

SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL

9 AUGUST 2017

AGENDA ITEM E1

REPORT FROM HER WORSHIP THE MAYOR

Purpose of Report

To update Council on activities and issues which have arisen since my last report to Council.

Recommendations

Her Worship the Mayor recommends that Council:

1. *Receives the information.*
2. *Ratify the signing of Local Government Leaders Climate Change Declaration.*

1. Local Government Commission

On 19th July the Local Government Commission (LGC) released their final proposal for a Wairarapa District Council. The LGC believe that the feedback they have had through submissions to the draft proposal, a telephone survey of 100 Wairarapa people and independent expert evidence that there is support for a Wairarapa Council.

There have been a few changes to the draft proposal but the key features of one council made up of 7 wards, 5 community boards, a Maori standing committee and a rural standing committee have not changed. The transition body will now have two Iwi representatives, will appoint an interim chief executive, will provide advice to the Commission as necessary during the transition, recommend to the Commission the final community board terms of reference/delegations and recommend for adoption by the new council terms of reference for the Maori standing committee and the rural standing committee. Decisions around staffing will be made by the interim chief executive once the new council is operational.

There will be a small implementation team of staff, an iwi advisor and a union advisor who will give effect to decisions of and provide technical and operational advice to the Commission and transition board initially, and then to the interim chief executive.

Now that the final proposal has been released there is an opportunity before 11 October 2017 for the public to request a poll by presenting the LGC a valid petition of 10% of registered voters of one of the affected councils.

A poll would be held between November 2017 and February 2018. Depending on the result of the poll, an election for a Wairarapa Council would be held between October 2018 and October 2019.

I would like to encourage everyone to sign a petition for a poll. The debate is now 'in the hands of the Wairarapa people.'

2. LGNZ Annual Conference

Meeting – Date & Venue	<p>LGNZ Annual Conference 23 – 25 July Sky City Auckland</p>
Present	<p>Member councils of Local Government New Zealand</p>
Key issues from meeting	<p>The conference theme was "Creating pathways to 2050: Livable spaces and lovable places. Presentations are available to be viewed Speakers included Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy, who opened the conference. Political parties were represented by Rt Hon Bill English Prime Minister, Andrew Little, Labour, Shane Taurima, Maori Party, Winston Peters, NZ First and James Shaw, Greens. Waikere Komen from the South Auckland group The Roots Creative Entrepreneurs described how the group is using recycled materials to create projects which include, plastic bottle lights, Pop up Café's made from pallets, a bike repair pod using scaffolding which can be set up in public places, Dr David Warbuton CEO of Auckland Transport and Mayor Lianne Dalziel of Christchurch gave examples of how technology is changing how councils provide transport services and smart cities. Auckland is looking at designing new hybrid trains that can go from electric lines to lines where currently diesel engines are required. The hybrid would be able to use batteries once off the electric network. This would be perfect for the Wairarapa line. Wairoa Mayor Craig Little explained how Wairoa Council has been involved in the Rocket Lab project and what this involvement has meant for Wairoa. Lord Mayor of Melbourne Robert Doyle- Melbourne is a very successful city. Any decision the council makes is assessed against "what impact does the decision have on our people". The City of Melbourne has invested in events then made them accessible to as many people as possible e.g. The Big Screens that show the tennis live in Confederation Square. They have also focused on attracting housing into the centre of the city. They have invested seed money in small projects. Water needs- managing community expectations for freshwater quality and quantity. Three speakers Ken Taylor, Director National Science Challenge, Stuart Crosby Bay of Plenty Regional Councillor and Rahui Papa Iwi Chairs Forum Ken explained that New Zealand ranks 2nd in the world for the abundance of water much of it high quality, but we need incentives, options and enablers to manage the resource into the future. Everyone needs to be in the game. Decisions need to be democratic and informed by science</p>

