

**Minutes of the Policy and Planning  
Committee Meeting of the Taranaki  
Regional Council, held in the Taranaki  
Regional Council Chambers, 47 Cloten  
Road, Stratford, on Tuesday 31 January  
2017 at 11.00 am.**



<b>Members</b>	Councillors	N W Walker	(Committee Chairperson)	
		M P Joyce C L Littlewood D H McIntyre B K Raine C S Williamson		
		D L Lean	(ex officio)	
		D N MacLeod	(ex officio)	
<b>Attending</b>	Councillor	G Boyde	(Stratford District Council)	
	Councillor	P Nixon	(South Taranaki District Council)	
<b>Attending</b>	Messrs	A D McLay	(Director-Resource Management)	
		G K Bedford	(Director-Environment Quality)	
		C L Spurdle	(Planning Manager)	
		G C Severinsen	(Planning and Strategy Manager)	
		M J Nield	Director-Corporate Services)	
		S Tamarapa	(Iwi Communications Officer)	
		P Ledingham	(Communications Officer)	
		R Ritchie	(Communications Manager)	
		Mrs	K van Gameren	(Committee Administrator)
		Mrs	N West	(Policy Analyst)
		Mrs	V McKay	(Science Manager)
		Mr	J Clough	(Wrightson Consulting)
		Dr	D Sutherland	(Scientific Officer)(Items 1-3)
Mr	T Payne	(Investigating Officer)		
Mr	B Pope	(Compliance Manager)		
Mr	R Phipps	(Science Manager)		
Ms	L Harper	(Taranaki Federated Farmers)		
Dr	S Forgie	(Beetle Innovations Limited)		
Mr	B Attrill	(Stratford Demonstration Farm)		
	(Items 1-2)			
	One Member of the Media			
<b>Apologies</b>	The apology from Councillor R Jordan (New Plymouth District Council) was received and sustained.			

## Notification of

### Late Items

There were no late items of business.

## 1. Confirmation of Minutes - 24 November 2016

### Resolved

THAT the Policy and Planning Committee of the Taranaki Regional Council

1. takes as read and confirms the minutes of the Policy and Planning Committee meeting of the Taranaki Regional Council held in the Taranaki Regional Council chambers, 47 Cloten Road, Stratford, on Thursday 24 November 2016 at 10.30am
2. notes that the recommendations therein were adopted by the Taranaki Regional Council on 13 December 2016.

Williamson/McIntyre

### Matters Arising

#### Ministry for the Environment Report - Marine Environment 2016

It was confirmed that the Ministry for the Environment and Statistics New Zealand had been written to over the nature and tone of the *Our marine environment 2016: Data to 2015* report and Mr G K Bedford, Director-Environment Quality, provided an update to the Committee on the response received.

## 2. Introducing dung beetles to Taranaki dairy farms

- 2.1 Mr A D McLay, Director-Resource Management, spoke to the memorandum noting limited dung beetle releases have commenced in the Taranaki region.
- 2.2 The Committee received a presentation from Dr Shaun Forgie, Beetle Innovations Limited, about the dung beetle release programme and the environmental benefits of the programme. The involvement of other councils and the form of their programmes was discussed.
- 2.3 The Committee expressed interest in exploring an increased investment in a dung-beetle release programme in Taranaki and requested the officers work with the company to investigate extending the programme, including an assessment of what other councils have done and its outcome.

### Recommendations

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum on the *Introduction of dung beetles to Taranaki dairy farms*
2. notes this is a collaborative project between the Council, Federated Farmers and the Dairy Demonstration Farms in the region

3. notes the effectiveness of the spread will be monitored and results provided to the Council and community
4. requests the Council work with Beetle Innovations Limited to investigate extending the programme, including an assessment of what other councils have done and its outcome.

Raine/McIntyre

### **3. Regional freshwater ecological quality: 2015-2016 results from state of the environment monitoring**

- 3.1 Mr G K Bedford, Director-Environment Quality, spoke to the memorandum updating the Committee on the latest results of the Council's state of the environment monitoring programme for freshwater ecological health (macroinvertebrate monitoring).
- 3.2 Mr Bedford provided a presentation, *Ecological measures of stream health and freshwater quality 1995-2016*, to the Committee, noting that the number of monitoring sites showing either indicative or significant improvement was now at record levels, and the improvements were occurring at the majority of sites, both at sites low in catchments and at mid-catchment altitudes. Current and future management initiatives should see improvements continue.

#### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives this memorandum noting the preparation of a report into the state of and trends in regional in-stream macroinvertebrate community health data for Taranaki, for 2015-2016 and over the period 1995-2016
2. notes the findings of the SEM programme
3. adopts the specific recommendations therein.

McIntyre/Joyce

### **4. Interim review of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki**

- 4.1 Mr C L Spurdle, Planning Manager, spoke to the memorandum introducing the Council's draft report *Interim review of the Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki 2010 – Evaluation of appropriateness, efficiency and effectiveness*.
- 4.2 Members discussed the report and supported the combined plan concept at or about 2020 and acknowledged the policy alignment work progressing towards this objective.

## **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives this memorandum and attached report *Interim review of the Regional Policy Statement for Taranaki 2010 – Evaluation of appropriateness, efficiency and effectiveness*
2. agrees to circulate to key stakeholders the attached report for their comment
3. notes that a final report, including the views and responses of stakeholders on the effectiveness and efficiency of the RPS, will be presented for Members' consideration in mid 2017.

Raine/MacLeod

## **5. Submission on Draft District Plan for New Plymouth**

- 5.1 Mr G C Severinsen, Policy and Strategy Manager, spoke to the memorandum introducing a submission made on the Draft District Plan for New Plymouth. The submission was sent by the due date of 16 December 2016.
- 5.2 Members discussed the planning process and engagement between the councils.

## **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum *Submission on Draft District Plan for New Plymouth*
2. endorses the submission.

Joyce/Littlewood

## **6. Submission on Stratford District Plan Review Issues Paper**

- 6.1 Mr G C Severinsen, Policy and Strategy Manager, spoke to the memorandum introducing a submission made to the Stratford District Council on their District Plan Review Issues Paper. The submission was sent by the due date in December 2016.

## **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum *Submission on Stratford District Plan Review Issues Paper*
2. endorses the submission.

McIntyre/MacLeod

## **7. Submission on Proposed South Taranaki District Council Trade Waste Bylaw 2016**

- 7.1 Mr G C Severinsen, Policy and Strategy Manager, spoke to the memorandum introducing a submission made to the South Taranaki District Council on their Proposed Trade Waste Bylaw 2016. The submission was sent by the due date of 20 December 2016.
- 7.2 The Committee noted this was the last district council to have a comprehensive trade waste programme and noted the benefits that had arisen out of such programmes elsewhere in the region.

### **Recommended**

That the Taranaki Regional Council:

1. receives the memorandum *Submission on South Taranaki District Council Trade Waste Bylaw 2016*
2. endorses the submission.

Nixon/Williamson

There being no further business, the Committee Chairperson Councillor N W Walker, declared the Policy and Planning Committee meeting closed at 12.45pm.

### **Confirmed**

**Chairperson** \_\_\_\_\_  
**N W Walker**

**Date** **14 March 2017**