

Resilient Westport Steering Group Meeting Minutes

Friday, 6th December 2024, 1pm – 3:15pm

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

Present:

Mike Mendonça (Chair)
Mayor Jamie Cleine, BDC
Peter Haddock, Chair WCRC
Darryl Lew, CEO WCRC

Brett Cummings, Deputy Chair WCRC
Simon Pickford, CEO BDC
Paul Barker, DIA

In attendance:

Paul Zaanen, BDC
Daniel Bellam, DIA
Christine Blair, WCRC
Peter Blackwood, WCRC
For Item 8 only
Patrick Knerlich

Penny Bicknell, Programme Manager
Amanda South, Comms
Claire Brown, WCRC

Chantel Mills, WCRC
Henry Dowler (WCRC)

1. Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed Steering Group members and those in attendance.

2. Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Francois Tumahai, Andrew Basher D/Mayor BDC, and Simon Chambers NEMA.

3. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were submitted.

4. Confirmation of minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 27th September were confirmed.

5. Programme reporting

Reports were presented to the Steering Group. The Steering Group **noted** that:

- information such as gantt charts is repeated in the status report, programme schedule, quarterly report, risk register. The Chair requested that for information to be presented once within the package of programme reporting documents, with any recent updates to be provided verbally during the meeting.
- several construction timeframes for flood protection works have moved out by around two months.
- the mitigation description for risk RW004 (stormwater) should be updated to note that a Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) application has been submitted.
- quarterly report now includes variance reporting.

6. Update from DIA

DIA updated the Minister on the Resilient Westport programme in early November.

The update focussed on reporting information, the integration of stormwater with the structural flood protection and planning and consenting of housing development in Westport.

DIA anticipate Ministers will make an announcement soon about the next phase of the 'Going for Housing Growth' programme. DIA will get in touch with more details that may be relevant to the master planning work following the Government announcement.

The Steering Group noted that WCRC and BDC are collaborating on provisions in the TTTP to manage development on the floodplain.

7. Flood protection design progress

WCRC presented reports on flood mitigation options for Carters Beach, Snodgrass and on how technical risks are being treated in the preliminary design process. WCRC explained that the designs are starting points and will be refined over the next two months. WCRC explained that the Snodgrass area is currently understood to not be adversely affected by the construction of stop banks and flood walls as part of the main scheme.

The Steering Group:

- **noted** the Carters Beach Options Report and the intent to communicate with Carters Beach residents when design options have progressed further in the first quarter of 2025.
- **noted** the Snodgrass Options Report and the intention to update Snodgrass residents on work is underway on options to mitigate flooding.
- **endorsed** the Progress Update on Preliminary Designs Report and resolved to not report separately in this manner on technical design risks but instead to ensure key issues are included in quarterly reporting.

8. Stormwater integration update

BDC presented the Westport stormwater management strategy.

The Steering Group:

- **endorsed** the stormwater strategy and Regional Infrastructure Fund application for Westport;
- **noted** that if approved this project will be led by the Buller District Council under the Infrastructure Services Capital Works Control Group which is the framework of authority and accountability that defines and controls the outputs, outcomes and benefits from projects, programmes and portfolios within the BDC Infrastructure Services Unit;
- **noted** that monthly project reports will be shared with the Resilient Westport Steering Group for progress updates; and
- **noted** that monthly meetings are held between the WCRC flood protection team and BDC Infrastructure team to integrate the work programmes.

The Steering Group sought confirmation that groundwater modelling would be completed and feed into the stormwater design. Groundwater modelling is expected to be completed in April 2025.

9. Master Planning update and next steps

BDC gave an overview of the master planning work programme.

The Steering Group received and **noted** the update on stage two master planning programme and the forward work programme.

The Steering Group supported the intention of BDC to apply for Government assistance through:

- applying to the Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF) for seed funding to commence implementation of the Master Plan;
- establishing a Special Purpose Vehicle to implement the Master Plan;
- transferring some Pāmu operated land as part of the establishment of a SPV; and
- establishing a multi-agency working group to assist and oversee the works.

10. Emergency Management project update

The Steering Group received and **noted** the update on the Resilient Westport Emergency Management Project.

11. Communications and Engagement update

The Steering Group **noted** the communications and engagement update report. Communications staff are engaging with Westport community through a range of different media.

12. Next Meeting

The next Steering Group meeting will be on 27th February 2025.

MEETING CLOSED – 3:15pm