



Environmental Delivery Committee
MINUTES

Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Environmental Delivery Committee held in the Council Chamber, Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin on Thursday 5 June 2025, at 1:00 pm

https://www.youtube.com/live/RXtPTnRPJNQ?si=ohl_b17lbV_glnnl

PRESENT

Cr Lloyd McCall

(Chair)

Cr Alexa Forbes

Cr Gary Kelliher

(online)

Cr Michael Laws

(online)

Cr Kevin Malcolm

Cr Tim Mephram

Cr Andrew Noone

Cr Gretchen Robertson

Cr Alan Somerville

Cr Elliot Weir

Cr Kate Wilson

1. WELCOME

Chair McCall welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 1:00 pm to the inaugural meeting of the Environmental Delivery Committee. Staff present included Richard Saunders (Chief Executive), Anita Dawe (GM Regional Planning and Transport), Joanna Gilroy (GM Environmental Delivery), Kylie Darragh (Governance Support Officer), and Libby Caldwell (Manager, Environmental Delivery).

2. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for this meeting.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

There was no public forum for this meeting.

4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

The agenda was confirmed as published.

5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Members were reminded of the need to stand aside from decision-making if a conflict was to arise between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

6. PRESENTATIONS

Paul Pope spoke on Te Nukuoro o Matamata and presented slides on environmental initiatives and resulting flora and fauna improvements. There was an opportunity for questions from Councillors, Chair McCall thanked

Paul Southworth from Aroha Kaikorai Valley, spoke on trapping, bird counting, and building the community group. There was an opportunity for questions, Chair McCall thanked Paul for attending.

Steph Scott spoke of the East Otago Te Hikapupu/Pleasant Catchment Group on freshwater monitoring, farmers workshops, and working towards FAP+. There was an opportunity for questions, Chair McCall thanked Steph for attending.

7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Noone Seconded

That the minutes of the Environmental Implementation Committee meeting held on 5 March 2025 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

8. OPEN ACTIONS FROM RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

There are currently no open actions for this committee.

9. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

9.1. Lake Hayes Wai Whakaata update

[YouTube 58:15] The report presented the Waiwhakaata strategy to the Environmental Delivery Committee for endorsement and provided an update on the Lake Hayes/Waiwhakaata project. Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation), Jana Davis (Chair of Waiwhakaata Strategy Group), and Mike Hanff (Friends of Lake Hayes), and Jo Gilroy (GM Environmental Delivery), were available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution EDC25-101: Cr Forbes Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Environmental Delivery Committee recommends that Council:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the progress of supporting and delivering water quality enhancement within the Lake Hayes/Waiwhakaata catchment.
- 3) **Endorses** the Waiwhakaata strategy as a document that sets the direction, in principle for enhancing the environment of the Lake Hayes/Waiwhakaata catchment.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Laws voted against.

9.2. Regional Pest Management Plan Effectiveness Review

[YouTube 1:54:50] The report presented the findings of the review into the effectiveness of the Otago Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-29 (RPMP) and presented a recommended prioritised schedule of implementing the recommendations. Dr Julius Ohrnberger of the Sapere Research Group (online), Murray Boardman (Performance and Reporting Specialist), and Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation), were available to respond to questions on the report.

Cr Forbes left the meeting 3:30 pm.

Resolution EDC25-102: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Recommends** that Council approves the prioritisation of the recommendations to improve the effectiveness of delivery of the current and future RPMP.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Forbes returned to the meeting at 3:43 pm.

9.3. Regional Pest Management Plan Operational Plan 2025/26

[YouTube 2:31:40] The report sought approval of the 2025-2026 Biosecurity Operational Plan. Robert Win (Team Leader Biosecurity), Michelle Ewans (Biosecurity Specialist - Terrestrial), Murray Boardman (Performance and Reporting Specialist), Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation), and Jo Gilroy (GM Environmental Delivery), were available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution EDC25-103: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Somerville Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Recommends to Council to approve** the Otago Regional Council's 2025-2026 Biosecurity Operational Plan to enact the Otago Regional Pest Management Plan 2019-2029 and authorises the Chief Executive to correct minor errors to the 2025-2026 Biosecurity Operational Plan.
- 3) **Notes** that the 2025-2026 Biosecurity Work Plan will be developed to deliver the 2025-2026 Biosecurity Operational Plan, once approved.
- 4) **Notes** that a copy of the Otago Regional Council's Regional Pest Management Plan 2025-2026 Biosecurity Operational Plan will be provided to the Minister for Biosecurity.
- 5) **Notes** that staff will report back to Council any response from the Minister for Biosecurity.

MOTION CARRIED

At 4:42 it was moved by Cr McCall, seconded by Cr Robertson

That the Committee adjourn for 10 minutes.

MOTION CARRIED

9.4. Integrated Catchment Management

[YouTube 2:55] To provide an update on the Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) Programme and to seek approval for the rollout schedule for the next Catchment Action Plans (CAPs). Cr Robertson proposed alternative recommendations. Anna Molloy, (Principal Advisor Environmental Implementation), Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation), and Jo Gilroy (GM Environmental Delivery), were present to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution EDC25-104: Cr Robertson Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** the report and the progress made on the ICM programme in this quarter.
- 2) **Notes** the Terms of Reference adopted by the Catlins Governance Group.
- 3) **Endorses** the continuation of the projects currently underway as outlined in the report.
- 4) **Requests** that staff undertake a full review of the Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) Programme and report back to the September Committee meeting with options to accelerate delivery and streamline governance and oversight arrangements.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Robertson left the meeting at 4:16 pm.

Cr Robertson returned to the meeting at 4:19 pm, online.

9.5. Fresh Water Project Update

[YouTube 3:09] The report provides an update on five water quality focused projects that Council is involved in. Libby Caldwell (Manager Environmental Implementation), Sarah Irvine (Team Leader Project Delivery), Melanie White (Project Delivery Specialist - Freshwater and Biodiversity), Alison Turner (Land Management Advisor), Jennifer Lawn (Project Delivery Specialist - Freshwater and Biodiversity), were available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution EDC25-105: Cr McCall Moved, Cr Wilson Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the progress of implementation activities that are occurring on the water quality projects delivered by the community, partners and Council, as detailed in this report.
- 3) **Recommends** that the Council **approves** options 1 in regard to a funding application to MPI for further Hill Country projects.
- 4) **Notes** the implementation plans for Lake Tuakitoto (Attachment 1: Lake Tuakitoto Implementation Plan – FINAL) and Tomahawk Lagoon (Attachment 2: Tomohaka Tomahawk Lagoon Implementation Plan – FINAL).

MOTION CARRIED

9.6. Funding Agreement with MPI for Wilding Conifer and Wallaby Programmes

[YouTube 3:29:10] The paper sought approval to enter into service agreements with the Ministry for Primary Industries/Manatū Ahu Matua (MPI) for funding and operational delivery of the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme and the Tipu Mātoro National Wallaby Eradication Programme in Otago for the 2025/26 financial year. and to commence delivery of the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme and the Tipu Mātoro National Wallaby Eradication Programme from 1 July 2025. Gavin Udy (online) Will McBeth (online) Sarah Irvine, Libby Caldwell, Jo Gilroy (GM Environmental Delivery) were available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution EDC25-106: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Malcolm Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Recommends to Council that they approve Option 1** that Council continues to act as the Recipient of funding from MPI for the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme and Tipu Mātoro Wallaby Eradication Programme in Otago.
- 3) **Recommends to Council that they approve** the Goods and Services agreement over the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2030 and Government funding of \$1,070,000 (excluding GST), or an amount similar to this if the budget is altered by MPI, over the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026, for Otago's share of the National Wilding Conifer Programme and authorises the Chief Executive to sign the agreement for and on behalf of Council if there are no significant changes.
- 4) **Recommends to Council that they approve** the Goods and Services agreement over the period of 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2030 and Government funding of \$950,000 (excluding GST), or an amount similar to this if the budget is altered by MPI, over the period 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 for Otago's share of the Tipu Mātoro National Wallaby Eradication Programme and authorises the Chief Executive to sign the agreement for and on behalf of Council if there are no significant changes.
- 5) **Recommends to Council that they approve Option 3** to commence delivery of works for the National Wilding Conifer Control Programme and the Tipu Mātoro National Wallaby Eradication Programme from 1 July 2025, even if there is a delay in the signing of the agreements with MPI.
- 6) **Recommends that the Council Notes** the obligations for Council found in Schedule 2, Clause 6 of the draft Tipu Mātoro Wallaby Programme Goods and Services Agreement 2025-2030 (Attachment 1).

MOTION CARRIED

9.7. Port and Marine Harbour Safety Code Report

[YouTube 3:40] The purpose of this report was to update the Committee on the Port and Harbour Marine Safety Code (PHMSC) external review, carried out in November 2024 and received in March 2025. Steve Rushbrook (Harbourmaster) and Simon Wilson (Manager Environmental Delivery Data & Systems) were available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution EDC25-107: Cr McCall Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.

MOTION CARRIED

9.8. Quarterly Update on the Activities of the Regulatory Teams

[YouTube 3:45] The report updated the Committee on the activities of the Regulatory Teams of the Environmental Delivery Group between 1 July 2024 and 30 April 2025 and outlined the proposed Compliance Audit and Performance Monitoring Schedule for the 2025-2026 year. Alexandra King (Manager Consents) Carlo Bell (Manager Compliance) Simon Wilson, (Manager Environmental Delivery Data and Systems) Steve Rushbrook (Harbourmaster), Joanna Gilroy (GM Environmental Delivery) were available to respond to questions on the report.

Resolution EDC25-108: Cr Wilson Moved, Cr Noone Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Recommends that Council approves the Compliance Audit and Performance Monitoring Schedule for the 2025/26 year.**

MOTION CARRIED

10. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Chair McCall declared the meeting closed at 4:55 pm with a karakia.

Chairperson

Date