

## Regional Leadership Committee MINUTES

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Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Regional Leadership Committee held in the Council Chamber, Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin on Wednesday, 10 May 2023, commencing at 9:00 AM.

### PRESENT

Cr Bryan Scott (Co-Chairperson)  
Cr Michael Laws (online) (Co-Chairperson)  
Cr Alexa Forbes  
Cr Gary Kelliher  
Cr Kevin Malcolm  
Cr Lloyd McCall  
Cr Andrew Noone  
Cr Gretchen Robertson  
Cr Alan Somerville  
Cr Kate Wilson

*DRAFT*

## **1. WELCOME**

Co-Chairperson Bryan Scott welcomed Councillors, members of the public, and staff to the meeting at 9:02 a.m. and gave a karakia. Staff present included Pim Borren (interim Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science), Joanna Gilroy (acting GM Regulatory), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Richard Saunders (GM Communications), Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Liz Spector (Governance Support), and Kylie Darragh (Governance Support).

## **2. APOLOGIES**

**Resolution: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Scott Seconded:**

*That the apologies for Cr Mephram, Cr Weir be accepted.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no requests to speak during Public Forum.

## **4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was confirmed as presented.

## **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No changes to Council Declarations of Interests were noted.

## **6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Resolution; Cr Scott Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded**

*That the minutes of the Regional Leadership Committee meeting held on 2 February 2023 be confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **7. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **7.1. Regulatory Activity Update - Quarterly Activity Report**

This report was provided to summarise activity of the Regulatory Group which includes Consents, Compliance, Harbourmaster and the Regulatory Data and Systems teams for the quarter ended 31 March 2023. Steve Rushbrook (Harbourmaster), Simon Wilson (Manager Regulatory Data and Systems), Tami Sargeant (Manager Compliance), Alex King (Manager Consents) and Jo Gilroy (acting GM Regulatory) were present to respond to questions about the report.

Following a discussion of the report, Cr Laws asked if publishing specific details about abatement/infringement notices and warnings could be an additional disincentive to those receiving such notices. He also suggested more detail could help Councillors understand if there were particular areas of concern or any habitual offenders. Richard Saunders, GM Communications, said while he had no concerns about providing additional details to Councillors, he preferred to explore possible unintended consequences with staff before releasing details on whom notices were filed against.

Cr Laws suggested a policy paper could be provided to the next Regional Leadership Committee meeting for consideration. Cr Kelliher said Mr Saunders had given a sufficient response and that

he supported that direction. Cr Robertson agreed and said the Council should aim towards positive change rather than shame and she looked forward to the future conversation.

Cr Laws foreshadowed he would make an additional motion following noting of the report.

**Resolution RLC23-103: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded**

*That the Regional Leadership Committee:*

- 1) **Notes** the Quarterly Update Report from the Regulatory Group.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**Resolution RLC23-104: Cr Laws Moved, Cr Malcolm Seconded**

*That the Regional Leadership Committee:*

- 1) **Receive** at its next meeting further detail of enforcement notices issued by the ORC over the previous financial year including whether publication of these notices should be a matter of policy.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7.2. Territorial Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant Compliance Report**

This report provided a summary of the compliance of Territorial Local Authority wastewater treatment plants and actions taken to achieve compliance. Tami Sargeant (Manager Compliance) and Joanna Gilroy (acting GM Regulatory) were present to respond to questions about the report.

Ms Sargeant noted an additional graph showing overall TLA wastewater treatment plant consent compliance between 2020, 2021 and 2023 reporting periods had been circulated after distribution of the agenda. *This report will be included in the minutes as reference.*

Following Councillor questions, the report was noted.

**Resolution RLC23-105: Cr McCall Moved, Cr Malcolm Seconded**

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Notes** this report.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7.3. Community Newsletter Proposal**

This report provided details of a proposal to introduce a new Otago Regional Council newsletter distributed to all Otago households and available digitally. Jo Galer (Manager Communications and Marketing) and Vicki Roach (Team Leader Marketing and Brand) were present to respond to questions about the report.

Cr Laws noted problems the ORC had with distribution of a previous regionwide mailout and asked if those distribution problems had been addressed. Richard Saunders (GM Communications) agreed there had been problems with the previous mailout and noted a very robust quality control process would be in place to ensure the documents were delivered as agreed in the contract with the distributor. Cr Laws asked if there would be Councillor contact details in the newsletter. Ms Galer said that would be a good idea. Cr Wilson said she anticipated the newsletter would tell the stories of planned work programmes. Ms Galer said she would take guidance from staff on content and was happy to have Councillor input as well. Mr Saunders said the Councillors would be able to provide feedback from the community on information they are interested in reading more about.

Cr Malcolm said he agreed with the concept, but he didn't think the branding clearly showed the newsletter was from the ORC. Ms Roach and Ms Galer indicated they would review the proposed branding for clarity. Cr McCall said the newsletter was a good initiative and stated communication is the number one thing to get right.

Following discussion, it was resolved:

**Resolution RLC23-106: Cr Forbes Moved, Cr Noone Seconded**

*That the Regional Leadership Committee:*

- 1) **Endorses** a one-year trial of a new 4-page ORC newsletter, *Te Mātāpuna — The Source*.
- 2) **Notes** that the first newsletter will be published in June 2023.
- 3) **Notes** that the newsletter will also be available digitally.
- 4) **Requests** that staff include a new metric in the Community Survey 2023 to monitor the effectiveness of the newsletter.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7.4. Update on Community Survey Action Points**

As part of the 2020/2021 Annual Plan, Councillors requested staff initiate delivery of a community survey for ORC and these surveys were completed in 2021 and 2022. An action plan responding to the results of the survey was approved by Council in December 2022 to be implemented in the following 12 months. This paper presented a progress report on the Community Survey Action Plan for 2022/23. Jo Galer (Manager Communications and Marketing) and Vicki Roach (Team Leader Marketing and Brand) were available to respond to questions about the report.

Following a discussion of the Action Plan, the report was noted.

**Resolution RLC23-107: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded**

*That the Regional Leadership Committee:*

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** that a final progress report on the 2022/23 Community Survey Action Plan will be reported to the Council before the end of the 2023 calendar year.
- 3) **Notes** that the Otago Regional Council Community Survey will be carried out again in 2023 and reported to Council before the end of that calendar year.
- 4) **Notes** that a new Community Survey Action Plan will be put forward for approval based on the results of the 2023 Community Survey before the end of the calendar year.

**MOTION CARRIED**

**8. CLOSURE**

There was no further business and Co-Chair Bryan Scott declared the meeting closed at 10:41 am.

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Chairperson

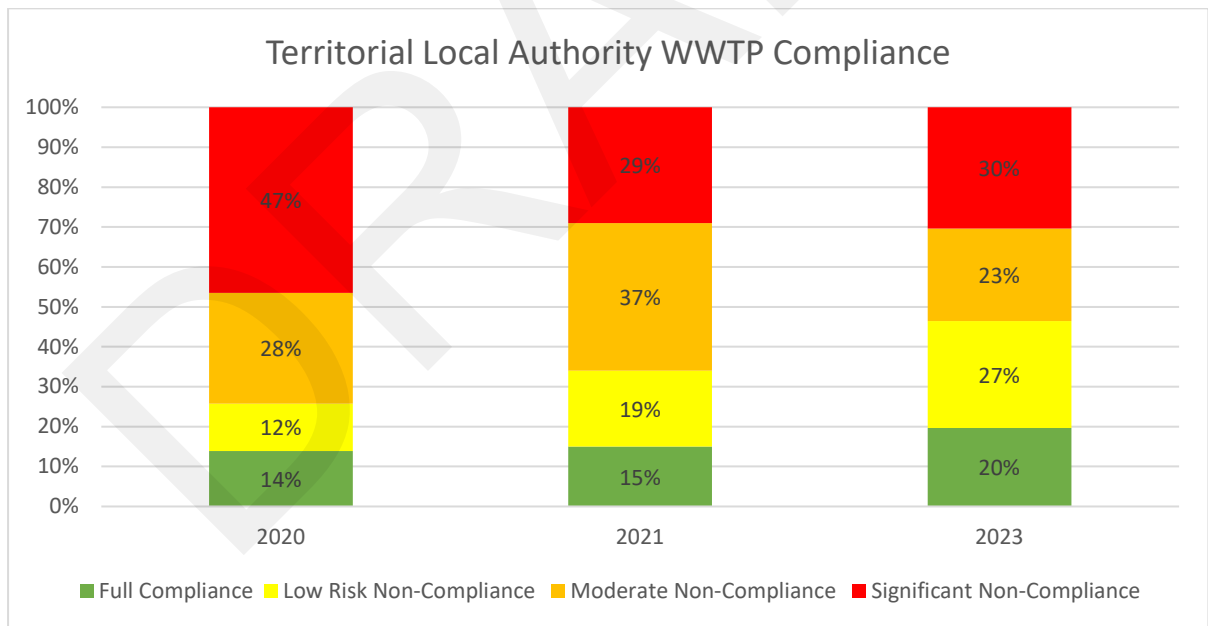
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Date

**7.2 Territorial Local Authority Wastewater Treatment Plant Compliance Report addendum**

**Prepared for:** Regional Leadership Committee  
**Report No.** REG2301  
**Activity:** Governance Report  
**Authors:** Tami Sargeant, Manager Compliance  
 Rachel Brennan, Principal Compliance Specialist  
**Endorsed by:** Joanna Gilroy, Acting General Manager Regulatory  
**Date:** 10 May 2023

1. This is the third report prepared for an ORC Committee that provides information on the compliance of discharge consents for TLA WWTPs.
2. The first report was provided to the Regulatory Committee in March 2020 on the WWTP compliance for audits completed to March 2020. The second report was provided to the Regulatory Committee in December 2021 for audits completed to November 2021 (16 months). This report provides an update of consent compliance and performance to March 2023 (16 months).
3. Graph 2 provides a summary of the overall compliance gradings for WWTP consents between the three reporting periods.



Graph 2: Overall TLA WWTP consent compliance between 2020, 2021 and 2023 reporting periods

4. Graph 2 should not be considered a direct comparison between reporting periods, as some new consents have been issued, and some consents have been surrendered. However, Graph 2 broadly demonstrates that while there are still a range of significant and moderate non-compliance issues, substantial progress has been made on improving compliance across WWTP consents. There is now a greater proportion of WWTP discharge consents assessed as full compliance or low risk non-compliance.