

**MINUTES OF WESTERN BAY OF PLENTY DISTRICT COUNCIL
COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING NO. CM24-3
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1484 CAMERON ROAD, TAURANGA
ON TUESDAY, 10 DECEMBER 2024 AT 9.30AM**

1 KARAKIA

Whakatau mai te wairua	Settle the spirit
Whakawātea mai te hinengaro	Clear the mind
Whakarite mai te tinana	Prepare the body
Kia ea ai ngā mahi	To achieve what needs to be achieved.
Āe	Yes

2 PRESENT

Cr M Murray-Benge, Cr G Dally, Cr T Coxhead, Mayor J Denyer, Cr M Grainger, Cr A Henry, Cr L Rae, Deputy Mayor J Scrimgeour, Cr A Sole, Cr D Thwaites, Cr A Wichers, Ōmokoroa Community Board Chairperson C Dever and Waihi Beach Community Board Chairperson D Simpson.

3 IN ATTENDANCE

R Davie (Deputy CEO/General Manager Strategy and Community), J Rickard (Community and Strategic Relationships Manager), R Garrett (Governance Manager), S Cuers (Strategic Housing Programme Lead), H Wi Repa (Governance Systems Advisor) and E Logan (Governance Advisor).

ZOOM

Katikati Community Board Chairperson J Clements.

EXTERNAL

T Muller (Chair of Priority One Board), N Tutt (Chief Executive, Priority One), and K Hind (Ōmokoroa Community Development Lead).

4 APOLOGIES

4.1 APOLOGIES

RESOLUTION CM24-3.1

Moved: Ōmokoroa Community Board Chairperson C Dever

Seconded: Cr M Grainger

That the apology for absence from Cr Joyce, Maketu Community Board Chairperson T Hopping, Te Puke Community Board Chairperson K Ellis and the apology for lateness from Katikati Community Board Chairperson J Clements be accepted.

CARRIED

5 CONSIDERATION OF LATE ITEMS

Nil

6 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil

7 PUBLIC EXCLUDED ITEMS

Nil

8 PUBLIC FORUM

Nil

9 REPORTS

9.1 PRIORITY ONE ANNUAL REPORT 2024

The Community and Strategic Relationships Manager introduced the report. The report was taken as read.

External Presenters from Priority One were present to speak to the report.

In response to questions, the following matters were noted:

- Priority One had a concept called 'Work Life Tauranga' that was used with businesses to attract potential employees. This was predominately carried out through social media platforms.
- There was a demand for land to be purchased for more housing.
- The equation around affordability of housing within the District was for individuals to earn higher incomes which Priority One was working hard on by trying to attract and grow higher value businesses.
- In Step was a subsidiary of Priority One. It was run as a semi separate entity that worked with secondary schools. The connections with secondary schools enabled Priority One to run events such as the Canvas Expo and In Step Young Leaders.

9.51am Katikati Community Board Chairperson J Clements arrived.

- Priority One covered the entirety of the Western Bay of Plenty District Council (WBOPDC) district and Tauranga City Council (TCC) district. The organisation looked at economic statistics based on the sub-region because the economy does not reflect the difference between territorial boundaries.
- The new Marine Research Education Facility would be an extension of the existing facility at the University of Waikato. It was hoped that the new facility would attract further international research and funding. The future thinking in regard to this extension was that this facility would be a large contributor to the economy.
- Priority One was supportive of the Blue Haven Housing Development proposal because the district needed to unlock land for further housing. However, it was noted that the proposed location of the development was not the easiest location to develop but it was not Priority One's area to get involved in the details.
- Stormwater and wastewater were covered within the SmartGrowth Spatial Plan.
- The region was well below the national average of incomes due to factors such as the lack of maturity of business within the area and the types of industries in the region. Priority One was encouraging growth of high value industries which would in turn create high value jobs for people within the region. The earnings of the region had been improving and parity was expected in 2034, however, the organisation was attempting to accelerate this projection.

