

Joint Regional Economic Development Committee Minutes

Meeting held in the Mahinga Innovation Centre, 5449A State Highway 12, Kaikohe 0472
on Friday 26 September 2025, commencing at 10:00 am

Tuhinga/Present:

Chair (FNDC Councillor) John Vujcich
Deputy Chairperson (FNDC Councillor) Penetaui Kleskovic
KDC Mayor, Craig Jepson
NRC Chair Geoff Crawford
WDC Mayor Vince Cocurullo
WDC Councillor Phil Halse

I Tae Mai/In Attendance:

Full Meeting

(NRC) Economist
Economic Policy Advisor (NRC)
Administration (NRC)
NRC Councillor Joe Carr
NRC Chief Executive Officer
KDC Chief Executive Officer
FNDC Chief Executive Officer
Northland Inc Chief Executive
Northland Inc Chair
Northland Inc Head of Infrastructure and Investment
Northland Inc Investment Facilitator
FNDC GM Planning and Policy
WDC Chief Executive Officer
WDC Economic Development Facilitator

Part Meeting

KDC Economic Development Lead
WDC Councillor Carol Peters
Northland Inc Head of Finance & Corporate Services
Channel Infrastructure Business Development Manager

The Chair declared the meeting open at 10.00am.

Karakia – Mayor Moko Tepania

Ngā Mahi Whakapai/Housekeeping (Item 1.0)

Ngā whakapahā/Apologies (Item 2.0)

Moved (Halse/Crawford)

That the apologies from KDC Deputy Mayor Jonathan Larsen and NRC Deputy Chair Tui Shortland for non-attendance be received.

Carried

Confirmation of Minutes - 25 July 2025 (Item 4.1)

Report from Meloney Tupou, Maori Governance and Engagement Support Admin

Moved (Jepson/Crawford)

That the minutes of the Joint Regional economic Development Committee meeting held on 25 July 2025, be confirmed.

Carried

Receipt of Action Sheet (Item 5.1)

Report from Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist

Moved (Cocurullo/Jepson)

That the action sheet be received.

Carried

Northland Inc Limited: WDC decision on shareholding and IGR funding contribution for 2026/27 (Item 6.1)

Report from Darryl Jones, Economist and Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor

Moved (Cocurullo/Crawford)

1. That the report 'Northland Inc Limited: WDC decision on shareholding and IGR funding contribution for 2026/27' by Darryl Jones, Economist and Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and dated 15 September 2025, be received.
2. That staff be directed to prepare a benefit report on the Investment and Growth Reserve (IGR), including Northland Inc operational funding, before the end of November 2025.
3. That a letter be sent to Whangarei District Council acknowledging their decision and expressing a desire to continue good faith discussion on the level of funding for 2026/27 following council elections.

Moved (Vujcich/Kleskovic)

4. That the letter to Whangarei District Council also include a encourages them, as part of their Long Term Plan 2027-2037, they make an unqualified commitment to being a shareholder of Northland Inc and providing a funding contribution into the Investment and Growth Reserve (IGR) that conforms with the Northland Inc Shareholders' Agreement and is equitable in funding to that provided by the Far North and Kaipara district councils.

Carried

Northland Inc Limited: Statement of Intent 2026/27 - Letter of expectations (Item 6.2)

Report from Darryl Jones, Economist and Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor

Moved (Crawford/Cocurullo)

1. That the report 'Northland Inc Limited: Statement of Intent 2026/27 - Letter of expectations' by Darryl Jones, Economist and Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and dated 15 September 2025, be received.
2. That a letter of expectations on the Statement of Intent 2026/27 be provided to Northland Inc Limited.
3. That the Chair be delegated authority to prepare and send a letter of expectations to Northland Inc Limited on its Statement of Intent 2026/27 in line with comments received on this report.

Carried

JREDC 2025-2028 Induction Programme: Governance Continuity and Induction (Item 6.3)

Report from Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist

Moved (Vujcich/Crawford)

1. That the report 'JREDC 2025-2028 Induction Programme: Governance Continuity and Induction' by Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 11 September 2025, be received.

That the Joint Regional Economic Development Committee:

2. Agree to the proposed Induction Programme as set out in Attachment One, noting that staff will further develop the detailed content ahead of the first formal meeting in March 2026.
3. Approve the supporting PowerPoint presentation included as Attachment Two, to be used as part of the induction process for incoming committee members.
4. Agree to the inclusion of a skills matrix for elected members of the incoming committee, included as Attachment Three, to support capability mapping and future development planning.
5. Agree to the provision of a governance handbook for the incoming committee, incorporating essential documents and guidance as outlined in this paper.
6. Endorses the refined key messages from the current Joint Committee, for staff to pass on to the incoming committee to ensure continuity and strategic alignment.

Carried

Northland Inc Limited: Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2025 (Item 6.4)

Report from Darryl Jones, Economist and Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor

Moved (Cocurullo/Vujcich)

That the report 'Northland Inc Limited: Annual Report for the year ending 30 June 2025' by Darryl Jones, Economist and Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and dated 11 September 2025, be received.

Carried

Regional Deals Light Touch Proposal: DIA Response to Northland's Submission (Item 6.5)

Report from Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist

Moved (Crawford/Cocurullo)

That the report 'Regional Deals Light Touch Proposal: DIA Response to Northland's Submission' by Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 11 September 2025, be received.

Carried

Channel Infrastructure: Update on Marsden Point Energy Precinct Concept (Item 6.6)

Report from Darryl Jones, Economist and Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor

Moved (Cocurullo/Halse)

That the report 'Channel Infrastructure: Update on Marsden Point Energy Precinct Concept' by Darryl Jones, Economist and Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and dated 22 September 2025, be received.

Carried

Northland Inc Limited: Tuputupu Grow Northland - Programme Update (Item 6.7)

Report from Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist

Moved (Crawford/Kleskovic)

That the report 'Northland Inc Limited: Tuputupu Grow Northland - Programme Update' by Emmanouela Galanou, Economic Policy Advisor and Darryl Jones, Economist and dated 11 September 2025, be received.

Carried

Kaupapa ā Roto/Business with Public Excluded (Item 7.0)

Moved (Cocurullo/Kleskovic)

1. That the public be excluded from the proceedings of this meeting to consider confidential matters.
2. That the general subject of the matters to be considered whilst the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to this matter, and the specific grounds under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution, are as follows:

Item No.	Item Issue	Reasons/Grounds
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7.1	Confirmation of Confidential Minutes - 25 July 2025	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, as stated in the open section of the meeting -.
7.2	Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF): Update on projects	The public conduct of the proceedings would be likely to result in disclosure of information, the withholding of which is necessary to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence or which any person has been or could be compelled to provide under the authority of any enactment, where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied s7(2)(c)(i).

