

# MINUTES

## FINANCE/PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, 24 June 2021

**Time:** 9.30 am

**Venue:** Council Chamber  
Rangitikei District Council  
46 High Street  
Marton

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**Present:** Cr Nigel Belsham  
Cr Fi Dalgety  
Cr Cath Ash  
Cr Brian Carter  
Cr Tracey Hiroa  
Cr Waru Panapa  
Cr Gill Duncan  
Cr Dave Wilson  
His Worship the Mayor, Andy Watson

**In attendance:** Mr Peter Beggs, Chief Executive  
Mr Dave Tombs, Group Manager – Corporate Services  
Ms Gaylene Prince, Group Manager – Community Services  
Mrs Sharon Grant, Group Manager – People and Culture  
Ms Katrina Gray – Senior Strategic Planner  
Mr George Forster, Policy Advisor  
Mr Graeme Pointon, Strategic Property Advisor  
Mr Luke Doidge-Bailey (via Zoom)  
Mr Ash Garstang, Governance Administrator

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## **1 Welcome / Prayer**

Cr Belsham opened the meeting at 9.32 am. Cr Panapa read the prayer.

## **2 Apologies**

**Resolved minute number**                      **21/FPE/023**

That the apologies for lateness, for Cr's Angus Gordon and Dave Wilson be received.

Cr Belsham/Cr Hiroa. Carried

## **3 Public Forum**

## **4 Conflict of Interest Declarations**

## **5 Confirmation of Order of Business**

## **6 Confirmation of Minutes**

**Resolved minute number**                      **21/FPE/024**

That the minutes of Finance/Performance Committee meeting held on 27 May 2021 [with amendment: 'In attendance' Brian Lambert be corrected to Richard Lambert] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Cr Duncan/Cr Hiroa. Carried

## **7 Follow-up Action Items from Previous Meetings**

### **7.1 Follow-up Action Items from Finance/Performance Meetings**

The Mayor asked for clarification around the rating of new builds. Mr Tombs advised that new builds are not rated for or projected in advance. As a result, total rates income for Council is often slightly higher than projected, due to new builds.

**Resolved minute number**                      **21/FPE/025**

That the report 'Follow-up Action Items from Finance/Performance Meetings' be received.

Cr Dalgety/Cr Duncan. Carried

## 8 Reports for Information

### 8.1 Financial Snapshot - May 2021

#### Turakina Valley Road

The Mayor advised that this consent has now been granted. He also asked staff to include more information in future minutes for consent processes (e.g. when a consent was lodged).

#### Marton Playground

The Mayor noted that \$200 k was erroneously put into Council's infrastructure and consenting budget.

#### Ratana Wastewater

In response to a query, Mr Benadie advised that staff are in negotiations with land owners at present and are hoping to reach a solution shortly. August is the cut off for a decision on this.

#### Treasury and Debt

In response to a query, Mr Tombs advised that staff have not yet finalised when Council will begin paying down debt, as debt is expected to increase in the next few years and currently has a low cost.

#### **Resolved minute number** **21/FPE/026**

That the report 'Financial Snapshot – May 2021' to the Finance and Performance Committee meeting be received.

HWTM Watson/Cr Hiroa. Carried

Cr Dave Wilson entered the room at 9.57 am.

### 8.2 QV Monthly Report - May 2021

The Committee noted that the work demands on Council's consenting team was reflective of the large increase in property values, especially in the southern part of the district.

#### **Resolved minute number** **21/FPE/027**

That the 'QV Monthly Report – May 2021' be received.

Cr Dalgety/Cr Wilson. Carried

### **8.3 Chair's Report - June 2021**

Taken as read.

**Resolved minute number                          21/FPE/028**

That the 'Chair's Report – June 2021' be received.

Cr Belsham/Cr Carter. Carried

### **8.4 Statement of Service (SSP) Reporting**

#### Road Maintenance

Cr Belsham queried if Council is going to achieve the 8% mark for road maintenance (resealing and road rehabilitation). Mr Benadie advised that the 8% goal was set in 2015 and is unachievable – 5% is more realistic.

The Mayor noted that reduced funding from Waka Kotahi was going to make road maintenance difficult for Council moving forwards. Cr Belsham agreed and re-iterated that he encourages staff and Council members to strongly advocate against the reduction in funding from Waka Kotahi.

#### Future Statement of Service Reporting

Mr Doidge-Bailey advised that upgrades to Magiq will allow staff to measure service performance more concurrently than is possible at present, which will allow for more up-to-date reporting to be completed. Additionally, staff have reviewed the mandatory measures and expanded the list of possible responses (e.g. responded, arrived on site, resolved). This will provide more accurate information on the status of service requests.

In response to a query, Mr Benadie noted that the service performance measures will be aligned with external key performance indicators (e.g. with roading contractors). Mr Beggs also noted the intention of this upgrade to service reporting was to provide more transparency. The new measures are in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan and will be implemented from 01 July 2021.

In response to a query, Mr Beggs advised that all measures within the Statement of Service Reporting have been reviewed. Some of these measures are mandatory (by the Department of Internal Affairs) and others are not. The measures were discussed in a Long Term Plan workshop and are included in the Long Term Plan for Council to adopt on 8 July 2021.

Cr Duncan queried if the reduction in funding from Waka Kotahi will impact on staff's ability to reach service performance goals for roading. Mr Benadie advised that if the reduction in funding is confirmed, this will almost certainly have an impact.

The Committee queried the measurement on daily water usage, as the provided figure for urban usage appears to be unreasonably high. Mr Benadie will investigate this figure and provide more advice to the Committee.

Cr Belsham asked if it was possible to attribute road injuries and fatalities to driver error or infrastructure. The Mayor advised that this information is not readily available – a breakdown of speed and alcohol factors are provided to the regional transport board, but not infrastructure factors.

**Resolved minute number** **21/FPE/029**

That the report 'Statement of Service (SSP) Reporting' be received.

Cr Carter/Cr Hiroa. Carried

Note: Cr Angus Gordon did not arrive to the meeting (refer to 2 - Apologies).

**The meeting closed at 10.54 am.**

**The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the Finance/Performance Committee held on 26 August 2021.**

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**Chairperson**