

## Northland Regional Council Minutes

Extraordinary meeting held in the Council Chamber  
36 Water Street, Whangārei  
on Wednesday 13 March 2024, commencing at 10.15am

### Tuhinga/Present:

Chairperson, Geoff Crawford  
Deputy Chairperson, Tui Shortland (*via audio-visual link*)  
Councillors:  
John Blackwell  
Joe Carr  
Jack Crow  
Peter-Lucas Jones (*via audio-visual link*)  
Amy Macdonald  
Rick Stolwerk  
Marty Robinson

### I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

#### Full Meeting

Independent Tangata Whenua Advisor (*Via audio-visual link*)  
TTMAC members (x5. *Via audio-visual link*)  
Tāhūhū Rangapū - Chief Executive Officer  
Pou Taumatua - GM Corporate Services  
Group Manager - Community Resilience  
Pou Tiaki Taiao - GM Environmental Services  
Pou Tiaki Pūtaiao - GM Biosecurity  
Corporate Strategy Manager  
Policy Specialist  
Corporate Policy Analyst  
Translator (*Via audio-visual link*)  
Governance Specialist

#### Part Meeting

Independent Financial Advisor  
Pou Manawhakahaere - GM Governance and Engagement

*Secretarial Note: The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.17am and proceedings commenced with the Tauāki ā roto/Opening karakia led by Councillor Robinson.*

### Ngā whakapāha/Apologies (Item 1.0)

There were no apologies.

## **Nga whakapuakanga/Declarations of Conflicts of Interest (Item 2.0)**

It was advised that councillors should make declarations item-by-item as the meeting progressed. At this time Councillor Stolwerk declared a conflict of interest in relation to Surf Lifesaving (*who were current recipients of NRC's Emergency Services Fund*).

## **Adoption of the draft Rating Policies (including the Policy on the Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land) for consultation (Item 5.1)**

**Report from Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist and Kyla Carlier, Corporate Strategy Manager**

### **Moved (Macdonald/Carr)**

1. That the report 'Adoption of the draft Rating Policies (including the Policy on the Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land) for consultation' by Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist and Kyla Carlier, Corporate Strategy Manager and dated 9 February 2024, be received.

### **Carried**

*Secretarial Note: It was advised that due to the fact that district councils collected rates on behalf of the regional council, NRC was required to adopt their relevant policies.*

### **It was further moved (Craw/Robinson)**

2. That council resolves to consult on changes to the draft Rating Policies (including the Policy on the Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land), (*included as **Attachment 1** pertaining to Item 5.1 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*), in accordance with section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002, and that this be carried out in conjunction with consultation on the Long Term Plan 2024-2034.
3. That council adopts the Statement of Proposal on the draft Rating Policies, including Rates Remission and Postponement Policies, and the Policy on the Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land (*included as **Attachment 2** pertaining to Item 5.1 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*) for consultation.
4. That council delegates to the Group Manager – Corporate Services the authority to make any changes to the Statement of Proposal for the consultation of the draft Rating Policies (including Rates Remission and Postponement Policies, and the Policy on the Remission and Postponement of Rates on Māori Freehold Land) that may improve readability and compliance with the Local Government Act.

### **Carried**

## **Rating considerations under Section 100T of the Biosecurity Act for the purpose of consultation, in conjunction with Long Term Plan 2024-2034 (Item 5.2)**

**Report from Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist**

**Moved (Craw/Macdonald)**

1. That the report 'Rating considerations under Section 100T of the Biosecurity Act for the purpose of consultation, in conjunction with Long Term Plan 2024-2034' by Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist and dated 9 February 2024, be received.
2. That council notes the requirements of Section 100T of the Biosecurity Act 1993, and approves the draft analysis set out in this item for the purpose of consulting on the Pest Management Rate, as set out in the Funding Impact Statement of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Supporting Information document.

**Carried**

## **Adoption of the draft Revenue and Financing Policy, draft Financial Contributions Policy, and draft Significance and Engagement Policy (Item 5.3)**

**Report from Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist and Kyla Carlier, Corporate Strategy Manager**

**Moved (Robinson/Carr)**

1. That the report 'Adoption of the draft Revenue and Financing Policy, draft Financial Contributions Policy, and draft Significance and Engagement Policy' by Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist and Kyla Carlier, Corporate Strategy Manager and dated 24 January 2024, be received.

**Carried**

*(Councillor Stolwerk voted against the motion)*

*Secretarial Note:*

- *Confirmation was provided that the Revenue and Financing Policy must align with the proposals contained within the Consultation Document. If, through the consultation and deliberations process, council made amendments to the preferred option on which it consulted, then the Policy would also need to be amended to reflect the change.*
- *Members of the public were encouraged to familiarise themselves with the consultation material to ensure they were fully aware of the proposals put forth in council's 2024 – 2034 Long Term Plan.*

**It was further moved (Macdonald/Blackwell)**

2. That council resolves to consult on changes to the following policies in accordance with section 82 of the Local Government Act and that this consultation be carried out in conjunction with the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 process of consultation:
  - a. The draft Revenue and Financing Policy (*pages 183 - 191 of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Supporting Information Document, included as **Attachment 1** pertaining to Item 5.5 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*);
  - b. The draft Financial Contributions Policy (*page 192 of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Supporting Information Document, included as **Attachment 1** pertaining to Item 5.5 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*); and

- c. The draft Significance and Engagement Policy (*pages 197 - 200 of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Supporting Information Document, included as **Attachment 1** pertaining to Item 5.5 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*).
  3. That council adopts the statements of proposal for:
    - a. The draft Revenue and Financing Policy (*set out in **Attachment 1** pertaining to Item 5.3 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*);
    - b. The draft Financial Contributions Policy (*set out in **Attachment 2** pertaining to Item 5.3 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*); and
    - c. The draft Significance and Engagement policy (*set out in **Attachment 3** pertaining to Item 5.3 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*).
  4. That council delegates to the Group Manager – Corporate Services the authority to make any necessary minor formatting, typographical and administrative changes to the to the statements of proposal and policies prior to formal public consultation.

**Carried**

*(Councillor Stolwerk voted against the motion)*

## **Adoption of the Draft User Fees and Charges 2024/25 and Approval to Consult (Item 5.4)**

**Report from Kyla Carlier, Corporate Strategy Manager and Samuel van Hout, Corporate Policy Analyst**

**Moved (Stolwerk/Craw)**

1. That the report 'Adoption of the Draft User Fees and Charges 2024/25 and Approval to Consult' by Kyla Carlier, Corporate Strategy Manager and Samuel van Hout, Corporate Policy Analyst and dated 17 January 2024, be received.
2. That council adopts the Statement of Proposal and the Draft User Fees and Charges 2024/25 (*included as **Attachment 1** pertaining to Item 5.4 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda*) for the purposes of consultation, pursuant to section 150 of the LGA, to be carried out in conjunction with consultation on the Long Term Plan 2024 - 2034.
3. That council delegates to the Group Manager – Corporate Services the authority to make any necessary minor formatting, typographical and administrative changes to the Statement of Proposal and Draft User Fees and Charges 2024/25 prior to formal public consultation.

**Carried**

*Secretarial Note: User Fees and Charges were the mechanism for council to recover the actual costs for carrying out activities on the behalf of other parties. If these were not set appropriately the cost burden would then fall on the general ratepayer.*

## **Adoption of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Supporting Information Document and Consultation Document, and approval to consult (Item 5.5)**

### **Report from Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist and Kyla Carlier, Corporate Strategy Manager**

*Secretarial Note: As per Standing Order 23.3 'Motion expressed in parts' it was requested that the motion expressed in parts to be decided part by part.*

#### **Moved (Stolwerk/Macdonald)**

1. That the report 'Adoption of the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 Supporting Information Document and Consultation Document, and approval to consult' by Robyn Broadhurst, Corporate Planning Specialist and Kyla Carlier, Corporate Strategy Manager and dated 30 January 2024, be received.

#### **Carried**

#### **It was further moved (Craw/Blackwell)**

2. That council approves the consultation approach outlined in this report, including an official feedback period of 16 March – 19 April 2024, providing an opportunity for spoken feedback at a series of events and at a hearing, and receipt of submissions through council's online portal, email, post and hand delivery during the official feedback period.

#### **Carried**

*(Councillor Stolwerk voted against the motion)*

*Secretarial Note: A comprehensive campaign was set to roll out to support the consultation period including, but not limited to, material on the council website and social media platforms, a mail out to those directly impacted by the proposals within the Draft Long Term Plan as well as a general mail out, videos, Google ads, radio, public notices and 'Have Your Say' events.*

#### **It was further moved (Blackwell/Carr)**

3. That council approves the draft Financial Strategy for the purpose of including relevant aspects of this information in the Consultation Document and in the Supporting Information for the Long Term Plan 2024-2034.

#### **Carried**

*(Councillor Stolwerk voted against the motion)*

#### **It was further moved (Blackwell/Macdonald)**

4. That council approves the draft Infrastructure Strategy for the purpose of including relevant aspects of this information and proposals in the Consultation Document and in the Supporting Information for the Long Term Plan 2024-2034.

#### **Carried**

*(Councillor Stolwerk voted against the motion)*

#### **It was further moved (Carr/Blackwell)**

- 4a. That council agrees and confirms that the words 'climate crisis' and associated phrasing in the Long Term Plan Consultation Document be changed to 'climate change'.

#### **Carried**

### **It was further moved (Carr/Craw)**

5. That council adopts the Supporting Information Document for the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 (included as **Attachment 1** pertaining to Item 5.5 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda), for the purpose of consultation.

### **Carried**

#### *Secretarial Note:*

- *Appreciation was extended to all staff involved in preparing the Long Term Plan documentation.*
- *Attention was specifically drawn to the council's proposed option to fund the shortfall to build a Joint Emergency Coordination Centre.*

### **It was further moved (Macdonald/Robinson)**

6. That council adopts and approves the release of the Consultation Document (included as **Attachment 2** pertaining to Item 5.5 of the 13 March 2024 Extraordinary Council Meeting agenda) for the Long Term Plan 2024-2034 via the Special Consultative Procedure pursuant to sections 93, 93A, and 83 of the Local Government Act 2002.

### **Carried**

*(Councillor Stolwerk voted against the motion)*

#### *Secretarial Note:*

- *It was reiterated that the regional council's rates were much smaller than that of the district councils, so the combination of a percentage qualified by a dollar figure throughout the documentation helped provide clarity and a sense of scale to the reader.*
- *An updated version of the Consultation Document was tabled at the meeting including further tweaks as the information contained within was continually refined. These changes were incorporated by the following resolution (7) to delegate minor changes to the relevant GM.*

### **It was further moved (Craw/Carr)**

7. That council delegates to the Group Manager – Corporate Services the authority to make any necessary minor formatting, typographical and administrative changes to the Supporting Information Document and Consultation Document prior to formal public consultation.
8. That pursuant to Schedule 7, clause 32 of the Local Government Act 2002, the council delegates to councillors its function under S83(1)(d) of that Act, that being to provide opportunity for persons to present their views to council in a manner that enables spoken interaction.

### **Carried**

*Secretarial Note: Te Taitokerau Māori and Council Working Party (TTMAC) members were acknowledged for their contribution in the development of the draft Long Term Plan 2024 – 2034.*

## **Whakamutunga (Conclusion)**

**The meeting concluded at 10.54am with a karakia by GM – Governance and Engagement.**

Extraordinary Council Meeting  
13 March 2024

Confirmed as a true and correct record 26 March 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Shortland', written in a cursive style.

Deputy Chair Tui Shortland