

Resilient Westport Steering Group Meeting Minutes

Friday, 27th September 2024, 10:00am – 12:30pm

Ellery's Meeting Room, Palmerston St, Westport and via Zoom

Present:

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| Mike Mendonça (Chair) | Brett Cummings, Deputy Chair WCRC |
| Mayor Jamie Cleine, BDC | Simon Pickford, CEO BDC |
| Peter Haddock, Chair WCRC | Paul Barker, DIA |
| Darryl Lew, CEO WCRC | Simon Chambers, NEMA |
| Deputy Mayor Andrew Basher, BDC | |

In attendance:

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|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Paul Zaanen, BDC | Penny Bicknell, Programme Manager |
| Brent Oldham, BDC | Peter Blackwood, WCRC |
| Stephanie Newburry | Ilana Batchelor, WCRC |
| Daniel Bellam, DIA | Chantel Mills, WCRC |
| Christine Blair, WCRC | |
| <i>For Item 12 only, via Zoom:</i> | |
| Michael Mills, Martin Jenkins | Susan Burns, Martin Jenkins |
| <i>For item 17 only:</i> | |
| Helen Kerr, Isthmus | David Irwin, Isthmus |
| Brad Ward, Isthmus | Tom Holden, Isthmus |

1. Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed Steering Group members and those in attendance.

2. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Francois Tumahai and Claire Brown (WCRC).

3. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were submitted.

4. Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 26th July were confirmed.

5. Status Report, Financial Dashboard

Reports were presented to the Steering Group. The Steering Group:

- Complimented the authors on the quality of the report and dashboard.
- Noted that a bund near Talley's (Floating Lagoon) may need to be removed before construction of the floating lagoon stop bank can be built.
- Noted that WCRC will assess the integrity of the bund and check ownership.

6. Programme risk register

The programme risk register was presented to the Steering Group. The Steering Group:

- Noted that RW004 integration of stormwater systems is now a significant issue.
- Noted that RW005 affordability of stormwater infrastructure is also prominent and residual risk may need to be upgraded.
- Noted the additional risk identified under agenda item 8 – Quarterly Report.

7. Update from DIA

DIA is due to update the Minister of Local Government on the Resilient Westport package. The update will focus on the integration of stormwater with the structural flood protection and planning and consenting of housing development in Westport.

DIA noted the work underway to integrate stormwater with the structural flood protection (agenda item 12). This is linked to the development of the Water Services Delivery Plan.

DIA is sharing the adaptation fund workshop results with interested Government agencies including the Ministry for the Environment.

8. Quarterly report

The Steering Group noted the contents of the Quarterly Report. The Steering Group raised a new risk of construction delay beyond June 2026 and the potential for Government to not approve shifting funds to FY2027. This is to be recorded in the Risk Register.

The Steering Group noted that:

- Budgeted funds allocated in financial years 2025 and 2026 need to be confirmed before November 2024.
- DIA acknowledged the effort to add new financial information to the quarterly report and requested that the following quarterly reports include reporting on variances against budgeted expenditure.

9. WCRC drawdown request

The Steering Group endorsed the request by WCRC to drawdown funds of \$281,697.40 plus GST from DIA for reimbursement of costs incurred between 1st February 2024 and 30th June 2024 by Council for:

- Final design works completed at McKenna's, Avery's, and the Floating Lagoon structural flood protection sites (\$124,118.85 plus GST) for the period 1st February 2024 to 30th June 2024, and
- Initial design works completed across the overall scheme (excluding the three aforementioned sites) and including the Buller Bridge (\$157,578.55 plus GST) for the period 1st February 2024 to 30th June 2024.

10. Summary of Secretariat drawdowns and expenditure

The Chair recused himself and the agenda item was chaired by Simon Pickford. The Steering Group noted the Summary of Secretariat drawdowns and expenditure report.

11. Progress update on Preliminary Designs

The Steering Group noted the Preliminary Designs progress update report.

12. Stormwater integration update

The Chair introduced the item in the context of the PARA framework.

BDC provided an overview of the draft stormwater report. BDC intends to revisit the draft in light of PARA, and to consider a wider range of stormwater options with a view to identifying a more affordable stormwater design. The Auckland Council Healthy Waters & Flood Resilience group has offered to provide support in this regard, and the Steering Group supported approaching this group with a view to eliciting advice and support.

The Steering Group requested an update on stormwater design at the next Steering Group meeting.

13. Adaptation fund

Martin Jenkins advisors tabled an overview of the adaptation fund workshop results. Key results included:

- a view that the design of the flood walls should avoid creating any adverse effects on properties.
- The fund should not allocate funding for administration of the \$2 million of funding available for adaptation.

It would be preferable to have more clarity about the structural flood protection design before making adaptation fund decisions.

The Steering Group discussed next steps and actions required for implementation of the \$2 million adaptation relief fund. Further discussion will take place after WCRC has completed its work on potential flood mitigation solutions for the Snodgrass area.

14. Emergency Management project update

The Steering Group was updated on the Resilient Westport Emergency Management Project. WCRC highlighted the need to connect Emergency Management with work on residual flood risk to ensure an integrated PARA approach is maintained.

15. Risk Assessment – Westport Office

The Steering Group discussed the report and was provided assurance from BDC and WCRC that the risk of aggressive interactions with members of the public was adequately mitigated by the Councils.

16. Communications and Engagement update

The Steering Group **noted** the communications and engagement update report. Most communications activities are either underway or are ready to be released. The Steering Group was advised that John Campbell visited Westport to report on master planning and climate adaptation. The feature is expected to air in mid-October.

17. Master Planning Update

BDC provided an overview of the context and the strong level of support for the work coming through the stakeholder workshops.

Isthmus briefed the Steering Group on the design work completed to date. Isthmus have engaged with 142 stakeholders and has socialised strategic thinking around a future Resilient Westport.

18. Next Meeting

The next Steering Group meeting will be on 29th November. The Secretariat will propose dates for meetings in 2025.

MEETING CLOSED – 12:30pm