

Agenda 2021

Climate Change Action Committee

Date: Thursday, 12 August 2021

Time: 10.30am – 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber, 200 Tuam Street, Christchurch



CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION COMMITTEE

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Adopted by Council 29 April 2021

REPORTING TO:	Council
MEMBERSHIP:	A maximum of 14 Councillors Chair as an ex-officio member Ngā Tumu Taiao 2 independent experts on climate change matters The Committee may appoint additional members with the skills, attributes, or knowledge that will assist the work of the Committee, including a youth member
QUORUM:	Nine
MEETING FREQUENCY:	Four monthly
CHAIR:	Two Co-chairs

A. PURPOSE

1. To:

- a) Oversee and inform the development and review of Council's strategies, policies, plans, programmes and initiatives from a climate change perspective;
- b) Review the implementation and delivery of these matters;
- c) Provide effective leadership on climate change for the organisation and the region to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and ensure a climate resilient future for the Canterbury Region.
- d) Support and enhance integration on climate change plan and actions with Canterbury's territorial authorities.
- e) To work in the spirit of genuine partnership and assist the Council in fulfilling its duties as a partner with Ngāi Tahu and in alignment with the principles contained within the Tuia Agreement. In particular, the committee will support effective partnerships with Papatipu Rūnanga, recognise the relevance of Te Ao Māori and affirm the importance of an enduring and collaborative relationship between Environment Canterbury and Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga

B. SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

2. Oversee the development and review of Council's climate change strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives, and recommend these matters (and variations) to Council for adoption.
3. Review Council's other strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives, and recommend changes that improve the effectiveness of these matters from a climate change perspective.
4. Review the role of Canterbury in regional climate change programmes and initiatives, including:
 - a) Regional initiatives enabling communities to adapt to climate change.
 - b) Supporting the transition of the region to a resilient low emissions economy with a particular focus on the Climate Change Commission's greenhouse gas budgets and emissions reduction advice.
5. Monitor the Canterbury Region's emissions and climate risks.
6. Consider regional, national and international developments; emerging issues and impacts; and changes in the legislative frameworks for their implications for Council's climate change strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives.
7. Advocate for the alignment and advancement of central government's and other external organisations' programmes and initiatives in climate change programmes and initiatives.
8. Advocate to central government for a more comprehensive set of climate tools for application by local authorities.
9. Liaise with other regional councils and territorial authorities in the interests of building a stronger regional consensus for climate change action.
10. Engage with constituents to promote initiatives on climate change and resilient communities;
11. Flag maladaptive practices and barriers to adaptation with staff and with central government, where necessary.

C. DELEGATIONS

12. Subject to sections 13 and 14, Council delegates to the Committee all the powers, functions and duties necessary to perform the Committee's responsibilities, except those that must not be delegated.
13. The Committee may make decisions on matters with a financial impact only where the related costs are budgeted for within a current, adopted Long Term Plan or Annual Plan, otherwise the matter must be referred to the Council for decision.
14. The Committee may not make a decision that is materially inconsistent with the Council's Long-Term Plan or Annual Plan.

Common Climate Change Action Acronyms

CCAC	Climate Change Action Committee
------	---------------------------------

Climate Change Action Committee

Membership

Committee Co-Chairs: Councillor Elizabeth McKenzie
Councillor Vicky Southworth

Committee Membership: Councillor Tane Apanui
Councillor Phil Clearwater
Tumu Taiao Yvette Couch-Lewis
Tumu Taiao Iaeen Cranwell
Councillor Grant Edge
Councillor Megan Hands
Councillor Ian Mackenzie
Councillor Nicole Marshall
Councillor Claire McKay
Councillor Craig Pauling
Councillor Lan Pham
Councillor Peter Scott
Councillor John Sunckell

Ex-Officio: Chair Jenny Hughey

Independent Members:

Youth Member:

Climate Change Action Committee

Table of Contents

1. Mihi / Karakia Timatanga - Opening	11
2. Apologies.....	11
3. Conflict of Interest	11
4. Public Forum, Deputations and Petitions.....	11
5. Decision Items.....	12
5.1. Process to Appoint Independent Members.....	12
6. Information Item.....	16
6.1. It's time, Canterbury Climate Change Engagement	16
6.2. Climate Change Resilience Long-Term Plan Work Programme	22
6.3. Central Government Climate Change Direction	26
7. Notices of Motion	31
8. Extraordinary and Urgent Business.....	31
9. Questions	31
10. Next Meeting.....	31
11. Mihi / Karakia Whakamutunga - Closing.....	31

- 1. Mihi / Karakia Timatanga - Opening**
- 2. Apologies**
- 3. Conflict of Interest**
- 4. Public Forum, Deputations and Petitions**

5. Decision Items

5.1. Process to Appoint Independent Members

Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) Report

Date of meeting	Thursday, 12 August 2021
Authors	Alina Toppler, Strategy Advisor Victoria Clare, Strategy Advisor Presented by Jesse Burgess, Senior Strategy Manager
Endorsed by	Dr Tim Davie, Director of Science

Purpose

1. For the Climate Change Action Committee to agree the process of appointing independent climate change experts to the Climate Change Action Committee
2. To initiate discussion on the skills, attributes and expertise sought from the independent experts.

Recommendations

That the Climate Change Action Committee:

1. **receives the report outlining the proposed process for appointing independent climate change experts to the Climate Change Action Committee**
2. **RECOMMENDS COUNCIL APPROVES a sub-group of two Councillors, one Tumu Taiao and a Director, or Director's delegate, to work with staff to identify and recommend independent experts to be appointed by Council**
3. **provides direction on the desired knowledge, skills and attributes of the independent climate change experts to be appointed to the Climate Change Action Committee by Council**
4. **notes the process timeline for appointing the independent climate change experts to the Climate Change Action Committee.**

Background

1. When the Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) was established by the Council on 29 April 2021, the Terms of Reference for the CCAC included the membership of two independent experts on climate change matters. The Terms of Reference also

separately allow for the appointment of additional members with the skills, attributes, or knowledge that will assist the work of the CCAC, such as a youth member. This paper outlines the proposed process to appoint such independent members.

2. The Council approves CCAC membership; however, the CCAC has a role in identifying the desired knowledge, skills, and attributes of the independent experts. This paper provides suggestions for discussion on the expertise the CCAC seeks from the independent climate change experts.
3. The appointment of two independent climate change experts provides an opportunity to incorporate external knowledge and expertise to inform Environment Canterbury's Climate Change Action Committee.
4. The objectives of the CCAC will be best supported by ensuring independent experts have appropriate skills, attributes and knowledge to complement the skills of the CCAC.

Process to appoint independent members

Appointment considerations

5. The processes used to appoint independent members on the Performance, Audit and Risk Committee (now Audit, Finance and Risk Committee) and an independent Chair to the CWMS Regional Committee were used as a basis for providing context for these appointments.
6. Based on the advice received, staff propose an approach that is simple, follows common recruitment steps and will withstand public scrutiny. A pragmatic process is required to ensure the appointment is timely and transparent.
7. We advise an initial 12-month term for independent members. This will allow for the CCAC to review the performance of the independent members before offering a three-year term, if mutually acceptable, to independent members.
8. The terms of independent members should alternate from the terms of Councillors, so that both terms do not expire within the same calendar year. This is to ensure continuity and stability on the CCAC if the subsequent Council chooses to continue with this governance arrangement.
9. Appointing further Members will be a matter for the CCAC and may include a Youth member. We will provide advice regarding the appointment of a Youth member to the 11 November meeting of the CCAC after we receive advice from the Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpū.

Appointment process

10. We propose the following process for identifying and appointing independent climate change experts:
 - A sub-group of two CCAC members, one Tumu Taiao and a Director works with staff to manage an expression of interest process to identify and

subsequently interview candidates for the independent climate change expert positions.

- The CCAC is briefed on the candidates and makes their recommendation on preferred candidates to full Council.
 - The Council formally appoints the independent members to the CCAC.
11. As well as discussing the proposed appointment process, it is recommended that the CCAC discusses the required knowledge, skills, and attributes that independent experts should provide. Some attributes the CCAC may wish to consider include:
- expertise in areas such as climate change mitigation, adaptation, social change, public policy and science
 - knowledge of the climate change sector
 - strategic focus and governance skills
 - commitment to valuing mātauranga and Ngāi Tahu tikanga
 - ability to interpret and communicate climate change-related science.
12. Agreed attributes will be incorporated into a draft Terms of Reference for independent experts. This will be presented for discussion at a CCAC workshop prior to a Council meeting. The independent experts' Terms of Reference will cover:
- purpose of appointment
 - duration of term
 - operational principles
 - code of conduct
 - administrative processes.
13. The appointment process and independent experts' Terms of Reference will need to be formally approved at a future Council meeting to proceed with the appointment process.

Proposed timeline & next steps

14. The below table sets out the suggested timeline for the proposed process.

Date	Process step	Who
CCAC meeting - 12 August	Recommend appointment approach to Council and discuss desired attributes of independent climate change experts	CCAC
CCAC workshop - September	Provide draft independent experts' Terms of Reference	Staff
Council meeting - 30 September	Approve independent experts' Terms of Reference and appointment process	Council
October 2021 - December 2021	Recruitment process	CCAC- sub- group
Council meeting - January 2022	Make appointment in time for the first 2022 CCAC	Council

Remuneration

15. The appointment of two independent experts may result in a remuneration obligation. Currently, independent members of the CCAC are not budgeted for in the Long-Term Plan (LTP).
16. Adjustment can be made in the next annual plan for FY 2022/23 to include remuneration of independent members of the CCAC.

Cost, compliance and communication

Risk assessment and legal compliance

17. Any candidates must declare all relevant interests during the recruitment process, so that the potential for a conflict of interest can be assessed in advance of an appointment being made.

Significance and engagement

18. The Terms of Reference of the CCAC, which includes the appointment of two independent experts, has already been agreed at a prior Council meeting. It has been outlined in this paper that the approval of the independent experts' Terms of Reference and appointment process will be brought to a subsequent Council meeting.

Consistency with Council policy

19. The process to appoint the two independent experts to the CCAC in itself does not trigger the Council's Significance and Engagement policy.
20. The recruitment processes for the appointment of independent members on the Performance, Audit and Risk Committee and for the appointment of an independent Chair to the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Regional Committee were considered to inform the recommendations in this paper. The recommendations are consistent with previous committee appointment processes.

Next steps

21. Staff to draft the independent experts' Terms of Reference for discussion in the September CCAC workshop.

Attachments

Nil

Peer reviewers	Toshi Hodliffe
----------------	----------------

6. Information Item

6.1. It's time, Canterbury Climate Change Engagement Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) Report

Date of meeting	Thursday, 12 August 2021
Author	Chelsea Halliwell, Project Lead – Communications & Engagement
Endorsed by	Tafflyn Bradford-James, Director Communications & Engagement

Purpose

1. To update the Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) on the first month's results following the launch of the *It's Time, Canterbury* climate change campaign.
2. To update the Climate Change Action Committee on next steps for the communications campaign (Phase 2).

Recommendations

That the Climate Change Action Committee:

1. receives the *It's time, Canterbury* climate change communications campaign paper
2. notes the further work planned to develop the *It's time, Canterbury* climate change communications campaign.

Key points

3. Results in the first month are tracking as expected, with very good engagement on the website, and fewer signups to the database.
4. Planning is underway for Phase 2 of this campaign to develop local relevance, working closely with the territorial authorities to communicate with their communities. Engagement with rūnanga is a key part of sharing local information for Phase 2.

Background

5. Environment Canterbury has worked collaboratively with the ten Canterbury territorial authorities to build an integrated region-wide campaign, based on providing the highest quality science and information to our communities.
6. Expert advice was also sought from the Climate Change Commission, academic staff at Massey University, the Environment Canterbury Youth Rōpū and through initial conversations with Te Paiherenga.

7. The *It's time, Canterbury* climate change communications campaign launched to the public on Friday 28th May.
8. Results for June are provided below. July and August results will be provided for the next CCAC meeting.
9. Development is now taking place for Phase 2, during which the territorial authorities will be using the campaign collateral to bring the message into local focus for their communities. During this phase we also hope to expand the rūnanga input to make the messages relevant and to share what they are already seeing in their local areas.

First month results

10. Since launch, promotion has focused on two objectives: driving traffic to the website to educate people about climate change in Canterbury, and encouraging database signups on the 'Show your support' page to get people involved in the discussion.
11. People have a natural aversion to signing up to mailing lists, and we are therefore seeing a predictable difference between the number of website visits and the database sign up.
12. Although we are seeing a difference between web traffic and sign-up numbers, the conversion rate (number of signups/visits to the site) is above the industry benchmark.
13. Traffic to the website is still the key objective, to meet the campaign goal of informing people about climate change in Canterbury.

Website traffic post-site launch

14. When a site launches, there is usually an influx of people checking it out. It will take at least a quarter before a full take on the website's 'normal' traffic is available. It takes time for Google search positioning to balance out, and a slow increase in traffic is not unusual.

Website metrics

15. Site visits 28 May – 30 June:

How many times was the website visited?	3,388
How many unique users visited the website?	2,497
How long did visits to the website typically last? (mm:ss)	02.19
Signups to database	147 (on 30 July, database signups are at 417)

16. Page visits

- The bulk of the traffic landed on the homepage during June. This is to be expected with the new campaign launching and users searching for the website.
- After visiting the homepage, 28% of users chose the 'show your support' page as their next destination (likely following us petitioning people to do this at the launch), followed by 19% that continued to 'How we are responding'.
- A spike on 1st June coincided with the front-page Press article and advertising, as well as the first time *It's time, Canterbury* was advertised on digital billboards.

17. Audience engagement: The form submissions conversion rate is at 5.92% of visitors to the site. This is higher than the industry benchmark of 3-5%.



18. Facebook results 28 May – 16 July

- Page reach (the number of people who saw content on the page): 17,054
- Page likes: 147
 - Women: 74%
 - Men: 26%

19. Facebook is being used to advertise to a wide audience, and it enables a two-way conversation. Posts are boosted to achieve a wider reach. However, page followers are few, and the posts being shared are attracting a significant number of climate deniers and conspiracy theorists and requiring substantial resource to monitor and respond. The team is testing a few strategies to reduce this while still using Facebook as an engagement platform.

20. Anecdotal feedback:

- “I caught up with a friend who works at Farmlands today - I showed her the *It's time* website and she said that their whole team had seen the website as it was shared around the office by their Head of Sustainability. They mentioned that this campaign is what they have set their sights on in terms of operating as a business, as they already make an effort to lower their carbon footprint.” Rachel Maisey, Account Manager, Plato Creative.

Phase 2 strategy

21. Phase 2 is about taking the region-wide launch and moving into territorial authorities leveraging the *It's time, Canterbury* campaign to communicate with their audiences locally, translating the scientific projections into what is happening in their district and what the impact will be locally.
22. Locally-relevant messaging and creative will be developed and shared with territorial authorities to use.
23. Phase 2 will:
 - Continue to educate and have a conversation with the community to share what we know in order to improve community understanding of climate change, with an increasing local relevance.
 - Position *It's time, Canterbury* as a trusted source of information about climate change; become the place people come for up-to-date trusted Canterbury-focused information on climate change and its impacts in Canterbury, improving their 'risk literacy'.
 - Enable territorial authorities to establish the *It's time, Canterbury* brand locally and to use it as a valuable climate change communications tool rather than creating new competing brands (the territorial authorities have signed up to *It's Time* as their own brand as equal partners).
 - Gather insights, observations, thoughts and feelings from the public on their concerns about climate change and what they've seen occurring - so we can respond with relevant, useful information.
 - Talk about what we are already seeing in rivers, around biodiversity, erosion etc to make the messaging more 'real' and relatable.
 - Develop a database to connect people with relevant climate change information.
24. We are conscious that the campaign is currently missing the rūnanga voice that we consider essential to the knowledge that the community can gain. This was discussed at Te Paiherenga and this Phase 2 strategy will begin to address this through discussions with the Tuia team regarding gathering rūnanga stories about the changing climate over generations and what is currently being observed. This may include engaging some resource to assist or to explore opportunities.
25. We have begun sharing the draft Phase 2 strategy with territorial authorities and this work will be progressed at workshops in August.

Workshops

26. Workshops have been booked with communications managers and Regional Climate Change Working Group members of all territorial authorities to discuss Phase 2 planning. These meetings are taking place between 10-20 August and will include:
 - Identifying upcoming planning consultations relevant to climate change

- Sharing knowledge of specific climate change impacts in each district, what is already being observed and what is being modelled
- Event and information session opportunities
- Advertising opportunities, and how to use the *It's Time* brand, encouraging community engagement and social sharing.

27. Christchurch City Council staff are starting work on a campaign in the city and an in depth workshop is scheduled for Monday 16 August with Environment Canterbury staff to develop an integrated communications strategy for Phase 2.

Cost, compliance and communication

Financial implications

28. The Long-Term Plan 2021-31 includes funding of \$150,000 p/a for the continuation of the campaign and a level of service (LoS23.1) to ensure the 'provision of information, advice, tools and resources through climate change communication projects'.

Risk assessment and legal compliance

Risk	Mitigation
Being seen as paying lip service to climate change.	Reference robust data, and listen to the community, inviting them to provide feedback on plans. Be clear about what we can and can't do.
Demand for action rather than talk.	TA-led response about action being taken, as well as what Environment Canterbury and central government are doing.
Overlapping Environment Canterbury plans with TAs' plans, leading to confusion; there is a lot going on in this space.	Early and close collaboration between Environment Canterbury and the territorial authorities.
Mana whenua knowledge not included, and science not communicated in a way that is relevant to rūnanga.	Working with the Tuia team and Te Paiherenga to find ways to capture knowledge and to ensure the information is useful and relevant.

Significance and engagement

29. This campaign is about us having a conversation with the community and the community having a conversation with each other, to build climate change literacy and resilience. The community is at the heart of the campaign.

