



If calling, please ask for Democratic Services

Climate Committee

Tuesday 23 February 2021, 1.00pm

Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington

Members

Cr Nash (Chair)

Cr Lee (Deputy Chair)

Cr Brash

Cr Connelly

Cr Gaylor

Cr Kirk-Burnnand

Cr Laban

Cr van Lier

Dr Maria Bargh

Recommendations in reports are not to be construed as Council policy until adopted by Council

Climate Committee

Tuesday 23 February 2021, 1.00pm

Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington

Public Business

No.	Item	Report	Page
1.	Apologies		
2.	Conflict of interest declarations		
3.	Public participation		
4.	Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 8 December 2020	20.486	3
5.	Update on progress of action items from previous Climate Committee meetings	21.10	6
6.	Climate Emergency Response Programme status update	21.48	11
7.	Application to the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund February 2021	21.49	20
8.	Climate Change Commission report – draft advice on carbon budgets and national Emissions Reduction Plan	21.56	35
9.	Briefing on upcoming key external/central government moves on climate	Oral	



Please note these minutes remain unconfirmed until the Climate Committee meeting on 23 February 2020.

Report 20.486

Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on Tuesday 8 December 2020

Kotare Room at Ramaroa, Queen Elizabeth Park
Paraparaumu, at 9.37am

Members Present

Councillor Nash (Chair)
Councillor Brash
Councillor Connelly
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor van Lier
Dr Maria Bargh

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Connelly / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Lee.

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 22 September 2020 – Report 20.362

Moved: Cr van Lier / Cr Connelly

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Climate Committee meeting on 22 September 2020 – Report 20.362.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Update on progress of action items from previous meetings – Report 20.424 [for information]

Luke Troy, General Manager, Strategy, spoke to the report.

6 Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Update – Report 20.481 [for information]

Andrea Brandon, Programme Lead, Climate Change, spoke to the report.

Noted: The Committee requested that future Programme Status Updates include more information to explain why an action might be at risk, and frame the action to identify areas of accountability for the Climate Committee.

Noted: The Committee requested that officers review/undertake regional sector research on Marginal Abatement Cost curves to assist with both organisational and regional decision-making, and develop guidelines to share with the territorial authorities.

Noted: The Committee requested that officers collate the Wellington Region's territorial authorities' aspirations for climate action, and provide an update to the Committee on what regional actions are signalled across the Wellington Region's territorial authorities' Long Term Plans in relation to climate change to assess synergies and gaps.

Noted: The Committee requested that officers identify opportunities to run targeted advocacy now that the Government has declared a climate emergency by identifying the key Central Government agencies with sectoral responsibilities.

7 Emission Unit Management and Carbon Offsetting Options – Report 20.443

Tracy Plane, Manager, Strategic and Corporate Planning, Andrea Brandon, Programme Lead, Climate Change and Jake Roos, Climate Change Advisor, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Laban / Cr Brash

That the Committee:

- 1 Notes that there is both an opportunity cost to voluntary offsetting and uncertainty on the future of offsetting in New Zealand post-2020
- 2 Agrees to recommend that Council defers selling Greater Wellington's emissions units until the 2024-34 Long Term Plan
- 3 Agrees to recommend that Council continues to borrow against the value of those units to fund Council's Low Carbon Acceleration Fund for the first three years of the 2021-31 Long Term Plan, subject to any change in market conditions
- 4 Agrees to recommend that Council defer the decision regarding offsetting Greater Wellington's own emissions from 2025 onwards until there is sufficient clarity on the matter of voluntary offsetting.

The motion was **carried**.

Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 11.08am.

Councillor T Nash
Chair

Date:

Climate Committee
23 February 2021
Report 21.10



For Information

UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS CLIMATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS – FEBRUARY 2021

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Climate Committee (the Committee) on the progress of action items arising from previous Committee meetings.

Te horopaki

Context

2. Items raised at Committee meetings, that require actions by officers, are listed in the table of action items from previous Committee meetings ([Attachment 1](#) - Action items from previous Climate Committee meetings – February 2021). All action items include an outline of the current status and a brief comment.

Ngā hua ahumoni

Financial implications

3. There are no financial implications from this report, but there may be implications arising from the actions listed.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei

Next steps

4. Completed items will be removed from the action items table for the next report. Items not completed will continue to be progressed and reported. Any new items will be added to the table following this Committee meeting and circulated to the relevant business group/s for action.

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment**

Number	Title
1	Action items from previous Climate Committee meetings – February 2021

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writers	Tracy Plane, Manager, Strategic and Corporate Planning Luke Troy – Kaiwhakahaere Matua Rautaki/General Manager Strategy
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He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<i>Fit with Council's roles or Committee's terms of reference</i> The action items are of an administrative nature and support the functioning of the Committee.
<i>Implications for Māori</i> Māori have a vested interest in climate change issues to the extent identified in Attachment 1 .
<i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i> Action items contribute to Council's and Greater Wellington's related strategies, policies, and plans to the extent identified in Attachment 1 .
<i>Internal consultation</i> There was no internal consultation.
<i>Risks and impacts: legal / health and safety etc.</i> There are no known risks.

Attachment 1 to Report 21.10

Action items from previous Climate Committee meetings

Meeting date	Action	Status and comment
22 September 2020	<p>Applications to the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund – Report 20.333</p> <p>Resolution:</p> <p>Agrees to explore opportunities for local iwi to contribute to the design and implementation of the projects in recommendations 3 and 4.</p>	<p>Status: Completed</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Resources are requested through the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund to resource engagement and support for local iwi to contribute to the design and implementation of the Parks department projects that are funded through the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (see Report 21.49)</p>
8 December 2020	<p>Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Update – Report 20.281</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that future Programme Status Updates include more information to explain why an action might be at risk, and frame the action to identify areas of accountability for the Climate Committee.</p>	<p>Status: Completed</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Officers have noted the action. All future Programme Status Updates will include more information to explain why an action might be at risk, and frame the action to identify areas of accountability for the Climate Committee.</p>
8 December 2020	<p>Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Update – Report 20.281</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that officers review/undertake regional sector research on Marginal Abatement Cost (MAC) curves to assist with both organisational and regional decision-making, and dependent on findings develop advice to share with the territorial authorities.</p>	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Officers will review existing advice and guidance on the development of MAC curves and report back to the Committee on findings.</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 21.10**Action items from previous Climate Committee meetings**

Meeting date	Action	Status and comment
8 December 2020	<p>Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Update – Report 20.281</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that officers collate the Wellington Region’s territorial authorities’ aspirations for climate action, and provide an update to the Committee on what regional actions are signalled across the Wellington Region’s territorial authorities’ Long Term Plans in relation to climate change to assess synergies and gaps.</p>	<p>Status: Ongoing</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Information is currently being collated and will be reported back on at to a future Climate Committee meeting.</p>
8 December 2020	<p>Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Update – Report 20.281</p> <p>Noted:</p> <p>The Committee requested that officers identify opportunities to run targeted advocacy now that the Government has declared a climate emergency by identifying the key Central Government agencies with sectoral responsibilities.</p>	<p>Status: Completed</p> <p>Comment:</p> <p>Oral briefing has been prepared to deliver to the 23 February 2021 committee.</p>

Climate Committee
23 February 2021
Report 21.48



For Information

CLIMATE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAMME STATUS UPDATE

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To update the Climate Committee (the Committee) on the Climate Emergency Response Programme.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

Greater Wellington Climate Emergency Response Programme

2. Council declared a climate emergency in August 2019. This decision responds to the urgency climate change presents and encourages a step change in how Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) addresses climate change, both corporately and in how it uses its influence in the Wellington Region.
3. In order to demonstrate Council’s commitment to changing the status quo, the declaration of a climate emergency was strengthened by Council adopting two ten-point action plans - a Corporate Carbon Neutrality Action Plan and a Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan. These action plans are collectively referred to as the Greater Wellington Climate Emergency Response Programme (the Programme).
4. Officers have provided a status report on the Programme (**Attachment 1** - Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Report (February 2021)). The overall status of the Programme is on track for the quarter to February 2021. Greater Wellington continues to make progress with the resources it has. This is a large programme of work that will require significant funding to deliver on its outcomes. In recognition, delivering on climate action will be an overarching strategic priority for the 2021-31 Long Term Plan (LTP), as will the allocation of resources in line with the size of the task ahead.
5. An overview of the current status for each action plan item:

Action Plan	Complete	On track	At risk	Significant delays
Corporate Carbon Neutrality	0	10	0	0
Regional Climate Emergency	1	4	5	0

Te tātaritanga Analysis

Key achievements this quarter

6. A significant amount of work has gone into developing and workshopping potential scenarios regarding Greater Wellington's emissions pathways for the next 10 years. Completing this work is an essential step in understanding how Greater Wellington can reduce its carbon emissions in order to meet its climate goals. Reducing carbon emissions is one of the Chief Executive's Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Council has agreed to include two emissions reductions pathways in the 2021-31 LTP consultation document, including the most ambitious pathway that could be taken. Material is currently being prepared in line with this for the consultation phase for the 2021-31 LTP.
7. The two projects resourced through the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund in the 2020-21 financial year are underway. A new bid for funding from the Parks department, with support from the Biodiversity and Climate teams, has been submitted for the Committee's consideration (Low Carbon Acceleration Fund report February 2021 (Report 21,49)). This is to carry out the planning of the retirement from grazing, restoration of our regional parks, resource mana whenua engagement and support for the two projects currently underway and to bring in a new resource to manage the implementation of this programme of work, as currently proposed in the draft 2021-31 LTP.

Ngā hua ahumoni Financial implications

8. There are no direct financial implications from the matter for decision or this report. There may be financial implications over time as individual project analysis occurs, business cases are made and budget decisions are taken during the 2021-31 Long Term Plan process.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei Next steps

9. Updates will continue to be provided to each Committee meeting as the Programme progresses.

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment**

Number	Title
1	Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Report (February 2021)

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writer	Andrea Brandon – Programme Lead, Climate Change
Approvers	Tracy Plane – Manager, Strategic and Corporate Planning Luke Troy – General Manager, Strategy

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>Updating the Climate Committee on the Programme's status fits with its specific responsibility to "Oversee the development and review of Council's climate change strategies, policies, plans, programmes, and initiatives (including Council's Climate Emergency Response Programme); and recommend these matters (and variations) to Council for adoption."</p>
<p><i>Implications for Māori</i></p> <p>There are implications for mana whenua and Māori from this report. They will be impacted by the choice of emissions reduction pathways that Greater Wellington takes to meet its climate goals, and as a result of the bid for resourcing engagement with mana whenua for the approved LCA Fund projects. A mana whenua representative has not yet been appointed to the Committee, so their related views, or impacts on goals and aspirations are not reflected in this report.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>Much of the work carried out this quarter has been focussed on ensuring climate action is included in the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>The Strategic and Corporate Planning department were consulted in the development of this report.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>There are no identified risks relating to the content of this report.</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 21.48

Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Report (February 2021)

Corporate Carbon Neutrality Project

	Short description	Status Dec Q	Status Feb Q	Progress	% complete
1	Carbon policy	On track	On track	Policy endorsed by Executive Leadership Team (ELT), support package to accompany policy completed, policy launched mid-August, roll out to business underway for the 2021 calendar year	95
2	Chief Executive accountability	On track	On track	Completed for 20/21	100
3	Electricity supply	On track	On track	Meridian is our supplier and while renewable electricity certificates can be provided, whether these certificates can or should be used requires further investigation and consideration given Meridian is not expanding its electricity generation capacity. The status of the certificates in relation to emissions inventories is being considered by our carbon footprint certifier Toitū Envirocare as many of their other clients also have an interest in them.	90
4	Accelerate EV bus fleet	On track	On track	Work is currently underway to procure Electric Vehicle (EV) buses that will increase the electric bus fleet to 108 by December 2023. Planning for a largely decarbonised bus fleet by 2030 also continues, and is in the draft budget for the 2021-31 Long Term Plan.	25
5	Greater Wellington EV fleet	On track	On track	Internal EV charging infrastructure is increasing with our move to Cuba Street and new build in Masterton. Work continues on adopting the fleet optimisation review's findings. 21-36 vehicles are candidates for replacement with battery electric vehicles. A batch could be changed over once the parking building at Cuba St is completed in February 2021 and prior to the end of the financial year.	60
6	Off road EV supply	On track	On track	Awaiting market developments. Dependent on suitable vehicle being available – there is likely to be something in 2021/22.	5

Attachment 1 to Report 21.48

Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Report (February 2021)

	Short description	Status Dec Q	Status Feb Q	Progress	% complete
7	Parks reforestation	On track	On track	Resourcing the planning, liaison and management required to successfully phase out grazing and restore native vegetation is required. LCAF enabled restoration underway at 2 sites, 150 ha; Parks proposal to LCAF to plan remaining phase out, manage the programme of work, plus fund partnerships with mana whenua has been prepared for consideration.	10
8	Grazing phase out	On track	On track	Direction agreed through parks networks plan, phase out panning and management requires resourcing as above, implementation dependent on timing and land management funding, with \$26 million allocated in draft 2021-31 Long Term Plan for grazing phase down and park restoration	10
9	Align Council Controlled Organisation (CCO) targets	On track	On track	CCO's at different stages; Wellington Regional Stadium Trust still to confirm Statement Of Intent for 20/21 yr (due to COVID-19); WellingtonNZ plans to measure and reduce emissions; Wellington Water Limited (WWL) to set emissions reduction target; CentrePort have measured emissions, set a target for 2040 and have developed an emissions reduction plan. CentrePort are interested in ongoing knowledge-sharing and collaboration on carbon reduction with Greater Wellington.	10
10	Low-carbon fund	On track	On track	Fund operational, funding approved through 2020-21 Annual Plan. A third bid has been proposed for multiyear allocation.	80

Attachment 1 to Report 21.48

Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Report (February 2021)

Regional Climate Emergency Project

	Short description	Status Aug Q	Status Dec Q	Progress	% complete
1	Governance	Complete	Complete	Climate Committee established	100
2	Climate change impacts analysis	On track	On track	Tools reviewed, new guidance created, to build capability/capacity across business. Carbon policy completed, Climate Change Consideration guide revised. To be rolled out to the business through the change programme, now underway	30
3	Strategy review & GM champion assigned	On track	On track	General Manager (GM) Strategy is Programme Sponsor. New direction, set through the two 10-pt plans, provides components of a revised strategy, although overall approach yet to be determined.	50
4	Central Government advocacy	At risk	On track	Opportunities to advocate to central government on climate action have been identified for the 2021 calendar year in a briefing the Climate Committee. We are proactively working with the senior media advisor on media releases and ensure subject matter experts are available to respond and submit where able as the Government's work plan for the next two to three years is announced.	NA (ongoing)
5	Support the region's TAs to adapt	At risk	At risk	Two regional working groups established in previous triennium – Wellington Region Climate Change Working Group (WRCCWG) (councillor reps and mana whenua) meet quarterly, officer level equivalent meet 6-weekly, there is interest in working together across the region. The new Government has signalled comprehensive Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) reform, including in respect of adaptation, and the Wellington Regional Growth Framework (WRGF) kicks off in July this year. Both will provide Greater Wellington and the Climate Committee with the opportunity to progress this action, including providing	10

Attachment 1 to Report 21.48

Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Report (February 2021)

	Short description	Status Aug Q	Status Dec Q	Progress	% complete
				greater clarity on roles and responsibilities on local adaptation issues. We are workshopping the Climate Committee's role in regional action today.	
6	Technical research to support regional adaptation	At risk	At risk	Work underway, responsibilities lie across Greater Wellington teams and Wellington Region territorial authorities (TAs), WRGF interaction identified will improve alignment and lack of resourcing in this area. As above, the new Government has signalled comprehensive RMA reform, including reform to the approach to adaptation, and the WRGF kicks off in July this year. Both will provide Greater Wellington and the committee with more clarity and opportunities for progress. We are workshopping the Climate Committee's role in regional action today.	20
7	Funding	At risk	At risk	One Billion Trees (1BT), shovel-ready and jobs for nature funding will improve regional outcomes for climate, but is ad hoc. Opportunities for finding new funding opportunities are on the horizon, as outlined above.	10
8	Regional mitigation	At risk	At risk	Regional inventory completed for 2019. The Climate Change Commission's advice on national emissions reduction budgets and reduction plan have recently been released for consultation. This provides opportunities to influence and progress regional mitigation action. We are workshopping the Climate Committee's role in regional action today.	5
9	Increase forested area	At risk	At risk	Work underway with Greater Wellington Parks and with Hutt City Council. Additional action funded through 1BT, shovel-ready and jobs for nature. Underlying issues including partnering with iwi, TAs, communities, Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI), limited capacity to progress to date. However, there are opportunities for progressing regional afforestation as outlined above.	10

Attachment 1 to Report 21.48

Climate Emergency Response Programme Status Report (February 2021)

	Short description	Status Aug Q	Status Dec Q	Progress	% complete
10	Embed regional emissions reduction targets in key programmes	On track	On track	Good collaboration occurring with Regional Land Transport Plan, Wellington City Council and Let's Get Wellington Moving (LGWM) on agreeing targets, also strong climate focus in the WRGF, potential to work with WellingtonNZ on the economic transition approach, progress is being made	20

Climate Committee
23 February 2021
Report 21.49



For Decision

APPLICATION TO THE LOW CARBON ACCELERATION FUND FEBRUARY 2021

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To advise the Climate Committee (the Committee) on the application submitted for funding from the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (LCA Fund).

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. **Notes** the application for funding from the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (Attachment 1).
2. **Notes** the importance of a well-planned, sustainably resourced and tightly managed retirement and restoration programme to successfully achieving our climate goals for the organisation.
3. **Notes** the application is for \$620,000 (GST exclusive), to be allocated until 30 June 2024 as follows:

2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24
\$170,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
4. **Agrees** to recommend to Council that this application to the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund for a total of \$620,000 (GST exclusive) is approved.

Te tāhū kōrero

Background

2. The objective of the LCA Fund is to help Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) achieve the goal of becoming 'climate positive' by 2035 through funding projects that will reduce emissions and increase removals from Greater Wellington's corporate carbon footprint.
3. Council approved the design of the LCA Fund at its 9 April 2020 meeting (Design of the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (Report 20.112)). The LCA Fund, designed to help spur a step change in Greater Wellington's activities to reduce emissions and put it on track to achieve Council's carbon reduction goals (being carbon neutral by 2030, and climate positive by 2035), funds activities or initiatives that reduce net emissions more quickly and/or at a greater scale than otherwise would occur.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

4. The application to the LCA Fund is presented for consideration (**Attachment 1** – Low Carbon Acceleration Fund). The application is from the Parks department (Parks) at Greater Wellington, and this application has been supported by the Biodiversity and Climate Change teams.
5. The application seeks a total of \$620,000 (GST exclusive) to 30 June 2024, to be allocated as follows:

Item	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Parks Retirement & Restoration Plan	\$120,000			
Mana whenua engagement & support	\$50,000			
Parks Project Lead		\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Total	\$170,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000

6. The application was assessed following the Council approved process (Design of the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (Report 20.112)). The criteria for funding are:
 - a Dollars of funding sought per tonne of CO₂e emissions mitigated is lowest (implementation projects only).
 - b The project would not proceed without the extra funding.
 - c The project will have demonstrable emissions impact, particularly for Greater Wellington itself.
 - d The project has other wider benefits e.g. for biodiversity, contribution to freshwater outcomes.
 - e The level of ongoing rates impact once the funding allocation has been used.
 - f The project is of strategic importance to achieving Greater Wellington’s corporate carbon reduction targets.
 - g The project will help secure external funding for the project or related projects.
 This project meets criteria b, e and f, and g.
7. If Council approves this funding application, the Committee will receive and assess annual progress reports.

Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (LCA Fund)

8. A new bid for funding from Parks, with support from the Biodiversity and Climate Change teams, has been received for your consideration (**Attachment 1** - Low Carbon Acceleration Fund proposal). This is to carry out the planning for the retirement of grazing, restoration of our regional parks, resource mana whenua’s involvement in the projects resourced through the LCA Fund to date and bring in a new resource to manage the implementation of the new programme of work proposed in the draft 2021-31 Long Term Plan (LTP) (internally referred to as scenario “P1.5”).

The Parks Retirement and Restoration Plan - Summary

9. Funding is sought by Parks to design and implement a Parks Retirement and Restoration Plan, in line with actions and objectives set out in the Greater Wellington Climate Emergency Response, the Climate Committee's strategic priorities, the Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan 2020-30 (Toitū Te Whenua) and Council's emissions reduction pathways proposed in the draft 2021-31 LTP.
10. The proposed Parks Retirement and Restoration Plan will cover the next 10-15 years. It is important that grazing is phased out and indigenous ecosystems restored in a well-planned, sustainable manner across the Greater Wellington parks network. We have had strong direction from Council to phase out grazing from park land, most recently through the adoption of the Toitū Te Whenua.
11. However there are many operational considerations which make this a complicated exercise. This is why a clear plan to phase out grazing over the next 10-15 years is required, and it can then inform discussions with our communities. This will be a substantial piece of work and a fundamental step toward achieving Greater Wellington's organisational carbon neutrality targets and delivery of corporate climate objectives.
12. At its 22 September 2020 meeting, the Committee agreed to explore opportunities for local iwi to contribute to the design and implementation of the first two LCA funded projects (Report 20.362). Officers discussed this and agreed funding was required to enable engagement with mana whenua to occur.
13. The draft 2021-31 LTP contains an ambitious programme of work for Parks over the next 10-15 years. This programme will require additional resourcing to plan and operationalise its delivery and achieve the desired outcomes. The LCA fund bid proposes to bring in a new fixed-term full time resource for the next three years to implement this programme of work. This resource has not been budgeted for in the draft 2021-31 LTP. In order to reduce the impact on rates, it was considered that this role could instead be funded through the LCA fund.
14. LCA funding is therefore sought for the short-term appointment of a project consultant to plan the grazing rollback and restoration of retired land, in fulfilment of Greater Wellington's agreed corporate climate goals and emissions reduction pathways for Parks. Furthermore, funding is sought to resource the engagement and support of mana whenua for the two previously approved projects at Queen Elizabeth Park and Kaitoke Regional Park as requested by the September 2020 Climate Committee (Report 20.362). Thirdly, funding is sought to employ a Parks project lead on a fixed term basis to operationalise and begin delivery of the programme.
15. Funds are therefore being requested for the following additional resources:

Item	To 30 June 2021	Full bid
Plan - Consultant (3 months)	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000
Parks Project Lead (3 years FTE)	\$ 0	\$ 450,000
Mana whenua engagement and support	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
TOTAL	\$ 170,000	\$ 620,000

16. While this project has a high likelihood of success through adequate resourcing and project management, two risks have been identified:

- a It may be difficult to find the right people within the required timeframes
- b The budget allocated may not be sufficient.

The risk of not finding the right people for this work is being mitigated by bidding for the funding to get this underway now, rather than wait until the next financial year begins. The budgets allocated for the three parts of the project have been estimated by assessing this work in relation to existing and previous contracts of a similar scale and nature.

17. Officers recommend the application be approved.

Ngā hua ahumoni Financial implications

18. The financial implications of agreeing to this application sum to \$620,000. \$170,000 would be committed for the 2020/21 financial year, and \$450,000 over the following three years (i.e. \$150,000 per year from 2021/22-2023/24).
19. The current estimate of the fund's total value is now over \$10 million¹.
20. The LCA Fund's budget allocation in the 2020/21 Annual Plan is \$2 million, from which \$1.77 million has previously been allocated for the year to date. If this proposal is approved the allocation to 30 June 2021 would be \$1.94 million, meaning this year's allocation is almost at capacity.
21. Based on increasing carbon prices, there is \$8.16 million left in the LCA fund for the 2021/22 year onwards. Including this proposal, the remaining balance in the LCA Fund will fully fund the first three years of the Parks Retirement and Restoration programme and part of year four, as currently proposed in the draft 2021-31 LTP.

Te huritao ki te huringa o te āhuarangi Consideration of climate change

22. This proposal will contribute to Council's and Greater Wellington's policies and commitments relating to climate change by funding projects that support the work to reduce our corporate carbon footprint.
23. As this bid is for planning and managing implementation, carbon calculations are not required. We estimate, however, that if the Parks programme is well planned and carefully implemented it would ultimately result in reducing Greater Wellington's corporate carbon footprint by 16 percent of gross emissions and 37 percent of net emissions in the year 2030/31 compared with the 2018/19 base year². Planning,

¹ \$39.50/SPOT NZU (Source - CommTrade Carbon website <https://www.comtrade.co.nz/> accessed 4 February 2021)

² These are broad estimates and will be further refined as part of the initial planning phase of the Parks Retirement and Restoration Plan and outcome of the 2021-31 LTP process.

engaging and managing the implementation will be key to the success of this part of the overall programme.

24. The approach to reducing emissions from the proposed application is to successfully convert land use in our regional parks. We will retire grazing and restore the natural ecosystems that would have been present at those sites.
25. The impacts of climate change over the lifetime of the proposed project will be addressed by reducing the vulnerability of the land to extreme events and thereby increase its resilience to those impacts.

Ngā tikanga whakatau Decision-making process

26. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga Significance

27. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of the matters for decision, taking into account Council's *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington's *Decision-making Guidelines*. Officers consider that these matters are of low significance. Since the declaration of a Climate Emergency on 21 August 2019 by Council a certain level of public interest exists in Greater Wellington taking climate action generally as well as phasing out grazing. However, the matters are consistent with existing Council policy and strategy and do not impact on the Council's capability and capacity.

Te whakatūtakitaki Engagement

28. No engagement is considered necessary for this proposal.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei Next steps

29. If the Committee agrees to recommend funding the application, a report seeking Council's approval will be presented at the 25 February 2021 Council meeting.

**Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment**

Number	Title
1	Parks Department Low Carbon Acceleration Fund Application February 2021

**Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories**

Writer	Andrea Brandon – Programme Lead Climate Change
Approvers	Tracy Plane – Manager Strategic and Corporate Planning Luke Troy – General Manager Strategy

<p>He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations</p>
<p><i>Fit with Council’s roles or with Committee’s terms of reference</i></p> <p>The Committee’s consideration of the LCA Fund application fits with its role to consider and recommend applications suitable for funding to Council, being a key element of the Council approval process for funding activities or initiatives that reduce net emissions more quickly and/or at a greater scale than otherwise would occur.</p>
<p><i>Implications for Māori</i></p> <p>There are implications for Māori and mana whenua of the Committee recommending to Council that this application be approved. The planning of the grazing retirement and restoration activities that will reverse the degradation of regional park land will have implications for mana whenua, in particular at local sites. Funding is being sought to enable engagement of support for mana whenua to contribute to the design and implementation of the first two projects funded through the LCA Fund.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>This report contributes towards meeting Council’s goal to be carbon neutral by 2030.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>The Corporate Carbon Neutrality Project Steering Group, Parks Department, Biodiversity team, Environmental Science team and the Strategic and Corporate Planning team were consulted in the development of the proposal that is the subject of this report.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>Risks have been identified relating to the content or recommendations of this report and are addressed in paragraph 16.</p>

Attachment 1 to Report 21.49

Parks department Low Carbon Acceleration Fund application February 2021

PARKS DEPARTMENT LOW CARBON ACCELERATION FUND APPLICATION FEBRUARY 2021

Parks Retirement and Restoration Plan

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Parks department Low Carbon Acceleration Fund application February 2021

1. Introduction

This application is intended to fulfil the information requirements for the Project Development/Feasibility and project implementation categories of the Low Carbon Acceleration (LCA) Fund.

Funding is sought to design and manage the implementation of a Parks Retirement and Restoration Plan (PRRP), in line with actions and objectives set out in the Greater Wellington Climate Emergency Response, the Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan 2020-30 (Toitū Te Whenua) and Council's emissions reduction pathways proposed for the 2021-31 Long Term Plan (LTP).

2. Applicant

This application is provided on behalf of the Greater Wellington Parks department, with input from the Strategy and Biodiversity departments.

3. Proposed project

The purpose of the proposed PRRP is to plan and implement the phased retirement of grazed land, and support progressive restoration of indigenous forest ecosystems across the Greater Wellington parks network. This will be a substantial piece of work and a fundamental step toward achieving Greater Wellington's (GW) organisational carbon neutrality targets and delivery of corporate climate objectives. Restoration is at the core of the Toitū Te Whenua vision for regional parks and their management over the next ten years '*Restoring healthy ecosystems for the benefit of people and nature*'. '*He waka eke noa, we're all in this together moving forward*'.

LCA funding is sought for the short-term appointment of a project consultant to **plan** the grazing rollback and restoration of retired land, in fulfilment of GW's agreed corporate climate goals and emissions reduction pathways for Parks ("**the Programme**"). Furthermore, funding is sought to resource the **engagement and support of mana whenua** for the two previously approved projects at Queen Elizabeth Park and Kaitoke Regional Park as requested by the September 2020 Climate Committee. Thirdly, funding is sought to bring a Parks project lead in house to **operationalise and begin delivery** of the Programme.

Funding permitting, the PRRP project will run for just over three years, commencing March 2021 through to 30 June 2024. The remainder of the Programme to complete the planned retirement and restoration will be funded as business-as-usual through years 4-10 of the 2021-31 LTP.

3.1. Project background

In 2019, GW declared a 'climate emergency' and formally established emissions reduction targets for the organisation to become carbon neutral by 2030, and climate positive thereafter. Over the next 10 years this will require a substantial reduction in gross emissions across all its operations while also increasing its forest area to inset remaining emissions, enabling a rapid progression in carbon inset capability.

Of total corporate emissions in the 2018-19 year (our baseline), Wellington's regional parks contributed 20% (8,568 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalents), largely from the presence of livestock grazing. In the 2018-19 year, grazing licenses covered just under 1,900 hectares (similar to the area of Kāpiti Island) of GW managed land.

Attachment 1 to Report 21.49**Parks department Low Carbon Acceleration Fund application February 2021**

In declaring a 'climate emergency', GW also set out an immediate course of action in its Corporate Carbon Neutrality Action Plan¹ and Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan², identifying the reforestation of parks as a natural mechanism for combating the effects of climate change in the region. The plans direct:

- a review of the future of grazing licenses in regional parks and options to use this land for native reforestation where appropriate to earn carbon credits.
- the allocation of resources to accelerate reforestation in regional parks and plan future restoration phases.

These actions are backed by the inclusion of natural heritage, landscape, climate change and sustainability policies, goals, objectives and actions within the Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan 2020-30 (Toitū Te Whenua)³. This is a statutory management plan. To meet the Plan's policies, goals and rules, GW must identify where land use change can occur across its regional parks network, and commence native restoration of those areas. This means phasing out most grazing activities as licences conclude unless significant net recreation, conservation or community benefits can be demonstrated through the Assessment of Environmental Effects process (Plan policy 17P). Both of these actions are required to begin within the short term (i.e. 1-3 years).

In a step toward identifying carbon emissions reduction pathways, corporate decarbonisation scenario modelling was undertaken in late 2020. Two feasible scenarios⁴ were identified for GW regional parks that will assist in achieving corporate carbon reduction goals. One or both of these scenarios will be incorporated into the 2021-31 LTP consultation document:

- "Scenario P1": phase out 1,115 hectares of grazing over 15 years, restore native habitat. Estimated cost \$23.5 million.
- "Scenario P1.5": phase out 1,350 hectares of grazing over 10 years, restore native habitat. Estimated cost \$26.4 million.

