

Wednesday, 25 February 2026

Te Hui o Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga

Hastings District Council: Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting

Ngā Minitī

Minutes

Te Rā Hui:
Meeting date: **Wednesday, 25 February 2026**

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

Time start - end **10.00 AM – 12.35 PM**

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Chair: Graeme McGlenn – External Independent Appointee

Kua Tae ā-tinana:
Present: **Councillors:** Simon Nixon, Michael Fowler (Chair of Performance & Monitoring Committee) – *(present for part of meeting)*, Councillor Heather Te Au-Skipworth (Chair of Strategy & Policy Committee), Yvonne Lorkin, Callum Ross, Derek Nowell-Usticke (Deputy Chair) and Elisha Milmine

Mayor Wendy Schollum

Kua Tatū:
In attendance: Deputy Chief Executive - Bruce Allan
Group Manager: Infrastructure – Craig Thew
Chief Financial Officer – Graham Watson (Lead)
Chief Risk Officer – Regan Smith (Lead)
Risk Manager - Steffi Reeves-Bird
Manager – Strategic Projects, Dean Ferguson
Financial Improvement Analyst – Jess Noiseux
Financial Controller - Aaron Wilson
Financial Accountant - Teresa Bushett
Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager - Jennie Kuzman
General Counsel – Scott Smith
Business Analyst - Cambell Thorsen
Manager: Democracy & Governance Services – Louise Stettner
Democracy & Governance Advisor - Christine Hilton

Kei Konei:
Also present: Stuart Mutch – Audit Director, Ernst & Young (attending via Zoom) for whole meeting

Councillor Nowell-Usticke gave the Opening Karakia.

1. APOLOGIES – NGĀ WHAKAPĀHATANGA

There were no apologies – but it was noted that Councillor Fowler would need to leave the meeting at 11.10am on Council business.

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

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

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

This is the first meeting of the triennium so there were no previous minutes to be confirmed.

4. **COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE AND STANDARD WORK PROGRAMME 2026**

(Document: 26/63)

Chief Risk Officer, Regan Smith, spoke to the agenda report and responded to questions from the Committee.

Mayor Schollum/Councillor Lorkin

- A) That the Risk and Assurance Committee receive the report titled Committee Terms of Reference and Standard Work Programme 2026 dated 25 February 2026.
- B) That the Committee confirm the Committee Standing work programme.

CARRIED

5. **INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAMME UPDATE**

(Document: 26/42) (Three attachments in separate attachment document)

Group Manager: Infrastructure, Craig Thew, and Deputy Group Manager & Director Infrastructure Delivery, Darren de Klerk, spoke to the agenda report and responded to extensive questions from the Committee.

Councillor Fowler/Councillor Lorkin

- A) That the Risk and Assurance Committee receive the report titled Infrastructure Programme Update dated 25 February 2026.
- B) That the Committee offer any feedback and insights into future reporting and information required to better understand and govern risk and assurance related to the infrastructure programme.

CARRIED

6. TREASURY ACTIVITY AND FUNDING UPDATE

(Document: 26/50)

Financial Controller, Aaron Wilson, spoke to the agenda report and responded to questions from the Committee. He also displayed a slide (CG-18-06-00009) titled "Hastings DC – Debt and Proposed Cover".

Councillor Fowler left the meeting at 11.10am (*on Council business*).

Councillor Lorkin/Councillor Nixon

That the Risk and Assurance Committee receive the report titled Treasury Activity and Funding Update dated 25 February 2026.

CARRIED

7. LOCAL WATER DONE WELL

(Document: 26/51)

Strategic Financial Advisor, Jess Noiseux, spoke to the agenda report and responded to questions from the Committee.

Councillor Milmine/Councillor Lorkin

That the Risk and Assurance Committee receive the report titled Local Water Done Well dated 25 February 2026.

CARRIED

8. HEALTH, SAFETY & WELLBEING RISK MANAGEMENT UPDATE

(Document: 26/54)

Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager, Jennie Kuzman, spoke to the agenda report and responded to questions from the Committee.

Mayor Schollum/Councillor Milmine

That the Risk and Assurance Committee receive the report titled Health, Safety & Wellbeing Risk Management Update dated 25 February 2026.

CARRIED

9. ANNUAL STRATEGIC RISK HORIZON SCAN 2026

(Document: 26/64) (Two attachments were in separate attachment document)

Chief Risk Officer, Regan Smith, spoke to the agenda report and responded to extensive questions from the Committee.

Councillor Te Au-Skipworth/Councillor Lorkin

- A) That the Risk and Assurance Committee receive the report titled Annual Strategic Risk Horizon Scan 2026 dated 25 February 2026.
- B) That the Committee recommend to Council that the strategic risk register remains valid and that work to finalise a climate adaptation strategy should be progressed with priority to address increasing uncertainty regarding the level of climate change that may be experienced in the short to medium term.

CARRIED

10. EXECUTIVE OVERVIEW AND STATUS OF ACTIONS

(Document: 26/65) (Report from Ernst Young was circulated)

Chief Risk Officer, Regan Smith, spoke to the agenda report and responded to extensive questions from the Committee.

A report from Ernst & Young titled "Report on Control Findings for the year ended 30 June 2025" (CG-18-06-00010) was circulated at the meeting and addressed by Audit Director, Stuart Mutch. He outlined the role of Ernst & Young on behalf of the Auditor General and the broader audit process.

Manager: Strategic Projects, Dean Ferguson, gave a verbal update on the situation at the Clifton Motor Camp following the recent evacuation and closure of the camp and the next steps.

Mayor Schollum/Councillor Milmine

That the Risk and Assurance Committee receive the report titled Executive Overview and Status of Actions dated 25 February 2026.

CARRIED

11. ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE

(Document: 26/68)

Chief Risk Officer, Regan Smith, spoke to the agenda report and responded to questions from the Committee.

Councillor Nowell-Usticke/Councillor Lorkin

That the Risk and Assurance Committee receive the report titled Annual Plan Update dated 25 February 2026.

CARRIED

12. MINOR ITEMS - NGĀ TAKE ITI

There were no additional business items.

13. URGENT ITEMS - NGĀ TAKE WHAKAHIHIRI

There were no extraordinary business items.

Councillor Nowell-Usticke gave the Closing Karakia.

The meeting closed at 12.35pm

Confirmed:

Chairman:

Date: