



## Minutes of a meeting of the Strategy and Planning Committee held in the Council Chamber on Wednesday 8 July 2020 at 1PM

### **Membership**

Hon Marian Hobbs	<i>(Co-Chair)</i>
Cr Michael Laws	<i>(Co-Chair)</i>
Cr Hilary Calvert	
Dr Lyn Carter	
Cr Michael Deaker	
Mr Edward Ellison	
Cr Alexa Forbes	
Cr Carmen Hope	
Cr Gary Kelliher	
Cr Kevin Malcolm	
Cr Andrew Noone	
Cr Gretchen Robertson	
Cr Bryan Scott	
Cr Kate Wilson	

### **Welcome**

Cr Laws welcomed the Committee, members of the public, and staff to the meeting.

*For our future*

## **1. APOLOGIES**

### **Resolution**

*That the apologies for Cr Calvert be accepted.*

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

## **2. ATTENDANCE**

Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive)

Nick Donnelly (General Manager Corporate Services and CFO)

Gavin Palmer (General Manager Operations)

Sally Giddens (General Manager People, Culture and Communications)

Richard Saunders (General Manager Regulatory)

Gwyneth Elsum (General Manager Policy, Strategy and Science)

Amanda Vercoe (Executive Advisor)

Liz Spector (Committee Secretary)

Other staff present included: Sylvie Leduc (Senior Strategic Analyst), Sarah Harrison (Air Quality Scientist), Lisa Hawkins (Team Leader RPS, Air and Coast, Tom De Pelsemaecker (Team Leader Freshwater and Land), Dolina Lee (Policy Analyst) and Anita Dawe (Manager Policy and Planning).

## **3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

Staff indicated that the update on the Land and Water Regional Plan would be postponed.

## **4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest were advised.

## **5. PUBLIC FORUM**

No public forum was held.

## **6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

### **6.1. Minutes of the 13 May 2020 Strategy & Planning Committee Meeting**

#### **Resolution**

*That the minutes of the meeting held on 13 May 2020 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.*

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

### **6.2. Corrected minutes of the 22 January 2020 Strategy & Planning Committee meeting**

#### **Resolution**

*That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2020 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record. This correction added a resolution made by the Committee at that*

*meeting requesting options for potential remedial actions for Thomsons Creek (E.Coli) that was not included in the original minutes.*

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

## **7. ACTIONS**

No updates on outstanding actions were advised.

## **8. PRESENTATIONS**

Mandy Bell (Manager, Wanaka Water Project) and Megan Williams (Chair, Wanaka Water Project) addressed the Committee about the Upper Clutha catchment work. The Councillors asked questions and thanked them for their presentation.

*Cr Deaker left the meeting at 01:38 pm.*

### **8.2. Presentation - Update on Land and Water Regional Plan**

This presentation was rescheduled.

### **8.3. Presentation - Health and Air Quality in Otago**

Danielle Smith (Health Promotion Advisor for Public Health South from the DHB) spoke to the Committee about air quality and its impact on health for Otago residents. After her presentation, the Committee members asked questions and Cr Hobbs suggested a group be created to collaborate across multiple agencies on these issues.

## **9. MATTERS FOR COUNCIL DECISION**

### **9.1. Air Quality Overview**

Sylvie Leduc (Senior Strategic Analyst) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) led a discussion about air quality issues in Otago, the ORC Air Quality Strategy adopted in 2018, and how the strategy has been implemented to date. Cr Scott asked whether more emphasis should be placed on improving uptake of insulation in houses. Mr Jeremy Baker, Project Manager for Cosy Homes, noted that people who apply for financial assistance for new burners must show they have addressed insufficient insulation issues prior to being approved. Cr Wilson said the Council should have a discussion about whether burners should be allowed in urban expansion areas. Ms Leduc indicated discussions are underway about implementing more stringent rules for burners in new home builds. Cr Kelliher asked if ORC investigates the difference of emissions between wet and dry wood. Sarah Harrison (Air Quality Scientist) said ORC will look into this in the future.

Cr Hobbs noted that air quality issues span agencies and would like clarity on how to address the problems. She said housing codes are not controlled by ORC, nor are residential rental housing inspections, but noted the ORC receives many complaints related to burning fuel odours in residential neighbourhoods. She asked what ORC's role will be in this. Ms Leduc said regional councils have a role to advocate with local territorial authorities and to work with them towards better air quality.

Chief Executive Sarah Gardner said it would be beneficial to have a discussion about where the Councillors' priorities are related to air quality, coast, biodiversity, etc. She said there are many significant issues, but direction is needed from Council on where to place its focus.

## **9.2. Proposed amendments to the National Environmental Standards for Air Quality**

Lisa Hawkins (Team Leader RPS, Air and Coast) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) were present to speak to the report. Ms Hawkins said a draft submission on proposed amendments to the National Environmental Standards for Air Quality (NESAQ) was included with the report for the Committee members' comments. A discussion was held wherein the members asked that focus be put on a multi-agency approach towards addressing air quality concerns. They also asked that energy poverty be noted and asked why port emissions are excluded from coverage under the NESAQ. The Committee was in favour of the submission retaining the standard of 65% thermal efficiency and agreed to support the introduction of PM2.5 as the primary regulatory tool for management of ambient particulate matter.

Ms Hawkins said staff would update the proposed submission post these conversations and bring back for Council approval on 22 July. Cr Laws then moved the staff recommendation with amendments as noted, asking for the amended submission to be brought to Council for approval.

### **Resolution**

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Makes a recommendation to Council to approve the attached submission as amended be submitted to Ministry for the Environment prior to 31 July 2020.**

Moved: Cr Laws  
Seconded: Cr Robertson  
CARRIED

Cr Laws called for an adjournment at 3 p.m. and asked that the meeting resume at 3:30 p.m.

## **9.3. Annual Air Quality Report 2019**

Sarah Harrison (Air Quality Scientist) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) spoke to the Annual Air Quality Report for 2019. The report provided a summary of State of the Environment air quality monitoring, network upgrades and implementation of ORC's Air Quality Strategy and compliance of the Air Plan.

After a general discussion, Cr Laws asked for a motion.

### **Resolution**

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.

Moved: Cr Scott  
Seconded: Cr Malcolm  
CARRIED

## **9.4. Arrowtown Air Quality Implementation**

Sarah Harrison (Air Quality Scientist) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science) were present to answer questions about the report which was provided to summarise the

2019 Arrowtown Air Quality winter programme initiative. After questions from Councillors, Cr Laws asked for a motion to receive the report.

#### **Resolution**

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.

Moved: Cr Wilson

Seconded: Cr Hobbs

CARRIED

#### **9.5. Air Quality - Next Steps**

Sylvie Leduc (Senior Strategic Analyst) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy & Science) provided a wrap up of the air quality programme and its part in Long Term Plan preparations. After a general discussion, Cr Laws asked for a motion to receive the overview.

#### **Resolution**

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Received** the overview of Air Quality – Next Steps

Moved: Cr Laws

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

### **10. MATTERS FOR NOTING**

#### **10.1. Water Bottling Issues and Options**

Sylvie Leduc and Gwyneth Elsum were available to answer questions about the paper which was provided to review issues and options related to commercial water bottling in Otago. Mr Ellison noted the paper provided five options for the Committee members to consider and he indicated he would move Option 3, which called for ORC to advocate central government to discourage, or put a stop to, water bottling in New Zealand. Cr Robertson agreed and said it would be the most effective way to deal with the issue. Cr Hobbs asked if there was a way to incorporate Option 2 in the motion and noted that if a stop to all water bottling in New Zealand is called for, one would not be able to buy bottled water in the country and she did not think that is the intended outcome of the paper. Cr Laws suggested this was about taking freshwater sources and asked if Mr Ellison would be happy to incorporate Option 2 into Option 3. Mr Ellison said he would as Option 2 was continuation of the RPS and Regional Water Plan review work.

After conclusion of the discussion, Cr Laws asked for a motion.

#### **Resolution**

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.

Moved: Cr Laws

Seconded: Cr Hope

Then Cr Laws put the motion of Mr Ellison:

### Resolution

*That the Committee:*

- 1) *Supports Option 2, noting community concerns or issues raised with respect to water bottling can be identified and considered without any impact on resources, consistent with ORC's position in its resource management framework.*
- 2) *Supports Option 3, advocating central government to discourage or put a stop to spring and/or aquifer water bottling in New Zealand.*

Moved: Edward Ellison

Seconded: Cr Robertson

CARRIED

### 10.2. Action for healthy waterways – Decisions on national direction and regulations for freshwater management

Tom De Pelsemaeker (Team Leader Freshwater and Land), Dolina Lee( Policy Analyst), Anita Dawe (Manager Policy) and Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy & Science) were present to speak to the report. Ms Lee identified a typographical error in paragraph 25 of the report, noting it should read 1 July 2023 rather than 2013.

Ms Lee said the paper was provided to summarise for the Committee decisions from central government in the recently released Action for Healthy Waterways package and outlines implications of the package for ORC. She stated the new package does align with ORC's current work, particularly with Plan Change 8, although some rules have been slightly modified. Following an in depth discussion of the report, Cr Laws moved the staff recommendation.

### Resolution

*That the Committee:*

- 1) **Receives** this report.
- 2) **Notes** this report.
- 3) **Notes** the updated implementation plan for Plan Changes 8 to the Regional Plan: Water for Otago and Plan Change 1 to the Regional Plan: Waste for Otago.
- 4) **Notes** the implementation plan for the 'Action for Healthy Waterways' reform package.

Moved: Cr Laws

Seconded: Cr Hope

CARRIED

### 11. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Cr Laws declared the meeting closed at 04:20 pm.



Meeting Chair Cr Robertson

9 September 2020

Date