

**Minutes of Open Meeting No. SG23/12 of the SmartGrowth Leadership Group
held on 18 December 2023
at Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 1 Elizabeth Street, Tauranga**

Present

Chairperson	Andrew Turner
Bay of Plenty Regional Council	Cr. Jane Nees Cr. Stuart Crosby Cr. Ron Scott (alternate)
Tauranga City Council Commissioners	Anne Tolley Stephen Selwood Shad Rolleston (alternate)
Western Bay of Plenty District Council	Mayor James Denyer Cr. John Scrimgeour Cr. Don Thwaites
Tāngata Whenua Representatives	Matire Duncan Geoff Rice Whitiora McLeod Riki Nelson
Minister for Local Government	Richard Ward (alternate) Caroline Dumas (alternate)
Minister for Housing	Brad Ward (alternate)
Waka Kotahi	David Speirs (Non-voting)
Western Bay of Plenty Transport System Plan	Shaun Jones (alternate)
Priority One	Nigel Tutt (Non-voting)
Quorum	11
Meeting Frequency	Quarterly

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 21 March 2024

In Attendance**SmartGrowth**

Craig Batchelar – SmartGrowth Strategic Advisor
Nichola Leonard – SmartGrowth Technical Advisor
Te Pio Kawe – SmartGrowth Pou Ārahi Advisor
Elva Conroy – SmartGrowth Kai Arahi Advisor
Juanita Assink – SmartGrowth Coordinator

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Antoine Coffin – Manager: Spatial Planning
Adam Fort – Principal Advisor: Strategic Planning

Tauranga City Council

Marty Grenfell – Chief Executive
Christine Jones – General Manager, Strategy, Growth & Governance

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Tracey Miller – Strategic Advisor: Resource Management

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

John McDonald – Partnership Director, Place-Based Strategy
Rebecca Tong – Principal Advisor

Kainga Ora

Darren Toy – Regional Director: Bay of Plenty

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SG23/12.01 KARAKIA TĪMATANGA

Antoine Coffin opened the meeting with a Karakia.

SG23/12.02 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Cr. Paula Thompson, Sarah Mitchell, Commissioner Bill Wasley.

Apologies for lateness received from Whitiora McLeod.

Moved: Andrew Turner / Seconded: Matire Duncan

That it be Resolved

That the apologies were accepted.

CARRIED**SG23/12.03 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest were declared.

SG23/12.06 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – SMARTGROWTH LEADERSHIP GROUP (SG23/09) – DATED 13 SEPTEMBER 2023 (PAPER A)

The Committee considered the minutes of the SmartGrowth Leadership Group (SG23/09) dated 13 September 2023 circulated with the agenda.

Moved: Commissioner Anne Tolley / Seconded: Cr. John Scrimgeour

That it be Resolved

That the minutes of the SmartGrowth Leadership Group (SG23/09) dated 13 September 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED**SG23/12.07 QUARTERLY REPORT (PAPER B)**

Craig Batchelar spoke to the Quarterly Report (Paper B) which was taken as read.

- Programme update noting the focus has been on the SmartGrowth Strategy and FDS development.
- KPI dashboards now uploaded to the SmartGrowth website, ongoing work in progress with changes which may flow out of strategy review, FDS and and Implementation and Funding Plan.

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- Notes industrial land study with the technical work completed. Further Investigations report is uploaded to the SG website, noting will be part of consideration by the Hearings Panel.
- Inter-regional transport work – investment plan across the two regions,
- Notes the completion of the Rotorua FDS who are moving into implementation of the plan.
- New government policy changes which are moving at pace. Working to identify the changes which will influence SmartGrowth work over the next 3-6 months, with close monitoring being required whilst developing the strategy.
- New government policy which may require zoning / plan enabled land in a single stage rather than 3, 10 and 30 year stages. Regardless, the delivery of development is subject to affordable provision of infrastructure.
- Industrial Land Study “Further Investigations” report is for information only. Concern was raised that the report had not been discussed with WBOPDC Elected Members. It was confirmed the Hearings Panel will connect with WBOPDC prior to deliberations.
- Shad Rolleston took the time to remember and reflect on the passing of Jo Gravit who made a significant contribution to the Western Bay, the Te Puna community and to SmartGrowth since its inception.
- Submission was made to the Rotorua FDS addressing cooperation and regional transport – document was reviewed and consistent with what has been seen around land use strategy over several years.
- FDS was signed off by BOPRC and RLDC on 22 November 2023, with limited new land added in in response to submissions. Ngongotaha potential impact on SH36 with SG and Waka Kotahi both putting in a submission on this, with a request for supplementary transport assessment to provide more guidance.
- Transport and housing were areas that came up through the Hearings with the panel needing to consider both areas along with links between both. Both areas are working in silos of their own which need to be better linked into the SG structure ensuring transport and housing are on the radar on a fully integrated way.
- Discussions have been held around potential changes to SG structure, meeting schedules and the way we do things as we move from strategy development to implementation, as well as looking to simplify and declutter. Noted that the scope, structure and processes had grown over time with the purpose of SG becoming less clear.
- Whilst coming to grips with tangata whenua and infrastructure projects – Waiari, TCC Programme Business Case and 15th Avenue to Welcome Bay along with other large infrastructure projects – future proof strategy, Industrial Land Study, can we also look to do a study on servicing Māori land with connections to infrastructures that are going under / over or right next to Māori land?
- Transport and land use integration – need to clearly understand this as at least a 3-way piece – transport, housing & jobs to be integrated, along with link to housing & jobs being fundamental which is a key driver for TCC. 70% of jobs are in the Western Corridor. Work trips generate a lot of traffic.

