

# MINUTES (in Review)

## CHIEF EXECUTIVES FORUM

<b>Name:</b>	Canterbury Chief Executives Forum
<b>Date:</b>	Monday, 27 January 2025
<b>Time:</b>	9:00 am to 12:25 pm (NZDT)
<b>Location:</b>	Selwyn District Council, 2 Norman Kirk Drive, Rolleston
<b>Committee Members:</b>	Hamish Riach (Committee Chair), Alex Parmley, Angela Oosthuizen, Hamish Dobbie, Jeff Millward, Mary Richardson, Nigel Trainor, Sharon Mason, Will Doughty
<b>Attendees:</b>	Ann Fitzgerald, Maree McNeilly, Amelia Wilkins
<b>Apologies:</b>	Stefanie Rixecker, Stuart Duncan
<b>Guests/Notes:</b>	Cameron Smith, Senior Strategy Manager ECan Item 4.3; Jesse Burgess, Chair Climate Change Working Group Item 4.4; Clare Pattison, Principal Strategy Advisor Regional Land Transport Committee Item 4.5; Diane McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner Item 5.1

### 1. Open Meeting

#### 1.1 Welcome, karakia and apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and members joined in the opening karakia. Hamish thanked Sharon and her team for providing the technology to support the hybrid meeting. Apologies from Stefanie Rixecker and Stuart Duncan were noted.

#### 1.2 Confirmation of Agenda

The agenda was confirmed as circulated, with no items of general business.

#### 1.3 Confirm minutes

Canterbury Chief Executives Forum 21 Oct 2024, the minutes were confirmed as presented.



#### Decision

The minutes of the Chief Executives Forum meeting held on 21 October 2024 were confirmed as presented.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Sharon Mason  
**Seconder:** Will Doughty  
**Outcome:** Approved

#### 1.4 Action list

Outstanding action Local Water Done Well – governance principles

Member councils' governance principles for decision making related to water decisions will be circulated following the meeting.

## 2. CE Discussion

### 2.1 CE Discussion time

#### **Meetings with James Meager, Minister for the South Island**

Mayor Sam Broughton, in his capacity as Chair for LGNZ, is organising a meeting with Minister Meager (via Teams) and South Island Mayors and Chairs, that CEs will also be invited to attend.

In addition, Minister Meager has been invited to the February Canterbury Mayoral Forum dinner and/or meeting. The Minister's office has yet to confirm, depending on prior parliamentary commitments.

#### **2025 Local Government Elections**

Guidance to support staff and elected members during the election period will be shared by Chief Executives.

#### **Preliminary Annual Plan/LTP Year 2 budget preparation**

Members shared progress on Annual Plan preparation.

#### **Local Water Done Well**

Members provided brief updates on their council's current position.

#### **Update on status of District Plan reviews**

The status of council district plans reviews was discussed.

**Ministry for Primary Industries has released an RFI to gauge interest in a proposal to explore partnership opportunities to afforest (plant native or exotic trees) or promote native forest regeneration on Crown-owned land (excluding National Parks) that has low farming value and low conservation value.**

Hamish Dobbie will provide the link to this RFI to members. Feedback is due by 28 February 2025.

## 3. Morning tea

### 3.1 Morning tea

## 4. For discussion and decision

### 4.1 Future regional and local government for Canterbury

The development of a paper for the February Mayoral Forum meeting on future structures for local government was discussed.

Key points to be considered for inclusion were

- Articulate the "problem/s" to be solved, drivers for change, including where/how is the current system failing to deliver for communities
- Reference historical restructure and difficulties experienced
- Reference current local government reforms, including Local Water Done Well and Resource Management reform, and consideration of timing of any restructure given significant changes already underway
- Reference to other models (Australia, Auckland, Manchester) to be removed.



## Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. noted the information provided in this paper to support a discussion on future regional and local government for Canterbury
2. requested the Chair prepare a paper, based on the information provided in this paper, and discussion at the Chief Executives Forum, for the February Mayoral Forum.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Sharon Mason  
**Seconder:** Hamish Dobbie  
**Outcome:** Approved

## 4.2 Economic Priorities response to Business Canterbury

The suggested response to the draft summary of the Business Canterbury facilitated workshops prepared by the Economic Development Forum was discussed. Members provided the following feedback:

- consider changing the title “economic priorities” to business development partnership, or economic framework, or joint business framework as the information is heavily business focused rather than a broader council economic mandate
- important that Mayoral Forum feedback on the draft is obtained before responding to Business Canterbury
- Christchurch City Council endorsement of the feedback is on the proviso it is made clear that the document is focused on business sector, rather than wider economic priorities.



## Decision

Mary Richardson requested that her dissenting vote be recorded.

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. provided further feedback on the draft response to the Canterbury Regional Leadership Discussion held at Business Canterbury on 25 November 2024
2. agreed that the draft response be updated based on the feedback from the Chief Executives and circulated to Canterbury Mayoral Forum members for final approval before for forwarding to Business Canterbury.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Hamish Dobbie  
**Seconder:** Angela Oosthuizen  
**Outcome:** Approved

## 4.3 Canterbury Water Management Strategy update

Cameron Smith, Senior Strategy Manager Environment Canterbury, presented the paper on behalf of Stefanie Rixecker, providing an update on the zone committee review, noting the importance of clearly defining the purpose of the local leadership groups.

Engagement with individual councils is planned for March 2025.

It was noted that Local Water Done well reform has not been factored into the review yet as we await more clarity on what it will look like. Guidance on how best to do this would be welcomed.



## Decision

The Chief Executives Forum:

1. received the progress update for the Canterbury Water Management Strategy Zone Committee Review 2024 and identified next steps to be undertaken in 2025
2. received the update for October to December 2024 on the region-wide work underway to implement the Canterbury Water Management Strategy
3. endorsed the Operations Forum to oversee the assessment of progress towards the 2025 revised CWMS goals
4. tasked the Operations Forum to provide the online Targets Progress Report 2025 to the Chief Executives Forum by May 2025.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Alex Parmley  
**Seconder:** Hamish Dobbie  
**Outcome:** Approved

#### 4.4 Canterbury Climate Partnership Plan Year 1 implementation

Hamish Dobbie introduced Jesse Burgess, Chair Climate Change Working Group to speak to the paper.

The paper was taken as read noting the implementation approach for key actions 1, 2 and 4. Where feasible it was requested that the work of individual councils be incorporated. It was confirmed that there is a clear plan for the budget beyond Year 1.



##### Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. provided feedback on the implementation approach for key actions 1, 2 & 4
2. subject to any feedback provided through recommendation 1 above, endorsed the scope and approach of key actions 1, 2 & 4 for recommendation to the next Mayoral Forum
3. agreed to extend the completion date of action 4.1 from 30 June 2025 to 31 October 2025
4. noted that advice on the repurposing of the Climate Action Planning Reference Group will be provided to the Canterbury Mayoral Forum's February meeting
5. received the first quarterly Progress Report and budget summary.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Hamish Dobbie  
**Seconder:** Will Doughty  
**Outcome:** Approved

#### 4.5 Approach to reducing the underfunding in Canterbury's transport network

Clare Pattison, Principal Strategy Advisor Regional Transport Committee, provided background to each recommendation and referenced a recent article in The Press on Canterbury Transport funding. A link to the article will be forwarded to members.

Members agreed to provide details on council funding over and above NZ Transport Agency contributions as further evidence to support the funding advocacy noted in the paper.

Mary Richardson requested discussion with the appropriate Christchurch City Council staff before the Council could support the paper.

This paper will be presented to the Regional Transport Committee on 13 February 2025.



### Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. approved the advice on areas of advocacy related to transport funding to be provided to the Regional Transport Committee on 13 February 2025, subject to further discussion with the appropriate Christchurch City Council staff.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Sharon Mason  
**Seconder:** Will Doughty  
**Outcome:** Approved



### Decision

Mary Richardson requested that her dissenting vote be recorded, until the scope of the procurement is clarified.

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. approved the scope of procurement to inform an options paper to the Regional Transport Committee in May 2025 to reduce the risk of further underfunding in 2027.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Sharon Mason  
**Seconder:** Angela Oosthuizen  
**Outcome:** Approved



### Action

Secretariat to send a request to members for all their transport funding, both NLTF subsidised and unsubsidised.

13 February - information has been collated and sent to CEs

**Due Date:** 4 Feb 2025  
**Owner:** Maree McNeilly

## 4.6 Regional Spatial Planning - proposed approach

Hamish Dobbie provided background information on the proposed regional stocktake of existing spatial plans and strategies. To date many of these have had a housing focus, however the intention going forward is to apply a broader lens, including economic.

Funding and integration with existing systems will need to be considered as regional spatial planning is progressed Canterbury wide.

Special mention was made of the quality of this report. It was well prepared and easy to understand.



### Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. approved the proposed 'phased' approach to undertaking a regional stocktake of spatial plans and strategies and developing an options paper
2. approved the draft Scope of Work for the regional stocktake of existing spatial plans and strategies, and relevant information.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Alex Parmley  
**Seconder:** Will Doughty  
**Outcome:** Approved

## 4.7 Water Reform

It was agreed that no further discussion on water reform is required at this time.

## 4.8 Regional forums update

The regional forums update for the quarter was taken as read.

Forum chairs highlighted key areas of work including:

- Policy Forum – Canterbury Climate Change Partnership Plan, and Regional Spatial Plan
- Communications and Engagement Forum – continuing value from sharing upcoming issues, and meeting in person
- Corporate Forum – ALGIM stocktake, Snap Send Solve, Mahi Tahī Collaboration porta
- Economic Development Forum – good collaboration, first report from consultants for the Housing Strategy is due and will be considered by the steering group.

Workstream tracker item 11a/11b (10-year plan to move to a common platform for IT and digital services) was discussed. Clarity around what is proposed, ensuring it is fit for the future, and the associated cost is required. Currently there is no budget for this item.

It was noted that even if shared services are not able to be achieved for a particular service, there is value in being aware of what individual council's current arrangements are.



### Action

Workstream tracker item 11a/11b – CIO Working Group to review this action.

**Due Date:** 3 Mar 2025

**Owner:** Maree McNeilly



### Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. received the quarterly reports on the December 2024 regional forum meetings and updates on the workstream tracker
2. received the quarterly update on the 2024-25 regional forums budget.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025

**Mover:** Alex Parmley

**Seconder:** Will Doughty

**Outcome:** Approved

## 5. For information

### 5.1 Regional Public Service Commissioner update

Diane McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner, provided a verbal update on recent activity, noting that following the Christmas break, activity across multiple sectors is now ramping up.

Diane will be the RPSC conduit for engagement with the newly appointed Minister for the South Island.

The Regional Energy Inventory workshop is being held on 28 January.

There are two Canterbury projects that Kānoa is progressing for infrastructure funding. These will be circulated when full details are available.



## Decision

The Canterbury Chief Executives Forum:

1. noted the update from Diane McDermott, Regional Public Service Commissioner.

**Decision Date:** 27 Jan 2025  
**Mover:** Mary Richardson  
**Seconder:** Hamish Dobbie  
**Outcome:** Approved

## 5.2 Draft Mayoral Forum agenda

The draft Mayoral Forum agenda for 14 February 2024 was reviewed, noting that James Meager, Minister for the South Island, has been invited to attend the working dinner, and if this is not possible, time could be made available during the meeting.

While Martin Keogh, Chief Executive HealthNZ cannot attend the Mayoral Forum, a meeting has been scheduled for 10 March 2025.

Leeann Watson, Business Canterbury will attend the meeting to discuss the Economic Priorities work. There was further discussion regarding renaming the Economic Priorities paper, and workstream. As no consensus was reached the Chair determined that there would be no name change at this point.

## 6. General business

### 6.1 General business

There were no items of general business.

### 6.2 Meeting debrief

It was noted that when the guests arrived their papers were quite rushed.

Hamish Dobbie noted that when papers have already been to one of the other forums, they generally need less time, however it is also a factor of managing the timing of previous agenda items.

## 7. Close Meeting

### 7.1 Closing karakia

The meeting closed at 12.25pm with a karakia.

### 7.2 Close the meeting

**Next meeting:** Chief Executives Forum - 5 May 2025, 9:00 am

**Other upcoming meetings:** Mayoral Forum - Friday 14 February 2025 8.30am-1.00pm at Commodore Airport Hotel 449 Memorial Avenue, Christchurch

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Unconfirmed Draft