30. The Phase 2 workshops planned with territorial authorities include management staff, Regional Climate Change Working Group members, and Communications staff to help develop relevant local information. Feedback from the community during the early stages is key to ensure this information hits the mark. This will be gathered via the website and through direct spot surveys.

31. Engagement is also planned throughout August with the Environment Canterbury youth rōpū and at the Youth Meetup, and with the Education Sector through the Environment Canterbury Youth Education and Engagement team.

Climate change impacts

32. This is primarily an education campaign with some feedback elements. The community may see it as our role to 'fix' climate change; in developing the campaign we are careful not to create an unrealistic expectation of what Environment Canterbury and the region's territorial authorities can/can't do regarding climate change.
33. The campaign includes information regarding mitigation and adaptation/response to climate change.

Next steps

34. The current Phase 1 stage (June – August) uses engaging content in a region-wide brand campaign, relatable to a wide audience, to spark the curiosity of the community to find out more and share the information.
35. The second phase of this work (September onwards) will focus on individual districts, working with territorial authorities to join up the conversations being had locally. It will also connect with the Climate Change Risk Assessment team to share the assessment findings later in 2021, and engage with rūnanga.
36. This climate change engagement work has been allocated ongoing funding under Environment Canterbury's Long-Term Plan 2021-31.

Attachments

Nil

Peer reviewers	Rachel Young
-----------------------	--------------

6.2. Climate Change Resilience Long-Term Plan Work Programme

Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) Report

Date of meeting	Thursday, 12 August 2021
Author	Victoria Clare, Strategy Advisor Presented by Dr Fiona Shanhun
Endorsed by	Dr Tim Davie, Director of Science

Purpose

1. To update the Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) on the Climate Change Resilience work programme for delivery of the objectives of the Environment Canterbury Long-Term Plan 2021-2031 Te Pae Tawhiti 2021-2031.

Recommendations

That the Climate Change Action Committee:

1. **receives the update on the Climate Change Resilience work programme for delivery of the objectives of the Environment Canterbury Long-Term Plan 2021-2031 Te Pae Tawhiti 2021-2031.**

Background

2. On 17 June 2021, Council adopted the Environment Canterbury Long-Term Plan 2021-2031 Te Pae Tawhiti 2021-2031 (LTP). Council's strategic direction includes a transformational opportunity to '*lead climate change resilience*'.
3. One of the new Portfolios within the LTP is the 'Climate Change and Community Resilience' Portfolio (CC&CR), which houses the 'Climate Change Resilience Programme'.

Climate Change Resilience Work Programme

4. Staff developed a work programme for the next three-years in order to achieve the LTP's objectives and allow for the schedule of direction coming from Central Government.
5. Appendix 1 shows the Climate Change Resilience work programme for the next three years. Initiatives within this programme have been developed to ensure Environment Canterbury continues to:
 - advocate and lead on climate related issues (e.g., strategic and policy advice regarding national direction and climate change mainstreaming)

- have a strong and robust evidence base for science-led decision making (e.g., science analysis and climate risk reporting)
 - ensure strong community-led transition and adaptation planning (e.g., climate action plan and community climate communication and awareness projects).
6. The work programme is split into two complementary workstreams - Climate Adaptation and Transition to Low Emissions. These two workstreams ensure Environment Canterbury is aligned with the direction set by Central Government and has the capacity to undertake specific actions towards the goals of climate adaptation and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.
 7. The work programme specifically identifies initiatives and projects to support transformational opportunities and Level of Service delivery. The work programme does not outline the normal underlying business-as-usual activities of the Climate Change Resilience Programme such as secretariat support to the Regional Climate Change Working Group.
 8. The nature of climate change and its impacts necessitates a regionally coordinated response. The work programme outlines Environment Canterbury's contribution to collaborative work. For example, the Canterbury Climate Change Detailed Risk Assessment has been jointly funded by all 11 Canterbury Councils through the Mayoral Forum. Environment Canterbury staff are leading the project development and delivery and will continue to be involved in regionally coordinated projects resulting from the risk assessment.
 9. The CCAC should note that the work programme is very full and staff have little, if any, capacity for additional activities beyond what is planned for within the LTP. Where there is a decision of Council to invest resources into new or additional activities, it is likely that a re-prioritisation will need to occur to enable the redirection of staff away from planned programme activities. Any outsourcing of specific work activities will also require an assessment of whether funding could be redirected to support such initiatives, along with staff capacity to oversee and supervise such work.
 10. The CCAC should also note that climate change response is integrated across all portfolios. Initiatives and projects which promote climate co-benefits are not solely included within this programme. This includes projects such as the Climate Resilient Rivers project within the Leading Flood and River Resilience Programme, the transition to lower emissions public transport fleet within the Transforming Public Transport Programme, and the climate change investment fund within the Investing for the Future Programme.

