AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

Date:	**Thursday, 24 September 2026**
Time:	**9.30am**
Location:	**Council Chambers** **Waikato Regional Council** **Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton**
Members:	Cr Warren Maher – Chair Cr Mich'eal Downard – Deputy Chair Cr Robert Cookson Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith Cr Kataraina Hodge Cr Keith Holmes Cr Chris Hughes Cr Tipa Mahuta Cr Gary McGuire Cr Jennifer Nickel Cr Garry Reymer Cr Noel Smith Cr Liz Stolwyk Cr Angela Strange

Kaunihera | Council

Ngā Tikanga Whakahaere | **Terms of Reference**

1. *Mana ā-Ture* | **Status**
Council is the governing body of Waikato Regional Council, a statutory corporation created by *section 41 of the Local Government Act 2002*.

2. *Ngā Kawenga* | **Responsibilities**
Council is responsible for meeting its legal obligations set out in statute and the common law.

3. *Ngā Apatono* | **Powers**
Council holds all powers provided by law necessary to perform its responsibilities, whether delegated or not, except for the following powers which cannot be delegated under the Local Government Act 2002:
   a. To make a rate
   b. To make a bylaw
   c. To borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the long-term plan
   d. To adopt a long-term plan, annual plan, or annual report
   e. To appoint a Chief Executive
   f. To adopt policies required to be adopted and consulted on under this Act in association with the long-term plan or developed for the purpose of the local governance statement
   g. to adopt a remuneration and employment policy

4. *Ngā Tūranga* | **Membership**
All councillors are members of Council.

5. *Tokamatua* | ***Quorum***
Half the members including vacancies (*seven*). *Refer to clause 23 of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002*.

6. *Ngā Tikanga Pōti* | **Voting**
   a. Decisions are made by majority vote of members present and voting.
   b. In the case of a tie, the Chair has a deliberative and casting vote.

   *Refer **clause 24** of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act and Standing Orders.*

7. *Hautūtanga Āhuarangi* | **Climate Leadership**
Climate leadership is a priority. All discretionary committees of Council are tasked with the following responsibilities:
   a. Set mitigation and adaptation objectives to decarbonise committee activities and ensure business resilience.
   b. Ensure climate change evidence and guidance informs committee work programmes, and that decisions include explicit consideration of climate change impacts.
   c. Use environmental, social, cultural, and economic research and capabilities to assess and mitigate climate risks, including transition risks.
   d. Monitor and report annually on progress toward emissions mitigation and climate adaptation objectives.
   e. Promote consistent and effective leadership, advocacy, communication, and engagement on climate change issues.

8. *Ngā Hui i te Tau* | **Frequency of Meetings**
Monthly or as required.

Order Of Business

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Whakataka te hau ki te uru	**Cease o winds from the west**
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga	**Cease o winds from the south**
Kia mākinakina ki uta	**Bring calm breezes over the land**
Kia mātaratara ki tai	**Bring calm breezes over the sea**
E hī ake ana te atakura	**And let the red-tipped dawn come**
He tio	**With a touch of frost**
He Huka	**A sharpened air**
He hau hū	**And promise of a glorious day**
Tīhei mauri ora!	**Behold we live**

2 PRELIMINARY ITEMS

2.1 DEPUTATION - WAIPĀ DISTRICT COUNCIL - LAKE KARĀPIRO LAKEWEED (HORNWORT)

Rā | Date:	**11 September 2026**
Kaituhi | Author:	**Dave Doggart, Team Lead, Democracy**
Kaituku | Authoriser:	**Chris McLay, Chief Executive**
Mana whakatau | Delegation Status:	**Council has delegated authority to make the recommended decision**

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. A request for a Deputation has been received from the Mayor, Waipā District Council (Mike Pettit) seeking financial assistance for the control of Lake Karāpiro lakeweed (Hornwort). For details of that deputation and the subsequent request, refer attachments one and two.
2. The deputation was received within the statutory timeframe and has been approved by the Chair of Council (Cr Warren Maher).

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the *Deputation - Waipā District Council - Lake Karāpiro lakeweed (Hornwort)* (Council, 24 September 2026) be received.
2. That Council considers the request from Waipā District Council seeking financial support for the Lake Karāpiro lakeweed hornwort spraying programme, and:
   (a) approves (or declines) the request for $85,000 funding for the Lake Karāpiro lakeweed hornwort spraying programme in the current 2025/26 financial year, to be funded from the biosecurity reserve.
   (b) requests that staff include the request for spraying in future years for Council consideration in the Long-Term Plan process.

ĒTAHI ATU TAKE | OTHER MATTERS

3. A deputation is a formal opportunity for a person, community group or organisation to speak directly to Council or a committee about a matter that falls within that meeting's responsibilities. Deputations must normally be approved by the Chair, or a person with delegated authority, at least 10 clear working days before the meeting, although the Chair may waive this requirement. Deputations can be heard either at the beginning of the meeting or when the relevant agenda item is considered.
4. Speakers are generally limited to five minutes each, unless the Chair allows additional time. Where an organisation is presenting, no more than two people may speak on its behalf.

Following the presentation, elected members may ask questions to clarify information provided by the speakers.

5. The Chair may refuse or stop a deputation if the presentation is repetitive, disrespectful or offensive, criticises elected members or staff, repeats matters already raised by another speaker, relates to ongoing legal proceedings, or concerns a matter that is subject to a hearing process.

6. Any discussion or decision on matters raised through a deputation must take place when the relevant agenda item is considered by the meeting. A deputation provides information to assist elected members but does not itself trigger debate or a decision.

NGĀ TOHUTORO | REFERENCES

7. Waikato Regional Council Standing Orders (Deputations, clauses 16.1-16.4 at page 39)

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. **Mayor Mike Pettit, Waipā District Council - Financial assistance for the control of Lake Karāpiro lakeweed (Hornwort) (Doc # 38721454)** ⇩
2. **Karapiro Rowing - Economic Impact Assessment (Doc # 38775532)** ⇩

Waipā DISTRICT COUNCIL

To:	The Chair and Councillors of Waikato Regional Council
From:	Mayor Mike Pettit, Mayor, Waipā District Council
Subject:	**Financial assistance for the control of Lake Karāpiro lakeweed (Hornwort)**
Meeting Date:	Thursday, 24 September 2026

1 PURPOSE - TAKE

The purpose of this request is for financial support from Waikato Regional Council for the Lake Karāpiro lakeweed hornwort spraying programme coordinated by Land Information New Zealand.

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

Lake Karāpiro is a nationally significant freshwater, sporting and events asset, but its value is increasingly at risk from Hornwort, one of New Zealand's most problematic submerged aquatic weeds. Hornwort has been present in Lake Karāpiro since 1972 and is designated an Unwanted Organism under the Biosecurity Act 1993. Lake Karāpiro's recreational, cultural, environmental, hydro-generation and water-take values are threatened by extensive and persistent hornwort beds, which can restrict lake access, reduce amenity, displace native aquatic vegetation and create an ongoing risk of spread to other waterbodies.
The pressure on the lake is now increasing. Recent Lake Karāpiro Hornwort Management meeting notes record that hornwort growth is accelerating, with stakeholders noting a marked increase since the arrival of freshwater gold clam. Biosecurity New Zealand confirms freshwater gold clam was first detected in the Waikato River at Bob's Landing near Lake Karāpiro in May 2023, reproduces rapidly, can reach very high densities, and is difficult to control. Scientific and biosecurity advice also identifies gold clam as a filter feeder that can alter freshwater systems; increased water clarity may allow greater light penetration and create conditions that support further submerged weed growth. This risk means the historic level of intervention is unlikely to be sufficient for future conditions.

The economic exposure is material and measurable. Karāpiro Rowing economic impact assessment material prepared by Formative Ltd reports that Karāpiro Rowing Incorporated hosts events attracting approximately 15,900 to 17,900 participants each year, with total participants and spectators generating estimated tourism spend of $18.7 million to $28.3 million per annum. The same assessment estimates KRI's activities contribute between $22.8 million and $32.6 million in GDP to the Waikato regional economy each year, including $17.3 million to $24.3 million in GDP within Waipā, and support the equivalent of 260 to 380 jobs depending on the major-event cycle, including Maadi Cup years. Lake Karāpiro also hosts major events including the National Waka Ama Sprint Championships and Maadi Cup; council event assessment material records Maadi Cup as attracting more than 2,300 competitors and around

16,000 spectators, while Sport New Zealand records National Waka Ama Sprint Championships at Lake Karāpiro attracting more than 3,500 participants and crowds of up to 10,000.

Maintaining lake usability is therefore not only an environmental or amenity issue; it is a regional economic resilience issue. Current material from LINZ-supported programme planning indicates that previous levels of control involved approximately 130 hectares of annual treatment at an indicative cost of about $150,000, normally delivered as two split applications of about 65 hectares each in November and February. Larger-scale control is estimated at approximately 350 hectares of annual treatment at about $400,000, delivered as two split applications of about 175 hectares each in November and February. Control across all zones is estimated at approximately 500 hectares of annual treatment at about $520,000, delivered as two split applications of about 250 hectares each in November and February. While $70,000 has already been secured from other sources and further funders are being sought, current confirmed funding remains below the level required for expanded coverage. A Waikato Regional Council contribution of $85,000 plus CPI per annum for three years would help underpin the broader funding package and, based on current programme estimates, would increase coverage to approximately two applications of 105–110 hectares each. This would provide a practical and proportionate contribution toward increasing spray coverage, protecting a shared regional asset, and reducing the risk that worsening hornwort growth undermines the environmental values, community use, major events and associated economic activity of Lake Karāpiro.

3 RECOMMENDATION – TŪTOHU Ā-KAIMAHI

That Waikato Regional Council:

a) *Receives the request titled Financial assistance for the control of Lake Karāpiro lakeweed (Hornwort);*

b) *Approves financial support for the Lake Karāpiro lakeweed hornwort spraying programme coordinated by Land Information New Zealand of eighty-five thousand dollars ($85,000), plus CPI, per annum for three years, being the 2026/27, 2027/28 and 2028/29 financial years.*

Memo

To: **David Boersen, Board Director, Karapiro Rowing Incorporated**

From: **Rodney Yeoman, Director**

Date: **28/08/2025**

Re: **Karapiro Rowing Economic Impact Assessment**

Purpose and Scope

Formative has been commissioned to provide an assessment of the economic activity associated with the Karapiro Rowing within the local Cambridge and Waipā district economies. Karapiro Rowing Incorporated (KRI) has commissioned this research to inform discussions with stakeholders.

The memo provides:

- Background and a brief discussion of the situation and KRI operations.
- Estimation of KRI direct activity within the local economy.
- Modelling the economic impact of KRI, which includes the wider activity that flows through the economy.
- A brief summary of the results of the research.

Background

Lake Karapiro, nestled in the heart of Waikato region near Cambridge, plays a key role in promoting excellence in rowing sports in New Zealand. Established with a vision to foster and promote rowing, KRI plays a pivotal role in both competitive and recreational rowing activities on the lake. With its base adjacent to Lake Karapiro, renowned for its calm waters which are ideal for rowing, KRI attracts athletes and enthusiasts alike from across the country and internationally to both regatta and training facilities.

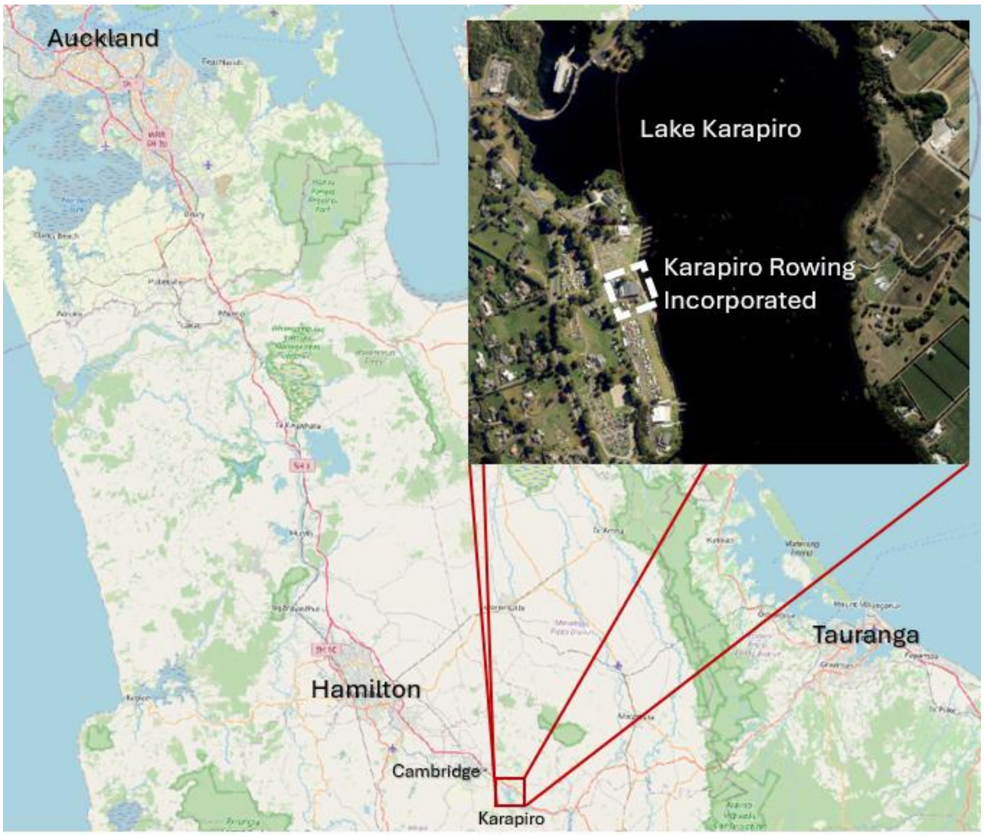
The core of KRI's mission is the development of rowing talent at all levels, from grassroots initiatives nurturing young athletes to elite training programs preparing national and international competitors.[1] The club's commitment to coaching and athlete support is reflected in its state-of-the-art facilities and

[1] Rowing New Zealand has around 50 elite athletes based at Karapiro. They also bring in around 100 pathway athletes, emerging or identified as potential future elites, who train at Karapiro for up to 12 weeks each year.

expert coaching staff[2], ensuring that members have access to the best resources to achieve their potential in the sport[3].

The club hosts a range of events and regattas, from local to national level competitions. In 2024-25 the KRI had the following event calendar - Rowing NZ Winter Series (three events through May to June), Rowing NZ under 23 Team Trials, Rowing NZ Elite rowing trials, North Island Interprovincial Rowing Regatta, KRI Memorial Rowing Regatta, KRI Club Rowing Regatta, KRI Christmas Rowing Regatta, North Island Rowing Championships, College Sport Auckland & Junior Rowing Regatta, NZ Rowing Nationals, Rowing Elite Trials, NI Secondary Schools Rowing Regatta, Rowing NZ University Championships, Rowing Under 19 trials, Rowing NZ Winter Series, Legion of Rowers Regatta and the NZ Secondary Schools Rowing Association (Maadi Cup).

Figure 1: Karapiro Rowing Incoporated and Lake Karapiro

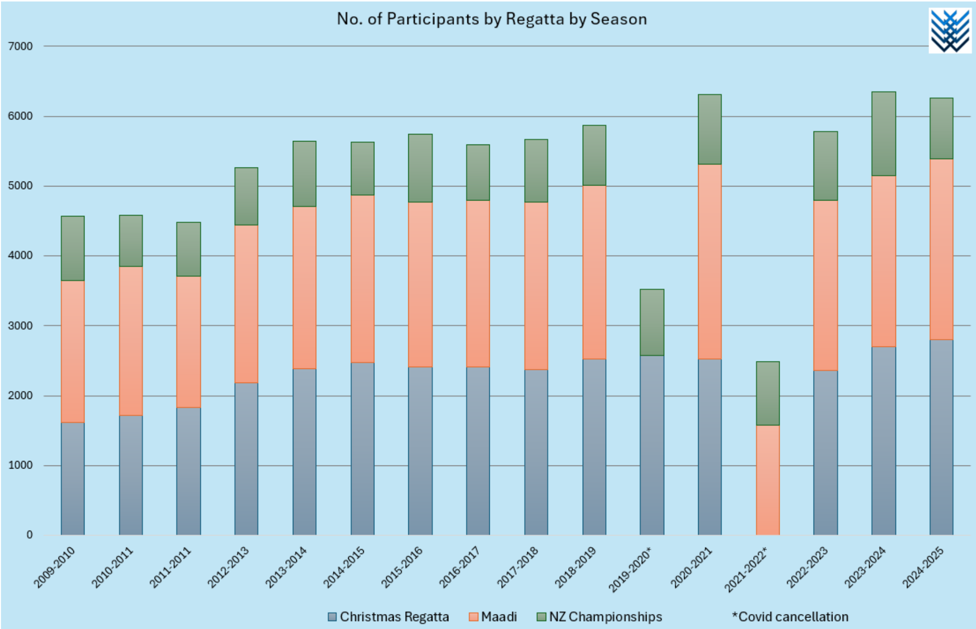


[2] Rowing New Zealand has around 35 coaches and support staff.
[3] KRI is mostly voluntary based, with around 150 event volunteers. KRI also has 2-3 administration and facilities staff.

KRI hosts two large rowing regattas, the Christmas Cup and the Maadi Cup, which have jointly have between 2,600-2,800 participants attending (athletes and coaches).[4] The NZ Championship is another major event with around 900 athletes and coaches attending. The Maadi Cup and NZ Championship are hosted by KRI on alternate years.

Figure 2 shows the growth in participation in these major New Zealand rowing events from around 4,500 in 2009/10 to over 6,000 in the last two seasons, which is an increase of 37%. A large number of spectators also visit the area to support the participants.

Figure 2: New Zealand Major Events – number of Participants.



The participants and spectators that visit the area during the regatta will spend money within the district which will benefit the local economy and community. As an example, in 2015 it was estimated that the Maadi Cup resulted in a 6.5% increase in visitor spend in Waipā district compared to a normal week[5], which $7.55 million of additional visitor spending.[6] Also, in the past there have also been major international rowing events held at Lake Karapiro, which reportedly drew tens of thousands of visitors and $105m of spend in the Waikato economy.[7]

[4] Karapiro Rowing Incorporated (2025) Major event participants – athletes and coaches.
[5] Marketview (2015) Waipā District Maddi Cup 2015.
[6] Waipā District Council (2016) Events bring big dollars: research, 12 May.
[7] New Zealand Herald (2006) Karapiro champs to bring in $105m, 8 June.

KRI's day-to-day operations and the events it hosts play a significant role in the district, both through the scale of activity generated during regattas and by providing high-quality training facilities for the community and elite athletes alike. This contributes directly to the local economy and also enhances the district's reputation through the success of athletes and coaches associated with the club. KRI also hosts other large-scale national events, which includes waka ama, dragon boating, and canoe racing.

KRI Direct Role

For this memo we have drawn on KRI financial statements, KRI regatta data, Statistics NZ Business Demography statistics (employment), and Waipā District's economic profile[8] to measure the direct economic activity associated with the operation of KRI.

First, KRI is a registered society and is required to publicly release financial accounts. The latest forecast accounts show that KRI is expected to collect $1.2 million in revenue and spend $1.1 million.[9] Most of the activity relates directly to the hosting of the events, and the biggest line item is the concession payment made to Waipā District Council for the use of the Domain. There are paid positions in KRI (2-3 permanent staff), however most of the people that work for organisation are volunteers and the direct spend shown in the accounts does not reflect the nature or scale of the activity that KRI hosts.[10]

Second, KRI has provided future event calendar for the coming 12 months, including expected participant numbers.[11] This data suggests that there may be around 15,900 participants in the coming 12 months. However, this period excludes the Maadi Cup, a major event. In years when KRI hosts the Maadi Cup, total participant numbers can exceed 17,600. We consider it reasonable to expect that KRI hosts events attracting between 15,900 and 17,900 participants each year.

We understand that there can be up to three spectators for every participant during the major events.[12] For smaller events the ratio is understood to be lower, and that the overall ratio would likely be in the range of one to two spectators per participant. This would mean around 15,000 to 35,000 spectators could be visiting the area as a result of the events hosted by KRI.

Waipā District's economic profile indicates that the average visitor spends approximately $1,190. For participants and spectators, we assume spending is around half this amount, as their focus is on the event and they typically spend less time on other tourism activities. Applying these assumptions the

[8] Waipā District Council (2025) Infometrics Economic Profile.
[9] Karapiro Rowing Incorporated (2025) Financial Forecasts.
[10] Karapiro Rowing Incorporated (2025) Voluntary Records.
[11] The following categories for events and estimated participant numbers – Very Large 2,200, Large 1,000, Medium 800, Small 500 and Very Small 200.
[12] KRI applies this ratio for carparking and crowd management purposes for the major events.

total tourism spend by participants/spectators would be in the range of $18.7 to $28.3 million per annum or 9% to 14% of total tourism spend in Waipā District.

Third, there are elite rowers and coaches that locate year-round at the facilities operated by KRI, and also pathway athletes that attend training camps. There are currently around 100 such people (elite rowers, coaches, and pathway athletes) who spend money directly in the local economy. We have estimated this spend to be in the order of $5.7 to $7.6 million per annum, which will depend on both the number of athletes and how much time they are away from Waipā for competition. For this assessment we have adopted the lower value of $5.7 million.

Figure 3 presents the estimated total direct spend for the coming 2025-26 and 2026-27 years, as well as the distribution of the spend by activity. Tourism spend associated with KRI events represents the largest component of economic activity (more than 75%), driven by the large numbers of participants and spectators attending events and spending in the wider economy. The Elite programme also contributes significantly (around 20%), reflecting the extended time athletes spend training in the area and their associated living expenses. By comparison, KRI's own operational activity is relatively small (less than 5%). This is expected, given that KRI is an incorporated society that relies heavily on volunteers, and therefore the measured economic value does not fully capture the true value of its activities.

Figure 3: KRI Direct spend effect

Direct Spend ($m)	2025-26	2026-27*
KRI Activity	$ 1.2	$ 1.3
Tourism	$ 19.9	$ 31.4
Elite Programme	$ 5.7	$ 5.7
Total	**$ 26.8**	**$ 38.4**

**Maadi Cup hosted*

Finally we note that the presence of the high-performance training facilities at Lake Karapiro generates a significant halo effect for the Waipā District and the wider Waikato region (and New Zealand). Beyond the measurable direct spending from athletes, spectators, and events, the facilities strengthen the New Zealand's reputation as a centre of sporting excellence. This reputation may attract additional visitors to New zealand, enhances the profile of local tourism offerings, and positions the nation as a natural host for future sporting and recreational events. The association with national and international elite athletes also reinforces New Zealand's brand value, creating intangible benefits that extend beyond immediate economic activity.

The halo effect also extends to wider community and social outcomes. The visibility of elite athletes training and competing at Karapiro provides inspiration and pathways for young athletes, encouraging participation in sport and healthy lifestyles. The presence of world-class infrastructure helps attract and retain talent, fosters volunteer engagement, and builds local pride. These spill-over benefits are difficult to quantify in economic terms, yet they form an important part of the value generated by Karapiro as both a high-performance facility and a community asset.

KRI Economic Impact

In this section we assess the current economic role of KRI within the Waipā and Waikato region economies, drawing on information discussed in the previous section. This role is quantified in terms of economic activity associated with KRI, business activity supported within Waipā and Waikato, and employment.

The entire economic role of KRI was estimated using our proprietary subnational economic model, the Economic Linkages Model ("ELM"). The economic role is split into three components:

- Direct effects are the initial changes in the economy due to an economic shock or activity, for example KRI purchasing goods and services, supporting other businesses. Also the spending by attendees of the events (participants and spectators) and athletes/coaches that train within the area.
- Indirect effects arise as firms change their output as a result of the direct effects, and purchase required inputs from their supply chain, for example KRI's suppliers purchase goods and services.
- Induced effects flow from the direct and indirect impacts which generate wages, salaries, and profits for households, and stimulate more spending throughout the economy on goods and services.

The combination of these effects provides a measure of the total activity by industry, and represents the entire economic role of KRI including all of the flow on effects. These effects are quantified in terms of GDP and employment.

Further detail is provided in Appendix 1, however it is important to note that the impact is calculated based on the purchasing activities and events hosted by KRI, as is standard practice in calculating the economic impact of a business and/or industry.

KRI's operations and events are expected to contribute $22.8 million in GDP to the regional economy over the next 12 months, increasing to $32.6 million in the following year when the Maadi Cup is hosted at Karapiro (Figure 4). Within this, the Waipā economy is estimated to gain $17.3 million in GDP in the coming 12 months, supporting the equivalent of 260 jobs. In the year of the Maadi Cup, the contribution rises to $24.3 million in GDP, supporting the equivalent of 380 jobs. In the context of the Waipā economy, KRI's operations and events account for between 1.0–1.4% of total district employment and contribute around 0.4–0.6% of the district's GDP, which is significant.

Figure 4: KRI Total GDP and employment effect (direct, indirect, and induced)

Total GDP ($m)	2025-26	2026-27*
Waipa District	$ 17.3	$ 24.3
Hamilton City	$ 4.3	$ 6.7
Rest of Waikato	$ 1.1	$ 1.6
Total Region	**$ 22.8**	**$ 32.6**
Total Employment	**2025-26**	**2026-27***
Waipa District	260	380
Hamilton City	60	100
Rest of Waikato	10	10
Total Region	**330**	**490**

Maadi Cup hosted

Conclusion

KRI plays a vital role in both the sporting and economic landscape of the Waipā District and wider Waikato region. Its regattas and training programmes bring thousands of athletes, coaches, and spectators to Lake Karapiro each year, generating substantial visitor spending and supporting local businesses. The combination of large-scale national events, high-performance training activity, and community-level participation makes KRI an anchor institution for rowing and a significant contributor to regional vitality.

The economic analysis shows that KRI's activities contribute between $22.8 million and $32.6 million in GDP to the regional economy each year, depending on the hosting cycle of major events such as the Maadi Cup. Within Waipā alone, this equates to between $17.3 million and $24.3 million in GDP and supports the equivalent of 260 to 380 jobs in a range of industries throughout the economy. These impacts are driven largely by tourism spend linked to events, but are reinforced by the presence of elite athletes and coaches who base themselves in the area and spend year-round in the community.

Beyond measurable impacts, KRI generates a substantial halo effect. Its world-class facilities and association with elite performance enhance New Zealand's reputation as a destination for sport and tourism, attract future events, and inspire community pride and participation. These broader benefits, while harder to quantify, underline KRI's importance as both an economic driver and a community asset, ensuring that Lake Karapiro remains synonymous with rowing excellence well into the future.

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Appendix 1 Economic-Linkages-Model

The Economic Linkages Model (ELM) is a proprietary model that has been developed to quantify and measure the economic activity and relationships within the New Zealand economy. In summary, the ELM measures the flows of money and goods through the economy, at a sector and subnational level.

The model records the interactions and relationships between actors in the economy, including businesses, households, government, exporters, and importers. At its essence, the interactions in the model describe how each industry responds to changes in the economy, which ripples out to influence a range of other outcomes (e.g. household decisions).

The ELM measures the economy using a range of standard economic metrics, which includes gross output[13], GDP[14], value added, employment[15], incomes[16], consumption[17], tax[18], and trade. The model uses a subnational Input-Output Table that has been regionalised by Formative. This appendix outlines the nature of the Input-Output table, the underlying assumptions within the ELM and the key modelling steps.

A1.1 Input-Output Table

The Subnational Input-Output Table (SIOT) has been developed by Formative to provide detail on the economic linkages between sectors and geographies within New Zealand. The table has been defined to include 65 economic sectors and 39 geographies.

The 65 'sectors' have been defined using standard industry classification (ANZSIC06), with each sector being defined by a grouping of industries based on cluster analysis of their supply chains and economic rationale. The 39 'geographies' have been defined according to either territorial or regional authority boundaries, with more disaggregation provided where there is more economic activity (e.g. upper North Island) and aggregation where there is less economic activity (e.g. West Coast of the South Island).

The SIOT has a base year of 2019. All transactions in the table are in 2019 dollars, and all economic impacts (for instance GDP, gross output, consumption, taxes) are also in 2019 dollars. The SIOT is

[13] Similar to company revenue.
[14] There is a key difference between GDP and value added. The value added of a sector is measured net of taxes (for instance GST) and subsidies on products. In the GDP in the national accounts for New Zealand product taxes (minus subsidies) are recorded for the economy as a whole and includes as part of the value added.
[15] Formative uses BED measure of Total Employment Count (TEC) which includes both employment count and working proprietors.
[16] Includes salaries, wages and profits.
[17] Including household and government.
[18] Including income taxes, GST, government transfers and subsidies.

based on a national level 2013 Input-Output table released by Statistics New Zealand which has been converted to 2019 based on Statistics New Zealand national account data for 2019[19]

The national level table has been regionalised using a hybrid approach. The hybrid approach of combining survey and non-survey (i.e. modelled) methods to regionalise an IO table which is considered the gold standard when an official SIOT is not available. The survey data sources used in generation of the SIOT include a range of customised datasets that Formative have purchased and developed:

- **Total Employment**: Formative maintains a detailed database of employment, by geographies and industry (Business Employment Database - BED), which records the total employment in each of 506 ANZISC06 industry classes and for Statistics New Zealand's Statistical Areas, including both employees and working proprietors.[20]
- **Electronic Card Transactions**: Formative has purchased detailed electronic card transaction data from Marketview, which records the origin and destination of four retail and services spend types by the 39 geographies. [21]
- **Subnational Economic Data**: a range of information that provides valuable insight into the scale of economic activity that is located within each geography. This includes regional GDP, Gross Output and household income.

The above datasets have been combined along with non-survey regionalisation techniques to allocate the national economic activity into each of the geographies. The key method used to accomplish this is the Industry-Specific Flegg's Location Quotient (SFLQ)[22]. This method employs location quotients (LQ) to understand the specialisations and structure of regional economies compared to the national economy. The use of LQ's has been known to understate the amount of regional trade, however the SFLQ approach combats this by allowing for industry specific rates of cross hauling (where regions both import and export a product or service).

This approach has been shown to create accurate estimations of regional multipliers and outperform other non-survey approaches[23]. The SFLQ method was supplemented by a gravity model to help inform regional flows. The SIOT has been calibrated to better match the relationships in the national Input-Output table and has been balanced using an iterative proportional fitting procedure to ensure

[19] This includes gross output by sector, and national subsidies, exports, imports, change in inventories, gross fixed capital formation, consumption spending (includes households, local and central government and non-profit expenditure), compensation of employees, taxes, consumption of fixed capital and operating surplus.
[20] Formative (2021) Business and Employment Database – Employment Count, Working Proprietors, Total Employment.
[21] Marketview (2021) Card transaction data – four spend types and 39 geographies for the 2019 calendar year.
[22] Julia Kowalewksi (2015) Regionalization of National Input–Output Tables: Empirical Evidence on the Use of the FLQ Formula, Regional Studies, 49:2, 240-250.
[23] Anthony T. Flegg, Leonardo J. Mastronardi & Carlos A. Romero (2016) Evaluating the FLQ and AFLQ formulae for estimating regional input coefficients: empirical evidence for the province of Córdoba, Argentina, Economic Systems Research, 28:1, 21-37.; Zhao, X., Choi, SG. On the regionalization of input–output tables with an industry-specific location quotient. Ann Reg Sci 54, 901–926 (2015).

that the table reflects regional gross out and input. The resulting SIOT table provides a modelled estimate of the relationships within the economy. This means that the economic linkages between sector-geography combinations as of 2019 are captured in the SIOT.

The ELM uses the SIOT to estimate the potential economic activity that can be expected from changes in the economy. All economic models apply assumptions because an economy and community is too complex to replicate exactly in a mathematical system. The structure of the ELM utilises the following assumptions:

- Leontief production function, which assume linear relationships between the production and inputs. This means change in the output for an industry will translate into a proportional change in demands for inputs.
- No supply constraints, which assumes that businesses can source sufficient resources (labour, capital, land, etc) to meet new demands.
- Constant returns to scale, which means that there are no economics of scale or diminishing returns in the model.
- Static prices, which assumes that prices remain at 2019 values. The model does not account for substitution effect or dynamic feedback from changes in demand and prices.

A1.2 Key Modelling Steps

The first step in the ELM is to establish the direct economic activity that will be generated or influenced by the proposed policy, investment, or activity. This estimation of the direct economic activity is generally conducted using financial information or developed via a first principles understanding of how businesses or households may change their behaviour or be impacted as a result of the proposed policy, investment or activity.

The next step is to map this activity into the 65 economic sectors and 39 geographies. In most cases the direct economic activity will occur across a range of economic sectors, commonly this can be drawn from either operational or capital budgets. Similarly, in most cases the direct economic activity will accrue across multiple geographies. Therefore, the activity must be mapped into to each geography to ensure that the modelling reflects likely pattern of activity.

Finally, the mapped activity is then fed into the ELM which measures the additional economic activity that can be expected to occur within the economy as a result of the new activity. In summary, other businesses and households in the community will respond to the changes in the economy.

There are three types of economic impact the ELM calculates, direct, indirect, and induced:

- Direct impacts are the initial changes in the economy due to an economic shock (often new expenditure). The direct GDP effect is calculated based on the value of the shock and the direct employment effect is the number of jobs created by the shock itself.
- Indirect impacts arise as the firms that initially change their output as a result of an economic shock (i.e. the direct effects), purchase required inputs from their supply chain. These business-to-business transaction changes are known as the indirect impacts.
- Induced impacts flow from the direct and indirect impacts which generate wages, salaries, and profits for the households. The changed household incomes will generate more spending on goods and services. This household-to-business interaction is called induced activity.

The ELM quantifies the economic activity in each geography and sector, which includes the direct, indirect, and induced activity. The associated employment impacts are calculated assuming constant productivity – that is, each sector-geography combination produces the same amount of output per employee.

3 APOLOGIES

4 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Members are reminded of the need to be aware of maintaining a clear separation between personal interests and duties and their role as an elected member.

If any member has an interest that creates an actual, or could be perceived to create, a conflict in relation to any item on the agenda, it is recommended that this be disclosed.

6 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

Ordinary Council Meeting – 27 August 2026

MINUTES

Ordinary Council Meeting

Thursday, 27 August 2026

Order Of Business

Waikato Regional Council

Ordinary Council Meeting

OPEN MINUTES

Date:	**Thursday 27 August 2026, 9.31am**
Location:	**Council Chambers** **Waikato Regional Council** **Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton**

Members Present:
Cr Warren Maher – Chair
Cr Robert Cookson (until 10.27am. Back at 10.37am)
Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith
Cr Kataraina Hodge (virtually via Teams until 10.30am)
Cr Keith Holmes
Cr Chris Hughes (virtually via Teams)
Cr Tipa Mahuta (virtually via Teams from 9.50am)
Cr Gary McGuire
Cr Jennifer Nickel
Cr Garry Reymer
Cr Noel Smith (until 10.28am. Back at 10.33am)
Cr Liz Stolwyk
Cr Angela Strange (from 10.16am)

Staff Present:
Chris McLay – Chief Executive
Phil King – Director, Regional Transport Connections (virtually via Teams)
Tracey May – Director, Science, Policy and Information
Greg Ryan – Director, Integrated Catchment Management
Brent Sinclair – Director, Resource Use
Karen Bennett – Executive Manager, Chief Executives Office
Stuart Brown – Executive Manager, People and Capability
Jordan Metz – Democracy Advisor
Dave Doggart – Team Lead, Democracy

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	38568352	https://youtu.be/ufoYbehO1qo
Open Recording #2	38570077	https://youtu.be/CafBmzLNzoQ
Public Excluded Recording	38572459	–
Open Recording #3	38572576	https://youtu.be/lqnLM7s79SY

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at start.

The Chief Executive (Chris McLay) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 PRELIMINARY ITEMS

Nil

3 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 28 seconds.

APOLOGY

RESOLUTION WRC26/108

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the apologies received from Cr Angela Strange for lateness; Cr Jennifer Nickel and Cr Mich'eal Downard for absence; and Cr Kataraina Hodge and Cr Noel Smith for early departure be accepted.

CARRIED

4 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 10 seconds.

RESOLUTION WRC26/109

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

1. **That the agenda of the Ordinary Council Meeting of 27 August 2026, as circulated, be confirmed as the business of the meeting, subject, noting the inclusion of an open addendum.**
2. **That the order of items follows the order set out in the minutes.**
3. **That the meeting may sit longer than two hours continuously and continue longer than six hours including adjournments.**

CARRIED

5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 24 seconds.

During item 7.6. (*Te Matatini Event*), Cr Tipa Mahuta indicated that she was the chair of the Waikato-Tainui group and the Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) for the event.

6 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 41 seconds.

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING – 30 JULY 2026

RESOLUTION WRC26/110

Moved: Cr Warren Maher
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the open minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 30 July 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

6.1 MINUTES OF THE WAIKATO RAUPATU RIVER TRUST AND WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL CO-GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 30 JULY 2026

During the meeting it was noted that the minutes had been omitted from the agenda. These will be tabled at the next meeting of Council for receipt.

6.2 MINUTES OF THE WRC TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION WRC26/111

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

That the open minutes of the WRC Transport Committee meeting held on 4 August 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

6.3 MINUTES OF THE STRATEGY AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 5 AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION WRC26/112

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

That the minutes of the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting held on 5 August 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

6.4 MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY RTC PUBLIC TRANSPORT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 11 AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION WRC26/113

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

1. **That the minutes of the Extraordinary RTC Public Transport Subcommittee meeting held on 11 August 2026 be received.**
2. **That the recommendations from the RTC Public Transport Subcommittee be noted, as they have been tabled as a standalone item (*7.5. Public Consultation on Regional Public Transport Plan Fare Policy Variation*) later in the meeting.**

CARRIED

7 GENERAL ITEMS

7.1 HAURAKI GULF FORUM - MINUTES FOR RECEIPT

RESOLUTION WRC26/114

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

That the minutes of the Hauraki Gulf Forum meeting held on 23 March 2026 be received.

CARRIED

7.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND (LGNZ) ACTIVITY UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 3 minutes 24 seconds.

Presented by the Policy Director, Local Government New Zealand (Simon Randall) and Regional Sector Representative, Local Government New Zealand (Chair Deon Swiggs).

9.50am – Cr Tipa Mahuta entered the meeting.

10.16am – Cr Angela Strange entered the meeting.

RESOLUTION WRC26/115

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Cr Gary McGuire

That the report *Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Activity Update* (Council, 27 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.7 NOTICE OF MOTION - PLAN CHANGE ONE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 49 minutes 5 seconds.

Presented by Cr Noel Smith.

During discussion, it was noted – and subsequently clarified that the intention of the motion was specifically related to council as the owner and custodian of the Regional Plan, enabling the elected members to take control of and give direction on policy development only. The motion did not include or overshadow the any part of the Environment Court proceedings or directions. It was further clarified, that once direction was received from the court, that council would adopt Plan Change 1.

RESOLUTION WRC26/116

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Robert Cookson

That all matters pertaining to Plan Change 1 must be approved by Council, or a delegated subcommittee of Council.

CARRIED

10.27am -Cr Robert Cookson left the meeting.

10.28am - Cr Noel Smith left the meeting.

7.3 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT - JULY 2026

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 56 minutes 5 seconds.

Presented by the Executive Manager, People and Capability (Stuart Brown).

10.30am – Cr Kataraina Hodge left the meeting.

10.33am – Cr Noel Smith entered the meeting.

Action: That details pertaining to the Mauao slip be included in the next Health and Safety Report.

RESOLUTION WRC26/117

Moved: Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith
Seconded: Cr Tipa Mahuta

That the report *Health and Safety Report - July 2026* (Council, 27 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.4 WAIKATO RESILIENCE FRAMEWORK

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour 4 minutes 48 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Planning and Support (Dave Wade) and Project Manager (Lisa Armstrong) who requested the report be taken as read. Refer Document # 38576887 for the draft framework, and Document # 38576999 for the PowerPoint presentation (slide 6).

10.37am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

RESOLUTION WRC26/118

Moved: Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith
Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

1. **That the report *Waikato Resilience Framework* (Council, 27 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the Waikato Resilience Framework, Waikato Regional Council's approach to natural hazard risk reduction and adaptation (Council Agenda, 27 August 2026 at page 95) be adopted.**

CARRIED

10.54am – The meeting adjourned.

11.04am – The meeting reconvened.

7.5 PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON REGIONAL PUBLIC TRANSPORT PLAN FARE POLICY VARIATION

Item commenced in open recording 2, at start.

Presented by the Team Leader, Transport Planning (Katherine Simpson) and the Manager, Transport Strategy and Delivery (Lorraine Cheyne) who requested the report be taken as read.

Action: That supporting documentation and data be available and referenced within the consultation materials.

RESOLUTION WRC26/119

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk
Seconded: Cr Tipa Mahuta

1. **That the report *Public Consultation on Regional Public Transport Plan Fare Policy Variation* (Council, 27 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That Council endorses the proposed preferred package and consultation approach for the Regional Public Transport Plan Fares Policy Review, noting that an additional survey question to test public feedback on changes to the Hamilton central city zone and/or a new inner/outer Hamiton zone is still in development, and approves staff to proceed with public consultation.**

CARRIED

7.6 TE MATATINI EVENT

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 10 minutes 41 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Regional Transport Connections (Phil King) who requested the report be taken as read.

RESOLUTION WRC26/120

Moved: Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith
Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

1. That the report *Te Matatini Event* (Council, 27 August 2026) be received.

2. That Council approves the enhanced bus package option outlined in this report at total cost of $4,660.89.

3. That Council confirms that 100% of the costs of the enhanced bus package option should be funded by Council, with the balance to be funded by the event organiser.

4. That Council approves the release of Te Huia carriages (subject to operational requirements) for use by the event organiser at their cost as a shuttle service between Rotokauri and Hopuhopu on event days, subject to approval by the National Timetable Committee. Council notes the slight increased risk to timetabled Te Huia services if all carriages are in use at the same time resulting in no spare.

CARRIED

Cr Tipa Mahuta abstained from voting

8 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 18 minutes 40 seconds.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

RESOLUTION WRC26/121

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Robert Cookson

1. 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
8.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 30 July 2026	s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons 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

8.2 - Public Excluded Minutes of the WRC Transport Committee meeting held on 4 August 2026	**s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information** **s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)** **s7(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**
6.1 – Public Excluded Minutes of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee meeting held on 30 July 2026	**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**
8.3 - Proposed increase to vessel build project budget to accommodate additional project management	**s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information** **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**
8.4 - Chief Executive's End of Year Performance and Remuneration Review FY26	**s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons** **s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)**	**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**

2. That the Independent Consultant to the CE Employment and Remuneration Committee (Paul Loof) remains in this meeting after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of the items to be discussed (item 8.4 - Chief Executive's End of Year Performance and Remuneration Review FY26). This knowledge, which will be of

assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because of its specialised nature and the benefit to be gained from expert advice.

CARRIED

11.23am – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

12.04pm – The meeting moved back to open session.

9 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 3, at start.

Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.05pm – The meeting closed.

APPENDIX ONE: DECISIONS MADE IN PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION REPORTED INTO OPEN

8.1 PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 30 JULY 2026

RESOLUTION WRC26/122

Moved: Cr Warren Maher
Seconded: Cr Robert Cookson

1. That the public excluded minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 30 July 2026 be confirmed as a correct record, noting the amendment as identified in discussion during the meeting (as follows).

   RESOLUTION WRC26/105

   In Favour: Crs Warren Maher, Mich'eal Downard, Robert Cookson, Ben Dunbar-Smith, Keith Holmes, Chris Hughes, Gary McGuire and Garry Reymer

   Against: Crs Tipa Mahuta, Jennifer Nickel, Noel Smith and Angela Strange

   Abstained: Cr Liz Stolwyk

2. That the decision be reported into the open session of this meeting.

CARRIED

8.2 PUBLIC EXCLUDED MINUTES OF THE WRC TRANSPORT COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 4 AUGUST 2026

RESOLUTION WRC26/123

Moved: Cr Angela Strange
Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

1. That the public excluded minutes of the WRC Transport Committee meeting held on 4 August 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.
2. That as recommended by the WRC Transport Committee, Council adopts the Waikato Transport brand (as set out in the WRC Transport Committee, Public Excluded Agenda, 4 August 2026 at page 12).
3. That the decision be reported into the open session of this meeting (the report and attachments remain publicly excluded).

CARRIED

8.3 PROPOSED INCREASE TO VESSEL BUILD PROJECT BUDGET TO ACCOMMODATE ADDITIONAL PROJECT MANAGEMENT

RESOLUTION WRC26/124

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

1. That the report Proposed increase to vessel build project budget to accommodate additional project management (Council, 27 August 2026) be received.
2. That Council approve the recommendation to increase the council approved budget for the Vessel project, from $7.045M to $7.216M to accommodate additional project management costs due to project delays, and that the additional budget is funded be the Lower Waikato Zone Reserve.

3. That only the decision be reported into the open session of this meeting: (the report and attachments remain publicly excluded).

CARRIED

Cr Noel Smith abstained from voting

8.4 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE AND REMUNERATION REVIEW FY26

RESOLUTION WRC26/125

Moved: Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

1. That the report Chief Executive's End of Year Performance and Remuneration Review FY26 (Council, 27 August 2026) be received.
2. [Redacted s7(2)(a), s7(2)(i)]
3. That only the receipt of the report is reported into open session (the decision, report and attachments remain publicly excluded).

CARRIED

6.1 MINUTES OF THE WAIKATO RAUPATU RIVER TRUST AND WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL CO-GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2026

Rā | Date: **27 August 2026**

Kaituhi | Author: **Dave Doggart, Team Lead, Democracy**

Kaituku | Authoriser: **Mali Ahipene, Pou Tuhono**

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the minutes of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee meeting held on 23 July 2026 be received.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report was presented to the August 2026 Council meeting and was considered by Council at that time. While the meeting minutes were inadvertently omitted from the agenda, all resolutions from the meeting were included in the report and are reproduced below for completeness.
2. The minutes of the August 2026 meeting are now attached for Council's receipt and inclusion in the formal record.
3. This summary sets out decisions made at the meeting in table format, except for the following procedural items:
   (a) Apologies
   (b) Confirmation of agenda
   (c) Confirmation (or receipt of) minutes
   (d) Receipt of reports
   (e) Resolutions to enter and/or leave public excluded sessions
   (f) Procedural motions pertaining to meeting process.
4. This extract is a solely a reference tool for those readers who find it helpful. It does not replace the minutes which are the official record of the meeting.
5. Key:
   (a) **Delegated Authority:** The decision made falls within the delegated authority of the committee.
   (b) **Recommendation:** The decision is a recommendation for council (or other body) to consider. These recommendations may be included with the minutes for consideration, or by a separate report.

(c) **Recorded Action:** These are not resolved decisions, but rather administrative requests made informally during the meeting.

Title / Description	Delegated Authority	Recommendation	Recorded Action
6.1. RECORD OF MEETING ACTIONS			
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			✓
6.2 WAIKATO-TAINUI UPDATE: RIGHTS AND INTERESTS AND TAIAO RELATED MATTERS (PUBLIC EXCLUDED)			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/18 2. That Attachment 1, Waikato-Tainui Report (Doc # 37603512), be received as public excluded and released in the open session with minor redactions.	✓		
6.6. TE MATATINI 2027			
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.			✓
6.7. DRAFT STRATEGIC WORK PROGRAMME 2025-2028			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WTCG26/25 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.	✓		

Additional Context

6. Item 6.7 records the Co-Governance Committee's approval of the Draft Strategic Work Programme 2025-2028. The programme provides a framework for partnership priorities and coordination and does not require a Council decision, create binding obligations, or commit Council to additional funding or policy changes. Any future matters requiring Council consideration would be brought through the appropriate decision-making process.

7. The activities identified within the programme are either existing work programme activities or matters able to be progressed under existing delegations. Any future proposals requiring Council decisions, additional resourcing, or amendments to agreements would be considered through the appropriate Council decision-making process.

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Waikato Raupatu River Trust and Waikato Regional Council Co-Governance Committee meeting held on 23 July 2026

MINUTES

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

Thursday, 23 July 2026

Order Of Business

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-0LGRTav4
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.

6.2 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 AUGUST 2026

Rā | Date: **18 September 2026**

Kaituhi | Author: **Dave Doggart, Team Lead, Democracy**

Kaituku | Authoriser: **Mali Ahipene, Pou Tuhono**

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the minutes of the Finance and Performance Committee meeting held on 19 August 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.
2. That as recommended by the Finance and Performance Committee, Council approves the budget carry over and adjustment requests of:
   (a) $6.148 million carry over of operating expenditure
   (b) $5.288 million of budget adjustments for reserve-funded activities
   (c) $4.500 million of operating capital expenditure carry overs
   (d) $1.406 million of infrastructure capital expenditure carry overs
3. That, as recommended by the Finance and Performance Committee:
   (a) Council approves the allocation of $50,000 from the 2025/26 operating surplus to undertake a review of emergency management responsibilities and resourcing requirements to inform consideration of the 2027-2037 Long Term Plan.
   (b) Council requests that staff commence procurement of a credit rating agency to undertake a formal credit rating assessment for Waikato Regional Council.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This summary sets out decisions made at the meeting in table format, except for the following procedural items:
   (a) Apologies
   (b) Confirmation of agenda
   (c) Confirmation (or receipt of) minutes
   (d) Receipt of reports
   (e) Resolutions to enter and/or leave public excluded sessions
   (f) Procedural motions pertaining to meeting process.
2. This extract is a solely a reference tool for those readers who find it helpful. It does not replace the minutes which are the official record of the meeting.
3. Key:
   (a) **Delegated Authority:** The decision made falls within the delegated authority of the committee.

(b) **Recommendation:** The decision is a recommendation for council (or other body) to consider. These recommendations may be included with the minutes for consideration, or by a separate report.

(c) **Recorded Action:** These are not resolved decisions, but rather administrative requests made informally during the meeting.

Title / Description	Delegated Authority	Recommendation	Recorded Action
6.2 SIDF TRIAL COSTS			
Action: Members requested staff provide a legal opinion on the redaction of names (Finance and Performance Committee Agenda, 19 August 2026 at page 11), pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.			✓
6.4 DRAFT FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TO 30 JUNE 2026 AND REQUESTS FOR BUDGET CARRY OVER			
Action: That staff table a list of Capital Expenditure Contractors (over the value of $50,000) in the next ordinary Finance and Performance Committee agenda.			✓
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/31 2. That the Committee recommends to Council the approval of budget carry over and adjustment requests of: (i) $6.148 million carry over of operating expenditure (ii) $5.288 million of budget adjustments for reserve-funded activities (iii) $4.500 million of operating capital expenditure carry overs (iv) $1.406 million of infrastructure capital expenditure carry overs 3. That the Committee recommends to Council the approval of $50,000 from the 2025/26 operating surplus to undertake a review of emergency management responsibilities and resourcing requirements as an input into the 2027 – 2037 Long Term Plan considerations.		✓	
7.2 FORMAL CREDIT RATING ASSESSMENT			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/39 2. That the Committee recommends to Council that staff commence the procurement of a credit rating agency to undertake a formal credit rating assessment for Waikato Regional Council.		✓	
7.4 NON-RATES DEBTORS - WRITE OFFS AS AT 30.06.2026			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/41 2. That the bad debts detailed in the report, totalling $4,745.94 are written off	✓		

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Finance and Performance Committee meeting held on 19 August 2026

MINUTES

Finance and Performance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 19 August 2026

Order Of Business

Waikato Regional Council

Finance and Performance Committee Meeting

OPEN MINUTES

Date:	**Wednesday 19 August 2026, 9.30am**
Location:	**Council Chambers Waikato Regional Council Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton**
Members Present:	Cr Chris Hughes – Chair Cr Garry Reymer – Deputy Chair Cr Robert Cookson (until 10.30am. Back at 10.34am until 10.42am. Back from 11.01am) Cr Keith Holmes Cr Warren Maher (until 10.24am. Back at 10.36am) Cr Noel Smith Cr Liz Stolwyk Cr Angela Strange (virtually via Teams)
Staff Present:	Janine Becker – Director, Customer and Corporate Services Jess Hood – 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	38442303	https://youtu.be/cnD0BN63GNs
Open Recording #2	38433561	https://youtu.be/N4-sA5-VTjw
Public Excluded	38433988	–
Open Recording #3	38432890	https://youtu.be/Lu2-3uilMLs

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 35 seconds.

The Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 57 seconds.

No apologies were received.

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 6 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/27

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **That the agenda of the Finance and Performance Committee Meeting of 19 August 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.**
3. **That the meeting may sit longer than two hours continuously and continue longer than six hours including adjournments.**

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 19 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

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 27 seconds.

There were no minutes to be confirmed or receipted.

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 38 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/28

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

That the report *Matters arising from previous meetings* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.2 SIDF TRIAL COSTS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 2 minutes 47 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Integrated Catchment Management (Greg Ryan).

Action: Members requested staff provide a legal opinion on the redaction of names (Finance and Performance Committee Agenda, 19 August 2026 at page 11), pursuant to section 7(2)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/29

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Robert Cookson

That the report *SIDF Trial Costs* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.3 2025/26 NON-FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE RESULTS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 20 minutes 53 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Corporate Planning (Jane Apperley).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/30

Moved: Cr Warren Maher
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the report *2025/26 Non-Financial Performance Results* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.4 DRAFT FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE TO 30 JUNE 2026 AND REQUESTS FOR BUDGET CARRY OVER

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 24 minutes 44 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Financial Planning and Reporting (David Green) and Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker).

Action: That staff table a list of Capital Expenditure Contractors (over the value of $50,000) in the next ordinary Finance and Performance Committee agenda.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/31

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Garry Reymer

1. That the report *Draft Financial Performance To 30 June 2026 and Requests for Budget Carry Over* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

2. That the Committee recommends to Council the approval of budget carry over and adjustment requests of:

(i) $6.148 million carry over of operating expenditure

(ii) $5.288 million of budget adjustments for reserve-funded activities

(iii) $4.500 million of operating capital expenditure carry overs

(iv) $1.406 million of infrastructure capital expenditure carry overs

3. That the Committee recommends to Council the approval of $50,000 from the 2025/26 operating surplus to undertake a review of emergency management responsibilities and resourcing requirements as an input into the 2027 – 2037 Long Term Plan considerations.

CARRIED

6.5 RATES INFORMATION AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 48 minutes 33 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

10.24am – Cr Warren Maher left the meeting.

10.30am – Cr Robert Cookson left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/32

Moved: Cr Garry Reymer
Seconded: Cr Noel Smith

That the report *Rates Information as at 30 June 2026* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.6 TENDERS BOARD CONTRACTS AWARDED FROM 1 APRIL TO 30 JUNE 2026

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour 43 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/33

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the *Tenders Board contracts awarded from 1 April to 30 June 2026* be received.

CARRIED

6.7 COUNCILLOR, CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND DIRECTOR EXPENSES FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30 JUNE 2026

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour, 4 minutes 37 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

10.34am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/34

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Liz Stolwyk

That the report *Councillor, Chief Executive and Director Expenses for the Quarter Ending 30 June 2026* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.8 TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING TO 30 JUNE 2026

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour, 5 minutes 17 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah) and Financial Controller (Tamsin Germishuys).

10.36am – Cr Warren Maher entered the meeting.

10.42am – Cr Robert Cookson left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/35

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Garry Reymer

That the report *Treasury Management and Monitoring to 30 June 2026* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

10.44am – The meeting adjourned.

10.56am - The meeting reconvened.

6.9 MAKAO INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2026

Item commenced in open recording 2, at start.

Presented by the Investment Consultant, Makao Investments (Luke Longdill).

11.01am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/36

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Robert Cookson

That the report *Makao investment performance report to 30 June 2026* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 17 minutes 30 seconds.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/37

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **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 - Investment fund strategy	**s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information**	**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**
7.2 - Formal Credit Rating Assessment	**s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information**	**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**

	s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	**which good reason for withholding would exist under section 6 or section 7**
7.3 - Non Rates Debtors as at 30 June 2026	**s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons**	**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**
7.4 - Non-rates Debtors - Write Offs as at 30.06.2026	**s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons** **s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information**	**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**

2. That Luke Longdill (Makao Investments) remains in this meeting for Item 7.1 after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of the items to be discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because of its specialised nature and the benefit to be gained from expert advice.

CARRIED

11.13am – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

7.1 INVESTMENT FUND STRATEGY

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at start.

Presented by the Investment Consultant, Makao Investments (Luke Longdill).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/38

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

1. That the report *Investment fund strategy* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

2. That the decision is reported into open session (the report and attachments remain publicly excluded.

CARRIED

7.2 FORMAL CREDIT RATING ASSESSMENT

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 25 minutes 50 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/39

Moved: Cr Noel Smith
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **That the report *Formal Credit Rating Assessment* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the Committee recommends to Council that staff commence the procurement of a credit rating agency to undertake a formal credit rating assessment for Waikato Regional Council.**
3. **That the decision be reported into the open session of this meeting.**

CARRIED

Cr Garry Reymer voted against the motion

7.3 NON RATES DEBTORS AS AT 30 JUNE 2026

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 49 minutes 58 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/40

Moved: Cr Warren Maher
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

1. **That the report *Non Rates Debtors as at 30 June 2026* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.**

CARRIED

7.4 NON-RATES DEBTORS - WRITE OFFS AS AT 30.06.2026

Item commenced in public excluded recording at 50 minutes 51 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/41

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Garry Reymer

1. **That the report *Non-rates Debtors - Write Offs as at 30.06.2026* (Finance and Performance Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the bad debts detailed in the report, totalling $4,745.94 are written off**
3. **That only the decision is reported into open session (the report and attachments remain publicly excluded).**

CARRIED

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 51 minutes 42 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FPC26/42

Moved: Cr Warren Maher
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

That the meeting return to the open session.

CARRIED

12.06pm – The meeting moved back to open session.

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 3, at 8 seconds.

The Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker) closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.06pm – The meeting closed.

6.3 MINUTES OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 19 AUGUST 2026

Rā | Date: **14 September 2026**

Kaituhi | Author: **Dave Doggart, Team Lead, Democracy**

Kaituku | Authoriser: **Mali Ahipene, Pou Tuhono**

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the open minutes of the Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee meeting held on 19 August 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Aside from procedural items, there were no recommendations or decisions made under delegated authority.

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. **Minutes of the Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee meeting held on 19 August 2026**

Waikato
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Waikato

MINUTES

Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 19 August 2026

Order Of Business

Waikato Regional Council

Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee Meeting

OPEN MINUTES

Date:	**Wednesday 19 August 2026, 1.30pm**
Location:	**Tūī/Kōwhai Room** **Waikato Regional Council** **Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton**
Members Present:	Cr Warren Maher – Chair Cr Mich'eal Downard – Deputy Chair (virtually via Teams until 2.47pm) Cr Robert Cookson Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith (virtually via Teams from 1.35pm until 3.03pm) Cr Chris Hughes Cr Liz Stolwyk (until 3.04pm)
In Attendance:	Cr Keith Holmes
Staff Present:	Chris McLay – Chief Executive Stuart Brown – Executive Manager, People and Capability Jane Apperley – Manager, Corporate Planning Paul Loof – Independent Consultant, QLG Advisory Dave Doggart – Team Lead, Democracy Services

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	38359718	https://youtu.be/1fdK9QHtrBM
Public Excluded Recording	38360789	–
Open Recording #2	38360719	–

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Opening karakia was not given at this meeting.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at start.

APOLOGY

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CEERC26/25

Moved: Cr Warren Maher
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

That the apology received from Cr Liz Stolwyk for early departure be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 44 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CEERC26/26

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **That the agenda of the Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee Meeting of 19 August 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.**
3. **That the meeting may sit longer than two hours continuously and continue longer than six hours including adjournments.**

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 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

Nil.

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 QUESTIONS RAISED AT CEERC PEOPLE STRATEGY AND RECRUITMENT PAPERS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 40 seconds.

Presented by the Executive Manager, People and Capability (Stuart Brown).

1.35pm - Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CEERC26/27

Moved: Cr Liz Stolwyk
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

That the report *Questions Raised at CEERC People Strategy and Recruitment Papers* (Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 19 minutes 30 seconds.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CEERC26/28

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **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 - Chief Executive KPIs 2025/26 Year End Results	**s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons**	**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**
7.2 - Chief Executive EOY FY25/26 self assessment	**s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons,**	**section 48(1)(a)(i) of the Act - the public conduct of the relevant part of the**

	including that of deceased natural persons **s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)**	**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**
7.3 - Chief Executive's End of Year Performance and Remuneration Review FY26	**s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons** **s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)**	**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**
7.4 - Independent Consultant / Overview of Contractual Agreement and Summary of Costs 2025/26	**s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information**	**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**

2. That the Independent Consultant, QLG Advisory (Paul Loof) remains in this meeting after the public has been excluded because of their knowledge of the items to be discussed. This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matters to be discussed, is relevant to those matters because of its specialised nature and the benefit to be gained from expert advice.

CARRIED

1.50pm – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

3.08pm – The meeting moved back to open session.

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Closing karakia was not given at this meeting.

3.09pm – The meeting closed.

APPENDIX ONE: DECISIONS MADE IN PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION REPORTED INTO OPEN

7.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE KPIS 2025/26 YEAR END RESULTS

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CEERC26/29

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Robert Cookson

1. That the report *Chief Executive KPIs 2025/26 Year End Results* (Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.
2. That the decision be reported into the open session of this meeting.

CARRIED

7.2 CHIEF EXECUTIVE EOY FY25/26 SELF ASSESSMENT

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CEERC26/30

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

1. That the report *Chief Executive EOY FY25/26 self assessment* (Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.
2. That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.

CARRIED

7.3 CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE AND REMUNERATION REVIEW FY26

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION CEERC26/31

Moved: Cr Warren Maher
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

1. That the report *Chief Executive's End of Year Performance and Remuneration Review FY26* (Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee, 19 August 2026) be received.
2. [Redacted, s7(2)(a) and s7(2)(i)]
3. [Redacted, s7(2)(a) and s7(2)(i)]
4. [Redacted, s7(2)(a) and s7(2)(i)]
5. That only the receipt of the report is reported into open session.

CARRIED

6.4 MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL GROWTH AND RESILIENCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 20 AUGUST 2026

Rā | Date: **14 September 2026**

Kaituhi | Author: **Brooke Roebeck, Democracy Advisor**

Kaituku | Authoriser: **Karen Bennett, Executive Manager, Chief Executive's Office**

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the minutes of the Regional Growth and Resilience Committee meeting held on 20 August 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.
2. That Council establishes the *Waikato Regional Economic Development Strategy Implementation Plan Steering Group* and adopts its *Terms of Reference* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Agenda, 20 August 2026 at pages 41-42).
3. That Council establishes the *Waikato Regional Council Economic Development Advisory Panel* and adopts its *Terms of Reference* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Agenda, 20 August 2026 at pages 43-44).
4. That Council directs staff to prepare a draft position statement on *AI Data Centres and the Waikato Region* for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This summary sets out decisions made at the meeting in table format, except for the following procedural items:
   (a) Apologies
   (b) Confirmation of agenda
   (c) Confirmation (or receipt of) minutes
   (d) Receipt of reports
   (e) Resolutions to enter and/or leave public excluded sessions
   (f) Procedural motions pertaining to meeting process.
2. This extract is a solely a reference tool for those readers who find it helpful. It does not replace the minutes which are the official record of the meeting.
3. Key:
   (a) **Delegated Authority:** The decision made falls within the delegated authority of the committee.
   (b) **Recommendation:** The decision is a recommendation for council (or other body) to consider. These recommendations may be included with the minutes for consideration, or by a separate report.

(c) **Recorded Action:** These are not resolved decisions, but rather administrative requests made informally during the meeting.

Title / Description	Delegated Authority	Recommendation	Recorded Action
6.5 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STEERING GROUP AND ADVISORY PANEL			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/14 2. That the Committee endorses and recommends that Council establishes the *Waikato Regional Economic Development Strategy Implementation Plan Steering Group* and adopts its *Terms of Reference* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Agenda, 20 August 2026 at pages 41-42).		✓	
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/14 3. That the Committee endorses and recommends that Council establishes the *Waikato Regional Council Economic Development Advisory Panel* and adopts its *Terms of Reference* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Agenda, 20 August 2026 at pages 43-44).		✓	
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/14 4. That the Committee notes that staff will recommend potential members of the Advisory Panel to a working group of councillors at the earliest opportunity.	✓		
6.6 AI DATA CENTRES AND THE WAIKATO REGION			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/15 2. That the committee recommends to Council that staff prepare a draft position statement for the council's consideration.		✓	
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/15 3. That the committee notes that staff will report back to the Regional Growth and Resilience Committee with a draft position statement for the council to consider before it is shared for feedback from territorial authorities, the community and iwi.	✓		

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Regional Growth and Resilience Committee meeting held on 20 August 2026

Waikato
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Waikato

MINUTES

Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Meeting

Thursday, 20 August 2026

Order Of Business

Waikato Regional Council

Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Meeting

OPEN MINUTES

Date:	**Thursday 20 August 2026, 9.29am**
Location:	**Council Chambers** **Waikato Regional Council** **Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton**
Members Present:	Cr Keith Holmes – Committee Chair Cr Robert Cookson (from 10.22am until 10.22am. Back at 10.51am until 11.09am. Back at 11.24am) Cr Warren Maher (from 10.22am) Cr Gary McGuire Cr Garry Reymer
Staff Present:	Karen Bennett – Executive Manager, Chief Executive's Office 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
Recording 1	38377242	https://youtu.be/33l_S9SXPyI
Recording 2	38377725	https://youtu.be/m-Orn0c8HBw

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in recording 1, at 10 seconds.

The Executive Manager, Chief Executive’s Office (Karen Bennett) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in recording 1, at 35 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/08

Moved: Cr Gary McGuire
Seconded: Cr Garry Reymer

That the apologies of Cr Ben Dunbar-Smith, Cr Angela Strange and Cr Jennifer Nickel for absence; and Cr Warren Maher and Cr Robert Cookson for lateness be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in recording 1, at 1 minute 7 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/09

Moved: Cr Garry Reymer
Seconded: Cr Gary McGuire

1. **That the agenda of the Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Meeting of 20 August 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 1 minute 35 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

Nil.

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 INSURANCE COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND PRESENTATION

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 52 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Executive, Insurance Council of New Zealand (Kris Faafoi), Chief Executive, AA Insurance (Michelle James).and the Resilience Leader, Insurance Council of New Zealand (James Baigent). Refer Document # 38187145 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/10
Moved: Cr Gary McGuire
Seconded: Cr Garry Reymer

That the report *Presentation – Insurance Council of New Zealand* (Strategy and Policy Committee, 19 May 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.2 FREQUENCY AND INTENSITY OF EXTREME RAINFALL IN THE WAIKATO REGION

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 38 minutes 40 seconds.

Presented by the Senior Scientist, Water (Bevan Jenkins) and the Team Leader, Water and Hydrology (Thomas Wilding). Refer Document # 38199289 at pages 2-11 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

10.22am – Cr Warren Maher and Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

10.22am – Cr Robert Cookson left the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/11

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes
Seconded: Cr Gary McGuire

That the report *Frequency and Intensity of Extreme Rainfall in the Waikato Region* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee, 20 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.3 WAIKATO REGIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL ORGANISATIONAL CLIMATE CHANGE RISK ASSESSMENT 2026

Item commenced in recording 1, at 1 hour 1 minute and 18 seconds.

Presented by the Sustainability and Climate Change Senior Advisor (Joy Moir) and Principal Regional Resilience Advisor (Rick Leifing). Refer Document # 38199289 at pages 12-16 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/12

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes

Seconded: Cr Gary McGuire

That the report *Waikato Regional Council Annual Organisational Climate Change Risk Assessment 2026* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee, 20 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.4 HOW DOES ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FIT INTO SIMPLIFYING LOCAL GOVERNMENT?

Item commenced in recording 1, at 1 hour 19 minutes 50 seconds.

Presented by the Principal Economist (Blair Keenan) and Regional Economic Development Lead (Tariq Ashraf).

10.51am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/13

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes
Seconded: Cr Garry Reymer

That the report *How does economic development fit into Simplifying Local Government?* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee, 20 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

11.09am – The meeting adjourned. During the adjournment Cr Robbie Cookson left the meeting.

11.18am – The meeting reconvened.

6.5 REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY STEERING GROUP AND ADVISORY PANEL

Item commenced in open recording 2, at start.

Presented by the Regional Economic Development Lead (Tariq Ashraf). Refer Document # 38199289 at pages 17-19 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

11.24am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/14

Moved: Cr Garry Reymer
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **That the report *Regional economic development strategy steering group and advisory panel* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee, 20 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the Committee endorses and recommends that Council establishes the Waikato Regional Economic Development Strategy Implementation Plan Steering Group and adopts its *Terms of Reference* (*Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Agenda, 20 August 2026 at pages 41-42*).**
3. **That the Committee endorses and recommends that Council establishes the Waikato Regional Council Economic Development Advisory Panel and adopts its Terms of**

Reference (*Regional Growth and Resilience Committee Agenda, 20 August 2026 at pages 43-44*).

4. **That the Committee notes that staff will recommend potential members of the Advisory Panel to a working group of councillors at the earliest opportunity.**

CARRIED

6.6 AI DATA CENTRES AND THE WAIKATO REGION

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 21 minutes 41 seconds.

Presented by the Regional Economic Development Lead (Tariq Ashraf) and the Sustainability and Climate Change Senior Advisor (Joy Moir). Refer Document # 38199289 at page 20-27 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/15

Moved: Cr Garry Reymer
Seconded: Cr Gary McGuire

1. **That the report *AI Data Centres and the Waikato Region* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee, 20 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the committee recommends to Council that staff prepare a draft position statement for the council's consideration.**
3. **That the committee notes that staff will report back to the Regional Growth and Resilience Committee with a draft position statement for the council to consider before it is shared for feedback from territorial authorities, the community and iwi.**

CARRIED

6.7 CHAIR'S REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 43 minutes 50 seconds.

Presented by the Committee Chair (Cr Keith Holmes). Refer Document # 38390909 for the PowerPoint presentation or on the public website.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RGRC26/16

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes
Seconded: Cr Gary McGuire

That the *Chair's Report* (Regional Growth and Resilience Committee, 20 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 47 minutes 36 seconds.

The Executive Manager, Chief Executive's Office (Karen Bennett) closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.08pm – The meeting closed.

6.5 MINUTES OF THE FUTURE PROOF IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 28 AUGUST 2026

Rā | Date: **14 September 2026**

Kaituhi | Author: **Dave Doggart, Team Lead, Democracy**

Kaituku | Authoriser: **Mali Ahipene, Pou Tuhono**

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the minutes of the Future Proof Implementation Committee meeting held on 28 August 2026 be received.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This summary sets out decisions made at the meeting in table format, except for the following procedural items:
   (a) Apologies
   (b) Confirmation of agenda
   (c) Confirmation (or receipt of) minutes
   (d) Receipt of reports
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   (f) Procedural motions pertaining to meeting process.
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   (c) **Recorded Action:** These are not resolved decisions, but rather administrative requests made informally during the meeting.

Title / Description	Delegated Authority	Recommendation	Recorded Action
6.2 FUTURE PROOF HANDOVER TO A REGIONAL SPATIAL PLANNING SECRETARIAT			

Title / Description	Delegated Authority	Recommendation	Recorded Action
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/29 2. That Future Proof Implementation Committee notes the learnings from the past 18 years and refers the learnings and any other documentation to the Mayoral Forum.	✓		
6.3 TRANSPORT BUSINESS PROGRAMME - LTP ALIGNMENT REPORT			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/30 2. That the Committee supports the projects listed in Table 1 of Appendix 1 (Future Proof Implementation Committee Agenda, 28 August 2026 at page 39) for consideration as part of each partner's Long-Term Plan and the Regional Land Transport Plan on the basis that the projects materially advance implementation of the Future Proof Strategy and the Hamilton-Waikato Metro Spatial Plan Transport Programme. 3. That the Committee notes the projects identified in Table 1 of Appendix 1 of this report have been put forward as part of each partner's early Long-Term Plan 2027-37 programmes, and as such project timing in this report is indicative and subject to change as partners progress further through the Long Term Plan process.	✓		
6.4 HAMILTON SOUTHERN LINKS NETWORK PLAN			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/31 2. That Future Proof Implementation Committee endorses the Hamilton Southern Links Network Plan (reference here) setting out the local network improvements that will assist to achieve the Hamilton Southern Links Expressway investment outcomes. 3. That Future Proof Implementation Committee notes that Version 1 of the HSL Network Plan is closed and future decisions from NZTA are included in Version 2 at the appropriate time (do we have references).	✓		
6.5 KPI DASHBOARD - AFFORDABLE HOUSING			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/32 2. That Future Proof endorses the Dashboard for Affordable Housing (reference) and approves its publication on the Future Proof website.	✓		

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Future Proof Implementation Committee meeting held on 28 August 2026

MINUTES

Future Proof Implementation Committee Meeting

Friday, 28 August 2026

Order Of Business

Waikato Regional Council

Future Proof Implementation Committee Meeting

OPEN MINUTES

Date:	**Friday 28 August 2026, 9.30am**
Location:	**Council Chambers** **Waikato Regional Council** **Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton**

Members Present:

Bill Wasley – ***Independent Chair Future Proof Implementation Committee***
Deputy-Mayor Eugene Patterson – Waikato District Council – ***Deputy-Chair Future Proof Implementation Committee***
Cr Andy Baker – Auckland Council
Mayor Aksel Bech – Waikato District Council
Alan Cole – Franklin Local Board (virtually via Teams)
Cr Maria Huata – Hamilton City Council
Cr Warren Maher – – Waikato Regional Council
Mayor Tim Macindoe – Hamilton City Council
Cr Mike Montgomerie – Waipā District Council
Mayor Mike Pettit – Waipā District Council
Nanaia Rawiri – Ngā Karu Atua o Te Waka (from 9.32am)
Deputy-Mayor James Sainsbury – Matamata-Piako District Council
Cr Angela Strange – Waikato Regional Council
Mayor Ash Tanner – Matamata-Piako District Council
Andrew Corkill – Director Regional Relationships, Waikato/Bay of Plenty, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (non-voting)

In Attendance:

Cr Anna Casey-Cox – Hamilton City Council
Cr Sue Moroney – Hamilton City Council

Staff Present:

Robert Brodnax – Independent Advisor
Tracey May – Director, Science, Policy and Information, Waikato Regional Council
Phil King – Director, Regional Transport Connections, Waikato Regional Council
Peter Winder – Chief Executive, IAWAI (Flowing Waters Ltd)
Blair Bowcott – General Manager, Strategy, Growth and Planning, Hamilton City Council
Will Gauntlet – General Manager, Strategy and Growth, Waikato District Council
Katie Mayes – Growth, Strategy and Planning Director, Waipā District Council
Susan Collins – Regional Manager, System Design, Waikato/Bay of Plenty, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (virtually via Teams)

Lyndal Bartley – Future Proof Project Coordinator
Dave Doggart – Team Lead, Democracy, Waikato Regional Council

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	38568259	https://youtu.be/8CaS24XZbk8
Public Excluded Recording	38570805	–
Open Recording #2	38569624	https://youtu.be/pNvIGkF_emM

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at start.

The Team Lead, Democracy (Dave Doggart) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 33 seconds.

APOLOGY

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/25

Moved: Cr Angela Strange
Seconded: Mayor Mike Pettit

That the apologies of Mayor Tim Macindoe, Deputy-Mayor James Sainsbury and Nanaia Rawiri for lateness; and Cr Liz Stolwyk and Parekawhia McLean for absence be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 55 seconds.

9.32am – Nanaia Rawiri entered the meeting.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/26

Moved: Deputy-Mayor Eugene Patterson
Seconded: Mayor Aksel Bech

1. **That the agenda of the Future Proof Implementation Committee Meeting of 28 August 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 2 minutes 20 seconds.

The Independent Chair (Bill Wasley) declared that he had been engaged by the Ministry for Cities, Environment, Regions and Transport (MCERT) to provide an independent assessment of Head Start proposals and advised that, should those proposals be discussed, he would withdraw and leave the meeting.

5 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 3 minutes 15 seconds.

FUTURE PROOF IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING – 19 JUNE 2026

It was noted that Mayor Mike Pettit’s surname was spelt incorrectly in the previous minutes and that the correct spelling was Pettit.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/27

Moved: Nanaia Rawiri
Seconded: Mayor Aksel Bech

That the minutes of the Future Proof Implementation Committee Meeting held on 19 June 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

6 GENERAL ITEMS

6.1 IMPLEMENTATION ADVISORS QUARTERLY UPDATE - AUGUST 2026

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 4 minutes 20 seconds.

Presented by the Independent Advisor (Robert Brodnax).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/28

Moved: Cr Maria Huata
Seconded: Mayor Mike Pettit

That the report *Implementation Advisors Quarterly Update - August 2026* (Future Proof Implementation Committee, 28 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

6.2 FUTURE PROOF HANDOVER TO A REGIONAL SPATIAL PLANNING SECRETARIAT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 6 minutes 35 seconds.

Presented by the Independent Advisor (Robert Brodnax).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/29

Moved: Mayor Tim Macindoe
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **That the report *Future Proof Handover to a Regional Spatial Planning Secretariat* (Future Proof Implementation Committee, 28 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That Future Proof Implementation Committee notes the learnings from the past 18 years and refers the learnings and any other documentation to the Mayoral Forum.**

CARRIED

6.3 TRANSPORT BUSINESS PROGRAMME - LTP ALIGNMENT REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 33 minutes.

The Independent Advisor (Robert Brodnax) introduced the Team Leader, Portfolio Delivery, Waikato Regional Council (Tofeeq Ahmed) and Transport Strategy Principal, Hamilton City Council (Phil Haizelden).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/30

Moved: Deputy-Mayor Eugene Patterson
Seconded: Cr Angela Strange

1. **That the report *Transport Business Programme - LTP Alignment Report* (Future Proof Implementation Committee, 28 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the Committee supports the projects listed in Table 1 of Appendix 1 (Future Proof Implementation Committee Agenda, 28 August 2026 at page 39) for consideration as part of each partner's Long-Term Plan and the Regional Land Transport Plan on the basis that the projects materially advance implementation of the Future Proof Strategy and the Hamilton-Waikato Metro Spatial Plan Transport Programme.**
3. **That the Committee notes the projects identified in Table 1 of Appendix 1 of this report have been put forward as part of each partner's early Long-Term Plan 2027-37 programmes, and as such project timing in this report is indicative and subject to change as partners progress further through the Long Term Plan process.**

CARRIED

6.4 HAMILTON SOUTHERN LINKS NETWORK PLAN

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 48 minutes 15 seconds.

The Independent Advisor (Robert Brodnax) introduced the Director, Regional Transport Connections (Phil King) and the Transport Engineer, Gray Matter (Alastair Black). Refer Hamilton Southern Links | NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi for project updates.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/31

Moved: Mayor Tim Macindoe
Seconded: Mayor Mike Pettit

1. **That the report Hamilton Southern Links Network Plan (Future Proof Implementation Committee, 28 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That Future Proof Implementation Committee endorses the *Hamilton Southern Links Network Plan* setting out the local network improvements that will assist to achieve the Hamilton Southern Links Expressway investment outcomes.**

3. That Future Proof Implementation Committee notes that Version 1 of the HSL Network Plan is closed and future decisions from NZTA are included in Version 2 at the appropriate time.

CARRIED

6.5 KPI DASHBOARD - AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour 5 minutes 20 seconds.

Presented by the Analytics Programme Manager, Hamilton City Council (Andy Zhao).

During the presentation, the Co-Chair, Waikato Housing Initiative (Lale Ieremia) provided the following commentary virtually via Teams (Chat):

We support the work that has been completed as it helps to provide a live data set for housing within the region. It was always important to measure both what is required and what has been delivered from a total housing perspective.

Being able to identify specific typology throughout the housing continuum – social, public, community, affordable and market.

Combined with the regional stock take report, the ability to recognise the plan and actual would be critical to support the prioritised funding that may flow from government – our programme of housing supported by a programme of funding.

Independent source – the data would be better supported if it were produced independently. The regional spatial plan might be the best place for this to come out of in the future.

Defining affordability needs more work especially if the private sector are going to be able to utilise the tool to deliver the required products in the required locations.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/32

Moved: Mayor Aksel Bech
Seconded: Mayor Ash Tanner

1. That the report *KPI Dashboard - Affordable Housing* (Future Proof Implementation Committee, 28 August 2026) be received.

2. That Future Proof endorses the *Dashboard for Affordable Housing* and approves its publication on the Future Proof website.

CARRIED

6.6 INDEPENDENT CHAIR QUARTERLY UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour 36 minutes 18 seconds.

The Independent Chair (Bill Wasley), presented his report and acknowledged the passing of Alan Livingston, noting his significant contribution to Future Proof through his roles as Mayor of Waipā District Council, Waikato Regional Councillor, Chair of Waikato Regional Council, and Deputy-Chair of the Future Proof Implementation Committee. The Chair also acknowledged the contribution and departure of the General Manager, Strategy and Growth, Waikato District Council (Will Gauntlett), and a member of the Chief Executive Advisory Group.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/33

Moved: Bill Wasley
Seconded: Mayor Ash Tanner

That the report *Independent Chair Quarterly Update* (Future Proof Implementation Committee, 28 August 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour 41 minutes 48 seconds.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/34

Moved: Mayor Ash Tanner
Seconded: Deputy-Mayor Eugene Patterson

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 - Fast Track Update August 2026	**s7(2)(h) of the Act - To enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities** **s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)**	**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**
7.2 - Hamilton Southern Links Update - NZTA	**s7(2)(c)(i) of the Act - 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 making information available would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public**	**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**

	interest that such information should continue to be supplied	

CARRIED

11.12pm – The meeting moved into public excluded session and was adjourned. During the adjournment, Peter Winder left the meeting.

11.29am – The meeting reconvened.

7.1 FAST TRACK UPDATE AUGUST 2026

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at start.

Presented by the Independent Consultant (Robert Brodnax).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/35

Moved: Cr Warren Maher
Seconded: Mayor Tim Macindoe

1. **That the report *Fast Track Update August 2026* (Future Proof Implementation Committee, 28 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.**

CARRIED

7.2 HAMILTON SOUTHERN LINKS UPDATE - NZTA

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 25 minutes 52 seconds.

Presented by the Director Regional Relationships, Waikato/Bay of Plenty, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (Andrew Corkill) and Project Director, Hamilton Southern Links, NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi (Sarah Anderson).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/36

Moved: Mayor Mike Pettit
Seconded: Mayor Ash Tanner

1. **That the report *Hamilton Southern Links Update - NZTA* (Future Proof Implementation Committee, 28 August 2026) be received.**
2. **That the decision to receive the report be released into the open session of the meeting.**

CARRIED

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 43 minutes 50 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION FP26/37

Moved: Mayor Tim Macindoe

Seconded: Deputy-Mayor Eugene Patterson

That the meeting return to the open session.

CARRIED

12.13pm – The meeting moved back to open session.

8 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 2, at start.

The Team Lead, Democracy (Dave Doggart) closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.14pm – The meeting closed.

6.6 MINUTES OF THE RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2 SEPTEMBER 2026

Rā | Date: **15 September 2026**

Kaituhi | Author: **Jess Hood, Democracy Advisor**

Kaituku | Authoriser: **Dave Doggart, Team Lead, Democracy**

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. That the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 2 September 2026 be received.
2. That as recommended by the Risk and Assurance Committee, Council adopts the *WRC Fraud Policy* (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 287).

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This summary sets out decisions made at the meeting in table format, except for the following procedural items:
   (a) Apologies
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   (d) Receipt of reports
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2. This extract is a solely a reference tool for those readers who find it helpful. It does not replace the minutes which are the official record of the meeting.
3. Key:
   (a) **Delegated Authority:** The decision made falls within the delegated authority of the committee.
   (b) **Recommendation:** The decision is a recommendation for council (or other body) to consider. These recommendations may be included with the minutes for consideration, or by a separate report.
   (c) **Recorded Action:** These are not resolved decisions, but rather administrative requests made informally during the meeting.

Title / Description	Delegated Authority	Recommendation	Recorded Action
7.2 RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE			

Title / Description	Delegated Authority	Recommendation	Recorded Action
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/42 2. That the committee note the updated deep dive schedule (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 29).	✓		
7.4 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY UPDATE			
Action: Staff to report back to the Risk and Assurance Committee on critical tasks and "nice to haves" from the previous audit actions report. It was noted that a first cull had been done and the committee requested a critical evaluation, highlighting what is a risk, what is an efficiency.			✓
7.5 THE AUDIT OFFICE INTERIM GOVERNANCE REPORT FOR THE 2025/26 ANNUAL REPORT			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/45 2. That the Risk and Assurance Committee notes the findings and recommendations contained within The Audit Office's Governance Report arising from the interim audit of the 2025/26 Annual Report (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 113).	✓		
7.6 INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET REVALUATION REPORT			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/46 2. That the Committee endorses the results from the infrastructure asset revaluation as at 31 December 2025 presented for inclusion in the 2025/26 annual report (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 129).	✓		
7.7 2025/26 KEY ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/47 2. That the Committee endorses the key accounting estimates presented for inclusion in the 2025/26 Annual Report (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 192). 3. The Committee noted, for Council's consideration, that it was not aware of any matters that would prevent approval of the financial statements included in the Annual Report.	✓		
7.8 GST PROCESS AND CONTROLS EVALUATION REPORT			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/48 2. That the Risk and Assurance Committee notes the findings and recommendations arising from PwC's review of Council's GST processes, systems and procedures.	✓		
Action: Committee members requested that the signalled completion date for documentation of June 2027 be reviewed given the priority given to this recommendation (high risk – immediate action required).			✓
7.11 INFOR BENEFITS REPORT			

Title / Description	Delegated Authority	Recommendation	Recorded Action
Action: Members requested that future reports incorporate a high level breakdown detailing where benefits are being realised in the organisation.			✓
7.13 POLICY REVIEW SCHEDULE			
COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/53 2. That the Risk and Assurance Committee notes the updated WRC Fraud Policy (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 287), confirms it is fit-for-purpose, and recommends to Council that it be adopted.		✓	

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

1. Minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee meeting held on 2 September 2026

MINUTES

Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, 2 September 2026

Order Of Business

Waikato Regional Council
Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting

OPEN MINUTES

Date:	**Wednesday 2 September 2026, 9.01am**
Location:	**Council Chambers** **Waikato Regional Council** **Level 1, 160 Ward Street, Hamilton**

Members Present:	Paul Connell – Independent Chair Cr Chris Hughes – Deputy Chair (until 10.26am. Back at 10.38am) Cr Robert Cookson (from 9.02am until 10.26am. Back at 10.39am until 11.38am. Back at 11.31am) Cr Keith Holmes (from 9.02am) Cr Warren Maher Graham Naylor – Independent Member
Staff Present:	Janine Becker – Director, Customer and Corporate Services Jess Hood – 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	38630858	https://youtu.be/aL7vwzecS0E
Open Recording #2	38630530	https://youtu.be/H2Ukb2u1_Xg
Public Excluded Recording	38634751	
Open Recording #3	38629951	https://youtu.be/T2MlrGUULcY

1 KARAKIA TIMATANGA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at start.

The Independent Chair (Paul Connell) opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 23 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/38

Moved: Paul Connell
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

That the apologies of Cr Tipa Mahuta and Cr Noel Smith for absence be accepted.

CARRIED

3 CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 47 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/39

Moved: Paul Connell
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **That the agenda of the Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting of 2 September 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.**
3. **That the meeting may sit longer than two hours continuously and continue longer than six hours including adjournments.**
4. **Note the inclusion of the 2026 Risk and Assurance Committee workplan is for reference.**

CARRIED

4 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 2 seconds.

9.02am – Cr Keith Holmes entered the meeting.

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

5 PRELIMINARY ITEMS

5.1 RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE 2026 WORKPLAN

The item was taken as read. There were no resolutions or actions associated with this item.

6 MINUTES FOR CONFIRMATION OR RECEIPT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 minute 43 seconds.

RISK AND ASSURANCE COMMITTEE MEETING – 3 JUNE 2026

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/40

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Graham Naylor

That the minutes of the Risk and Assurance Committee Meeting held on 3 June 2026 be confirmed as a correct record.

CARRIED

7 GENERAL ITEMS

7.1 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

Presented by the Director, Customer and Corporate Services (Janine Becker).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/41

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Graham Naylor

That the report *Matters arising from previous Committee meetings* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.2 RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 3 minutes 20 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/42

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

1. **That the report Risk Management Activity Update (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received; and**
2. **That the committee note the updated deep dive schedule (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 29).**

CARRIED

7.3 KEY PROJECTS ACTIVITY UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 17 minutes 26 seconds.

Presented by the Director, Regional Transport Connections (Phil King), Director, Integrated Catchment Management (Greg Ryan), Business and Education Services Manager (Dean King) and Director, Resource Use (Brent Sinclair).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/43

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

That the report *Key Projects Activity Update* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.4 INTERNAL AUDIT ACTIVITY UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 41 minutes 6 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter), Partner, PwC New Zealand (Jade Collins) and Director, PwC New Zealand (Aaron Steele).

Action: Staff to report back to the Risk and Assurance Committee on critical tasks and "nice to haves" from the previous audit actions report. It was noted that a first cull had been done and the committee requested a critical evaluation, highlighting what is a risk, what is an efficiency.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/44

Moved: Graham Naylor
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the report *Internal Audit Activity Update* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.5 THE AUDIT OFFICE INTERIM GOVERNANCE REPORT FOR THE 2025/26 ANNUAL REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 53 minutes 38 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah), Audit Director, Audit New Zealand (Leon Pieterse) and Audit Manager, Audit New Zealand (Naue Kotze).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/45

Moved: Graham Naylor
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

1. **That the *The Audit Office Interim Governance Report for the 2025/26 Annual Report* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.**
2. **That the Risk and Assurance Committee notes the findings and recommendations contained within The Audit Office's Governance Report arising from the interim audit of the 2025/26 Annual Report (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 113).**

CARRIED

7.6 INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET REVALUATION REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour, 5 minutes 4 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah) and Asset Information Lead (Gareth Langdon).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/46

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Graham Naylor

1. **That the *Infrastructure Asset Revaluation Report* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.**
2. **That the Committee endorses the results from the infrastructure asset revaluation as at 31 December 2025 presented for inclusion in the 2025/26 annual report (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 129).**

CARRIED

7.7 2025/26 KEY ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND JUDGEMENTS

Item commenced in open recording 1, at 1 hour, 23 minutes 58 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/47

Moved: Graham Naylor
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

1. **That the report *2025/26 Key Accounting Estimates and Judgements* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.**
2. **That the Committee endorses the key accounting estimates presented for inclusion in the 2025/26 Annual Report (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 192).**

3. The Committee noted, for Council's consideration, that it was not aware of any matters that would prevent approval of the financial statements included in the Annual Report.

CARRIED

10.26am - The meeting adjourned.

10.37am - The meeting reconvened.

7.8 GST PROCESS AND CONTROLS EVALUATION AUDIT

Item commenced in open recording 2, at start.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

10.38am – Cr Chris Hughes entered the meeting.

10.39am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

Action: Committee members requested that the signalled completion date for documentation of June 2027 be reviewed given the priority given to this recommendation (high risk – immediate action required).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/48

Moved: Paul Connell
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

1. **That the report *GST Process and Controls Evaluation audit* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received; and**
2. **That the Risk and Assurance Committee notes the findings and recommendations arising from PwC's review of Council's GST processes, systems and procedures.**

.CARRIED

7.9 ANNUAL TAX UPDATE 2026

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 6 minutes 26 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/49

Moved: Graham Naylor
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the report *Annual Tax Update 2026* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.10 ANNUAL LEAVE MANAGEMENT WELLBEING AND HEALTH AND SAFETY INDICATORS

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 8 minutes 35 seconds.

Presented by the Executive Manager, People and Capability (Stuart Brown).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/50

Moved: Cr Keith Holmes
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

That the report *Annual Leave Management Wellbeing and Health and Safety Indicators* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.11 INFOR BENEFITS REPORT

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 16 minutes 14 seconds.

Presented by the Executive Manager, People and Capability (Stuart Brown).

Action: Members requested that future reports incorporate a high level breakdown detailing where benefits are being realised in the organisation.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/51

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

That the *Infor Benefits Report* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.12 LEGAL COMPLIANCE SURVEY 1 JANUARY - 30 JUNE 2026

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 34 minute 7 seconds.

Presented by the Senior Solicitor (Jonathan Ridling).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/52

Moved: Graham Naylor
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

That the report *Legal Compliance Survey 1 January - 30 June 2026* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.13 POLICY REVIEW SCHEDULE

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 38 minutes 26 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/53

Moved: Paul Connell
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

1. **That the report *Policy Review Schedule* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.**
2. **That the Risk and Assurance Committee notes the updated *WRC Fraud Policy (Risk and Assurance Committee Agenda, 2 September 2026 at page 287*), confirms it is fit-for-purpose, and recommends to Council that it be adopted.**

CARRIED

7.14 ELECTED MEMBER INTERESTS REGISTER UPDATE

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 42 minutes 20 seconds.

Presented by the Democracy Advisor (Jess Hood).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/54

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

That the report *Elected Member Interests Register Update* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

7.15 STAFF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND GIFTS REGISTER DECLARED 1 JULY 2025 TO 30 JUNE 2026

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 43 minutes 20 seconds.

Presented by the Manager, Business Advisory Services (Fiona Hunter).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/55

Moved: Cr Chris Hughes
Seconded: Cr Warren Maher

That the report *Staff Conflicts of Interest and Gifts Register declared 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.

CARRIED

8 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Item commenced in open recording 2, at 45 minutes 49 seconds.

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/56

Moved: Paul Connell
Seconded: Cr Robert Cookson

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
7.3 - Key Projects Activity Update (Replacement Vessel and IRIS Next Gen)	**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**
8.1 - Cyber Security Update - September 2026	**s7(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**
8.2 - Fraud Risk Management Activity Update	**s7(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**
8.3 - Potential Liability Report September 2026	**s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information** **s7(2)(g) of the Act - To maintain legal professional privilege** **s7(2)(h) of the Act - To enable Council to carry out, without**	**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**

	prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities	

CARRIED

11.23am – The meeting moved into public excluded session.

7.3 KEY PROJECTS ACTIVITY UPDATE

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at start.

Presented by the Director, Integrated Catchment Management (Greg Ryan), Business and Education Services Manager (Dean King) and Director, Resource Use (Brent Sinclair).

11.38am – Cr Robert Cookson left the meeting.

11.41am – Cr Robert Cookson entered the meeting.

8.1 CYBER SECURITY UPDATE - SEPTEMBER 2026

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 18 minutes 27 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Information Officer (John Crane).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/57

Moved: Paul Connell
Seconded: Graham Naylor

1. **That the report *Cyber Security Update - September 2026* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.**
2. **That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.**

CARRIED

8.2 FRAUD RISK MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY UPDATE

Item commenced in public excluded recording at 35 minutes 42 seconds.

Presented by the Chief Financial Officer (Raj Suppiah).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/58

Moved: Graham Naylor
Seconded: Cr Chris Hughes

1. **That the report *Fraud Risk Management Activity Update* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.**
2. **That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.**

CARRIED

8.3 POTENTIAL LIABILITY REPORT SEPTEMBER 2026

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 44 minutes 51 seconds.

Presented by the Senior Solicitor (Jonathan Ridling).

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/59

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Cr Keith Holmes

1. **That the *Potential Liability Report September 2026* (Risk and Assurance Committee, 2 September 2026) be received.**
2. **That the decision be released into the open session of the meeting.**

CARRIED

Item commenced in public excluded recording, at 51 minutes 41 seconds.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION RAC26/60

Moved: Cr Robert Cookson
Seconded: Paul Connell

That the meeting return to the open session.

CARRIED

12.15pm – The meeting moved back to open session.

9 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Item commenced in open recording 3, at start.

The Independent Chair (Paul Connell) closed the meeting with a karakia.

12.16pm – The meeting closed.

7 GENERAL ITEMS

7.1 HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT - AUGUST 2026

Rā | Date: **1 September 2026**

Kaituhi | Author: **Marie Fullerton, Health, Safety and Wellbeing Manager**

Kaituku | Authoriser: **Chris McLay, Chief Executive**

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. To provide councillors with an overview of Waikato Regional Council's (WRC) health, safety, and wellbeing performance, and to enable councillors to exercise their due diligence regarding health and safety governance.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The independent review of the Mount Maunganui Beachside Holiday Park landslide identified significant shortcomings in the management of a known natural hazard risk. Although the slope had been recognised for many years as a historic landslide feature capable of causing serious harm, the risk was not effectively escalated, assigned clear ownership, or managed through to resolution. The review found broader organisational weaknesses relating to risk ownership, tracking of technical advice, information sharing, cross-functional coordination, and assurance processes. Collectively, these factors contributed to a failure to fully recognise and respond to the potential consequences of the hazard.

3. In response, Waikato Regional Council has commenced an organisation-wide review of known hazards and risks that could significantly affect life or property. This process is led by the Risk function and supported by cross-functional engagement and independent expertise where appropriate. The review will assess risk ownership, escalation pathways, tracking of specialist recommendations, critical control assurance, and access to hazard information across organisational boundaries. This work builds on Council's existing risk maturity programme and assurance activities, with any identified improvements to be progressed through established risk management and governance processes.

4. The Health and Safety Management System (HSMS) assurance performance remains strong, with common risk reviews (83%) and document reviews (84%) meeting or exceeding targets. Eight event investigation reviews were also completed in August, providing assurance over investigation quality while supporting improved manager capability through targeted coaching.

5. Tier 1 and 2 leadership walkarounds are a due diligence activity and provide ELT with direct operational assurance by assessing the effectiveness of risk controls and confirming how work is conducted in practice. There were 26 scheduled Executive Governance Walkarounds from 1 Sept 2025 to 31 Aug 2026.

6. In August, 21 health and safety staff event reports were received: 8 events, 1 illness, 7 injuries, and 5 near misses. The total reports for the last 12 months (1 Sept 2025 to 31 August 2026) are 249.

7. With the support of the Chief Executive, a new Toa Haumaru | Health, Safety and Wellbeing Award has been introduced as part of the annual Tūī Awards. The award recognises individuals and teams whose actions strengthen Council's safety culture and support our commitment to Safely Home. Everybody. Everyday.

8. Influenza A remains widespread in the community, with seasonal respiratory illnesses continuing to place pressure on health services. The current influenza season is expected to continue through to December. Influenza vaccination vouchers are available during September for staff and Councillors who missed the initial vaccination programme.

9. WRC continues to make a strong community contribution through its blood and plasma donation programme, remaining the highest-ranked council in New Zealand and ranking ninth among more than 2,150 registered teams nationwide.

10. EAP utilisation was 14.2% over the past 12 months and is within expected industry benchmarks. Consistent with broader trends, most referrals related to personal matters, particularly personal relationships, stress and anxiety, and grief and loss.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Health and Safety Report - August 2026* (Council, 24 September 2026) be received.

HOROPAKI | BACKGROUND

11. Council's health and safety performance is reported to Council each month. The information is presented under four sections: 1) Risk Profile 2) Performance Data 3) Governance 4) Assurance and General Information.

SECTION ONE: Risk Profile (general health and safety information)

Summary of the Davison Review into Mt Maunganui Beachside Holiday Park Landslide

12. The External Review examined the circumstances surrounding the landslide at the Mount Maunganui Beachside Holiday Park on 22 January 2026, which resulted in six fatalities. The review found that the slope had been identified in geotechnical reports over many years as a historic landslide feature capable of generating a dangerous debris flow into the campground. Despite this, the risk was not effectively escalated, assigned to a clearly accountable owner, or managed through to resolution. A recommended Trigger Action Response Plan was not implemented and, had appropriate triggers and response arrangements been in place, evacuation of the affected area may have occurred before the landslide.

13. The review identified broader organisational weaknesses, including fragmented risk ownership, inadequate tracking of expert recommendations, limited technical scrutiny of safety-critical reports, organisational silos, loss of institutional knowledge, and risk registers that did not adequately describe the potential consequences. Collectively, these weaknesses meant that known information was not brought together, assessed or acted upon in a way that reflected the potential for multiple fatalities.

14. The recommendations emphasise the need for stronger governance and accountability for risks to life, including:

- clear ownership and escalation of significant natural hazard risks
- centralised retention and sharing of technical hazard information
- stronger cross-functional review and use of specialist expertise
- quantitative assessment of individual and societal risk
- implementation of trigger-based closure and evacuation plans
- ongoing monitoring, control verification and independent assurance
- clearer authority for frontline staff to act when warning signs emerge
- improved use of hazard ιντελλιγενχε during emergency responses.

Waikato Regional Council Response Plan

15. WRC has initiated an organisation-wide review of known hazards and risks that could significantly affect life or property. Relevant directorates are assessing whether these risks are clearly owned, recorded, controlled, monitored, assured and escalated appropriately.

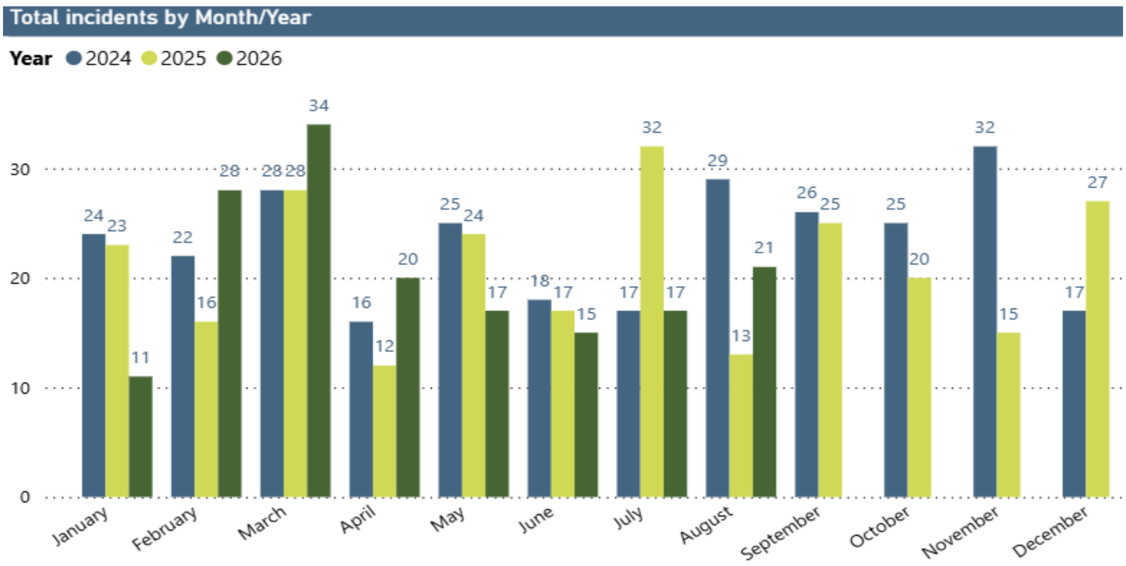
16. The Risk function is coordinating facilitated, cross-functional discussions, supported by independent expertise where appropriate. The review will focus particularly on escalation pathways, tracking specialist recommendations, critical-control assurance, access to hazard information and risks that span organisational boundaries.

17. This work builds on WRC's existing risk maturity programme, including directorate risk registers, the Risk Forum, critical-risk reviews and Senior Leadership Team, and other forms of control-verification activities. Any identified gaps or improvement actions will be considered through the appropriate management and governance processes.

SECTION TWO: Performance Data (reporting, and outputs of the safety management system)

Incident Reporting Trends

18. The total number of incidents reported for the last 12 months (1 Sep 2025 to 31 August 2026) is 249, including the events reported for the period August 2026 (n=21). Reporting volumes remain broadly consistent with historical trends, with no material deterioration evident.

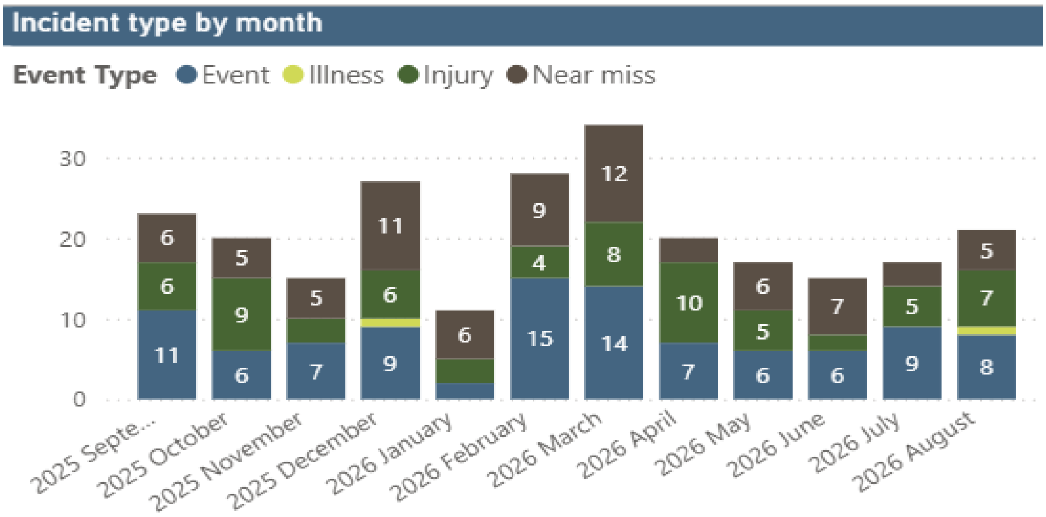


Graph 1. *12 month-Incident Report Trending data – August 2026*

Event Type by Month

20. Graph 2 below provides a comparison of all reports by events, injury, illness and near misses. There was a total of 21 reports for the period of August 2026, 8 were events, 1 illness, 7 injuries and 5 near misses.

21. Incident volumes remain consistent with historical trends over the past three years. Near miss reviews continue to represent a significant proportion of reporting (31.5% rolling 12-month average), providing early visibility of hazards and control weaknesses before harm occurs. This supports Council's commitment to open kōrero with staff, proactive risk management, and continuous improvement by enabling risks to be identified, reviewed, and addressed before injury or illness results.



Graph 2. *Incident type by month – August 2026*

Events Report by Category

22. In August, 21 health and safety events were reported, comprising of 7 injuries, 8 events, 1 Injury and 5 near misses. Event reports were vehicle-related, along with people/behavioural matters and minor property damage.

