

Climate Change Working Party
Wednesday 23 February 2022 at 9.30am

AGENDA

Climate Change Working Party Agenda

Meeting to be held in the Remotely via Zoom link
on Wednesday 23 February 2022, commencing at 9.30am

Please note: working parties and working groups carry NO formal decision-making delegations from council. The purpose of the working party/group is to carry out preparatory work and discussions prior to taking matters to the full council for formal consideration and decision-making. Working party/group meetings are open to the public to attend (unless there are specific grounds under LGOIMA for the public to be excluded).

MEMBERSHIP OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY

Chairperson, Councillor Amy Macdonald

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| Councillor Joce Yeoman | Councillor Jack Craw | Councillor Marty Robinson |
| Councillor Penny Smart | TTMAC representative Thomas Hohaia | TTMAC representative Rowan Tautari |
| TTMAC representative Nora Rameka | Te Rūnanga o Whāingaroa Rihari Dargaville | |

KARAKIA

RĪMITI (ITEM)

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Opening Karakia

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 atākura he tio,
he huka, he hauhunga.
Tuturu whakamaua kia Tina (Tina)
Haumi e! Hui e! Tāiki e!

Closing Karakia

Unuhia, unuhia
Unuhia ki te uru tapu nui
Kia wātea, kia māmā, te ngākau, te tinana, te wairua i
te ara tangata
Koia rā e Rongo, whakairia ake ki runga
Kia tina! TINA! Hui e! TĀIKI E!



TITLE: **Record of Actions – Minutes from 10 October 2021**


From: Erica Wade, Personal Assistant - Environmental Services

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 04
Group Manager/s: February 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Record of Actions of the last meeting (attached) held on 10 October 2021 for review by the meeting.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Climate Change Working Party Minutes - Unconfirmed [↓](#) 

Climate Change Working Party
10 November 2021

Climate Change Working Party Record of Actions

Meeting held via audiovisual link
on Wednesday 10 November 2021, commencing at 1.30pm

Tuhinga/Present:

Chairperson, Councillor Amy Macdonald
Councillor Joce Yeoman
Councillor Jack Craw
Councillor Marty Robinson – *joined at 1.45pm*
Councillor Penny Smart

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

NRC Pou Tiaki Hapori – GM Community Resilience, Victoria Harwood
NRC Pou Tiaki Taiao – GM Natural Resources Jonathan Gibbard
NRC Working Party Secretariat, Laura Exton
NRC Natural Resources Policy Manager, Alison Newell
NRC Strategic Policy Specialist, Justin Murfitt
NRC Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager, Joseph Camuso
NRC Natural Hazards Advisor, Jan van der Vliet

Part Meeting

NRC CEO, Malcolm Nicolson – *joined at 2.34pm*

The meeting opened with a karakia at 1.38pm.

Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Victoria Harwood, newly appointed Group Manager – Pou Tiaki Hapori Community Resilience, was introduced.

Ngā Whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)

Apologies were received from:

- TTMAC representative Thomas Hohaia.
- Councillor Marty Robinson for late arrival.
- TTMAC representative Rowan Tautari's apologies were received after the meeting.

Climate Change Working Party
10 November 2021

Record of Actions – Minutes from 8 September 2021 (Item 4.1)

Presented by: Councillor Amy MacDonald

Agreed action points:

No agreed action points.

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 4.2)

Presented by: Councillor Amy Macdonald

Agreed action points:

- Working Party Secretariat to remove completed items from the action sheet, and items completed from now on must remain on the tracker for 2 meetings before being removed.
- NRC Staff to undertake a review of the action sheet to ensure it consists of meeting-only actions.
- GM Community Resilience to catch up with NTA Transport Manager regarding electric buses and provide an update at the next Climate Change Working Party meeting.
- Action item *RMA Reform (Item 4.4, Mar-21)* can be marked as completed.

Update on NRC Climate Change Strategy Implementation (Item 4.3)

Presented by: Group Manager - Community Resilience, Victoria Harwood

Agreed action points:

- GM Community Resilience to provide an update at the next Climate Change Working Party meeting so we know how we are progressing with Year 1 deliverables, and whether we will be able to meet the KPIs and deadlines of the Annual Plan.
- GM Community Resilience to communicate to the Working Party whether we have a contingency plan in place in case we can't recruit the staff we need.
- Rivers and Natural Hazards Manager to circulate the student pre-feasibility study for EV charging station requirements, received November 2021.
- NRC Biosecurity & Biodiversity staff to go through the ongoing programmes list and highlight all items that are related to biosecurity and biodiversity, and present them at the Biodiversity & Biosecurity Working Party. The Working Party Secretariat is to communicate this with the Group Manager - Biosecurity.

Climate Change Working Party
10 November 2021

Emissions reduction discussion document - Draft NRC submission (Item 4.4)

Presented by: Strategic Policy Specialist Justin Murfitt

Agreed action points:

- The Council Working Party agreed that if any subsequent changes to the draft submission are major, it should go to Councillor Only Time to be workshopped, however if the changes are minor, the marked up version can be distributed prior to being presented at the Council meeting on 16 November 2021.

Climate Change Recruitment Update (Item 4.5)

Presented by: Group Manager - Community Resilience, Victoria Harwood

Agreed action points:

- No actions required.

2022 Meeting Dates (Item 4.6)

Presented by: Committee Secretariat Laura Exton

Agreed action points:

- Working Party Secretariat to confirm that the proposed date swap suits the TTMAC members on all Working Parties affected.

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 2.52pm.

TITLE: **Receipt of Action Sheet**

From: Erica Wade, Personal Assistant - Environmental Services

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 04
Group Manager/s: February 2022


Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to enable the meeting to receive the current action sheet.

Nga mahi tutohutia / Recommendation

That the action sheet be received.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Climate Change Working Party Schedule of Actions [↓](#) 

TITLE: Recruitment update and introduction of new staff
From: Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience
Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 11
Group Manager/s: February 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

This report is an update on the Climate Change department recruitment of staff.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. New staff are welcomed into their roles

Background/Tuhinga

Climate change projects for Northland were led through the council long-term plan (LTP) by the previous Natural Hazards Advisor. After the organisational change process in 2021, the new Climate Change department was created. Roles in the new department were vacant and due to organisational changes, loss of existing staff and a Group Manager retirement, recruitment was delayed until November 2021.

Once the new Group Manager for Community Resilience started in late October, the recruitment process began. Three roles were advertised in November 2021 as aligned with Year 1 of the LTP, Climate Change Manager, Zero Carbon Transition Advisor and Hapū and Iwi Climate Change Facilitator.

The Climate Change Manager and Zero Carbon Transition Advisor roles were successfully recruited. The new staff are as follows:

Tom FitzGerald – Climate Change Manager – starts 23rd February 2022

Natalie Newson – Zero Carbon Transition Advisor – starts 1 day per week from Friday 4 March for 1 month and full time from Monday 4 April 2022.

The Hapū and Iwi Climate Change Facilitator role was not filled and will be readvertised once the Climate Change Manager has started in the role.

The Climate Change Manager will lead the councils Ngā Taumata o te Moana Implementation Plan, supported by climate change department staff and other staff from across the organisation and will take a lead role in the work of the Joint Climate Change work programme. Further Climate Change roles are set for year-3 of the LTP.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Nil

TITLE: **Progress Year 1 of Ngā Taumata o Te Moana**

From: Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 11
Group Manager/s: February 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

This update outlines the progress made to date of the Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Plan which can be read in conjunction with the implementation plan and its associated notes.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. The Climate Change Manager will bring further updates on progress on Year 1 deliverables at the next Climate Change Working Party and provide any available information on further funding for Year 2.
-

Background/Tuhinga

An assessment of the ongoing and Year 1 projects of the implementation plan has been undertaken and good progress has been made. The implementation plan remains on track, despite the challenges of 2021 (which includes COVID and organisational change and staff recruitment).

Staff from the wider council continue to lead, support and complete projects from the Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Plan through Year 1 of the delivery of council's strategy. The Climate Change department and recruitment update is outlined in a separate agenda item which explains staff availability in further progressing some Year 1 projects.

