

Environment Committee (A committee of the whole)

1 Purpose

To oversee the development, implementation and review of Council's:

- a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives to address environmental issues in the region (including issues in the areas of land management, regional natural resources, river control, flood protection, regional parks and reserves, coastal marine environment, maritime navigation and safety, biosecurity and biodiversity)
- b Regional resilience priorities in the delivery of plans, programmes, initiatives and activities for flood protection and regional parks and forests
- c Regulatory systems, processes and tools to meet Council's related legislative responsibilities.

2 Specific responsibilities

The Committee's environmental responsibilities include the areas of land management, regional natural resources, river control, flood protection, regional parks and reserves, coastal marine environment, maritime navigation and safety, biosecurity and biodiversity.

2.1 Oversee the development and review of Council's:

- a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives
- b Regional resilience priorities

and recommend these matters (and variations) to Council for adoption.

2.2 Review periodically the effectiveness of implementing and delivering Council's:

- a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives
- b Regional resilience priorities.

2.3 Consider regional, national and international developments; emerging issues and impacts; and changes in the legislative frameworks for their implications for Council's:

- a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives
- b Regulatory systems, processes and tools.

2.4 Recommend to Council changes to improve the effectiveness of Council's:

- a Environmental strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives
- b Regional resilience priorities
- c Regulatory systems, processes and tools.

- 2.5 Review Greater Wellington's compliance with Council's related legislative responsibilities¹, and the monitoring and enforcement of compliance.
- 2.6 Ensure that the Committee's decision making:
- a Considers climate change-related risks (mitigation and adaptation)
 - b Is consistent with Council's plans and initiatives to give effect to Council's declaration of a climate emergency on 21 August 2019.

3 Delegations

- 3.1 Subject to sections 3.3 to 3.7, Council delegates to the Committee all the powers, functions and duties necessary to perform the Committee's responsibilities, except those that must not be delegated, have been retained by Council, have been delegated to another committee, or have been delegated to the Chief Executive.
- 3.2 The Committee has the authority to approve submissions to external organisations for matters pertaining directly to the Committee's purpose.
- 3.3 The Committee may make decisions on matters with a financial impact only where the related costs are:
- a Budgeted for in the relevant business group's budget
 - b Not budgeted for in the relevant business group's budget, but can be met from savings within that budget.
- 3.4 Where the Committee considers a decision with a material financial impact is needed², the Committee must refer the matter to Council for its decision.
- 3.5 The Committee may not make a decision that is materially inconsistent with Council's Annual Plan or Long Term Plan.
- 3.6 Where a matter proposed for consideration by the Committee is of strategic importance to the Wairarapa Constituency, that matter shall first be referred to the Wairarapa Committee or its members for their consideration.
- 3.7 The Committee shall ensure that it acts under the guidance of the Memorandum of Partnership in working with Greater Wellington's mana whenua partners of the Wellington Region to ensure effective Māori participation in the Committee's deliberations and decision-making processes.

4 Members

- 4.1 All thirteen Councillors.

¹ These responsibilities include those under the Resource Management Act 1991 and for the granting of resource consents, the Soil Conservation and Rivers Control Act 1967, the Biosecurity Act 1993, the Reserves Act 1977, and the Maritime Transport Act 1994.

² That is, where savings are identified from other business groups' budgets to meet the related costs; or no savings are identified across Greater Wellington's overall budget to meet the related costs.

4.2 The Chair of the Farming Reference Group.

4.3 One member, appointed by Council on the nomination of Ara Tahi, who has the necessary skills, attributes or knowledge that will assist the work of the Committee.

5 Quorum

Two Committee members.