

Environmental Reference Group Minutes

Monday, 2nd May 2016 | 5.30pm – 7.30pm

Wellington City Council, 1010 Wakefield St, Committee Room 2

Co-Chairpersons: Mark Fenwick, Sophie Mormede and Kate Mitcalfe

Members In Attendance: Sophie Mormede, Paula Warren, Stu Farrant, Martin Payne, Mark Higham, Daniella Biaggio, Hamish McGillivray, Chris Watson, Shenagh Gleisner

Councillors: Iona Pannett, Helene Ritchie

Staff: James Mather, Moana Mackey, Tom Pettit, Pete Whiting, Adam Nicholls, Jane Black

1.	Welcome & Apologies Sophie Mormede Sophie Mormede as Chair for the evening Apologies received from the following; Lynne Cadenhead Yvonne Legarth Mark Fenwick Kate Mitcalfe Graeme Sawyer Cr Iona Pannett Cr Helene Ritchie apologised for leaving early	5.30pm
2.	Conflicts of Interest All No conflicts of interest were declared	5.35pm
3.	Confirmation of last meetings minutes The minutes were moved to be carried by Stu, seconded by Mark	5.40pm
4.	Policy Updates & Questions Moana Mackey & Tom Pettit <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tom and Moana to provide brief policy updates- Floor is opened to the group for questions Moana & Tom to provide ERG with updates	5.45pm

	<p>Annual Plan Submissions have closed</p> <p>Virtual Forum was held on the consultation for the annual plan</p> <p>30 questions and 30 supplementary questions were posed at the forum</p> <p>City Green House inventory was released. Emissions since 2001 have gone down 2.1%. Moana reiterated that this is a trend they wish to see continue Cruise ships are excluded from the emissions report</p> <p>Forestry sector is showing some cause for concern in relation to emissions – data detailed in the report. Regional council will need to take a look into the Forestry sector.</p> <p>Electric Vehicle charging is being looked into. Aim to is to make charging as easy as possible, particularly in suburbs Car sharing is also being looked into by Tom</p> <p>100 Resilient Cities is in ‘phase 2’ Mike to return to advise ERG about the status of the programme</p> <p>Data formats for electricity are being looked into, Moana stressed that up to date data is essential.</p> <p>Electric Vehicle symposium on the 27th June Tom and Moana to provide details</p> <p>ERG –</p> <p>Q-Wastewater Sludge, what’s happening there? A- 85% of our corporate emissions come from this so we will be addressing this and can bring data to you.</p> <p>Q-why do you think charging stations will be an issue? A- We don’t, we just want to make it easy for people. Other countries have had drivers, such as taxes on petrol.</p> <p>Q- What role will the council play in charging? A- Due to our typography we don’t have the ability to provide charging to homes as easily, so we are investigating solutions. Around the world Local</p>	
--	--	--

Government have played a large role in supply. Z energy are working on this, we are keeping in touch with them.

Q- why would we need to charge at home?

A- If we have slow chargers they take all night, fast is much quicker. But if we have slow chargers we need to look at solutions for overnight charging. There is demand for charging, but lack of infrastructure will put people off. We are looking at partnerships to meet this demand – CBD locations will be essential to this. Charging is also best on the grid if it's done overnight.

Q- is there work on electric car sharing?

A- There are initiatives. MEVO is an Audi hybrid that won a council initiative.

Q- Autolib is a good model

A- Yes we are awaiting critical mass. Visibility is important, when people feel comfortable that they can use them safely and easily we will be doing well. We will also need more parking to service more electric cars. We have about 100 parks planned for across the city for these purposes, with 15% in the CBD.

General Questions

Q- The report on emissions seems to focus on cars. Gas, agriculture and electric use could make a huge impact.

A- Our 2050 calculator shows us that we need to get people out of cars that use fossil fuels. There is no competition in this regard. There is more that could be done, we agree. It would be disingenuous to say that Wellingtonians don't contribute in those areas you mentioned. We are looking at promoting energy efficiency across a range of small, medium and large businesses. The library for example, since joining the smart building challenge, has reduced its emissions which is something we want to see continue across Wellingtons buildings.

