



MINUTES

Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 8 April 2026

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Waikato Regional Council
**Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-
Governance Committee Meeting**

OPEN MINUTES

Date: Wednesday 8 April 2026, 10.02am

Location: Council Chambers
Waikato Regional Council
Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton

Members Present: Trustee Jackie Colliar – Co-Chair – Waikato-Tainui
Cr Noel Smith – Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
Cr Jennifer Nickel – Deputy Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Jeff Green – Waikato-Tainui (virtually via Teams from 10.14am)
Cr Kataraina Hodge – Waikato Regional Council (until 12.35pm)
Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua – Waikato-Tainui
Cr Angela Strange – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Donald Turner – Waikato-Tainui (virtually via Teams)

In Attendance: Cr Keith Holmes – Waikato Regional Council
Cr Tipa Mahuta – Waikato Regional Council (virtually via Teams until 10.52am)

Staff Present: Donna Flavell – Chief Executive Officer, Waikato-Tainui
Mali Ahipene – Pou Tuhono, Waikato Regional Council
Marae Tukere – General Manager, Oranga, Waikato-Tainui
Jason Ake – General Manager, Communications and Engagement, Waikato-Tainui
Mike Scarsbrook – Manager, Environmental Science, Waikato Regional Council
Sandra Sesto-Dekic – Team Leader, Customer Focus, Waikato Regional Council
Karuna Deobhakta – Policy Advisor, Waikato-Tainui
Brooke Roebeck – Democracy Advisor

The contents of these minutes meet all legal requirements and include a full set of decisions.

An audio-visual recording of the open session of the meeting is available on Waikato Regional Council's public website.

Recording	Document ID #	YouTube Link
Open Recording 1	Doc # 35495979	https://youtu.be/9yIDumi1zzY
Open Recording 2	Doc # 35497038	https://youtu.be/pPLjdGU-53I
Public Excluded Recording	Doc # 35498403	–
Open Recording 3	Doc # 35497284	https://youtu.be/eGNhAK64c9k

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 30 seconds.

The Waikato Regional Council Kaitohutohu (Joshua Wetere) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 3 minutes 50 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/01

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Trustee Jackie Colliar

That the apologies of Trustee Jeff Green for lateness and Cr Kataraina Hodge for early departure be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 4 minutes 45 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/02

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Cr Kataraina Hodge

- 1. That the agenda of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting of 8 April 2026, as circulated, be confirmed as the business of the meeting.**
- 2. That the order of items follows the order set out in the minutes.**

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 5 minutes 15 seconds.

No interests were disclosed pertaining to items on the agenda or interests not already recorded on a relevant register.

5 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

**WAIKATO RAUPATU RIVER TRUST AND WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL CO-GOVERNANCE
COMMITTEE MEETING – 24 SEPTEMBER 2025**

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 5 minutes 25 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/03

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Trustee Donald Turner

That the minutes of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting held on 24 September 2025 be confirmed as a correct record.
CARRIED

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 RECORD OF MEETING ACTIONS

Item commenced in recording 1, at 7 minutes 5 seconds

Presented by the Kaiwhakarite (Ashley Eden).

10.14am – Trustee Jeff Green entered the meeting.

Actions:

1. That the record of meeting actions be updated to include the meeting date and assigned due dates to improve traceability and accountability.
2. That staff explore alternative mechanisms to strengthen Mana Whenua participation in Council decision-making processes.
3. That regular updates on the progress and key developments of the Mana Whakahono ā Rohe with Ngāti Mahuta be provided.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/04

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua

That the report *Record of Meeting Actions* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.2 PRESENTATION – OVERVIEW OF WAIKATO-TAINUI

Item commenced in recording 1, at 42 minutes 45 seconds.

Presented by the General Manager, Oranga (Marae Tukere). Refer Document # 35427688 for the PowerPoint presentation or at page 28-47 of the open agenda.

10.52am – Cr Tipa Mahuta left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/05

Moved: Cr Kataraina Hodge

Seconded: Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua

That the report *Presentation – Overview of Waikato-Tainui* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.3 REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP RESPONSE TO SYSTEM REFORM IN THE WAIKATO

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 55 minutes 30 seconds.

Presented by the Pou Tuhono (Mali Ahipene) and General Manager (Marae Tukere).

11.52am – The meeting adjourned.

12.03pm – The meeting reconvened.

Item continued in open recording 2, at start.

Action:

That a Council workshop be scheduled as soon as practicable to provide an overview of the Waikato-Tainui proposal and enable discussion on a coordinated regional partnership response to system reform in the Waikato.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/06

Moved: Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua

Seconded: Cr Kataraina Hodge

- 1. That the report *Regional Partnership Response to System Reform in the Waikato* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.**
- 2. That the co-governance committee supports the direction of the report and the recommended actions noted in the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Agenda, 8 April 2026 at pages 50-52.**

CARRIED

6.4 UPDATE ON THE WAIKARE-WHANGAMARINO ACTION PLAN

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 46 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Environmental Science (Mike Scarsbrook) who requested the report be taken as read. Refer Document # 35557826 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

Co-Chair Jackie Colliar acknowledged the significant work, investment of time and funding in the Whangamarino and Waikare areas. She thanked those involved for their collaborative approach and highlighted the importance of maintaining momentum, considering future funding opportunities, and agreeing next steps.

Action:

That the Whangamarino Action Plan be tabled at the next Co-Governance Committee meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/07

Moved: Trustee Jackie Colliar

Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

That the report *Update on the Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.5 SUMMARY OF RIVER AND CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES - 2024/25

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 20 minutes 51 seconds.

Presented by the Programme Lead, Integrated Catchment Management (Paula Reeves) who requested the report be taken as read. Refer Document # 35520517 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

12.35pm – Cr Kataraina Hodge left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/08

Moved: Trustee Jackie Colliar

Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

That the report *Summary of River and Catchment Management Activities - 2024/25* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.6 STRATEGIC WORK PROGRAMME RESET AND CO-DEVELOPMENT APPROACH

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 34 minutes.

Presented by the Pou Tuhono (Mali Ahipene).

Action:

That a workshop be scheduled for a facilitated session on the Strategic Work Programme and the co-development approach, prior to the next co-governance committee meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/09

Moved: Trustee Jackie Colliar

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

- 1. That the report *Strategic Work Programme Reset and Co-Development Approach* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.**

2. That the Strategic Work Programme for the 2022–2025 triennium be formally closed.
3. That all remaining and carried-forward actions be transferred into the Co-Governance Committee's actions register and continue to be reported and monitored through that mechanism.
4. That a facilitated session will inform development of the Strategic Work Programme for the 2025–2028 triennium.
5. That a draft Strategic Work Programme be prepared following this session and brought back to the Committee for formal consideration at the next co-governance meeting.

CARRIED

7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 37 minutes 54 seconds

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/10

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Trustee Jackie Colliar

That in accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (Act) and the interests protected by section 6 or 7 of that Act, the public is excluded from the following parts of this meeting. The general subject of the matters to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds for excluding the public are set out below:

Meeting item no. and subject	Grounds for excluding the public	Reason for excluding the public
7.1 - Te Matatini 2028 – Waikato Regional Council Support	s7(2)(h) of the Act - To enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Act - the public conduct of the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7

CARRIED

12.41pm – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

7.1 TE MATATINI 2027 – WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL SUPPORT

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at start.

Presented by the General Manager Engagement and Communication (Jason Ake) and the Team Leader, Customer Focus (Sandra Sesto-Dekic).

Action:

That the relevant Waikato Regional Council team be advised of the anticipated lodging of a Waikato-Tainui resource consent application (earthworks) for the Te Matatini 2027 site at Hopuhopu, to enable early awareness and effective process management.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/11

Moved: Trustee Donald Turner

Seconded: Cr Angela Strange

1. That the report *Te Matatini 2027 – Waikato Regional Council Support* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 8 April 2026) be received.
2. That Waikato Regional Council continue to work in partnership with Waikato-Tainui on planning for Te Matatini 2027, specifically to:
 - (a) lead and contribute to regional transport planning and coordination for the event
 - (b) identify and progress areas of Waikato Regional Council support in collaboration with Waikato-Tainui and relevant partner agencies
 - (c) provide progress updates to the Co-Governance Committee at each meeting
3. That the report and the decision be released into the open session, noting that the attachments remain public excluded due to their confidential nature.

CARRIED

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 14 minutes 51 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/12

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the meeting return to the open session.

CARRIED

12.56pm – The meeting moved back to open session.

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 3, at 48 seconds.

The Co-Chair (Jackie Colliar) closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.58pm – The meeting closed.