23. The injury reports were minor in nature, and near misses made up 23% of the total reporting for number for August.

Event risk category (realised risk)	***Nº***
Property damage	4
Contamination/spills	1
Faculty/building	2
Vehicle	1
Total	**8**
Illness	
Other (Chest pain)	1

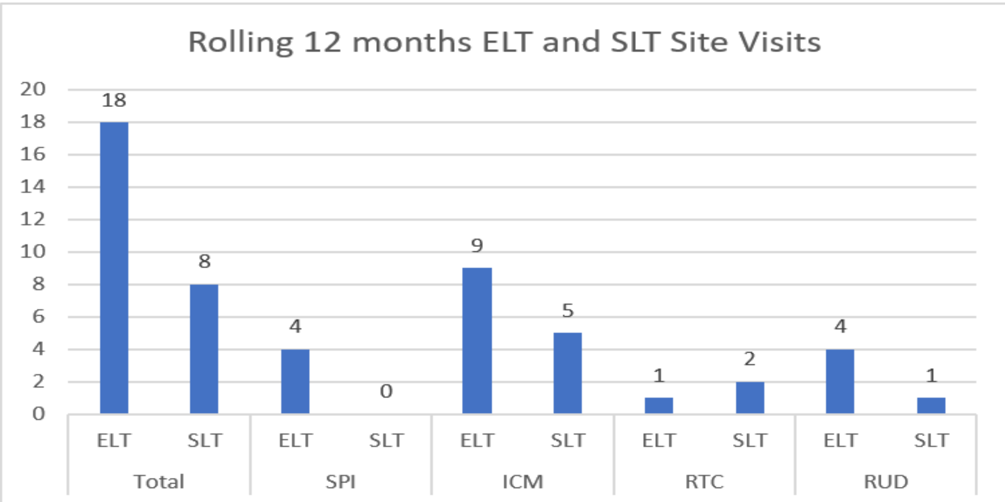
Event risk category (realised risk)	***Nº***
Total	**1**
Injury/loss risk category (realised risk)	
Abrasion/scratch/bruising	2
Ergonomic discomfort	2
Concussion	1
Sprain/strain	2
Total	**7**
Potential risk category (near-miss)	
Access/egress	1
Traffic	2
Facility/building	1
Environment/Traffic	1
Total	**5**

SECTION THREE: Governance and Assurance

Exercising Health, Safety and Wellbeing Governance

24. **Lead indicator**: Tier 1 and Tier 2 Governance Leadership Walkarounds are a key health and safety governance initiative that is actively supported by the Chief Executive and conducted by members of the Executive Leadership Team (ELT).

25. From 1 Sep 2025 to 31 Aug 2026, a total of 26 leadership walkarounds have been completed across a range of work sites, 18 ELT and 8 SLT. There were two walkarounds conducted in August 2026.



Graph 3. *Vault checks – August2026*

Risk Assurance – Senior Leadership Team

26. **Lead indicator**: Under the recently introduced Senior Leadership Team risk assurance programme, leaders undertake targeted walkarounds and checks to verify that critical controls are implemented and operating effectively.

27. Over the past three months, six assurance activities were completed: four focused on the critical risks for Working In, On and Around Water, and two on Slips, Trips and Falls. The

reviews confirmed that controls were implemented and identified opportunities for improvement, including strengthening personal protective equipment requirements in operational documentation.

Health and Safety Management System (HSMS) Assurance

28. **Lead indicator**: Council’s Health and Safety Management System assurance programme provides ongoing verification that key health and safety controls and system requirements are implemented and operating effectively. Assurance activities are delivered by the Health and Safety Team in collaboration with managers and operational teams, with findings used to identify improvements and strengthen organisational performance.

29. Council's focus on critical risks, critical controls and assurance will continue to strengthen organisational risk management. Recent critical risk reviews, and leadership walkarounds providing insight into operational risks and control effectiveness, while risk management training for people leaders in September will further support consistent risk identification, escalation management across the organisation.

Health and Safety Management System (HSMS) Assurance (Lead indicators)

30. **Lead Indicator**: In August, the Health, Safety and Wellbeing (HSW) Team undertook eight event investigation reviews, focusing on the quality of event investigations, and providing coaching to uplift manager capability.

31. **Lead Indicator**: Performance against the HSMS assurance programme remains strong, with common risk reviews (83%) and HSMS document reviews (84%) meeting or exceeding targets. These activities provide assurance that health and safety systems and supporting documentation remain current and effective.

Dynamic Risk Capability Development

32. **Lead Indicator**: More than 60 staff attended the first session of Council’s new Dynamic Risk Assessment training programme for field-based workers. The programme strengthens staff capability to identify emerging risks, adapt to changing conditions, and make safe decisions in dynamic environments. Supporting the ‘Building Regional Resilience’ priority within Te Pae Tawhiti | Strategic Direction 2026–2036, the training contributes to Council’s objective of maintaining ‘a workforce that is prepared to support emergency response functions during significant events.’ Additional sessions are planned across regional offices to further strengthen organisational resilience and readiness.

People Leader Education Roll-out Timeline

33. The current Management Essentials programme will conclude at the end of 2026. From 2027, the programme will transition to key Management Essential modules for new people leaders, and existing leaders completing refresher training every three years. This approach will support consistent leadership capability, reinforce expected management practices and ensure learning remains current across WRC.

34. **Lead Indicator**: The September education session focuses on risk management, including how people leader roles and responsibilities are managed.

Introduction of Toa Haumaru | Health, Safety and Wellbeing Award

35. With the support of the Chief Executive, the Toa Haumaru | Health, Safety and Wellbeing Award, meaning 'Safety Champion', has been introduced as a dedicated category within Council's annual Tūī Awards programme.

36. The award recognises individuals and teams who demonstrate visible safety leadership, speak up when something is not right, report hazards and near misses, contribute to organisational learning, and develop practical or innovative solutions that reduce exposure to risk or strengthen critical controls.

37. Introducing the award reinforces that health, safety and wellbeing extend beyond compliance. It provides a formal opportunity to recognise and reinforce the behaviours that contribute to a positive safety culture and help keep Council's staff, contractors and communities safe.

38. The award aligns with Council's Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy, organisational values and commitment to Safely Home. Everybody. Everyday.

SECTION FOUR: Management of risk

39. Councils Risk Management Framework sets out responsibilities and processes for managing risk, including strategic risks that may affect directorate operational risks, health and safety, and project and programme delivery.

Summary of critical risks review

40. The table below summarises Councils critical health and safety risks, including the status of each bowtie and risk register review.

41. Reviews of the Threat, Aggression and Violence and Working In, On and Around Water critical risks are progressing through consultation with subject matter experts and Health and Safety Representatives. The reviews include the specific critical risk standard, risk register and supporting documentation to confirm that critical controls remain appropriate, effective and aligned with operational requirements.

42. Psychosocial risk has been incorporated into Council's risk review table below and will be reported through the normal governance review cycle. Work to clarify roles, responsibilities and accountabilities is continuing.

Critical risk review status

WRC Critical Risk	Risk statement	Bowtie status	Risk review status

Vehicle Use	The risk of *losing control over the vehicle* leading to a crash and resulting in serious harm or death.	Bow-tie	Risk Register update. Completed Review due March 2027
Overlapping Duties (Contractor Management)	The risk that *works processes are not controlled*, leading to serious harm or death, loss of plant, equipment or impacts on the environment.	Not undertaken	Risk Register updated Completed Next review November 2026
Working in, on and Around Water:	The risk of the *accidental exposure to water bodies,* leading infection, serious harm, or drowning.	Bow-tie	Risk register update. Underway Next review February 2027
Working in Geothermal Areas	The risk of *exposure to gases and thermal heat* leading to asphyxiation, life threatening burns, or death.	Bow-tie	Risk Register update. Completed Next review due January 2027
Struck by Moving Vehicles, Plant or Equipment	The risk of *being struck by moving vehicle, plant or equipment* leading to personal injury or fatality.	Not undertaken	Risk Register update. Completed Review due December 2026
Threat, Aggression and Violence	Risks of *confrontational interactions with members of the public*, leading to physical and psychological harm.	Bow-tie	Risk Register update. Underway
Psychosocial Risk (Healthy Workplaces)	Risk of *unmanaged psychosocial hazards,* leading to worker harm, reduced wellbeing, engagement and performance.	Bow-tie	Risk Register update Completed Review December 2026

Waikato Regional Council Health and Wellbeing Initiatives

43. **Influenza A** remains widespread in the community, with many people experiencing ongoing symptoms such as fatigue, persistent coughs, and reduced energy levels for weeks after infection. Seasonal respiratory illnesses continue to place pressure on New Zealand hospitals. To support staff health, influenza vaccination vouchers are available during September for those who missed the initial vaccination programme. Staff are encouraged to get vaccinated, as infection with one influenza strain may not provide protection against other strains currently circulating. These vouchers have also been offered to Councillors.

44. **Blood and Plasma Donation Success**: Waikato Regional Council continues to demonstrate strong community contribution through its blood and plasma donation programme. WRC is the highest-ranked council in New Zealand for both blood and plasma donations and ranks ninth among more than 2,150 registered teams nationwide.

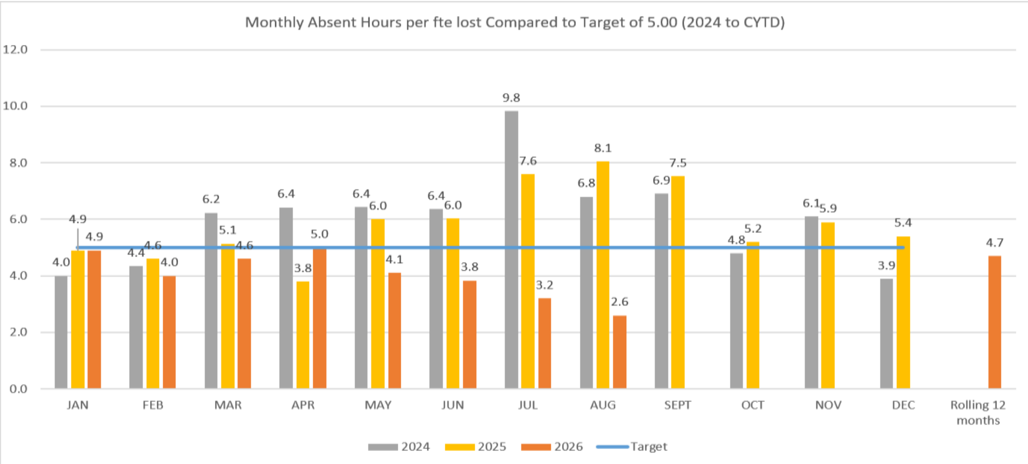
45. **Employee Assistance Programme** (EAP) utilisation remained within expected industry benchmarks during the reporting period. Between 1 Sep 2025 and 31 Aug 2026, 90 staff

accessed EAP services, representing a utilisation rate of 14.2% (industry average 7%–15%). Consistent with wider industry trends, most referrals related to personal matters (75%), with 25% relating to work issues. The most common personal concerns were personal relationships (n=17), stress and anxiety (n=14), and grief and loss (n=6). The most common work-related concerns were career (n=6), workload (n=4), and Relationship with Manager (n=3).

ĒTAHI ATU TAKE | OTHER MATTERS

Sick Leave Statistics

46. Graph 5 below shows sick leave numbers reported for Aug (2.6) is lower than the national benchmark of 5.0.



Graph 5. *Hours of Sick Leave by Month*

WHAKAKAPINGA | CONCLUSION

47. The Mount Maunganui Beachside Holiday Park landslide review highlighted the importance of clear risk ownership, effective escalation, coordination across organisational boundaries, and robust assurance of controls for hazards with the potential to cause significant harm. In response, Waikato Regional Council has commenced an organisation-wide review of known hazards and risks that could significantly affect life or property. This work will strengthen existing risk management and assurance practices by reviewing ownership, escalation, information management and critical control assurance arrangements, with any identified improvements progressed through established management and governance processes.

48. Event reporting remains consistent, with 246 reports submitted during the 12 months to 31 August 2026, including 21 in August. Monthly HSW Team reviews and coaching continue to support the quality of event investigations and strengthen manager capability, with improvement opportunities monitored through the assurance programme. A summing up of the issue and analysis. If the author or authoriser has any conflicts of interest a statement of declaration to be made here.

49. Council's focus on critical risks, critical controls and assurance continues to support the management of organisational risks. Recent critical risk reviews and leadership walkarounds provide valuable insight into operational risks, control effectiveness and workforce engagement. Risk management training for people leaders will be delivered in September to further strengthen organisational capability.

50. The HSMS implementation continues to progress, with assurance activities, leadership engagement and capability development strengthening organisational risk management maturity. Dynamic Risk Training is enhancing staff capability to recognise changing conditions and make safe, risk-informed decisions. This supports WRC's Strategic Direction 2026–2036, particularly the Building Regional Resilience priority, by contributing to a capable, adaptable and response-ready workforce.

51. The Toa Haumaru | Health, Safety and Wellbeing Award will reinforce visible safety leadership, encourage open and constructive safety conversations, and support positive health, safety and wellbeing behaviours across Council.

52. Influenza A remains prevalent in the community, with the influenza season expected to continue through to December. Influenza vaccination vouchers are available during September for staff and Councillors who missed the initial vaccination programme.

53. WRC's blood and plasma donation programme continues to achieve outstanding results, with Council remaining the highest-ranked council in New Zealand and ninth among more than 2,150 registered teams nationwide. This reflects the significant contribution WRC staff make to supporting community health and wellbeing.

54. Council's EAP is a free, confidential support service available 24/7, with a 14.2% staff utilisation rate which is within the industry average. Most referrals (75%) are for personal issues, such as relationships, stress, and life transitions, consistent with national trends.

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

7.2 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND (LGNZ) ACTIVITY UPDATE

Rā | Date: **14 September 2026**

Kaituhi | Author: **Dave Doggart, Team Lead, Democracy**

Kaituku | Authoriser: **Chris McLay, Chief Executive**

TE ARONGA | PURPOSE

1. To provide the Council with an update of the activities of LGNZ in the last month.

KŌRERO WHAKATAKI | EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Chair of Council (Cr Warren Maher) will provide a verbal update on the LGNZ activities since the last meeting of Council.
3. Elected members should be automatically subscribed to and receiving LGNZ newsletters and correspondence. If that is not the case, please let the report author know in the first instance.

TAUNAKITANGA KAIMAHI | STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

That the report *Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Activity Update* (Council, 24 September 2026) be received.

HOROPAKI | BACKGROUND

4. At the meeting of Council held on 23 April 2026, Council resolved to retain its LGNZ membership. During the discussion an action was recorded that a monthly report be tabled to keep the Council appraised of LGNZ activities.

NGĀ TOHUTORO | REFERENCES

Nil.

ĀPITIHANGA | ATTACHMENTS

Nil

8 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

HE TŪTOHUNGA | RECOMMENDATION:

1. 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
8.1 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Ordinary Council meeting held on 27 August 2026	s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information s7(2)(h) of the Act - To enable Council to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations) s7(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
8.2 - Public Excluded Minutes of the Chief Executive Employment and Remuneration Committee meeting held on 19 August 2026	s7(2)(a) of the Act - To protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of deceased natural persons s7(2)(b)(ii) of the Act - To avoid unreasonable prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information	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

	s7(2)(i) of the Act - To enable Council to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations)	

9 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Unuhia, unuhia
Unuhia mai te uru tapu nui
kia wātea, kia māmā,
te ngākau, te tinana, te hinengaro,
i te ara takatū
Koia rā e Rongo
e whakairia ake ki runga
kia tina! TINA!
Haumi ē, hui ē, TĀIKI ē!

Draw on, draw on,
Draw on to the supreme sacredness
To clear, to free
our heart, body and soul
Our pathway prepared
Lo, there is peace
suspended high above
manifest!
draw together!
Affirm!