

Farming Reference Group (An advisory body to the Environment Committee)

1 Purpose¹

Provide advice, information and recommendations on matters concerning Greater Wellington's functions as these relate to the well-being of the Wellington Region's farming communities.

2 Objectives

- 2.1 Promote, demonstrate and encourage the sustainable management of the Wellington Region within a framework of environmental and economic sustainability as it relates to the following issues:
 - a Soil conservation
 - b Flood protection
 - c Plant and animal pests
 - d Climate change
 - e Nutrient management
 - f Biodiversity protection and enhancement
 - g Riparian management
- 2.2 Provide a forum to consider and provide advice on farming matters during the development of the Wellington Region's Natural Resources Plan.
- 2.3 Provide a forum to consider and provide advice on matters related to Greater Wellington's other functions as these affect the farming communities within the Wellington Region.
- 2.4 Establish robust and enduring partnerships between Greater Wellington and the Wellington Region's farming communities and stakeholders.

3 Reporting

- 3.1 After each meeting, a written report on the business conducted at that meeting shall be provided to the Environment Committee.
- 3.2 The Chair of the Group shall speak to that written report at the relevant Environment Committee meeting.

¹ The Council's Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles apply when the advisory group conducts its business and makes decisions – refer to Section 3 of the [Approved Terms of Reference Council, Committees, Subcommittees and Advisory Bodies \(including Delegations to Committees\): 2022–25 triennium](#).

4 Members

Up to ten persons appointed by Council, as follows:

- a Two Councillors
- b Up to eight persons, nominated on the basis of their experience and skills relevant to the Group and their networks in the Wellington Region's farming sector community.

5 Chair

Once all members are appointed, Council appoints the Chair from the Group's non-Councillor members.

6 Quorum

At least 50 percent of the members.

7 Term of appointment

A member's term of appointment ceases if the member resigns or misses two consecutive meetings without tendering an apology.

8 Remuneration and expenses

Members (who are not otherwise being remunerated) may claim Greater Wellington's standard daily meeting fee and mileage allowances and expenses.

9 Meeting procedure and frequency

- 9.1 All members have equal speaking and voting rights (one vote per member).
- 9.2 The Group shall meet up to six times each year, with additional meetings as required.

10 Status of the Group

- 10.1 The Farming Reference Group is an advisory body established by Council.
- 10.2 The Group is not a subordinate decision making body of Council and is not a committee under the Local Government Act 2002.

11 Duration of the Farming Reference Group

In the absence of Council's prior decision to continue the Group in the next triennium, the Group is dissolved at the end of the 2022—25 triennium.