



## **Strategy Working Committee Minutes from 31 July 2024**

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<b>Present:</b>	Councillor Rebecca Gray (Chair), Mayor Connelly, Councillors Pip Maynard, Aaron Woodcock (until 1:27pm), Colin Olds, Kaye McAulay, Martin Bosley (via Teams), Aidan Ellims (until 1:27pm), Alistair Plimmer (from 10:29am) and Violet Edwards (Māori Standing Committee Representative).
<b>Apologies:</b>	Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter.
<b>In Attendance:</b>	Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations), Russell O’Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Paul Gardner (Group Manager, Corporate Services), Rob Thomas (Manager, Stakeholder Relationships), Nicki Ansell (Lead Advisor Policy & Projects), Robyn Wells (Principal Advisor - Waters) and Robyn Ramsden (Advisor, Community Democracy).  Via audio-visual conferencing: Stephen Hill (Elections NZ), Linda Fairbrother and Charles Barker (Wellington Water).
<b>Conduct of Business:</b>	This meeting Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, 62 Texas Street, Martinborough, and was livestreamed on the Council’s YouTube Channel. The meeting was held in public provisions where noted from 10:11am to 2:15pm.

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### **A Open Section**

#### **A1. Karakia Timatanga - Opening**

All in attendance participated in opening the meeting with a karakia.

#### **A2. Apologies**

*STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/73) to accept apologies from Deputy Sadler-Fuller, Cr Bosley (online), Cr Plimmer (for late arrival), Woodcock (for early departure).*

*(Cr Olds /Cr McAulay)*

*Carried*

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**A3. Conflicts of Interest**

There were no conflicts of interest.

**A4. Acknowledgements and tributes**

Cr Maynard acknowledged the passing of Jim Harper who was a very well-known gentleman in the Martinborough Community. He was the milkman for many years, a volunteer firefighter and an active member of the Martinborough rugby club. Cr Maynard sent her condolences to the Harper whanau.

**A5. Public participation**

Jim Hedley

Mr Hedley spoke to the Committee on item B1 Representative Review and supplied a handout to the Committee.

Storm Robertson, Angela Brown, Mel Maynard, Karen Krogh - Martinborough Community Board

Members of the Martinborough Community Board spoke in relation to item B1 Representation Review and shared concerns regarding the report's content (in relation to commentary on the community boards and the volume of candidates).

**A6. Extraordinary business**

There was no extraordinary business.

**A7. Confirmation of minutes**

*STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/74) to accept that the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meetings held on 3 July 2024 are a true and accurate record.*

*(Cr Ellims /Cr McAulay)*

Carried

**A8. Matters arising from previous meetings**

There were no matters arising.

**B Decision Reports from the Chief Executive and Staff**

**B1. Representation Review**

Cr Plimmer arrived at 10:29am.

Ms Ansell spoke to matters included in the report, including the confirmation of the passing into law the Local Government (Electoral Legislation and Māori Wards and Māori Constituencies) Amendment Bill. Ms Ansell confirmed that 31 July 2024 is the deadline for Council to adopt its initial proposal.

Members asked various questions about the Amendment Bill and Ms Ansell confirmed the Representation Review timeline.

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Members discussed Community Boards, Advisory Groups, and how the rural community would be represented. Members requested if the alternate recommendations could replace “disestablish” with “retain” Community Boards.

*STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/75) to:*

1. receive the ‘Representation Review: Initial Proposal’ Report.

(Cr Ellims/Cr Maynard)

Carried

2. adopt the following as its initial proposal for representation arrangements for the 2025 elections:

2.1 That the South Wairarapa District Council comprises the Mayor, elected at large, and nine councillors, of which seven are elected from wards, and two elected at large.

(Cr Olds/Cr Ellims)

Carried

For – Cr Gray, Cr Olds, Cr McAulay, Cr Maynard, Cr Ellims, Edwards, Cr Woodcock, Mayor Connelly and Cr Bosley.

Against – Cr Plimmer.

2.2 That the South Wairarapa District is divided into four wards, with boundaries and the number of councillors as set out below:

(a) The Greytown General Ward, comprising the area of the existing Greytown Ward, represented by 2 councillors;

(b) The Featherston General Ward, comprising the area of the existing Featherston Ward, represented by 2 councillors;

(c) The Martinborough General Ward, comprising the area of the existing Martinborough Ward, represented by 2 councillors;

(d) The South Wairarapa Māori Ward, comprising the whole of the district, represented by 1 councillor.

(Cr Olds/Cr Maynard)

Carried

For – Cr Gray, Cr Olds, Cr Maynard, Edwards, Cr Ellims, Mayor Connelly and Cr Bosley.

Against – Cr Woodcock and Cr Plimmer.

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2.3 That the community boards of Greytown, Featherston and Martinborough are disestablished.

*(Cr Olds/Cr Grey)*

Lost

For – Cr Gray, Cr Olds, Cr Plimmer and Cr Bosley

Against – Cr McAulay, Cr Maynard, Edwards, Cr Woodcock and Mayor Connelly.

Noted that advice from staff was because item 2.3 was lost, the question falls to the positive.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:17am.

The meeting was reconvened at 11:27am.

*STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/76)* to suspend standing orders.

*(Mayor Connelly/Cr Maynard)*

Carried

*STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/77)* that the existing Community Boards of Greytown, Featherston and Martinborough are retained, with four board members to be elected in each community board and two members to be appointed from the respective wards (for the Representation Review Initial Proposal).

*(Cr Mayor Connelly/Cr Gray)*

Carried

For – Cr McAulay, Cr Gray, Cr Maynard, Ms Edwards, Cr Ellims, Cr Woodcock and Cr Bosley.

Against - Cr Olds, Cr Plimmer.

*STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/78)* to resume standing orders.

*(Mayor Connelly/Cr Ellims)*

Carried

*STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/79):*

1. *[Additional recommendation]* that the Chief Executive is requested to update the Representation Review Initial Proposal - Statement of Proposal to include the above adapted resolutions.

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2. to note under section 19K(2) of the Local Electoral Act 2001 that the Representation Review initial proposal includes changes to the basis of election, and membership of wards which applied at the last elections, for the reasons of providing enhanced representation for shared communities of interest across the district as a whole.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

*(Cr Olds/Cr McAulay)*

Carried

3. to note that public notice will be given of this Representation Review initial proposal.

*(Cr McAulay/Cr Ellims)*

Carried

4. to note that the Strategy Working Committee will hear submissions received, if any, on this Representation Review initial proposal.

*(Cr Olds/Cr Maynard)*

Carried

#### **ITEM MOVED**

#### **C2. Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent Update**

Mr Corbett spoke to matters included in the report and noted the consent has been submitted and is waiting for final notification and consultation is due to start this October. Members queried the use of data already collected and sought assurances that the previous work had been retained. Mr Corbett confirmed that the area used will not be allowed to grow food crops for animals or people.

Members discussed the 3.5 hectare used for the trail with checks and feedback embedded throughout the project, as well as working with Iwi on growing suitable plants for the area and project needs.

Cr Woodcock left the meeting at 12:05pm.

Cr Plimmer left the meeting at 12:06pm.

Officers re-enforced that that the process is collaborative, and stakeholders will have opportunity to make submissions, engage and attend any hearings.

Cr Woodcock returned to the meeting at 12:05pm.

Cr Plimmer returned to the meeting at 12:06pm.

*STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/80) to receive the Featherston Wastewater Treatment Plant Consent – Update Report.*

*(Cr Ellims/Ms. Edwards)*

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm.

The meeting was reconvened at 12:46pm.

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STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/81) to note the opportunities to support the notification process.  
(Cr Olds/Cr Ellims) Carried

**ITEM MOVED**

**C3. Wellington Water Limited Expectations and Performance**

Mr Corbett spoke to the matters included in the report, which covers issues with Wellington Water, Pump Stations and Greytown drinking water upgrades. Mr Corbett spoke to the cultural issues inside Wellington Water and expectations of continual improvement and agreed performance framework.

STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/82) to receive the Wellington Water Limited Expectations and Performance Report.  
(Cr Ellims/Cr Plimmer) Carried

Cr Woodcock and Cr Ellims left the meeting at 1:27 pm.

**B2. Local Government NZ Remit 2024**

STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/83) to:

1. receive the Local Government NZ Remit 2024 report.  
(Cr Olds/Cr McAulay) Carried

2. Authorises the primary nominee to endorse the remits with the following vote:

Proposed Remit		Vote – Yes, No or Abstain
1	Representation Review	Yes
2	Community Services Cards	Yes
3	Local government constituencies and wards should not be subject to referendum	Yes
4	Entrenchment of Māori wards seats for local government	Yes
5	Graduated driver licensing systems	Abstain
6	Proactive lever to mitigate the deterioration of unoccupied buildings	Yes
7	Appropriate funding models for central government initiatives	Yes
8	Goods and services tax (GST) revenue sharing with local government	Yes

(Cr Olds /Cr Gray)

Carried

3. Authorises the primary nominee to prioritise the remits as follows:

1. Goods and services tax (GST) revenue sharing with local government
2. Proactive lever to mitigate the deterioration of unoccupied buildings
3. Entrenchment of Māori wards seats for local government
4. Community Services Cards
5. Appropriate funding models for central government initiatives

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6. Representation Review
7. Local government constituencies and wards should not be subject to referendum
8. Graduated driver licensing systems  
(Cr Plimmer/Cr Gray) Carried

## **C Information Reports from the Chief Executive and Staff**

### **C1. Dublin Street Heavy Traffic Bypass**

Mr Corbett spoke to the report, highlighting that Dublin Street is built as a normal road and any road upgrade would need include all under road services. Furthermore, the speed review conflicts with central government speed reduction policy.

Cr Gray reminded members that this report does not foreshadow future work. Noted, there are no current plans to build a new bypass around Martinborough.

STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/84) to receive the Dublin Street Heavy Traffic Bypass Report.  
(Edwards/Cr Olds) Carried

Noted that items C2 and C3 were discussed earlier in the meeting.

### **C4. Action Items**

STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/85) to receive the action items Report.  
(Cr Plimmer/Edwards) Carried

#### **Updates:**

407 - Update has been entered.

409 - Cr Bosley's action for follow up, to remain open

#### **Closed:**

32 and 188 - Reports received at this meeting.

134 – A workshop is scheduled for 7 August.

## **D Reports from the Chairperson**

### **D1. Chairperson's Report**

Regarding the amendments to standing orders, Ms Smith reminded members of section 15, 15.1 and 15.2 as they were revised in the workshop. The only addition was the word 'vexatious'.

Members commented on local water done well and the workload required of elected members. Members acknowledged the amount of work Cr Olds undertakes unpaid on water issues in the district.

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**Action 357** – Cr Plimmer to email Councillors regarding the issues and challenges of work done by Councillors relating to water.

STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/86) to:

1. receive the Chairperson's Report.

*(Edwards/Mayor Connelly)*

Carried

2. approve the amended Standing Orders as per Appendix 1.

*(Cr Plimmer/Cr Olds)*

Carried

3. note the update on the development of a work programme to implement the Wairarapa Water Resilience Strategy.

4. note that the Wairarapa Water Resilience Work Programme takes a holistic approach across five workstreams involving natural attenuation, water allocation, water storage, water use efficiency and land use adaptation.

5. note the content and breadth of the work proposed in the work programme.

6. note the resource commitment needed to progress the work to implement the Wairarapa Water Resilience Work Programme.

7. endorse the Wairarapa Water Resilience Work Programme.

8. endorse the intention that councils and iwi work together to implement projects to increase water resilience, which will in some cases include work already underway.

[items 3-8 read together]

*(Cr McAulay/Edwards)*

Carried

9. agree that Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter and CEO Janice Smith are the nominated members of the governance group and senior leaders' group.

*(Cr Olds/Cr McAulay)*

Carried

## **E Members Reports**

### **E1. Councillor feedback from Community Boards – Featherston, Greytown, Martinborough**

#### Martinborough Community Board

Cr Maynard spoke to the lights around Martinborough Square. The joining of the Borough with the Council. Thanks to Janice for all her work and the finance team on Pain Estate. Trust lawyer still working for next steps.

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## Greytown Community Board

Cr Bosley reported on the Board recognising the contribution of a much loved and valued member of the community, Michelle Allen of the Greytown Pharmacy. She has sold her business after 36 years on Main Street, which makes her the longest running single retailer. The GCB are planning to start preparations for Arbor Day Celebration 135 years. There is the SWDC Shareholders Meeting for Parks and Reserves on 11th September.

Action 358: Request that a member of the Infrastructure team attend the SWDC Shareholders Meeting for Parks and Reserves on 11th September and that minutes of the meeting are recorded. *S Corbett/J O'Connor*

## Featherston Community Board

Cr Gray reported that passionate and inspired members of the community are running Lady Featherston's Lemon Ball.

## **F Appointments Reports**

### **F1. Wairarapa Road Safety Council Appointment Report**

Cr Plimmer spoke to his report on driver licensing issues, there are not enough testers in the region. The problems with the raised pedestrian crossing in that they have slowed down emergency services.

STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE RESOLVED (SWC2024/87) to receive the Wairarapa Road Safety Council Appointment report from Cr Plimmer.

*(Ms Edwards/Mayor Connelly)*

Carried

### **F2. Safer Communities**

Nil report.

## **G Public Excluded Section**

The general subject 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(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<b>Report/General Subject Matter</b>	<b>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter</b>	<b>Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this Resolution</b>
Public excluded minutes 5 June 2024 (Greytown Wheels Park-design and build options; Appointment of members to the District Licensing Committee Combined List)	Good reason to withhold exists under sections 7(2)(h) and 7(2)(a) respectively.	Section 48(1)(a)

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This resolution (SWC2024/88) is made in reliance on Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as follows:

Reason for passing this resolution in relation to the matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for the passing of this Resolution
The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons.	Section 7(2)(a)
The withholding of information is necessary to enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.	section 7(2)(h)

*(Ms Edwards/Cr Olds)*

Carried

**H Karakia Whakamutunga - Closing**

Cr Gray closed the meeting.

The meeting closed at 2:15pm.

**Confirmed as a true and correct record**

.....(Chair: Cr Gray)

.....(Chief Executive)

.....(Date)

.....(Date)

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