



# **MINUTES**

**Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group  
meeting**

**Wednesday, 12 March 2025**

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL  
WAIĀRI KAITIAKI ADVISORY GROUP MEETING  
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, GROUND FLOOR MEETING ROOM,  
306 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA  
ON WEDNESDAY, 12 MARCH 2025 AT 9.30AM**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ms Darlene Dinsdale, (Co Chair) Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Steve Morris, Mr Manu Pene, Cr Rod Taylor, Reuben Frazer, Helen Biel.

**APOLOGIES:** Mayor James Denyer, Deputy Mayor John Scrimgeour and Ms Helen Biel (lateness)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Wally Potts (Director of City Waters) Peter Bahrs (Manager: Water Services), Kelvin Hill (Manager: Water Infrastructure Outcomes), Sam Hema (Tangata Whenua Liaison), Rodney Clark (Water Treatment Manager), Brad Bellamy (Principal Planner (Structure Planning)), Stacey Mareroa-Roberts (Manager: Strategic Māori Engagement), Jennifer Pearson (Community Engagement Advisor: Infrastructure Delivery), Clare Sullivan (Team Leader: Governance Services), Caroline Irvin (Governance Advisor).

**EXTERNAL:** Chris Nepia, Manager: Kaupapa Maori, Western Bay of Plenty District Council  
Jason Crummer, Senior Recreation Planner, Western Bay of Plenty District Council  
Mokoera Te Amo (Te Kapu o Waitaha), Raponi Wilson

**Timestamps** are included beside each of the items and relate to the recording of the meeting held on 12 March 2025 at [Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group Meeting 12 March 2025](#)

## **1 OPENING KARAKIA**

Mr Chris Nepia opened the meeting with a karakia.

## **2 APOLOGIES**

### **APOLOGY**

### **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/1/1**

Moved: Cr Hautapu Baker  
Seconded: Cr Steve Morris

That the apology for absence received from Mayor James Denyer and Deputy Mayor John Scrimgeour be accepted.

That the apology for lateness received by Maru Tapsell and Ms Helen Biel be received and accepted.

**CARRIED**

### 3 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

### 4 ACCEPTANCE OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

### 5 CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS TO BE TRANSFERRED INTO THE OPEN

Nil

### 6 CHANGE TO ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

### 7 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

## 8 BUSINESS

TIMESTAMP: 11:34

#### 8.1 Appointment of Co-Chair to Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group

The Chair opened this item and called for any nominations for the appointment of a co-chair.

##### Key Points

- Cr Morris nominated Cr Baker as Co-Chair for Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group.
- The chair noted that a nomination was received by Mayor James Denyer to to appoint Deputy Mayor John Scrimgeour as Co-Chair however, due to their apologies, they were unable to put this forward formally at the meeting. The Chair opened the floor for discussion to take place given the situation.

##### Discussion points raised

- It was noted that Tauranga City Council (TCC) were committed to the partnership with mana whenua around Waiari, whilst extracting water. They also wanted to support mana whenua around Waiari. He acknowledged that although the awa was in the Western Bay of Plenty District Council area, TCC were the consent holder and had invested in the water plant.

#### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/1/2

Moved: Cr Steve Morris

Seconded: Ms Darlene Dinsdale

That the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report "Appointment of Co-Chair to Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group".
- (b) Recommends to Tauranga City Council and Western Bay of Plenty District Council that Councillor Baker be appointed as the Co-Chair of Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group.

**CARRIED**

In Favour: Darlene Dinsdale, Manu Pene, Cr Rod Taylor and Cr Steve Morris.

Against: Nil

Abstained: Cr Hautapu Baker.

TIMESTAMP: 17:40

## **8.2 Western Bay of Plenty District Council Report March 2025**

**External** Chris Nepia, Manager: Kaupapa Maori, Western Bay of Plenty District Council  
Jason Crummer, Senior Recreation Planner, Western Bay of Plenty District Council

### **Key Points**

- Staff spoke to their report.
- Western Bay staff noted they established an internal working group within Western Bay of Plenty District Council to ensure better communication and efficiency amongst staff.
- Through this working group, staff recognised that the Kaituna Action Plan and the Waiari Cultural Recognition Framework had similarities and staff were working to incorporate these together where possible, to create better efficiency for better outcomes for the communities and the groups.
- Mr Crummer noted that the Waiari Bridge area river access was in the cultural recognition framework. This was noted as a high priority. The next steps were to complete the river access project by next summer.

