

HUTT CITY COUNCILKOMITI KAUPAPA TAIAO
CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held in the Council Chambers, 2nd Floor, 30 Laings Road,
Lower Hutt on

Tuesday 2 July 2024 commencing at 2:00 pm

PRESENT:

Cr J Briggs (Chair)	Mayor C Barry
Cr K Brown	Cr S Edwards (from 2.02pm) (via audio-visual link)
Deputy Mayor T Lewis	Cr A Mitchell
Cr C Parkin (Deputy Chair)	Cr N Shaw

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies.

IN ATTENDANCE: A Geddes, Director Environment and Sustainability
J Scherzer, Head of Environment and Sustainability
G Roberts, Waste and Resource Recovery Manager
A Saker, Senior Advisor, Climate and Solid Waste
(part meeting)
J Randall, Democracy Advisor

PUBLIC BUSINESS**1. OPENING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA TIMATANGA**

Whakataka te hau ki te uru
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga
Kia mākinakina ki uta
Kia mātaratara ki tai
E hī ake ana te atakura
He tio, he huka, he hau hū
Tihei mauri ora.

*Cease the winds from the west
Cease the winds from the south
Let the breeze blow over the land
Let the breeze blow over the ocean
Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air.
A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.*

2. APOLOGIES

An apology for lateness was received from Cr Edwards.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

Cr Edwards joined the meeting at 2.02pm.

4. PRESENTATION

a) Te Ara Whakamua Group work update

Bruce Anderson and Karen Yung, representatives of Te Ara Whakamua Group (the group), provided an update on the group's work.

Bruce Anderson and Karen Yung acknowledged the group's progress had been limited with discussion not progressing to action. They advised that the group had recently decided to continue its work and was planning future actions. They highlighted that the group would hire a part-time researcher and secretary to assist with the workload. They said the group planned to meet with local environmental groups, hold public meetings and improve its communications.

In response to questions from members, Karen Yung advised that the group had struggled with the scale of work involved in mobilising action. She said it did not have the capacity for the level of work required. She explained the group had instead focused on providing information and getting others involved to prepare for future action. She confirmed the group would be taking the time to understand the information needed for different communities and demographic groups.

In response to a question from a member, Bruce Anderson explained that the group intended to draw ideas from local environmental groups rather than from models further afield.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

6. UPDATE ON COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE WORK

Report No. CCASC2024/3/159 by the Senior Advisor - Climate and Sustainability

The Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery advised the majority of Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (the Fund) recipients had been given a delivery milestone of three to six months for project delivery. He clarified that the Fund contract allowed Council to showcase projects to promote the Fund to other organisations. He said officers would organise workshops for sports clubs and businesses. He added that these would be an opportunity for groups to share what they had learned, and would help launch a broader range of funding bids for the next round later in 2024. He agreed to report back with a communications plan to the meeting on 4 September 2024.

In response to a question from a member, the Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery stated that Waste Management Limited (the contractor) would not be able to provide a fully electric fleet in 2024. He explained that the contractor was developing a new facility expected to be completed by 2025, allowing for a fully electrified fleet. He

added there was a possibility the contractor could use the heavy vehicle charging station at the Silverstream Landfill in the meantime.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Brown)

Minute No. CCASC 24301

"That the Committee:

- (1) notes the update on climate change workstreams currently underway;*
- (2) notes that updates are only provided for those projects or activities where significant progress has been made or where significant changes have occurred from the previous update from 23 April 2024; and*
- (3) notes that some work streams are new or are not explicitly covered in Council's Carbon Reduction and Resilience Plan 2021-31 or the Lower Hutt Climate Action Pathway."*

7. UPDATE ON SOLID WASTE AND WASTE MINIMISATION MATTERS

Report No. CCASC2024/3/160 by the Waste and Resource Recovery Manager

The Waste and Resource Recovery Manager elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, the Waste and Resource Recovery Manager explained that the trial for extraction and processing would be evaluated against parameters such as its use in Australia and food and green organics (FOGO) collections. He advised the cost of high contamination rates for kerbside recycling was up to \$30,000 per month. He explained it was difficult to remove repeatedly contaminated bins as they were often concealed by residents. He said officers were considering equipping Waste Management Limited's trucks to facilitate bin removal. He advised that officers were still refining a method to prevent contaminated recycling from entering the recycling system. He confirmed officers would collaborate with Kāinga Ora to provide targeted information to educate residents and reduce contamination. He agreed to explore more effective methods of bin removal and report back to the Committee meeting on 4 September 2024.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery said that the contamination rate, as determined by an independent auditor in 2023, had aligned with bin scoop tests that Council commissioned regularly. He said conducting scoop tests across the city would take six to seven months. He suggested a repeat audit later in 2024 to determine whether contamination rates had reduced due to Council's education efforts. He confirmed contamination data could be available at property, street and suburb levels. He said guidance booklets had been developed for Kāinga Ora multi-unit developments, along with more active guidance for building managers and residents.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Climate, Waste, and Resource Recovery said it was uncertain whether the Ministry for the Environment's Waste Strategy would allow residents to opt out of FOGO. He suggested that Council was likely to attract higher rates of opting in if residents were required to take action to opt out. He highlighted that a higher participation rate would lower costs and benefit all residents.

The Chair asked officers for a cost/benefit analysis of options to reduce contamination rates, including each option's social and financial impacts. He asked officers to report back to the Committee meeting on 4 September 2024.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Parkin)

Minute No. CCASC 24302

"That the Committee:

- (1) *receives and notes the update on various solid waste management and minimisation matters; and*
- (2) *requests that officers develop a business case for options that could be implemented to reduce the contamination levels of kerbside recycling."*

8. CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME 2024

Report No. CCASC2024/3/161 by the Democracy Advisor

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Deputy Mayor Lewis)

Minute No. CCASC 24303

"That the Committee receives and notes the Forward Programme for the remainder of 2024 attached as Appendix 1 to the report."

9. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

10. CLOSING FORMALITIES - KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Unuhia!	<i>Release us from the supreme sacredness of our tasks</i>
Unuhia!	<i>To be clear and free</i>
Unuhia i te uru-tapu-nui	<i>in heart, body and soul in our continuing journey</i>
Kia wātea, kia māmā	<i>Oh Rongo, raise these words up high</i>
Te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua i te ara	<i>so that we be cleansed and be free,</i>
takatū	<i>Yes indeed, we are free!</i>
Koia rā e Rongo whakairihia ake ki	<i>Good and peaceful</i>
runga	
Kia wātea, kia wātea!	
Ae rā, kua wātea!	
Hau, pai mārire.	

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2.58 pm.

J Briggs
CHAIR

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 25th day of July 2024