

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 29 April 2025 commencing at 2:00 pm

PRESENT:

Cr J Briggs (Chair)	
Cr K Brown	Cr S Edwards
Deputy Mayor T Lewis	Cr A Mitchell
Cr C Parkin (Deputy Chair)	Cr N Shaw

APOLOGIES:

Mayor C Barry for lateness ¹

IN ATTENDANCE:

A Geddes, Director Environment and Sustainability
A Blackshaw, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities
A Nelson, Head of Parks and Reserves (part meeting)
J Scherzer, Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery
G Roberts, Waste and Resource Recovery Manager
J Hayman, Senior Advisor Waste - Planning and Strategy
M Randall, Senior Advisor – Climate and Sustainability
G Muller, Advisor Resource Recovery
A Stein, Resource Recovery Lead
J Randall, Democracy Advisor (via audio-visual link)
J Young, Democracy Advisor
V Gilmour, Democracy Advisor

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

Whakataka te hau ki te uru	<i>Cease the winds from the west</i>
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga	<i>Cease the winds from the south</i>
Kia mākinakina ki uta	<i>Let the breeze blow over the land</i>
Kia mātaratara ki tai	<i>Let the breeze blow over the ocean</i>
E hī ake ana te atakura	<i>Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air.</i>
He tio, he huka, he hau hū	<i>A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.</i>
Tihei mauri ora.	

2. APOLOGIES

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Parkin)

Minute No. CCASC 25201

"That the apology received from Mayor Barry for lateness be accepted."

¹ The meeting concluded before Mayor Barry joined the meeting

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments are recorded under the item to which they relate.

4. PRESENTATION

Te Ara Whakamua Group work update

Bruce Anderson, **representing Te Ara Whakamua Group** (the group), provided a verbal update as follows:

- the group had hired a part-time secretary to keep information updated and map climate action work.
- the group had developed a sketch communication plan and was partway through creating a home website with interactive maps. Visitors to the site could find out where and by whom climate work was being carried out.
- the group held two transport workshops in Naenae in 2024, but no further progress had been made on setting up regular public information sessions.
- the group was assisting with work begun by James Scott to set up an 'Electrify the Hutt' expo in October 2025 and a charitable trust to continue the work afterwards.
- Bruce Anderson recently served as a Low Carbon Acceleration Fund Panel member to decide on funding for community groups. He asked that Council continue to find ways to assist struggling groups.

Bruce Anderson asked that Council consider the long term sustenance of projects so that projects could be continued until they built critical mass. He noted the Porirua Climate assembly had the mass and resources to support it over the past few years and had built good citizen engagement.

In response to a question from a member, Bruce Anderson said the Porirua Citizens' Assembly was still in the early stages of its work. He explained that it had engaged a larger group of people over time, including Mana Whenua and Porirua community members.

5. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

6. **SIX-MONTHLY UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF INDIGENOUS BIODIVERSITY STRATEGY**

Report No. CCASC2025/2/101 by the Head of Parks and Reserves

The Head of Parks and Reserves elaborated on the report.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Parks and Reserves provided the following advice:

- he would report on the length of the proposed deer fence on the Eastern Hills. He added that extending the fence as far as Stokes Valley would depend on the level of investment needed to get a good return, but this could be considered. The fence was just one option the team was investigating.
- the state of Lower Hutt's bush could be considered part of future flood modelling, since bush stripped by deer would lead to greater runoff.
- the success of the resetting traps on the Eastern Hills was a positive trend, but other factors could also account for the lack of possums in the area. Officers would continue to monitor the traps.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Mitchell)

Minute No. CCASC 25202

"That the Committee:

- (1) receives and notes the report;*
- (2) notes the information contained within the report in relation to the programme in support of the Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy; and*
- (3) notes that the Parks and Reserves team will continue to implement its current programme and will seek future opportunities to engage with key stakeholders to advance the agenda outlined in the Indigenous Biodiversity Strategy."*

7. UPDATE ON COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE WORK

Report No. CCASC2025/2/102 by the Senior Advisor - Climate and Sustainability

The Senior Advisor - Climate and Sustainability elaborated on the report.

In response to a question from a member, the Senior Advisor - Climate and Sustainability stated that the officers would explore ways to improve secure parking for cyclists in the Lower Hutt area. She noted that actions outlined in Council's Climate Action Plan included working with Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) to develop hybrid travel.

The Chair agreed to contact GWRC about providing secure cycle facilities at railway stations, especially early interim measures for cyclists on the Melling Line as RiverLink progressed. He suggested that the officers include proposed actions and a timeline for planning secure cycle facilities, which would be considered at the Committee meeting in July 2025.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery agreed to report back on options for secure cycle facilities in the city. He also agreed to provide statistics on public use of the 'Too Good to Waste' website for the Committee meeting in July 2025.

Cr Mitchell asked that the reports on graph trajectories also include officer interventions over time to clarify their impact.

The Chair emphasised the importance of collaborating with GWRC and revisiting plans to ensure residents were informed about Council's efforts to alleviate some of the pressure caused by RiverLink. He also mentioned that any resource shortfalls could be addressed in upcoming meetings.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Edwards)

Minute No. CCASC 25203

"That the Committee:

- (1) notes the update on climate change work streams currently underway; and*
- (2) notes that updates are only provided for those projects or activities where significant progress has been made, or where significant changes have occurred since the [previous update on 25 February 2025](#)."*

8. UPDATE ON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT AND MINIMISATION WORK STREAMS

Report No. CCASC2025/2/103 by the Senior Advisor Waste - Planning and Strategy

Speaking under public comment, **Bruce Spedding, a member of the Eastbourne Community Board**, provided a written update attached as pages 8-11 to the minutes.

In response to questions from members, Bruce Spedding provided the following information:

- the community was encouraged to follow recycling instructions through repeated reminders that reinforced behaviours, along with congratulations for efforts and messages highlighting the benefits of recycling.
- Tetra Paks should be opened flat to ensure all contents were rinsed and clean.
- batteries for recycling were taken to Bunnings, but it was unclear what happened to them afterwards. Tetra Paks were sent to SaveBoard in Hamilton, where they were recycled into wall boards.

The Senior Advisor Waste - Planning and Strategy elaborated on the report. She emphasised that officers could learn from Bruce Spedding's successful approach to community participation. She confirmed that officers would provide an update at the July 2025 Committee meeting regarding the final destination of the Bunnings recycled batteries.

In response to questions from members, the Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery provided the following information:

- the 2024 contamination graph's negative trend aligned with officer campaigns, which shifted to prioritise face-to-face engagement and the immediate removal of severely contaminated bins. Identifying the key driver of this trend was challenging.
- Council's website featured a waste minimisation guide, a Waste Minimisation Plan template, and a packaging guide for food vendors. Officers prioritised larger events due to limited capacity, hoping that as these organisers adapted, the practices would eventually benefit smaller events.
- the officers focused on helping event organisers create an event plan and establish systems that could be repeated in the future. Instead of providing bins or other resources for the events, Council emphasised the importance of having knowledgeable individuals on-site to ensure the systems were implemented correctly and to prevent contamination.
- officers aimed to find a balance by assisting organisers in establishing systems that could eventually become standard practice. If Council offered more material support, the associated costs would have to be borne by the wider community.
- a waste minimisation funding trial had been in place for a year. Officers would ask

event organisers for feedback and what support was needed.

Members highlighted the success of using 'Nonstop Solutions' at the Petone Rotary Club Fair, where the idea of a waste-free event with sustainable packaging became ingrained among stallholders. They highlighted the efforts to promote responsibility and foster a cultural shift among event organisers. However, they noted that some organisers were opting for private venues to avoid challenges of low-waste planning. They suggested offering tailored support based on the group or location. They emphasised that minimising waste saved costs and simplified cleanup efforts.

