HUTT CITY COUNCIL

KOMITI NGĀ WAI HANGARUA | WELLINGTON WATER COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting held via Zoom on
Wednesday 27 August 2025 commencing at 2:03 pm

To watch the livestream of the meeting, please click the link here: [27 August 2025 Additional Wellington Water Committee Meeting]

PRESENT:
Mayor A Baker (PCC)
Mayor C Barry (HCC) (Chair)
Cr R Connelly (GWRC) (Deputy Chair)
Mayor W Guppy (UHCC)
H Modlik (Te Rūnanga O Toa Rangatira)
Cr T Brown (WCC)

APOLOGIES: Mayor T Whanau (WCC), Deputy Mayor M Sadler-Futter (SWDC), K Puketapu-Dentice (Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika) and A Rutene (Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki Nui a Rua Treaty Settlement Trust)

IN ATTENDANCE:
W Walker, Chief Executive, Porirua City Council
G Swainson, Chief Executive, Upper Hutt City Council
J O'Connor, Manager Community Operations, South Wairarapa District Council
K Glanville, Senior Democracy, Hutt City Council

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
Tīhei 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: (Mayor Barry/Mayor Guppy) **Minute No. WWC 25401**

"That the apologies received from Mayor Whanau (WCC), Deputy Mayor Sadler-Futter (SWDC), K Puketapu-Dentice (Taranaki Whānui ki Te Upoko o Te Ika), and A Rutene (Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Tamaki Nui a Rua Treaty Settlement Trust) be accepted and leave of absence granted."

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

5. WELLINGTON WATER LIMITED - CULTURE AND VALUE FOR MONEY IMPROVEMENT PLAN: AUGUST 2025 PROGRESS UPDATE

Report No. WWC2025/4/237 by Wellington Water Limited

Pat Dougherty, Chief Executive, Nick Leggett, Board Chair, Erin Ganley, Acting Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, and Charles Barker, Chief Operating Officer from Wellington Water Limited (WWL) were in attendance for the item.

The Acting Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, WWL elaborated on the report.

The Chief Operating Officer, WWL recommended continuing with the current tendering process instead of going back to the contractor procurement panel. He stated that WWL must demonstrate to clients that it created commercial tension, provided value for money, and acted as a smart purchaser. He noted that the market was attracting new suppliers. Regarding capital expenditure, he indicated that reforecasting for the 2025/26 financial year showed an expected achievement of 80% of the Statement of Intent target (75–90%). He explained that with improved phasing and the possibility of accelerating future renewal work, WWL was confident it could exceed 90% of capital expenditure this year.

In response to questions from members, the Chief Operating Officer, WWL informed members that the Alliance was currently focused on maintaining and operating reticulated water and related assets. He explained that this mainly involved operational expenses, with some capital expenditures for renewals. He highlighted that the Alliance Performance Framework would be reported at a future Committee meeting, and pain/gain sharing had been implemented this year. He explained that the Alliance agreement had about four years remaining, with Fulton Hogan and WWL working together to ensure value for money. He noted that WWL also relied on the Alliance for its asset management system and additional capacity beyond reticulated water.

In response to questions from members, the Chief Executive, WWL explained that the Alliance agreement was not a standard one but had been retrofitted, and WWL was working through this with Fulton Hogan. He confirmed that WWL produced its first Asset Management Plan (AMP) this year with consultant support, moving away from fragmented documents and spreadsheets. He noted that WWL lacked its own AMP system connected to finance and was reliant on Fulton Hogan's and Veolia's systems. With a logical structure now established, WWL was progressing with an Asset Management Framework, and a request for proposal for a new AMP system was currently in the market.

In response to questions from members, the Acting Chief Risk and Compliance Officer, WWL reported that the "speak up" disclosure documents would be available on WWL's website. She noted that progress was being made on Objective 4.2a to raise compliance levels at underperforming wastewater plants. She explained that Objective 3.3d had been streamlined to reflect recent organisational changes, with a review scheduled after the following changes were implemented. For Objective 3.1b, she said that the focus was on the technology system investment programme, ensuring alignment across functions, with auditable evidence required for completion.

In response to further questions from members, the Chief Operating Officer, WWL noted that commercial tension could not be demonstrated for Objective 2.1a due to the legacy of specific projects. He agreed to provide members with the number of tenders issued through GETS in Quarter 1. The Chief Executive, WWL added that further work was necessary to establish clear market benchmarks for job costs.

Helmut Modlik highlighted the importance of using both local and national benchmarking data to establish clear standards and maintain confidence among stakeholders and the community.

In response to a question from a member about contractors, the Chief Executive, WWL explained that increased spending on wastewater treatment plants, without a budget increase, had diverted funds from pipe relaying projects, resulting in a downturn for contractors. He urged councils to use any leftover funds for pipe renewals to help ease the situation and highlighted the need to retain skilled contractors for future funding opportunities.

The Chair asked for an update from WWL staff at the next meeting, including the approach taken with each council.

RESOLVED: (Mayor Barry/Cr Connelly) **Minute No. WWC 25402**

"That the Committee receives and notes the progress report on the implementation of the Improvement Plan."

6. QUESTIONS

There were no questions.

Cr Brown questioned the necessity of holding additional Committee meetings in the future. The Chair responded that Wellington City Council had requested these additional meetings. He also mentioned that the new Chair and Committee for the 2025-2028 triennium would evaluate and discuss the required frequency of the meetings.

7. CLOSING FORMALITIES – KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Unuhia!
Unuhia!
Unuhia I te uru-tapu-nui
Kia wātea, kia māmā
Te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua
I te ara takatū
Koia rā e Rongo whakairihia ake ki runga
Kia wātea, kia wātea!
Ae rā, kua wātea!
Hau, pai mārire.

Release us from the supreme sacredness of our tasks
To be clear and free
in heart, body and soul in our continuing journey
Oh Rongo, raise these words up high
so that we be cleansed and be free,
Yes indeed, we are free!
Good and peaceful

There being no further business, the Chair declared the meeting closed at 2.32 pm.

Mayor C Barry
CHAIR

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record
Dated this 26th day of September 2025