



Minutes of a meeting of the
Finance Committee held electronically under COVID-19 Level 4
Protocols on Wednesday, 25 August 2021 at 10AM

Membership

Cr Hilary Calvert (Co-Chairperson)
Cr Kevin Malcolm (Co-Chairperson)
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Alexa Forbes
Hon Marian Hobbs
Cr Carmen Hope
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Michael Laws
Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Bryan Scott
Cr Kate Wilson

Welcome

Chairperson Andrew Noone welcomed members of the public and staff to the electronic meeting at 10:04 am. Staff present electronically included Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Richard Saunders (GM Regulatory and Communications), Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Liz Spector (Governance Support), Dianne Railton, Mike Roesler, Sarah Munro, Jasmin Lamorie, and Garry Maloney.

Due to unstable electronic connections, Finance Co-Chairs Malcolm and Calvert vacated the Chair. Cr Calvert moved that Cr Noone chair the meeting, seconded by Cr Malcolm.

Resolution: Cr Calvert Moved, Cr Malcolm Seconded:

That Cr Andrew Noone chair this 25 August 2021 meeting of the Finance Committee.

Motion Carried

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests to address the committee by members of the public.

3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as presented.

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were advised.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Calvert Seconded

That the minutes of the public portion of the meeting held on 26 May 2021 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Motion Carried

Resolution: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the minutes of the public-excluded portion of the meeting held on 26 May 2021 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

Motion Carried

6. ACTIONS

Cr Noone noted that the outstanding action related to the Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Otago should be marked complete as the Chief Executive and Crs Forbes and Wilson had recently attended a meeting with University staff to further work on the MoU. Cr Forbes thanked the University for the amount of work that had been undertaken and then moved:

Resolution: Cr Forbes Moved, Cr Calvert Seconded:

That thanks be expressed to University of Otago staff and to Dr Royden Somerville for convening the meeting.

Motion Carried

It was further moved by Cr Forbes that:

Resolution FIN21-116: Cr Forbes Moved, Cr Noone Seconded

That a group to include Crs Hobbs, Forbes, Wilson and a staff member be created to be responsible for convening a further meeting to narrow focus of interest for the MoU with the University of Otago.

Motion Carried

7. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

7.1. Quarterly Activity Report - 30 June 2021

This report was provided to summarise operational performance by significant activity for the period ended 30 June 2021. The report included financial and non-financial performance information relating to service delivery as outlined in the 2020-21 Annual Plan. Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Mike Roesler (Manager Corporate Planning) and Jasmin Lamorie (Corporate Planning Business Partner) were available to speak to the report and respond to questions.

Cr Wilson questioned why Water was documented as the Council's biggest challenge in the report as she thought Climate Change and other considerations were equally challenging. Following a discussion of the query, Cr Forbes asked that the statement regarding "looking after water" being the Council's biggest challenge be removed from the Annual Report document. She said it may be the highest priority, but it does not necessarily present the biggest challenge. Mr Roesler said he will amend the wording related to this statement.

After further questions from Councillors, the report was noted.

Resolution FIN21-117: Cr Scott Moved, Cr Calvert Seconded

That the Finance Committee:

- 1) **Notes** the Council Activity Performance Report for the period 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 (Q4).

Motion Carried

7.2. Finance Report 30 June 2021 - Preliminary Year-end Result

This report was provided to present Council's Finance Report for the 2021 financial year which included the preliminary financial result for the 12-month period ended 30 June 2021. Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services) and Sarah Munro (Manager Finance - Reporting) were available to respond to questions about the report.

Cr Deaker asked questions about bus fares. After a response from Mr Donnelly, it was decided that further discussion on this topic would be continued with debate on the Bus Fare paper later in the agenda. After further discussion on other facets of the report, a motion to receive the report was made.

Resolution FIN21-118: Cr Calvert Moved, Cr Hope Seconded

That the Finance Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report and the attached Finance Reports.

Motion Carried

7.3. Annual Plan 2022-23 Process and Timetable

This report was provided to enable consideration of and provide feedback on the draft timetable and process for approval of the Annual Plan 2022-23. Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services) and Mike Roesler (Manager Corporate Planning) were available to respond to questions. Cr Deaker noted that due to the amount of change and uncertainty related to environmental issues, it was critical to be adaptable, rather than being inflexible to amending the previous LTP. He asked Mr Roesler to modify the "recasting LTP" disclaimer.

After further discussion of the report, it was resolved:

Resolution FIN21-119: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Hobbs Seconded

That the Finance Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report and the Council staff presentation about the Annual Plan 2022-23 process.

Motion Carried

7.4. Outcome of Interim \$2 Dunedin Fare

This paper was provided to obtain decisions from Council on the bus fares to apply in Dunedin following the end of the Phase 2 (transitional) fare period that was put in place to enable deployment of the new electronic ticketing system. Gavin Palmer (GM Operations) and Garry Maloney (Manager Transport) were available to speak to the report and respond to questions.

Cr Deaker asked if bus route frequency and reliability were more important to encouraging public transport use than inexpensive fares. Mr Maloney noted that was affected by the starting point of frequency. Cr Forbes noted that there were other factors to consider, but that fare prices were part of the equation. She said conversations needed to occur more regularly with transport partners such as Waka Kotahi and Dunedin City Council to address public transport concerns to determine outcomes. She noted she and Cr Wilson had worked on a motion which she moved:

Resolution FIN21-120: Cr Forbes Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Finance Committee:

- 1) **Notes** the report and agree to maintain the existing fares and have discussions with DCC and WK in time to include potential financial outcomes in Annual Planning processes prior to end of October.
- 2) **Writes** to the Dunedin City Council and Waka Kotahi to invite them to participate in an independently facilitated (likely public) workshop to consider:
 - a. a joint objective of public transport in Dunedin, which levers that we, and others, can use to promote those objectives, e.g., parking options and costs;
 - b. timing of review of fares, with consideration of routes, usage and flexibility of bus services and patronage;
 - c. coordination of building of planned complementary infrastructure; and
 - d. coordination of travel demand management across large city businesses.
- 3) **Invites** a standing group of ORC and DCC Councillors and officers to enhance and guide Dunedin Public transport decisions.

Motion Carried

7.5. Annual Returns of Inactive Subsidiaries

This report was provided in fulfillment of Section 214 of the Companies Act 1993 required for each of the inactive registered companies owned by the Otago Regional Council. Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services) was available to respond to questions about the requirements.

There were no questions.

Resolution FIN21-121: Cr Noone Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

- 1) *That it shall not be necessary for Regional Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.*
- 2) *That no auditors be appointed for Regional Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.*
- 3) *That it shall not be necessary for Regional Pest Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.*
- 4) *That no auditors be appointed for Regional Pest Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.*
- 5) *That it shall not be necessary for Regional Monitoring Services Limited to hold an Annual General Meeting under section 120 of the Companies Act 1993.*
- 6) *That no auditors be appointed for Regional Monitoring Services Limited under section 196 (2) of the Companies Act 1993.*

Motion Carried

8. CLOSURE

There was no further business, and the meeting was declared closed at 12:13 pm.



Co-Chairperson

24 November 2021
Date