RESOLUTION CM24-3.2

Moved: Cr M Murray-Benge

Seconded: Cr A Henry

1. That the Community and Strategic Relationship Manager's report dated 10 December 2024, titled 'Priority One Annual Report 2024, be received.

CARRIED

9.2 WELCOMING COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME ACCREDITATION 2024-2027

The Community and Strategic Relationships Manager provided a brief overview of the report. The report was taken as read, with further discussion as shown below:

- The Committee extended its gratitude and thanks to Ms Neena Chauhan (Member of the Te Puke Community Board) for the work she had done to translate high level Council documents to Hindi and Punjabi. Ms Chauhan had carried out an
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significant amount of work that had enabled Council to engage with the Indian community within Te Puke and the wider district.

In response to questions, the following matters were noted:

- WBOPDC had previously worked in partnership with TCC on the Welcoming Communities Programme. However, both Council's had reached a new level of maturity with their communities and were now working separately. TCC was hoping to also receive advanced accreditation.
- It was critical that there was staff support and engagement within the Welcoming Communities Programme. There were multiple teams within Council that had been involved in different parts of the programme.
- There was no additional financial support from central government agencies if Council successfully moved through the accreditation process to the next stage. However progress through the accreditation process was a credit to the maturity of the Council, and helped to imbed the practices of the Welcoming Communities Programme into the organisation.
- There were a number of organisations that provided support to those new to the district. Ensuring that those new comers were aware of the organisations that provided support was a continuous challenge. However, having as many avenues available as possible was a strategy that was used to try and combat this challenge.
- Council libraries were an important first point of contact for those new to the region.
- The ethnic diversity of the communities within the district was increasing and had been increasing for a long time.

RESOLUTION CM24-3.3

Moved: Cr L Rae

Seconded: Cr A Henry

1. That the Community Outcomes Advisor's report dated 10 December 2024 titled 'Welcoming Communities Programme Accreditation 2024-2027' be received.

CARRIED

10 INFORMATION FOR RECEIPT

10.1 HOUSING ACTION PLAN 2024: PROGRESS REPORT

The Strategic Housing Programme Lead introduced the report and spoke to the presentation. The report was taken as read, with further discussion as shown below.

In response to questions, the following matters were noted:

- The Accessible Properties development at Seddon Street, Te Puke, was made up of one-bedroom units. All units had been built to accessibility standards which meant, although the development was not tagged as elder housing, it was primarily older people who lived there.
- The housing development at 24 Middlebrook Drive in Katikati was made up of 18 units of social housing with a mix of size of dwellings of one, two and three bedrooms.
- The process for the feasibility studies for papakāinga was managed under Te Arawa Ke Tai which was a sub group that was set up from the Te Ihu o Te Waka o Te Arawa Partnership Forum. Feasibility studies were reported back to this forum.
- Staff had completed internal work on the Kotahi Lane site and what the constraints and opportunities were, and were having discussions with private developers to get their perspective. This information would be fed back to Council's Executive Leadership Team to discuss the way forward for that site.

10.58am Cr L Rae left hui.

- There were a number of support services across the district that supported the homeless. The approach that most of these support services took was working with individuals long-term.

11.01am Cr L Rae returned to hui.

- There was a men's homeless shelter in Tauranga called Takitimu House that was funded by the Ministry of Social Development.
- A homeless shelter was beneficial for certain cohorts; however, for those individuals with complex needs, homeless shelters were not the best solution. Having access to housing and services that were able to provide wrap around support immediately was vital.
- The 20 Degrees programme was funded by a variety of sources which included WBOPDC, Te Whatu Ora, TECT, Bay Trust and more. The variety of funding sources ensured that the programme provided service to the Bay of Plenty wide region. Council provided funding to the programme.

The Meeting closed at 11.19am.

Confirmed as a true and correct record by Council on 18 February 2025.