The viability of either of these scenarios is underpinned by comprehensive strategic and operational oversight, which in turn, requires resourcing to support and manage it – beyond that currently available in the Parks department. LCA funding will facilitate the completion of a PRRP, and ensure that the programme is planned and undertaken strategically and successfully.

In September 2020, Council approved the first two projects for LCA funding; at Queen Elizabeth Park and Kaitoke Regional Park. At their September 2020 meeting, the Climate Committee agreed to explore opportunities for local iwi to contribute to the design and implementation of those two projects. While some work has begun, additional resources are required to enable both GW and mana whenua to truly partner with mana whenua and meet this goal.

3.2 PRRP outline and deliverables

The proposed PRRP will cover the full Programme to plan for and initiate:

¹ The **Corporate Carbon Neutrality Action Plan** can be read in full here:

<https://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Climate-change-2/Corporate-Carbon-Neutrality-Action-Plan.pdf>

² The **Regional Climate Emergency Action Plan** is available here: <https://www.gw.govt.nz/assets/Climate-change-2/Regional-Climate-Emergency-Action-Plan.pdf>

³ Toitū Te Whenua Parks Network Plan 2020-30, including the full chapter on climate change and sustainability goals/objectives/actions can be read here: www.gw.govt.nz/toitu-te-whenua-parks-network-plan-2020-2030/

⁴ For both scenarios, cost estimates exclude the value of emissions units earned from new forest and any contribution from the LCA fund.

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1. The phased retirement of grazed land within GW regional parks, in line with corporate climate goals in the 2021-31 LTP, and
2. The restoration of native vegetation on grazed land as it is retired. This includes land that has already been retired from grazing but does not have a restoration management plan in place.

Development of the PRRP would commence within the third quarter of the 2020-21 financial year (March 2021, or as soon as funding becomes available). The development timeline is broken down into two phases: a planning phase and an operational phase.

The planning phase will require the appointment of a consultant for 12 weeks (i.e. 1 April 2021 – 30 June 2021) to deliver:

- A desktop assessment, including gap analysis, of information and resources required to progressively retire grazing activities, and progressively restore forest ecosystems within regional parks, and
- The Parks Retirement and Restoration Plan: a report outlining the operational steps required to retire and restore grazed land, in line with the decarbonisation objectives set out in the Greater Wellington Climate Emergency Response, the Toitū Te Whenua guidance and the 2021-31 LTP.

The operational phase, intended to run concurrently to the planning phase and for the remainder of the project (i.e. 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2024), will require a Parks project lead to drive the PRRP, taking into account the Parks Master Planning Process.

In between these planning and operational stages we need to both engage and support mana whenua in the design and delivery of the first two LCA funded projects.

Development of the PRRP, engagement with mana whenua and completion of the Programme would not be possible without LCA funding. *Ad-hoc* retirement of grazing within regional parks may still occur as licenses expire, however this would be small scale and dependent on the availability of adequate resourcing in-house. This scenario raises a number of red flags and is unlikely to result in accomplishing GW's climate goals or Toitū Te Whenua targets for phasing out grazing.

The inputs and deliverables associated with the resources required have been mapped below, in Table 1. This is an indicative rather than exhaustive list.

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Parks department Low Carbon Acceleration Fund application February 2021

Table 1: PRRP project resources, deliverables and inputs/requirements.

Resource required	Deliverable(s)	Inputs/Requirements
Consultant - 12 weeks FTE	1. Desktop assessment (including gap analysis) of PRRP requirements and resources 2. The Parks Retirement and Restoration Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Baseline GIS info • Restoration priorities • Historic/archaeological sites • Mana whenua sites of significance and interests • Infrastructure access assessment • Grazing licences (expiry/conditions) • Recreation network • Assets inventory • Fire risk management • Rules assessment (National and Regional) • Pest management requirements • Biosecurity requirements • ETS requirements and technicalities • Management of organisational buy-in • Completion of progress reporting as required
Consultant	Engage and support mana whenua	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explore opportunities for local iwi to contribute to the design and implementation of the Queen Elizabeth Park and Kaitoke Regional Park projects
Parks project lead - FTE to 30 June 2024	Drive the PRRP, in alignment with the Master Planning Process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide support to the contractor during the planning phase (dependent on overlap) • Ensure ongoing PRRP alignment with the Parks Master Planning Process • Oversee and undertake administrative and operational aspects of implementing the PRRP.

3.3 PRRP governance

The consultants and Parks project lead would report to the Parks Manager. The Parks project lead would be responsible for regular PRRP progress reporting to the Parks manager, and to the Corporate Carbon Neutrality Project Steering Group and Toitū Te Whenua Parks Plan Implementation Steering Groups as required.

4. Carbon Reduction

We estimate that if this project is well planned and carefully implemented it would ultimately result in reducing Greater Wellington's corporate carbon footprint by 16% of gross emissions and 37% of net emissions in the year 2030/31 compared with the 2018/19 base year⁵.

⁵ These are broad estimates and will be further refined as part of the initial planning phase of the PRRP.

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Native restoration of retired grazing land will reduce gross emissions and increase sequestration rates in our regional parks. When establishing forests this will be conducted in a way that ensures the forest land definition will be met as prescribed under the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS). This means that as these new forests become eligible, they can be registered in the NZ ETS to earn carbon units (NZU's) as they grow and store carbon, providing they:

- Are a minimum contiguous area of 1 hectare,
- Are a minimum average width of 30 meters,
- Comprise woody tree species that at maturity will reach at least 5 meters in height (in that location), and
- Comprise sufficient tree species that at maturity will have 30% canopy cover on each hectare.

A recent carbon forest assessment was undertaken⁶ to determine the potential for further carbon forestry opportunities on both GWRC owned and reserve land. The desktop study identified potential land that could be eligible for ETS inclusion if afforested. 460 hectares of the grassland/scrubland were identified as being within Belmont Regional Park.

Further refinement of the potential for afforestation is required, however, including ground-truthing the findings of the desktop study, assessing for site suitability or growth potential for forest land and offset/sequestration modelling. This would be completed during the planning phase of the PRRP project, facilitated by the project consultant, using in-house expertise.

