
Economic Development Committee

Te Komiti Oohanga Whakatupu

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Economic Development Committee held in Council Chamber and via Audio-Visual Link, Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Tuesday 12 March 2024 at 9:30 am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Cr Ewan Wilson
<i>Heamana</i>	
Deputy Chairperson	Cr Mark Donovan
<i>Heamana Tuarua</i>	
Members:	Mayor Paula Southgate
	Deputy Mayor Angela O’Leary
	Cr Anna Casey-Cox
	Cr Maxine van Oosten
	Cr Moko Tauariki
	Cr Melaina Huaki
	Cr Louise Hutt (via audio-visual)
	Cr Kesh Naidoo-Rauf
	Cr Andrew Bydder
	Cr Geoff Taylor
	Cr Sarah Thomson
	Cr Emma Pike (via audio-visual)
	Cr Tim Macindoe

In Attendance:	Lance Vervoort – Chief Executive
	Blair Bowcott – General Manager Strategy, Growth and Planning
	Sean Murray – General Manager Venues, Tourism and Events (via audio-visual)
	Tracey Musty – Finance Director
	Greg Carstens – Growth Funding & Analytics Unit Manager
	Mike Bennett – Economic Development Programme Manager
	Nicolas Wells – Strategic Property Manager
	Lehi Duncan – Central City Transformation Manager Growth Programmes
	Margaret Devlin – Waikato Regional Airport Limited and Hamilton and Waikato Tourism representative
	Scott Kendall and Ben Langley - Waikato Regional Airport Limited representatives
	Nicola Greenwell – Hamilton and Waikato Tourism representative
	Kelvin French – Co-Lab Chief Executive

Governance:	Amy Viggers - Governance Lead
	Arnold Andrews, Keryn Phillips and James Winston II - Governance Advisors

1. Apologies – *Tono aroha*

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Mayor Southgate)

That the apologies for absence from Deputy Mayor O’Leary, Cr Tauariki and Cr van Oosten, and partial attendance from Mayor Southgate and Cr Pike are accepted.

2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take*

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)

That that the agenda is confirmed noting that Item 7 (Chair’s Report) will be taken before Item 6 (External Agencies and CCO Reporting) at the request of the Chair.

3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipanga*

Prior to the discussion of Item C2 (Strategic Property Update – March 2024) Cr Naidoo-Rauf declared an interest in the matter. She noted that she was not conflicted and would take part in the discussion and vote on the matter. During the discussion of the matter Cr Taylor declared a conflict. He did not take part on the discussion or vote on the matter.

4. Public Forum – *Aatea koorero*

No members of the public wished to speak in the Public Forum.

5. Confirmation of the Economic Development Open Minutes 14 November 2023

Resolved: (Cr Donovan/Cr Huaki)

That the Economic Development Committee confirm the Open Minutes of the Economic Development Meeting held on 14 November 2023 as a true and correct record.

Item 7 (Chair’s Report) was taken after Item 5 (Confirmation of the Economic Development Open Minutes 14 November 2023) as resolved in Item 2 (Confirmation of the Agenda).

6. Chair's Report

The Chair took his report as read.

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

7. External Agencies and CCO Reporting

Waikato Regional Airport Limited

Waikato Regional Airport Limited representatives (Margaret Devlin, Scott Kendall and Ben Langley) spoke to their six-monthly update. They responded to questions from Members concerning opportunities for international travel, dividend policy, letters of expectation, priority projects, financial statements and future-proofing the airport.

Resolved: (Cr Taylor/Mayor Southgate)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the Statement of Intent for Waikato Regional Airport Limited 2024-2025 (**Attachment 4** to the staff report);
- b) delegates the CE and Mayor Southgate to work with other shareholding Councils to request Waikato Regional Airport Limited amend their 2024-2025 Statement of Intent to strengthen the following matters that were outlined in Hamilton City Council Letter of Expectation:
 - i. Payment of dividends;
 - ii. International air services capability;

- c) requests staff report back to the 9 May Economic Development Committee meeting concerning a) and b) above.

