

Environmental Reference Group

Meeting Minutes

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke

Details: Date: Monday, 14 October 2019
Time: 5.04pm-7.02pm
Venue: Ngake (16.10)
Level 16 Tahiwī
113 The Terrace
Chair: Mark Fenwick

Members present: Mike Britton Chris Paulin
Lynn Cadenhead Martin Payne
Mark Fenwick (Chair) Chris Watson
Andrew Wilks

Councillors present: Peter Gilbert

Democracy Services Staff: Kay Houlahan (Democracy Advisor)

ELT Member: Moana Mackey (Chief Advisor to the Chief City Planner)

Topic	Description	Start time
1.	Welcome & Apologies No apologies were received.	5.04pm
2.	Conflicts of Interest No conflicts of interest were declared.	5.05pm
3.	Previous Minutes Confirmation The previous minutes were confirmed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	5.06pm
4.	General Business The group discussed its recruitment process.	5.07pm
5.	Update on First to Zero Presenter: Tom Pettit, Sustainability Manger, Wellington City Council Tom Pettit presented on the First to Zero project. He noted that a survey of 1,200 people was taken alongside consultation and that meaningful carbon reduction across the city was	5.12pm

	<p>a popular option; but also that Wellington has some specific risks including earthquakes.</p> <p>Members discussed with presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reconciling the project’s objectives with, for example, burning kerosene at the airport waiting to offset versus the immediacy behind declaring a climate emergency subsiding public transport working alongside the Long-Term Plan feeding back into the community Motu’s resources. <p>ACTION: The group resolved to request another briefing in early 2020.</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p>Waste Bylaw Review and Waste Minimisation Plan Update</p> <p>Presenter: Emily Taylor-Hall, Waste Operations Manager, Wellington City Council</p> <p>Emily Taylor-Hall presented on the Waste Bylaw Review and provided an update on the Waste Minimisation Plan. She noted that development of the waste bylaw has been done through regional co-ordination, which has not been attempted previously, and that councils were finalising drafting provisions. The presenter noted the aim to reduce waste by one third by 2026. She touched on the public recycling trial (which is due to run for 12 months) and the rollout of new plans, such as kitchen waste diversion which had previously been delayed. There was also discussion of demolition waste, and multi-use dwellings and onsite servicing.</p> <p>Members discussed with presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> using data from other countries versus the Council conducting its own trial contamination rates the placement of recycling facilities in multi-use dwellings sewerage sludge where waste is coming from digestion methods as a waste minimisation option. 	<p>5.41pm</p>
<p>7.</p>	<p>Update from Councillor</p> <p>Councillor Gilberd noted that this would be his last advisory group meeting having served six years as a member of the group, and three as a councillor. He said that his greatest frustration over last three years has been waste, and that the nation as a whole needs to address the issue. He also noted that people tend to be parochial regarding conservation and also needed to take a global view. He touched on positive aspects such as Wellington’s pristine water supply, Tulip Sundays at the Botanic Gardens, recognition of Zealandia by the Times as a place to visit, olive planting in Tawa, and additions to the outer green belt</p>	<p>6.35pm</p>

	<p>portfolio – increasing connectivity.</p> <p>The group presented Councillor Gilbert with the book <i>Te Matau a Māui: Fish-hooks, fishing and fisheries in New Zealand</i> in recognition of his contributions to the Environmental Reference Group.</p>	
<p>8.</p>	<p>Round table updates from portfolio groups</p> <p>Members gave general updates on their portfolios.</p> <p>Mike Britton advised of an upcoming briefing on foreshore development regarding penguins.</p> <p>Chris Paulin advised that the Department of Conservation and other groups are looking at water catchment activity.</p> <p>Martin Payne queried whether the Council would make a submission on the draft policy statement for freshwater management.</p> <p>ACTION: Democracy Services to check whether the Council had made a submission on Draft National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management (Action for healthy waterways: our proposals, your views).</p> <p>Lynn Cadenhead advised that the Backyard Tāonga project map overlays were good overall, but could benefit from some tweaks. Possible options for protecting significant natural areas could include: rates relief, covenants, purchase of land by the Council, and contestable funds for weed control.</p> <p>ACTION: The group resolved to make a submission on improving the maps. Lynn Cadenhead agreed to compile member’s feedback.</p> <p>Andrew Wilks advised that the Council and Victoria University of Wellington are sponsoring <i>Climathon: Cities. Hacking. Solutions</i> (25/26 October 2019) – an event similar to Hackathon, but for climate.</p>	<p>6.47pm</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Next meeting</p> <p>Monday, 11 November 2019</p>	



Actions:

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

Action Points		Responsibility	Deadline
1.	Develop portfolio principles	All	Ongoing
2.	Check on the status of the Council's submission on national freshwater standard and provide and update on Wellington Water's infrastructure mapping and database	Democracy Services	

General Business		
1.	Undertake recruitment	Recruitment panel
2.		

Portfolio Groups	ERG Lead	Council Officer
Transport		Gunther Wild, Transport Strategy Manager and Siobhan Procter, Manager Transport and Infrastructure
Climate Change	Chris Watson	Tom Pettit, Sustainability Manager
Waste	Martin Payne	Emily Taylor-Hall, Commercial Manager, Resilience-Waste Operations
Water	Chris Paulin	Derek Baxter, City Engineer
Resilience	Lynn Cadenhead	Mike Mendonca, Chief Resilience Officer
Urban Design Agency/Urban Growth		Anna Harley, Manager City Design & Place Planning
Mana whenua iwi & Treaty Relations	Mark Fenwick	Nicky Karu, Manager Tira Poutama-Iwi Partnership
Biodiversity/Open Space	Mike Britton	Daniela Biaggio, Team Leader Biodiversity & Urban Ecology
Heritage	Lynn Cadenhead	Mark Lindsay, Heritage Manager