

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH  
ON THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2026 AT 1:30 PM**

- PRESENT:** Cr Colin Olds (Chair), Cr Aidan Ellims (via MS Teams), Cr Rachel Clarke, Deputy Mayor Rob Taylor, Cr Martin Bosley, and Mayor Fran Wilde.
- APOLOGIES:** Cr Collier Isaacs.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Cr Chris Archer, James O'Connor (Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Corporate Services), Graham Carson (Manager, Roding), Peter Trafford (Principal Engineer, 3 Waters), Tim Langley (Principal Advisor, Roding), Charly Clarke (Chief Financial Officer), Elisa Romani (Lead Advisor Projects, Community Operation), Alex Pigou (Manager, Communications), Melissa Stockley (Manager, Community Operations), Shanin Brider (Advisor, Community Governance), Hayley Gastmeier (Advisor, Digital Communications), Greg Lee (Project Management and Planning Advisor), Genevieve Drake (Water Services Advisor), Katherine Meerman (Programme Director, Local Water Done Well) and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).
- CONDUCT OF BUSINESS:** This meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and via audio-visual conference. This meeting was live-streamed is available to view on our YouTube channel. The meeting was held in public under the above provisions from 1:30pm to 3:39pm except where expressly noted.

**OPEN SECTION**

**1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING**

All in attendance opened the meeting.

Cr Ellims arrived online at 1:30pm.

**2 APOLOGIES**

**2.1 APOLOGIES**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/09**

**Moved:** Cr C Olds

**Seconded:** Mayor F Wilde

The Infrastructure Committee resolved to receive an apology from Cr Isaacs.

**CARRIED**

### 3 CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

No interests were disclosed relating to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

### 4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND TRIBUTES

There were no acknowledgements and tributes.

### 5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 6 ACTIONS FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

### 7 URGENT BUSINESS

#### 7.1 URGENT BUSINESS - REPORT

##### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/10

**Moved:** Mayor F Wilde

**Seconded:** Cr R Clarke

The Infrastructure Committee resolved to add the Martinborough Wastewater Treatment Plant - Stage 2 Improvements - Engagement Update report to the agenda as item 10.6. This was not included in the agenda release because of timing - the engagement period recently closed on 31 March and it cannot be delayed until the next meeting of the Infrastructure Committee due to the project team's plan to lodge Council's resource consent application as soon as possible in May on the completion of requisite information collation.

**CARRIED**

### 8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

#### 8.1 MINUTES OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2026

##### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/11

**Moved:** Deputy Mayor R Taylor

**Seconded:** Cr A Ellims

The Infrastructure Committee resolved that the minutes of the Infrastructure Committee meeting held on 12 February 2026 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

Abstained: Cr Bosley

**CARRIED**

## 9 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

## 10 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

### 10.1 INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITY OPERATIONS GROUP REPORTS

#### Infrastructure / Roading

Mr O'Connor, provided a high level with regards to the following:

- Responses to the February storm event (15–16 February) – members acknowledged the work of the team.
- Tauwharenikau pipeline project is nearing completion.
- Lake Ferry Playground completion and nomination for an award at Green Pavlova for the Joy Cowley Playground.
- Mr Carson further advised:
  - All residential speed signage installed following speed management changes.
  - Bridge condition issues and NZTA claims discussed; limited funding identified as a constraint.
  - Options reports underway for future bridge repair/planning.
  - Eco-reef coastal protection works programmed to commence next month, expected to take around six weeks.
  - Gluepot and slope stability issues being monitored; further update to be provided in coming months.
  - Ponatahi Road safety improvements nearing completion, including bridge works, willow clearance and shoulder extension.
- Member discussion included:
  - Flooding issues in the lower valley and debris build-up following diver clearance.
  - Possible engineering interventions (e.g. debris capture systems), noting uncertainty around feasibility and funding.
  - Clarification that special purpose road funding includes NZTA contributions.
  - Explanation of “vested roads” in subdivisions—developers retain costs until Council ownership is taken once standards are met.
  - Request for clearer reporting on the cumulative financial impact of bridge works

**Action IC2026/12** - Request the CE to provide clearer reporting on the cumulative financial impact of bridge works at the next meeting of the Committee in June.

*Assigned to J O'Connor / G Carson*

- Vandalism and graffiti were highlighted as an increasing cost pressure, particularly affecting signage.

**Action IC2026/13** - Request CE to work with Communications on a stronger response and future options regarding the issues relating to vandalism and graffiti; and report back to the Committee at the next meeting in June.

