



Tauranga City

DRAFT MINUTES

**Ordinary Council meeting
Wednesday, 1 July 2026**

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, L1, 90 DEVONPORT ROAD,
TAURANGA
ON WEDNESDAY, 1 JULY 2026 AT 4:00 PM - TRADE WASTE AND STORMWATER BYLAWS
HEARING**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Mahé Drysdale, Deputy Mayor Jen Scoular (online), Cr Glen Crowther, Cr Steve Morris, Cr Marten Rozeboom, Cr Kevin Schuler, Cr Rod Taylor, Cr Hēmi Rolleston

IN ATTENDANCE: Reneke van Soest (General Manager: Operations & Infrastructure), Jen Ross (Policy Analyst), Radleigh Cairns (Manager: Drainage Services), Wally Potts (Head of City Waters), Sarah Holmes (Team Leader: Governance & CCO Support Services), Caroline Irvin (Governance Advisor).

EXTERNAL: Submitters as listed in the minutes

Timestamps are included at the start of each submitter's item and signal where the agenda item can be found in the recording of the meeting held on 1 July 2026 at [Council's YouTube Channel](#).

1 OPENING KARAKIA

A karakia was given at the meeting beforehand.

2 APOLOGIES

APOLOGY

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/1

Moved: Cr Steve Morris
Seconded: Cr Marten Rozeboom

That the apology for absence received from Cr Hautapu Baker and Cr Rick Curach be 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 THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

Nil

7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

9 DEPUTATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, PETITIONS

Nil

10 RECOMMENDATIONS FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

Nil

11 BUSINESS**11.1 Hearings Report - Stormwater Bylaw Review 2026**

Staff Jennifer Ross
Mike Seabourne

Submitters

Timestamp: 3 minutes and 50 seconds

1. Mr Joey McKenzie - Port of Tauranga

- Mr McKenzie noted he was the Environmental Manager for Port of Tauranga (the Port). He noted he supported the Stormwater Bylaw review and acknowledged its role in managing stormwater quality, compliance, and protection of Council infrastructure.
- He said the Port's key objective was to improve clarity in the bylaw for all users, including the public, businesses, and Council staff.
- He raised concern about the relationship between the bylaw and the Bay of Plenty Natural Resources Plan, particularly the use of the phrase "relevant sections," which he considered

ambiguous and needing narrower, clearer wording.

- He queried the intent of Section 6, titled “Minimum Water Quality Standards,” noting that the referenced Natural Resources Plan rules regulated more than just water quality.
- He suggested that if Section 6 was only intended to regulate stormwater quality entering the Tauranga City Council (TCC) network, the bylaw should directly state the specific water quality standards or parameters required.
- If Section 6 was intended to regulate wider matters beyond stormwater quality, he suggested the title should be amended and noted there may be legal complexity or potential conflict.
- He explained that historically the Port had worked with TCC to obtain resource consents for discharges into the TCC stormwater network.
- He outlined a potential legal issue around discharges into TCC pipes that ultimately discharged to coastal water, suggesting these may require resource consent because there may be no permitted activity pathway.
- He supported wording changes that would recognise substances may only be harmful where they are present “in quantities that are likely to” endanger health and safety, harm the wastewater system, or harm the environment.

In response to questions

- The intent of the suggested wording change was to recognise that some contaminants may be acceptable in very small quantities. Some substances may not endanger health and safety, may not harm the wastewater system, or harm the environment if present only at low concentrations.
- The concern was that the draft wording may be too absolute and not allow for substances that were harmless at minimal levels. Adding wording such as “in quantities that are likely to” to made the bylaw clearer and more proportionate.

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/2

Moved: Cr Rod Taylor

Seconded: Cr Glen Crowther

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Hearings Report - Stormwater Bylaw Review 2026".
- (b) Receives the written submissions on the draft Stormwater Bylaw 2026.
- (c) Receives the verbal submissions from those who wish to speak to their submission.

CARRIED

11.2 Hearings Report – Trade Waste Bylaw Review 2026

Staff Jennifer Ross
Mike Seabourne

Submitters

Timestamp: 16 minutes and 22 seconds

1. Jess Van Heuvan - Port of Tauranga

- Jessie Van Hoeven, Senior Environmental Advisor for Port of Tauranga (the Port), spoke in

support of the Port's submission on the revised Trade Waste Bylaw.

- She noted the Port operated multiple trade waste discharges and would be directly affected by any bylaw changes.
- The Port acknowledged the need to revise the bylaw to align with the Local Government Water Services Act 2025. It was however, unclear how Council intended to implement the bylaw to meet its stated objectives.
- The Port sought a clear pathway for discharges that may previously have been permitted activities but may now require a permit. Amendments for clarity and consistency, particularly around transitional provisions, were requested.
- For discharges without an existing consent, permission, agreement, or expiry date, the Port sought a two-year transition period to apply for any required permit.
- The Port looked forward to practical discussions with Council on implementation.

