

Extraordinary Whangarei District Council Meeting

Agenda

Date: Wednesday, 11 March, 2020

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Council Chamber
Forum North, Rust Avenue
Whangarei

Elected Members: Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai
(Chairperson)
Cr Gavin Benney
Cr Vince Cocurullo
Cr Nicholas Connop
Cr Ken Couper
Cr Tricia Cutforth
Cr Shelley Deeming
Cr Jayne Golightly
Cr Phil Halse
Cr Greg Innes
Cr Greg Martin
Cr Anna Murphy
Cr Carol Peters
Cr Simon Reid

For any queries regarding this meeting please contact
the Whangarei District Council on (09) 430-4200.

1. Karakia/Prayer
2. Declarations of Interest
3. Apologies
4. Decision Reports

4.1 Delegation to Tasmania

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5. Closure of Meeting

Recommendations contained in the agenda are not the decisions of the meeting. Please refer to minutes for resolutions.

4.1 Delegation to Tasmania – water reform – approval of Mayoral travel and expenses

Meeting: Extra ordinary Whangarei District Council
Date of meeting: 11 March 2020
Reporting officer: C Brindle (Senior Democracy Adviser)

1 Purpose

To approve Mayoral travel and expenses in accordance with Council's Policy for allowances and reimbursement of expenses to Elected Members.

2 Recommendation

That Council

1. Approve the Mayoral travel and expenses in accordance with Council's Policy on allowances and reimbursement of expenses to Elected Members.

3 Background

The government is reviewing how to improve the management of drinking water, storm water and waste water (three waters) to better support New Zealand's prosperity, health, safety and environment. Three waters services are a core responsibility of local councils.

Councils are taking a pro-active approach to working together to advance their understanding of the three waters challenges in their regions and to think about potential options and solutions.

The Minister of Local Government Hon Nanaia Mahuta has invited Mayor Sheryl Mai to join a delegation, comprising Mayors', iwi representatives and senior government officials from throughout New Zealand, to travel to Tasmania to gain insights into the Tasmanian experience of changing the way they deliver three waters services. Tasmania has dealt with some of the same issues we face in New Zealand including different historical levels of investment in water infrastructure. While there is no suggestion that the model is the best one for New Zealand, there are lessons that can be learnt from the experience.

4 Discussion

HWM Sheryl Mai has indicated her intention to travel to Tasmania (31 March – 3 April), conditional on the approval by Council of Mayoral travel and expenses in accordance with the remuneration expenses policy.

4.1 Financial/budget considerations

Council's Policy for allowances and reimbursement of expenses to Elected Members (adopted 27 February 2020), states that 'the prior approval of the Council is required for all events when held overseas'. As a general policy all elected member international air travel is by way of economy class. Other costs such as accommodation, meal and related incidental expenses can also be reimbursed providing they are in accordance with Council's Policy.

Council has an annual budget for attendance at conferences, courses, seminars or training.

5 Significance and engagement

The decisions or matters of this Agenda do not trigger the significance criteria outlined in Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, and the public will be informed via Agenda publication on the website.

6 Attachment

Draft itinerary

Draft Itinerary

Day	Time	Activity
Wed 1 April	9am – 11am	Presentation from the Tasmanian State Government which will cover the factors leading up to the Tasmanian water reform and the reform process
Wed 1 April	11.30am – 1pm	Lunch
Wed 1 April	1.30pm – 2.30 pm	(TBC) Presentation on the transition from direct local government provision, to three water corporations, to Taswater collectively owned by Tasmanian councils
Wed 1 April	3pm – 4pm	(TBC) Presentation on the factors that lead the State to take an equity interest in Taswater
Wed 1 April	4.30pm – 6pm	Delegation workshop – presentations from iwi and local government reps on water issues they currently face, group conversation on current discussions taking place on water reform and reflections on what the group has heard during the day.
Wed 1 April	7pm	Dinner
Thurs 2 April	9.30am - 11.30am	Presentation on how the Tasmanian water model works - ownership, governance, local input, finance etc
Thurs 2 April	12pm – 1pm	Lunch
Thurs 2 April	1.30pm - 3pm	Presentation and panel discussion on the Tasmanian local government view on the outcomes of the water reform, and the impacts on local government
Thurs 2 April	3.30pm – 4.30pm	Presentation and discussion ‘where to from here for New Zealand water reform’
Thurs 2 April	5pm onwards	Drinks and dinner with Tasmanian local government representatives
Friday 3 April		Return to NZ. For those taking the afternoon flight there would be an opportunity to look around Hobart or to visit MONA (https://mona.net.au/).

RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC

That the public be excluded from the following parts of proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

1.	The making available of information would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of persons who are the subject of the information. {Section 7(2)(c)}
2.	To enable the council (the committee) to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage commercial negotiations. {(Section 7(2)(i))}.
3.	To protect the privacy of natural persons. {Section 7(2)(a)}.
4.	Publicity prior to successful prosecution of the individuals named would be contrary to the laws of natural justice and may constitute contempt of court. {Section 48(1)(b)}.
5.	To protect information which is the subject to an obligation of confidence, the publication of such information would be likely to prejudice the supply of information from the same source and it is in the public interest that such information should continue to be supplied. {Section 7(2)(c)(i)}.
6.	In order to maintain legal professional privilege. {Section 2(g)}.
7.	To enable the council to carry on without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations {Section 7(2)(i)}.

Resolution to allow members of the public to remain

If the council/committee wishes members of the public to remain during discussion of confidential items the following additional recommendation will need to be passed:

Move/Second

"That _____ be permitted to remain at this meeting, after the public has been excluded, because of his/her/their knowledge of Item _____.

This knowledge, which will be of assistance in relation to the matter to be discussed, is relevant to that matter because _____.

Note:

Every resolution to exclude the public shall be put at a time when the meeting is open to the public.