
Community Wellbeing Committee

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Community Wellbeing Committee held in the Council Chambers, Horowhenua District Council, 126-148 Oxford Street, Levin, on Tuesday 14 May 2019 at 1.00 pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson
Deputy Chair
Members

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| Cr Barry Judd | |
| Cr Jo Mason | |
| Mayor Michael Feyen | (ex-Officio) |
| Mr Josh Kurene attending on behalf of Mr Mike Fletcher | (Oranga Tamariki) |
| Mr Jim Greening | (Ministry of Education) |
| Ms Eleanor Gully | (Inclusion & Access Rep) |
| Dr Betty-Lou Iwikau | (Raukawa Whanau-Ora Ltd) |
| Sgt Jeff Lyver attended on behalf of Sgt Beth Purcell | (NZ Police) |
| Mr Patrick Rennell | (HLC – Horowhenua Learning Centre) |
| Mr Mark Robinson | (Waiopēhu College) |
| Mr Gavin Rooney | (Local Management Group) |
| Ms Jo Smith | (MidCentral DHB) |
| Sister Sosefina | (Compassion Housing) |
| Ms Samantha Coromandel | (Life to the Max) |
| Mr Oliver Parrant | (yEP) |
| Miss Jazzmyn Mackie-Ritchie | (yEP) |

IN ATTENDANCE

Reporting Officer

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| Mrs Lacey Winiata | (Community Engagement Manager) |
| Mrs Nicki Brady | (Group Manager - H2040 & Partnership Development) |
| Ms Michelle Rogerson | (Community Development Advisor) |
| Mr Neil Hirini | (Community Development Advisor) |
| Mrs Cathryn Pollock | (Projects Coordination Lead) |
| Mr David McCorkindale | (Group Manager - Strategy & Development) |
| Mrs Cynthia Ward | (Principal Policy Advisor) |
| Mrs Karen Corkill | (Meeting Secretary) |

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

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| Mr Andrew Lockhart | (Immigration NZ, MBIE) |
| Ms Sarah Ward | (Immigration NZ, MBIE) |

MEDIA IN ATTENDANCE

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| Ms Janine Baalbergen | (Horowhenua Chronicle) |
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PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were fifteen members of the public in attendance at the commencement of the meeting.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from James Etuale, DIA; Beth Purcell, NZ Police; Maureen Scott, Children's Team; Katie Brosnahan and Richard Fry, MSD; Moira Howard, Levin North School; Eve Fone, Oranga Tamariki; Brenda Rea, Central PHO; Angela Rainham, MCDHB; Keith Hilson, Housing NZ, and Mike Fletcher, MSD.

MOVED by Cr Mason, seconded Mr Rennell:

THAT the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

2 Public Participation

No requests for public participation had been received.

3 Confirmation of Minutes – 12 February 2019

MOVED by Mayor Feyen, seconded Dr Iwikau:

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Community Wellbeing Committee held on Tuesday, 12 February 2019, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

Because of the interest in the gallery in relation to item 5. Refugee Resettlement Presentation, with the agreement of the meeting this was the next item addressed.

1 Refugee Resettlement Presentation – MBIE representatives

Andrew Lockhart and Sarah Ward from MBIE gave an overview of the Refugee Resettlement Programme, noting:

- New Zealand, together with 28 other countries, was involved in a programme of refugee resettlement, with there being approximately 25 million refugees in the world;
- New Zealand Government had set out what its quota would be over a three year programme and was moving from the current 1,000 refugees and in July 2020 will move to resettling 1,500;
- there were seven settlement locations at present and that was being extended to another six locations;
- part of the reason for the quota starting from 2020 was so that things like housing and support services were in place to ensure that settlement in each of the new locations was successful;
- settlement in Levin would not start until June next year (from the May intake) which may involve around ten per intake, moving up to 12-15 per year, noting that 50% of NZ's quota were children and they came from all parts of the world;
- a cross-agency group would make the assessment as to who would be settled in Levin;
- an important aspect of the assessment was that eventually refugees would seek employment;
- housing was also an issue as was ensuring there were Government support services in place;
- it was recognised that as new locations were developed, Councils and local support were key;

- to this end there had been engagement with the Mayor early on in the process before an announcement was made to make certain there was support for what was proposed as community commitment, engagement and support was very important so that those who came to Levin felt supported and engaged in the community;
- those settled in a community also gave back and there was very little movement because New Zealand had given them a new home and they were committed to making a contribution.

Sarah Ward explained her role, saying that details of what was proposed would roll out as things moved forward. Things were at an early stage with the tender for settlement services the next thing to be done. It was anticipated that the tender to offer settlement support in the region would be up by the end of May and they were working alongside the Community Engagement Team to come up with the best strategy for Levin, including housing, health and education.

Responding to a query in relation to housing being critical and availability, Mr Lockhart said they would not move refugees into a community until they could be moved into a house. That was part of the reason for having a lead in time to enable Government as a whole to start addressing those pressures. When the Government had looked at increasing the quota it had looked at funding for additional housing and this had been set aside. The next phase was for Housing NZ, etc, to get on with building additional houses, which included looking at locations and the size and capacity of dwellings.