### **Discussion points raised**

- Councillor Taylor expressed that the project regarding river access at the Waiari Bridge needed to be taken more seriously and expressed concern around safety.

## **COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/1/3**

Moved: Ms Darlene Dinsdale

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report "Western Bay of Plenty District Council Report March 2025".

**CARRIED**

TIMESTAMP: 34:20

## **8.3 Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group Operations Report**

**Staff** Peter Bahrs, Manager: Water Services

Powerpoint Presentation

### **Key Points**

- Mr Bahrs spoke to his presentation.
- The Waiari monthly flows on average was above the notification level.

- The biological monitoring was undertaken in February. Discussions had taken place with iwi to align the monitoring with the maramataka (Māori Lunar Calendar). A biological report will be shared at the next Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group meeting.

### In response to questions

- As an overall concept for the water demand, TCC had done a lot of work in terms of demand reducing daily demands on average and peak.
- The Mauri Model was still under development but it was being used to establish trends for the Waiari which could be useful in the future to understand the well-being of the stream.

The Chair acknowledged Mr Luke Whare for his report which was included in the “Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group Operations Report” and his contribution to the Biological monitoring.

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/1/4

Moved: Cr Hautapu Baker

Seconded: Mr Maru Tapsell

That the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report "Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group Operations Report".
- (b) Provides feedback or comment on report, as needed.

**CARRIED**

### Attachments

- 1 Operations Report Update WKAG 12 March 2025

TIMESTAMP: 50.40

## 8.4 Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group - Cultural Recognition Development Update March 2025

**Staff** Kelvin Hill, Manager: Water Infrastructure Outcomes

Powerpoint Presentation

### Key Points

- The report was taken as read.
- Mr Hill spoke to his presentation and highlight the following:
  - The seven cultural recognition initiative developed by local iwi and hapu.
  - The funding through Long Term Plan from TCC was \$750,000 over three years.
  - The funding through Western Bay of Plenty District Council's (WBOPDC) Long Term Plan was \$1.1M
  - Six river access points had been identified. The aim was to be able to safely navigate a path from the bridge to the river. This road map was still a work in progress.
  - Water supply to local marae. Due to the structure of the trunk main, it was designed to move water from point a to point b, not to have small pipes leading off from it and feeding smaller areas. This was a work in progress.
  - Staff noted their plan going forward for the Cultural Recognition Program.

### In response to questions

- Mr Fraser noted he would report back to the June 2025 meeting about funding opportunities available to assist with funding the Cultural Recognition Program.
- It was noted that more funding was required for the implementation of the cultural recognition

program.

- Staff noted that the revenue gained from water rates was a process that needed to take place outside of this group.

### Discussion points raised

- It was expressed that Cultural Recognition Initiative 7 – providing water to local marae, was of high importance for tangata whenua. Iwi felt like they had done a lot of ground work before the tap turned on and now that the tap was on and water was being taken from the Waiari, iwi had been put on the back burner.
- An additional resolution was added to reflect discussion regarding a meeting to be held with Executives from the three Councils (TCC, WBOPDC & BOPRC) to discuss the Cultural Recognition Program.

### COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/25/1/5

Moved: Cr Steve Morris

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report "Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group - Cultural Recognition Development Update March 2025".
- (b) Requests a meeting with Mayors/Chair and Chief Executives from Tauranga City Council, Western bay of Plenty District Council and Bay of Plenty Regional Council to discuss matters relating to the Cultural Recognition Program.

**CARRIED**

### Attachments

- 1 Waiari Water Supply Scheme WKAG presentation March 2025

## 9 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

The Chair thanked staff and all involved in Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group.

## 10 CLOSING KARAKIA

Cr Hautapu Baker closed the meeting with a karakia.

**The meeting closed at 11:03am.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group meeting held on 11 June 2025.**

.....  
Ms Darlene Dinsdale  
**CHAIRPERSON**