

# Confirmed Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on Thursday 29 September 2022

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council  
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 9.32am.

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## Members Present

Councillor Gaylor (Chair)  
Councillor Connelly (Deputy Chair)  
Councillor Brash  
Councillor Hughes  
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand  
Councillor Lamason  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Nash  
Councillor Ponter  
Councillor Staples  
Councillor van Lier  
Barbie Barton

## Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

## Public Business

### 1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Nash

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Councillors Blakeley and Laban.

The motion was **carried**.

**2 Declarations of conflicts of interest**

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

**3 Public participation**

There was no public participation.

**4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 18 August 2022 – Report 22.370**

Moved: Cr Staples / Cr van Lier

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Environment Committee meeting on 18 August 2022 – Report 22.370.

The motion was **carried**.

**5 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting on 9 August 2022 – Report 22.362**

Moved: Cr Lamason / Cr Connelly

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee meeting on 9 August 2022 – Report 22.362.

The motion was **carried**.

**Noted:** The Committee thanked Councillor Lamason, as Chair of the Hutt Valley Flood Management Subcommittee, for her contribution to the Subcommittee.

**6 Update on Progress of Action Items from Previous Environment Committee Meetings – September 2022 – Report 22.420 [For Information]**

Jimmy Young, Acting General Manager, Environment Management, and Nigel Corry, Chief Executive, spoke to the report.

**7 Environment/Catchment Update – Report 22.24 [For Information]**

Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management, spoke to the report.

**Noted:** The Committee requested that officers:

- Review Greater Wellington's branding and marketing in relation to Predator Free Wellington, Mountains to Sea, and EnviroSchools.
- Provide members a map of the walking and cycling route with regard to the RiverLink resource consent.
- Invite all Councillors to future river walkovers.

**8 Farming Reference Group Update – Oral Report**

Barbie Barton, Farming Reference Group Chair, provided the Committee with an update on the farming sector.

Ms Barton advised that farms are still rather wet. This is causing concerns for farmers, as the mud is making access difficult. The wet weather and labour shortage is also cause for concern, particularly with docking season coming up.

The Farming Reference Group met on 16 September 2022 and received presentations from Greater Wellington officers. The meeting was a good opportunity for the Group to receive information from officers, and to provide feedback back to Greater Wellington. The Group discussed nitrogen caps, intensive winter grazing, farm plans, and indigenous biodiversity.

Ms Barton advised the Committed that the farmers are becoming more reliant on industry bodies to provide feedback to central and local government on policies and rules, particularly during challenging seasons. The Farming Reference Group provides farmers in the Wellington Region with the opportunity to discuss issues and provide feedback direct to Greater Wellington. The opportunity to include the Chair of the Farming Reference Group on the Environment Committee has also provided another avenue for farmer and rural perspectives to be heard.

**Noted:** The Committee thanked Ms Barton for her contribution to the Committee.

**9 Crown Funded Projects Update – September 2022 – Report 22.446** [For Information]

Wayne O'Donnell, General Manager, Catchment Management, and Jimmy Young, Acting General Manager Environment Management, spoke to the report.

The Committee Chair thanked members and officers for their contribution and work over the triennium.

## **Karakia whakamutunga**

The Committee Chair invited Councillor Connelly to close the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public part of the meeting closed at 10.56am.



Councillor D Ponter

**Council Chair**

Date: 6/10/22