Climate Change Action Committee Scope and the Work Programme

11. The CCAC has a broad and ambitious scope as reflected within the CCAC's Terms of Reference.

12. Some of the specific responsibilities align with existing or planned work, such as advocacy to central government on climate issues, development of a climate change policy and action plan, and collaboration with other local and regional bodies on climate change actions.
13. However, it should also be noted that some of the specific responsibilities are not currently funded with the LTP or sit outside of Environment Canterbury's current roles and responsibilities.
14. Therefore, not all the specific responsibilities will be able to be supported within Year 1 of the LTP. Amendments to approved plans and funding during the Annual Plan process will likely be required, depending on the direction set by the CCAC and Council and the levels of funding provided.
15. The Terms of Reference of the CCAC will also be reviewed as part of the Council's six-month review of the new committee process.

Cost, compliance and communication

Financial implications

16. All initiatives as currently described in Appendix 1 have adequate funding approved for the next three years.
17. Any additional activities would need to be accounted for during the Annual Plan process to ensure the resourcing and prioritisation needed to successfully deliver the LoS approved in the LTP.

Risk assessment and legal compliance

18. Within Year 1 of the LTP, central Government is due to release both the National Emissions Reduction Plan and the National Adaptation Plan. Additionally, within the 3-year term of the LTP, the Resource Management Act replacement statutes (Climate Change Adaptation Act, Strategic Planning Act, and Natural and Built Environment Act) will be ratified.
19. The content of this new legislation is still in development but may change the roles and responsibilities Environment Canterbury hold towards climate change adaptation and greenhouse gas emissions reduction.

Next steps

20. Work on the initiatives within the work programme has already commenced after adoption of the LTP by Council on the 17 June 2021, and the start of the financial year on 1 July 2021.
21. The CCAC will be provided updates on progress as part of business-as-usual operational performance reporting, such as the quarterly reports and annual review.

Attachments

Appendix 1: Climate Change Resilience Work Programme

Peer reviewers	Clare Pattison, Morag Butler
-----------------------	------------------------------

Work Plan - Climate Change Resilience Programme

Initiative	LoS Target	Year 1: Q1 Jul-Sep 2021	Year 1: Q2 Oct-Dec 2021	Year 1: Q3 + Q4 (Jan-Jun 2022)	Year 2 (2022/2023)	Year 3 (2023/2024)
Climate Change Adaptation						
Science analysis and advice		Synthesise existing information and identify data gaps	Publish Science Group climate change impacts report. Develop workplan to address priority information gaps	Undertake monitoring network review	Commission updated projections based on latest modelling	Provide analysis and advice based on updated projections
Strategic and policy advice regarding national direction and RMA requirements (Advocacy)		Assess implications of Randerson report recommendations	Assess implications of central Government initiatives and direction	National Adaptation Plan Submission. Strategic Planning and Climate Change Adaptation Acts submission. Assess implications of National Adaptation Plan, Emissions Reduction Plan, Resource Management reforms on Environment Canterbury and the Canterbury region	Provide strategic and policy advice on the implications of central Government plans and Resource Management reforms	Provide strategic and policy advice on the implications of central Government plans and Resource Management reforms
Strategic and policy advice regarding mainstreaming climate change into decision-making		Develop ECan organisational climate change policy	Release and socialise organisational climate change policy	Identify and implement opportunities for improving how climate change is integrated into ECan decision-making	Identify and implement opportunities for improving how climate change is integrated into ECan decision-making	Review organisational climate change policy
Strategic and policy advice regarding adaptation planning	23.3	Adaptation options catalogue & screening	Develop partnerships to support climate change adaptation	Identify options for regional climate change adaptation plan	Assess options for financing adaptation	Develop regional climate change action plan
Climate change communications projects (public education and community engagement)	23.1	It's time, Canterbury campaign	It's time, Canterbury campaign – Phase 2	Planning and delivery of annual engagement campaign	Undertake at least one public engagement campaign	Undertake at least one public engagement campaign
Develop methodology to measure community level of awareness on adapting to climate change	23.2	Assess options for partnering with other agencies to measure public awareness of climate change adaptation	Develop methodology to measure community awareness of adapting to climate change	Measure community awareness of adapting to climate change to provide a baseline for future monitoring	Measure community awareness of adapting to climate change	Measure community awareness of adapting to climate change
Organisational climate change risk reporting to central government		Climate change risk assessment report due	Develop workplan for utilising climate change risk assessment in organisational assessment	Begin organisational climate change risk assessment	Embed organisational climate change risk assessment into internal risk processes	Review organisational climate change risk assessment processes
Develop a climate change action plan in collaboration with the community	23.3	Explore opportunities for regional coordination of climate change response	Explore opportunities for regional coordination of climate change response	Identify the scope and approach for developing a climate change action plan	Initiate development of a climate change action plan, including community engagement	Develop regional climate change action plan
Transition to Low Emissions						
Science analysis and advice			Synthesise emissions reductions actions and opportunities	Identify data gaps for quantifying emissions profiles	Identify data gaps for quantifying emissions profiles	Collate data to quantify emissions profile
Strategy and policy advice regarding national direction and RMA requirements		National Emissions Reduction Plan submission	National direction regarding changes to RMA submission (late 2021)	Assess implications of National Adaptation Plan, Emissions Reduction Plan, Resource Management reforms on Environment Canterbury and the Canterbury region	Provide strategic and policy advice on the implications of central Government plans and Resource Management reforms	Provide strategic and policy advice on the implications of central Government plans and Resource Management reforms
Strategic and policy advice regarding transition planning	23.3		Transition options catalogue & screening	Scope options for regional climate change transition planning. Develop partnerships to support climate change transition	Assess options for financing transition	Incorporate transition planning into regional climate change action plan
Develop a climate change action plan in collaboration with the community	23.3	Explore opportunities for regional coordination of climate change response	Explore opportunities for regional coordination of climate change response	Identify the scope and approach for developing a climate change action plan	Initiate development of a climate change action plan, including community engagement	Develop regional climate change action plan

6.3. Central Government Climate Change Direction

Climate Change Action Committee (CCAC) Report

Date of meeting	Thursday, 12 August 2021
Author	Alina Toppler, Strategy Advisor Presented by Jesse Burgess, Senior Strategy Manager
Endorsed by	Dr Tim Davie, Director Science

Purpose

1. To provide an update on key climate change related central government directions and associated implications for Environment Canterbury's Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio.

Recommendations

That the Climate Change Action Committee:

1. **receives information about upcoming central government directions related to climate change**
2. **notes opportunities for Environment Canterbury to engage with central government on climate change consultations.**

Background

1. The Government plans to repeal and replace the Resource Management Act (RMA) with three new Acts this parliamentary term. A key objective of this Resource Management reform is to better prepare for adapting to climate change and other natural hazards, as well as mitigating greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) emissions.
2. The Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019 provides the legislative mandate to manage New Zealand's transition to a low-emissions and a climate resilient future. This includes the development of a National Adaptation Plan and Emissions Reduction Plans under the Zero Carbon Framework.
3. These central government changes will have implications for Environment Canterbury's Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio as outlined in this paper.

Key central government directions related to climate change

Resource Management Reform

4. In February 2021, the Government announced it would repeal the RMA and enact new legislation based on the recommendations of the Resource Management Review Panel. The three proposed acts are:
 - Natural and Built Environments Act (NBA), as the main replacement for the RMA, to protect and restore the environment while better enabling development
 - Strategic Planning Act (SPA), requiring the development of long-term regional spatial strategies to help coordinate and integrate decisions made under relevant legislation; and
 - Climate Adaptation Act (CAA), to address complex issues associated with managed retreat.
5. The three proposed new pieces of legislation to replace the RMA are as follows.

Natural and Built Environments Bill - Exposure Draft

6. The Natural and Built Environment Act (NBA) is the core piece of legislation to replace the RMA, expected to pass into law before November 2023. An exposure draft of key parts of the draft NBA Bill has been released and public consultation is underway.
7. Currently, development is still occurring in high-risk places despite increases in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, and there is uncertainty relating to costs and who pays for adaptation, along with ad hoc decisions relating to retreat. These are key issues expected to be addressed through the new Act.
8. The purpose and related provisions of the NBA will be implemented through the National Planning Framework, followed by Natural and Built Environment Plans.
9. The National Planning Framework and Natural and Built Environment Plans must promote the following environmental outcomes related to climate change:
 - Greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions are reduced and there is an increase in the removal of those gases from the atmosphere.
 - Significant risks associated with natural hazards and climate change are reduced and the resilience of the environment to natural hazards and the effects of climate change improved.
 - The ongoing provision of infrastructure services to support the well-being of people and communities, including by supporting an increase in the generation, storage, transmission and use of renewable energy.
10. Those outcomes will guide the development of regional spatial strategies under the Strategic Planning Act (SPA) which will be jointly developed by local government, central government, and mana whenua. This is discussed further below.

Strategic Planning Act

11. The Strategic Planning Act (SPA) provides a strategic and long-term approach to New Zealand's land-use and coastal marine area planning. Strategic planning can be seen as the 'proactive side' of adaptation as it encourages integrated long-term decision-making and climate resilience.
12. Adaptation legislation could play a role in ensuring funding mechanisms and other decision-making systems are available to support this function of spatial planning.
13. Long-term spatial strategies in each region will be developed to identify areas that are vulnerable to climate change effects and natural hazards such as earthquakes.
14. Regional spatial strategies may enable more efficient land-use and development markets to improve housing supply, affordability and choice, as well as climate change mitigation and adaptation.
15. The SPA will be formed in parallel to the NBA and will be closely aligned to the development of the Climate Adaptation Act (CAA).

Climate Adaptation Act

2. Recommendations outlined in the review of the Resource Management Act (RMA) (Randerson Report) are expected to lay the foundation for the development of the Climate Adaptation Act (CAA).
16. The recommendations include a suite of changes to enable climate change adaptation and natural hazard risks to be addressed in a more comprehensive and proactive way than is currently provided for.
17. The RMA review panel recommended changes to address the complex legal and technical issues associated with managed retreat (where it is required for climate change adaptation or to reduce risks from natural hazards) and the establishment of an adaptation fund. Implications of an adaptation fund will be identified and communicated once information becomes available.
18. The recommendations for discrete adaptation legislation are one of the least developed areas within the Randerson Report. However, while the details are still unclear, there is potential that the CAA will impact local government's functions, roles and responsibilities.
19. In particular, our plans to deliver on the following Levels of Service (LoS) within the Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio may be affected by the CAA (and the SPA):
 - LoS 18: Provide information and advisory services that enable people to understand natural hazard risk and make informed decisions.
 - LoS 21: Provide coastal environmental monitoring, response planning and advisory services to enable informed decision-making.

- LoS 22: Partner with Ngāi Tahu, city and district councils, and the community to review the Regional Coastal Environment Plan to achieve integrated management of the Canterbury coastal and marine area.
- LoS 23: Raise awareness of how the community can be part of adapting to climate change.
- LoS 26: Maintain flood protection and drainage infrastructure to agreed standards, while considering broader outcomes.

Zero Carbon Framework

National Adaptation Plan

20. The National Adaptation Plan will set out the Government's plan to respond to climate risks identified across the five value domains in the national climate change risk assessment (Built Environment, Economy, Natural Environment, Human, Governance).
21. The Plan is expected to outline government's adaptation work programme for the next six years and must include:
 - objectives for adapting to the effects of climate change
 - strategies, policies and proposals to achieve the objectives
 - timeframes for implementing actions
 - how the objectives and actions will address the most significant risks identified in the risk assessment
 - indicators to measure progress and enable regular monitoring and reporting by the Climate Change Commission.
22. Public consultation is expected for early 2022, with final Cabinet decision and gazettal planned for mid-2022.

Emissions Reduction Plan

23. The Emissions Reduction Plan will describe how New Zealand should meet emissions budgets and make progress towards meeting the national 2050 target (reduce net emissions of all GHG (except biogenic methane) to zero by 2050, reduce emissions of biogenic methane to 24 – 47 per cent below 2017 levels by 2050, including to 10 per cent below 2017 levels by 2030).
24. The Emissions Reduction Plan will include:
 - policies and strategies for specific sectors (e.g. transport, waste, building and construction, agriculture and forestry)
 - a multi-sector strategy to meet emissions budgets and improve the ability of those sectors to adapt to the effects of climate change
 - ways to mitigate the impacts that reducing emissions will have on people and increasing removals will have on employees and employers, regions, iwi and Māori, and wider communities including the funding for any mitigation action
 - any other policies or strategies that the Minister for Climate Change considers necessary.

25. Consultation on the Emissions Reduction Plan has been signalled for August/September 2021. The first Emissions Reduction Plan must be in place by 31 December 2021.

Cost, compliance and communication

Risk assessment and legal compliance

26. Potential risks may arise from any changes to responsibilities for regional councils resulting from the Resource Management Reform, Emissions Reduction Plan and National Adaptation Plan.

Consistency with Council policy

27. Further information regarding the consistency of central government proposals with Council policy will be provided as it becomes available. More information is expected to be known in the coming months as legislation develops.

Next steps

31. Staff will work with Council to provide further information on implications as part of upcoming consultation on key climate change related national direction and legislative changes.

Attachments

Nil

Peer reviewers	Morag Butler, Clare Pattison
-----------------------	------------------------------

7. Notices of Motion

8. Extraordinary and Urgent Business

9. Questions

10. Next Meeting

11. Mihi / Karakia Whakamutunga - Closing