

**Environmental Reference Group Meeting Minutes  
1 October 2012, Committee Room 2, Wellington City Council**

**Present:**

Howard Markland (Co-Chair)  
Sarah Free (Co-Chair)  
Bev Abbott  
Sophie Mormede  
Peter Gilbert  
Claire Graeme  
Hamish Allardice  
Jane O’Loughlin  
James Wall-Manning  
Matt Barclay  
Nick Crocker  
Charles Barrie  
Phil Hancock

***City Councillors***

Helene Ritchie  
Justin Lester

**Apologies**

Sea Rotman

**WCC Officers:**

Sandra Crews (ERG liaison officer)  
Catherine Leining  
Geoff Swainson

1. **Welcome to new member** - Alina Seigfriend
2. **Adoption of Minutes from last meeting and other business**  
The minutes of the meeting held on 6 August were adopted. No new conflicts of interest were raised.

Bev Abbot mentioned the two Mercer surveys that benchmark Wellington’s performance against many other cities, including Auckland. The survey on “liveability” is annual. The survey on “ecocity” is biannual.

**Action:** the Group agreed to invite the relevant Councillor to future meetings when we dealing with a topic in their portfolio.

3. **Catherine Leining** - presented on Policy Forward Programme on the Eco City/Natural Capital work programme - see Catherine’s powerpoint discussion. ERG members are happy to provide advice directly to Catherine as the Council rebrands Eco-City.

The group is also interested in the Council’s environmental work such as open spaces, waste management, water, biodiversity and maritime/harbour.

Geoff Swainson presented Policy Forward Programme for transport across the city and region. Geoff outlined some of the big ticket items in the \$350 million package for public transport in Wellington (integrated ticketing, completing the spine study, light rail from station to hospital and possible longer).

4. He also covered local government reform and change in legislation.
5. **Sarah Free**, Co-chair, What ERG has achieved and how should the ERG operate? Presentation and discussion on each. See presentations.
6. **ERG Work Priorities** - Howard presented on work priorities and the group had an open discussion and came up with key areas of interest. See meeting summary; "Environmental Review Group: Areas of Interest".

**Action:** Howard to circulate work priorities at the next meeting.

7. **Next Meeting**  
Monday, 18 February 2013

### **2013 Meetings**

Monday, 18 February 2013  
Monday, 8 April 2013  
Monday, 20 May 2013  
Monday, 1 July 2013  
Monday, 30 September 2013  
Monday, 25 November 2013