

Ashburton District Council

AGENDA

Notice of Meeting:

A meeting of the Ashburton District Council will be held on:

Date: Wednesday 1 June 2022

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Council Chamber

Membership

Mayor	Neil Brown
Deputy Mayor	Liz McMillan
Members	Leen Braam
	Carolyn Cameron
	John Falloon
	Rodger Letham
	Lynette Lovett
	Angus McKay
	Diane Rawlinson
	Stuart Wilson

Covid-19 Protection

Council meetings will go ahead as normal under the Orange traffic light setting. A vaccine pass is not required but people attending must wear a mask. There is also the opportunity to view the meeting via livestream.

Watch the live-stream of this meeting on our You Tube channel, Facebook page and website:

<https://www.ashburtondc.govt.nz/council/public-meetings-research-centre>

Meeting Timetable

Time	Item
1pm	Meeting commences
1.05pm	Public Forum – <i>Sheryl & Hal Stevens</i>
1.15pm	Public Forum – <i>Helen Mitchell</i>
1.30pm	Waka Kotahi & KiwiRail (SH1/Walnut Ave intersection) – James Caygill (Director Regional Relationships) – Mark Heissenbuttel (Southern Network Services Manager)

1 Apologies

2 Extraordinary Business

3 Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant and to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

Minutes

4	Council – 18/05/22	3
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Reports

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6	Draft MfE Submission – Building a Climate Resilient Aotearoa New Zealand	14
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Business Transacted with the Public Excluded

9	Council – 18/05/22		PE 1
	Library & Civic Centre 12/04/22	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	
10	Property Matter	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	PE 6
11	Contract ROAD0145	Section 7(2)(h) Commercial activities	PE 14
	– Road resurfacing 2020/22		

4. Council Minutes – 18 May 2022

Minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday 18 May 2022, commencing at 1pm in the Council Chamber, 137 Havelock Street, Ashburton.

Present

His Worship the Mayor, Neil Brown; Deputy Mayor Liz McMillan; Councillors Carolyn Cameron, John Falloon, Lynette Lovett and Stuart Wilson.

Via MS Teams: Crs Diane Rawlinson and Angus McKay.

In attendance

Hamish Riach (Chief Executive), Jane Donaldson (GM Strategy & Compliance), Neil McCann (GM Infrastructure Services), Sarah Mosley (Manager People & Capability), Toni Durham (Acting GM Business Support) and Phillipa Clark (Governance Team Leader).

Staff present for the duration of their reports: Andrew Guthrie (Assets Manager), Hernando Marilla (Operations Manager), Richard Mabon (Senior Policy Advisor), Mel Neumann (Policy Advisor), Rick Catchpole (Regulatory Manager), Colin Windleborn (Commercial Manager) and Michelle Hyde (Property Officer).

Via MS Teams: Steve Fabish (GM Community Services) and Erin Register (Finance Manager).

Presentation

Electricity Ashburton – 2.07pm-2.44pm.

1 Apologies

Crs Leen Braam and Rodger Letham

Sustained

2 Extraordinary Business

Council noted that the public forum presenter is unavailable today and will be given an alternative meeting date.

3 Declarations of Interest

Nil.

4 Confirmation of Minutes – 4/05/22

That the minutes of the Council meeting held on 4 May 2022, be taken as read and confirmed.

Wilson/Cameron

Carried

5 Methven Community Board

That Council receives the minutes of the Methven Community Board meeting held on 2 May 2022.

Cameron/McMillan

Carried

6 Ashburton District Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee

That Council receives the minutes of the Road Safety Coordinating Committee meeting held on 3 May 2022.

Wilson/Cameron

Carried

7 Audit & Risk Committee

That Council receives the minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee meeting held on 11 May 2022.

Cameron/Falloon

Carried

- **Taxation update**

That Council seeks advice on whether it has the ability to instruct a council controlled organisation to make donations on Council's behalf.

Cameron/Falloon

Carried

8 Trading in Public Places Bylaw

1. **That** Council adopts the Draft Trading in Public Places Bylaw for consultation from 23 May to 23 June 2022.
2. **That** Council adopts the Draft Trading in Public Places Bylaw Consultation Document.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

9 Waste Management & Minimisation Plan 2022

1. **That** Council adopts the Draft WMMP and Consultation Document for consultation with the community from the 23 May – 23 June 2022.

McKay/Falloon

Carried

10 Pudding Hill Intake Proposed Closure Investigations

Officers will bring the results of the investigation to Council for decision and consideration will be given to finding a way of having councillors with specific interest and knowledge of the stockwater area to be informally involved. Council acknowledged that, as the decision-maker, it won't be directly involved in meetings between staff and constituents.

Council will receive progress reports on the investigations through the activity briefings.

That Council approves commencement of investigations into the closure of the Pudding Hill Stockwater Intake (Hart Road) in accordance with Option One of this report.

Wilson/McMillan

Carried

11 Naming of Roads – Strowan Fields Development

That the roads to vest in Council as part of subdivisions SUB21/0029 and SUB21/0062 within the subdivision known as Strowan Fields be named Strowan Avenue and Orwell Way.

Cameron/Lovett

Carried

12 Dog Control Fees 2022-2023

1. **That** Council adopts the dog registration and control fees and charges for 2022/23 as set out in Appendix 1.
2. **That** the dog registration and control fees and charges for 2022/23 are publicly notified.

McMillan/Falloon

Carried

13 Bancorp Treasury Report

That Council receives the Bancorp Treasury report for March 2022.

Cameron/Lovett

Carried

14 Financial Variance Report

The Finance Manager was asked to clarify the budget shown in the Youth Council activity area, which appears to have been exceeded. Council will be updated in the June Activity Briefing report.

That Council receives the Financial Variance report and EA Networks Centre income and expenditure report for March 2022.

Falloon/Wilson

Carried

Electricity Ashburton

Roger Sutton (Chief Executive) and Richard Fitzgerald (Director) presented an update on the electricity sector and spoke about the interest being shown by developers looking to set up solar farms (on less productive land) in the region.

