

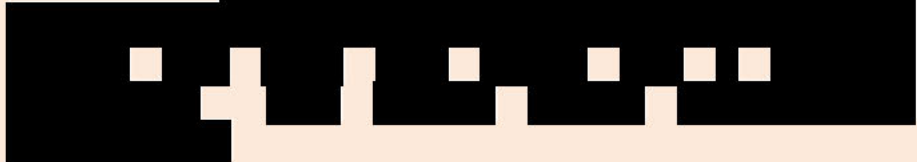
**MINUTES OF PUBLIC EXCLUDED STRATEGY WORKING COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT THE SUPPER ROOM, WAIHINGA CENTRE, TEXAS STREET, MARTINBOROUGH  
ON WEDNESDAY, 30 APRIL 2025 AT 10:00 AM**

**PRESENT:** Deputy Mayor Melissa Sadler-Futter (Chair), Cr Alistair Plimmer (via MS Teams), Cr Aaron Woodcock, Cr Aidan Ellims, Cr Martin Bosley (until 3:05pm), Cr Colin Olds, Cr Pip Maynard, Cr Rebecca Gray, Ms Violet Edwards, Cr Kaye McAulay

**APOLOGIES:** Mayor Martin Connelly.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Janice Smith (Chief Executive Officer), Russell O'Leary (Group Manager, Planning and Regulatory), Stefan Corbett (Group Manager, Infrastructure and Community Operations), Paul Gardner (Group Manager, Corporate Services), Alex Pigou (Manager, Communications), Charly Clarke (Chief Financial Officer), and Amy Andersen (Lead Advisor, Democracy and Committees).

For item 14.3:



For item 14.2: Frank Aldridge (Consultant).

**CONDUCT OF BUSINESS:** This meeting was held in the Supper Room, Waihinga Centre, Texas Street, Martinborough and via audio-visual conferencing commencing at 10:04am. The meeting was held under public excluded provisions from 1:10pm to 3:08pm except where expressly noted.

## **OPEN SECTION**

### **1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA – OPENING**

All in attendance opened the meeting.

### **2 APOLOGIES**

#### **2.1 APOLOGIES**

**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/43**

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

**Seconded:** Cr A Ellims

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to accept apologies from Cr Plimmer; and Mayor Connelly for early departure.

**CARRIED**



[illegible]

\_\_\_\_\_

## 14.2 TRANSITIONING WATER SERVICES UPDATE

Mr Corbett spoke to the report and provided background information on the work completed up until this point.

At 1:36pm, Cr Olds returned to the meeting.

Mr Aldridge, supported by Mr Corbett, spoke to the presentation included in the agenda (Appendix 1) and responded to queries from members regarding timeframes, costs, ability to progress options with [REDACTED] the relationship with Wellington Water Limited and how this will be managed going forward, as well as implications and risks with regard to each option.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20pm.

Meeting resumed at 2:27pm.

Mr Corbett further detailed the options and risks associated with changes, and navigating the complexity of transition (Local Water Done Well), to support members in their decision making.

Members discussed the costs/benefits of the options, the timing of this work prior to transition to entity in 2026 and the approach to meeting with Wellington Water Limited next week.

Members queried the approach to any roadblocks to progress option 1 and Ms Smith noted that she would make contact with central government / Commerce Commission if and when required (within 7-10 days of this decision).

If the option cannot be progressed with Wellington Water Limited, the matter will be returned to the Committee for further discussion and decisions.

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/57**

**Moved:** Cr A Ellims

**Seconded:** Cr P Maynard

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Receive the Transitioning Water Services report; and
2. Note that allowing the WWL agreement to expire on 30 June 2025 will trigger the Obligations at End of Agreement and Termination Transition clauses of the agreement.

[Items 1-2 read together]

**CARRIED**

#### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/58**

**Moved:** Cr C Olds

**Seconded:** Cr M Bosley

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to continue the development of a Water Transition Plan, with Option 1 - continue with WWL for OPEX and bring CAPEX in house.

**In Favour:** Cr A Plimmer, Cr A Ellims, Cr M Bosley, Cr C Olds, Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter, Cr P Maynard, Cr R Gray, Ms V Edwards and Cr K McAulay

**Against:** Cr A Woodcock

**CARRIED 9/1**



**COMMITTEE RESOLUTION SWC2025/59****Moved:** Cr R Gray**Seconded:** Cr C Olds

The Strategy Working Committee resolved to:

1. Instruct Officers to begin implementation planning on Option 1 -continue with WWL for OPEX and bring CAPEX in house;
2. Note that the Transitioning Water Services Update report and associated minutes stay in public excluded until the Chief Executive determines there are no longer any reasons to withhold the information under the Act; and
3. Note that the withholding of information under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 is necessary to: Enable any local authority holding the information to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities – S 7(2)(h).

[Items 1-3 read together]

**CARRIED****14.4 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ACTION ITEMS****15 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA – CLOSING**

All in attendance closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 3:08pm.

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

..... (Chair)

..... (Date)

..... (Chief Executive)

..... (Date)