Members asked that moving forward, Council should explore ways to collaborate with event organisers to enhance waste minimisation efforts.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Brown)

Minute No. CCASC 25204

"That the Committee receives and notes the update on various solid waste management and minimisation matters."

9. **CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE FORWARD PROGRAMME 2025**

Report No. CCASC2025/2/104 by the Democracy Advisor

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Deputy Mayor Lewis)

Minute No. CCASC 25205

"That the Committee receives and notes the Forward Programme for 2025 attached as Appendix 1 to the report."

10. **QUESTIONS**

There were no questions.

The Chair thanked the Waste and Resource Recovery Manager for his work at Council and wished him well in his future role.

11. **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	<i>so that we be cleansed and be free,</i>
ara 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 2.53pm.

J Briggs
CHAIR

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 29th day of May 2025

Comments on the Update on solid waste management and minimisation work streams

Summary

We are excited at the prospect of HCC being involved in community battery recycling, and hopeful that this will be the first move in creating community led recycling across a variety of streams. Our experience has been that community buy-in on recycling is directly linked to local convenience and promotion. The Community Board has been very active in continuous promotion of all the options available in Eastbourne, and we look forward to being involved in this latest addition. A strong community engagement in activities like these will result in improved outcomes and reduced costs to the city. No one wants waste, we just need to make it practical and accessible.



Batteries

The Eastbourne Community Board began trialling battery recycling a couple of years ago and the community uptake has been very successful, with over **200kg** of batteries recycled to **Bunnings** so far. We relocated the recycling from the Community Hub to a nearby church after concern was expressed by HCC about the fire risk, although we have had no issues, and the users have been very good at covering the terminals on batteries they deposited. We do feel that the Eastbourne Village (if not the hub) was the best place for the bin, and have been investigating a purpose built fire proof collection bin (outdoor suitable) for this purpose - a task we hopefully will not need to pursue now. We expect the trial to be very successful and hope it will be continued. Given that we represent about 5% of the Hutt City, the potential response from the valley overall could be exciting.

Tetra-paks

We have also been trialling the collection of Tetra-paks in the Hub and this has also been an overwhelming success, with in the order of **10,000** collected so far (resulting in **20+ wall panels** from **SaveBoard**). These have all been opened, cleaned and dried by the depositors and there has been zero hygiene issues (we have been complimented by **Earthlink**).

Community convenience = local

The success of both of these trials show that recycling within a community is more a case of convenience than service. By having a



collection point in a convenient central location (our village/hub) means even a few batteries or tetra-paks can be easily recycled, whereas specifically travelling to a location a few kilometers away (Bunnings in Petone or Earthlink in Wingate) just doesn't work. Many of the Tetra-paks appear to be from local businesses, which is good to see, and also encourages local residents by example. We have even been getting deposits of batteries from other parts of the Hutt by people who have seen our system as the easiest to access.

Other recycling opportunities

We are fortunate to have soft plastics (very well supported), and now plastic lids and metal caps recycling in our great local supermarket. Our Hub also collects coffee capsules, our Lions club runs a community rubbish skip monthly (saves many individual trips to Silverstream and raises funds), and they also collect electrical equipment and polystyrene. This has also been backed up by a locally funded free electrical appliance collection day. Our local churches have their own recycling and organic waste options as well as a community fridge which provides an outlet for excess food (rather than throwing it away). A surprising amount of potential waste is also diverted just by giving it away or selling it on our community Facebook Buy / Sell / Exchange page, or just putting items on the street with the note that it will be taken to the tip if not collected by someone.

Promotion

Our experience has shown that continuous promotion through community networks is the most effective way to promote services. We have a very active community Facebook page, and each time we empty a load of batteries or Tetra-paks we comment on this publicly, which usually elicits many 'likes', but more importantly, enquiries like "where are these bins?", creating new users. We also have a community website <https://Eastbourne.nz> which includes information on recycling opportunities that exist both in our community and within the region - the list is getting very long (<https://eastbourne.nz/recycling>). The Community Board promotes recycling in our regular column in the Eastbourne Herald, and we have a digital noticeboard (2 screens, one inside, one outside) in the hub. Like the website, these screens promote our recycling options. Our website also supports a various email newsletters which also



promote community recycling along with other community information.

The recycling / waste calendar is automatically updated on our website, along with a large amount of other relevant community, city, regional and national information, including the CD alerts, water restrictions, HCC Alerts, consultations, transport alerts and times, GWRC parks status and consultations, FENZ callouts, news, earthquakes (proximity), national consultations and product alerts.

By creating a community resource for every interest we try to reach maximum coverage for all our messages - an on-line version of the traditional community noticeboard.

Despite using all the available channels, our reach into the community, particularly to those perhaps most at risk, is still incomplete. The need to reach out for face-to-face meetings with all groups, from residents associations all the way down to a small book group is still important, as are the casual encounters that occur through living in the community.

We are also aware that other communities, within and outside the Hutt have projects and processes we could benefit from, so a community network based around community engagement and services would be a powerful way to empower communities, improve outcomes, and reduce the need for centralised control and management.

Ngā mihi
Bruce Spedding
(resident and member of the Eastbourne Community Board)

HCC Waste Collection for Monday 28 April
Bins: **GREEN** (green waste), **YELLOW** (recycling) & **RED** (landfill)
Options for recycling all other materials are listed here

Next Lion's Skip Bin is Saturday 31 May
Burdan's Gate 8:00 am to 11:30 am, charges apply, [unload help available](#)

Eastbourne Community Board
Established by Council Supporting

JUST NOW

Green, Yellow and Red bins on Monday!
What bins to put out next Monday are always displayed on our website... See more

EASTBOURNE NZ
Waste collection - Red (general), Yellow (paper/plastics/cans) & Green..
Your rubbish bin / ipupara This is your wheellie bin with the red lid, and it's just for rubbish. When green waste goes to landfill it creates...



EOB
Eastbourne Community Board

TETRAPAK RECYCLING TRIAL
Eastbourne Library Foyer.

How to prepare your liquid beverage containers for recycling at 08 777 7777

IMPORTANT: Cleanliness is critical.
Please rinse the containers, cut open as shown, wash thoroughly, flatten and dry well.

1. Cut along the top and sides of the container. The container is opened.

2. Completely open up the container.

3. Rinse clean, tap dry.

Yellow bin in foyer is for Tetra Paks only - no other recyclables please. There are bins available for other materials and containers.

Sample email newsletter



EASTBOURNE COMMUNITY BOARD NEWS UPDATE



Kia ora Eastbourne Community

News about board activities and community information is also available on Facebook, website Eastbourne.nz, in each issue of the Eastbourne Herald, and the ECB digital noticeboard in the Hub/Library.



The next public Eastbourne Community Board meeting will be at 7.15pm on Tuesday, 15 April, at East Harbour Women's Club.

Update: Hutt City and Wellington Regional Council consultations have been added to the Eastbourne website (also product recalls).

Email contents (scroll down for details on these)

- **Greater Wellington Regional Council Public Transport Plan 2025-2035**
- **The Hutt City District Plan Review (docs and submission form)**
- **Emergency Response Hub practice** (Days Bay, but open to all of Eastern Bays residents of all ages i.e. kids too) 23 March
- **Eastbourne Community Board walkabout of Eastern Bays** 29 March
- **Hutt City Consultations** - there's a few on. They can also be seen on Eastbourne.nz
- **ATM update**



Greater Wellington Regional Council Public Transport Plan 2025-2035



There are three specific things residents could submit on

- return of the 85X bus
- better timetable coordination between bus and ferry
- investigation of ferry stops at the Marina or Pt Howard.

Public transport plays a central role in the daily lives of many of us in Eastbourne and the Eastern Bays. It is important that Greater Wellington and the Metlink group hear your