

 Far North District Council <i>Te Kaunihera o Tai Tokerau ki te Raki</i>	Authorising Body	Mayor/Council
	Status	Standing Committee
COUNCIL COMMITTEE	Title	Strategy and Policy Committee Terms of Reference
	Approval Date	19 December 2019
	Responsible Officer	Chief Executive

Purpose

The purpose of the Strategy and Policy Committee (the Committee) is to set direction for the district, determine specific outcomes that need to be met to deliver on that vision, and set in place the strategies, policies and work programmes to achieve those goals.

In determining and shaping the strategies, policies and work programme of the Council, the Committee takes a holistic approach to ensure there is strong alignment between the objectives and work programmes of the strategic outcomes of Council, being:

- Better data and information
- Affordable core infrastructure
- Improved Council capabilities and performance
- Address affordability
- Civic leadership and advocacy
- Empowering communities

The Committee will review the effectiveness of the following aspects:

- Trust and confidence in decision-making by keeping our communities informed and involved in decision-making;
- Operational performance including strategy and policy development, monitoring and reporting on significant projects, including, but not limited to:
 - FN2100
 - District wide strategies (Infrastructure/ Reserves/Climate Change/Transport)
 - District Plan
 - Significant projects (not infrastructure)
 - Financial Strategy
 - Data Governance
 - Affordability
- Consultation and engagement including submissions to external bodies / organisations

To perform his or her role effectively, each Committee member must develop and maintain his or her skills and knowledge, including an understanding of the Committee's responsibilities, and of the Council's business, operations and risks.

Power to Delegate

The Strategy and Policy Committee may not delegate any of its responsibilities, duties or powers.

Membership

The Council will determine the membership of the Strategy and Policy Committee.

The Strategy and Policy Committee will comprise of at least seven elected members (one of which will be the chairperson).

Mayor Carter
Rachel Smith – Chairperson
David Clendon – Deputy Chairperson
Moko Tepania
Ann Court
Felicity Foy
Dave Collard
John Vujcich

Non-appointed councillors may attend meetings with speaking rights, but not voting rights.

Quorum

The quorum at a meeting of the Strategy and Policy Committee is 5 members.

Frequency of Meetings

The Strategy and Policy Committee shall meet every 6 weeks, but may be cancelled if there is no business.

Committees Responsibilities

The Committees responsibilities are described below:

Strategy and Policy Development

- Oversee the Strategic Planning and Policy work programme
- Develop and agree strategy and policy for consultation / engagement;
- Recommend to Council strategy and policy for adoption;
- Monitor and review strategy and policy.

Service levels (non regulatory)

- Recommend service level changes and new initiatives to the Long Term and Annual Plan processes.

Policies and Bylaws

- Leading the development and review of Council's policies and district bylaws when and as directed by Council
- Recommend to Council new or amended bylaws for adoption

Consultation and Engagement

- Conduct any consultation processes required on issues before the Committee;
- Act as a community interface (with, as required, the relevant Community Board(s)) for consultation on policies and as a forum for engaging effectively;
- Receive reports from Council's Portfolio and Working Parties and monitor engagement;
- Review as necessary and agree the model for Portfolios and Working Parties.

Strategic Relationships

- Oversee Council's strategic relationships, including with Māori, the Crown and foreign investors, particularly China
- Oversee, develop and approve engagement opportunities triggered by the provisions of Mana Whakahono-ā-Rohe under the Resource Management Act 1991
- Recommend to Council the adoption of new Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)
- Meet annually with local MOU partners
- Quarterly reviewing operation of all Memoranda of Understanding
- Quarterly reviewing Council's relationships with iwi, hapū, and post-settlement governance entities in the Far North District
- Monitor Sister City relationships
- Special projects (such as Te Pū o Te Wheke or water storage projects)

Submissions and Remits

- Approve submissions to, and endorse remits for, external bodies / organisations and on legislation and regulatory proposals, provided that:
 - If there is insufficient time for the matter to be determined by the Committee before the submission "close date" the submission can be agreed by the relevant Portfolio Leaders, Chair of the Strategy and Policy Committee, Mayor and Chief Executive (all Councillors must be advised of the submission and provided copies if requested).
 - If the submission is of a technical and operational nature, the submission can be approved by the Chief Executive (in consultation with the relevant Portfolio Leader prior to lodging the submission).
- Oversee, develop and approve any relevant remits triggered by governance or management commencing in January of each calendar year.
- Recommend to Council those remits that meet Council's legislative, strategic and operational objectives to enable voting at the LGNZ AGM. All endorsements will take into account the views of our communities (where possible) and consider the unique attributes of the district.

Fees

- Set fees in accordance with legislative requirements unless the fees are set under a bylaw (in which case the decision is retained by Council and the committee has the power of recommendation) or set as part of the Long Term Plan or Annual Plan (in which case the decision will be considered by the Long Term Plan and Annual Plan and approved by Council).

District Plan

- Review and approve for notification a proposed District Plan, a proposed change to the District Plan, or a variation to a proposed plan or proposed plan change (excluding any plan change notified under clause 25(2)(a), First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991);
- Withdraw a proposed plan or plan change under clause 8D, First Schedule of the Resource Management Act 1991;
- Make the following decisions to facilitate the administration of proposed plan, plan changes, variations, designation and heritage order processes:
 - To authorise the resolution of appeals on a proposed plan, plan change or variation unless the issue is minor and approved by the Portfolio Leader District Plan and the Chair of the Regulatory committee.
 - To decide whether a decision of a Requiring Authority or Heritage Protection Authority will be appealed to the Environment Court by council and authorise the resolution of any such appeal.
 - To consider and approve council submissions on a proposed plan, plan changes, and variations.
 - To manage the private plan change process.
 - To accept, adopt or reject private plan change applications under clause 25 First Schedule Resource Management Act (RMA).

Rules and Procedures

Council's Standing Orders and Code of Conduct apply to all the committee's meetings.

Annual reporting

The Chair of the Committee will submit a written report to the Chief Executive on an annual basis. The review will summarise the activities of the Committee and how it has contributed to the Council's governance and strategic objectives. The Chief Executive will place the report on the next available agenda of the governing body.