Ongoing projects and those expected to be completed in Year 1 requiring progress and future updates are:

- The development of the corporate climate change positive transition plan, including optimised greenhouse gas emissions reduction plan and carbon removal / offset investment plan.
- Several adaptation projects being led or supported by the Natural Hazards Advisor.
- Other adaptation projects not yet started which will be progressed by the Climate Change Manager and the Hapū Iwi Climate Change Facilitator, including working with the council land management teams and the development of the hapū-led adaptation planning facilitation programme. The outcomes of the Whangarei District Councils work on Te Ao Māori Climate Adaptation Framework will assist with this.

The Climate Change Managers priority in the role is to follow up on each ongoing and Year 1 project to formulate overall situational awareness of the progress of the implementation plan.

Some Year 2 and Year 3 projects are already underway and progressing well.

Funding for Year 1 projects is still available and looking ahead to Year 2, most of the funding required will be supplied by existing funding sources or Long-Term Plan funding, so no known annual plan business cases are required for 2022-2023 projects.


Any future annual plan funding for 2023-2024 will be assessed next year and aligned with the priorities of the work programme as required.

Additional funding for Year 2 is required for:

- Ecosystems, habitat and biodiversity (could be sourced through Enviro Link).
- Biosecurity threats (the biosecurity Group Manager and Deputy Group Manager are aware of the projects and funding requirements)
- Peatlands and Wetlands carbon storage stocktake (funding will need to be explored)

The latest working version of the implementation plan is attached, and progress updates of each project included.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: NRC Climate Change Strategy Implementation Plan - working version [↓](#) 

TITLE: Electric vehicle survey report summary

From: Joseph Camuso, Rivers & Natural Hazards Manager

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 11
Group Manager/s: February 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

The purpose of this report was to identify the current Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure shortcomings in Northland and recommend how to prepare Northland for the future uptake of EVs. This was prompted from the committee in anticipation of potential future Government funding and to have Northland positioned with first mover advantage.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. That the Climate Change Working Party receive this report and support recommendations of the report when Government funding becomes available
 2. Work closely with Northpower and Top Energy to identify areas that can support fast and hyper chargers.
 3. Plan for heavy transport hubs trucks, buses and ferries.
 4. Plan for fast and hyper chargers along State Highways (50kW to 300kW).
 5. Plan for medium to fast chargers on destination routes, i.e., Matapouri Coast Road (25kW to 50kW).
 6. Plan for slow to medium chargers at hotels and restaurants (3kW to 25kW).
 7. Provide redundancy (more than one charger) where possible and alternative circuits where possible.
 8. Plan for charging stations to be close to amenities i.e., toilets, have accessibility 24/7 and safe at night.
 9. Future proof new construction by adding additional electrical capacity and placing in-ground conduit during construction, like Kensington shopping centre and NRC Dargaville.
-

Background/Tuhinga


Improving EV uptake will help Aotearoa reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions (approximately 48% of total) and provide a massive economic boost for the country by reversing the flow of money going offshore to buy oil (approximately \$8 billion annually). Kiwis make 100 percent of NZ electricity. Most of the generation, distribution and electric retail is owned by Kiwis. Using electric transport makes economic and environmental sense.

Fast and hyper chargers 50kW to 300kW should be located on the main highways and should be redundant more than one charger at each location. If possible, they should be wired to different circuits in case there is damage to one circuit. Future proofing the sites by ensuring extra capacity and easy expansion, i.e., plan for eight chargers and build two now and allow buildout in the future.

Install smaller capacity chargers off main highways and plan on redundancy and future proofing where possible.

Encourage territorial authorities to support independent charging network providers with long term parking agreements and license to occupy for chargers.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: EV Survey Report - V1 Draft [↓](#) 

TITLE: Funding Business Cases for Pilot Adaptation Projects (Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy) at District Councils

From: Jan van der Vliet, Natural Hazards Advisor

Authorised by Group Manager/s: Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on date 11 February 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

Northland Councils are developing a work programme to address climate change risk to coastal communities. The programme will set out guidance for ways councils, communities, tangata whenua and key stakeholders can co-develop community adaptation plans.

The preferred best practice engagement and decision-making approach to be used in the coastal adaptation programme is dynamic adaptive pathways planning, described in the 2017 Ministry for the Environment Coastal Hazards and Climate Change Guidance for Local Government. This process enables communities to be intimately involved in developing adaptation plans for their own communities through a structured process that uses community panels to collaboratively determine adaptive pathways using risk assessment, engineering designs, options assessment, and prioritisation processes.