Moved: Cr. Stuart Crosby / Seconded: Mayor James Denyer

That it be Resolved:

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 21 March 2024

That the SmartGrowth Leadership Group:

1. **Receives** the report.

CARRIED

SG23/12.08 TU PAKARI UPDATE (PAPER C)

Te Pio Kawe and Elva Conroy spoke to Tu Pakari Update (Paper C), which was taken as read.

- A lot of work has been undertaken to endeavour to achieve the priorities of the Combined Tangata Whenua Forum to progress the SmartGrowth strategy, participation in the hearings and deliberations as move towards 2024 for approval / adoption.
- Consistently raising issues around Māori housing and opening of Māori land through infrastructure.
- Progressing national data from MHUD in terms of Māori Housing to create a dashboard, overview and what is the picture of Māori housing over the Western Bay and how this can be progressed.
- Collaboration between TCC and Western Bay as part of pivotal action in moving forward.
- Tu Pakari report is clearly showing the work of communications going through SmartGrowth.
- CTWF is an engagement strategy, is not a replacement for consultation with Mana Whenua. The onus of the actual engagement and developing those treaty relationships lie between the respective iwi, hapu and SmartGrowth partners. We provide opportunity to raise collective issue and opportunities for Hapu and Iwi to make direct engagement with Toi Moana, TCC, WBOPDC as a way to address their collective issues.
- CTWF met 5 times over 2023. Regular sessions on the strategy across the meetings. A lot more guest presentations in 2023 as way to connect with projects & strategies.
- Personal highlight from Gia Nelson re Hewletts Road rail crossing with the safety improvements now in place.
- Regular E-Panui – May & September – important communication tool to enable forum members to know what is being done.
- Survey conducted amongst forum members to determine forum effectiveness, satisfaction of meetings, outcomes – not acting as collectively as could be with one key reset on what talking about at forums, trialling alternative venues in 2024.
- SmartGrowth strategy – both Advisors have been heavily involved in this, with 80% of time working on the strategy, highlighting ways in development, share aspects of SmartGrowth strategy, informal workshops throughout October 2023.
- Tangata Whenua Spatial Plan. SG Spatial Plan cultural layer provides a picture of where we were and where we are now. Missing is where tangata whenua wanted to be, which helped to identify the work under the Tangata Whenua Spatial Plan work.

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- Acknowledgement was given to the Tu Pakari team – been very busy at times being very overwhelming. Look to provide more wrap around support for them, looking at how and to better support Tu Pakari in 2024
- Māori Land Trusts – supporting to understand infrastructure required, with Commissioners having undertaken site visits to some Māori Land Trusts.
- Monitoring Government policy changes and how affects the work being undertaken in the region.
- Health initiatives – Māori health authorities (Hauora) removal of anti-smoking legislation, has been a lot of benefits as a result of the legislation. Smoking is now hugely reduced levels in and around marae and other public facilities.
- NPS Fresh water and Te Moana Te Wai – integrated in treaty settlements which recognise all the water ways into the Tauranga Moana / Harbour. High priority for all iwi moving forward.
- Message is what are the hand brakes we have due to lack of resources, what are the risks and opportunities which come out of this?
- Looking to secure strong relationships with both Ministers and officials.
- The Chair thanked the Tu Pakari Advisors, in particular the contribution to the Strategy development, the quality and depth of matters in front of hearings panel.

Moved: Cr. Ron Scott / Seconded: Commissioner Shad Rolleston

That it be Resolved

That the SmartGrowth Leadership Group:

1. **Receives** the report for discussion.
2. **Continues** to support and resource the Tu Pakari and Pou Hononga engagement on the development of the CTWF priorities in 2024/25 to progress:
 - a) Māori Housing / papakainga opportunities as connected marae community centres with Māori land trusts;
 - b) Engagement on Tangata Whenua Spatial Planning;
 - c) The needs and aspirations of tangata whenua in the short-, medium- and long-term actions in the SmartGrowth Strategy and Implementation Plans 2024 to 2074.

CARRIED

SG23/12.09

SMARTGROWTH STRATEGY SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURE – UPDATE (PAPER D)

Craig Batchelar spoke to the SmartGrowth Strategy Special Consultative Procedure - Update (Paper D) which was taken as read.

- The Chair and Strategic Advisor acknowledged the significant support received from Western Bay of Plenty District Council – written issues, options, workshop, deliberations – a huge amount of work.
- Submissions – reasonably good response with 90 submissions, 500 submission points which were detailed and well considered.
- Topic leads currently preparing issues and options reports on the themes.

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To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 21 March 2024

- Submissions - received good spread of ages, demographic, focus on certain sectors, grass root community organisations, many who had been involved in community for a long time with a depth of knowledge and passion, developers. Breadth of information not concentrated on one area, subject matter, etc., level of detail raised, changes being recommended.
- Feeling very positive that there has been a good process of engagement with the community, ready to take forward to helpful and useful discussions.
- A lot of work being undertaken in submissions – workshops in February, days of deliberations late February / early March with good information and advice available and well informed.
- When through deliberations, the hearings panel will be making recommendations. Consideration to changes of environment working in as draft strategy was created in a very different policy environment pre-election – (SLG: 21 March 2024)
- Commissioner Tolley thanked the hearings panel for their involvement.
- In terms of preparing for adoption of the SmartGrowth Strategy to the SLG, will forward a draft which will then provide opportunity at individual partner level to review and consider. Similar to the process when the draft strategy came to SLG for approval for consultation, ensured the “heavy lifting” had been done, will engage appropriately with partners without pre-empting changes which may be recommending, before arriving at decision making.
- Final decision on the Strategy will be made by the full SLG.
- Through hearings process, if an issue is unable to be resolved, as there may be some things that unable to be resolved in the process, these may require actions in the Implementation Plan, for example Industrial Land Study as there is further work to be done on this.
- Process for aligning the strategy and implementation plan with LTP’s, should anything drop out of these that need to be considered, will need to come through pre-LTP deliberations.
- Awareness of 3 councils who are running 3 separate LTP processes on 3 different timelines, will need to ensure joined up as don’t want an implementation plan that isn’t able to be implemented due to lack of funding.

That it be Resolved

That the **SmartGrowth Leadership Group**:

1. **Notes** the update on the Draft SmartGrowth Strategy SCP process, including the general themes arising from submissions.

CARRIED

SG23/12.10

SMARTGROWTH IMPLEMENTATION AND FUNDING PLAN (PAPER E)

Craig Batchelar spoke to the SmartGrowth Implementation and Funding Plan (Paper E) which was taken as read.

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 21 March 2024

- Development of the Implementation & Funding Plan is referred to the Strategy to be produced and covers the FDS and actions of SmartGrowth.
- Conscious deliberations in February – if Panel wish to forward key actions into implementation plan hence commencing work early to enable this.
- Looking at mandates which is guiding what we are doing – NPS-UD talks to Implementation Plans however no guidance on content. Spatial Planning Act - structure and content.
- Planning & development programme – dates have been considered.
- SMG – senior staff/managers are across direction of partner LTP's which will assist to shape what we do, along with hold points in programme to ensure those who need to have seen the Implementation & Funding Plan have done so.
- Plan needs to be practical and able to be easily updated. The appended sample plan does not meet this requirement.
- Timing is a concern adopting a delivery plan ahead of the final adoption of LTP's, delivery accountability and signalling where funding will come from. Option to keep Implementation & Funding Plan as draft until Western Bay make their final decisions generally supported.
- No finance in the LTP however may be other ways of funding. This needs to be recognised in the Plan.
- Implementation & Funding Plan need to be integrated with AP's approved each year. Something advisors will need to give further consideration to.
- Critical risk is an Implementation Plan with no funding which that goes nowhere, look to ensure is achievable.
- Role for SmartGrowth to identify the funding gap as a problem statement. A serious discussion around funding decisions otherwise may result in setting up a wish list, without grasping level of alternative approaches. Alternatives include value engineering, deferrals as well as alternative funding sources.
- Will require all partners to communication problem to communities, discussions around generating new ways of capturing funding, with taxpayers / ratepayer /others, paying for the funding of these.
- This isn't just about funding; is also about how we bring these projects to fruition.
- Streamlining is key to improving delivery. Business Case processes are resource hungry - what can the government do to make these easier to navigate?

