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## **Economic Development Committee**

### ***Komiti OOhanga Whakatupu***

### **OPEN MINUTES**

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Minutes of a meeting of the Economic Development Committee held in the Council Chamber and via Audio Visual Link , Municipal Building, Garden Place, Hamilton on Thursday 16 March 2023 at 9.31am.

#### **PRESENT**

**Chairperson** Cr Ewan Wilson  
***Heamana***

**Deputy Chairperson** Cr Mark Donovan  
***Heamana Tuarua***

**Members**

- Mayor Paula Southgate
- Deputy Mayor Angela O’Leary
- Cr Ryan Hamilton
- Cr Maxine van Oosten
- Cr Moko Tauariki
- Cr Louise Hutt
- Cr Kesh Naidoo-Rauf
- Cr Andrew Bydder
- Cr Geoff Taylor (exclusively via Audio Visual link)
- Cr Sarah Thomson (exclusively via Audio Visual link)
- Cr Emma Pike
- Cr Melaina Huaki

**In Attendance**

- Blair Bowcott - General Manager Growth
- Sean Murray - General Manager Venues Tourism and Major Events
- Tracey Musty - Financial Director
- Lee-Ann – Unit Director Visitor Destinations
- Tilly Murcott - Programme Manager, Central City
- Nicolas Wells - Strategic Property Manager
- Tiki Mossop - Programme Manager - Economics & Policy
- Karen Saunders – Growth Programmes Manager
- Arif Khan - Business Relationship Advisor
- Lucianna Nunes - Business Growth Advisor
- Vanessa Williams - Hamilton Central Business Association
- Mike Neale - NAI Harcourts Hamilton/Hamilton Central Business Association
- Nicola Greenwell - Hamilton and Waikato Tourism Limited
- Gary Stannard - Waikato Innovation Growth Limited
- Ben Langley and Scott Kendall - Waikato Regional Airport Limited
- Kelvin French - Co-Lab

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**Governance Staff**

Amy Viggers (Governance Lead)

Chantal Jansen, Arnold Andrews (Governance Advisors)

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**1. Apologies – *Tono aroha***

**Resolved:** (Cr Wilson/van Oosten)

That the apologies for absence from Cr Casey-Cox, for lateness from Mayor Southgate, Cr Taylor, Cr Huaki, Cr Hutt and for the early departure from Cr van Oosten are accepted.

**2. Confirmation of Agenda – *Whakatau raarangi take***

**Resolved:** (Cr Donovan /Cr Hamilton)

That the agenda is confirmed.

**3. Declarations of Interest – *Tauaakii whaipanga***

No members of the Council declared a Conflict of Interest.

**4. Public Forum – *Aatea koorero***

No members of the public wished to speak.

**5. Chair's Report**

The Chair took the report as read. He did not speak to the report and no questions were raised by Members.

**Resolved:** (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)

That the Finance Committee receives the report.

**6. General Manager's Report**

The General Manager Growth introduced his report. He highlighted the targeted outcomes and introduced Arif Khan, Business Relationship Advisor, and Lucianna Nunes, Business Growth Advisor. Staff responded to questions from Elected Members concerning aspiration growth, the targeted outcomes, the role of the Committee and supporting businesses to move to Hamilton.

**Resolved:** (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report; and
- b) requests staff add hospitality to the targeted outcomes of the Committee.

*Mayor Southgate joined the meeting (09.42am) during discussion of the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.*

*Cr Taylor joined the meeting (9.50am) during the discussion of the above item. He was present when the matter was voted on.*

*Cr Huaki joined the meeting at (10.02am) during discussion of the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.*

## 7. External Agencies and CCO Reporting

### **Hamilton Central Business Association (HCBA)**

Vanessa Williams and Mike Neale, from Hamilton Central Business Association, took their report as read. Along with staff they responded to questions from Elected Members concerning activation to occur in relation to FIFA events in July 2023, pedestrian count, placement of CCTV cameras, 2 hours free parking, hospitality resilience, Matariki events and evidence of economic benefit from Council's funding.

**Staff Action:** *Staff undertook to include discussion concerning Garden Place funding in the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan Process.*

### **Hamilton and Waikato Tourism (HWT)**

The General Manager Venues, Tourism and Major Events introduced Nicola Greenwell Chief Executive of HWT. She spoke to her report and noted that tourism was recovering following Covid-19 impacts. Along with staff she responded to questions from Elected Members concerning accommodation constraints, FIFA events, Government funding and sustainability building.