Key points from discussion –

- EV charging infrastructure / location and commercial viability of charging system
- Household energy assessments – aiming to make this achievable for households
- Fixed charges increases
- Emissions reduction
- Water storage opportunities in the district
- Roadside pole placement concerns

The presentation concluded at 2.44pm.

Welcome to staff – 2.45pm

Sarah Mosley introduced new staff: Marilyn Hill (Accounts Officer – Processing), Laurene Anderson (Accounts Officer), Taare Parekura (Building Official) and Laurelle Whitewell (Customer Services Officer).

Council also acknowledged the long service of Gordon Tupper (Information Systems Manager) – 15 years, and Mike Farrell (Building Official) – 15 years.

15 Mayor's Report

• Proposed LGNZ Remit

That Council supports the remit proposal from Gisborne District Council and recommends that it be submitted to Local Government New Zealand for consideration at the Annual General Meeting on 23 July 2022.

McMillan/Falloon

Carried

That Council receives the Mayor's report.

Mayor/Cameron

Carried

Council adjourned for afternoon tea from 2.55pm to 3.26pm.

Business transacted with the public excluded – 3.26pm

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely – 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:

Item No	General subject of each matter to be considered:	In accordance with Section 48(1) of the Act, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter:	
16	Council 4/05/22 <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ashburton Contracting Ltd	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

17	Audit & Risk Committee 11/05/22	Sections 7(2)(h) Section 7(2)(a)	Commercial activities Protection of privacy of natural persons
18	Library & Civic Centre PCG 12/04/22	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities
19	Freeholding Glasgow Lease	Section 7(2)(h)	Commercial activities

Wilson/McMillan

Carried

Business transacted with the public excluded now in open meeting

- **Review of Corporate Risk Register**

That Council seeks a report on the review of Council's corporate risk register in relation to Council's insurances.

Falloon/Wilson

Carried

- **Boer War memorial** [Library & Civic Centre PCG 12/04/22]

That Council approves the relocation of the Boer War memorial to Baring Square West, subject to resource consent and public consultation.

McMillan/Lovett

Carried

The meeting concluded at 4.11pm.

Confirmed 1 June 2022

MAYOR

5. *Vesting of Methven Skate park*

Author *Ian Soper; Open Spaces Manager*

Group manager *Steve Fabish; Group Manager Community Services*

Summary

- The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to accept the Methven skate park as its asset.
- The KidzMethven Committee have approached Council with the offer to vest the Methven skate park to Ashburton District Council.
- The skate park opened to the public on 11 July 2020 with the bowl area opened in April 2021.
- Open Spaces staff have estimated that to build this type of facility today would cost \$400,000.
- Staff have included a budget of \$7,540 in the draft 2022/23 Annual Plan to maintain the site (gardening, graffiti and vandalism, edging and general maintenance). This doesn't include mowing or rubbish disposal which is currently funded by other Council departments.
- KidzMethven Committee members would continue to maintain the site, except for mowing and rubbish removal, until 30 June 2022.

Recommendation

1. **That** Council receives the Methven skate park as a vested asset.

Attachment

Appendix 1 Skate park site plan

Background

The current situation

1. The KidzMethven Committee have approached Council with the offer to vest the Methven skate park to Ashburton District Council.
2. KidzMethven was formed over 15 years ago with the idea of building a skate park in Methven. After many challenges the land on the corner of McMillan Street and Bank Street was leased from Council, plans were drawn up and the resource consent was applied for and approved.
3. Funds were raised from a wide range of external funders, businesses, Methven Community Board and the community at large. Council contributed \$10,000 towards the project – \$5,000 to cover consultant costs and materials that would be used to build the skate ramp and \$5,000 for skate park plans.
4. They estimated the total budget for the build to be \$115,000 with another \$10-15,000 for the fence and landscaping. Open Spaces staff have estimated that to build this type of facility today would cost \$400,000.
5. There are three rubbish bins in the park which are emptied by a Council contractor and the lawns are mowed and spraying done by another Council contractor.
6. The skate park is well built, to an industry accepted standard.
7. The skate park opened to the public on 11 July 2020 with the bowl area opening in April 2021. It is a well-used facility and has proven itself to be an attractive asset for the youth of Methven.
8. Due to the decline in KidzMethven Committee members and with the main project completed, they would now like to vest this asset to the community and hand over to Ashburton District Council.
9. The committee has indicated that they willing to help organise clean-up and planting days and keep in good communication with Council's Open Spaces staff.
10. Open Spaces have included a budget of \$7,540 in the draft 2022/23 Annual Plan to maintain the site (gardening, graffiti and vandalism, edging and general maintenance). This doesn't include mowing or rubbish disposal which is currently funded by other Council departments – Commercial Property for mowing and spraying and Solid Waste for rubbish removal.
11. KidzMethven Committee members would continue to maintain the site, except for mowing and rubbish removal, until 30 June 2022.

Options analysis

Option one – Council does not accept vesting of the skate park – (Status Quo)

Advantages- Council does not need to spend funds maintaining and operating the assets.

Disadvantages – Council may be seen by the community as not supporting local groups delivering youth initiatives.

KidzMethven Committee members have reduced greatly and would struggle to maintain the site if ownership remained with them.

Risks- The KidzMethven Committee members reduce to the point that they are unable to maintain the site.

Option two – Council receives the skate park as a vested asset. - (Recommended option)

Advantages- Council would be seen by the community as supporting local groups delivering youth initiatives.

Disadvantages – Council would need to spend funds maintaining and operating the assets.

Council would need to make a decision as to what to do with the asset when it reaches the end of its activity life.

Risks- This may set a precedent, where other community groups approach Council to have their assets vested in Council.

Legal/policy implications

Resource consents

12. The skate park and its activity have a resource consent.

Formalising agreements

13. Following Council resolution for the transfer, a (short) legal agreement will be prepared between Council and KidzMethven which documents the terms of the sale/vesting of the asset to Council.

