

**Council  
MINUTES**

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**Minutes of an ordinary meeting of the Otago Regional Council held in the Council Chamber, Level 2 Philip Laing House, 144 Rattray Street, Dunedin on Wednesday 8 May 2024, commencing at 3:30 PM.**

[YouTube Recording Link](#)

**PRESENT**

Cr Gretchen Robertson *(Chairperson)*  
Cr Lloyd McCall *(Deputy Chairperson)*  
Cr Alexa Forbes  
Cr Gary Kelliher  
Cr Michael Laws  
Cr Kevin Malcolm  
Cr Tim Mephram  
Cr Andrew Noone  
Cr Bryan Scott  
Cr Alan Somerville  
Cr Elliot Weir  
Cr Kate Wilson

## **1. WELCOME**

Chairperson Gretchen Robertson welcomed Councillors, members of the public and staff to the meeting at 3:30 pm. Staff present included Richard Saunders (Chief Executive), Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science), Gavin Palmer (GM Operations), Joanna Gilroy (Acting GM Regulatory), Amanda Vercoe (GM Governance, Culture and Customer), Kylie Darragh (Governance Support), and online Nick Donnelly (GM Corporate Services), and Fleur Matthews (Manager Policy and Planning).

## **2. APOLOGIES**

There were no apologies for this meeting.

## **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

There were no requests for this meeting.

## **4. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was confirmed as published.

## **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Members were reminded of the need 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.

## **6. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

### **6.1. Report to Minister for the Environment on providing for vegetable production**

(YouTube 00:05:32) This report sought approval of the second report by the Otago Regional Council (ORC), to the Minister for the Environment, in accordance with section 27 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) in relation to how ORC intends to provide for vegetable production in its NPS-FM freshwater management planning instruments. Dolina Lee (Senior Analyst Freshwater and Land), Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science) and online Fleur Matthews (Manager Policy and Planning) were available to respond to questions.

### **Resolution CM24-125: Cr Somerville Moved, Cr Weir Seconded**

*That the Council:*

- 1. **Notes** this report.*
- 2. **Approves** the second report to be sent to the Minister for the Environment, by 19 May, that outlines Otago Regional Council's provisions that may be relevant to vegetable production in its NPS-FM freshwater management planning instruments.*

### **MOTION CARRIED**

Cr Malcolm and Cr Kelliher voted against this motion.

**6.2. Report to Minister for the Environment on notifying LWRP before the NPS-FM is replaced**

(YouTube 00.13.20) This report, presented for approval by Council the report to the Minister for the Environment who has requested under section 27 of the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) the costs, benefits, and implications of notifying the Land and Water Regional Plan before the National Policy Statement for Freshwater Management is replaced. Chair Robertson and the Chief Executive, Richard Saunders confirmed that the draft report to the Minister for the Environment had been circulated, and made publicly available on the ORC website, clarifying to Council that this is not a full cost benefit analysis of the plan itself, it is the cost benefit of the decision to notify.

Anita Dawe (GM Policy and Science) and online Fleur Matthews (Manager Policy and Planning) were present to respond to questions. There was an amendment to the motion and after discussion, a division was called.

**Resolution CM24-126: Cr McCall Moved, Cr Weir Seconded**

*That the Council:*

1. **Approves** the updated report to the Minister for the Environment that provides an outline of the costs, benefits, and implications of notifying the Land and Water Regional Plan before the NPS-FM is replaced.
2. **Delegates** oversight and approval of final minor editorial proofing, corrections, and formatting of the report to the Minister to the Council Chairperson and Chief Executive.
3. **Notes** the report will be provided to the Minister for the Environment by 15 May 2024.

<b>For:</b>	Cr Forbes, Cr McCall, Cr Mephram, Cr Scott, Cr Somerville, Cr Weir, Cr Robertson
<b>Against:</b>	Cr Kelliher, Cr Laws, Cr Malcolm, Cr Noone, Cr Wilson.
<b>Abstained:</b>	

**MOTION CARRIED**

**7. CLOSURE**

There was no further business and Chairperson Robertson declared the meeting closed at 5:13 pm.



26 June 2024

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Chairperson

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Date