

# Joint Climate Action Committee

File No.: 20/456

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## 1. Purpose

To seek Council's agreement to the establishment of a joint Climate Action Committee and, if agreement is forthcoming, Council's membership of said Committee.

## 2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Report 20/456 Joint Climate Action Committee be received.
- 2.2 That this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- 2.3 That the Horowhenua District Council supports the establishment of a joint Climate Action Committee.
- 2.4 That upon establishment of the joint Climate Action Committee, the Horowhenua District Council becomes a member.

## 3. Background/Previous Council Decisions

- 3.1 In September 2019 Council, together with the other council's in the Manawatū-Whanganui region, signed a Climate Change Response Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The purpose of the MoU was to enshrine a collaborative approach across the Horizons region with a focus on how the region's councils would work to adapt to a changing climate.
- 3.2 Elected Members have also been kept up to date on climate change issues at briefings and Climate Change has been included as a section in Council's standard reporting template.

## 4. Issues for Consideration

- 4.1 Following on from the Climate Change Response Memorandum of Understanding, it is now proposed to establish a joint Climate Action Committee.
- 4.2 If established, a joint Climate Action Committee would provide a mechanism for shared governance oversight of relevant activity across the region's eight councils. It would receive information, facilitate collaborative action, and make recommendations to member councils.
- 4.3 As a committee of the participating councils, meetings would be publicly notified (s46, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987), which would give interested parties the opportunity to be more aware of what was being done in response to climate change.
- 4.4 The Agreement and Terms of Reference for the Committee (as **attached**) have been circulated and agreed to by Regional Chiefs' members.
- 4.5 Under the Local Government Act (Schedule 7, cl 30 & 30A), the establishment of such a joint committees requires the agreement of each of the participating councils.
- 4.6 Council's agreement is now sought for the establishment of a Joint Climate Action Committee and for Council to become a committee member.

## Attachments

No.	Title	Page
A	Manawatū-Whanganui Region - Climate Action Committee - Agreement and Terms of Reference	

### Confirmation of statutory compliance

In accordance with section 76 of the Local Government Act 2002, this report is approved as:

- a. containing sufficient information about the options and their benefits and costs, bearing in mind the significance of the decisions; and,
- b. is based on adequate knowledge about, and adequate consideration of, the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decision.

## Signatories

Author(s)	Bernie Wanden <b>Mayor</b>	
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Approved by	Bernie Wanden <b>Mayor</b>	
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# Climate Action Committee

## Manawatū-Whanganui Region

### AGREEMENT AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

September 2020

#### Statement of Purpose

The purpose of the Climate Action Committee is as follows:

- To receive scientific evidence and Mātauranga Māori to inform strategic leadership on how the Manawatū-Whanganui Region could achieve climate change mitigation and adaptation; and
- To inform the development of climate change adaptation and mitigation objectives, share information, and facilitate collaborative action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and prepare for climate change impacts.

#### Committee Membership

The Committee consists of the following members:

- The Mayor/Chair or designated delegate of each local authority within the Manawatū-Whanganui Region (total 8 members); and
- Three non-Councillor members, to represent the views of Tangata Whenua. These appointments will be made by Horizons on the recommendation of iwi leaders, taking into consideration their skills, attributes or knowledge that will assist the work of the Committee.

This Committee may invite advisers to attend relevant portions of the Committee's business.

#### Election of the Chair and Deputy Chair

The committee will elect a Chair and Deputy Chair by the system described in clause 25(4) Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

#### Meetings

The Committee will sit at least twice each year.

#### Quorum

A quorum will consist of at least six members.

Meetings may be held in person or by other means (such as audiovisual link) as the Committee agrees where permissible under New Zealand law and the standing orders of the parties.

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## **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### ***Objectives***

The operating objectives are:

- Collaborate on action to build organisational, community, and regional resilience in the face of climate change;
- Oversee a comprehensive climate change risk assessment for the region;
- Make use of available environmental, social, cultural and economic research, skills and capabilities to leverage opportunities and mitigate the impacts of climate change;
- Advise on strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (mitigation) and prepare for climate change (adaptation) to inform the development of a regional climate action plan for adoption by the member councils, and to monitor and report annually on achievement of the plan;
- Work collectively as a region to engage with Central Government, including any actions to deliver on responsibilities under the Climate Change National Adaptation Plan;
- Promote consistent and effective leadership, advocacy, communication and engagement on climate change issues to enable individual and collaborative action;
- Champion the integration of partner strategies, programmes, and plans and encourage partnerships with iwi and others in central and local government, health, education, youth, NGOs and business; and
- Share climate change evidence and guidance to inform council work programmes and support explicit consideration of climate change impacts in decisions.

### ***Power to Act***

- To receive regular monitoring reports and presentations on the matters set out in the objectives above.

### ***Power to Recommend***

- To provide recommendations for member Councils' action and partnership in respect of climate change actions; and
- To recommend an appropriate response/course of action in respect of policy effectiveness reports and monitoring outcomes.

## **Variations to this Agreement**

Amendments to this agreement will be made by resolution of the Regional Chiefs on an as required basis.

Terms of this agreement will also be reviewed annually by Regional Chiefs.

## **Delegations**

The Committee has no general decision-making or financial delegations but from time to time may be given such delegations by Regional Chiefs for specific matters.