	<p>but not only by science. Local knowledge is important.</p> <p>There were 2 motivational speakers, Billie Jordan and Holly Ransom. Billie is the organizer of Hip Op-eration the senior citizen Hip Hop dance group.</p> <p>Holly Ransom is an Australian futurist and global strategist. I attended workshops on Cross District collaboration and Water.</p> <p>LGNZ AGM –</p> <p>Mayor Dave Cull from Dunedin is the new resident LGNZ and Stuart Crosby of Bay of Plenty Regional Council is Vice President.</p> <p>All remits passed including a remit that was tabled; Drivers License Programme. Thant the membership of LGNZ advocate to government in support of the implementation of a free and all-inclusive universal driver’s license programme for all students at NCEA level 2.</p> <p>Next year’s conference will be in Christchurch.</p> <p>This was a great conference with very good speakers; it was good to hear the various political parties Local Government manifestos. It is a great opportunity to network and talk to local government people.</p> <p>I believe that SWDC is doing a good job, there are some new initiatives that we can look at but it was apparent from most speakers that councils are part of why communities flourish, ideas and projects are initiated by communities and council should be an enabler to help make them happen.</p> <p>Technology is a key to how Local Government will be sustainable in the future.</p>
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3. Events

3.1 Father Don Morrison 60 years

I attended the celebration of Father Don Morrison’s 60 years as a priest. Father Don has been a priest in Featherston for 34 of those 60 years. Tributes attested to his wonderful work with the Featherston community, everyone in Featherston knows and respects him. He has always been a part of ANZAC Day and the commemoration of the Featherston Incident.

3.2 Wairarapa Rural Fire Volunteer Awards Dinner

South Wairarapa has three rural fire parties, Lake Ferry, Ngawi and Tora/ Tuturumuri. 25 volunteers were awarded service certificates that totalled 311 years of service. 9 volunteers have served over 20 years. Lake Ferry – Les Jones 20 years, King Tipoki 20 years, Ngawi Ken Feast 23 years, Keith Banks 23 years, Tora, Mike Doyle 24 years, Hamish Sims 24 years, Alistair ‘Tora’ Boyne 24 years, Marcia Hunter 22 years and Ian Hunter 22 years. Our rural fire parties are an integral part of our rural communities, we are very grateful for the work they do in our communities.

4. Correspondence

DATE	INWARDS	SUBJECT
12 June 2017	Bryce gurney, Masterton RSA (INC) Greytown Branch	Thank you for taking part in the Anzac parade and for the address at the Civic Service.
22 May 2017	Stuart Nash MP	Labour party regional economic development policy.
12 June 2017	Masterton Returned Services Association (Inc) Greytown Branch	Thanks for participation in this year's Anzac Parade and Service
21 June 2017	Mayor Tony Bonne Whakatane District Council	Thanks for the contribution in response to cyclone and flood emergency events.
22 June 2017	Greater wellington Regional Council	Southern Rimutaka Aerial Project update.
22 June 2017	Hon Anne Tolley, Minister Local Government	Thanks for engagement in Local Government Act (No 2) and submissions to the Local Government and Environment Committee.
10 July 2017	Dr Susan Gorrie, President, NZ Dental Association	LGNZ remit on sugary drinks.
13 July 2017	Lyn Mayes, Scheme Manager, Public Place recycling Scheme	Outlining their objective to improve recycling and reduce litter.
21 July 2017	Office of Treaty Settlements	Deed of Settlement Rangitane o Wairarapa and Tangitane Tamaki nui-a-Rua.

DATE	OUTWARDS	SUBJECT
26 May 2017	Featherston Rugby Club	Letter of support to assist in bid for funds to repair and maintain clubrooms.
2 June 2017	St Teresa School Featherston	Thanking students for letters they have prepared for delivery by the Mayor to the school children in Messines.
2 June 2017	Featherston School	Thanking the students for the Matariki Artwork they prepared for Mayor to take to Messines.
2 June 2017	South Featherston School	Thanks for presentation to Council and for the poppy pictures for Mayor to take to the school children of Messines.
July 2017	Father Donald Morrison	Congratulations on 60 th Jubilee
July 2017	Liz Mellish	Congratulations on being selected as a finalist in Women of Influence 2017.

5. Appendices

Appendix 1 – Local Government Leaders Climate Change Declaration

Prepared By: Her Worship the Mayor, Viv Napier

Appendix 1 – Local Government Leaders Climate Change Declaration

Who's
putting local
issues on
the national
agenda?

**We are.
LGNZ.**

Local Government Leaders Climate Change Declaration

In 2015, Mayors and Chairs of New Zealand declared an urgent need for responsive leadership and a holistic approach to climate change. We, the Mayors and Chairs of 2017, wholeheartedly support that call for action.

Climate change presents significant opportunities, challenges and risks to communities throughout the world and in New Zealand. Local and regional government undertakes a wide range of activities that will be impacted by climate change and provides infrastructure and services useful in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and enhancing resilience.

We have come together, as a group of Mayors and Chairs representing local government from across New Zealand to:

1. acknowledge the importance and urgent need to address climate change for the benefit of current and future generations;
2. give our support to the New Zealand Government for developing and implementing, in collaboration with councils, communities and businesses, an ambitious transition plan toward a low carbon and resilient New Zealand;
3. encourage Government to be more ambitious with climate change mitigation measures;
4. outline key commitments our councils will take in responding to the opportunities and risks posed by climate change; and
5. recommend important guiding principles for responding to climate change.

We ask that the New Zealand Government make it a priority to develop and implement an ambitious transition plan for a low carbon and resilient New Zealand. We stress the benefits of early action to moderate the costs of adaptation to our communities. We are all too aware of challenges we face shoring up infrastructure and managing insurance costs. These are serious financial considerations for councils and their communities.

To underpin this plan, we ask that a holistic economic assessment is undertaken of New Zealand's vulnerability to the impacts of climate change and of the opportunities and benefits for responding. We believe that New Zealand has much at stake and much to gain by adopting strong leadership on climate change emission reduction targets.

We know that New Zealanders are highly inventive, capable and passionate about the environment. New Zealanders are proud of our green landscapes, healthy environment and our unique kiwi identity and way of life. Central and local government, working together with communities and business, can develop and implement ambitious strategies based on sound science, to protect our national inheritance and security.

3. Equity / Justice

It is a fundamental human right to inherit a habitable planet and live in a just society. The most vulnerable in our community are often disproportionately affected by change and natural hazards. Approaches need to consider those most affected and without a voice, including vulnerable members in our community, our Pacific neighbours and future generations.

4. Anticipation (thinking and acting long-term)

Long-term thinking, policies and actions are needed to ensure the reasonably foreseeable needs of current and future generations are met. A clear and consistent pathway toward a low carbon and resilient future needs to provide certainty for successive governments, businesses and communities to enable transformative decisions and investments to be made over time.

5. Understanding

Sound knowledge is the basis of informed decision making and participatory democracy. Using the best available information in education, community consultation, planning and decision making is vital. Growing understanding about the potential impacts of climate change, and the need for, and ways to respond, along with understanding the costs and benefits for acting, will be crucial to gain community support for the transformational approaches needed.

6. Co-operation

The nature and scale of climate change requires a global response and human solidarity. We have a shared responsibility and can not effectively respond alone. Building strong relationships between countries and across communities, organisations and scientific disciplines will be vital to share knowledge, drive innovation, and support social and economic progress in addressing climate change.

7. Resilience

Some of the impacts of climate change are now unavoidable. Enhancing the resilience and readiness of communities and businesses is needed so they can thrive in the face of changes. Protecting the safety of people and property is supported by sound planning and a good understanding of the risks and potential responses to avoid and mitigate risk.



Mayor


Mayor Winston Gray
Kaikoura District Council



Mayor Bill Dalton
Napier City Council



Mayor Gary Tong, JP
Southland District Council



Mayor Lyn Patterson
Masterton District Council



Mayor Andy Watson
Rangitikei District Council



Stephen Woodhead, Chair
Otago Regional Council



Mayor Allan Sanson
Waikato District Council



Mayor Tony Bonne
Whakatane District Council



Mayor Justin Lester
Wellington City Council



Mayor K (Guru) Gurunathan
Kāpiti Coast District Council