

# Environmental Reference Group

## Minutes

**Date:** Monday, 11 April 2022

**Time:** 5:00pm – 7:00pm

**Venue:** Zoom

### Purpose

- Advise Council on the best ways to improve Wellingtonian's quality of life environmentally, socially, culturally and economically by protecting and enhancing the local environment.
- Bring knowledge and insight into Council around the environment, including water, energy, waste, biodiversity, urban design, climate change, heritage and transport management, in the context of Council's roles and priorities.

### Attendance

<b>Chairperson:</b>	Michelle Rush (Co-chair)
<b>Members:</b>	Chris Watson, Lynn Cadenhead (Co-chair), Arran Whiteford, Sally Faisandier, Mike Britton, Steven Almond, Clare Stringer, George Hobson
<b>Liaison Councillors:</b>	Cr Tamatha Paul
<b>WCC Staff:</b>	Siobhan Procter (Chief Infrastructure Officer), Moana Mackey (Chief Advisor to the CPO), Leteicha Lowry (Democracy Advisor), Robert Hon (Waste Operations Engineer), Emma Richardson (Waste Strategy Manager), Angelique Jackson (Manager City Housing)

## Meeting Procedures

The meeting opened at 5:02pm.

1. Apologies were received from the following members:

- Clare Stringer – for lateness;
- David Batchelor – for absence.

The minutes of the previous Environmental Reference Group were approved with the following corrections, as marked in red.

*7. Member updates.*

*Lynn shared the following updates with the group:*

- *Lynn attended the hearing on the Draft District Plan ~~as an individual~~.*

### MR/LC

2. No conflicts of interest were declared.

## Items

3. Councillor Paul shared the following updates with the group:

- A decision was made at Te Kaunihera o Pōneke | Council meeting on the 31<sup>st</sup> of March regarding streamlining of the District Plan. Councillor Paul thanked Michelle and Lynn for their email submissions. 40% of the District Plan will not be fast-tracked.
- A petition regarding roadworks in Newtown is coming to Pūroro Āmua | Planning and Environment Committee on Thursday. The petition is to halt roadworks which include the installation of interim bike lanes under the Transitional Programme.

The Environmental Reference Group intend to produce something in support of continuing the works before Thursday's meeting. It was agreed Arran would do this with help from Michelle.

4. Residual Waste Disposal Options and Waste Minimisation, *Presented by Robert Hon and Emma Richardson.*

Robert presented to the group on residual waste disposal options and the three options being considered for when the Southern Landfill consent ends in June of 2026, and is expected to reach capacity. These are the piggy back option, waste to energy incineration, and closure of the existing landfill. The piggy bank options is the preferred option of Wellington City Council. Consultation on the Future of the Southern Landfill is part of the larger Annual Plan Consultation 2022/23.

Members asked questions about the carbon footprint and CO2 output of the Southern Landfill options and were advised officers would get back to them regarding this. Officers said the carbon footprint over the service life of each option was similar.

Emma presented to the group on Waste Minimisation and the Wellington Region Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2023-2029.

Members provided feedback and asked what can be done now to reduce waste. Members identified a need for local collection points due to it being unsustainable to drive to current facilities. Libraries were suggested and a suitable location for such collection points.

5. City Housing, *Presented by Angelique Jackson.*

Angelique presented to the group on the upcoming consultation that will determine how city housing is funded in future. There are two options being consulted on within the Annual Plan Consultation 2022/23. These are to set up an independent Community Housing Provider (CHP), or to fund City Housing through increased rates and borrowing. Establishing a CHP is the preferred option of Wellington City Council.

6. Annual Plan Consultation 2022/23, *Presented by Leteicha.*

Leteicha discussed the information from officers shared via email on the upcoming Annual Plan Consultation 2022/23. Leteicha will provide an update to the group on consultation dates following the adoption of the consultation plan on the 13<sup>th</sup> of April. Michelle asked for volunteers to assist with a submission on behalf of ERG. Lynn, George, Sally, Steven, Clare and Arran volunteered.

7. Recruitment, *Presented by Leteicha.*

Leteicha shared important recruitment dates for ERG, as follows:

2 – 23 May: Job ad live

23 – 27 May: Shortlisting

30 May – 3 June: Interviews

6 – 10 June: Reference checks

Members were encouraged to participate in the promotion of the job ad via social media and word of mouth, once live.

Leteicha invited members to volunteer to assist with recruitment. Sally said they could assist with recruitment as a backup or last resort, and additionally suggested gender diversity and other diversity should be considered in forming the interview panel. If members are able to assist with recruitment, contact Leteicha, Michelle or Lynn by the end of the week with any availability.

8. Chris shared the following updates with the group:

- New IPCC report released.

George shared the following updates with the group:

- Formal thanks should be sent to Isla to thank them for their work on ERG.

The meeting concluded at 7:06pm.

## Information

Next meeting date: 9/05/2022

### Actions from this meeting:

1. Leteicha to organise Angelique to return to a future meeting to discuss sustainability re: social housing.
2. Moana to organise LGWM to present at the next ERG meeting.
3. Leteicha to send formal thanks to Isla for their time on the ERG.
4. Leteicha to advise of updated Annual Plan consultation dates.

### Portfolio / Working Groups:

Portfolio Groups	ERG lead	ERG support	Council Officer
Transport	Michelle Rush	Arran Whiteford	Joe Hewitt, Team Leader Transport Strategy
Climate Change	Chris Watson	Steven Almond	Alison Howard, Climate Change Response Manager
Waste	Steven Almond	Clare Stringer	Emily Taylor-Hall, Waste Operations Manager
Water	Lynn Cadenhead		Zac Jordan, Principal Advisor Resilience Infrastructure
Resilience	Sally Faisandier		
Urban Design Agency/Urban Growth	Sally Faisandier		Vida Christeller, Manager City Design & Place Planning; Phil Becker, Manager Build Wellington
Mana whenua and treaty relations			
Biodiversity/Open Space	George Hobson	Clare Stringer, Mike Britton	Daniela Biaggio, Urban Ecology Manager
Heritage	Lynn Cadenhead	Clare Stringer	Mark Lindsay, Heritage Manager