

**Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Climate Committee meeting on 23 February 2020.**

Report 20.486

**Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on Tuesday 8 December 2020**

Kotare Room at Ramaroa, Queen Elizabeth Park

Paraparaumu, at 9.37am

**Members Present**

Councillor Nash (Chair)

Councillor Brash

Councillor Connelly

Councillor Gaylor

Councillor Kirk-Burnnand

Councillor Laban

Councillor van Lier

Dr Maria Bargh

**Karakia timatanga**

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

**Public Business**

1. **Apologies**

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Lee.

The motion was **carried.**

1. **Declarations of conflicts of interest**

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

1. **Public participation**

There was no public participation.

1. **Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 22 September 2020 – Report 20.362**

Moved: Cr van Lier / Cr Connelly

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 22 September 2020 – Report 20.362.

The motion was **carried.**

1. **Update on progress of action items from previous meetings – Report 20.424** [for information]

Luke Troy, General Manager, Strategy, spoke to the report.

1. **Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Update – Report 20.481** [for information]

Andrea Brandon, Programme Lead, Climate Change, spoke to the report.

**Noted:** The Committee requested that future Programme Status Updates include more information to explain why an action might be at risk, and frame the action to identify areas of accountability for the Climate Committee.

**Noted:** The Committee requested that officers review/undertake regional sector research on Marginal Abatement Cost curves to assist with both organisational and regional decision-making, and develop guidelines to share with the territorial authorities.

**Noted:** The Committee requested that officers collate the Wellington Region’s territorial authorities’ aspirations for climate action, and provide an update to the Committee on what regional actions are signalled across the Wellington Region’s territorial authorities’ Long Term Plans in relation to climate change to assess synergies and gaps.

**Noted:** The Committee requested that officers identify opportunities to run targeted advocacy now that the Government has declared a climate emergency by identifying the key Central Government agencies with sectoral responsibilities.

1. **Emission Unit Management and Carbon Offsetting Options – Report 20.443**

Tracy Plane, Manager, Strategic and Corporate Planning, Andrea Brandon, Programme Lead, Climate Change and Jake Roos, Climate Change Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Laban / Cr Brash

That the Committee:

1. **Notes** that there is both an opportunity cost to voluntary offsetting and uncertainty on the future of offsetting in New Zealand post-2020
2. **Agrees** to recommend that Council defers selling Greater Wellington’s emissions units until the 2024-34 Long Term Plan
3. **Agrees** to recommend that Council continues to borrow against the value of those units to fund Council’s Low Carbon Acceleration Fund for the first three years of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan, subject to any change in market conditions
4. **Agrees** to recommend that Council defer the decision regarding offsetting Greater Wellington’s own emissions from 2025 onwards until there is sufficient clarity on the matter of voluntary offsetting.

The motion was **carried.**

**Karakia whakamutunga**

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 11.08am.

Councillor T Nash

**Chair**

Date: