

Confirmed Public minutes of the Transport Committee meeting on 9 September 2021

All members participating remotely, via Microsoft Teams, at 9.30am.

Members Present

Councillor Blakeley (Chair)
Councillor Lee (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Brash
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Hughes
Councillor Kirk-Burnnand
Councillor Laban
Councillor Lamason
Councillor Ponter
Councillor Nash
Councillor Staples
Councillor van Lier

All members participated at this meeting remotely, via Microsoft Teams, and counted for the purpose of quorum, as per clause 25B of Schedule 7 to the Local Government Act 2002.

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair invited Councillor Lee to open the meeting with a karakia timatanga – whakataka te hau.

Public Business

1 Apologies

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Lamason

That the Committee accepts the apology for absence from Councillor Connelly

The motion was **carried**.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

There was no public participation.

4 Confirmation of the Public minutes of the Transport Committee meeting of 5 August 2021 – Report 21.359

Moved: Cr Gaylor / Cr Kirk-Burnnand

That the Committee confirms the Public minutes of the Transport Committee meeting of 5 August - Report 21.359.

The motion was **carried**.

5 Update on the progress of action items from previous meetings – September 2021 – Report 21.416 [For information]

Scott Gallacher, General Manager, Metlink, spoke to the report.

6 COVID-19 Metlink Response – Update – Report 21.400 [For information]

Scott Gallacher, General Manager, Metlink, spoke to the report and provided an oral update, following the change in COVID-19 Alert Levels since the publication of the report.

At 11:59pm on Tuesday, 7 September 2021, the Wellington Region moved to COVID-19 Alert Level 2 (Delta Alert Level 2), Mr Gallacher outlined the service provided under Delta Alert Level 2 as summarised below:

Access to services – passengers with mobility needs

1. Front door boarding is reintroduced on the network (full accessibility to services is reinstated)

Appropriate passenger distancing on services

2. All passengers on public transport services must be seated; standing is prohibited.

3. Passengers are encouraged to distance where possible or sit next to somebody they know.

4. The Delta Alert Level 2 distancing requirements will have capacity implications for our services.

5. Dedicated school bus services are exempt from the requirement that its passengers must be seated; standing is allowed.

Fare collection

6. All methods of fare collection (including cash) are reinstated at Delta Alert Level 2

Service operation at Delta Alert Level 2

7. Metlink will operate all services at normal timetables. Note there will be a transition period to allow for systems and operator rosters to align to the full timetable.

Mr Gallacher acknowledged the significant contributions of Metlink employees, operators and drivers and other essential workers who have been critical in allowing Metlink to maintain the network during all Alert Levels.

7 Let's Get Wellington Moving – City Streets – Indicative Business Case – Report 21.346

Dave Humm, Partner Lead, Let's Get Wellington Moving, introduced the report. David Dunlop, Programme Director, Let's Get Wellington Moving and Paul Barker, Let's Get Wellington Moving, spoke to the report.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Nash

That the Committee:

- 1 Approves the Let's Get Wellington Moving – City Streets, Indicative Business Case provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

Moved as an amendment: Cr Gaylor / Cr Brash

- 2 Notes that Greater Wellington Regional Council's partner share of estimated costs of \$4.81 million of a total of \$24.05 million undertake the work in the next phase has been allowed for in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

The amendment was **carried** and became part of the substantive motion.

Moved: Cr Ponter / Cr Nash

That the Committee:

- 1 Approves the Let's Get Wellington Moving – City Streets, Indicative Business Case provided in Attachment 1 to this report.
- 2 Notes that Greater Wellington Regional Council's partner share of estimated costs of \$4.81 million of a total of \$24.05 million undertake the work in the next phase has been allowed for in the 2021-2031 Long Term Plan.

The substantive motion was **carried**.

8 Adoption of Metlink Accessibility Charter – Report 21.361

Emmet McElhatton, Principal Advisor, Policy and David Boyd, Customer Experience Lead, Metlink, spoke to the report. Mr McElhatton advised the Committee of a typographical error in paragraph 3 of the report, and clarified that New Zealand ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2008.

Moved: Cr Lee / Cr Lamason

That the Committee:

- 1 Adopts the Metlink Accessibility Charter 2021-2024 (Attachment 1), subject to officers amending the Accessibility Charter to provide better clarity around the role of Total Mobility as a central part of Metlink's overall service.

- 2 Authorises the Committee Chair to approve the final Accessibility Charter, incorporating the amendments outlined above.
- 3 Agrees that officers arrange a formal stakeholder launch event for the Charter once COVID-19 restrictions permit.
- 4 Notes the Accessibility Action Plan engagement brief developed by officers (Attachment 2).
- 5 Notes that the Metlink Accessibility Charter, and associated Accessibility Action Plan, are agreed activities from the Regional Public Transport Plan 2021-31 adopted by Council on 29 June 2021.
- 6 Notes that the programme of work developed under the Metlink Accessibility Charter will lead to a consolidated funding bid for accessibility-related infrastructure and service enhancements to the 2024 Long Term Plan and Regional Land Transport Plan.
- 7 Notes that the scope of the Accessibility Charter is 'disability' defined in New Zealand by the Ministry of Health as, "any self-perceived limitation in activity resulting from a long-term condition or health problem lasting or expected to last 6 months or more and not completely eliminated by an assistive device." This includes physical, intellectual, psychological, sensory and neurological disabilities.
- 8 Notes that engagement with all key stakeholders, including disabled people and sector representatives, Metlink staff, health sector agencies including District Health Boards (DHBs), members of the Public Transport Advisory Group (PTAG), and advocacy groups like the Pōneke Collective, will be ongoing through to 2024 for development of the Accessibility Action Plan.
- 9 Notes that te reo and New Zealand Sign Language versions of the Accessibility Charter will be developed for the formal launch.

The motion was carried.

The meeting adjourned at 10.54am and resumed at 11.05am.

9 Recent derailment incident on the network – Report 21.402 [For Information]

Scott Gallacher, General Manager, Metlink, Fiona Abbott, Manager, Assets and Infrastructure, Barry Fryer, Rail Assets Lead and Hamish Burns, Asset Engineer, spoke to the report.

Noted: The Committee Chair requested that officer pass on the thanks of the Committee to the driver of the train involved in the derailment incident for their work in controlling the situation and keeping passengers safe.

10 Public Transport Performance – Report 21.401 [For Information]

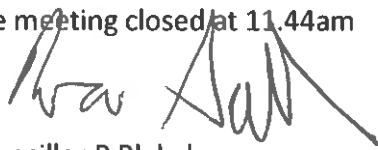
Scott Gallacher, General Manager, Metlink, spoke to the report and provided an oral update regarding patronage levels following the move from the Wellington Region to COVID-19 Delta Alert Level 2.

Mr Gallacher advised that boardings under Alert Levels 4 and 3 are slightly up from Alert Levels from 2020. The first day of Delta Alert Level 2 yielded lighter patronage than expected but it is anticipated boarding will increase heading into the next week as school resumes in person and more workers return to their office.

Noted: The Committee requested that future Public Transport Performance report include a metric and update on driver shortages.

Councillor Lee closed the meeting with a proverb.

The meeting closed at 11.44am

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Blakeley', written over the text 'The meeting closed at 11.44am'.

Councillor R Blakeley

Chair

Date:

