



If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Climate Committee

Thursday 12 September 2024, 09.30am

Taumata Kōrero, Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council,
100 Cuba St, Te Aro, Wellington

Quorum: Seven Members

Members

Councillors

Penny Gaylor (Chair)

David Bassett

Quentin Duthie

Ken Laban

Thomas Nash

Hikitia Ropata

Simon Woolf

Yadana Saw (Deputy Chair)

Ros Connelly

Chris Kirk-Burnnand

David Lee

Daran Ponter

Adrienne Staples

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council

Climate Committee (A Committee of the Whole)

1 Purposes

- 1.1 Oversee, review and report to Council on the management and delivery of Greater Wellington's strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- 1.2 Provide effective leadership on climate change for Greater Wellington and the Wellington Region on climate change mitigation and adaptation.

2 Specific responsibilities

- 2.1 Apply Council's Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles when conducting the Committee's business and making decisions.
- 2.2 Oversee the development and review of Council's climate change strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators; and recommend these matters (and variations) to Council for adoption.
- 2.3 Review and monitor, by considering regular reports from relevant activity areas, Greater Wellington's progress towards delivering on and achieving Council's climate change strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators.
- 2.4 Advise Council on how best to incorporate climate change mitigation and adaptation into other strategies, policies, plans, programmes, initiatives and indicators, including consideration of local, regional, and international best practice approaches.
- 2.5 Advise Council's representative on the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee on Greater Wellington's position on regional climate change projects (including the Regional Climate Emissions Reduction Plan and Regional Climate Adaptation Plan).
- 2.6 Advocate for the alignment and advancement of central government's and other external organisations' programmes and initiatives in climate change programmes and initiatives, working alongside the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee.

3 Delegations

- 3.1 The Committee has the authority to approve submissions to external organisations on matters pertaining directly to the Committee's purpose.
- 3.2 Where a matter proposed for consideration by the Committee (including during the development of proposed Greater Wellington plans and policies) is of strategic importance to the Wairarapa Constituency, that matter shall first be referred to the Wairarapa Committee or its members for their consideration.

4 Members

All thirteen Councillors.

5 Quorum

Seven Committee members.

6 Meeting frequency

The Committee shall meet twice each year, with additional meetings as required.

Climate Committee

Thursday 12 September 2024, 9.30am

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council,
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington

Public Business

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1.	Apologies		
2.	Conflict of interest declarations		
3.	Public participation		
4.	Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 28 March 2024	24.152	5
5.	Climate Emergency 10-Point Action Plans Refresh	24.478	8
6.	Review of Organisational Emissions Reduction Targets	24.476	19
7.	Climate Emergency Response Programme Update	24.474	28



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Climate Committee meeting on 12 September 2024.

Report 24.152

Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on Thursday 28 March 2024

Taumata Kōrero, Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council, 100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 9.31am.

Members Present

Councillor Gaylor (Chair)
Councillor Saw (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Bassett
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lee
Councillor Nash
Councillor Ponter (until 10.49am)
Councillor Ropata
Councillor Woolf

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Duthie

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

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Jenny Rattenbury, Adam Ellis and Dr Grant Corbishley spoke to a presentation on the Haewai / Houghton Valley Lifting the Creek Project.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 7 September 2023 – Report 23.449

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Nash

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 7 September 2023 – Report 23.449.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Climate Change Programme update – Report 24.111 [For Information]

Jake Roos, Manager Climate Change and Mikaila Ceelen, Climate Change Advisor, spoke to the report.

6 Meeting our Existing Organisational Emissions Target – Report 24.84

Jake Roos, Manager Climate Change, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Nash

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes the content of the report.
- 2 Requests a workshop on this topic, with a report being brought to a future Climate Committee meeting.

The motion was **carried**.

7 Setting Gross Organisational Emissions Targets – Report 24.108

Jake Roos, Manager Climate Change, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Nash / Cr Connelly

That the Committee:

- 1 Endorses the proposed organisational gross greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions targets and recommend that Council adopt them:
 - a 25% reduction in gross Scope 1 & 2 (Category 1 & 2) GHG emissions in FY2025 compared to FY2019
 - b 50% reduction in gross Scope 1 & 2 (Category 1 & 2) GHG emissions in FY2030 compared to FY2019

- c 65% reduction in gross Scope 1 & 2 (Category 1 & 2) GHG emissions in FY2035 compared to FY2019.
- 2 Notes that officers will assemble an Organisational Emissions Reduction Plan, which brings together all relevant existing Council emissions reduction commitments, policies and programmes of work, along with any new gross emissions targets that Council sets, into one document.

The motion was **carried**.

Councillor Ponter departed at 10.49am at the conclusion of the above item and did not return.

8 Climate Emergency Actions in Greater Wellington's draft Long Term Plan 2024-34 – Report 24.100 [For Information]

Suze Keith, Senior Advisor Climate Change, spoke to the report.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The public meeting closed at 10.58am.

Councillor P Gaylor

Chair

Date:

Climate Committee
12 September 2024
Report 24.478



For Decision

CLIMATE EMERGENCY 10-POINT ACTION PLANS REFRESH

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To advise the Climate Committee of the outcome of the Long Term Plan 2024-34 on the Organisational and Regional Climate Emergency Action Plans (the Plans) and seek approval for necessary changes to the Plans.

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1 **Endorses** the changes to the Organisational and Regional Climate Emergency Action Plans; and
- 2 **Recommends** that the Council adopts the Organisational and Regional Climate Emergency Action Plans.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

2. The Organisational and Regional Climate Emergency Action Plans (the Climate Emergency Action Plans) ([Attachment 1 & 2](#)) were first adopted by Council in August 2019. They list the primary actions that Council will take or is taking to respond to the climate emergency, which it declared at the same time.
3. In 2022 officers commenced a review of the Climate Emergency Action Plans to clarify:
 - a What is Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) doing now that we need to continue, update or better define
 - b What new actions are needed to reduce emissions, manage risks or adapt to climate change impacts
 - c What the highest priorities for action are.
4. In addition some actions were removed as they had been completed or merged with related actions. These were:

- a Investigate agreement with the Department of Conservation over Queen Elizabeth Park carbon credits (NZUs). This action has been completed. Earning NZUs from the Crown Estate is prohibited by law.
 - b Investigate securing renewable electricity supplies. The investigation was completed, and direct investment has been found to be the only credible way forward. The Energy Transformation Initiative will progress this.
 - c Investigate options for electric utility vehicles. Investigations were made, but the issue is not resolved. The action has been merged with Action 5 of the Organisational Climate Emergency Action Plan.
 - d Establish governance arrangements and senior management champion. This action has been merged with Action 2 of the Organisational Climate Emergency Action Plan.
 - e Review the 2015 Greater Wellington Climate Change Strategy. This review is complete. Its overarching objectives remain relevant, so no change is required.
 - f Broker native reforestation projects, using One Billion Trees funding. Greater Wellington implemented a One Billion Trees restoration project with mana whenua partners. This project was completed in winter 2023, and the fund is closed.
5. At the Climate Committee meeting on 7 September 2023, updated versions of the Climate Emergency Action Plans were presented and endorsed. The purpose of this was for the updates to inform the 2024-34 Long Term Planning process, where priorities, activities and budgets for the organisation are set. Full adoption of the Climate Emergency Action Plans by Council was deferred, as to do so would have prejudiced the outcome of the Long Term Planning process.
 6. On 28 March 2024, officers presented to the Climate Committee to advise how the Climate Emergency Action Plans had been included in the draft 2024-34 Long Term Plan. Of the twenty actions across the two Plans, nine represented a continuation of existing resourcing and eleven were new activities or activities with increased or changed resourcing requirements. The analysis provided a summary of the new, changed or increased activities as proposed in the draft 2024-34 Long Term Plan.
 7. The Climate Committee agreed that once the final 2024-34 Long Term Plan had been adopted in June 2024, the wording of the two Climate Emergency Action Plans would be revised as necessary and presented back to the Committee at its September 2024 meeting.
 8. Once the Climate Committee has reviewed and endorsed the Climate Emergency Action Plans, they will be presented to Council for adoption.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

9. On conclusion of the 2024-24 Long Term Plan process, most of the changes to the Climate Emergency Action Plans as proposed in September 2023 were adopted,

and consequently most of the updates required post-Long Term Plan adoption involve adjusting wording rather than making substantive changes.

10. For example, the Organisational Climate Emergency Action Plan Action 4 ‘Investigate starting an Energy Transformation Initiative . . .’ now reads ‘Set up and implement the Energy Transformation Initiative . . .’.
11. The most significant updates are as follows:

Organisational Climate Emergency Action Plan

12. **Action 5** aims to ‘Electrify the entire public transport system as rapidly as is feasible, including buses, trains, ferries, and shuttles. Achieve an all-electric bus fleet by 2035. Achieve a fully battery-electric light vehicle fleet for the organisation by 2030’.
13. The target for the light vehicle fleet needs to be revisited. Pure battery electric 4WD Utes are not currently available and given 72% of Greater Wellington’s light fleet are Utes and 2030 is drawing near, we need to push this target out, given the normal replacement cycle of vehicles is seven years.
14. We recommend this read ‘ensure 100% of Greater Wellington’s corporate light vehicle fleet is either pure battery electric or plug-in hybrid (PHEV) by 2035’.
15. We arrived at this target following discussion with fleet managers. PHEV Utes are starting to become available and some of the fleet (e.g. 10%) needs to be PHEV to increase its versatility and resilience in emergency responses to major natural disasters, when electricity supplies needed to recharge pure battery EVs may be disrupted.
16. The impact of this on our organisational emissions reduction targets is minor.

Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan

17. **Action 1** ‘Ensure whaitua (catchment management plans) increase climate resilience and include mana whenua and tangata whenua aspirations for climate action’ has been reworded to ‘Ensure Greater Wellington’s catchment planning approach includes mana whenua priorities and mātauranga and community aspirations for climate action’. This is to better reflect Rōpū Taiao’s Strategic Framework outcomes and Greater Wellington’s partnerships with mana whenua.
18. **Action 6** has been changed from ‘Support territorial authorities to create and implement proactive place-based, inclusive and community-led, engagement programmes relevant to the different dynamics of each area, which draw on existing community networks and reflect the interdependent nature of environmental issues and people’. It now reads ‘Support and provide resource for mana whenua partners to undertake climate adaptation planning and increase Greater Wellington’s capacity to engage and provide direction with regional stakeholders and communities in climate adaptation planning’.
19. This better reflects Greater Wellington’s intention to increase our capacity and involvement in regional adaptation planning and the need for this to be done in partnership with mana whenua.

20. **Action 7** sought to increase our capacity to secure funding for climate-related research and implementation projects. This action was not successful in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process and so has been deleted. What was approved in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, however, was 'Support for the development of regional climate change impact assessment tools'. This is now Action 7.
21. Table 1 and Table 2 provide the updated twenty actions from the Plans and detail and delivery of the outcome (where needed).

	Action	Detail/Delivery
1	Operate a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction policy and procurement policy that put a strong bias towards those options that will avoid, reduce, or absorb emissions over their entire life. Decision makers must consider how climate change would impact on proposals made to them, and the impact the proposals would have on GHG emissions and targets.	Greater Wellington's Emissions Reduction Policy is available to all staff and is promoted through our in-house staff training. For work requiring Council decisions staff must consider and report on the emissions implications.
2	Maintain appropriate governance arrangements for climate change. The chief executive is responsible for achieving organisational emissions reduction targets. Ensure there is a senior management champion for climate change priorities within the organisation and promote the programme internally and externally.	The Climate Emergency Response Programme Board, chaired by the Group Manager Strategy oversees the governance of Greater Wellington's Climate Emergency Response Programme and reports to the Climate Committee on progress. There is an Internal Emissions Reduction Steering Group and newly established Climate Resilience Working Group who support the mitigation and adaptation work of the council respectively and report up to the Programme Board.
3	Enhance organisational emissions reporting, including by establishing a system for tracking the amount of carbon stored on Greater Wellington managed land. Investigate the feasibility of including more supply-chain emissions in Greater Wellington's annual emissions inventory.	Underway. The Environment Group is developing carbon sequestration tracking systems. The Strategy Group is investigating our supply chain emissions accounting.
4	Set up and implement the Energy Transformation Initiative to maximise the potential of renewable energy and batteries to reduce organisational GHG emissions and energy costs, earn revenue, and increase energy security, through direct investment and new supply arrangements.	Initial project scoping underway, led by the Strategy Group.

5	Electrify the entire public transport system as rapidly as is feasible, including buses, trains, ferries, and shuttles. Achieve an all-electric bus fleet by 2035. Ensure 100% of Greater Wellington's corporate light vehicle fleet is either pure battery-electric or plug-in hybrid by 2035.	Being implemented by Metlink and the People and Customer Groups respectively.
6	Implement the Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan 2020-30, progressively retiring grazing and restoring native ecosystems across parks.	Being actively implemented by the Environment Group.
7	Investigate options for reducing and sequestering emissions on flood protection land including nature-based solutions.	Options assessment work complete, recommendations are now being socialised internally.
8	Operate a Low Carbon Acceleration Fund for projects that reduce Greater Wellington's organisational GHG emissions by leveraging the value of the emissions units gifted to Council by Government in 2012 for its pre-1990 forests.	Fund currently fully allocated with progress of funded projects being monitored by the Climate Emergency Response Programme Board.
9	Complete and maintain an organisational climate risk assessment and produce and implement an organisational adaptation plan. Disclose Greater Wellington's climate-related risks.	The Strategy Group is leading the Organisation Climate-related Risk Assessment Stage two, which is underway. Climate Change disclosures are included in the Council's Annual Report.
10	Work with the boards and executives of Council Controlled Organisations, in particular CentrePort Limited, to align their level of ambition and programmes for reducing emissions and addressing their climate-related risks with that of Greater Wellington.	Ongoing. Responsibility of the Strategy Group.

Table 2: Greater Wellington Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan		
	Action	Detail/Delivery
1	Ensure Greater Wellington's catchment planning approach includes mana whenua priorities and mātauranga and community aspirations for climate action.	Underway. Responsibility of the Environment Group.
2	Investigate options for pest animal control to support the health of native ecosystems and their ability to sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.	Underway. Responsibility of the Environment Group
3	Research nature-based solutions to ensure their use is effective in storing carbon and/or increasing resilience to extreme weather events such as storms, flooding and droughts. Prioritise and implement them where appropriate.	Responsibility of the Environment Group. There is one active research programme focussed on nature-based solutions at Council at time of writing; A feasibility assessment of nature-

		based solutions for flood mitigation in the Waipoua catchment.
4	Implement the Wellington Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway, Regional Land Transport Plan and Regional Public Transport Plan, including increasing rail services to Palmerston North and the Wairarapa, to reduce dependence on private vehicles and reduce transport-related emissions.	For Greater Wellington's part, these are being implemented by the Strategy Group and Metlink.
5	Advocate to central government for strong and effective emissions reduction and climate resilience policies and to ensure legislation and funding enables Greater Wellington to expedite its own climate-related policies, actions and plans.	Greater Wellington actively participates in central government consultations, most recently the Climate Change Adaptation Inquiry and the second Emissions Reduction Plan.
6	Support and provide resource for mana whenua partners to undertake climate adaptation planning and increase Greater Wellington's capacity to engage and provide direction with regional stakeholders and communities in climate adaptation planning.	A new climate adaptation specialist role was established for the Strategy Group to support our capacity in this space. Work is still ongoing in how we support and provide resource to mana whenua for their adaptation planning.
7	Support the development of regional climate change impact assessment tools.	Expansion of Greater Wellington's interactive climate maps to aid the communication of climate-risk to decision-makers and communities is being investigated by Greater Wellington alongside the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee
8	Support the implementation of the Regional Policy Statement's climate change policies and methods.	Once adopted by Council, Greater Wellington will initiate its responsibilities under the Regional Policy Statement.
9	Work collaboratively with key institutions and agencies across the region to develop a regional approach to adaptation planning.	Greater Wellington is an active collaborator with the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee in the Regional Adaptation Planning project.
10	Ensure that all new development and infrastructure is located, designed, and constructed in ways that support reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and provides for climate resilience.	This is an organisation-wide responsibility, supported by the Climate Change Consideration Guide.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

22. The actions included in the Climate Emergency Action Plans have been funded through the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, with exception of the Energy Transformation Initiative. This has been funded through existing operating budget for initial set up and project development work, but capital allocations will be considered by Council once specific investment proposals are put forward.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

23. Mana whenua and Māori are impacted by the choice of emissions reduction pathways that Greater Wellington takes to meet its climate goals, and by the need to partner with mana whenua on climate change projects. Regional climate planning must work in partnership to address the implications of climate change impacts, adaptation, and mitigation for Māori / mana whenua.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi

Consideration of climate change

24. The Plans form the basis of Council's Climate Emergency Response Programme.
25. Implications for emissions arising from the proposed change to the light vehicle fleet target have been included in emissions scenarios used for the review of the organisational emissions targets. The effect of this change on overall organisational emissions is to increase them by approximately 1,000 tonnes CO₂-equivalent over the period 2030 to 2035 compared to a scenario where Greater Wellington had a 100% battery electric light vehicle fleet from 2030.
26. Other than that proposed change, the climate change implications of the actions in the plans have previously been considered, and the updates proposed are not significant enough to warrant a review.

Ngā tikanga whakatau

Decision-making process

27. As a component of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process, the matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga

Significance

28. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of these matters, taking into account Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and Greater Wellington's Decision-making Guidelines. Officers recommend that these matters are of low significance, as the substantive decisions were made within the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process, and the matters

for decision in this report are administrative updates to reflect the outcomes of that process.

**Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement**

- 29. Extensive engagement was undertaken as part of the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process which underpins the actions in the Climate Emergency Action Plans.

**Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps**

- 30. Should the Committee decide to endorse the changes to the Climate Emergency Action Plans and recommend their adoption by Council, officers will undertake this direction.
- 31. Once adopted by Council, the Climate Emergency Action Plans will be published on the climate change section of the Greater Wellington website.

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachments**

Number	Title
1	Organisational Climate Emergency Action Plan
2	Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writers	Suze Keith - Kaitohutohu Senior Advisor Climate Change Jake Roos – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Manager Climate Change
Approvers	Zofia Miliszewska – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Head of Strategy and Performance Luke Troy – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rautaki Group Manager Strategy

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p>Fit with Council’s roles or with Committee’s terms of reference</p> <p>Updating the two 10-point Climate Emergency Action Plans fits with the Committee’s responsibility to “Oversee the development and review of Council’s climate change strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives (including Council’s Climate Emergency Response Programme); and recommend these matters (and variations) to Council for adoption.”</p>
<p>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</p> <p>Council has adopted its 2024-34 Long Term Plan. One of the four focus areas is ‘Leading action for climate resilience and emissions reduction’, and of the three community outcomes, one is to strive for ‘Safe and healthy communities, a strong and thriving regional economy, adapting to the effects of climate change and natural hazards, community preparedness and modern robust infrastructure’.</p>
<p>Internal consultation</p> <p>The refresh of the Climate Emergency Action Plans was undertaken with extensive consultation across the organisation over the past 12 months.</p>
<p>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</p> <p>There are no identified risks or impacts arising from this report.</p>



Organisational Climate Emergency Action Plan

- 1 Operate a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction policy and procurement policy that put a strong bias towards those options that will avoid, reduce, or absorb emissions over their entire life. Decision makers must consider how climate change would impact on proposals made to them, and the impact the proposals would have on GHG emissions and targets.
- 2 Maintain appropriate governance arrangements for climate change. The Chief Executive is responsible for achieving organisational emissions reduction targets. Ensure there is a senior management champion for climate change priorities within the organisation and promote the programme internally and externally.
- 3 Enhance organisational emissions reporting, including by establishing a system for tracking the amount of carbon stored on Greater Wellington-managed land. Investigate the feasibility of including more supply-chain emissions in Greater Wellington's annual emissions inventory.
- 4 Set up and implement the Energy Transformation Initiative to maximise the potential of renewable energy and batteries to reduce organisational GHG emissions and energy costs, earn revenue, and increase energy security, through direct investment and new supply arrangements.
- 5 Electrify the entire public transport system as rapidly as is feasible, including buses, trains, ferries, and shuttles. Achieve an all-electric bus fleet by 2035. Ensure 100% of Greater Wellington's corporate light vehicle fleet is either pure battery-electric or plug-in hybrid by 2035.
- 6 Implement the Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan 2020-30, progressively retiring grazing and restoring native ecosystems across parks.
- 7 Investigate options for reducing and sequestering emissions on flood protection land including nature-based solutions.
- 8 Operate a Low Carbon Acceleration Fund for projects that reduce Greater Wellington's organisational GHG emissions by leveraging the value of the emissions units gifted to Council by Government in 2012 for its pre-1990 forests.
- 9 Complete and maintain an organisational climate risk assessment and produce and implement an organisational adaptation plan. Disclose Greater Wellington's climate-related risks.
- 10 Work with the boards and executives of Council Controlled Organisations, in particular CentrePort Limited, to align their level of ambition and programmes for reducing emissions and addressing their climate-related risks with that of Greater Wellington.

Reviewed and Approved by Council on DATE

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Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan

- 1 Ensure Greater Wellington's catchment planning approach includes mana whenua priorities and mātauranga and community aspirations for climate action.
- 2 Investigate options for pest animal control to support the health of native ecosystems and their ability to sequester carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
- 3 Research nature-based solutions to ensure their use is effective in storing carbon and/or increasing resilience to extreme weather events such as storms, flooding and droughts. Prioritise and implement them where appropriate.
- 4 Implement the Wellington Transport Emissions Reduction Pathway, Regional Land Transport Plan and Regional Public Transport Plan, including increasing rail services to Palmerston North and the Wairarapa, to reduce dependence on private vehicles and reduce transport-related emissions.
- 5 Advocate to Central Government for strong and effective emissions reduction and climate resilience policies and to ensure legislation and funding enables Greater Wellington to expedite its own climate-related policies, actions and plans.
- 6 Support and provide resource for mana whenua partners to undertake climate adaptation planning and increase Greater Wellington's capacity to engage and provide direction with regional stakeholders and communities in climate adaptation planning.
- 7 Support the development of regional climate change impact assessment tools.
- 8 Support the implementation of the Regional Policy Statement's climate change policies and methods.
- 9 Work collaboratively with key institutions and agencies across the Region to develop a regional approach to adaptation planning.
- 10 Ensure that all new development and infrastructure is located, designed, and constructed in ways that support reduction in greenhouse gas emissions and provides for climate resilience.

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Climate Committee
12 September 2024
Report 24.476



For Decision

REVIEW OF ORGANISATIONAL EMISSIONS REDUCTION TARGETS

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To advise the Climate Committee (the Committee) on the achievability of Greater Wellington Regional Council's (Greater Wellington) organisational emissions reduction targets based on the latest information and emissions projections and options for programmes of work to modify the set of targets.

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. **Agrees** that officers develop proposals for new targets for all categories of Greater Wellington's gross organisational emissions (Option B).
2. **Agrees** that officers develop a proposal to remove Council's existing net emissions targets for 2025¹, 2030 ('carbon neutral') and 2035 ('climate positive') and replace them with a new net emissions target no less stringent than 'net zero by 2050' for all Greater Wellington's organisational emissions (Option C).

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

Defining terms used in this paper

2. For clarity, here are definitions for technical terms used in this paper:
 - Gross emissions – greenhouse gases released to the atmosphere measured in tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e).
 - Removals or sequestration – carbon dioxide removed from the atmosphere, usually by growing forests.
 - Net emissions – emissions minus removals.
 - Net zero emissions – removals equal emissions exactly year.

¹ Throughout this paper, when a single year is referred to in the context of a target, it means the financial year period ending in the year stated – e.g. '2019' means '2018/19'.

- Net negative emissions – Removals exceed emissions each year. It is more feasible state for an organisation to achieve than net zero, since the volume of removals and emissions that occur cannot be controlled with precision.
- Category 1 & 2 emissions – direct emissions and electricity use. In the case of Greater Wellington, these include many ‘corporate’ emissions sources and electricity and fuel use at CentrePort.
- Carbon neutral – achieving net-zero emissions each year using ‘banked’ removals or offsets – i.e. removals or reductions that occurred in the past and/or outside the organisation – to cancel out any residual net emissions.
- Climate positive – net negative emissions each year, without using ‘banked’ removals or offsets.
- Insetting – creating removals within an organisation and using them to achieve a net emissions position/target via an accounting method.

Context

3. At its meeting on 28 March 2024, the Committee considered a report² seeking support for ‘insetting’ its greenhouse gas emissions with carbon sequestration (or ‘removals’) by its land, and thereby achieve its net emissions targets for the organisation for 2025 (a 40% reduction in net emissions compared to 2019), 2030 (‘carbon neutral’), and 2035 (‘climate positive’ – Greater Wellington’s removals exceed its emissions each year). The Committee noted the report but requested a workshop on this topic, with a report then being brought to a future Climate Committee meeting.
4. In preparation for the Council Workshop on 5 September 2024, officers have reviewed the achievability of Council’s emissions targets and considered what other options exist that may satisfy Councillor’s interest in selling our removals rather than using them to achieve our targets. Things taken into consideration include:
 - a The Office of the Auditor General’s recent advice not to accept current emissions reduction claims including ‘carbon neutral’ and ‘climate positive’ without the approval of the Auditor General, and their heightened scrutiny of the credibility of emissions reduction plans and targets generally.
 - b The rate of reforestation of Regional Parks being slower/more costly than first assumed. For the 2024 winter planting season, 120Ha of former grazing was directly planted, but at approximately twice the cost per hectare that was originally assumed at the inception of the restoration programme. The cost/budget limited the amount that was done – contractor and nursery capacity existed to do more. The programme was planned to proceed at a rate of 150Ha/year for approximately 10 years, using a combination of restoration approaches. Using the current approach and budget, 80-100Ha per year of restoration is more likely to be achieved.

² Meeting our Existing Organisational Emissions Target – Report 24.84

- c Hutt City Council indicating their intention to claim the emissions units from land they own in Belmont Regional Park. This would mean these units are not available to be used for meeting our organisational targets, or sale by Greater Wellington.

Limiting factors when changing organisational targets

5. The Council has qualified for Climate Action Loans from the Local Government Funding Agency (LGFA) and is benefiting from a lower rate of interest on this borrowing than it would otherwise get. One of the criteria of these loans is that that Greater Wellington has 'net zero' emissions target by 2050 at the latest.
6. Also, part of the LGFA Climate Action Loan criteria is that Council has gross emissions targets for our 'Category 1 & 2 emissions' aligned to limiting global warming to 1.5°C. Council set these earlier in the year (see Setting Gross Organisational Emissions Targets Report 24.108), and it would be difficult to justify weakening them.
7. The global voluntary carbon offset market is in disarray as recent investigations have found that most units created and traded are worthless 'hot-air'³, that is they do not represent any real-world emissions abatement. Council was not planning to purchase offsets to achieve its net targets, because of longstanding concerns about their value, legitimacy and associated reputational risk. However, these recent developments leaves insetting using removals from land it manages as the only credible option available to Council to achieve any net zero target (including for 2050).
8. Plan Change One to the Regional Policy Statement has region-wide targets for a 50% reduction in net emissions by 2030 and net zero by 2050 (all gases). The alignment of the organisational targets to the Regional Policy Statement targets needs to be considered.
9. The 12 months from July 2023 to June 2024 were each 1.5°C warmer than the preindustrial average⁴. While temperatures could drop in the short term due to natural variation, a survey of 500 scientists that worked on the last Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Climate Report found only 6% thought that the aim of limiting warming to 1.5°C (measured on decadal scales) this century is still possible⁵. Given this, staying 'aligned to 1.5°C' as an organisation is only possible in an academic, and arguably irrelevant, sense. Despite this, the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, is more urgent than it has ever been.

3 <https://australiainstitute.org.au/post/here-are-23-times-carbon-offsets-were-found-to-be-dodgy-2/>

4 <https://climate.copernicus.eu/copernicus-june-2024-marks-12th-month-global-temperature-reaching-15degc-above-pre-industrial>

5 <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/article/2024/may/08/world-scientists-climate-failure-survey-global-temperature>

Te tātaritanga Analysis

10. We have developed these indicative projections of organisational emissions based on the latest information and limiting factors for three different scenarios:
 - a **Scenario I: Low effort:** 10% electricity needs covered by Energy Transformation Initiative (ETI) in 2035 + planting in Parks natural regeneration only.
 - b **Scenario II: Medium effort:** electric uses from 2032 + 50% electricity needs covered by ETI in 2035 + planting in Parks 80/100 ha of active planting each year.
 - c **Scenario III: High effort:** electric uses from 2028 + 100% electricity needs covered by ETI in 2035 + planting in Parks 80/100 ha of active planting each year.
11. Features common to all scenarios:
 - Public transport buses fully electric by 2035
 - New hybrid trains on the Manawatu and Wairarapa lines in 2028
 - No change for ferries
 - Animal grazing in Regional Parks phased out by 2035 (with minor exceptions)
 - No reductions in grazing emissions from flood protection land
 - CentrePort 50% reduction in gross emissions by 2030
12. These activities have been funded in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, except for solar energy investment under the ETI. Decisions regarding capex for this will be made once specific investment proposals have been developed, but the expectation is the investments will be rates-neutral.
13. Note, the scenarios also assume no removals will be available to Greater Wellington from Hutt City Council land. Also, they have not included the effect of the additional emissions associated with Greater Wellington owning 100% of CentrePort shares.
14. One difference to note is that Greater Wellington's Scope 1 & 2 emissions now include CentrePort's electricity and fuel use, as this change to accounting (shifting these emissions sources between categories) was required by the LGFA as a part of qualifying for Climate Action Loans.
15. With regards to gross emissions, these three scenarios do not differ greatly with those used for the 2024-34 LTP, where the impact of the ETI was explored. The most significant difference is the volume of removals by forests and therefore projected net emissions.
16. Summary of results:
 - a **Low effort:** -33.9% gross emissions change by 2030, -41.8% for Category 1&2 emissions by 2030, net zero not reached before 2050

- b **Medium effort:** -37.8% gross emissions change by 2030, -46.8% for Category 1&2 emissions by 2030, net zero by 2040
 - c **High effort:** -43.1% gross emissions change by 2030, -54.4% for Category 1&2 emissions by 2030, net zero by 2037
17. The high effort scenario meets and exceeds Greater Wellington's Category 1&2 gross emissions targets for 2029/30 and 2034/35. It also meets a '1.5°C aligned' gross emissions target for 2030.
18. None of these scenarios meet the existing climate positive emissions target for 2035.

Nga kōwhiringa Options

19. There are three broad categories of actions Council could take:

Option A - Retain existing net targets

Advantages:

20. Consistency of messaging with the Long Term Plan

Disadvantages:

21. The 2035 'climate positive' target is likely to be missed unless the rate of removals (carbon sequestration) can be sped up. Given budgets have already been set, this can only be done to if cost per hectare restored can be lowered, or the amount of carbon sequestered per hectare can be increased (e.g. via species choice). However, the scope for this is limited. Missing targets carries reputational risk.

Option B - Set targets for all categories of gross emissions (i.e. excluding removals). Note this option is not exclusive – it can be taken independent of changes to net targets.

Advantages:

22. Increases the focus on the source of emissions: preventing emissions of greenhouse gases is better than trying to remove them from the atmosphere (although both approaches are necessary).

Disadvantages:

23. None, although gross targets on their own provide no impetus to increase removals.

Option C - Remove/move and reframe existing net targets e.g. net zero by 2040, 2050 at the limit.

Advantages:

24. Gives more time for our new forests in Regional Parks to grow. Makes it likely that there would be a surplus of emissions units that Greater Wellington could sell, given fewer would be needed to achieve our targets. This additional revenue could be used to support Greater Wellington's emissions reduction efforts.

Disadvantages:

25. Reputational risk (internal and external) from weakening our ‘headline’ targets. It also increases the total amount of unmitigated carbon pollution that Greater Wellington is responsible for (see Paragraph 34).

Officer recommendation

26. Given financial conditions are not likely to improve soon to enable a greater rate of restoration work, and the importance of reducing gross emissions urgently, taking options B and C are advisable.

Ngā hua ahumoni**Financial implications**

27. Activities described in the scenarios have been funded in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan, except for the ETI solar energy investment as previously noted (see paragraph 13). It is assumed debt incurred to build solar energy assets can be paid back using the revenue they would generate.
28. The ‘Low Effort’ scenario assumes natural regeneration is used exclusively to achieve restoration and could potentially reduce costs. However, it is unlikely to prove an effective and appropriate approach in all areas.
29. Therefore, excluding the opportunity cost of insetting, there are no major differences in costs/rates impact between the scenarios.
30. Moving net emissions targets back and lowering gross emissions will mean fewer removals are needed for insetting. This increases the volume of removals that could be sold by Greater Wellington via the Emissions Trading Scheme. The amount of revenue that could be realised from this depends on multiple factors, including the sales price of emissions units. Indicative values of the are shown in the table below for the entire period 2030 to 2039 (ten financial years).

Table 1: opportunity cost (foregone revenue) of insetting organisational gross emissions to the maximum extent possible for 2030 to 2039.

	\$50/NZU	\$100/NZU	\$150/NZU	Climate positive/net zero threshold reached
Scenario I. low effort	\$6.2M	\$12.4M	\$18.6M	after 2050
Scenario II. medium effort	\$8.5M	\$16.9M	\$25.4M	2040
Scenario III. high effort	\$6.9M	\$13.8M	\$20.7M	2037

Note: The removals on Crown land in Parks have been excluded from the calculation as they cannot be put into the Emissions Trading Scheme and sold.

31. In Scenario I, all available removals are used for insetting emissions, but carbon neutral status cannot be sustained and net zero is not achieved. In Scenarios II and III, carbon neutral status from 2030 target can be met and sustained because there are enough banked removals available to do this.
32. The opportunity costs are less in Scenario I because there are fewer emissions units available to sell. The opportunity cost is lower in Scenario III than in Scenario II

because gross emissions are lower, meaning fewer removals are needed to be carbon neutral and net zero.

33. In Scenario III there are removals left over (not needed to meet carbon neutrality or net zero) that could be sold.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori Implications for Māori

34. Mana whenua and Māori are impacted by the choice of emissions reduction pathways that Greater Wellington takes to meet its climate goals, and by the need to partner with mana whenua on climate change projects.
35. While the Council's organisational emissions targets have not been the specific subject of public consultation, they have been featured prominently in both the 2021-31 and 2024-34 Long Term Plan consultations. Mana whenua from the around the Region were actively engaged in these processes.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi Consideration of climate change

36. The emissions reduction targets are central to Greater Wellington's Climate Emergency Response.
37. Removing the existing net emissions targets for 2030 and 2035, replacing them with a single net zero emissions target for 2040, and selling all removals that would have been needed for insetting before 2040 will result in the following estimated emissions from Greater Wellington as an organisation:

Table 2: Greater Wellington's estimated total gross emissions for 2030-2039

	Total emissions	Global social cost @ \$350/tCO ₂ e
Scenario I. low effort	217,453 tCO ₂ e	\$76.1M
Scenario II. medium effort	191,775 tCO ₂ e	\$67.1M
Scenario III. high effort	160,662 tCO ₂ e	\$56.2M

Ngā tikanga whakatau Decision-making process

38. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga Significance

39. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of these matters, taking into account Council's Significance and Engagement Policy and Greater Wellington's Decision-making Guidelines. Officers recommend that these matters are of low significance, as the substantive decisions regarding funding were made within the 2024-34 Long Term Plan process.

The matters for decision in this report are procedural, rather than final decisions on the targets themselves.

Te whakatūtakitaki

Engagement

- 40. There has been no external engagement concerning the matters discussed in this report.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

- 41. Officers will develop proposals for new organisational emissions targets for consideration by Councillors at next the Climate Committee meeting.

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writer	Jake Roos – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Manager Climate Change
Approvers	Zofia Miliszewska – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Head of Strategy and Performance Luke Troy – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rautaki Group Manager Strategy

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p>Fit with Council’s roles or with Committee’s terms of reference</p> <p>Review of organisational emissions targets fits with the Committee’s responsibility to “Oversee the development and review of Council’s climate change strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives (including Council’s Climate Emergency Response Programme); and recommend these matters (and variations) to Council for adoption.</p>
<p>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</p> <p>Council has adopted its 2024-34 Long Term Plan. One of the four focus areas is ‘Leading action for climate resilience and emissions reduction’, and of the three community outcomes, one is to strive for ‘Safe and healthy communities, a strong and thriving regional economy, adapting to the effects of climate change and natural hazards, community preparedness and modern robust infrastructure’.</p>
<p>Internal consultation</p> <p>All parts of the Greater Wellington Group whose activities substantially influence organisational emissions have been consulted regarding the assumptions used for emissions projections. Rōpū Taiao staff and consultant advisors to the Recloaking Papatūānuku Restoration Programme were closely involved in updating estimates of removals by our Regional Parks, and related commentary on this.</p>
<p>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</p> <p>There are no identified risks or impacts arising from the matters for decision in this report.</p>

Climate Committee
12 September 2024
Report 24.474



For Information

CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAMME UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To inform the Climate Committee (the Committee) of the recent climate change-related submissions to the Government, Regional approach to adaptation planning, Status of the Organisational Climate-related Risk Assessment and the Status of the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

Greater Wellington Climate Emergency Response Programme

2. Council declared a climate emergency in August 2019. This decision responds to the urgency climate change presents and encourages a step change in how Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) addresses climate change, both corporately and in how it uses its influence in the Wellington Region.
3. To demonstrate that step change, Council adopted two ten-point climate action plans – the Organisational Climate Emergency Action Plan and the Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan. These are collectively referred to as the Greater Wellington Climate Emergency Response Programme (the Programme). It also adopted targets for its net organisational emissions.
4. Governance is provided by the Climate Emergency Response Programme Board, comprised of Greater Wellington senior managers, reporting to the Climate Committee.
5. Oversight of the work towards our organisational carbon targets is provided by the Organisational Emissions Reduction Steering Group. This Steering Group comprises managers with an area of responsibility related to Greater Wellington's organisational emissions ('carbon footprint').
6. There is a Climate Change team at Greater Wellington. The programme of work includes oversight of the Climate Emergency Response Programme and contributing to regional climate change work, in the fields of both mitigation and adaptation.
7. Greater Wellington is dedicated to measuring and reducing our organisational greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. Annually, we undergo an external audit

conducted by Toitū Envirocare against the ISO-14064-1:2008 international standard.

8. The Low Carbon Acceleration Fund was established by Council through the 2021-31 Long Term Plan and is intended to help our organisation achieve its emission reduction targets by funding projects that will reduce our organisational carbon footprint. Updates are provided in the Analysis section below.

Te tātaritanga

Analysis

Responses to climate change-related consultations

9. Since taking office, the new Coalition Government has embarked on a series of consultations, three of which are closely related to Greater Wellington's climate change programme.
10. Since the previous Climate Committee meeting in March 2024, Greater Wellington has submitted on the:
 - a Climate Adaptation Inquiry
 - b Second Emissions Reduction Plan
 - c The Emissions Trading Scheme (price and volume settings).
11. Following is a summary of Greater Wellington's main submission points.

Climate Adaptation Inquiry –

12. Greater Wellington recommended that:
 - a The Climate Change Adaptation Act be developed for an enduring and credible response
 - b Māori rights and interests are recognised, and directed the Government to the submission of Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira¹
 - c Central Government partner with local and regional government to prioritise consideration of the future resilience of public and essential infrastructure
 - d Central Government partner with local and regional government to undertake natural hazards research
 - e Central Government notes that barriers to adaptation planning include a fear of litigation; our institutional and financing arrangements which are largely reactive rather than proactive; the lack of powers and/or social licence to remove or alter existing property rights, and the lack of clarity around roles and responsibilities and who pays.
13. This submission was made on 18 June 2024 and approved by Councillor Gaylor, Chair of the Climate Committee, who also verbally presented to the Finance and Expenditure Committee with officers in support on 31 July 2024.

¹ [Te Rūnanga o Toa Rangatira](#) submission to the Environment Committee, November 2023.

The second Emissions Reduction Plan –

14. Greater Wellington expressed concern regarding the following features of the plan:
 - a The nature of the ‘least cost’ approach;
 - b The heavy reliance on offsetting through forestry and carbon capture and storage;
 - c The minimal focus on equity, inclusivity or just transition, and noted that currently,
 - d New Zealand is not well-placed for ‘world-leading climate innovation’.
15. Greater Wellington’s three primary recommendations were to:
 - a Reform the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) to prioritise gross emissions reductions and align with emissions reduction targets and ring-fence the revenue to incentivise emission reduction actions and permanent indigenous afforestation,
 - b Strengthen the emphasis on mode shift from private vehicle to public and active transport as the true ‘least-cost’ approach. This is also more equitable than the sole focus on public charging for electric vehicles, which are unaffordable for most New Zealanders, and,
 - c Fund the development of a collaborative national knowledge hub and work closely with the regional and unitary councils to support farmers and growers.
16. This submission was approved by Councillor Gaylor, Chair of Climate Committee, and was made on 22 August 2024.

Annual updates to the price and volume settings for the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme auctions.

17. As a holder of emissions units (NZU), including those that are used for the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund, Greater Wellington has interest in the trading price of NZUs, which are influenced by the Government auctions of these.
18. Greater Wellington supported options that would reduce the volume of NZUs available via government auctions, increase alignment between the NZETS and national emissions budgets and support a higher trading price.
19. In response to a consultation question, we also said that while higher prices in the NZ ETS increase pressure for land conversion to exotic forestry, the issue should be addressed through other reforms to the ETS, not the auction price and volume settings.
20. This submission was made on 14 June 2024 and was approved by the Group Manager Strategy.

Regional Climate Change Adaptation

21. Greater Wellington is an active partner to the Regional Adaptation Project being led by the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee. Having completed the first Wellington Regional Climate Change Impact Assessment in March 2024, the

second stage is to consider what is needed to address the issues and risks identified.

22. The project lead has completed a round of consultation with stakeholders and mana whenua partners including Greater Wellington staff and has developed a set of recommendations for what the project deliverables and next actions should be. These are:
 - a the establishment of a new fixed-term position of Kaupapa Māori Adaptation Co-Navigator with immediate commencement
 - b the development of a regional spatial risk tool, for use by all members and in partnership with the Lifelines Groups
 - c the development of a regional adaptation framework and associated toolbox for practitioners
 - d the development of a regional communications and engagement plan
23. These recommendations have been presented to the Chief Executive Officer Group and will go to the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee in October 2024. For Greater Wellington's part, our role needs further definition but could include providing more technical support capacity for the territorial authorities, building relationships with their planners to reduce the potential for conflict in planning decisions and representing the environment in relation to adaptation responses. Greater Wellington will work closely with the project lead and will be represented on the project team.

Organisational Climate-related Risk Assessment

24. The Organisational Climate-related Risk Assessment (OCRA) second stage aims to understand the climate-related risk Greater Wellington is and will be facing. It will provide Greater Wellington with:
 - a A comprehensive set of scenarios for the organisation to work from
 - b A detailed assessment of the risks as well as cascading impacts and opportunities
 - c Rating the risks identified (e.g., low, moderate, high, extreme)
 - d Prioritising the risks identified for adaptation planning and response
 - e A GIS deliverable.
25. After developing the scenarios, the risks are currently being identified and rated. This work is being done in collaboration with staff members from across the whole organisation. Seven workshops were organised, each with a different focus. These were completed in August 2024.
26. Next, risks will be prioritised based on their consequence rating. This will be a critical exercise to inform the future organisational adaptation plan. A GIS tool also needs to be developed to help staff members better understand the climate risks that could impact their projects and to aid decision-making processes. The project will be completed by the end of 2024.

27. An organisational adaptation plan will be developed based on the findings of the OCRA. That plan will be used to inform the next Long Term Plan (2027-37).

Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (LCAF)

Currently Funded Projects – Status Update:

28. Sky Stadium LED lighting project (\$750,000 allocated) – Proposals from suppliers for the refit were received and the contract award was planned for February 2024. However the contract has not been awarded yet. Stadium management asked a consultant to review the proposals on their behalf.
29. Recloaking Papatūānuku Restoration Programme (\$10.6 million allocated) – Approximately 120Ha of land has been planted in the last season, 340,000 plants. Staff are currently working on the process for removing grazing from Belmont Regional Park using a structured decision-making process. Te Mahere (master/spatial planning) is progressing well in Queen Elizabeth Park Whareroa, alongside restoration planning in partnership with Te Ātiawa. Arrangements are in place for the 2025 planting season, but the budget is much smaller than previous years, resulting in a slower pace of restoration. The implications of this are discussed in Climate Emergency 10-Point Action Plans Refresh – Report 24.476.
30. Solar PV system for Masterton Station (\$266,700 allocated) – Metlink Assets staff have been reviewing the financial business case. Greater Wellington staff have also been working with KiwiRail to get an agreement on exporting solar power through the site’s existing grid connection, which KiwiRail owns.
31. LCAF fund value – at the current NZU spot price (\$61.33), 74% of the total fund value is allocated to projects (including past and planned future spending). This does not include interest costs, which also must be met from LCAF. The internal policy says no more than 70% of the value of the unsold LCAF units can be allocated to projects and no units have been sold as yet. Therefore, no further allocations can be made at this time.

Ngā Take e hāngai ana te iwi Māori

Implications for Māori

32. Mana whenua and Māori are impacted by the choice of emissions reduction pathways that Greater Wellington takes to meet its climate goals, and by the need to partner with mana whenua on climate change projects. Regional climate planning must work in partnership to address the implications of climate change impacts, adaptation, and mitigation for Māori / mana whenua.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

33. Updates on Greater Wellington’s Climate Change programme will be provided to future Climate Committee meetings as needed.

Ngā kaiwaitohu

Signatories

Writers	Melanie Barthe - Kaitohutohu Senior Advisor Climate Change Suze Keith - Kaitohutohu Senior Advisor Climate Change Jake Roos – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Manager Climate Change
Approvers	Zofia Miliszewska – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Head of Strategy and Performance Luke Troy – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rautaki Group Manager Strategy

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</p> <p>Updating the Climate Committee on the Programme's status fits with its responsibility to: "Oversee the development and review of Council's climate change strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives (including Council's Climate Emergency Response Programme); and recommend these matters (and variations) to Council for adoption.</p>
<p>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</p> <p>Council has adopted its 2024-34 Long Term Plan. One of the four focus areas is 'Leading action for climate resilience and emissions reduction', and of the three community outcomes, one is to strive for 'Safe and healthy communities, a strong and thriving regional economy, adapting to the effects of climate change and natural hazards, community preparedness and modern robust infrastructure'.</p>
<p>Internal consultation</p> <p>Each of these projects/activities outlined in this report have required extensive consultation across Greater Wellington.</p>
<p>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</p> <p>There are no identified risks or impacts arising from this 'for information' report.</p>