Strategic alignment

14. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of *"A district of great spaces and places"* because *"We recognise and cater for the range of generations within our community. Our district is well connected, and our social and recreational facilities enable people to enjoy positive healthy lifestyles"*.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	This activity helps provide entertainment for youth staying in Methven.
Environmental		
Cultural		
Social	✓	Provides a place for youth to socialise and exercise

Financial implications

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	The asset value of \$400,000 is being vested in Council The annual increase in operational costs is \$7,540 Mowing and rubbish removal costs, of \$6,240 are covered by existing budgets
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes for mowing and rubbish removal costs, of \$6,240 No for gardening, graffiti and vandalism, edging and general maintenance costs. \$7,540 has been added to the draft 2022/23 Annual Plan
Where is the funding coming from?	Cost centre 170 Methven Beautification
Are there any future budget implications?	Possibly when the activity life has ended and the asset needs replacing.
Reviewed by Finance	Erin Register; Finance Manager

Significance and engagement assessment

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low
Rationale for selecting level of significance	<i>No change</i>
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	The Council decision will be communicated to Kids Methven committee and the wider community.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Toni Durham; Strategy & Policy Manager

Next steps

Date	Action / milestone	Comments
1 June 2022	Council considers the report	
2 June 2022	KidzMethven Committee be informed of Council's decision	
1 July 2022	Open Spaces start site maintenance	

APPENDIX 1 Methven Skate park





6. *Draft submission to MfE – Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient Aotearoa New Zealand*

Authors	<i>Mel Neumann; Graduate Policy Advisor Richard Mabon; Senior Policy Advisor</i>
Activity manager	<i>Toni Durham; Strategy & Policy Manager</i>
Group Manager	<i>Jane Donaldson; Strategy & Compliance Group Manager</i>

Summary

- The purpose of this report is for Council to consider a draft submission to the Ministry for the Environment on its National Adaptation Plan consultation document called *Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient Aotearoa New Zealand*
- The National Adaptation Plan (NAP) sets out coordinated and comprehensive actions for New Zealand to adapt to the locked-in impacts of climate change, such as rising sea levels and more frequent extreme weather events
- The Canterbury Mayoral Forum has prepared a draft submission which officers believe covers off the issues well, therefore this submission has been prepared on the basis of supporting the Mayoral Forum and providing a localised view on some aspects of the consultation material.

Recommendation

1. **That** Council approves the draft submission to the Ministry for the Environment consultation document *Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient Aotearoa New Zealand*.

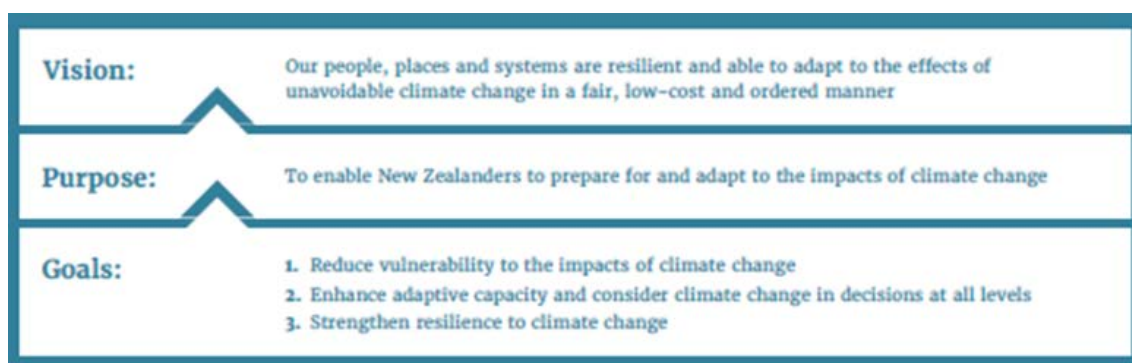
Attachment

Appendix 1	Ashburton District Council draft submission
Appendix 2	Canterbury Mayoral Forum draft submission

Background

The current situation

1. The Ministry for the Environment is consulting on a draft national plan to help Aotearoa New Zealand adapt to and minimise the harmful impacts of climate change.
2. This first national adaptation plan will build the foundation for adaptation action so that all sectors and communities are able to live and thrive in a changing climate. The consultation also outlines proposals for flood insurance and managed retreat policies.
3. The NAP has the following vision, purpose and goals



4. The draft NAP has three focus areas:
 - Reform institutions to be fit for a changing climate
 - Provide data, information, tools and guidance to allow everyone to assess and reduce their own climate risks
 - Embed climate resilience across government strategies and policies
5. Further information can be found here [Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient Aotearoa New Zealand: Consultation document | Ministry for the Environment](#)

Options analysis

Option one – Do nothing

6. This is not the recommended option. Council may decide to stay silent and not make a submission on the draft NAP. This would result in Council missing an opportunity to advocate on behalf of the district.

Option two – Approve the submission as attached in Appendix One (recommended option)

7. This option would see Council officers lodge the appended submission with the Ministry for the Environment.

Option three – Approve an amended submission

8. This option would see Council approve an amended version of the submission currently appended, and submit that document to the Ministry for the Environment.
9. Officers recognise that useful points of improvement often arise from elected member input and this option may be preferred for those reasons.

Legal/policy implications

10. The lodging of a submission does not breach or trigger any statutory or legal duty of the Council.

Financial implications

11. There are no immediate financial implications in making this submission.

Requirement	Explanation
What is the cost?	Officer resource in preparing the submission. This has been met from within existing operating budgets.
Is there budget available in LTP / AP?	Yes
Where is the funding coming from?	Strategy & Policy
Are there any future budget implications?	No
Reviewed by Finance	Erin Register; Finance Manager

Strategic alignment

12. The recommendation relates to Council's community outcome of a balanced and sustainable environment.

Wellbeing		Reasons why the recommended outcome has an effect on this wellbeing
Economic	✓	The proposals may have an impact on the national and local economy
Environmental	✓	Climate change adaptation and mitigation
Cultural		
Social		

Significance and engagement assessment

13. The approval of this submission is not considered to be significant.

Requirement	Explanation
Is the matter considered significant?	No
Level of significance	Low, not significant
Rationale for selecting level of significance	Not applicable
Level of engagement selected	1. Inform
Rationale for selecting level of engagement	The community will be informed of Council's submission through usual channels.
Reviewed by Strategy & Policy	Toni Durham; Strategy & Policy Manager

Submission

Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient Aotearoa New Zealand

PREPARED BY: Ashburton District Council
PO Box 94
ASHBURTON 7774

SUBMITTED TO: Ministry for the Environment
via email to
[XXX](#)

Contact: Strategy & Policy Manager
Toni.Durham@adc.govt.nz

Introduction

1. Ashburton District Council (Council) welcomes the opportunity to submit feedback on the Ministry for the Environment's 2022 consultation document '*Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient Aotearoa New Zealand.*' This submission has been prepared by officers and approved by Council.
2. Located an hour's drive south of Christchurch, more than 35,400¹ residents live in our district. Approximately 50% of our residents live in the main town of Ashburton, with the rest of our residents living rurally or in smaller towns or villages across the district.
3. Ashburton District (the District) has experienced moderate and sustained population increase since the mid-1990s, increasing by 23% between 2006 and 2013 (a 3.3% increase per year). This growth, however, has now slowed, with an average growth of 1.3% per year since 2013.
4. The Council currently has a [Climate Change Policy](#) and is currently developing its own Resilience Action Plan.
5. Council supports and endorses the points made in the Canterbury Mayoral Forum submission. As such, this submission has been made to reinforce some key aspects of the submission by including our local experiences to date.

General comments

6. Council supports the intent of the draft National Adaptation Plan and the need for national direction on climate adaptation action. We support and encourage the National Adaptation Plan to work with the National Emissions Reduction Plan as the cornerstones of climate action in New Zealand.
7. The 2021 Ashburton flooding event was a first-hand example of the impact of a changing climate on our community. Researchers from Bodeker Scientific, MetService, NIWA, Victoria University of Wellington, and the University of Canterbury studying the effects of climate change on severe weather events in New Zealand have found that the extreme rainfall that

¹ Statistics New Zealand Population Estimates 30 June 2020

brought flooding to Canterbury in May 2021 was 10 to 15 per cent more intense as a result of human influence on the climate system. ([Climate change made the May flooding in Canterbury more severe - researchers | Stuff.co.nz](#))

8. In Ashburton, those floods caused damage to local roads that took over six months' of work and \$4M to restore roads to a pre-flood condition. Some bridge damage will take longer to repair. The floods also highlighted the vulnerability of the lower South Island to damage to critical infrastructure like the SH 1 bridge at Ashburton.
9. Almost a year on from those floods, the NZ SeaRise: Te Tai Pari O Aotearoa programme released location specific sea-level rise projections, these projections combined forecast vertical land movement with sea-level rise information and showed that, in some locations, the annual rate of sea-level rise can double. In those locations, this effectively halves the time available to respond.
10. The impacts of climate change are real and they are here now. In some cases they will be here much sooner than we previously thought. In the meantime, events will continue to be intensified creating the need for more investment in repairs.
11. While a systematic and long-term approach will help us to manage those impacts and how they are funded to ensure that we maximise the value of investments in housing, buildings and infrastructure and minimise adverse social and economic impacts, we feel the document would benefit from an injection of urgency. While the Plan is necessarily broad and encompasses many different facets, unless there are real and tangible short-term expectations placed on the actors involved, we believe it will be difficult to effect meaningful change.

System-wide actions

12. Reforming the system is a critical part of ensuring that we are all on the same page and have the tools at our disposal to plan and adapt. Embedding climate resilience across legislation, government policies and strategies will ensure the roles and responsibilities of all involved is certain from the outset.
13. The standardisation of data, information, tools and guidance is critical for the success of adaptation and resilience. As a provincial territorial authority the costs of creating this on our own are excessive. However, as a part of our work with the Canterbury Mayoral Forum and associated forums and working groups, as a region we are on a pathway with understanding the risks of climate change collectively. This work will continue and we urge that central government solutions work with local government to avoid duplication.
14. Local government needs specific, measureable, achievable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) actions so that we are clear on the expectations central government has on local authorities. For example, an action could be to require each territorial authority to have community adaptation plans in place by 2025, prior to the next Climate Change risk assessment in 2026.
15. Learning the lessons from the three waters reform process it is evident that central government has been clearly unhappy with local council performance in this area for some time. The approach that government has taken with this reform has not been well received at

the local political or community level, so we urge government reflection to avoid repeating this in the future.

16. Council advocates that the current reform programme of key Council areas, specifically the Resource Management Reform, the Future for Local Government Reform, the Three Waters Reform and the Emergency Management Act, is eased so that local government can focus on what is really important for our communities. As it stands right now, collectively these are consuming a significant amount of Council resource, which we believe could be used more effectively on meaningful work.
17. If this isn't possible, we remain concerned of a high potential for lack of integration between these system components. We are not currently convinced that climate change will be sufficiently and consistently factored into these reforms. We encourage the Ministry to ensure that the climate change, emergency management and sustainable development law and policy support each other and are not designed in isolation.
18. Given our community and economy reliance on the agriculture sector, we urge an inclusive and just transition for the rural sector. We believe this is a sector that will rise to the challenge of climate change adaptation and mitigation through researched and proven innovation and technology. This approach will be more effective than a one-size fits all rules-based approach.

Funding

19. Council believes that Central Government must be a partner and co-funder in New Zealand improving resilience and sharing the costs of adaptation, alongside the private sector, insurance industry, and local government to a lesser extent. We suggest funding may be allocated on a population basis to recognise the district and regional-specific responses that will be needed.
20. We believe the failure of successive central Governments to respond to the climate crisis in a timely way has contributed to the situation we face now. If we do not fund our responses adequately, the solutions will fail and the social and economic costs of that failure will be enormous.

Infrastructure

21. We note that the draft NAP does not appear to factor in the new water entities for three waters in the adaptation planning processes. We suggest that given the current reform timeline, much of the three waters assets will no longer be in Council ownership by the time the NAP is underway. This will add complexity and delays into the responsiveness of the new entities to climate adaptation.

Communities

22. We wish to strongly emphasise the critical role of local authorities in leading meaningful conversations with local communities with regard to climate change adaptation and mitigation. We urge government to ensure that we have the tools and support to do this well, so we have *'the right conversations with the right people at the right time'*.