Moved: Commissioner Anne Tolley / Seconded: Commissioner Stephen Selwood

That it be Resolved

That the **SmartGrowth Leadership Group**:

1. **Receive** the report.
2. **Note** the proposed scope, structure and content for the "Draft Implementation and Funding Plan" to implement the SmartGrowth Strategy and FDS including:
 - a) Primarily a corridor-based document structure;
 - b) Content that includes:
 - i. Key Actions.
 - ii. Prioritisation with a focus on substantive actions / outputs.

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 21 March 2024

- iii. Linkage to Transformational Shifts / Growth Directives.
- iv. Partner role allocation to actions use the PASCI framework from UFTI.
 - v. Level of committed funding and resources.
 - vi. Progress update.
 - vii. Monitoring and reporting accountability.
 - viii. Interdependencies.
 - ix. **Alternative funding mechanisms**
3. **Note** the **comments on the draft** programme for developing the Draft Implementation and Funding Plan.
4. **Endorse** the directive that the Implementation and Funding Plan process provide for assurance of alignment with:
 - a) Central government policy changes;
 - b) Partner long-term plans and infrastructure strategies;
 - c) Regional land transport plan;
 - d) Other plans, including any City Deal.

SG23/12.11

URBAN PROGRAMMES UPDATE (PAPER F)

Shaun Jones spoke to the Urban Programmes Update (Paper F) which was taken as read.

- Change from central government on their approach to the urban Programme. Due to direction shift – funding and uncertainties, plans going forward.
- Minister of Transport provided direction to NZTA and Councils to stop work on the VKT Reduction Programme with the exception of anything that has already been contracted.
- Have a substantial amount of work contracted. Currently working through process of what has vs hasn't been contracted. Eol and funding arrangement is in place. Now falls into 2-3 key categories – funding for development of technical work on programme, technical scope on managed land study to understand key transport planning outcomes, Bluetooth sensors approved which are important key monitoring piece of work, travel demand management which supports good outcomes on mode shift.
- Capacity to continue developing work, focusing on practical outcomes.
- Installing sensors, completing managed land study to support behaviour change that will support best outcomes for PT, making best use of assets and making decisions to support SmartGrowth strategy.
- Won't be providing a VKT reduction programme and no community consultation on VKT reduction.
- Very focused transport planning work to support SmartGrowth strategy outcomes in practical way.
- Very clear and categorical in not moving forward with any non-contracted VKT activities, however sympathetic to strong economic case and activities are targeted towards moving freight, moving people, i.e. congestion reduction.
- Transport System Plan – opportunities and direction of work has changed significantly. Will continue to keep an eye on this as well and to make changes to implementation will do this.

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- Key thing being provided is a context in the governance and how TSP fits together with SmartGrowth.
- Transport will be key part of strategy and considerations, with it being better connected with all spatial planning considerations and functions across the Strategy and work being undertaken by partners.
- Conversations in community about VRP, paused priority for buses in peak hours along Cameron Road, we must have social licence to get the mode shift, if don't have the social licence there will be reluctance to consider alternative modes.
- Take feedback received to team as to how achieve social licence, TDM, how to work with communities to understand their needs.
- Very important as to how tell the story, setting the scene for alternative funding mechanisms.
- Important role for SmartGrowth and partners to be communicating both opportunities of doing things right and challenges if we don't.
- Economic impacts of congestion on productivity, combined with lack of housing/expensive housing is a major challenge. SG Role to communicate opportunities and challenges.
- Pre-meeting with SmartGrowth communications team – talking about how the SmartGrowth communications strategy will be forming up.

Moved: Cr. Jane Nees / Seconded: Cr. John Scrimgeour

That it be Resolved

That the **SmartGrowth Leadership Group**:

1. **Receives** the Urban Programmes Update.
2. **Notes** the comments made.

CARRIED

SG23/12.12

PUBLIC EXCLUDED SESSION

The SmartGrowth Leadership Group:

1. **Agree** that the public be excluded from the following parts of this meeting: Approval of Closed Minutes – 13 September 2023, Priority Development Areas ("PDA") Tracker and City Deals.
2. **Note** that this resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and that the report is to be considered under closed in accordance with s7(2)(i) - enables any local authority holding information to carry on, without prejudice or disadvantage, negotiations (including commercial and industrial negotiations).

Moved: Andrew Turner / Seconded: Cr. Stuart Crosby

That it be Resolved

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That the meeting moves into closed session.

CARRIED

The meeting moved into closed session at 10:40am.

The closed session was adjourned until 11:00am.

The meeting resumed in open session at 11:30am.

SG23/12.11

OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

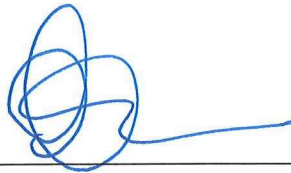
SG23/12.12

KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Antoine Coffin formally closed the proceedings.

The meeting concluded at 11:30am

Confirmed as a true and correct record.



**Chairperson
Andrew Turner**

Date: 21/03/24.