



MINUTES

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

Thursday, 23 July 2026

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

OPEN AND PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES

Date: Thursday 23 July 2026, 9.41am
Location: Manu Koorero Boardroom, Hopuhopu,
451 Old Taupiri Road, Ngaruawahia

Members Present: Trustee Jackie Colliar – Committee Co-Chair – Waikato Raupatu River Trust
Cr Noel Smith – Committee Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
Cr Jennifer Nickel – Committee Deputy Co-Chair – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Jeff Green – Waikato Raupatu River Trust
Cr Kataraina Hodge – Waikato Regional Council
Cr Angela Strange – Waikato Regional Council
Trustee Donald Turner – Waikato Raupatu River Trust

Staff Present: Phil King – Director, Regional Transport Connections
Tracey May – Director, Science, Policy and Information
Greg Ryan – Director, Integrated Catchment Management
Mali Ahipene – Pou Tūhono, Waikato Regional Council
Taipu Paki – General Manager, Rights and Interests, Waikato-Tainui
Marae Tukere – General Manager, Oranga, Waikato-Tainui
Jason Ake – General Manager, Communications, Waikato-Tainui
Jaedyn Falwasser – Manager, Taiao, Waikato-Tainui
Kahurimu Flavell – Taiao Advisor, Waikato-Tainui
Tuhoro Paki – Rights and Interests Team, 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	37903794	https://youtu.be/F-OLGRTav4
Public Excluded Recording	37899899	–
Open Recording 2	37902889	https://youtu.be/YHPqfkEkBEo
Note: Due to a technical issue, audio was unavailable for the first 3 minutes and 14 seconds of open recording 2.		

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 13 seconds.

Trustee Donald Turner opened the meeting with a karakia, followed by a whakawhanaungatanga. Staff provided a Health and Safety briefing, and the historical significance of the meeting location was acknowledged.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 10 minutes 40 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/13

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Trustee Donald Turner

That the apologies of Trustee Hinerangi Raumati-Tu'ua and Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith (alternate) for absence be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 11 minutes 4 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/14

Moved: Cr Angela Strange

Seconded: Trustee Jeff Green

- 1. That the agenda of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting of 23 July 2026, as circulated, be confirmed as the business of the meeting, noting;**
 - (a) That item 6.2. *Waikato-Tainui Update: Rights and Interests and Taiao Related Matters*, will be held in the public excluded part of the meeting pursuant to section 7(2)(j) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.**
- 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 11 minutes 40 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 – 8 APRIL 2026

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 12 minutes 14 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/15

Moved: Cr Kataraina Hodge

Seconded: Trustee Donald Turner

That the minutes of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Meeting held on 8 April 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 RECORD OF MEETING ACTIONS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 12 minutes 52 seconds.

Presented by the Kaiwhakarite (Ashley Eden).

Action: Waikato Regional Council to explore the establishment of a mana whenua forum, including consideration of similar forums established by other councils and options for recognising and incorporating mana whenua views into Council decision-making processes.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/16

Moved: Trustee Donald Turner

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the report *Record of Meeting Actions* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

CARRIED

- RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 35 minutes 12 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/17

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Trustee Jeff Green

That in accordance with section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and the interests protected by section 7 of that Act, the public be excluded from the following part of the meeting. The general subject of the matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution, 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
6.2 – Waikato-Tainui Update: Rights and Interests and Taiao Related Matters	Section 7(2)(j) of the Act – to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage.	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

10.17am – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

6.2 WAIKATO-TAINUI UPDATE: RIGHTS AND INTERESTS AND TAIAO RELATED MATTERS

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at start.

Presented by the General Manager, Oranga (Marae Tukere) and the General Manager, Rights and Interests (Taipu Paki).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/18

Moved: Cr Kataraina Hodge

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

1. That the report *Waikato-Tainui Update: Rights and Interests and Taiao Related Matters* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.
2. That Attachment 1, *Waikato-Tainui Report* (Doc # 37603512), be received as public excluded and released in the open session with minor redactions.

CARRIED

– RESOLUTION TO RETURN TO THE OPEN SESSION

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 50 minutes.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/19

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Cr Kataraina Hodge

That the meeting return to the open session.

CARRIED

11.07am – The meeting returned to the open session and was adjourned.

11.17am – The meeting reconvened.

Note: *Due to a technical issue, audio was unavailable for the first 3 minutes and 14 seconds of open recording 2.*

6.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM

Item commenced in open recording 2, at start.

The report was taken as read. There was no discussion related to this item.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/20

Moved: Trustee Donald Turner

Seconded: Trustee Jeff Green

That the report *Local Government Reform* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.4 UPDATE ON PROPOSED WAIKATO REGIONAL PLAN CHANGE 1: WAIKATO AND WAIPA RIVER CATCHMENTS

Item commenced in open recording 2. The audio resumed at 3 minutes 14 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Science, Policy and Information (Tracey May). Refer Document # 37878960 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/21

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Trustee Jeff Green

That the report *Update on Proposed Waikato Regional Plan Change 1: Waikato and Waipa River Catchments* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.5 UPDATE ON THE DRAFT WAIKARE-WHANGAMARINO ACTION PLAN

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 6 minutes 10 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Science, Policy and Information (Tracey May).

Members acknowledged the community engagement hui held in Te Kauwhata and recognised the contribution of the Principal Technical Lead (Mike Scarsbrook) and project staff in facilitating discussions on the Draft Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/22

Moved: Cr Jennifer Nickel

Seconded: Trustee Donald Turner

That the report *Update on the Draft Waikare-Whangamarino Action Plan* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.6 TE MATATINI 2027

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 9 minutes 50 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Regional Transport Connections (Phil King) and the General Manager, Communications and Engagement (Jason Ake).

Action: That Council staff work with Waikato-Tainui to finalise public transport arrangements for Te Matatini and provide Waikato-Tainui with an opportunity to provide input to the meeting of the WRC Transport Committee on 4 August 2026.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/23

Moved: Trustee Donald Turner

Seconded: Cr Jennifer Nickel

That the report *Te Matatini 2027* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.8 LONG-TERM PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 42 minutes.

The report was taken as read.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/24

Moved: Cr Noel Smith

Seconded: Trustee Donald Turner

That the report *Long-Term Plan Development* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.7 DRAFT STRATEGIC WORK PROGRAMME 2025-2028

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 42 minutes and 30 seconds.

The report was taken as read.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/25

Moved: Trustee Jackie Colliar

Seconded: Trustee Jeff Green

- 1. That the report *Draft Strategic Work Programme 2025-2028* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.**
- 2. That the Committee approve the *Draft Strategic Work Programme 2025-2028 (Doc # 35977885)*, as included on pages 81-94 of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee Agenda, 23 July 2026.**

CARRIED

6.9 KURA WAITĪ KI KURA WAITĀ UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 44 minutes 46 seconds.

Presented by the Kaihapi Hotaka Matauranga (Arna Soloman Banks). Refer Document # 37923357 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/26

Moved: Cr Kataraina Hodge

Seconded: Trustee Donald Turner

That the report *Kura Waitī ki Kura Waitā Update* (Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee, 23 July 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 1 hour 16 minutes and 42 seconds.

Trustee Donald Turner closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.34pm – The meeting closed.