



DRAFT MINUTES

**Waiāri Kaitiaki Advisory Group
meeting**

Wednesday, 2 September 2026

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**MINUTES OF TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL
WAIĀRI KAITIAKI ADVISORY GROUP MEETING
HELD AT THE TAURANGA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, L1, 90 DEVONPORT ROAD,
TAURANGA
ON WEDNESDAY, 2 SEPTEMBER 2026 AT 9:30 AM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cr Darlene Dinsdale (Chair), Cr Hautapu Baker, Cr Hēmi Rolleston, Cr Laura Rae, Mr Manu Pene and Mr Hanita Dinsdale (online).

IN ATTENDANCE: Kevin Lavery (Establishment Chief Executive Officer for the Water Organisation), Keren Paekau (Acting Head of Strategic Māori Engagement), Wally Potts (Head of City Waters), Peter Bahrs (Manager: Water Services), Anahera Dinsdale (Governance Advisor) and Quinn Tawaka (Governance Advisor).

Timestamps are included at the start of each item and signal where the agenda item can be found in the recording of the meeting held on 2 September 2026 at [Tauranga City Council YouTube Channel](#).

1 OPENING KARAKIA

Koro Manu Pene opened the meeting with a karakia.

2 APOLOGIES

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/26/0/1

Moved: Cr Hēmi Rolleston

Seconded: Cr Hautapu Baker

That apologies from Cr Steve Morris, Mr Luke Whare, Ms Helen Biel, Mr Hakopa Tapiata and Mr Travis Moke 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 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Timestamp: 4 minutes and 10 seconds

7.1 Minutes of the Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group meeting held on 10 June 2026

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/26/0/2

Moved: Cr Laura Rae

Seconded: Mr Hanita Dinsdale

That the Minutes of the Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group meeting held on 10 June 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

8 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil

9 BUSINESS

The Chair advised that, due to the absence of a presenter for Item 9.1, Waiari Cultural Recognition Programme Update September 2026, the Committee would proceed to Items 9.2 and 9.3, with Item 9.1 to be considered later in the meeting.

Timestamp: 5 minutes and 36 seconds

9.2 Waiari Operational Report 2 September 2026

Staff Peter Bahrs, Manager: Water Services
Wally Potts, Head of City Waters

Key Points

- Staff provided an operational update on the Waiāri Water Supply Scheme, including plant operations, compliance and water supply matters.
- Members acknowledged the continued operation of the Waiāri Water Supply Scheme and noted the importance of maintaining effective reporting to the Advisory Group.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/26/0/3

Moved: Cr Hautapu Baker

Seconded: Cr Laura Rae

That the Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report "Waiari Operational Report 2 September 2026".

- (b) Provides feedback or comment on report, as needed.

CARRIED

Timestamp: 21 minutes and 27 seconds

9.3 Status Updates on Actions from prior Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group meetings

Staff Wally Potts, Head of City Waters
Kevin Lavery, Establishment Chief Executive Officer for the Water Organisation

Key Points

- Members discussed progress against outstanding actions from previous meetings, including those relating to the Cultural Recognition Programme.
- Clarification was provided on the allocation of actions, with members noting that the Cultural Recognition Programme was iwi-led and discussing the respective roles of governance, iwi representatives and supporting staff in progressing the work.
- Concern was expressed regarding delays in progressing aspects of the Cultural Recognition Programme and responses to previous requests.
- Mr Hanita Dinsdale offered to progress the outstanding discussions with iwi representatives, and it was agreed that the relevant actions assigned to Co-chair Dinsdale would be reassigned to Mr Dinsdale.
- Staff confirmed they would provide support to facilitate meetings and progress the outstanding actions.

Actions Requested

- That staff reassign relevant and outstanding Cultural Recognition Programme actions from Co-chair Darlene Dinsdale to Mr Hanita Dinsdale.

COMMITTEE RESOLUTION WA/26/0/3

Moved: Cr Hautapu Baker

Seconded: Cr Hēmi Rolleston

That the Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group:

- (a) Receives the report "Status Updates on Actions from prior Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group meetings".

CARRIED

Timestamp: 36 minutes and 50 seconds

9.1 Waiari Cultural Recognition Programme Update September 2026

Due to the absence of the relevant presenters, the report was deferred to the next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 25 November.

10 DISCUSSION OF LATE ITEMS

Timestamp: 37 minutes and 1 second

10.1 Kevin Lavery Introduction

Staff Kevin Lavery, Establishment Chief Executive Officer for the Water Organisation

Key Points

- Establishment Chief Executive Officer for the Water Organisation, introduced himself to members.
- An update was provided on the establishment of the new water services organisation, including the recruitment of an Iwi Leadership Partnerships Lead position that will report directly to the Chief Executive.
- Strengthening relationships with iwi and hapū was identified as a key priority for the organisation and will be a responsibility shared across the leadership team.
- Members discussed the need for the new organisation to work collaboratively with existing council functions and avoid duplication of capability and resources
- The significance that water services play in supporting communities during emergency events and reflected on lessons from recent weather-related responses was noted.

11 CLOSING KARAKIA

Cr Hemi Rolleston closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting closed at 10:45am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record at the Waiari Kaitiaki Advisory Group meeting held on 25 November 2026.