Q- What is the percentage of emissions that Transport contributes?

A- 40%

Q- What feedback are you getting on your calculator?

	<p>A- Good feedback. A simple way of showing the public what they can do and what is working. Other councils are looking to follow our example.</p> <p>Q – Some of the scenarios are quite limited. All the savings on emissions is based on energy efficiency. Avoid, reuse and recycle type scenarios aren’t incorporated for example.</p> <p>A- The sliders are based on specific models, so if the models don’t exist we can’t show the reduction. As data becomes available we will make it visible in the calculator.</p> <p>Q- I think people attracted to a calculator such as this, we need to show them ways they can make an impact. I think we have limited people here, by focusing on certain things.</p> <p>A- I think actually you have highlighted why we are pushing for an individual calculator, rather than at a city level.</p> <p>Moana noted that providing people data on the impact of their lifestyle, also that aviation is integral to NZ economy and its citizen’s lives. The adoption of biofuel would also be a huge game changer on the entire footprint.</p> <p>Council is making moves to reduce their carbon footprint.</p> <p>ERG also noted that 30% of Wellington traffic is school traffic.</p> <p>ERG noted they wanted work on Wastewater, commercial waste recycling (and regional bylaw associated) and how multiple effects of solutions effect transport scenarios (pushing for all electric may have negative effects in other areas for example).</p> <p>James to invite Mike Mendonca to update ERG on Resilience.</p>	
5.	<p>Let’s Get Wellington Moving (LGWM) Jane Black</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jane & Adam introducing LGWM - Discussion of the projects aims and status - Floor is opened to ERG for questions <p>LGWM gives a presentation on the overview of the LGWM project and its aims. She reiterates that this is the consultation phase of the project, and that LGWM will be returning at various phases of the project for further feedback & engagement. This is tabled for ERG on Dropbox.</p>	6.04pm

The LGWM website is also shown, which is one mechanism the project uses to engage with Wellington on their transport views.

LGWM asked ERG what they believed they should be taking into consideration, given that this phase is the principle shaping phase of the LGWM project.

Questions from ERG to LGWM

Q-Scenarios, what have you considered?

A- We're deliberately trying not to jump to solutions. We have reviewed all the transport studies done since 1963, which is available on the website. There are a lot of initiatives on there, which never got anywhere – so we will be reviewing those.

Q-How do you deal with transport activist cynicism? Previous approaches like this have had good principles, but resulted in poor work programmes. There are disengaged people out there, how will you address that?

A- We have talked to people with those views. We have an agency alliance here; we want to take people through the entire process. We want people's views reflected in all stages of the project.

Q- to reiterate, previous approaches have looked attractive to people as well, but have had poor results.

A- All I will say is that we are making it very easy for people to get engaged.

Q- I think there needs to be a focus on how to overturn the legacy problems – to convince people who have knowledge and understanding; you need to get through to them.

A- There are no solutions proposed here. This is us 'starting again'. Everything is off the table. The only thing on the table is that the basin reserve must stay.

Q- I will do some thinking about how to overcome that cynicism and get back to you.

Q- What might characterise the difference between principles and criteria?

A- A general rule is that the criteria sit between the principles and the solutions. There would be some technical criteria around measuring a principle of low

	<p>carbon for example.</p> <p>ERG noted that they would be highly interested in contributing at the principle and criteria stage of the project.</p> <p>LGWM has multiple work streams, with each stream having its own experts.</p> <p>Building a multi-modal transport model takes time, and requires understanding of the effects of ‘lever’ pulling within these models. The data collection done by LGWM is the most comprehensive in done in the city, incorporating new technology that provides insightful data.</p> <p>Q – How does the multi-modal model sit with the resilience model that’s being worked on? A- We are mindful that last year we had 9 events that compromised the PT network, none of which were an earthquake.</p> <p>ERG asked to be presented with a summary of the data when it comes up, and also be involved when they develop draft sets of principles.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Transport Engagement Pete Whiting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduction of Pete & his role in Cycleway’s - Beginning of ongoing engagement - Floor is opened to ERG for questions for James to put to Pete <p>Pete absent, gave his apologies and will return for the next meeting</p> <p>EEG wished to identify how Pete fits into the wider transport picture, and how his position will alleviate some systemic issues that ERG have identified previously (letter to CEO etc.) Eastern suburbs survey to be sent to ERG in advance ERG will also raise the issue of internal silo problems within council, but particularly within Transport.</p>	<p>6.23pm</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Dog Policy Submission Ratification</p> <p>Daniela noted that not alienating pet owners is important Clarity of law is important</p>	<p>6.52pm</p>

	<p>Safety of wildlife is stressed, but also that of persons – dogs off leash can be dangerous or intimidating</p> <p>One theory on poor dog behaviour – non-conformity to dog law is a form of protest due to lack of resources (not advocating for the behaviour but as an explanation of it)</p> <p>Resources to infringe are lacking – ERG noted that it is hard to fine/ticket someone you saw walking a dog off-leash 25 minutes ago</p> <p>The group stressed that the submission should be based around the idea of the bylaw enabling moving toward a positive outcome that is within the council’s resources. Safety and biodiversity being the 2 major aspects to work toward.</p> <p>It was determined that with the following emphases;</p> <p><i>Emphasis on the enforcement aspect</i> <i>Expansion on focus on wildlife</i> <i>Ease of interpretation of law</i> <i>Consistency of messaging from council</i></p> <p>That the ERG submission be carried and delivered.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>ERG Group Identity & Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussion of ERG’s identity and focuses - Discussion of upcoming policies <p>The Chair discussed some history of the ERG, detailing what the terms of reference allow ERG to discuss.</p> <p>Used to be an ‘ambulance at the bottom of the cliff’ type group, there are now shifts towards early engagement – but this can still be improved.</p> <p>The portfolio groups exist to liaise directly with council staff in charge of a particular area, to help the group know what is going on within specific areas.</p> <p>Revolving chairs are the current format, with Mark, Sophie and Kate interchanging.</p>	<p>7.11pm</p>

	<p>Loomio's effectiveness hasn't replaced the portfolio groups, the groups are still being looked to as an effective model. It is recognised that the groups are 'new' and that time should be given to them to see out their potential.</p> <p>ERG commended the work in the climate change space (Tom & Moana) and how that functions. Transport was recognised as a much more challenging space to work in.</p> <p>The newer members of ERG stressed some context in the portfolio groups would be appreciated. This would allow members to gravitate toward work more easily.</p> <p>ERG noted that many presentations could be memo based. This would allow for more discussion of portfolio issues.</p> <p>Portfolio leads noted they would like some context and insight into the group's queries in those spaces - what are the concerns in wastewater for example.</p> <p>Principles to deal with issues were also discussed; these are to be clarified at the following meeting.</p> <p>Paula to begin this, 20mins reserved to discuss this at the following meeting.</p> <p>Hamish volunteered to look into all the portfolio groups</p>	
--	--	--

The meeting adjourned at 7.35 pm

Action Points

1. ICMP update at the next meeting
2. Hamish to look into Portfolio Groups
3. James to organise Mike Mendonca to come to next meeting
4. Paula to provide draft principles for discussion
5. James to contact Pete Whiting regarding cycleway engagement
6. ERG to work on the Annual Report

Portfolio groups

Working group	ERG lead	Council officer
Transport	Paula Warren	Elise Webster, Principal Advisor Transport Strategy
Climate Change	Yvonne Legarth	Moana Mackey, Programme Manager Sustainability
Waste	Martin Payne	Adrian Mitchell, Waste Operations Manager
Urban Growth	Graeme Sawyer	Trudy Whitlow , Urban Design & Heritage Manager
Water	Paula Warren (interim)	Yon Cheong Manager, Regional Strategy and Policy Wgtn Water
Biodiversity	Stu Farrant	Myfanwy Emeny, Team Leader Biodiversity & Urban Ecology

Outputs from 5.05.2016 Meeting

1. Submission for animal policy and also oral presentation of annual plan.