In response to questions

- The Port was seeking a two-year transition period to apply for any permit required once the bylaw came into force because two years felt appropriate as a balance between giving enough time to apply and not unnecessarily delaying implementation.
- The Port was unclear on Council's wider implementation plan and supported further practical discussions with Council staff on this.
- On immediate notification requirements, "immediate" may not always be practical during an incident. A four-hour timeframe was intended as a maximum, not the normal expected response time. This timeframe would allow people to deal with the situation while still notifying Council promptly. The Port was open to discussing the practical issues around notification timing with Council staff.

Timestamp: 25 minutes and 30 seconds

2. Doug Hallberg – Winstone Wallboards Limited

- Mr Hallberg was the National Manufacturing Manager for Winstone Wallboards, and spoke about the company's Tauriko plasterboard manufacturing site.
- He supported the overall intent of the Trade Waste Bylaw and its alignment with current legislation. The bylaw should be practical, proportionate, risk-based, and supported by clear technical reasoning.
- The company's site had a small forklift wash bay discharging up to 2m³ per day, usually much less. The discharge was currently permitted, pre-treated through an oil and grit interceptor, and assessed by Council inspectors as low risk.
- He opposed reducing the permitted discharge threshold from 5m³ to 1m³, saying it would require a permit, annual renewals, and extra compliance costs. This change would not alter site practices or provide meaningful environmental benefit. Council was asked to reconsider the 1m³ threshold and set it at no less than 2m³, or potentially higher.
- Mr Hallberg said low-volume, well-treated discharges should not require a permit where they are appropriately managed.

Timestamp: 30 minutes and 10 seconds

3. Andrew Targett – Hospitality Business Owner

- Mr Targett was a hospitality business owner, raising concerns about additional compliance requirements for restaurants. Hospitality trade waste was generally low risk because it mainly involved organic food waste and grease management.
- He noted restaurants already install grease traps through building consent processes and maintain them regularly. There was concern that requiring permits could create uncertainty and risk for businesses if approval was delayed or declined.
- He questioned the need for annual grease trap servicing where maintenance records show less frequent servicing may be sufficient and asked whether yearly grease trap servicing

could instead be two- or three-yearly where records show good maintenance.

- The proposed bylaw was difficult for an average business owner to understand and added another compliance burden. Council was asked to take a more practical, risk-based approach that supported businesses while still managing wastewater risks.

In response to questions

- Compliance could be checked more efficiently through existing food control plan inspections.
- Small hospitality businesses already documented maintenance, pest control, equipment servicing, and similar records in their food control systems. Adding trade waste requirements felt like another layer of administration for small operators.
- Previous external grease trap servicing was easy to manage when done routinely by a contractor.

Timestamp: 41 minutes and 30 seconds

4. Kevin Tearney (online) – SLR Consulting for Fuel Companies

- Mr Tearney spoke on behalf of fuel companies BP, Z Energy and Mobil. His submission focused mainly on PFAS (per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) in trade waste from temporary dewatering works at fuel sites.
- He said low levels of PFAS may be found from historic firefighting foam use, although those foams were now banned in New Zealand.
- He asked for PFAS concentration limits to be added to Schedule 1 of the bylaw so temporary discharges could be managed as allowed or controlled discharges. Other councils, including Watercare and Christchurch City Council, already used methods for managing PFAS in trade waste.
- He sought retention of the 5m³ per day discharge limit for service stations with car washes, preferably as an allowed discharge and asked for service stations with car washes and water recyclers to be specifically provided for as allowed discharges.
- He suggested changing the daily maximum discharge limit to an average or maximum total over a set period for greater flexibility and sought no fixed trade waste permit duration, or alternatively a five-year permit period, to reduce administration for permit holders and Council.

In response to questions

- The issues raised were not unique to the companies he spoke on behalf of, and would likely be consistent across other fuel companies.
- When asked whether changes in practice could reduce discharge volumes, he said he did not know and would need to come back with an answer. The question was about whether there were options to reduce discharge volumes while achieving environmental benefits.

RESOLUTION CO/26/0/3

Moved: Cr Marten Rozeboom

Seconded: Cr Glen Crowther

That the Council:

- (a) Receives the report "Hearings Report - Trade Waste Bylaw Review 2026".
- (b) Receives the written submissions on the draft Trade Waste Bylaw 2026.
- (c) Receives the verbal submissions from those who wish to speak to their submission.

CARRIED

12 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

13 PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

Nil

14 CLOSING KARAKIA

A closing karakia was provided at the previous meeting.

The meeting closed at 4.51pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Ordinary Council meeting held on 1 September 2026.