5. Costs

The total estimated cost for the proposed PRRP project is \$620,000. This is comprised of \$120,000 for the three month FTE appointment of a consultant; \$450,000 for a three-year FTE Parks Project Lead from 1 July 2021 through to project completion on 30 June 2024; and \$50,000 to resource mana whenua's involvement in the projects resourced through the LCA Fund to date and with the consultant to develop the PRRP.

\$2M was allocated in the 2020-21 Annual Plan to kick-start the carbon reduction work. To date just under \$1.8M has been allocated for two restoration projects; in the Queen Elizabeth and Kaitoke Regional parks. This proposal requests \$170,000 for the 2020-21 financial year, which, if approved, will remain within the allocated budget. No other funds are allocated to this work.

While the scale and speed at which GW will phase out grazing and restore parks is subject to the 2021-31 LTP process, and yet to be confirmed, the planning for this work and resource necessary to implement the restorations is still required.

Table 2: Costs requested for the proposed PRRP project

Costs requested	Estimate to 30 June 2021	Full bid
Consultant - 3 months	\$ 120,000	\$ 120,000
Parks Project Lead – 3 years FTE	\$ 0	\$ 450,000
Mana whenua engagement and support	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000
TOTAL	\$ 170,000	\$ 620,000

⁶ Carbon Forest Assessment of GWRC Owned and Reserve Land:
<http://ourspace.gw.govt.nz/project/crpcnp/desspec/Carbon%20forest%20assessment%20report%20October%202020.pdf?Web=1>

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The consultant costs are estimated assuming it will take 12 weeks (at \$200/hour), plus \$24,000 for expenses (where reasonable/if required). The resourcing for mana whenua engagement and support is based on other successful engagement approaches that were undertaken during the development of the Toitū Te Whenua development. Mana whenua engagement and support requested here is to provide resource for the two existing projects, at Queen Elizabeth and Kaitoke Regional parks. It is expected all future restoration projects will include resourcing to enable mana whenua to partner with GW with the design and implementation of the full ten year Programme. The Parks Project Lead role is estimated at the mid-point of the project lead range (i.e. Grade 17) level. It is assumed that this role does not require its own vehicle.

6. Co-benefits

The PRRP and its initiation will provide a number of benefits beyond its contribution to achieving organisational carbon neutrality targets and delivery of corporate climate objectives. These, as well as some of the expected wider programme co-benefits, are outlined below.

6.1. PRRP co-benefits

The appointment of dedicated resources for the PRRP may enhance collaboration across GW departments, particularly for work streams and projects that overlap the programme. Both the consultant and the project manager will have a degree of insight across the Environment Management, Strategy and Catchment Management departments, and can, where appropriate, promote opportunities for groups to work together and utilise resources more effectively.

The PRRP and wider programme also represents an opportunity for GW to strengthen kaitiaki partnerships by collaborating with Iwi on approaches, interests, and values associated with indigenous vegetation restoration across the Parks network. Partnership with Iwi is crucial in developing and implementing the 10-year restoration programme in line with Toitū Te Whenua goals and objectives. It is therefore logical and valuable for the PRRP to plan and allow for this properly and appropriately.

A well planned and executed PRRP will also ensure that fire risk in retired grazing areas is managed and mitigated effectively. Unlike native bush, areas that have been utilised for livestock grazing purposes are more open and tend to be drier, with an abundance of grasses, weeds and exotic shrubs. For that reason, retired grazing areas require active fire risk management. This will be facilitated through the PRRP and managed on an ongoing basis by the Parks project lead as restoration of grazed land is completed.

6.2. Wider programme co-benefits

A well-delivered restoration programme for retired grazing land will support multiple ecological benefits. Most critically, it enhances the habitat of native terrestrial plants, animals and insects, and particularly of our regionally threatened and at risk species (e.g. the red-crowned parakeet, rifleman, ngahere and barking geckos, ornate and brown skinks, to name just a few). Native restoration would also improve linkages and corridors between remnant native bush, connecting wildlife populations and improving their resilience to pests.

Soil has important water filtration, contaminant removal, and nutrient recycling functions which are reduced when vegetation is cleared. By restoring native vegetation (particularly tree species), the quality and function of soils is enhanced which, in turn, has positive outcomes for freshwater ecosystems, such as limiting nutrients and contaminants from impacting them.

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Parks department Low Carbon Acceleration Fund application February 2021

Vegetation cover also enhances soil stabilisation and subsurface transport of water to streams, subsequently reducing overland flow and associated erosion and soil loss. This reduces sedimentation impacts in aquatic ecosystems. This will significantly benefit aquatic ecosystem health in rivers and streams within GW regional parks (particularly vital for regionally threatened fish and invertebrates) as well as protecting and improving water quality for recreational enjoyment.

7. Risks

We believe that this project has a high likelihood of success through adequate resourcing and project management.

Two main risks have been identified:

1. It may be difficult to find the right people within the required timeframes
2. The budget allocated may not be sufficient.

The risk of not finding the right people for this work is being mitigated by bidding for the funding to get this underway now, rather than wait until the next financial year begins. The budgets allocated for the three parts of the project have been estimated by assessing this work in relation to existing and previous contracts of a similar scale and nature.

8. Carbon Calculations

As this bid is for planning and managing implementation, carbon calculations are not required. The carbon calculations for the success of the Programme as a whole are provided above in Section 4.

Climate Committee
23 February 2021
Report 21.56



For Decision

CLIMATE CHANGE COMMISSION REPORT - DRAFT ADVICE ON CARBON BUDGETS AND NATIONAL EMISSIONS REDUCTION PLAN

Te take mō te pūrongo

Purpose

1. To brief the Climate Committee (the Committee) on the publication of the Climate Change Commission (the Commission)'s first draft package of advice to the Government on the steps Aotearoa New Zealand must take to drastically reduce greenhouse gas emissions and address climate change; and the opportunity for Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington) to submit to the Commission on its draft advice.

He tūtohu

Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1 **Notes** the Commission is recommending a range of key transitions to Government that will have implications for regional and local government including Greater Wellington.
- 2 **Notes** consultation is open until 14 March 2021.
- 3 **Agrees** to take a targeted approach focussed on a small number of key areas, for a Greater Wellington submission, to provide the best chance of influencing the final product for the benefit of the Wellington region.
- 4 **Agrees** to the areas of particular focus for the submission.

Te horopaki

Context

2. The Commission published its first draft package of advice to the Government on 31 January 2021. The draft advice covers:
 - a the level of the first three five-yearly emissions budgets that will put Aotearoa on track to meeting its domestic 2030 and 2050 emissions targets, and
 - b the direction of policy that should be included in the Government's first emissions reduction plan.

