

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
Wednesday 2 July 2025 commencing at 2:00 pm

To watch the livestream of the meeting, please click the link here: [2 July Climate Change and Sustainability Committee](#)

PRESENT:

Cr J Briggs (Chair)	Mayor C Barry
Cr K Brown (from 2.03pm)	Cr S Edwards
Deputy Mayor T Lewis	Cr A Mitchell
Cr C Parkin (Deputy Chair)	Cr N Shaw

APOLOGIES: Cr Brown (for lateness)

IN ATTENDANCE: A Geddes, Director Environment and Sustainability
J Scherzer, Head of Climate and Waste
M Randall, Senior Advisor Climate Change and Sustainability
J Young, 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

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Shaw)

Minute No. CCASC 25301

"That the apology received from Cr Brown for lateness be received."

Cr Brown joined the meeting at 2.03pm.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Comments are recorded under the item to which they relate.

4. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**

Cr Parkin mentioned his involvement with the Electrify the Hutt Group.

Cr Brown left the meeting at 2.16pm.

5. UPDATE ON COUNCIL'S CLIMATE CHANGE WORK

Report No. CCASC2025/3/190 by the Senior Advisor - Climate and Sustainability

Speaking under public comment, **James Scott, Chair of Electrify the Hutt**, spoke to a presentation that can be viewed here: [Electrify the Hutt](#)

Cr Brown rejoined the meeting at 2.19pm.

The Senior Advisor – Climate Change and Sustainability elaborated on the report. She reported that although progress on decarbonising the fleet and vehicles had been slow, it was still on track. She noted that this progress would be reflected in the upcoming emissions inventory, which was currently being prepared for the new financial year.

In response to questions from members, the Senior Advisor – Climate Change and Sustainability advised that Council’s Transport team managed the Locky Dock project.

Cr Edwards stated that any questions could be addressed during the Infrastructure and Regulatory Committee meeting scheduled for 3 July 2025.

In response to questions from members, the Senior Advisor – Climate Change and Sustainability advised that the Carbon Acceleration Fund (CAF) Panel had discussed whether to fund the same organisation multiple times. She suggested that the CAP Panel agreed it was acceptable if the organisation showed progress in its decarbonisation efforts. She stated that both applicants had received funding in Round One and presented new projects, which were seen as an evolution of their work. She also noted challenges in engaging with Lower Hutt schools due to generic email addresses and limited resources, and that efforts were ongoing to identify more effective contacts for engagement.

The Chair stressed that recipients, such as schools, should share their progress within their communities, as peer-led communication was more effective than Council messaging. He noted that repeated funding rounds would enhance peer-to-peer learning, while quality storytelling would increase visibility and impact.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Parkin)

Minute No. CCASC 25302

“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 29 April 2025](#).”*

6. **UPDATE ON WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY MATTERS**

Report No. CCASC2025/3/191 by the Senior Advisor Waste - Planning and Strategy

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 stated that expanding non-curbside recycling, such as lids, at community facilities was not a current priority, as existing collection points covered this minor waste stream. He highlighted that the officers were focused on developing a soil and aggregate recovery facility at Silverstream Landfill. He also stated that the Upper Hutt City Council's decision against curbside recycling was difficult to quantify and indicated a low likelihood of implementing food and green organics collections soon, potentially hindering regional waste reduction efforts.

In response to further questions from members, the Head of Climate, Waste and Resource Recovery explained that Phoenix Recycling Group was selected for the battery recycling rollout after a detailed evaluation of various service providers. He noted that their containers were equipped with safety features and an alert system designed to identify and report issues.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Edwards)

Minute No. CCASC 25303

"That the Committee receives and notes the update on various waste management and resource recovery matters."

7. **RETROSPECTIVE APPROVAL MEMORANDUM FOR SUBMISSION TO CONSULTATION ON PROPOSED CHANGES TO WASTE LEGISLATION**

Memorandum dated 9 June 2025 by the Senior Advisor Waste - Planning and Strategy

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 explained that officers had provided initial feedback on early Government proposals. He noted that a draft bill had not yet been introduced and that the current consultation was focused on shaping the legislation. He mentioned that limited details were available regarding the scope of the proposed extended powers. He highlighted concerns about the potential misuse of the waste levy, stressing that it was a levy rather than a tax. He added that a draft bill was expected to be released later in the year.

The Chair stated that Council would prepare a formal submission once the draft bill was introduced to Parliament later this year.

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Mitchell)

Minute No. CCASC 25304

"That the Committee:

- (1) notes and receives the memorandum; and*
- (2) retrospectively approves the submission to the consultation on the proposed changes to the Waste Minimisation Act 2008 (WMA) and Litter Act 1979 attached as Appendix 1 to the memorandum."*

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

Report No. CCASC2025/3/188 by the Democracy Advisor

RESOLVED: (Cr Briggs/Cr Brown)

Minute No. CCASC 25305

"That the Committee receives and notes the Forward Programme for 2025 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	<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 2.38pm.

J Briggs
CHAIR

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 31st day of July 2025