

Environmental Reference Group

Meeting Minutes

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Details: Date: Monday, 14 December 2020
Time: 5:07pm – 6:59pm
Venue: Ngake (16.09), Level 16, Tahiwī 113 The Terrace
Chair: George Hobson

Members present: Steven Almond Michelle Rush
Arron Cox Clare Stringer
Isla Day Chris Watson
George Hobson Eleanor West

Councillors present: Cr Tamatha Paul Cr Laurie Foon

Staff: Alison Howard, Manager Climate Fiona Bailey, Senior Communications and
Change Response Engagement Advisor
Diane Livingston, Principal Advisor Hedi Mueller, Democracy Advisor
Engagement and Consultation

Public: Felicity Wong

Topic	Description	Start time
1.	Welcome & Apologies Apologies were received for absence from Lynn Cadenhead, Mike Britton and Liam Hodgetts for absence, and from Isla Day for early departure. Moved George Hobson, seconded Eleanor West CARRIED	5:07pm
2.	Conflicts of Interest Eleanor declared potential conflict of interest if Green Building Certification was discussed during the Te Atakura Implementaion Update, as she works for New Zealand Green Building Council.	5:07pm
3.	Update from Councillor Foon Councillor Foon discussed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Advisory Group Review recommendations being adopted at Council on 16 December 2020. The recommendations were well received by councillors, special thanks to Lynn for attending at the Strategy and Policy Committee on 10 December to speak to the report. Cr Foon and Cr Paul appreciate the work of the ERG and are excited about implementing positive change through the review.Solid Waste bylaw got over the line, thanks especially to Steve for his work.	5:08pm

- Mayoral Taskforce Report on Three Waters has been published (available [here](#) and in agenda of 16 December 2020 Council meeting) out now, there are 48 recommendations.
- Sludge Workshop being held on 15 December 2020.

Members discussed:

- What is being recommended at Council for the Three Waters report - Council will be receiving the information and noting that officers will be preparing further advice.
- What is happening with airport expanding into the golf course – further reading required (two Requirements for Designation on the [Public Notices webpage](#) – closes 12 February 2021).

Cr Paul discussed:

- Recent Marc Daalder [article](#) on the 19% gap in how the Climate Change Implementation Plan is tracking against its targets.

4. Long Term Plan Workshop

Fiona Bailey and Diane Livingston recapped what the Long Term Plan is, what the challenges are and the expected timeline. ERG members divided into three groups and Fiona and Diane facilitated an activity for each group to agree their investment priorities.

Members discussed:

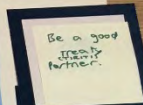
- How the Three Waters report will impact on the LTP, and the timeframe for that – the LTP is being prepared on the basis that WCC is still an owner/part owner of WWL.
- How the Spatial Plan is reflected in the LTP – this LTP’s funding would be on developing the Spatial and District Plans.
- The prioritisation activity is useful to see each member of ERG’s priorities and how they might differ, but difficult with the interconnections, as you can’t have some without the other.
- Another useful exercise would be budgeting, so that people could start thinking about the actual dollar figures of how much the budget is and how much projects cost.
- Whether some projects would ideally sit with central government rather than local.
- Another session on the LTP in the new year and potentially to extend the invitation to GWRC.
- Many thanks to Diane and Fiona for attending and facilitating such an engaging workshop.

5:23pm

What's important to you?

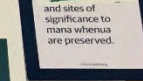
Top importance
Significant investment and change in the next 3 years.

6 maximum objectives



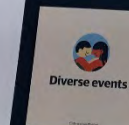
Moderate importance
Moderate investment and change in the next 10 years.

7 maximum objectives



On-going importance
On-going investment and incremental change or continuous improvement in the next 30 years.

10 minimum objectives



Send a photo of your finished board and send to ltp@wcc.govt.nz

What's important to you?

Top importance
Significant investment and change in the next 3 years.

5 maximum objectives



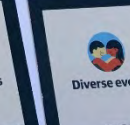
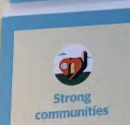
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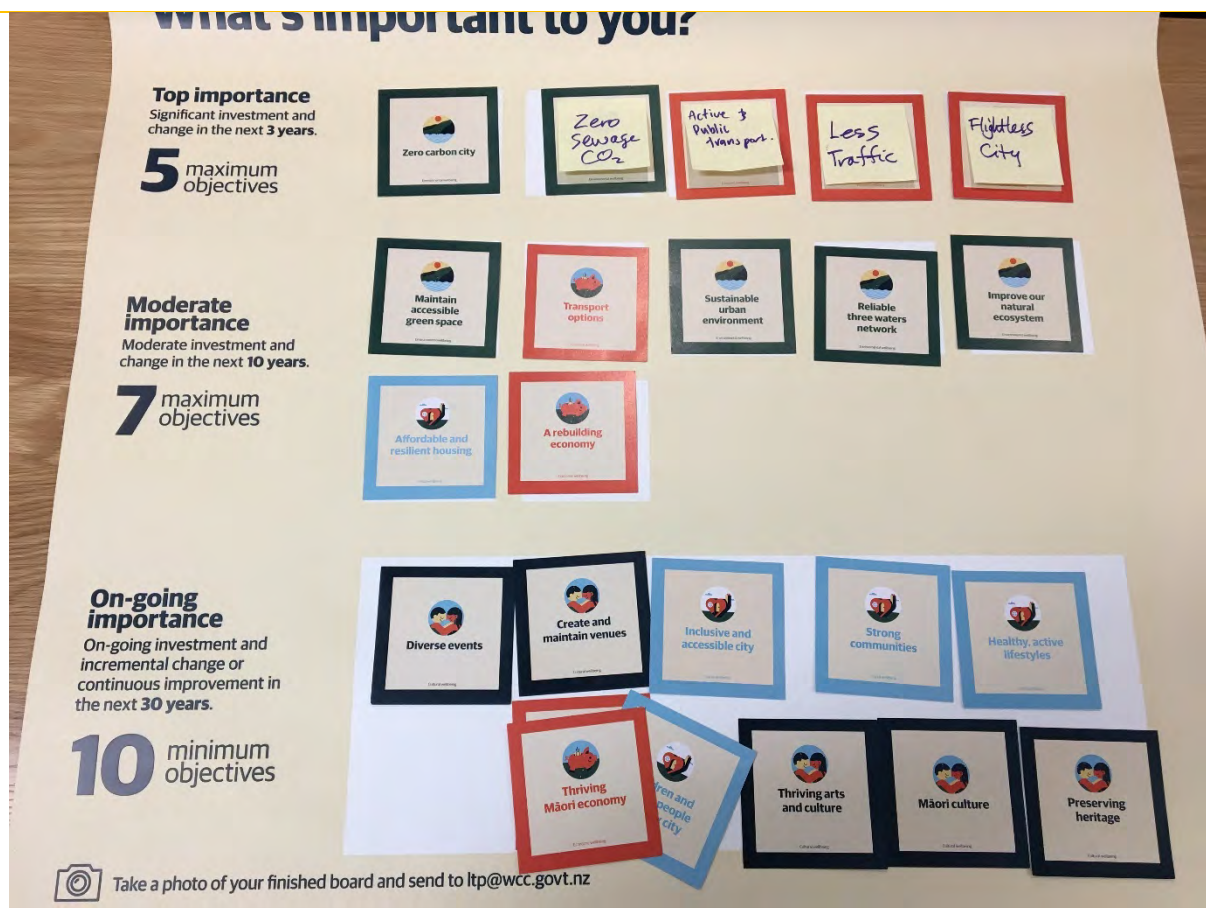


On-going importance
On-going investment and incremental change or continuous improvement in the next 30 years.

10 minimum objectives



A dynamic and thriving economy...
...growth and...
...well-being...



5. Te Atakura Implementation Update

Alison Howard, Manager Climate Change Response, introduced herself and gave a brief summary of her work experience. Alison discussed how the organisation is looking at Climate Adaptation, for example how WCC assists communities that are at risk of storm surge, and the lack of clarity around who decides whether a house is habitable (among local government, local government, insurance companies, or banks). Alison discussed what the organisation is doing in regard to Climate Action, as well as advocacy work.

Members discussed:

- What other councils are doing in this space, and the outcome of the Kāpiti Coast District Council case where LIM reports contained predicted flood lines on the coast within specific timeframes.
- WCC converting the passenger vehicle fleet to electric vehicles in five years.
- Whether WCC adheres to building Green Star buildings? (*Eleanor declared a conflict of interest as she works for the New Zealand Green Building Council*). Alison advised that it's variable, but generally no, and that there is a procurement strategy review upcoming in 2021 so there is an opportunity to start prioritising that.
- That most Councillors are pressuring WCC to do better with Climate Action, and that Letters of Expectations to Council Controlled Organisations included climate action.

6:10pm

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Climate Change Response team is with linked in with the District Plan team as both report to Chief Planning Officer. • Whether the Spatial Plan and District Plan can be sped up in response to the climate emergency – likely that the Spatial Plan and District Plan will cover results for 2030-2050, and that for the next decade we have LGWM, investment in cycleways which will achieve transport mode shift, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, seed funding to spend, and car sharing support. • What work is being done to front foot changes to the RMA – unsure if there is a conflict as the RMA changes will supersede everything else. • How can we densify in a steep, earthquake prone city when steel and concrete are so carbon heavy – refer to MBIE’s Building for Climate Change programme, and that timber skyscrapers are possible. 	
6.	<p>Portfolio Updates Members discussed:</p> <p>Climate change: Article in The Guardian about marine temperatures in the Pacific, and that we are likely in for a hot summer. Carbon dioxide concentration in Tasmania climbing to record highs.</p> <p>Water: Sludge proposal and Mayoral Taskforce report to be discussed at Feb 2021 meeting; progress on the Three Waters Reform Programme in 2021 as well.</p> <p>Waste: WCC has been pushing education on recycling on social media, but important to consider the waste hierarchy and move away from recycling toward refusal/anticonsumption.</p> <p>Urban Design: Eleanor, Sally, Arron, Lynn, George and Chris met with Vida Christeller and discussed ideas for the District Plan.</p> <p>Biodiversity/Open Space: Mike, Clare and George met with Daniela Biaggio and discussed the National Policy Statement for Indigenous Biodiversity.</p> <p>Actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hedi to invite District Plan team to ERG meeting in 2021, to test the draft District Plan for how it will cope for public use and workshop case studies. • ERG members to meet with Councillors that hold similar portfolios 	6:38pm
7.	<p>General Business Hedi discussed the proposed 2021 Meeting Schedule, and with the leave of the meeting the group agreed to the proposal.</p> <p>Actions:</p>	6:57pm

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hedi to send out calendar invites for 2021. 	
8.	<p>Previous Minutes Confirmation – 9 November 2020 The previous minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.</p> <p>Moved George Hobson, seconded Arron Cox</p> <p style="text-align: right;">CARRIED</p>	6:59pm
9.	<p>Next meeting 1 February 2021 – Agenda items due Friday 22 January 2022.</p>	

Actions: The following tables the actions, responsibilities and deadlines from previous meetings

Action Points	Responsibility	Deadline
1.		
2.		

General Business
1.

Portfolio Groups	ERG Lead		Council Officer
Transport	Michelle Rush		Joe Hewitt, Team Lead Transport Strategy and Siobhan Procter, Manager Transport and Infrastructure
Climate Change	Chris Watson	Isla Day, Steven Almond	Tom Pettit, Sustainability Manager
Waste	Steven Almond	Clare Stringer	Emily Taylor-Hall, Waste Operations Manager
Water	Arron Cox		Derek Baxter, City Engineer
Resilience	Lynn Cadenhead		Mike Mendonca, Chief Resilience Officer
Urban Design Agency/Urban Growth	Eleanor West	Sally Faisandier	Vida Christeller, Manager City Design & Place Planning
Mana whenua iwi & Treaty Relations			Nicky Karu, Manager Tira Poutama-Iwi Partnership
Biodiversity/Open Space	Mike Britton	Clare Stringer	Daniela Biaggio, Urban Ecology Manager
Heritage	Lynn Cadenhead	Clare Stringer	Mark Lindsay, Heritage Manager