The result will be a flexible, long-term adaptation plan for each community, signed-off by a governance body and the relevant communities and councils. While this approach will be appropriate for larger communities, we also work with smaller communities to develop and implement community-led adaptation plans at the local or hapū scale.

Funding for pilot community engagement projects has been allocated in the 2021-31 Long Term Plans for all Northland councils (priority actions 29 and 30 of the draft Strategy).

The Climate Change Adaptation Te Taitokerau (CATT) working group has developed the draft Coastal Adaptation Programme – Coastal Community Adaptation Profiles to support the pilot community engagement projects.

This coastal adaptation programme is the third in a series of technical chapters contributing to the Te Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy. In the previous chapter, Climate risk overview, the risks posed by coastal hazards were identified as a key gap in council responses to date, presenting an opportunity to develop community adaptation responses to the projected impacts of climate change.

A priority action recommended in the Strategy is the Coastal adaptation programme, a 10-year programme of adaptation planning with coastal communities across the region.

The Coastal Adaptation Profiles Technical report helps develop this future adaptation planning work program by describing the range of coastal risks, and community needs and opportunities in different coastal community across the region.

The intent of the report is to provide data on the different levels of risk projected for different communities, guidance on appropriate adaptation planning approaches that might be appropriate for different communities, and community attributes to consider when planning adaptation engagement.

Through the Te Roopu Tiaki Hapori – Community Resilience Climate Change 2021-22 budget, Northland Regional Council has made financial funding support available to a maximum of \$45,000, for each district council towards their respective pilot projects; targeted budget to support and implement Adaptive Pathways Planning in our region.

Respective District Councils were requested to put a ‘business case’ together using the following criteria, i.e., process and rules of applying:

- Submission of your business case which should reflect the purpose, objectives, methodology, outcomes and risks (and opportunities of course).
- Your business case should be no longer than three A4 pages
- Funding support for short / long term council staff is however not eligible under this financial support model. Engagement of consultants (or other outside sources), for example, to support the scoping, management and implementation is supported.
- A report, following the end of the current financial year, on the progress / outcome of the support element of your programme would be appreciated.

Below is Kaipara District Council’s (KDC) business case, which was reviewed, and funds were awarded. Business Case applications by Whangarei District Council (WDC) and Far North District Council (FNDC) are expected during the month of February. FNDC however, have indicated that their application might be delayed towards the end of this financial year.

Kaipara District Council: Business case for Adaptive Pathway Planning Programme – Pilot Projects funding

Kaipara District Council has committed to starting an adaptive pathways pilot project in early 2022. In December 2021, Council decided on the Raupo / Ruawai area as the location for the adaptive pathways pilot project. The pilot project is anticipated to take three years.

Adaptive pathways planning is a part of Council’s new climate change work programme. The pilot project also supports the draft Te Tai Tokerau Adaptation Strategy, which identifies adaptive pathways planned as the preferred, best-practice approach to adaptation decision-making.

Purpose

NRC funding will help secure project management and / or community engagement support to achieve the following deliverables:

| | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| • Confirm project scope | Confirm hazards in scope, scale and spatial extent, timing, budget, strategic and community context, external support requirements |
| • Establish project architecture | Identify and establish governance, community panel, council team, branding etc |
| • Opportunity + Gap analysis | Confirm existing information on hazards, values, vulnerability etc - identify gaps, opportunities |

| | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop detailed work programme | Identify tasks, timeframes, deliverables |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop Comms + Engagement Plan (CEP) | Stakeholder mapping, approach, engagement methods, timing, responsibilities |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Output reporting | Produce scoping report + CEP |

Methodology

The deliverables identified above come from the Coastal Adaptation Te Taitokerau Costing Methodology Report. NRC contracted CMC and Traverse Environmental to draft this report to scope and cost the adaptive pathways planning programme for Long Term Plan budgeting. The deliverables are for Step 1 – Context and Preparation under an internally resourced model, where council staff primarily lead the project.

KDC has identified some potential consultants who have strong relationships with the Ruawai community and / or have existing relationships with Council and who have previously provided high quality project management and planning support work. KDC is currently scoping potential support with these consultants based on the deliverables identified above.

KDC staff will confirm external support and finalise a contract by mid-January. Consultant work will begin February 2022. Step 1: Context and Preparation deliverables identified above are due to be complete by March 2022.

| Risks | Opportunities |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project timeframes are not met due to external service procurement delay over the holiday period. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To align adaptive pathways project management across all three District Councils. Agree on external service standards and requirements and/or create a 'shared services' agreement. |

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: Coastal Adaptation Programme and Community Adaptation Profiles [↓](#) 

TITLE: **New vessel update**

From: Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 11
Group Manager/s: February 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

This report outlines the recent developments in the replacement of the NRC Maritime Vessel Waikare including investigations into design which contribute to the reduction of NRC emissions.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. Investigations into costs and inclusion of design elements which reduce emissions are undertaken
 2. Emission reducing design features are included in the boat where possible
-

Background/Tuhinga

One of the 'Reduction of Emissions' projects from councils Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Strategy is to investigate options for improving the efficiency of NRC vessels and the transition of vessels to high-performance hulls and electric / hybrid engines to reduce overall council emissions.

The NRC Harbourmaster has investigated options and compared them against the requirements of council workboats. The requirements of the workboat duties cannot be met sufficiently for safe working practices and to carry out maritime tasks on the water with current available technology, which is not yet developed sufficiently or reliable enough.

The council maritime workboat the Waikare is due for replacement. The tender was recently awarded to CIRCA based in Whangarei. Discussions on the boat design are underway, with options including:

- To purchase main engines with a higher International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Tier rating than the new Maritime NZ rule requirement and would result in lower emissions, (IMO set the standards for vessels).
- Invest in hull form optimisation, this could lead to overall fuel savings.

These options are being investigated further and the associated costs as part of the design phase. The new vessel may have a working life with council for 10 years instead of 15 years so newer greener technology can be invested in sooner as it further develops.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Nil

TITLE: EV - Bus update

From: Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 11
Group Manager/s: February 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

This update outlines the developments of other regions moving to electric buses and a basic overview of potential future options for council.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. The Transport Manager took a similar update to council workshop on 16 February for support.
 2. The Zero Carbon Transition Advisor will bring future updates as developments progress.
-

Background/Tuhinga

One of the `Emissions reduction` projects in the Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Plan is, Investigating options for improvements in bus fleet efficiency and delivery modes; developing an options analysis, business cases and timelines for transitioning buses to e-buses in alignment with emissions targets.

This project will progress over time as technology, availability of resources and funding sources become clearer. In the meantime, the council Transport Manager, based at the Northland Transportation Alliance (NTA) responsible for public transport in Northland, is part of the national Transport Special Interest Group (SIG) and keeps up to date with developments in other cities in New Zealand of e-buses and other technologies.

Auckland have ordered 150 EV buses to date and require 700 to cover peak services, they currently have 33 EV buses in use. Wellington have started to order EV buses and require approximately 380 buses to cover peak services. In Christchurch, Environment Canterbury have awarded new bus contracts in 2020 with the goal of 40% of their bus fleet EV or low emissions by 2023.

The availability and supply of EV buses to NZ will be under pressure from larger cities already placing orders. There are also national funding assistance issues, funding support has been requested through central government funding, but any support is yet to be confirmed. Waka Kotahi have advised that due to COVID-19, future funding assistance will be difficult to obtain. This statement is making it uncertain how this aligns with the governments emissions targets.

There are no current plans to replace public transport buses in Northland to environmentally friendly buses at this stage as contracts with current bus service contractors do not expire until 2027, but there is provision in the current bus contracts for the council to trial EV buses on the CityLink services.

In Whangarei, Ritchies buses (who currently have the contract for CityLink) have sold to KKR and Co. Inc. (from the USA) who are interested in environmentally friendly buses. Europe and the USA are looking at electric and / or hydrogen for larger vehicles such as buses and trucks and the investigations and developments are being shared internationally.

Current annual cost to council for one bus is just under \$50k. An EV bus would add a further \$99k on top per bus per year. The total cost of running one EV bus per year is currently \$147,500.00.

Further developments in technology including hydrogen options, which dont require the same level of infrastructure to support the buses, will be an option considered during this process. As information, availability and known costs progress, planning will continue on business cases for long-term plan processes closer to the expiry of the current Northland bus contracts.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Nil