

**MINUTES OF SOUTH WAIRARAPA DISTRICT COUNCIL
STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH
ON WEDNESDAY, 30 JULY 2025 AT 10:00 AM**

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

APOLOGIES: Cr Aidan Ellims.

IN ATTENDANCE: Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Charly Clarke (Acting Group Manager, Corporate Services), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Jessica Hughes (Principal Advisor, Legal), Sara Edney (Manager, Building Services) and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).

Susan Freeman-Greene and Ranjani Ponnuchetty (Local Government New Zealand).

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 10:00am to 11:18am except where expressly noted.

OPEN SECTION

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING

All in attendance opened the meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

2.1 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/115

Moved: Cr M Bosley

Seconded: Cr R Gray

To accept apologies 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

Deputy Mayor acknowledged the passing of Beverly McNally, who was a new resident to Featherston but had joined various groups and was passionate about the community she had moved to.

Cr Woodcock acknowledged the passing of John Rose of Carterton, who was the President of Lions Club.

Cr McAulay acknowledged nurses on strike in Masterton today.

5 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

6 URGENT BUSINESS

There was no urgent business.

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

7.1 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2 JULY 2025

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/116

Moved: Cr M Bosley

Seconded: Cr C Olds

That the minutes of the Strategy Working Committee meeting held on 2 July 2025 are confirmed as a true and correct record.

In Favour: Cr A Plimmer, Cr A Woodcock, Cr M Bosley, Cr C Olds, Mayor M Connelly, Cr P Maynard, Cr R Gray, Ms V Edwards and Cr K McAulay

Against: Nil

Abstained: Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter

CARRIED

8 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

There were no matters arising.

9 REPORT BACKS AND REQUESTS FROM MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

9.1 REPORT BACK AND UPDATES FROM THE MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

There were no report back/updates registered.

10 INFORMATION REPORTS FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND STAFF

10.1 LGNZ FOUR-MONTHLY REPORT, MARCH-JUNE 2025

Ms Freeman-Greene spoke about the Elections and highlighting the tools LGNZ has available to potential candidates, including the candidates guide and modules. Also highlighted work for newly elected members for induction post-election through inductions and Akona platform (learning and development for members).

Ms Ponnuchetty, spoke about Electoral reform and work on Policy NZ.

Members thanked and congratulated LGNZ for their work on the Super Local Conference in July and queried LGNZ's lobbying with central government in light of the Minister's recent comments on the work of councils at that conference.

Members queried the reform for Local Government.

Members thanked the team for their work to lobby on the behalf of Council.

Members queried the downward trend in elections nominations (resulting in by-election costs, reduced choice for the community, and what LGNZ contributes to lifting numbers. Noted LGNZ uses media where possible, advocacy and tools they currently.

Members asked LGNZ to ensure that the induction includes information on how members can look after themselves. LGNZ confirmed this is in the induction and confirmed free counselling is available for members through them.

Members discussed remuneration and the barriers to people standing in elections, suggestions made for a national remuneration fund.

10.2 ACTION ITEMS

No new updates to actions. 321 and 322 will be closed following the Speed Management hearings and deliberations in August.

11 APPOINTMENT REPORTS

11.1 PLANNING AND REGULATORY PORTFOLIO UPDATE

Mr O'Leary spoke to the report, summarising the results of the most recent data and responded to queries from members including: building consents (tracking upwards) and impact of restrictions on new water connections in Martinborough and Greytown, staffing numbers for planning and building teams.

Discussion held regarding Wairarapa Combined District Plan review – members noted the plan will be easy to amend when reform comes in as potential changes by central government were noted when the plan was being developed. Also, that the plan will be implemented prior to any changes to legislation.

11.2 MEMBERS FEEDBACK FROM THE MĀORI STANDING COMMITTEE AND COMMUNITY BOARDS

Māori Standing Committee – Ms Edwards noted that the Committee met last night and discussed Local Water Done Well plans, their Speed Management Plan Review submission, the current Paper Road access bylaw (community engagement).

Greytown Community Board – Cr Bosley noted the Board meets tonight.

Featherston Community Board – Cr Gray noted that the Board used a recent evening event as time for reflection and discussed their achievements. Members have noted their frustration at not being able to complete everything they set out to do, but they are proud of the principles / pou they put in place for decision making and would like to share this with other Boards.

12 PUBLIC EXCLUDED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/117

Moved: Ms V Edwards

Seconded: Cr R Gray

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
12.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Strategy Working Committee Meeting held on 2 July 2025	s7(2)(a) - the withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons s7(2)(h) - the withholding of the information is	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 information for which good reason for withholding would	Relates to the following reports and discussions: Papawai Land Exchange; Waters Capital Contracts - Greytown Desludging & Tauwharenikau Pipeline; Office Renovation - Financial

	necessary to enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	exist under section 6 or section 7	Approval; and Application for Partial Remission of Rates – Follow-Up Submission
12.2 - 2026 ANZAC Commemoration Traffic Management Plan (TMP) Funding	s7(2)(i) - the withholding of the information is necessary to enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	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 information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7	It is important to withhold the amount allocated to the TMPs to assist in negotiations when contacting the providers.
CARRIED			

13 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 11:18am.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)