

SWDC COUNCIL MEETING

8 AUGUST 2018

NOTICE OF MOTION

MOTION

I, Cr Lee Carter, move that the South Wairarapa District Council make provision for records of all South Wairarapa District Council meetings held, including workshops so that the decision making process is demonstrated clearly for our ratepayers as Mayor Viv Napier has said in her July 9th statement in the Wairarapa Times Age”.

Background

At a Public/Council meeting held in Featherston on 19 May 2018, a question was asked, “How does Council make decisions?” At that same public meeting there was a strong call for South Wairarapa District Council to have better communications, and more transparency.

On 27 June 2018 the South Wairarapa District Council adopted the 2018/28 Long Term Plan (LTP). The new LTP Vision, Mission, Values, and Strategic Plan, gives the mandate to challenge the status quo. The South Wairarapa District Council have adopted a set of fundamentals that gives weight to allow for more transparency, better communication, and the opportunity to share with the public how decisions for our communities are shaped and formed.

On 9 July 2018, the Wairarapa Times-Age ran a front page article highlighting that in the past 18 months Councils across the region had 160 closed door workshops, 43 relating to South Wairarapa District Council – with no public record of what was said or done. Mayor Viv Napier stated that “Council’s use of workshops should give the ratepayers confidence. It has nothing to do with trying to hide anything, it’s so we can make good decisions with good understanding”.

Signed:

