

**Minutes of Open Meeting No. SG24/03 of the SmartGrowth Leadership Group
held on 21 March 2024
at Bay of Plenty Regional Council, 1 Elizabeth Street, Tauranga**

Present

Chairperson	Andrew Turner
Bay of Plenty Regional Council	Chair Doug Leeder 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 Matemoana McDonald (alternate)
Minister for Local Government	Richard Ward (alternate) Caroline Dumas (alternate)
Minister for Housing	Brad Ward (alternate)
Minister for Transport	
Waka Kotahi	Jessica Andrew (alternate)
Western Bay of Plenty Transport System Plan	Shaun Jones (alternate)
Priority One	Nigel Tutt (Non-voting)
Quorum	11
Meeting Frequency	Quarterly

In Attendance**SmartGrowth**

Craig Batchelar – SmartGrowth Strategic Advisor
Te Pio Kawe – SmartGrowth Pou Arahi Advisor
Monique Etherington – Programme Manager
Juanita Assink – SmartGrowth Coordinator

Bay of Plenty Regional Council

Fiona McTavish – Chief Executive
Namouta Poutasi – General Manager, Strategy & Science
Antoine Coffin – Manager: Spatial Planning

Tauranga City Council

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

Western Bay of Plenty District Council

John Holyoake – Chief Executive
Emily Watton – Strategic Policy & Planning Programme Director
Rachel Davie – Deputy CE / GM – Strategy & Community

Ministry of Housing and Urban Development

Rebecca Tong – Principal Advisor

Kainga Ora

Natalie van Rossen – Senior Development Manager

SG24/03.01 KARAKIA TĪMATANGA

Commissioner Shad Rolleston opened the meeting with a Karakia.

SG24/03.02 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Commissioner Bill Wasley, Cr. Jane Nees, Cr. Paula Thompson, Dean Kimpton, David Spiers, Pauline McGrath.

Apologies for early departure received from Matire Duncan.

Moved: Chair Andrew Turner / Seconded: Cr. Stuart Crosby

That it be Resolved

That the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED**SG24/03.03 DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

No conflicts of interest were declared. Commissioner Shad Rolleston noted that he is advising the Crown on fast track consenting so will refrain from any discussion on this.

SG24/03.06 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – SMARTGROWTH LEADERSHIP GROUP (SG23/12) – DATED 18 DECEMBER 2023 (PAPER A)

The Committee considered the minutes of the SmartGrowth Leadership Group (SG23/12) dated 18 December 2023 circulated with the agenda.

Moved: Commissioner Anne Tolley / Seconded: Commissioner Shad Rolleston

That it be Resolved

That the minutes of the SmartGrowth Leadership Group (SG23/12) dated 18 December 2023 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED**SG24/03.07 KUPENGA Aerial Cableway Transformational Transport Project (PAPER B)**

Deferred to 19 June 2024 meeting as presenter unavailable.

SG24/03.08 SMARTGROWTH QUARTERLY REPORT (PAPER C)

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

- Work programme – focus on last quarter has been on the SmartGrowth Strategy, FDS and submissions. Looking to close out in the next quarter and shift focus to the Implementation and Funding Plan.
- MDRS plan changes – number of changes to RMA in relation to MDRS. Plan Changes will be completed before any legislation is changed. Outcomes arising from plan change decisions will be incorporated into the strategy.
- Draft BOPRC RLTP is currently open for submissions which is also included in the TSP Quarterly Report.
- KPI's report – Appendix 3.
- Government Policy Changes – report attached to quarterly report. Advice provided to hearings panel who questioned whether appropriate to continue with deliberations while government policy changes proposed. Analysis of these concluded risk to strategy is relatively low. Govt Policy changes are seen as opportunities rather than threats to the Strategy.
- Government Draft GPS on Land Transport is open for submissions, incorporated in TSP Quarterly Report
- The Strategy Implementation and Funding Plan will need to be a living document as 3 councils have different LTP sign off dates – when signing off LTP's this will feed into Implementation and Funding Plan and delivery of the strategy. If requirement to update Plan as result of LTP decisions, recognising timelines, opportunity to do this will occur at the following SLG meeting in September. Needs to be a level of confidence from Governance.

Moved: Matire Duncan / Seconded: Cr. Stuart Crosby

That it be Resolved

That the SmartGrowth Leadership Group:

1. **Receives** the report.

CARRIED**SG24/03.09 TU PAKARI UPDATE (PAPER D)**

Te Pio Kawe spoke to the Tu Pakari - Update (Paper D) which was taken as read.

- Need to be having these discussions around the table to ensure Tangata Whenua are taking the opportunity to feel their aspirations are included in the report and work – māori housing, papakāinga, are included into the Implementation & Funding Plan.

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 19 June 2024

- Strategy includes aspirations for Māori Housing.
- For respective forums, organising hui with Te Rangapu / Western Bay Forums on 11 April and 16 April prior to 23 April SLG to ensure there is tangata whenua confidence in the Strategy. It was acknowledged timing is tight, however need to raise the issues and highlighting these for tangata whenua.
- Report highlights key issues. We will need to be inventive as to how will achieve funding for infrastructure and housing.
- Tu Pakari Advisors are helping to educate whanau on relevant matters.

The Chair noted the budget for 2024/25 is currently being drafted which will come together prior to year-end. Recommendation to support and resource the Tu Pakari and Pou Hononga engagement is in principle / intent, subject to funding being available within the budget once confirmed.

Moved: Whitiora McLeod / Seconded: Matire Duncan

That it be Resolved

That the **SmartGrowth Leadership Group**:

1. **Receive** 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) WBOP Māori Housing / Papakāinga workstream opportunities as connected marae community centres with Māori land trusts.
 - b) Tāngata Whenua partnership-based models of engagement.
 - c) The identification of needs and aspirations of tāngata whenua in a spatial context integrated into the SmartGrowth Strategy and Implementation Plans 2024 – 2034.

CARRIED

SG24/03.10 SMARTGROWTH STRATEGY SPECIAL CONSULTATIVE PROCEDURE (PAPER E)

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

- SLG Agenda with Hearings Panel Recommendations will be distributed on 9 April 2024.
- Members raised concern about large volumes of documentation on the agenda and the need to hone in on the substantive issues.
- Redline version of the strategy will show recommended changes, along with Hearings Panel minutes and the draft Decision Document being prepared for submitters. Other background material will be provided via links to the SG website.

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 19 June 2024

- Process for any disagreement – by providing additional time between the agenda being issued and the meeting to enable SLG reps of each partner to be confident that partner decision-making bodies, having seen the strategy & background, are comfortable. Any problems can be raised on 23 April as part of discussion / endorsement of the recommendation to go to SG Partners for approval.
- Suggestion of possible joint Council meeting to endorse the strategy simultaneously.
- Point of difference could be TW – some issues may not get through. May require additional time for iwi / hapu to take to their Boards, then to their beneficiaries / constituents.
- The Chair confirmed we wouldn't be looking to sign off strategy, without agreement and support of Tangata Whenua partners.
- Moving forward on how to engage with Māori community, concerns of no robust engagement plan. The Chair confirmed support could be provided to assist with engagement.
- Question over how much engagement there had been with the Development Community. Strategic Advisor commented that Development Sector Group meeting over the last 12 months had provided information on strategy development and submission process, and that several developer interests had made formal submissions. Next meeting will take the conversation on implementation back to the DSG.
- Panel Chair commented that some private sector and developer submitters requested more time at hearings and tabled supplementary information. Hearings Panel undertook several site visits to gain a better understanding.
- Transport funding will be a struggle. Larger employers – suggestion of a conversation to see if they will inject investment into the TSP. Noted that large employers will fund through rates and other measures, including future potential road pricing.
- Partnership funding raised at previous meetings, government policy settings around funding is being watched.

Moved: Whitiara McLeod / Seconded: Cr. Stuart Crosby

That it be Resolved

That the **SmartGrowth Leadership Group**:

1. **Receive** the report.

SG24/03.11

IMPLEMENTATION & FUNDING PLAN (PAPER F)

Craig Batchelar spoke to the Implementation & Funding Plan (Paper F) which was taken as read.

- Some issues identified from submissions that will need to be considered as part of the Plan.
- Delivery of SmartGrowth has some outcomes through other discrete entities such as TSP, HSP, and potential SDP and City/Regional Deals. Don't require an Implementation Plan which repeats all this.

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 19 June 2024

- The delivery arrangements are complex and an organisation chart will assist in showing how delivery arrangements will work.
- Need for good mapping – to show spatial plan growth areas, corridors and Priority Development Areas.
- Include infrastructure requirements for each corridor with narrative on intentions, including the funding gap.
- Complex as a number of inputs on planning and funding are unknown (e.g., SH 29 Funding, Water Plan GPS and NLTP). The Plan will need to be a living, iterative document, updated as things becoming clearer.
- Once LTPS and RLTP are settled, the SmartGrowth strategy will need to be compared to see what this will allow. Where there are funding gaps, these will need to be bridged with alternative funding methods. City Deals may address this. If any significant gaps remain, the strategy may need to be reviewed and amended. The Plan should recognise this risk and process of ongoing review.
- Understand what we are seeking to achieve in Implementation & Funding Plan by June given so many variables – we largely know what TCC LTP will achieve with water issue set aside, what BOPRC LTP will be, what WBOPDC LTP investment profile will look like. Assumptions can be made around what NLTP will look like but without certainty on how funding gap will be bridged. Existing funding mechanisms already capped, ultimately the big change will be alternative funding and financing methods, particularly with water and road pricing, and value capture. Implementation & Funding Plan will need to grapple with these matters. Likely to be June 2025 before some of these questions can be addressed and answered.
- Implementation & Funding Plan will identify where there are gaps in delivery, what we believe the timescale for resolution will be, and how we will manage this.
- SmartGrowth arrangements in place, decisions made, respond at time to enable process to keep moving forward. Concern that we may lose momentum if we wait for greater certainty, with preference being to continue, identifying what may alter the picture along the way. Underline the challenge, significance and size of the changes that may be made (transparency with community comment made earlier).
- Waka Kotahi expressed a concern over the level of collaboration with CG achieved in developing the Strategy. There is an opportunity to address this concern through improved collaboration with CG partners on the Implementation and Funding Plan.
- Commissioners last formal Council meeting on 10 June. Look to bring SLG scheduled from 19 June forward to prior to 10 June or schedule as an extraordinary meeting to consider the Implementation & Funding Plan.
- Needs to be a meeting of the governance leadership to have a good look at how the funding is shaping up. Additional workshop / meeting to be scheduled, possibly between SGIG 21 May 2024 and SLG meeting.

Moved: Commissioner Anne Tolley / Seconded: Whitiara McLeod

That it be Resolved

That the **SmartGrowth Leadership Group**:

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 19 June 2024

1. **Receive** the report.
2. **Note** the revised programme for developing the Implementation & Funding Plan and suggested scope of background information.

CARRIED

SG24/03.12 TRANSPORT SYSTEM PLAN – QUARTERLY REPORT (PAPER G)

Shaun Jones spoke to the Transport System Plan (Paper G) which was taken as read.

- Discussion on funding and financing, and how deliverable is the TSP in context to operate, capacity in construction sector is underway.
- Working on the optimisation programme (previously VKT Reduction Programme). The formulated original methodology was able to pivot to change to optimisation.
- Impacts of GPS on TSP. SmartGrowth Strategy is a long-term strategy which will endure over time so unable to lose sight of the strategy and connected centres, when considering impacts of current policy change and of short-term funding considerations. Will need to consider how GPS will impact the TSP.
- GPS has more focus on freight and roading system, top 5 projects are looking to align strongly with GPS RONS – alignment on key strategy.
- Negative risk to multi modal outcomes, PT and no funding for Walking & Cycling, especially new.
- No funding noted outside of Auckland & Wellington for PT. Will look at this via the investment methodologies.
- TSP working on identifying size of funding gap given size of transportation projects – understanding deliverability – can run numbers across this, way the pipeline is analysed. Upstream pipeline is what we build, considering drivers that influence what pipeline will look like, where is the funding gap, what drivers are behind the funding gap. Deliverability is often based on funding with industry setting itself up around this.

Moved: Cr. Ron Scott / Seconded: Mayor James Denyer

That it be Resolved

That the **SmartGrowth Leadership Group:**

3. **Receive** the TSP Quarterly Report.

SG24/03.13 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 – 18 December 2023.

THESE MINUTES ARE YET TO BE CONFIRMED

To be confirmed by the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on 19 June 2024

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

That the meeting moves into closed session.

CARRIED

The meeting moved into closed session at 10:22am

The meeting resumed in open session at 10:23am

SG24/03.14 OTHER BUSINESS

No other business.

SG23/12.12 KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Commissioner Shad Rolleston formally closed the proceedings.

The meeting concluded at 10:24am

Confirmed as a true and correct record.

**Chairperson
Andrew Turner**

Date: