

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF TE TAI O POUTINI PLAN COMMITTEE HELD AT WEST COAST REGIONAL COUNCIL CHAMBERS AT 3.30PM ON 23 APRIL 2025**

**Present**

R. Williams (Chairman), Mayor T. Gibson (GDC), Cr B. Cummings (WCRC), Kaiwhakahaere P. Madgwick (Makaawhio), Cr G. Neylon (BDC), Mayor J. Cleine (BDC), Cr A. Gibson (GDC), Mayor H. Lash (WDC), Cr P. Haddock (WCRC)

**In attendance**

Barbara Phillips (WDC), Deborah Patterson (WDC), D. Lew (WCRC), J. Armstrong (TTPP Project Manager), Michael McEnaney (GDC), Lois Easton (Kereru Consultant on behalf of WCRC), Janeen Kydd-Smith (Sage Planning on behalf of WCRC), Doug Bray (WCRC), Chu Zhao (WCRC).

**Welcome**

**Apologies**

Cr A. Cassin (WDC)

**Moved** (R. Williams)

*That the apologies of Cr A. Cassin be accepted.*

*Carried*

**Confirm minutes of the previous meeting held 28 March 2025**

R. Williams commented on the second paragraph on page 4 of the agenda. He suggested to amend 'Ms. Balme said they might extend the time period...' to 'Ms. Balme said the time period might be extended...' for accuracy.

**Moved** (R. Williams / Cr Gibson)

*That the minutes of the meeting held 28 March 2025 be confirmed.*

*Carried*

**Matters arising from previous meetings**

None raised



## Financial Report to 28 February 2025

J. Armstrong pointed out that the February statement shows that costs are ahead of those expected, with a reported deficit of \$1,527,365 compared with a budgeted deficit of \$939,564. The resulting unfavourable variance against budget is \$587,801.

In Table 1, J. Armstrong noted that the full-year variance is the difference between the full-year budget and what has been spent to date. She noted that the two items in the final column in red exceeded the annual budget.

J. Armstrong pointed out that expenditure on Hearing Commissioner Fees will extend into the 2025/26 financial year. A request is being made to increase the 2025/26 budget for the Hearing Commissioner Fees from \$50,000 to \$125,000.

Cr Gibson asked why the legal fees are so high when they have not made any decisions yet.

J. Armstrong answered that they have been taking a lot of legal advice on different topics that the hearing commissioners have requested.

**Moved** (Cr Cummings / Mayor Gibson)

1. *That the Committee receive the report.*
2. *That the Committee approve the increased Hearing Commissioner Fee expenditure in the 2025/26 draft budget to \$125,000.*

*Carried*

## Report - Update on National Planning Instruments

L. Easton provided information for the committee on the current government work programme for updating national planning instruments that might impact on the TTPP.

She explained the national policy statements (NPS) set a broad direction for changes to the plan; the national environmental standards effectively replace whatever rules the Plan might have.

L. Easton noted that they are not going to change NPS too much because they do not want district and regional councils to do a lot of work that would be unnecessary when the new acts come out.

Mayor Gibson was concerned about the SNAs.

L. Easton noted that the government has put on-hold SNA identification for 3 years and there is no work underway or required to identify SNAs at this moment. However, L. Easton pointed out that they do have to implement the NPS Indigenous Biodiversity apart from the things that have been put on-hold.

L. Easton noted that TTPP can only be modified to the extent that was made in submissions. She reiterated that the committee will have to make some decisions on the ecosystems and biodiversity topic, which are consistent with the current national direction, but the committee won't have to do anything further to progress the identification of SNAs.

Mayor Gibson asked if the biodiversity chapter could be held to the last decision making through the process and Ms Easton responded that this topic is anticipated to be one of the final ones reported on.

Mayor Gibson suggested writing to the Minister once more, to clarify requirements for identifying SNAs in TTPP. R Williams agreed and suggested that J. Armstrong prepare a draft letter next week and circulate the draft to committee members to make sure they are happy.

**Moved** (Mayor Gibson / Cr Gibson)

1. *That the Committee receive the report.*

*Carried*

### **Project Manager's Report**

J. Armstrong noted that staff have responded to two Local Government Official Information Act requests about commissioner costs and number of contractors used on TTPP.

J. Armstrong clarified a query raised from the last committee meeting regarding a media article about the removal of mineral extraction zones. She noted that the article was based on the recommendation report from the reporting planner for that topic, and no decisions have been made.

**Moved** (Mayor Gibson / Mayor Cleine)

1. *That the Committee receive the report.*

*Carried*

The meeting then moved to a public excluded session at 4.06 pm.

The Public Excluded segment of the meeting was to protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence where the making available of the information would be likely to prejudice the supply of similar information, or information from the same source, and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied.

The meeting closed at 4.10pm.



**Te Tai o Poutini**  
**PLAN**  
*A combined district plan for the West Coast*

NEXT MEETING

Chairman

June 26, 2025

Date