

Minutes of a meeting of the Performance & Strategy Committee of the Waikato District Council held in the Council Chambers, District Office, 15 Galileo Street, Ngaaruawaahia on **MONDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2023** commencing at **12.09pm**.

Present:

Cr J Gibb (Chairperson)
Cr M Raumati (Deputy Chairperson)
Her Worship the Mayor, Mrs JA Church
Cr C Beavis
Cr M Keir
Cr K Ngataki
Cr EM Patterson
Cr V Reeve
Cr P Thomson
Cr LR Thomson
Cr T Turner
Cr D Whyte

Attending:

Mr C Susan, Audit NZ
Ms K Maccown, Audit NZ

Mr G Ion (Chief Executive Officer)
Mr T Whittaker (Chief Operating Officer)
Ms A Diaz (Chief Financial Officer)
Mr W Gauntlett (Acting Community Growth General Manager)
Ms M May (Service Delivery General Manager)
Mr R MacCulloch (Customer Support General Manager)
Ms C Pidduck (Legal Counsel)
Ms N Hubbard (Corporate Planning Team Leader)
Mr C Bailey (Finance Manager)
Ms N Hubbard (Corporate Planning Team Leader)
Mr M Balloch (Building Quality Manager)
Mr T McIntyre (Policy Advisor)
Ms E Saunders (Senior Democracy Advisor)

APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Resolved: (Crs Ngataki/Patterson)

That the apology for:

- a. non-attendance from Cr Eyre be received.**

CARRIED

P&S2310/01

CONFIRMATION OF STATUS OF AGENDA ITEMS

Resolved: (Her Worship the Mayor, Mrs JA Church/Cr L Thomson)

THAT the agenda for a meeting of the Performance & Strategy Committee held on Monday, 9 October 2023 be confirmed:

- a. with all items therein being considered in open meeting with the exception of those items detailed at agenda item 5 which shall be considered with the public excluded.**

CARRIED

P&S2310/02

DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

There were no disclosures of interest.

REPORTS

Annual Report
Agenda Item 4.1

The report was received [*P&S2310/02 refers*] and the Chief Financial Officer provided an update and the following discussion was held:

- A Powerpoint Presentation on the previous 2022/2023 year was provided to the Committee which outlined the year in review including the key highlights and room for improvement.
- An extensive summary was provided on both the financial and non-financial measures for the previous year.
- It was noted that whilst we usually do receive dividends in relation to the Airport we have not received any for the last two years.
- An outline was provided on the two sets of water results in the presentation. One set fits in with the Long Term Plan (LTP) and the other set is for the new requirements.
- The spelling of both Ngaaruawaahia and Pookeno was highlighted by the Committee and it was further advised that this needs to be rectified in the Annual Report document before going to Council.
- The concern was raised that given Council have increased the rates by 3.5% more than what was previously benchmarked there may be ratepayers reading this report that will question what the rates are paying for.
- It was confirmed that the communication of this report is key and pulling together some key communication highlights for elected members will be vital to ensure all communications are cohesive and in line with the report.

- It was noted that whilst the numbers read that Council are \$223M up from the forecasted \$180M it won't be until the end of the construction season that we'll know for sure where Council have landed. For now we can confirm that we are tracking well against the budget.

The Finance Manager and the Corporate Planning Team Leader then addressed the Committee and spoke to the Annual Report, with the following discussion held:

- It was noted that regular updates have been provided to the Committee throughout the year and this is the final Annual Report presentation for adoption.
- It was advised that the full Completed Design of the Annual Report would be available at the formal Council meeting for adoption of the Annual Report and it has been half completed to date.
- The Corporate Planning Team Leader walked the Committee through some changes in the report along with some tweaks in the results which has not changed the overall outcome except the compliance result for discharging under Regional Council – the result was actually a zero which changes the result to Achieved. .
- The audit clearance is currently with Audit NZ. The plan was to provide clearance on Friday this week however they are just waiting on the final changes to be made. Council are still on track to meet the adoption of the Annual Report date.
- It was queried whether Audit NZ did a deep dive in any particular area? It was confirmed that Audit NZ would normally do a lot of work on valuations and revaluations and they also took a good look at the capital works programme under the LTP.
- It was queried whether the extensive work in the Proposed District Plan are reflected in the valuation? It was confirmed that the cost of the District Plan is unfunded and any costs will be written off throughout the life of a district plan (10 years). This is captured but not in the Annual Report.
- It was queried whether councillor satisfaction could be reflected in the survey results and it was further noted that bringing Community Boards and Community Committees along on the journey would be a good thing.
- It was noted that in response to a query around Stormwater & Wastewater costs and what the internal charges will be that the question will be taken offline for further discussion.
- When will the first quarter of 2023/2024 be presented to the Committee? September quarter has just finished and team is working on generating the reports for the Committee's overview.
- Capital Programme – it was noted that in the Annual Report we are comparing against the Annual Plan budget. It is mentioned in the Chairpersons statement in the financial results and it was noted that this result and part of the report will really need to be communicated to our communities effectively.
- It was noted that it would be great to have further information that reflects what the 40% of Capital works is and explains to our communities where it is being undertaken.