Hamilton and Waikato Tourism

Hamilton and Waikato Tourism representatives (Nicola Greenwell and Margaret Devlin) provided an update on recent activities. They responded to questions from Members concerning visitor statistics, impact of emergency housing on tourism and the Hamilton to Christchurch campaign learnings.

Co-Lab

Co-Lab Chief Executive (Kelvin French) presented the Co-Lab report and highlighted the role of Co-Lab and the benefits of collaboration. He responded to questions from Members concerning efficiencies achieved for procurement of large infrastructure projects, response rate of survey referred to in the report and collaboration of councils on digital platforms.

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Thomson)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) endorses the Statement of Intent for Civic Financial Services for the year to 31 December 2024 (**Attachment 7** to the staff report).

Cr Pike left the meeting (9.59am) during the discussion of the above item. She was not present when the matter was voted on.

Mayor Southgate left the meeting (11.15am) during the discussion of the above item. She was not present when the matter was voted on.

The meeting was adjourned from 11.38am to 11.53am.

Cr Taylor left the meeting during the above adjournment.

8. General Manager's Report

The General Manager Strategy, Growth and Planning took his report as read. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning the economic mindset across all committees of the Council and the Regional Theatre taking business from events at Claudelands.

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

Cr Pike re-joined the meeting (11.53am) during the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.

9. Business Improvement District (BID) Policy Review (Recommendation to the Council)

The Central City Transformation Manager Growth Programmes took the report as read.

Resolved: (Cr Donovan/Cr Thomson)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) recommends that the Council approves the amended Business Improvement District Policy (**Attachment 1** of this staff report) effective from **5 April 2024**; and
- c) recommends that the Council approves the subsequent proposed amendment to the Business Improvement District Policy in **Attachment 3** of this staff report to be effective from **1 July 2024**, subject to the final 2024-34 Long-Term Plan deliberations; and

- d) notes that if the Economic Development Committee recommends approval of the revised Business Improvement District Policy, a subsequent Business Improvement District Poll will be undertaken to inform a 2024-34 Long-Term Plan decision regarding the extension of the Business Improvement District boundary to include a portion of Hamilton East.

10. Strategic and General Update

The Economic Development Programme Manager highlighted results of the meaningful engagement that occurred last year with employers and promotion of Tech in the Tron project. Staff responded to questions from Members concerning job growth, availability of quality office space, consenting trends, data analytics on job demand, engagement with employers within the scope of council business, population structure, residential consents, industrial land supply and timing of the airport developments.

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Macindoe)
That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

Cr Taylor re-joined the meeting (12.11pm) during the discussion of the above Item. He was present when the matter was voted on.

11. Strategic Property Update - March 2024

The Strategic Property Manager took the report as read.

Resolved: (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)
That the Economic Development Committee
a) receives the report;
b) notes the Members' congratulations to Nicolas Wells and those that worked to secure the Templeton hotel development.

12. Resolution to Exclude the Public

Resolved: (Wilson/Donovan)
Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting, namely consideration of the public excluded agenda.

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 follows.

General subject of each matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
C1. Confirmation of the Economic Development Public Excluded Minutes 14 November 2023) Good reason to withhold information exists under Section 7 Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987	Section 48(1)(a)
C2. Strategic Property Update - March 2024		
C3. Strategic Issues Update - Public Excluded Matters		

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6

or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

Item C1.	to prevent the disclosure or use of official information for improper gain or improper advantage	Section 7 (2) (j)
Item C2.	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h) Section 7 (2) (i)
Item C3.	to enable Council to carry out negotiations	Section 7 (2) (h) Section 7 (2) (i)

The meeting moved into Public Excluded at 12.39pm.

The meeting was declared closed at 3.06pm.