Fitzsimons, seconded Councillor Rush, the following substantive motion

Resolved

That the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Agree to consult on the proposed draft *Social Housing Policy* and *City Housing Policy: Rent Setting*.
3. Note that the Social Housing Policy reflects the principles and service delivery parameters as agreed by Councillors on 21 June 2018 and proposes a policy framework that includes a separate progressive rent setting policy.
4. Note the proposed City Housing Policy: Enhanced Services to Door (Attachment 2) acknowledges and benchmarks City Housing's commitment to enhancing the renting experience of its tenants.
5. Note that the City Housing Policy: Asset Management is being developed as a part of the Council's long term planning (LTP) process. A summary of this policy can be viewed in Attachment 3.
6. Note that the City Housing Policy: Prioritisation and Needs Assessment (Attachment 4) captures all the relevant detail from the Social Housing Policy 2010 and creates a separate focused policy. No significant change is being recommended.
7. Note that the most significant changes are the removal of a blanket discount of 30% off market rent and implementation of a discounted market rate based on a tenant's circumstances, and the removal of ad-hoc discounts. These changes are summarised in Table 3: Summary of Policy Recommendations.
8. Note that a more equitable rent setting policy has been developed that takes into account household size, composition and income received to determine the level of discount to be applied to the market rent.
9. Note that the Council approved Wellington Housing Affordability Model (WHAM) has

been used to test the affordability of the proposed new rent settings.

10. Note that transition options have been investigated and that the proposed rent setting policy includes a move to reviewing rents for tenants on the anniversary of a tenancy.
11. Note that consultation with tenants and with the wider public, if approved, will be undertaken from 19 March to 19 April 2020, with a final report back to Council on consultation in June 2020.
12. Note that public consultation is appropriate given the proposal is a significant change to the current practice of discounting market rent of 30%. The decision to undertake consultation in this manner is also consistent with Council obligations under Section 82(4)(c) of the Local Government Act 2002.
13. Delegate to the Chief Executive and the Portfolio Leader for Community Well-Being the authority to amend the proposal to include any amendments made by the Strategy and Policy Committee and any associated minor consequential edits.
14. Agree that Council officers prepare a report detailing options for resolving the long-term financial sustainability of City Housing to be considered during deliberations on the next LTP.

Carried unanimously

2.2 Wellington Convention & Exhibition Centre Naming

This item was withdrawn to allow further discussion between Mana Whenua and other interested parties

The meeting concluded at 12:24 pm with the reading of the following karakia:

Unuhia, unuhia, unuhia ki te uru tapu nui	Draw on, draw on
Kia wātea, kia māmā, te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua	Draw on the supreme sacredness To clear, to free the heart, the body
I te ara takatū	and the spirit of mankind
Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga	Oh Rongo, above (symbol of peace)
Kia wātea, kia wātea	Let this all be done in unity
Āe rā, kua wātea!	

Authenticated: _____

Chair