

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN COMMITTEE HELD AT CLOCKTOWER CHAMBERS,
WESTPORT AT 9AM ON 25 FEBRUARY 2025**

Present

R. Williams (Chairman), Mayor T. Gibson (GDC), Cr B. Cummings (WCRC), Kaiwhakahaere F. Tumahai (Ngāti Waewae), Kaiwhakahaere P. Madgwick (Makaawhio), Cr A. Cassin (WDC), Cr J. Howard (BDC), Mayor J. Cleine (BDC), Cr A. Gibson (GDC)

In attendance

Joanne Soderlund (GDC), Catriona Bayliss (GDC), Simon Bastion (BDC), Carissa du Plessis (BDC), J. Armstrong (TTPP Project Manager), Barbara Phillips (WDC), D. Lew (WCRC), J. Allen (WCRC), Doug Bray (WCRC), Chu Zhao (WCRC)

Welcome

Apologies

Mayor H. Lash (WDC), Cr G. Neylon (BDC) & Cr P. Haddock (WCRC)

Moved (R. Williams/ Mayor Cleine)

That the apologies of Mayor Lash, Cr Neylon and Cr Haddock be accepted.

Carried

Confirm minutes of the previous meeting held 13 December 2024

Moved (Kaiwhakahaere Madgwick/ Mayor Cleine)

That the minutes of the meeting held 13 December 2024 be confirmed.

Carried

Confirm minutes of the previous meeting held 16 January 2025

Moved (Kaiwhakahaere Tumahai / Mayor Cleine)

That the minutes of the meeting held 16 January 2025 be confirmed.

Carried

Matters arising from previous meetings

None raised

Updating Te Tai o Poutini Plan Committee Standing Orders

J. Armstrong presented recommended changes to the TTPP standing orders 1 October 2024 version and sought approval to update them in line with the recommendations.

D. Lew emphasized that the standing orders become increasingly important between now and September as this joint committee has to start to consider recommended decisions from the independent hearing panels.

J. Armstrong highlighted in Section 13 on page 35 the need to change ‘a member of a local authorities’ to ‘the four West Coast councils’.

Kaiwhakahaere Tumahai was happy with this change.

J. Armstrong pointed out the independent chairperson does not have a casting vote, and she briefly discussed the three Options for speaking and moving.

Mayor Cleine said that Option C is what they are doing in the district council because it’s more collaborative, and Option C allows an iterative process where someone might move something. Therefore, his preference is Option C. He added that Option A eliminates the well-voiced member to keep reiterating, tweaking, and it is more restrictive.

Mayor Gibson is also happy with Option C, because she said everyone should have the opportunity to speak, and they need to be able to have their voices heard on this committee.

Cr Cassin supported Option C.

The Committee agreed to use Option C.

Moved (Mayor Cleine / Cr Cassin)

- 1. That the Committee receive the report.*
- 2. That the Committee discuss and approve updates to the TTPP Standing Orders to take effect from 27 February 2025.*

Carried

Financial Report to 31 December 2024

J. Armstrong noted that a couple of expenditure items are anticipated to be higher than originally budgeted for the year, including the consultants and contractors item and the hearing commissioner fees item.

In terms of the table on page 9. Cr Gibson asked if the meals, travel and accommodation costs would decrease as the commissioners will not have hearings.

J. Armstrong answered yes, but there will be full-day meetings that require consultants, and probably lawyers to come and present to the committee.

J. Armstrong noted that the final column on the table on page 10 is updated every month to show full costs to date. She also noted that the deficit on the right-hand side of \$3,105,000 shows the required loan, which is the difference between the total income to date and the total expenditure to date.

Moved (Kaiwhakahaere Tumahai / R. Williams)

1. That the Committee receive the report.

Carried

Report – Preliminary Estimates of Future Expenses

J. Armstrong provided four definitions for the notified plan, decisions plan, part operative plan and fully operative plan.

Cr Gibson asked if the vagueness of some maps including the boundary of SNA would be a problem.

J. Armstrong answered that a lot of effort has been made to improve the mapping, and they are still looking at more options.

Mayor Cleine asked if the committee would be involved in the appeals mediation.

J. Armstrong said no, only staff and planners.

J. Armstrong noted that the actual column in the table should be on column one and the others move to the right one. J. Armstrong noted that column four is the full-year forecast, and it can be easily compared with column 5, which is the budget for the year.

Cr Cummings wondered how they got it so wrong with the estimates for the hearing commissioner fees and wondered who prepared the estimates, who signed off all this stuff.

R. Williams answered that the staff prepared the estimates according to their knowledge, and the budget was signed off by this committee. He added that the significant costs come back to this committee for approval.

D. Low commented that he understands the challenges, the regional council is trying to exert some cost control. However, they do not have the ability to control the hearing commissioners' costs. He added that they are trying to provide some insight into the challenges they face in managing costs and identifying areas where they can exert some control.

Mayor Gibson asked how these consultants were chosen.

J. Armstrong answered that three quotes were sought during plan development where there were that number of professionals in NZ. Having the required expertise was crucial, and often there is one expert organization in the country who undertakes this work across councils.

Cr Cummings asked why they have to use consultants for everything.

D. Lew commented that the regional council does not hold expertise in district plan matters because TTPP is a district council set of matters. He added that technical advice, such as noise contours, requires a noise expert. He is more than happy to use technical experts if the district councils have those staff.

J. Armstrong noted that column 6 of the table on Page 15 shows the estimated budget for the July to September 2025 period when decisions on the Plan are expected. She explained the table of Preliminary Estimated Costs July 2019 to 30 September 2025 on page 13 – Life of Project to the 31st of December 2024 was \$6.5 million, Forecast costs from 1 January to 30 June 2025 is \$1.5 million, and Estimated costs to 30 September 2025 is \$0.38 million.

Moved (Kaiwhakahaere Tumahai / Kaiwhakahaere Madgwick)

1. That the Committee receive the report.

Carried

Report - Draft Budget 2026

J. Armstrong identified the TTPP 2026 Draft Budget Costs on Page 17 for approval.

Moved (Cr Howard / Kaiwhakahaere Tumahai)

- 1. That the Committee receive the report.*
- 2. That the Committee approve the 2026 draft budget for presentation to West Coast Regional Council for funding approval.*

Carried

Project Manager's Report

J. Armstrong noted that the Ministry for the Environment has granted the Committees request for an extension for decisions on TTPP to 14 January 2026.

Moved (Mayor Cleine / Cr Cassin)

1. That the Committee receive the report.

Carried

R. Williams asked J. Armstrong to comment on the agenda for the March and April meetings.

J. Armstrong noted that she will bring a code of conduct and planning papers to the committee in the next meeting.

She added that the Technical Advisory Team is scheduled to look at the first recommendation reports on the 26th of March. The first full-day meeting will be held on the 10th of April at Grey District Council. A legal advisor and the principal planner will talk through the processes for making decisions on the recommendation reports. The staff will begin work on a tracked changes version of TTPP to accompany final reports, so that everyone can see what's being decided on.

The meeting then moved to a public excluded session at 10.40am to discuss Remuneration.

Meeting ended at 10.44am.

NEXT MEETING



Chairman

March 28, 2025

Date