

Tuesday, 27 May 2025

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga

Hastings District Council: Strategy and Recovery Committee Meeting

Ngā Minitī

Minutes

Te Rā Hui:

Meeting date: **Tuesday, 27 May 2025**

Venue **Council Chamber
Ground Floor
Civic Administration Building
Lyndon Road East
Hastings**

Time start - end **9:05 am – 11.20am**

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Chair: Councillor Wendy Schollum

Councillors: Marcus Buddo, Alwyn Corban, Michael Fowler, Damon Harvey, Henry Heke, Tania Kerr, Hana Montaperto-Hendry, Heather Te Au-Skipworth

Kua Tae ā-tinana:

Present:

Mayor Sandra Hazlehurst

Hastings District Rural Community Board Appointees: Isabelle Crawshaw (RCB Chair); Jonathan Stockley (RCB Deputy Chair)

Heretaunga Takoto Noa Māori Standing Committee Appointee: Ngaio Tiuka

Kua Tatū:

In attendance:

Deputy Chief Executive - Bruce Allan

Interim Group Manager - Strategy - Gus Charteris

Group Manager: Democracy & Emergency Management – Craig Cameron

Group Manager: Infrastructure - Craig Thew

Group Manager: Community Wellbeing & Services – Rebekah Dinwoodie

Manager 'Business Projects' Planning and Delivery, Dean Ferguson

Project Manager – Strategy, David Elliott

Director – Growth & Development, Raoul Oosterkamp

Growth & Development Advisor, Shane Lambert

Director: Major Capital Projects Delivery, Graeme Hansen

Principal Advisor: District Development, Mark Clews

Team Leader Environmental Policy, Craig Scott

Manager: Democracy & Governance Services – Louise Stettner

Senior Advisor - Democracy and Governance - Lynne Cox

Democracy and Governance Advisor – Christine Hilton

Kei Konei:

Also present:

Andrew Caseley (Hawke's Bay Regional Council) – Item 6

Ngaio Tiuka opened the meeting with a karakia.

1. **APOLOGIES – NGĀ WHAKAPĀHATANGA**

Councillor Schollum/Councillor Kerr

That apologies for absence from Councillors Apatu, Dixon, Jessup and Nixon be accepted.

That Leave of absence be granted to Councillor Te Au-Skipworth for 5 June 2025.

Leave of Absence had previously been granted to Councillor Watkins.

CARRIED

2. **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST - HE NGĀKAU KŌNATUNATU**

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3. **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - TE WHAKAMANA I NGĀ MINITI**

Councillor Schollum/Councillor Kerr

That the minutes of the Strategy and Recovery Committee Meeting held Tuesday 11 March 2025 be confirmed as an accurate record.

CARRIED

4. **RETIREMENT OF CATEGORY 3 VOLUNTARY BUY-OUT POLICY**

Document 25/167)

The Chair, Councillor Schollum acknowledged the significance of this report. The Category 3 Voluntary Buyout Programme is one of the most complex and emotionally charged pieces of work this Council has ever undertaken.

This is a legacy that staff and Council as well as our Community can be proud of. The Chair gave thanks to David Elliott and Gus Charteris alongside the wider team for their leadership throughout this programme.

Project Manager – Strategy, David Elliot spoke to the report and responded to questions from the Committee.

Izzy Crawshaw joined the meeting at 9.09am.

A letter from the Crown confirming that the Crown Funding Agreement ends on 30 June 2025, had been circulated prior to the meeting (CG-17-32-00184).

Mayor Hazlehurst acknowledged the team for their outstanding work over the last 18 months along with all of the Contractors and Community Connectors, Valuers, Lawyers and everyone that has been on this journey, for their outstanding support for the community to get through this difficult time.

Councillor Kerr/Mayor Hazlehurst

- A) That the Strategy and Recovery Committee receive the report titled Retirement of Category 3 Voluntary Buy-out Policy dated 27 May 2025

- B) The Committee note that clause 9.1 of the Category 3 Voluntary Buy-out Policy (the Policy) requires a review on whether the Policy should continue to apply on or before 30 June 2025 and the Hawke's Bay Crown Funding Agreement (which governs the Crown's financial contributions for the Category 3 Voluntary Buyouts) defines the 'Category 3 End Date' as "30 June 2025 or such later date as may be agreed between the parties".
- C) The Committee note that the Crown has formally confirmed it will not support any extension to the Hawke's Bay Crown Funding Agreement (CFA) and that Crown financial obligations in regard to the Category 3 Voluntary Buy-out programme will conclude on 30 June 2025. This means that if the Policy remained open after 30 June 2025, then any settlement costs agreed after this point would sit solely with Council/Hastings District ratepayer.
- D) The Committee note that:
- i. Substantial progress has been made implementing, and effectively concluding, the Category 3 Voluntary Buyout Programme (the Programme)
 - ii. All eligible property owners have had sufficient time to consider their individual situations and whether to receive a Council offer or accept/decline a Council offer
 - iii. It is expected that by 30 June 2025, all Category 3 property owners will have made a final decision on whether to accept the Council's offer and that Council staff and remaining contractors are working hard to support the final owners through the final parts of owner decision making processes.
- E) The Committee approve the formal retirement of the Category 3 Voluntary Buy-out Policy, effective from 1 July 2025.

CARRIED

5. REGIONAL CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TRANSFORMATION UPDATE

Document 25/170

Group Manager: Democracy & Emergency Management, Craig Cameron spoke to the report and responded to questions from the Committee.

The Mayor appreciated the deep thinking that had gone into this submission in the short period of time available to get this off to the Crown. There needs to be a fundamental change to what the legislation looks like to support resilience.

Mayor Hazlehurst/Councillor Kerr

- A) That the Strategy and Recovery Committee receive the report titled Regional Civil Defence Emergency Management Transformation Update dated 27 May 2025.
- B) That the Committee acknowledge that decisions on the Service Levels to be achieved for Council Civil Defence Emergency Management readiness and response will be required for the 2027/2037 Long Term Plan.

CARRIED

6. MINOR ITEMS - NGĀ TAKE ITI

Councillor Schollum/Councillor Buddo

The Chair moved to allow for Mr Caseley from Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) to give an update to the Committee on the HBRC led flood mitigation projects across Hastings/Heretaunga.

Key projects included – Whirinaki, Waiohiki, Pākōwhai and Ōhiti Road/Ōmāhu

Mr Caseley gave a PowerPoint presentation (CG-17-32-00183) and responded to questions from the Committee.

CARRIED

7. URGENT ITEMS - NGĀ TAKE WHAKAHIHIRI

There were no extraordinary business items.

8. RECOMMENDATION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC FROM ITEMS 9 AND 10
 SECTION 48, LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987
 Mayor Hazlehurst/Councillor Kerr

THAT the public now be excluded from the following parts of the meeting, namely;

9 Growth and Development Program Update

10 Lyndhurst Residential Development Matters

The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this Resolution in relation to the 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 is as follows:

GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED	REASON FOR PASSING THIS RESOLUTION IN RELATION TO EACH MATTER, AND PARTICULAR INTERESTS PROTECTED	GROUND(S) UNDER SECTION 48(1) FOR THE PASSING OF EACH RESOLUTION
9 Growth and Development Program Update	<p>Section 7 (2) (i)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p> <p>Ongoing negotiations with third parties.</p>	Section 48(1)(a)(i) Where the Local Authority is named or specified in the First Schedule to this Act under Section 6 or 7 (except Section 7(2)(f)(i)) of this Act.
10 Lyndhurst Residential Development Matters	<p>Section 7 (2) (h)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.</p> <p>Section 7 (2) (i)</p> <p>The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).</p> <p>Ongoing Commercial Negotiations.</p>	Section 48(1)(a)(i) Where the Local Authority is named or specified in the First Schedule to this Act under Section 6 or 7 (except Section 7(2)(f)(i)) of this Act.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.10am and reconvened at 10.20am

The meeting closed at 11.20am

Confirmed:

Chairman:

Date: