

Climate Change Working Party
Wednesday 31 August 2022 at 9.30am

AGENDA

Climate Change Working Party Agenda

Meeting to be held in the Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Wednesday 31 August 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 Crow	Councillor Marty Robinson
Councillor Penny Smart	TTMAC representative Mira Norris	TTMAC representative Rowan Tautari
TTMAC representative Lynette Wharerau	Te Rūnanga o Whāingaroa Rihari Dargaville	

KARAKIA

RĪMITI (ITEM)

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1.0 NGĀ MAHI WHAKAPAI/HOUSEKEEPING

2.0 NGĀ WHAKAPAHĀ/APOLOGIES

3.0 NGĀ WHAKAPUAKANGA/DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

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| 4.3 | Climate Change Commission Update - Presentation
<i>Matt de Boer - Senior Analyst from the Climate Change Commission He Pou a Rangi will be presenting an overview of the work the Commission has undertaken and will be undertaking.</i> | |
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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 – 25 May 2022**


From: Nicky Hansen, PA to GM Community Resilience

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Record of Actions of the last meeting (attached) held on 25 May 2022 for review by the meeting.

Attachments/Ngā tapirihanga

Attachment 1: CCWP_20220525_MINUTES [↓](#) 

Climate Change Working Party
25 May 2022

Climate Change Working Party Record of Actions

Meeting held online via zoom link
on Wednesday 25 May 2022, commencing at 9.30am

Tuhinga/Present:

Chairperson, Councillor Amy Macdonald
Councillor Jocelyn Yeoman
Councillor Jack Craw
Councillor Marty Robinson
Councillor Penny Smart
TTMAC representative Rowan Tautari

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

NRC Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, Victoria Harwood
NRC Climate Change Manager, Tom Fitzgerald
NRC Zero Carbon Transition Advisor, Natalie Child
NRC Working Party Secretariat, Nicky Hansen

Part Meeting

NRC CEO, Malcolm Nicholson *joined at 9.44am*

The meeting commenced at 9.32am.

Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Ngā Whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)

TTMAC representative Nora Rameka.

Record of Actions – 23 February 2022 (Item 4.1)

Presented by: Cr. Amy Macdonald

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 4.2)

Presented by: GM. Victoria Harwood

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Climate Change Working Party
25 May 2022

Emissions Reduction Work Programme Update (Item 4.3)

Presented by: Natalie Child

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Progress of Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Plan (Item 4.4)

Presented by: Tom FitzGerald

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Tracking Progress on Ngā Taumata o Te Moana (Item 4.5)

Presented by: Tom FitzGerald

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Climate Change Governance Review (Item 4.6)

Presented by: Tom FitzGerald

Agreed action points:

- No actions required

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 11.17am.

TITLE: **Receipt of Action Sheet**

From: Nicky Hansen, PA to GM Community Resilience

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 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: Government Reforms Progress Update

From: Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience; Tom Fitzgerald, Climate Change Manager and Jan van der Vliet, Natural Hazards Advisor

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

Central government is undertaking large legislative, policy and national plan reforms, reviews and development over the next few years and these changes will have an impact upon our climate change response actions into the future.

This agenda item will provide an update on legislative change progress and impacts for the council climate change work programme.

Staff will give a verbal update on aspects of the reforms.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

Updates will be brought to future Climate Change Working party meetings as reforms progress.

Background/Tuhinga

Central government legislative, policy and national plan reforms, reviews and development are underway concurrently. **Attachment 1** outlines the timing and progress of these reforms and updates in comparison to each other while impacting on local government. These include:

- Local Government Statutory Planning and reporting
- Future for LG Review
- Three Waters Reform
- Resource Management Act Amendments and Reform
- Climate Change Reform and ETS updates
- Emergency Management modernisation
- Waste minimisation strategy
- Health and Disability Reforms

Modernising the Emergency Management Framework

The Civil Defence Emergency Management Act (CDEM) 2002 has been in place for the last 20 years. Through learning from several emergency responses in New Zealand over the last five years and recommendations from an independent Technical Advisory Group regarding reforms of the wider emergency management sector, the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) are undertaking a review of the CDEM Act 2002, National CDEM Plan and the National Disaster Resilience Strategy under the trifecta programme.

The timing of the trifecta review has been extended beyond the timeframe outlined in Attachment 1 due to feedback from the wider emergency management sector. Additional time to adequately contribute to the consultation is required as workloads are still high under current emergency responses especially the long response to COVID, floods and wildfires. The Minister of Emergency Management has delayed the draft Emergency Management (EM) Bill introduction to the House until late 2022. Key changes indicated are to the participation of Tangata whenua in the EM sector, and clarity of EM roles and responsibilities, managing risk and enabling and empowering and supporting community resilience.

There are implications for critical infrastructure, Māori engagement and hazard reduction programmes from these reforms into the climate change work programmes.

Other legislation and national policy is moving at a fast pace, hence Tom FitzGerald, Manager Climate Change will provide verbal update at the meeting to avoid a written update being inaccurate.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: Central Government Reforms and Impacting on Local Government [↓](#) 

TITLE: Progress of Ngā Taumata o Te Moana Implementation Plan
From: Tom FitzGerald, Climate Change Manager
Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

With Nga Taumata o Te Moana now over one year old, we have the opportunity to report on progress made against the actions in the Strategy. The Background section provides a snippet of the broader climate change context and identifies some of the achievements over the last year. Much of this is also set out in the Annual Report.

Operationally, Attachment 1 gives current progress updates of actions within the Implementation Plan of *Ngā Taumata o Te Moana: our strategy for tackling climate change*.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. Note the progress report.
-

Background/Tuhinga

The climate crisis is our generation's biggest challenge, and it's already an issue in Te Taitokerau. We must respond by transforming how our society and economy operate.

Northland Regional Council acknowledges the urgent need to respond to the climate change crisis. We are living in te ao hurihuri, the ever-changing world, where the historic and ongoing release of greenhouse gases is already altering the environment that supports us, threatening to cause severe social and environmental disruption. In the interests of unborn generations, our communities and our precious taonga, we must act now.

Northland Regional Councils Ngā Taumata o te Moana

Here at council, we've developed Ngā Taumata o te Moana: our strategy for tackling climate change, which was adopted in July 2021 along with the implementation plan for this strategy. Both documents guide councils work in this area and we've divided our work programme up into the three pou of the climate change crisis: adaptation, emissions reduction, and carbon removal. During the recent process of developing the Long-Term Plan 2021-2031, while climate change was identified as one of the key issues driving our work programme, we were explicit about the need for community values to drive place-based adaptation actions.

The Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy

Te Taitokerau councils celebrated a unique milestone in April 2022 after the adoption of New Zealand's first region-wide climate adaptation strategy, one that is at the heart of our efforts to increase Northland's resilience and works alongside our own climate change strategy above.

The Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy was developed by Climate Adaptation Te Tai Tokerau (CATT), a joint council working group under the governance of the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee. The strategy was formally adopted in April 2022 by the Northland Regional Council, Whangarei District Council, Kaipara District Council and Far North District Council, in a move

that will allow the alignment of climate adaptation work across Northland. It will also drive the delivery of place-based community adaptation plans.

The strategy is the culmination of four years of collaborative mahi with iwi and hapū representatives, elected members and council staff from across Northland.

Looking ahead

Northland communities are particularly exposed to climate change with many of our settlements, town centres, and roads sitting on coastal floodplains, exposed to sea level rise, and increased flooding. With coastal erosion and inundation becoming more prevalent along our region's coastline, difficult but important discussions about how to deal with those challenges are needed. Those discussions will need to canvas all options to manage risk, from holding the line through to moving away from hazardous areas.

We are working with communities, whanau and partner organisations to undertake adaptive planning processes that recognise and allow for the uncertainty inherent in our shared climate future.

Councils newly formed Climate Change team has recently begun work on project planning and tracking the progress of Ngā Taumata o te Moana and Te Tai Tokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy and determining exactly how we're going to achieve what we've set out to so that we can start to see our progress, and importantly, report on this.

Over the past year, we've also worked on a range of projects including:

- Partnering with Kaipara District Council on the region's first community adaptation planning project in Raupō and Ruawai, where work has commenced, and the first community events have been undertaken.
- Engaging Toitū to measure and verify our climate impact. This will provide us with a verified emissions baseline and drive emissions reduction action across council and its operations with a focus on priority areas.
- Funding two community housing projects under the Water Resilience Grant Fund Programme. Following on from the 2020 drought, this programme allows vulnerable communities to apply for funding to install new drinking water infrastructure to ensure greater resilience during times of need.
- Completing a climate risk assessment for our lifeline utilities. This work identifies current and future threats to the critical pieces of infrastructure that provide water, power, and transport connectivity. Council have also contributed to a risk assessment and adaptation planning work with the Northland District Health Board.
- Sending submissions on several key policy changes, including proposed changes to the Emissions Trading Scheme, the National Policy Statement on Indigenous Biodiversity, the Emissions Reduction Plan, and the National Adaptation Plan. Staff also wrote a submission in support of Renewable Energy Zones for Northland.
- Continuing work on the CoastCare programme with our coastal communities to encourage greater coastal resilience.

- Releasing updated coastal and riverine flood hazard maps, which are beginning to be incorporated into district council planning regimes.
- Continuing to invest in low or zero emissions technology to support our operations, including additional solar panels on the Water St office and an increase in the number of electric vehicles for operations.
- Changing our procurement policy, council reports, and business case planning to encourage alignment with climate goals.
- Providing funding to Whangārei, Kaipara, and Far North district councils towards planning for adaptation pilot projects.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Attachment 1: Climate Change Strategy Implementation - August 2022 [↓](#) 

TITLE: **Climate Change Governance Review**

From: Tom FitzGerald, Climate Change Manager

Authorised by Victoria Harwood, Pou Tiaki Hapori - GM Community Resilience, on 22
Group Manager/s: August 2022

Whakarāpopototanga / Executive summary

Staff have progressed work and undertaken further engagement around climate governance since the previous Climate Change Working Party meeting on 25 May 2022. Climate governance was discussed and workshopped at the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee on Monday 29 August 2022.

The intent of these discussions was to create some options for how we want climate governance to be realised in Tai Tokerau. This would consist of some changes we could recommend immediately to current governance arrangements for the next triennium as well as an indication of the longer-term aspirations.

It is anticipated that the immediate steps to be taken will seek to streamline and consolidate reporting requirements, particularly as they relate to Northland Regional Council, but also recognising our role as regional leaders.

Staff can give a verbal update of the current status of these ongoing discussions and outline the next steps at the meeting.

Ngā mahi tūtohutia / Recommended actions

1. Note this report and the verbal update.
 2. Note that staff will continue to engage with partners to progress this mahi and identify the next steps.
-

Background/Tuhinga

A climate governance paper was presented to the Climate Change Working Party on 25 May 2022. The paper highlighted several aspects of current governance arrangements and identified areas for improved efficiency and effectiveness.

The climate governance workstream has arisen largely because of observations and insight from new staff but are also subsequent to the publication of both Ngā Taumata o Te Moana (July 2021) and the Te Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy (April 2022). Both documents set extensive work programmes via their respective Implementation Plans.

The Te Taitokerau Climate Adaptation Strategy (TTCAS) in particular recognises that oversight of climate change issues is an area where partner organisations (including Northland Regional Council) can build capacity in reporting and disclosure of climate risks and governance (Action 37). This is also reinforced by section 5ZW of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Act:

Power to request provision of information

5ZW Minister or Commission may request certain organisations to provide information on climate change adaptation

- (1) The Minister or the Commission may, in writing, request that a reporting organisation provide all or any of the following information:
 - (a) a description of the organisation's governance in relation to the risks of, and opportunities arising from, climate change:
 - (b) a description of the actual and potential effects of the risks and opportunities on the organisation's business, strategy, and financial planning:
 - (c) a description of the processes that the organisation uses to identify, assess, and manage the risks:
 - (d) a description of the metrics and targets used to assess and manage the risks and opportunities, including, if relevant, time frames and progress:
 - (e) any matters specified in regulations.
- (2) The reporting organisation must comply with a request made under subsection (1).
- (3) The Minister must, as soon as practicable, provide the Commission with a copy of any information received in response to a request made by the Minister.
- (4) The Commission must, as soon as practicable, provide the Minister with a copy of any information received in response to a request made by the Commission.
- (5) The Minister and the Commission must not publicly disclose any information received in response to a request, unless disclosure of the information is necessary to enable the Minister or the Commission to perform a function or duty imposed by this Part.
- (6) Subsection (5) does not apply in respect of information that is already in the public domain.
- (7) Before publicly disclosing any information received in response to a request, the Minister or Commission must consult with the person to whom the information relates.
- (8) For the purposes of this section and section 5ZX, the following are **reporting organisations**:
 - (a) the Public Service, as defined in section 27 of the State Sector Act 1988:
 - (b) local authorities, as defined in section 5(1) of the Local Government Act 2002:
 - (c) council-controlled organisations, as defined in section 6(1) of the Local Government Act 2002:
 - (d) Crown entities, as defined in section 7(1) of the Crown Entities Act 2004, but excluding school boards of trustees:

This Act identifies local authorities as *reporting organisations* that may be subject to requests from the Minister for Climate Change or the Climate Change Commission for information on climate risks, governance, potential climate impactys on an organisaitons operations and planning, a description

of how risks are being addressed, and measures and targets used to measure success or failure. Being ready to address these reporting requirements is currently within the forward work programme for 2022/23 of the Climate Change team and the Corporate Strategy team.

Legislative imperatives only provide one (important) aspect of our journey toward better governance. Reflecting our commitments to our Treaty partners and ensuring the right governance and decision-making structures are in place (or at least aiming to be constantly improving) is at the heart of the TTCAS (Action 1). In Action 3 the TTCAS goes further and asks Councils and their partners to clarify funding responsibilities in relation to adaptation (see for instance the Asher report completed for the Hawkes Bay Clifton to Tangioi Coastal Hazard Strategy).

Improved governance and greater collaboration and empowerment lie at the heart of many of these actions and will require some considered thinking and bold action to address the climate crisis in a fair, equitable and effective manner.

Ngā tapirihanga / Attachments

Nil