

# Westport Flood Resilience Steering Group

## Minutes

Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2023 10.00am - noon

### **Present:**

Mike Mendonça, Chair

Mayor Jamie Cleine, BDC

Sean Judd, BDC CEO

Peter Haddock, Chair WCRC

Darryl Lew, CEO, WCRC

Paul Barker, DIA

Suzie Paisley, NEMA

Kevin Fenaughty, NEMA

### **In Attendance:**

Sam Scott, WCRC

Daniel Bellam, DIA

### **1. Welcome and Introduction**

The Chair welcomed Steering Group members, and noted that the work programme would need to carefully balance the desire to deliver at pace with the need for good process and transparency.

### **2. Apologies**

An apology was accepted from Francois Tumahai, Ngāti Waewae.

### **3. Declaration of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

The Steering Group agreed that the Chair will circulate a proforma for members to record interests.

### **4. Terms of reference**

The Steering Group discussed the draft Terms of Reference (TOR). The Steering Group requested that the draft TOR be amended to better reflect:

- Workflow process, clearly showing that decisions are taken by Councils for Steering Group ratification for drawdown. The Steering Group itself does not have delegated financial authority, but must endorse requests for drawdown of Crown funding.
- Stronger recognition that the community's voice is central to the work programme, and that engagement cannot be restricted to resource consenting processes.
- Membership of the Steering Group should better provide depth for Councils. The Deputy Chair of WCRC and the Deputy Mayor of BDC are to be invited onto the Steering Group.

The Steering Group agreed that the Chair would present an updated draft for approval at the next Steering Group meeting.

### **5. Funding mechanism for Steering Group support**

The Steering Group discussed the administration of the Steering Group, and options around the secretariat, project management and communications support. The Steering Group agreed that:

- Chair and Secretariat support will be funded through the programme and contracted via BDC.
- Councils will carry out their own programme management and communications work to support delivery of their components of the project. This will require a high degree of co-ordination and collaboration.

The Steering Group requested that the Chair bring a report to the next meeting outlining the arrangement for the Chair and Secretariat support funding.

## **Work programme**

### **6. Protect**

The Steering Group discussed the process around financial management and resourcing for:

- Ring Bank (priority 1)
- Contingency
- Immediate Emergency Works
- Organs Island

DIA provided an overview of the initial work required to reconcile conflicts around ring bank design before financial drawdowns can be progressed. It was agreed that WCRC would bring a report to the next Steering Group meeting with a process to

It was agreed that WCRC would bring a report to the next Steering Group meeting around land acquisition and the reforestation of Organs Island.

### **7. Avoid**

The Steering Group noted that planning rules need to complement the physical works, and that the ring bank is essentially 'buying time' until longer term issues can be resolved. The Steering Group noted an additional layer of complexity due to the structure of Te Tai Poutini Plan.

### **8. Relocate**

The Steering Group noted that the Alma Road development plan and the feasibility study into strategic land purchase are discrete pieces of work that can occur independently from more complex aspects of the programme.

### **9. Accommodate**

The Steering Group noted that projects such as CDEM resourcing and the sea level monitor/tide gauge could occur independently of more complex projects, and could be quick wins.

### **10. Communications and Engagement from this meeting**

The Steering Committee noted that:

- Joined up communications and engagement is at the heart of this programme, this will require collaboration and a *no surprises* principle.
- The Chair will draft a press release to inform the community about the Steering Group meeting, outlining how the Government's \$22.9m co-investment will be deployed.
- DIA plans to publicly release the T&T technical report with a cover note that outlines the intent and context of the report.
- Meeting minutes will be made public.

\*Immediately following the meeting, Steering Group members made themselves available to the Westport News

### **11. Next meeting**

The Steering Committee agreed to meet again on 21 July at West Coast Regional Council offices in Greymouth.

**The meeting closed at 12.30 pm**