

Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee Minutes

Meeting held in the Council Chamber
36 Water Street, Whangārei
on Thursday 20 March 2025, commencing at 1:00 pm

Tuhinga/Present:

Chairperson, Te Uri o Hau and Te Roroa Representative Fiona Kemp
Deputy Chairperson, WDC Councillor Scott McKenzie
Councillor Amy Macdonald
KDC Mayor Craig Jepson
FNDC Deputy Mayor Kelly Stratford (online)
NRC iwi/hapu representative George Riley (online)
WDC iwi/hapu representative Delaraine Armstrong
FNDC iwi/hapu representative Nyze Manuel

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

Group Manager - Community Resilience, Louisa
NRC Chief Executive Officer, Jono Gibbard
NRC Alternate John Blackwell
WDC Alternate Nick Connop
Rakesh Pinao, NRC Regional Climate Adaptation Lead
NRC Secretariat, Haylee Labelle
Natalie Child, NRC Climate Action and Natural Hazards Manager
Nicole Ross, NRC Regional Adaptation Programme Coordinator
Michelle Howe, NRC Zero Carbon Transition Advisor
Ingrid Kuindersam, NRC Senior Policy Planner
Kim Wall, Climate Resilience Advisor
Anna Talbot, Natural Hazards Analyst
WDC Bernadette Aperahama
WDC, Roselyn Naidu
FNDC GM Planning & Policy, Roger Ackers
FNDC, Katy Simon
Mark Baker Jones
Melanie Baker Jones
Sean Rush
Christine Taylor, NRC Governance Specialist

Part Meeting

WDC Mayor Vince Cocurullo

The Chair declared the meeting open at 1pm with a Karakia by George Riley.

Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Ngā whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)

There were no apologies.

Confirmation of Minutes - 4th November 2024 (Item 4.1)

Report from Claire Lewinski, Climate Resilience Fund Administrator

Moved (McKenzie / Macdonald)

That the minutes of the JCCAC meeting held on 4 November 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record and that these be duly authenticated by the Chair.

Carried

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 5.1)

Report from Claire Lewinski, Climate Resilience Fund Administrator

Moved (Stratford / McKenzie)

That the action sheet be received.

Carried

Programme Update Report (Item 6.1)

Report from Rakesh Pinao, Regional Climate Adaptation Programme Lead

Moved (Macdonald/ Stratford)

That the report 'Programme Update Report' by Rakesh Pinao, Regional Climate Adaptation Programme Lead and dated 25 February 2025, be received.

Carried

Notice of Motion - Climate Data Review (Item 6.2)

Report from Haylee Labelle, Personal Assistant Community Resilience

Moved (Jepson / Cocurullo)

1. That the report 'Notice of Motion - Climate Data Review' by Louisa Gritt, GM Community Resilience and dated 11 March 2025, be received.

Carried

It was further moved (Jepson / Cocurullo)

2. That the Joint Climate Change Adaptation Committee agrees that the Chief Executive of the Northland Regional Council (as the secretariat for the Joint Committee) write to the Minister for the Environment, requesting:
 - i. A review of the latest climate science, including the most recent IPCC reports and other relevant research.
 - ii. An assessment of whether New Zealand's current approach to climate adaptation is based on the most appropriate Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) or Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSPs).
 - iii. Consideration of whether updates to official guidance and policies are necessary to reflect the most current scientific understanding. **(Attached)**.

Secretarial Note:

- *In accordance with sections 41A(5) and 30A(6A) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act the WDC Mayor was an ex-officio on the JCCAC and had full membership rights other than counting toward the quorum.*
- *The Chair permitted Barrister Sean Rush to speak to the Notice of Motion on behalf of the mover.*
- *It was noted that NIWA's presentation of Representative Concentration Pathways (RCPs) and Shared Socioeconomic Pathways (SSPs) as well as Climate Commission Te Tai Tokerau's recent tour around Northland.*
- *There was a discussion on whether the JCCAC is the appropriate forum to raise a request to review climate science and around the risks and benefits of this request.*
- *It was questioned how policy is impacted by current predicted worst case scenarios. The Climate Action and Natural Hazards Manager responded with an example of Mangawhai water levels of 2023 compared to the predicted worst case scenarios of the RCPS in 100 years time; the comparison showed that we are already experiencing instances of predicted worst case scenarios now Senior Climate Action and Resilience Planner spoke to the FNDC Adaptation Planning based predominantly around New Zealand Coastal Policy Statement, stating councils are obliged to take a cautionary approach.*
- *Concerns were raised about the impact on staff, existing policies, and investment of resources. There was a discussion on whether an investigation into the science would continue to delay recommendations to our community on adaptation and mitigation or if current policy is subjecting communities to irrelevant standards. It was agreed an investigation into the science is reflective of the perspective of some constituents.*
- *At 1.53 pm, WDC Mayor Vince Cocurullo left the meeting.*
- *Councillor Stratford foreshadowed an amendment, however clarification was provided that in accordance with Standing Order 27.4 Alteration of Notice of Motion that 'Only the mover, at the time the notice of motion is moved and with the agreement of a majority of those present at the meeting, may alter a notice of motion. Once moved and seconded no amendments may be made to a notice of motion.*
- *Standing Orders were silent whether the wording of a Notice of Motion could be modified with the approval of the original mover and seconder (similar to Standing Order 22.3 Option B for speaking and moving motions 'The meeting by agreement of the majority of members present may amend a motion with the agreement of the mover and seconder'). The matter was further complicated in that the seconder of the motion (WDC Mayor Cocurullo) had left the meeting. Given that Standing Orders provided insufficient guidance in such a situation it was for the Chair to decide the appropriate way forward.*

- *The meeting adjourned at 2.07pm and reconvened at 2.14pm. At this time the Chair permitted an amended Notice of Motion to proceed with a new seconder as follows:*

Moved (Jepson/Riley)

That the CE of NRC request a report from NIWA and MfE on how, if any, the new interpretations of the AR6-based projections should be being used in local adaptation planning, and report back to the JCCAC with the response.

Carried

The Chair in putting the motion called for an expression of opinion by show of hands. The result being councillors Macdonald, Jepson, McKenzie, Stratford, Riley, Porter and Armstrong in favour. Nil voted against).

Whakamutunga (Conclusion)

The meeting concluded at 2:17pm and moved to a workshop.

Unconfirmed