

Confirmed Public minutes of the Council meeting on 12 February 2026

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington, at 1.02pm.

Members Present

Councillor Staples (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Elder
Councillor Free
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor James
Councillor Johnstone
Councillor Makarini
Councillor Rhodes
Councillor Saw
Councillor Tupou
Councillor Woolf

Cr Staples, Deputy Chair, presided at the meeting.

Karakia timatanga

The Deputy Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Saw

That the Council accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Ponter.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

On the invitation of the Deputy Chair, Cr Tupou acknowledged the death of John Terris QSO, and spoke to Mr Terris' contribution as a Member of Parliament, Lower Hutt City Councillor and Mayor of Lower Hutt.

4 Resource Management Reform Submission – Report 26.29

Fathima Iftikar, Director Strategy, Policy and Regulation; Matt Hickman, Principal Advisor Strategy, Policy and Regulation; Richard Shield, Project Lead Policy; and Carl Chenery, Principal Advisor Tiriti, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Duthie / Cr James

That the Council:

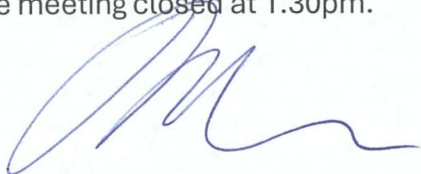
- 1 Notes that the Environment Select Committee has called for submissions on the Natural Environment Bill and Planning Bill.
- 2 Notes that this proposed reform represents the largest change to resource management in a generation.
- 3 Notes that this reform is connected to many other pieces of reform impacting local government and regional councils, including the Simplifying Local Government draft proposal.
- 4 Agrees to the substantive content of the draft submission as set out in Attachment 1.
- 5 Authorises the Council Deputy Chair and Chair of the Environment and Climate Committee to make minor editorial changes to the submission prior to the lodging with Select Committee.

The motion was **carried**.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Council Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 1.30pm.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'D Ponter', written in a cursive style.

Councillor D Ponter

Chair

Date: 20/02/26