

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL  
DISTRICT PLAN COMMITTEE MEETING NO. DP25-1  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1484 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA  
ON TUESDAY, 8 APRIL 2025 ON CONCLUSION OF THE COUNCIL MEETING  
STARTING AT 9.30AM**

## **1 PRESENT**

Deputy Mayor J Scrimgeour, Cr M Grainger, Cr G Dally, Mayor J Denyer, Cr A Henry and Cr M Murray-Benge.

## **2 IN ATTENDANCE**

M Taris (Interim Chief Executive Officer), A Curtis (General Manager Regulatory Services), A Henderson (General Manager Corporate Services), A Price (Principal Planner), R Garrett (Governance Manager), H Wi Repa (Governance Systems Advisor) and R Leahy (Senior Governance Advisor).

## **OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE**

1 member of the public; and

Cr A Wichers, Cr L Rae, Cr T Coxhead, Cr R Joyce and Cr D Thwaites

## **3 APOLOGIES**

Nil

## **4 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS**

Nil

## **5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

## **3 REPORTS**

### **13.1 APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT COMMISSIONERS FOR RESOURCE CONSENT APPLICATIONS**

The Committee considered a report from the Environmental Consents Planner dated 8 April 2025. The Principal Planner provided an overview of the report and the resource consent applications.

Staff responded to pātai as below:

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- As some of the hearings may occur during the election period, staff would seek legal advice around whether Elected Members could still be on a resource consent hearing panel if they were not re-elected at the 2025 Local Body Elections.
  - The costs of commissioners across the country were reasonable and generally standard. Using a commissioner from a different region would not usually result in additional costs.
  - A longer list of commissioners than what would be required was provided in the recommendation to allow for flexibility around availability when it came to the hearings.
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### RESOLUTION DP25-1.1

Moved: Mayor J Denyer

Seconded: Cr M Murray-Benge

1. That the Environmental Consents Manager's report dated 8 April 2025 titled 'Appointment of Independent Commissioners for Resource Consent Applications' be received.
2. That the report relates to an issue that is considered to be of low significance in terms of Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.
3. That the District Plan Committee delegates the authority to Independent Commissioners to conduct hearings and/or decide on the resource consent applications outlined in this paper.
4. That the District Plan Committee approves that for recommendation 3, this authority can be carried out either independently or in collaboration with an Elected Member who holds a current Making Good Decisions certification.
5. That the District Plan Committee appoints the following accredited Commissioners to conduct hearings and/or decide on the resource consent applications outlined in this paper (either independently or collaboratively), subject to their availability:
  - a. Amanda de Jong
  - b. Greg Hill
  - c. Rob Van Voorthuysen
  - d. Alan Withy
1. That the District Plan Committee delegates to its Chairperson the ability to appoint Elected Members as appropriate to the Resource Consent Hearings where elected members are proposed to be included on the hearing panels.

**CARRIED**

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**The Meeting closed at 11.28am.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Council Committee held on 27 May 2025.**