

Minutes of the inaugural (1st) meeting of the Climate Change Action Committee held at Environment Canterbury, 200 Tuam Street, Christchurch on Thursday, 12 August 2021 at 10.30am

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Present

Councillor Elizabeth McKenzie (Co-Chair)	Councillor Claire McKay
Councillor Vicky Southworth (Co-Chair)	Councillor Peter Scott
Chair Jenny Hughey	Tumu Taiao Iaeen Cranwell
Councillor Craig Pauling	Councillor Ian Mackenzie
Councillor Phil Clearwater	Councillor Lan Pham*
Councillor Megan Hands	Councillor Nicole Marshall
Councillor Grant Edge	Councillor John Sunckell

*Via MS Teams

In attendance

Katherine Harbrow (Director Operations), Tafflyn Bradford-James (Director Communications and Engagement), David Perenara-O'Connell (Acting Director Strategy and Planning), Fiona Shanhun (Chief Scientist), Toshi Hodliffe (Team Leader Strategy and Planning), Morag Butler (Senior Strategy Advisor), Alina Toppler (Strategy Advisor), Victoria Clare (Strategy Advisor), Hamish McKinnon (Principal Strategic Advisor to the Chief Executive), Anna Puentener (Principal Strategic Advisor to the Chair), Jesse Burgess (Senior Strategy Manager), Vivienne Ong (Committee Advisor), Natasha Cleine (Executive Assistant to Councillors and Tumu Taiao), Katie Roggisch (Personal Assistant to Director Communications and Engagement)*, Juliet Bruce (Committee Advisor).

*Via MS Teams

1. Mihi/Karakia Timatanga – Opening

Co-Chair Elizabeth McKenzie welcomed everyone to the meeting. Co-Chair McKenzie chaired the meeting for Items 5.1 and 6.1. Co-Chair Southworth chaired the meeting for Items 6.2 and 6.3.

Karakia: Co-Chair Elizabeth McKenzie

Terms of Reference

Members were reminded of the Terms of Reference, during which it was highlighted the Climate Change Action Committee was the first Environment Canterbury Committee that could officially appoint a Youth Member.

Items for Extraordinary and Urgent Business

- Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change report

2. Apologies

Councillor Tane Apanui for absence. Councillor Peter Scott for early departure.

3. Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest recorded.

4. Public Forum

- 4.1 Patricio Gallardo and Fiona Van Petegem of Transition HQ presented on the topic of transition engineering, with particular focus on collaboration, adaptive capacity, and Transition HQ's projects partnering with businesses, iwi, and government entities interested in sustainable futures.

Transition engineering involved system-level changes to solve multiple problems across sectors, and enhance capacity as a result. Mr Gallardo and Ms Van Petegem proposed that Transition HQ would partner with Environment Canterbury in the form of a workshop for leadership, including training and research projects.

Councillor Scott left the meeting at 10.55am.

Members asked questions of clarification regarding Transition HQ's projects to date, the role of transition engineering in the climate change emergency, how best to bring communities along with transition engineering projects, and any potential for faster solutions given this is a climate change emergency.

MOTION

That the Climate Change Action Committee:

1. receives the Public Forum matter from Patricio Gallardo and Fiona Van Petegem and;
2. refers the matter to the Chief Executive to reply.

An amendment was moved by Co-Chair McKenzie, seconded by Councillor Clearwater.

That the words 'about transition engineering' be added in point one (1), ie:

1. *receives the Public Forum matter about transition engineering from Patricio Gallardo and Fiona Van Petegem and;*

The amendment was CARRIED

This became part of the substantive motion.

RESOLVED

That the Climate Change Action Committee:

- 1. receives the Public Forum matter about transition engineering from Patricio Gallardo and Fiona Van Petegem and;**
- 2. refers the matter to the Chief Executive to reply.**

Cr Southworth/Chair Hughey
CARRIED

Chair Hughey left the meeting at 11.14am and rejoined at 11.15am.

5. Decision Items

5.1. Process to Appoint Independent Members

Refer page 12 – Climate Change Action Committee agenda

Presented by: Senior Strategy Manager.

Staff spoke to this report and reminded Committee members that the Committee's Terms of Reference required the appointment of two Independent Members to the Committee. Staff sought guidance as to the appointment process, skills, attributes and expertise expected of independent members.

The following was noted regarding Independent Members:

- The initial appointment would be for a twelve-month term.
- Council would receive a draft independent experts' terms of reference for approval.
- It was necessary that appointment be by Council resolution, as Independent Member remuneration was not budgeted through the Annual Plan or Long-Term Plan.

Discussion also centred on the type of attributes required for the Independent Members.

Councillor Sunckell left the meeting at 11.32am and returned at 11.35am.

MOTION

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.**

An amendment was moved by Councillor Clearwater, seconded by Tumu Taiao Cranwell.

CONFIRMED

That point two (2) of the above motion be amended by adding “Chair Hughey and Councillor Southworth” as members of the sub-group, ie:

1. *RECOMMENDS COUNCIL APPROVES a sub-group of two Councillors, Chair Hughey and Councillor Southworth, 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*

The amendment was CARRIED

This became part of the substantive motion.

An amendment was moved by Councillor Marshall and seconded by Councillor McKay.

That point three (3) of the above motion be amended by adding the words “at the Climate Change Action Committee September workshop” ie:

2. *provides direction at the Climate Change Action Committee September workshop on the desired knowledge, skills and attributes of the independent climate change experts to be appointed to the Climate Change Action Committee by Council*

The amendment was LOST

An amendment was moved by Councillor Hands and seconded by Councillor Sunckell.

That a fifth (point 5) recommendation was added, ie:

5. *requests for the avoidance of doubt that advice on remuneration is included in the decision paper returned to the Council on 30 September 2021.*

The amendment was LOST

RESOLVED

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, Chair Hughey and Councillor Southworth, 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.**

Cr Clearwater/Tumu Taiao Cranwell

CARRIED

Abstained: Cr Hands

Councillor Scott rejoined to the meeting at 12.10pm.

6. Information Items

6.1. It's time, Canterbury Climate Change Engagement

Refer page 16 – Climate Change Action Committee agenda

Presented by: Director Communications and Engagement.

Staff updated Committee members on the 'It's time, Canterbury' campaign, reporting the campaign was going well, with website engagement at a higher rate than industry standards. Stage two of the campaign would involve increasing communication with communities at a local level through territorial authorities and rūnanga. Environment Canterbury's Chief Scientist was part of the communications.

Questions of clarification included distribution of information to groups other than territorial authorities and rūnanga, and whether there was any extra engagement directed at young men due to the lower website engagement from young men.

RESOLVED

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.**

Cr Edge/Cr Hands

CARRIED

6.2. Climate Change Resilience Long-Term Plan Work Programme

Refer page 22 – Climate Change Action Committee agenda

Presented by: Chief Scientist.

Staff presented the Climate Change Resilience Long-Term Plan Work Programme and explained the objectives aligned with the Long-Term Plan and directions signalled by central government. This programme was designed to ensure Environment Canterbury was advocating and leading on climate change issues, as the nature of climate changes necessitated a regionally coordinated approach.

There were questions of clarification regarding sections of the work plan timetable, including how staff arrived at the programme structure presented to the Committee.

It was suggested that Committee members would benefit from staff updates as to how work was progressing according to the work programme.

It was suggested that territorial authorities be invited to the next meeting of the Committee. This could include agenda items contributed by territorial authorities, encouraging engagement between Environment Canterbury and territorial authorities at a public level.

RESOLVED

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.**

Cr Scott/Cr Edge
CARRIED

6.3. Central Government Climate Change Direction

Refer page 26 – Climate Change Action Committee agenda

Presented by: Senior Strategy Manager.

Staff updated the Committee regarding central government direction relevant to Environment Canterbury's Climate Change and Community Resilience portfolio. Initiatives that were key at this time included freshwater reforms, the Natural and Built Environments Bill, and planned legislation such as the Strategic Planning Act and the Climate Change Adaptation Act.

Consultation about national adaptation planning and emissions reduction planning were expected in August and September 2021. Staff were working with territorial authorities and Ngāi Tahu with regard to adaptation in Canterbury.

RESOLVED

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.**

Cr Pauling/Chair Hughey
CARRIED

7. Notices of Motion

There were no notices of motion.

8. Extraordinary and urgent business

Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report 'The Physical Science Basis'
Staff updated the Committee on the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report The Physical Science Basis, which was released earlier in the week. The report formed part of the IPCC's Sixth Assessment Report and focused on the physical scientific basis of climate change.

Further reports were expected later in 2021 and 2022 on the topics of impacts, adaptation, vulnerability, mitigation, and synthesis.

The 40-page document 'Summary for Policymakers' was suggested as a useful synopsis of the full Physical Science Basis report.

9. Next meeting

Thursday, 11 November 2021.

10. Closure

The meeting closed at 12.40pm.

The day's karakia followed the inaugural afternoon meeting for the Catchment Sub-Committee.

CONFIRMED 11 NOVEMBER 2021

Councillor Elizabeth McKenzie (Co-Chair) _____

Councillor Vicky Southworth (Co-Chair) _____