The full report can be read here: <https://www.climatecommission.govt.nz/get-involved/our-advice-and-evidence/>.

3. Consultation opened on Monday February 1 2021 and runs until Sunday March 14 2021.

Te tātaritanga Analysis

4. The Commission's first package of advice for the Government outlines the "transformational and long lasting change" required in order to reach the Government's emissions reduction targets. The targets are net zero long-lived gases (e.g., CO₂) by 2050 and reducing biogenic methane emissions by between 24 percent and 47 percent by 2050. The Commission's advice includes setting three five-year emissions budgets, taking us out to 2035. The Commission was handed these tasks when it was set up under the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Act 2019.
5. The Commission notes that its advice is proposed to speed up the changes required to meet the Government's targets as current policies and measures will not get us there.
6. The Commission's advice on the key transitions required is summarised and these are provided in **Attachment 1** (Climate Change Commission report – summary table of key transitions).
7. Greater Wellington's Climate officers are working with key departments across Greater Wellington as well as with the Wellington Region Climate Change officers group to analyse the impacts and implications of the Commission's draft advice to inform a submission.
8. While the overall pathway described aligns well with Greater Wellington's plans for decarbonisation, there are also likely conflicting impacts and the potential for perverse outcomes that need to be understood.
9. The advice covers all sectors of the economy, is extensive, highly technical and detailed, and will likely attract a large volume of submissions. Taking a targeted approach, therefore, will provide the best chance of influencing the draft advice.
10. Key areas of focus for a Greater Wellington submission are proposed to be:
 - a Increasing mode shift goals, while reducing capacity pressure on delivery
 - b Improving capacity, accessibility, frequency and efficiency of the public transport network
 - c Fast-tracking the electrification of the public transport fleet
 - d Expanding the advice to increase the focus on natural solutions, including incentives to protect and enhance terrestrial carbon sinks.
11. The Commission is now consulting on all aspects of its draft advice and seeking feedback by March 14 before it provides its final advice to the Government at the end of May 2021.

Ngā hua ahumoni
Financial implications

12. There are no direct financial implications from the matter for decision or this report. There may be financial implications over time when and to what extent the Government implements the Commission’s advice.

Ngā tikanga whakatau
Decision-making process

13. The matters requiring decision in this report were considered by officers against the decision-making requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Te hiranga
Significance

14. Officers considered the significance (as defined by Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002) of the matters for decision, taking into account Council's *Significance and Engagement Policy* and Greater Wellington’s *Decision-making Guidelines*. Officers consider that these matters are of low significance. The matters are consistent with existing Council policy and strategy and do not impact on the Council’s capability and capacity.

Te whakatūtakitaki
Engagement

15. Engagement is not considered necessary for this report.

Ngā tūāoma e whai ake nei
Next steps

16. Officers will draft up the submission and circulate it with the Committee members for review and approval.

Ngā āpitihanga
Attachment

Number	Title
1	Climate Change Commission report – summary table of key transitions

Ngā kaiwaitohu
Signatories

Writer	Andrea Brandon – Programme Lead Climate Change
Approver	Tracy Plane – Manager Strategic and Corporate Planning Luke Troy – General Manager Strategy

He whakarāpopoto i ngā huritaonga Summary of considerations
<p><i>Fit with Council's roles or with Committee's terms of reference</i></p> <p>Reviewing and submitting on the Climate Change Commission's draft advice to Government fits with the Committee's specific responsibility to provide effective leadership on climate change for the organisation and the region to reduce greenhouse gas emission and ensure a climate resilient future for the Wellington Region.</p>
<p><i>Implications for Māori</i></p> <p>The Commission's advice will likely have multiple and conflicting impacts for Māori, as big investors in farming, including dairy, and as forestry owners. A mana whenua representative has not yet been appointed to the Committee, so their related views, or impacts on goals and aspirations are not reflected in this report.</p>
<p><i>Contribution to Annual Plan / Long Term Plan / Other key strategies and policies</i></p> <p>Ensuring Greater Wellington's views are advocated for within the Government's climate mitigation planning contributes towards Council's climate goals.</p>
<p><i>Internal consultation</i></p> <p>No internal consultation was undertaken for this report.</p>
<p><i>Risks and impacts - legal / health and safety etc.</i></p> <p>No risks or impacts have been identified for this report.</p>

Climate Change Commission report – Key transitions and implications for Greater Wellington

	Sector	Budget 1	Budget 2	Budget 3
<i>Transport</i>	Road transport	Accelerate Electric Vehicle uptake Improve average efficiency of new ICE vehicles		Phase out new light ICE ¹ vehicles by 2032 Electrify medium and heavy trucks
	Reducing travel demand	Encourage remote working for those who can. Encourage switching to walking, cycling and public transport		
	Non-road transport	Electrification of rail	Biofuel blending Start electrification of ferries and coastal shipping	
<i>Heat, Industry and Power</i>	Buildings	No new gas heating systems installed after 2025 Improve thermal efficiency		Start phase out of gas in buildings
	Electricity	Phase out fossil base- load generation	Transmission and distribution grid upgrades Reduce geothermal emissions	Expand renewable generation base Achieve ~95% renewable generation
	Industrial process heat	Replace coal with biomass and electricity		Replace gas with biomass and electricity
<i>Land</i>	Agriculture	Adopt low emissions practices on-farm	Adopt low emissions breeding for sheep	Encourage the adoption of new low methane technologies when available
	Native Forests	Ramp up establishing new native forests		Establish 25,000 hectares per year
	Exotic Forests	Average 25,000 hectares per year of new exotic plantation forests		Ramp down planting new exotic plantation forests for carbon storage

¹ Internal combustion engine

Climate Change Commission report – Key transitions and implications for Greater Wellington

Waste and F-Gases²	Waste	Divert organic waste from landfill and improve and extend landfill gas capture
	Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs)	Reduce import of HFCs in second-hand products Increase end-of-life recovery

Table 3.1: Key transitions along our path. Excerpt from the Climate Change Commission’s 31 January 2021 Draft Advice for Consultation (<https://ccc-production-media.s3.ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/public/evidence/advice-report-DRAFT-1ST-FEB/ADVICE/CCC-ADVICE-TO-GOVT-31-JAN-2021-pdf.pdf>)

² Fluorinated gases