Cr Judd commented on how important this topic was for this community as we wanted to be welcoming, noting that the Committee had also talked in the past about the pressure in this community to do with housing for current residents. Mr Lockhart and Ms Ward had come and briefed Elected Members and staff and there had been a free and frank discussion as while the community wanted to be welcoming, there was a need to understand the challenges faced in terms of housing and to ensure the Government did provide support for new residents so that the current pressure on housing provision was not exacerbated. There was work being done in the background with the Community Development Team on what successful integration might look like and engagement with the right community groups to ensure the best outcome.

Engagement with the health sector was raised, particularly in an area where there was an older age group that used a lot of the resources available, with Mr Lockhart confirming that the MoH was part of the working group that had looked at resettlement locations and he explained in some detail what that the provision of health services would look like. Also outlined was what would be available in terms of developing English language skills.

With regard to concerns expressed about bringing extra families into a system that was already challenged, Mr Lockhart acknowledged that while there were significant challenges to be faced and Central Government did not have all the answers, it was committed to working with locals to ensure they had solutions that worked for the community and also for the refugees.

4 Reports

4.1 Community Services Report to 14 May 2019

To present to the Community Wellbeing Committee the Community Services Report 14 May 2019.

MOVED by Cr Mason, seconded Ms Smith:

THAT Report 19/160 on Community Services Report to 14 May 2019 be received.

THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.

CARRIED

Lacey Winiata requested that the report be taken as read, highlighting some of the salient points, including:

- the hosting by Education Horowhenua of the Associate Minister of Education, Tracey Martin;
- there had been some changes in Community Development, including Neil Hirini joining the Team as a Community Development Advisor;
- there would be some robust Community Capacity Building over the next few months and if anyone was aware of any group or organisation who may be able to provide recommendations for community capacity programmes get them to contact the Team.

4.2 Chair's Report

The Chair referred to his report which gave an update on some of the activities going on behind the scenes particularly matters relating to the focus areas identified by the Committee late last year, providing some additional comment.

Mr Robinson then spoke to the Youth Wellbeing segment, acknowledging those who had been involved and noting that the drive for this had come from young people.

Oliver Parrant recapped on the ŷEP (Youth Empowerment Project) with the approach to youth having been widened to up to 50 or more to provide a more diverse range of opinions. Over 60 young people had turned up to the ŷEP games and over 50 had signed up and said they wanted more involvement.

Following on from Oliver's comments, Jazzmyn Mackie-Ritchie spoke about the four hui that had been held to date on youth wellbeing, acknowledging the assistance from Nicki Brady and Lacey Winiata. She said the three main areas they wanted to focus on were: Culture, Education and Services, explaining in more detail about the rationale behind these.

Saying the CWC would be kept up to date on progress, Cr Judd spoke in support of what these young people were doing. It did not necessarily mean increased investment; it was just about doing things differently and enabling ŷEP to lead and get a better outcome for our youth.

4.3 Revised Community Wellbeing Framework

To present the revised Community Wellbeing Framework to the Community Wellbeing Committee.

MOVED by Mayor Feyen, seconded Cr Mason:

THAT Report 19/159 Revised Community Wellbeing Framework be received.

THAT this matter or decision be recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.

CARRIED

Mrs Pollock joined the table to speak to the report, requesting that it be taken as read. The Revised Community Wellbeing Framework was tabled.

Mrs Pollock then reiterated the main points in the report giving the rationale for the changes proposed which looked to provide the Community Wellbeing Committee and the community a simple yet meaningful Community Wellbeing framework that allowed for transparency and accountability.

After discussion and comment by members and with the need for a Framework to be updated and supported, it was:

MOVED by Mr Robinson, seconded Ms Gully:

THAT the Community Wellbeing Committee endorses the proposed Community Wellbeing Framework for briefing and presentation to Council.

CARRIED

2 Reporting – Community Development Network Meetings Minutes

The Community Development Network Meetings Minutes were received, without further comment, and **NOTED**.

3 Reports – by Focus Area

The CWC Action 'canvas' with the latest updates was tabled with key points covered as reflected in each report (a copy will be **attached** to the official minutes).

• **Family Harm**

- Mr Jeff Lyver, Coordinator of the Safer Whanau Team, introduced himself giving an overview of his role, which had seen him deal with 1,600 domestic violence incidents last year. He explained in more detail what the Team did and how they tried to capture every single family and engage them with the appropriate support.

• **Health & Wellbeing**

- In her update, Ms Jo Smith commented:
 - on the restructure they had undergone last year; they were now in 6 different clusters and with 2,500 staff working at the DHB, they were a big team;
 - the Annual Forum for Locality Planning was on at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō today;
 - they were currently developing their 3-5 year strategy;
 - a key issue was everyone was very busy and disruption was the new norm;
 - DHBs were under enormous pressure with debt; however it was about taking what they already had and getting a better outcome;
 - they were looking forward to the Budget which should be focused on wellbeing;

- because of the issue of time, distance and travel, different mediums were being looked at rather than a physical examination.

- **Growth**

- Commenting particularly on O2NL, the main point made by Mr McCorkindale was that while Council was moving forward with what it could and was continuing to advocate on behalf of the community with NZTA, was still waiting for a more definitive decision and confirmation of what funding would be approved for the next phase to go ahead.

4 Upcoming Communications

These would be addressed at the next meeting.

3.04 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY WELLBEING
COMMITTEE HELD ON

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....