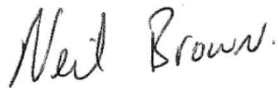
23. Local government is the sector best-placed to lead local planning. It responds best to clear deadlines and clear expectations.

24.

Concluding comments

25. Council supports the intentions of the draft NAP, however we hold some reservations about the ability of the NAP to deliver meaningful change to what is the single most pressing issue for current and future generations of New Zealanders.

Kā mihi



Neil Brown
Mayor



Hamish Riach
Chief Executive

Canterbury Mayoral Forum Submission on the Ministry for the Environment's Draft National Adaptation Plan

1. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum thanks the Ministry for the Environment for the opportunity to provide feedback on the draft National Adaptation Plan (draft NAP) package: *Te mahere urutaunga ā-motu*, the draft National Adaptation Plan and *Kia urutau, Kia Ora: Kia āhuarangi rite a Aotearoa, Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient New Zealand* discussion documents, released in April 2022.

Background and context

2. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum (CMF) comprises the mayors of the ten territorial authorities in Canterbury and the Chair of the Canterbury Regional Council (Environment Canterbury) supported by our Chief Executives. The purpose of the Forum is to promote collaboration across the region and increase the effectiveness of local government in meeting the needs of Canterbury's communities.
3. The ten territorial authorities are: Kaikōura, Hurunui, Waimakariri, Selwyn, Ashburton, Timaru, Mackenzie, Waimate and Waitaki District Councils; the Christchurch City Council; and Environment Canterbury.

In this submission the CMF has provided comment on the key issues for Canterbury in the consultation document. We note that Environment Canterbury, Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council and Ashburton District Council are also planning to make individual submissions.

General comments

4. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum would like to draw the Ministry's attention to its submission on both the *Te mahere urutaunga ā-motu*, the draft National Adaptation Plan and *Kia urutau, Kia Ora: Kia āhuarangi rite a Aotearoa, Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient New Zealand* which provides answers to many of the questions posed in the consultation documents.
5. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum's response to the consultation questions is structured under the 8 key themes of the consultation document *Te mahere urutaunga ā-motu*, the draft National Adaptation Plan (**Part 1**) and includes separate comments on the consultation document *Kia urutau, Kia Ora: Kia āhuarangi rite a Aotearoa, Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient New Zealand* (**Part 2**).
6. The Canterbury Mayoral Forums supports the intent of the draft National Adaptation Plan and the need for national direction on climate adaptation action in Aotearoa. We support and encourage the National Adaptation Plan to work with the National Emissions Reduction Plan as the cornerstones of climate action in Aotearoa.

7. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum has just completed its first-ever detailed climate change risk assessment (the Canterbury Climate Change Risk Assessment CCRA project) which identifies priority risks and opportunities from climate change to Waitaha /Canterbury's natural and built environment, social, cultural, economic and governance systems.
8. A key deliverable has been the development of a new Ngāi Tahu-informed climate change integrated framework for assessing climate change risks to which Ngāi Tahu gifted the name *Te Tūtei o te Hau – Surveillance of the Wind* (see figure below). This integrated framework incorporates key aspects of the national climate change risk assessment framework, interconnected risks (the first in New Zealand), Ngāi Tahu values, and Mātauranga Māori.

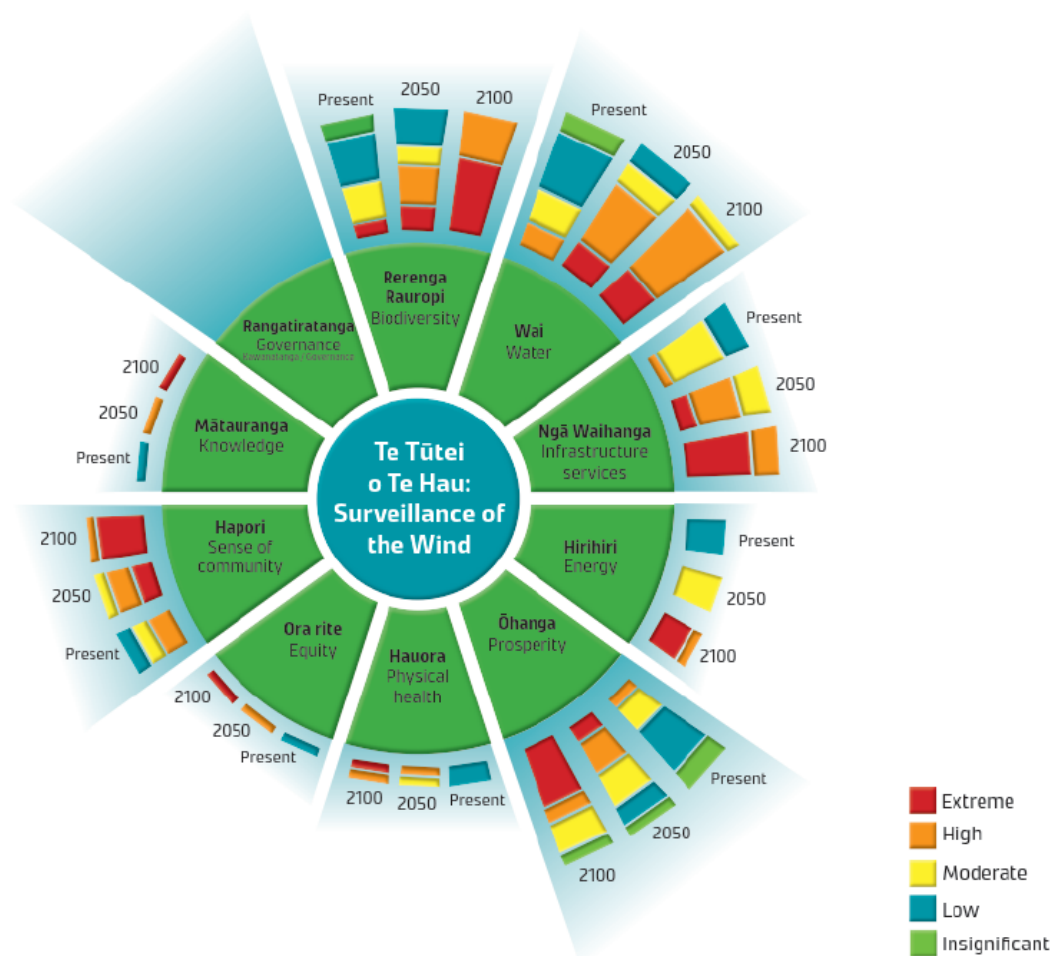


Figure 1: Visual summary of risks in the different values to Canterbury in the present, 2050 and 2100. Note, due to the social nature of the ngā pono - Rangatiratanga (Governance) the risks in this category were assessed qualitatively and not ordered.

9. Our risk assessment shows climate change risk increasing between now and 2100 across the Waitaha / Canterbury region. The highly rated risks by 2100 include those to Rerenga Rauropi (Biodiversity), Wai (Water), (Ngā Waihangā (Infrastructure services), and Hapori (Sense of community). Current highly rated risks include those relating to water supply (both ground and surface water) and housing and communities due to flooding. Further detail can be found in the risk assessment report [[LINK](#)].
 10. With such climate futures, the Canterbury Mayoral Forum supports and encourages a bold and ambitious national response that acts with the urgency and practicality required to address Aotearoa and the world's climate emergency.
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Part 1: Comments under the key themes of *Te mahere urutaunga ā-motu*, the draft National Adaptation Plan

General comments

11. The draft NAP exclusively covers biophysical risks. While we recognise that this aligns with the scope of the National Climate Change Risk Assessment local government is likely to face significant transition risks such as litigation, change in policy direction due to change in government and adverse effects on investment portfolios. We therefore urge government to include both a narrative and corresponding actions on how to address transitional risks across all other sectors besides business be included.
12. We strongly encourage the Ministry to create a more deliberate link between upcoming adaptation and mitigation work through the National Adaptation Plan and the National Emissions Reduction Plan. This should include how government will support wider sustainability achievements of outcomes sought through Agenda 2030 for the Sustainable Development Goals.
13. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum highlights the need for clearer direction on how Government strategies and plans will integrate climate action, under focus area 3?, and how these link to the National Emissions Reduction Plan goals and be audited to ensure compliance and minimise conflicting objectives and maladaptation.
14. Beyond what is outlined in the draft NAP we emphasise the need for greater collaboration and cooperation with all relevant stakeholders, including private stakeholders, in the process of national adaptation planning will be crucial to have the most widespread and long-term benefit for New Zealand.

System-wide actions

15. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum agrees with the objectives set out in this chapter and the factors holding up fast tracking of adaptation planning.

16. The draft NAP focuses on three key areas

- a. reform institutions,
- b. provide data, information and guidance and
- c. embed climate resilience across government strategies and policies.

The Canterbury Mayoral Forum emphasises that all three areas are critical to achieving a holistic response to climate change adaptation, and one cannot be considered above the others.

17. Given the different timelines and workstreams for development of four major government reform programmes, such as the Resource Management Reform, the Future for Local Government Reform, the Three Waters Reform and the Emergency Management Act, there is high potential for lack of integration between these system components. We are not currently convinced that climate change will be sufficiently and consistently factored into these reforms and encourage the Plan to provide guidance or identify an action to develop guidance on how climate change should and will be considered in these reforms.

18. The upcoming Emergency Management Bill is likely going to place responsibilities on local government to increasingly prioritise risk equity and resilience amongst disproportionately impacted communities. We encourage the Ministry to ensure that the climate change, emergency management and sustainable development law and policy support each other and are not designed in isolation.

19. We also emphasise the need to strongly link the National Disaster Resilience Strategy 2019-29 to the National Adaptation Plan and ongoing climate adaptation legislation.

20. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum agrees that we all have a role to play in building resilience to climate change and that some New Zealanders may be more affected and less able to respond. Key actions that are essential to adapt to climate change are

- a. availability of reliable information to accurately quantify the extent of impact
- b. Legislation and funding to support adaptation action
- c. Collaboration with various stakeholders to carry out an inclusive and just transition.

21. We particularly emphasise the strong need for an inclusive and just transition for New Zealand's rural and agricultural communities. We note a collaborative and inclusive approach to implementing the actions set out in the draft NAP would help to ensure that existing inequities are not exacerbated.

22. We acknowledge and agree with the statement made in the draft NAP, that the costs of adapting to climate change cannot be covered solely by central government. Local government has a key role to play in adaptation planning, however, funding mechanisms currently available to local government are insufficient to meet the challenge of climate change. The government must explore new funding mechanisms or changes to existing ones as critical actions in the NAP, to enable local government to play an appropriate role in climate change adaptation.
23. We agree that a taxonomy of 'green activities' for New Zealand would support unlocking investment for climate resilience, especially in the mitigation space. We urge the Plan to include more detail on how these investments will support adaptation planning.
24. The question of inter-generational and intra-generational equity in response to who pays for the cost of adaption measures such as managed retreat has not been fully explored in the draft NAP. While the Canterbury Mayoral Forum agrees that those benefiting the most from adaptation options should be contributing, we recognise a major equity issue and are concerned that the burden of adaptation costs will fall on those least able to afford it.
25. The Canterbury Mayoral Form agrees that there may be economic opportunities in adapting to a changing climate. Central government has a leading role to play in harnessing these opportunities, given its direct control on functions such as environment health, tourism, business and more. We encourage the government to liaise with local government on all such initiatives and include climate change opportunities in adaptation planning and the National Adaptation Plan.
26. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum agrees that the new tools, guidance and methodologies set out in this chapter will be useful. We suggest a faster and staged delivery of the Adaptation Information Portal and integration with regional initiatives given its importance in beginning the conversation on understanding impacts and taking action.
27. To the action set out in the draft NAP regarding access to latest climate projections we note that a more unified and agreed data set on climate change projections and a 'most likely' scenario may support all sectors to be clearer about the task at hand and aid the necessary action planning.

Homes, buildings and places

28. While we broadly agree with the action set out in this chapter, we advise including more robust measures, not just encouragement, to ensure the building sector and urban planning support and factor in climate change adaptation.

Infrastructure

29. The Canterbury Mayoral Forum fully supports government action to prepare infrastructure for a changing climate in Aotearoa as well as the outcome statements

and objectives. We acknowledge the identification of actions in the draft NAP to support adaptation across all infrastructure types and regions in Aotearoa.

30. To further prepare Aotearoa's infrastructure to a changing climate, we encourage government to also factor in new water entities into adaptation planning processes.
31. We note that there is potential for further aligning actions across central- and local government, private sector asset owners and local mana whenua. This should particularly include mana whenua perspectives and mātauranga Māori in infrastructure adaptation decision-making.
32. The draft NAP has identified several actions to support adaptation in all infrastructure types and all regions of Aotearoa. We note that while we can have a comprehensive understanding of risks, there is a strong need for tools to gradually de-escalate investment in at-risk areas and to strategically signal and implement level of service decreases in these areas. It is crucial to have a clear line of sight well into the future so that actors in the system can gradually reduce their risk profile over time and know what to expect well in advance.
33. We emphasise that the proposed resilience standard or code for infrastructure should be mandatory for all new infrastructure built by a specific date. We strongly discourage any further investment in at-risk assets and encourage considering at-risk assets in our maintenance programmes as soon as possible. Infrastructure asset managers value certainty and planning for the long-term, and expenditure is planned out 30 to 50 years in advance. We note that adapting our infrastructure to a changing climate is near-term in infrastructure planning terms and emphasise the need to apply a long-term planning lens.
34. While we acknowledge the actions set out for infrastructure are a good start, we are concerned that current funding and financing tools are inadequate for infrastructure providers to begin adapting their existing networks to respond to climate risk. We encourage considering infrastructure funding and financing more closely.

Communities

35. The Canterbury Mayoral forum strongly supports applying an equity lens, both intergenerationally and across currently vulnerable people. In Waitaha/Canterbury some of our poorer communities are based in settlements near lagoons and river mouths. These communities are already impacted by climate change induced flooding and coastal inundation. More tools and support need to be given to local authorities to support councils to have meaningful and authentic conversations with them about future viabilities of their communities.
36. We support the development of a Health National Adaptation Plan and strongly encourage a particular focus on mental health, especially for young people. Mental health impacts of climate change were identified in the CCCRA as a major risk and should be supported.

37. To the actions set out in this chapter we note that local government and iwi need much greater support to engage with schools to ensure that the action to 'strengthen teaching and learning related to climate change' is complemented by local information and knowledge as part of the localised curriculum objectives of the National Curriculum framework.

Economy and financial system

38. To the actions set out in this chapter, we emphasise that unlocking investment in climate resilience is critical and therefore important to ensure the costs are shared equitably through incentives and disincentives in fiscal and financial settings.

Part 2: specific comments on managed retreat which will inform the initial stages of policy development for the Climate Adaptation Act

General Comments – Climate Change Adaptation Act and Managed Retreat

39. We support the government being proactive in how we consider managed retreat as an adaption option. Based on experiences in Waitaha/Canterbury, such as the red zoning after the 2010/11 Canterbury Earthquake Sequence we know how incredibly stressful and complex for communities a voluntary relocation process can be, and for local government the need to balance community wellbeing and the provision of services in areas which have elevated levels of risk. We note that plan changes are not instantaneous, and people will remain in an area beyond when a plan says existing use should be extinguished.
40. Across all government literature there has not been a clear and consistent definition on managed retreat. We support the conclusion of the National Science Challenge: Resilience to Natures Challenges 2017 Report¹ that "to enable robust and clear interpretation of the approach across New Zealand, a definition of managed retreat at the national level is paramount". We would also stress a clear component of managed retreat is the strategic, planned and pre-meditated nature of the movement.

Principles and Process

1. We in principle support the objectives and principles of the legislation set out in the consultation document *Kia urutau, Kia Ora: Kia āhuarangi rite a Aotearoa, Adapt and thrive: Building a climate-resilient New Zealand*.
2. We note that managed retreat is not the only adaptation option and encourage dynamic adaptation pathways to be developed in collaboration with the local community. We support a process that places communities at the heart of

¹ Hanna, C., White, I., Glavovic, B. (2017). Managed retreat in New Zealand: revealing the terminology, approaches and direction of local planning instruments. Report for the National Science Challenge: Resilience to Natures Challenges, University of Waikato, New Zealand.

discussions and works with local government, communities and mana whenua as partners in climate change action.

3. Community wellbeing support for the receiving community is as important as support for the displaced community and we encourage the principles to include community engagement with both groups.
4. We note that climate change is only one of a number of issues facing New Zealand and that areas face complex risk profiles. For example an area of low flooding risk may be higher in geotechnical risk or more susceptible to freshwater stresses. We recommend the inclusion of a principle to consider risk holistically and for a no-regrets scenario.
5. We support a process of adaptation which is dynamic, locality specific, enhancing of community wellbeing, and in keeping with international best practice on adaptation planning.
6. We have some concerns on the funding responsibilities objectives and principles, particularly the balance between central government and local government funding, as expressed in paragraph 22.
7. The success or failure of a managed retreat framework will depend on how successfully the whole system integrates mechanisms across all major government reforms. The timeline dislocations of these reforms provide limited opportunity to assess the reformed system holistically.
8. We support the inclusion of a specific reference to mana whenua to 'Stage A/Initiation' and 'Stage B/Planning' in keeping with Te Tiriti and in recognition of the connection mana whenua have with the land.
9. We would encourage strong consideration be given to the different requirements and conditions seen by different triggers, chiefly in response to a natural hazard impacting event. As noted above a definition of managed retreat will reduce some confusion but we stress a difference in the nature of movement between a post-event reactionary migration and a pre-emptive planned managed retreat.
10. We support a process that places communities at the heart of climate change discussions. We note that a highly top-down approach to deciding who bears the responsibility of managed retreat and adaptation planning undermines the relationship between central government, local government, mana whenua and communities as partners in climate change response.

