



Minutes of a meeting of the
Implementation Committee held in the
Council Chamber on Wednesday 8 December 2021 at 10:30AM

Membership

Cr Carmen Hope (Co-Chair)
Cr Bryan Scott (Co-Chair)
Cr Hilary Calvert
Cr Michael Deaker
Cr Alexa Forbes
Cr Gary Kelliher
Cr Michael Laws
Cr Kevin Malcolm
Cr Andrew Noone
Cr Gretchen Robertson
Cr Kate Wilson

Welcome

Co-Chair Carmen Hope welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 10:38 am. Staff present included Sarah Gardner (Chief Executive), Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), Gwyneth Elsum (GM Strategy, Policy and Science), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Richard Saunders (GM Regulatory and Communications), Liz Spector (Governance Support), and Andrea Howard (Manager Environmental Implementation), Julian Phillips (Implementation Lead – Transport) and Garry Maloney (Manager Transport).

1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies. Cr Deaker was present electronically.

2. PUBLIC FORUM

There were no requests to address the Committee during Public Forum.

3. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

Co-Chair Hope noted that the paper previously scheduled to be considered with members of the public excluded, *Decision on Future of Rabbit Control Assets*, had now been requested to be considered in public by the General Manager of Operations. Cr Laws moved the paper be considered in public.

Resolution: Cr Laws Moved, Cr Calvert seconded

- 1) *That the paper Decision on Future of Rabbit Control Assets be considered in public.*

MOTION CARRIED

4. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflicts of interest were advised.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Resolution: Cr Laws Moved, Cr Robertson Seconded

That the minutes of the public meeting held on 8 September 2021 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution: Cr Hope Moved, Cr Robertson Seconded

That the minutes of the public-excluded meeting held on 8 September 2021 be received and confirmed as a true and accurate record.

MOTION CARRIED

6. ACTIONS

Cr Malcolm and Cr Wilson had questions on two Actions that had been marked complete. Dr Palmer noted that both items in question had been noted on the Quarterly Activity Report that had gone to the 24 November 2021 Finance Committee, however, he indicated each will be added to a future report to Implementation Committee agenda. He asked that the two items be shown to be "In Progress" rather than "Completed".

It was further requested to receive this information prior to the 9 March 2022 Implementation Committee meeting.

7. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

7.1. Environmental Implementation Update

This report provided a quarterly summary of operational implementation activities being undertaken in the areas of freshwater, biosecurity, and biodiversity and included details of projects underway, and improvements being made to processes and systems supporting delivery of these activities. Andrea Howard (Manager Environmental Implementation) and Gavin Palmer (GM Operations) were present to respond to questions about the report.

Cr Wilson asked if staff members working out in the field in environmental implementation could be identified to allow community members to be aware who they may be working with. Chief Executive Sarah Gardner said there is an established protocol for governors and the public to contact individual staff members. After a discussion of this query, Cr Forbes moved:

Resolution IMP21-116: Cr Forbes Moved, Cr Laws Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Bring** to the next Governance, Communications and Engagement meeting advice on protocols around how we approach governance/staff engagement.

MOTION CARRIED

After further discussion of the report, Cr Malcolm moved the staff recommendation:

Resolution IMP21-117: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr Forbes Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the range of standard business and transformational activities being undertaken to maintain and improve Otago Regional Council's delivery of environmental implementation activities.
- 3) **Notes** progress towards the development of a joint Memorandum of Understanding for a Southern Biosecurity Partnership between ORC, Environment Southland and Environment Canterbury which will be considered by Council in early 2022.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Laws left the meeting at 11:52 am.

Cr Laws returned to the meeting at 11:54 am.

7.2. Outcomes from Dunedin Electric Bus Trial

This report outlined outcomes from the electric bus trial that operated in Dunedin from 28 September to 29 October 2021. Abbey Chamberlain (Implementation Advisor - Transport), Julian Phillips (Implementation Lead - Transport), Garry Maloney (Principal Advisor - Transport Planning) and Gavin Palmer (GM Operations) were present to respond to questions about the report. Also present via electronic link was Mike Parker from Global Bus Adventures and Russell Turnbull from Go Bus Transport.

Following a discussion and questions about the report and the electric bus trial, Cr Malcolm moved:

Resolution IMP21-118: Cr Malcolm Moved, Cr Calvert Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** that the trial was successful in providing a range of valuable data about operational performance of an electric vehicle in Dunedin.
- 3) **Notes** that the trial is representative of contracts operated by Go Bus Transport.
- 4) **Endorses** Council staff preparing a subsequent report for Council consideration to the 8 June 2022 Implementation Committee, regarding scope to prepare for a transition to a zero-emission public transport fleet.

MOTION CARRIED

Cr Laws left the meeting at 12:07 pm.

Cr Laws returned to the meeting at 12:21 pm.

Cr Scott left the meeting at 12:31 pm.

Cr Scott returned to the meeting at 12:32 pm.

7.3. Decision on Future of Rabbit Control Assets

This report sought a final decision on the future of ORC-owned rabbit control assets and recommended sale and disposal of the Council's remaining rabbit control assets to support the private sector to undertake rabbit control. Andrea Howard, Manager Environmental Implementation, and Gavin Palmer, GM Operations, were present to respond to questions.

Cr Hope asked if the Council had obtained evaluations of the equipment. Nick Donnelly, GM Corporate Services, said the assets were many years old and were likely fully depreciated, with a \$0 book value. Cr Kelliher noted his concerns regarding disposal of the Galloway Depot and oat processing equipment. He said he did not want these assets to be sold and potentially relocated from Otago as there were still uses for it. Chief Executive Gardner reminded Councillors that in 2018 the ORC had purchased and cooked oats and ended up not being able to deliver them at a competitive price. Cr Kelliher said he was aware of that previous attempt and he suggested the equipment be made available to lease by local contractors. Mrs Gardner also noted the report to Councillors stated there were potential health and safety issues involved with retaining the oat processing equipment and it would be her responsibility to ensure no risk or liability would be taken on that couldn't be appropriately managed.

Following further discussion, Cr Calvert moved:

Resolution IMP21-119: Cr Calvert Moved, Cr Kelliher Seconded

That the Committee:

- 1) **Notes** this report.
- 2) **Notes** the outcome of the initiative to supply poisoned carrot bait to landholders on a trial basis over Winter 2021, based in Central Otago, for the purposes of rabbit control and promoting this opportunity to landholders.
- 3) **Approves** the extension of this arrangement for the Winter 2022 control season.
- 4) **Notes** the results of the contractor survey on the future use of Council-owned rabbit control assets.
- 5) **Notes** the results of the safety assessment of Council-owned rabbit control assets by an independent Senior Safety & Compliance Engineer.
- 6) **Approves** the staff recommendation to dispose of all remaining Council-owned rabbit control assets with the exception of the Galloway depot and oat processing equipment and report back before the end of the financial year 2021/22 with options for the

Galloway depot and oat processing equipment including the value of the property, buildings and equipment.

- 7) **Notes** the environmental incentive contestable funding package for 2021/2022 to support better rabbit management by communities (within existing LTP budgets).

MOTION CARRIED

8. CLOSURE

There was no further business and Co-Chair Hope declared the meeting closed at 01:32 pm.

Chairperson

Date

DRAFT