

Minutes of a meeting of the Implementation Committee held in the Council Chamber on 9 June 2021, commencing at 9AM

Membership

Cr Carmen Hope (Co-Chair) Cr Bryan Scott (Co-Chair) Cr Hilary Calvert Cr Michael Deaker Cr Alexa Forbes Hon Cr Marian Hobbs Cr Gary Kelliher Cr Michael Laws Cr Kevin Malcolm Cr Andrew Noone Cr Gretchen Robertson Cr Kate Wilson

Welcome

Implementation Committee Co-Chair Carmen Hope welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 09:01 am. Staff present included Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive), Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Richard Saunders (GM Regulatory), Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Liz Spector (Governance Support), Ryan Tippet, Libby Caldwell, Eleanor Ross, and Andrea Howard.

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests to address the Committee under Public Forum.

3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as circulated.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Cr Scott advised a conflict of interest and indicated he would sit back from discussions and voting on the Draft Lake Tuakitoto Management Plan report.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 March 2021 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Moved: Cr Calvert Seconded: Cr Wilson CARRIED

6. ACTIONS

There are no outstanding actions of Implementation Committee resolutions.

7. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

Cr Scott left the meeting at 09:03 am.

7.1. Draft Lake Tuakitoto Management Plan

This report provided an update on proposed activities for the Lake Tuakitoto catchment planned in the upcoming years. Libby Caldwell (Project Delivery Specialist) and Gavin Palmer (General Manager Operations) were present to respond to questions. Cr Calvert enquired whether any of the proposed programmes of work for the catchment would be brought back to Councillors for approval. Ms Caldwell said that after the community consultation was completed and compiled, a report would be brought back to the Committee for further consideration. She said the consultations would start after 1 July 2021, post finalisation of the 2021-31 LTP budgets.

After further discussions and questions about the paper, Cr Hope asked for a motion.

Resolution

That the Committee:

1) **Receives** this report.

- 2) **Approves** the draft outline management plan for further community engagement to prioritise projects and finalise an implementation plan, in 2021/22, subject to Long Term Plan decisions.
- *3)* **Notes** that the Implementation of projects would proceed in 2021/22, subject to Long Term Plan decisions.

Moved: Cr Calvert Seconded: Cr Kelliher CARRIED

Cr Scott returned to the meeting at 09:24 am and took over Chairing responsibilities.

7.2. Biosecurity Compliance Policy

This report was provided to seek adoption of the draft Biosecurity Compliance and Enforcement Policy that covers the requirements of both the Biosecurity Act 1993 and the Regional Pest Management Plan. Andrea Howard (Manager Biosecurity and Rural Liaison) and Gavin Palmer (General Manager Operations) were present to speak to the report and respond to questions.

Ms Howard noted the draft Policy underpins the principles of the ORC's direction in biosecurity work and would give public assurance that the Council's work is backed by its policies. She also noted that she is unaware of any other regional council that has a biosecurity policy separate from the RMA. After a general discussion of the report and draft Policy, Cr Laws noted mention of non-favouritism was lacking in the Policy. He said every entity should be equally held to account for biosecurity whether they are Crown entities, private enterprises, or individual landowners. Chief Executive Sarah Gardner noted under the Biosecurity Act, Crown entities have different rules related to pest management. She said these entities are required to manage pests on their property borders, rather than the whole of the property. Dr Palmer said the Policy was intended to be neutral and be applicable regardless of property ownership.

Cr Laws then asked whether recovery of legal costs should be added to the Policy. Ms Howard said staff felt it was critical to get the Policy adopted before addressing cost recovery requirements in Annual Plan documents. Mrs Gardner noted that in a court process there are particular costs that can be recovered, but these are never full costs. Cr Calvert then suggested the Policy be amended to change wording making it clear that ORC will use all available opportunities to follow through with maximum recovery of costs.

After further questions, Cr Forbes moved the staff recommendation which was seconded by Cr Robertson. During deliberation of the motion, Cr Laws moved an amendment to add a third point to the recommendation:

That the draft biosecurity compliance and enforcement policy include an explanation that the Crown, under existing legislation, is exempt from the same compliance rules enforced upon individuals and/or other agencies.

Cr Calvert seconded the amendment. After discussion of the proposed amendment, Co-Chair Forbes put it to the vote and the amendment was carried. The substantive motion was then put to a vote.

Resolution

That the Committee:

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) *Approves and adopts* the Otago Regional Council Biosecurity Compliance and Enforcement Policy.
- 3) **Requests** staff to include in the draft biosecurity compliance and enforcement policy an explanation that the Crown, under existing legislation, is exempt from the same compliance rules enforced upon individuals and/or other agencies.

Moved: Cr Forbes Seconded: Cr Robertson CARRIED

8. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Co-Chair Scott declared the meeting closed at 10:21 am.

Chairperson

9 September 2021 Date