### **Waikato Regional Airport Limited (WRAL)**

The General Manager Venues, Tourism and Major Events introduced Scott Kendall General Manager Finance and Commercial and Ben Langley General Manager Airport Operations. They spoke to their report and highlighted recent successes which included a new brand identity and the development of a solar farm. They responded to questions from Elected Members concerning the review on the structure of WRAL undertaken by Council, strategic intentions to reduce emissions, role as a sister airport in relation to the recent closure of Auckland airport due to extreme weather events, letter of expectation, investment, Hamilton City Council's stake in the Airport, and dividends' payments to Hamilton City Council.

### **Waikato Innovation Growth Ltd (WIGL) NZ Food Innovation (Waikato) Ltd**

The Financial Director introduced the report and the new Chief Executive Gary Stannard. They responded to questions from Elected Members concerning the profile of the business, financial statements, the internal review, and the focus for the coming year for the business.

### **Co-Lab**

The Financial Director introduced the report and Kelvin French, Chief Executive of Co-Lab. They responded to questions from Elected Members concerning Local Government Reform, prioritisation, additional collaboration opportunities, investment in automation for processes such as building consents, and the Building Consent Cadetship programme.

### **Procedural Motion:**

**Resolved:** (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)

That the debate time for Item 7 (External Agencies and CCO Reporting) be increased to 5 minutes.

**Cr Hamilton Dissenting.**

**Resolved:** (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)

That the Economic Development Committee:

- a) receives the report;
- b) approves the HCBA Annual Central City Activation Plan and Annual Budget for 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2024 (**Attachment 3** to the staff report) subject to the \$100,000 budget for this being confirmed in the 2023/24 Annual Plan; and
- c) endorses the following draft Statements of Intent:
  - i. Waikato Regional Airport Limited draft Statement of Intent 2023/24 (**Attachment 6** to the staff report);
  - ii. Waikato Innovation Growth Ltd, NZ Food Innovation (Waikato) Ltd draft Statement of Intent 2023/24 (**Attachment 8** to the staff report);

- iii. Co-Lab draft Statement of Intent 2023/24 (**Attachment 10** to the staff report).

*Cr Hutt joined the meeting (10.27am) during the discussion of the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.*

**The meeting was adjourned at 11.02am to 11.13am**

*Cr van Oosten and Cr Hutt left the meeting (11.42am) during the discussion of the above item..*

*Cr van Oosten re-joined the meeting (12.24pm) during the discussion of the above item. She was present when the matter was voted on.*

*Cr Hutt re-joined the meeting (12.50pm) at the conclusion of the above item. She was not present when the matter was voted on.*

*Cr Taylor left the meeting (12.24pm) during the discussion of the above item. He was not present when the matter was voted on.*

## **8. Strategic and General Update**

### **Economic Development Programme**

The General Manager Growth took this section of the report as read.

### **Growth Programmes**

The Growth Programmes Manager spoke to this section of the report and highlighted the economic aspects created from the growth areas.

### **Data Analytics, Economics and Policy**

The Programme Manager - Economics & Policy spoke to this section of the report and noted the positive Hamilton economy.

### **Tourism, Events and Visitation**

The General Manager Venues, Tourism and Major Events highlighted recent successes which included operative surplus and actual revenue. The Director Visitor Designations noted that there was an increase in local and international visitors which indicated that this year would be the highest visitation rate on record. They responded to questions from Elected Members concerning event economic impact and H3's financial summary.

**Resolved:** (Cr Hamilton /Cr Donovan)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

**The meeting was adjourned from 1.24pm to 2.13pm**

## **9. Strategic Property update**

The Strategic Property Manager took the report as read. No questions were raised by Members.

**Resolved:** (Cr Wilson/Cr Donovan)

That the Economic Development Committee receives the report.

## **10. Resolution to Exclude the Public**

**Resolved:** (Cr Wilson /Cr Donovan )

## Section 48, Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The following motion is submitted for consideration:

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. Strategic and General Update	) Good reason to withhold ) information exists under	Section 48(1)(a)
C2. Domain Endowment Lease - Freeholding - 5 Cotter Place	) Section 7 Local Government ) Official Information and ) Meetings Act 1987	
C3. Strategic Property Update	)	

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 enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h) Section 7 (2) (i)
	to enable Council to carry out negotiations	
Item C2.	to protect the privacy of natural persons	Section 7 (2) (a)
Item C3.	to enable Council to carry out commercial activities without disadvantage	Section 7 (2) (h) Section 7 (2) (i)
	to enable Council to carry out negotiations	

**The meeting moved into a Public Excluded session at 1.24pm.**

**The meeting was declared closed at 3.47pm.**