*Assigned to J O'Connor / A Pigou*

### **Community Operations**

- Good month of asset delivery reported.
- Recruitment completed for asset management and data analyst roles.
- Key updates:
  - “Welcome to Featherston” signage being installed.
  - Lake Ferry playground opened for Easter; remaining works scheduled post-ANZAC Day.
  - Heights compliance programme progressing.
  - Pain Farm House works underway.
  - Greytown centre repiling completed; pool upgrades ongoing.
  - Carkeek Observatory works to commence pending archaeological input.
- Financial summary shows spend tracking below budget, with an expected increase in coming months.
- Resource recovery:
  - Recycling contamination rate currently lowest in NZ.
  - Joint waste contract closed in March, announcements are pending.
  - Waste levy increase noted as a future pressure.

### **Water Services**

- Several projects likely to transfer to the new CCO.
- Tauwharenikau pipeline to be submitted for Civil Contractors NZ Awards.
- Martinborough, Greytown and Featherston wastewater treatment plant tenders under evaluation.
- Greytown desludging continuing; Featherston wastewater work as an outcome of the consent is progressing, including riparian planting.
- Officers managing a high volume of consultation and LGOIMA requests.

### **Action IC2026/14**

Request follow up concerns raised regarding Wellington Water project planning – Greytown bore.

*Assigned to J O'Connor / P Trafford*

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/15**

**Moved: Mayor F Wilde**

**Seconded: Cr A Ellims**

The Infrastructure Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the Infrastructure and Community Operations reports.
2. Note the information included in this report.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

**CARRIED**

## **10.2 LAND TRANSPORT SECTION 17A REVIEW**

Mr O'Connor presented the statutory Section 17A review, advising:

- The review complies with legislative requirements.
- No material changes to the current delivery model are proposed.
- Contractor performance has improved notably over the past eight months, supported by the PACE process.

Members questioned weighting methodologies, whether a terms of reference was applied (not required as this is a legislative process), performance measurement, funding sufficiency for roads and bridges, and co-governance arrangements.

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/16**

**Moved: Cr A Ellims**

**Seconded: Cr R Clarke**

The Infrastructure Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the Land Transport Section 17A Review report.
2. Note the information included in this report.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

**CARRIED**

## **10.3 WAIRARAPA TARARUA WATER ESTABLISHMENT AND TRANSITION UPDATE**

Ms Meerman provided an update on:

- Completion of the first phase of establishment.
- Upcoming board induction.
- Development of a Statement of Expectations.
- Key decisions around debt transfer and digital systems.

Members emphasised the importance of accountability and clear reporting relationships between Council and the Council Controlled Organisation (CCO).

Members acknowledged the considerable work completed and level of commitment by Ms Meerman.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/17****Moved: Cr R Clarke****Seconded: Cr M Bosley**

The Infrastructure Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the Wairarapa Tararua Water Establishment and Transition Updates report.
2. Note the information included in this report.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

**CARRIED****10.4 ROADING CONTRACT MANAGEMENT - USE OF PACE TOOL**

Mr O'Connor explained the application of the PACE (Performance and Contract Evaluation) tool, noting:

- It provides a structured mechanism for driving contractor improvement.
- Scores show an improving trend over time.
- Evaluation is undertaken collaboratively by multiple parties.

Levels of service were identified as an issue to be further considered through the LTP process.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/18****Moved: Cr M Bosley****Seconded: Mayor F Wilde**

The Infrastructure Committee resolved to receive the Roading Contract Management – use of PACE tool information report.

**CARRIED****10.5 ACTION ITEMS**

Actions 04/05: All Councillors are to receive briefings on the identified issues. A site visit to the Otaki Transfer Station is to be considered in Action 2026/05.

**10.6 MARTINBOROUGH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT STAGE 2 IMPROVEMENTS – ENGAGEMENT UPDATE**

Mr Lee and Ms Drake spoke to the report and advised:

- Community engagement has been extensive and unprecedented.

- Feedback has resulted in design changes, including pipe routing and mitigation measures.
- Council previously reaffirmed its decision to move from river discharge to irrigation to land.
- RMA applications are planned for May/June 2026.

Cr Ellims requested sensitivity around how the affected land block is named publicly.

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/19**

**Moved: Deputy Mayor R Taylor**

**Seconded: Cr A Ellims**

The Infrastructure Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the Martinborough Wastewater Treatment Plant stage 2 improvements – engagement update report.
2. Notes the changes to the concept design, the issues raised by the community and that the RMA applications are due to be lodged by June 2026.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

**CARRIED**

**11 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS**

**RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION IC2026/20**

**Moved: Mayor F Wilde**

**Seconded: Cr M Bosley**

The Infrastructure Committee resolved that the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject matter of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48 of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48 for the passing of this resolution	Plain English reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter
11.1 - Waters Capital Projects Budget Savings	s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or	s48(1)(a)(i) - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of	This report discloses Council's financial position prior to negotiation to achieve the recommendations

	disadvantage, commercial activities	information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7	
<b>CARRIED</b>			

Meeting adjourned at 3:19pm.

Meeting resumed at 3:31pm

**12 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING**

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 3:39pm.

**Confirmed as a true and correct record.**

..... (Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)