Roles and Responsibility

1. We suggest that central government and regional councils have a joint responsibility with district councils for the development, provision and interpretation of data.
2. Across the sector we note a lack of information on community vulnerability especially compared to exposure. We encourage increased emphasis on work to support

vulnerability-based information to allow for high-quality community discussion and decision making.

3. RM reforms should consider allowing district plans the power to extinguish existing use rights in the context of managed retreat.
4. We wish to reiterate here our earlier point that Plan changes are not instantaneous, and as people will remain in an area beyond when a plan change is enacted, we would encourage the legislation and roles within to be cognisant of this reality.

Funding

5. We strongly recommend central government take an active role in the funding of adaptation options. We are already seeing climate change as a major stress on existing local government funding mechanisms and a larger community support for taking innovative approaches to funding.
6. Although we consider that those most benefiting from an adaptation option (from both civil society and private enterprise) have a role in contributing to that initiative (as this is the logic for the development of targeted rates) the rising costs of adaptation are causing major concern especially as an equity issue.

Conclusion

7. Thank you once again for the opportunity to make a submission on this consultation document.
8. In summary, the CMF considers the release of the draft NAP a significant step towards adapting Aotearoa to a changing climate and achieving New Zealand's climate goals. We do, however, strongly recommend that more detail be provided on the interventions that will be put in place, how they will be funded, and how various policy frameworks will be aligned to achieve climate objectives.
9. We would like to conclude by reiterating our earlier comments that local government plays a major role in New Zealand communities' transition to a climate resilient future. A strong and enduring partnership approach with local government to support development and implementation of the National Adaptation Plan is clearly required going forward.
10. Our secretariat is available to provide any further information or answer any questions the Ministry may have about our submission. Contact details are: Maree McNeilly and Amanda Wall, Canterbury Mayoral Forum Secretariat, secretariat@canterburymayors.org.nz, 027 381 8924 and Alina Toppler, Climate Change Working Group Secretariat, alina.toppler@ecan.govt.nz. 02102617994.

Ngā mihi

7. ***Creative Communities Grants Assessment /– Round 2, 2021-22***

Minutes of a meeting of the Creative Communities Fund Assessment Committee, held in the Mayor's Reception Room, 5 Baring Square West, Ashburton, on Friday 6 May 2022, commencing at 10.30am.

Present

Femke de Sitter - van der Valk (Chair), Cr Leen Braam, Peter Muir, Kay Begg and Kate Beaumont-Smith

In attendance

Clare Harden (Community Administration Officer)

1 Apologies

Dianne Favel, John Falloon

Sustained

2 Conflict of interest

Nil.

3 Extraordinary business

Nil.

4 Creative Communities Scheme grant applications

A total of nine applications were received for funding, requesting a total of \$32,667

A total of \$35,105.00 was available for distribution.

The merits of each application were discussed and the following funding decisions were made:

No.	Applicants	Amount requested	Amount granted
1	Arts Canterbury Inc	\$500	\$500
2	Ashburton Indian Multicultural Charitable trust	\$10,000	\$0
3	Ashburton Writers' Group	\$390	\$390
4	CanInspire	\$2,087	\$2,087
5	EA Networks	\$2,300	\$2,300
6	JMS Developments	\$10,000	\$5,000 (+\$5,000 location depended)
7	Kristen Dunne	\$740	\$740
8	Rakuto Kurano	\$1,650	\$1,650
9	Staveley Campsite Committee	\$5,000	\$2,000
Total		\$32,667	\$14,667 (19,667)

The balance of funds available in Round (August) will be \$20,483 (15,483)

Communication to Grant Recipients

Emails will be sent to the groups to inform them of the outcome of their application

Recommendation to Council

That Council receives the minutes of the Creative Community Fund Assessment Committee meeting held on 6 May 2023.

The meeting concluded at 11.10am.

8. Mayor's Report

8.1 Eugenie Sage MP

MP Eugenie Sage visited Ashburton on 24 May and spoke with myself, Councillors and CE Hamish Riach. Good discussions were held on a number of topics including 3 Waters reform, Resource Management Act, Future for Local Government reform, genetic modification, Ōtūwharekai (Maori lakes) and rubbish/recycling.

8.2 Deputy Prime Minister Grant Robertson

On 24 May, along with MP Jo Luxton and the Mayors of Timaru and Mackenzie, I attended the South Canterbury Chamber of Commerce post budget briefing presentation from Deputy Prime Minister Grant Robertson.

Main items covered were the budget spend. Social spend – up to 80% of New Zealanders receive some sort of income support. Borrowing is 30% of GDP which is a lot lower level than other developed countries.

Infrastructure spend going forward is budgeted in the billions. I asked Mr Robertson about some of those budgeted funds being allocated to the Ashburton district and particularly for the 2nd urban bridge. His response was 'there is money in the infrastructure budget for the Ashburton bridge'. Once we have the third stage of the business case completed and received by Council in August, I intend to schedule an appointment with both Mr Robertson and the Prime Minister to present our case for Government funding.

8.3 Meetings

- **Mayoral calendar**

May 2022

- 19 May: Ashburton Cadet Unit Parade
- 23 May: ACL
- 23 May: Advance Ashburton
- 24 May: Annual Plan submission hearings
- 24 May: MP Eugenie Sage
- 24 May: Deputy Prime Minister Grant Robertson with MP Jo Luxton
- 25 May: Annual Plan deliberations
- 25 May: TV One News interview
- 26 May: Canterbury Mayoral Forum –
- 26 May: Blinc webinar - Is Cannabis the next 'big hit'
- 26 May: Library and Civic Centre site visit with MP Jo Luxton
- 26 May: Simon Jones – Canterbury Hydrogen project with MP Jo Luxton
- 26 May: Civil Defence Emergency Management
- 26 May: Regional Transport Committee
- 26 May: Canterbury Mayoral Forum working dinner
- 27 May: Canterbury Mayoral Forum

- 27 May: ANZ Business of the Year Awards
- 30 May: Library and Civic Centre PCG meeting
- 30 May: Salvation Army Community Driver Mentor programme celebration ceremony.

June 2022

- 1 June: Annual Plan deliberations
- 2 June: Council meeting

Recommendation

That Council receives the Mayor's report.
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Neil Brown

Mayor