

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL  
STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH  
ON WEDNESDAY, 5 MARCH 2025 AT 10:00 AM**

**PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter (Chair), Cr Alistair Plimmer (via Teams), Cr Aaron Woodcock, Cr Martin Bosley, Cr Colin Olds, Mayor Martin Connelly, Cr Pip Maynard, Cr Rebecca Gray, Cr Kaye McAulay and Ms Violet Edwards (via Teams).

**APOLOGIES:** Cr Aidan Ellims.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Storm Robertson (Martinborough Community Board, Chair)  
Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations), Robyn Wells (Programme Manager – Water Transition), Nicki Ansell (Senior Advisor Policy and Projects), Alex Pigou (Team Lead Communications), Charly Clarke (Chief Financial Officer), Arun Mohanan (IT Support) 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 10:03am to 11:21am.

## **OPEN SECTION**

### **1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING**

All in attendance opened the meeting.

### **2 APOLOGIES**

#### **2.1 APOLOGY**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/16**

**Moved:** Cr R Gray

**Seconded:** Cr P Maynard

To accept the apology from Cr Ellims.

**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**

Ms Edwards acknowledged the passing of:

- Reverend Archdeacon Hariata Tahana Anglican Church aka Aunty Sally from Gladstone;
- Dame Iritana Tawhiwhirangi a founder of Te Kōhanga Reo movement o Aotearoa, a long-time resident of Featherston community; and
- Whaea Maata Wharehoka, a trained nurse, Master weaver a champion of Kahu Whakatere Tupapaku, the tikanga Māori practices surrounding death and burial, and an advocate of voluntary euthanasia, all great losses to te ao Māori and education.

Ms Edwards also acknowledged Te Whirikōkō o Rangitāne and Te Rangiura o Wairarapa for “representing us all on Te Matatini stage last week and achieving the mana of your people we are proud of you all... congratulations to Ngāti Whakauae of Te Arawa waka”.

### **5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There was no public participation registered.

### **6 URGENT BUSINESS**

There was no urgent business.

### **7 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

There were no matters arising.

### **8 DECISION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF**

#### **8.1 ADOPTION OF LOCAL WATER DONE WELL DELIVERY MODEL OPTIONS CONSULTATION DOCUMENT**

Ms Wells spoke to matters included in the report, highlighting the process, the options and the steps taken to ensure the information included in the consultation document is transparent and in line with the Local Water Done Well legislation. Ms Wells also provided insight into the stakeholder engagement and the project work undertaken to explore and detail the options included in the consultation.

Members queried the options and projected costs.

Ms Wells noted the language in the document has undergone legal review and checks were completed on the legislative requirements, implications have been made clear in the document. Proposed option 1 is the preferred option.

Members queried: the community’s understanding of reforms and the consultation process; the billing process under a new entity, what measures will be in place to ensure the accountability of CCO (Council Controlled Organisation) board members, and whether there would be personal

liability (noted Ms Wells agreed to follow this question up); the processes for appointing the board, structure etc (falls outside of this document); future costs for ratepayers – would like to see examples last few years without entity (what the average connections would be?) / chemicals (spellings), why no option 3 for local contractors.

Members provided feedback on presentation, wording/spelling and request that the billing excerpt from the draft Financial Strategy to be entered into the consultation document as a minor edit.

Cr Olds, as an Advisory Oversight Group appointee, spoke to the process to date and the decisions made previously by Council leading up to the presentation of the consultation document today.

Members and Ms Smith thanked Ms Wells and the project team for their excellent work on this project to date.

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/17**

**Moved: Mayor M Connelly**

**Seconded: Cr P Maynard**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to receive the *Adoption of Local Water Done Well Delivery Model Options Consultation Document* report.

**CARRIED**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/18**

**Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter**

**Seconded: Cr R Gray**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Adopt the Local Water Done Well Delivery Model Options Consultation Document.
2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive to approve minor edits that don't change the intent of the content, prior to publication of the Local Water Done Well Delivery Model Options Consultation Document.
3. Note that the minutes of the Advisory Oversight Groups meetings, held in public excluded sessions, will be released upon the publication of all Local Water Done Well Delivery Model Options Consultation Documents for the Wairarapa and Tararua participating councils.

[Items 1-3 read together]

**CARRIED**

Meeting adjourned at 10:49am.

Meeting resumed at 10:54am.

## 8.2 ADOPTION OF 2025/34 LONG TERM PLAN CONSULTATION

The *Independent auditor's report on SWDC's consultation document for the proposed 2022-34 Long Term Plan* was received during the adjournment. Another a brief adjournment was taken to allow members to review the document.

Meeting adjourned at 10:54am.

Meeting resumed at 11:05am.

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter spoke to the process to date, noting it was unfortunate that an adverse opinion has been received, but this did not detract from the work undertaken by council officers. Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter highlighted the importance of transparency, for both consultations on the Long Term Plan and Local Water Done Well.

Ms Smith, supported by Ms Ansell highlighted the process and areas of interest. Ms Smith explained why the adverse opinion was received and the need for progressing with the consultation document in the current state, as presented at the meeting. Please refer to the media release for more information: [South Wairarapa District Council's 2025/34 Long-Term Plan engagement update - SWDC](#)

Members clarified the issues relating to the adverse opinion from Audit NZ.

Members thanked the team for their work on the document and it's presentation.

Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter thanked members for their work and committing to a robust engagement schedule throughout the consultation period.

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/19

**Moved:** Cr A Woodcock

**Seconded:** Cr P Maynard

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to receive the *2025/34 Long Term Plan Consultation Document and supporting information* report.

**CARRIED**

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/20

**Moved:** Cr R Gray

**Seconded:** Cr M Bosley

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to adopt the supporting information to be provided alongside the Consultation Document:

- Draft Infrastructure Strategy
- Draft 2025 Significance and Engagement Policy
- Draft Environmental Scan
- Draft Fees and Charges for 2024/2025
- Draft LTP 25-34 Significant Assumptions for Consultation
- Draft Revenue and Financing Policy PI-FDT-001
- Draft Financial Contributions Policy

- Draft LTP 25-34 Accounting Policies (Forecast Financial Statements)
- Draft Prospective Long Term Plan Financial Statements (*Addition to the report*)
- Draft LTP 25-34 Financial Strategy for consultation
- Draft Remission of Rates Policies 2021 M1200
- Draft Treasury Management Policy PI-FDT-003
- Draft Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land PI-FDT-005
- Draft Significant Activities and Levels of Service (*Addition to the report*)

**CARRIED****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/21****Moved: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter****Seconded: Cr A Plimmer**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to adopt the 2025/34 Long Term Plan Consultation Document.

**CARRIED****COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/22****Moved: Cr P Maynard****Seconded: Cr R Gray**

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Authorise the Chief Executive to make any minor editorial amendments to the documents
2. Approve the following process for consultation:
  - a) That consultation is open from 7 March through until 6 April 2025
  - b) That Oral submissions for the 2025/34 relating to the Long Term Plan consultation will be heard 16 April, with a backup day of 17 April 2025.
  - c) That deliberations for the 2025/34 Long Term Plan will take place 14 May 2025
  - d) That final adoption for the 2025/34 Long Term Plan is 25 June 2025.

[Items 1 & 2 read together]

Cr Plimmer voted against point 5b.

**CARRIED**

Please visit [haveyoursay.swdc.govt.nz](https://haveyoursay.swdc.govt.nz) to read the consultation documents and complete an online submission form.

**9 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING**

All closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 11:21am.

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

..... (Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)