

MINUTES OF EMERGENCY COUNCIL MEETING

File Reference: ECM 8268935
Meeting Date: Wednesday 25 March 2020 at 5pm
Venue: Civic Centre, Liardet Street, New Plymouth.

Members Present:

Mayor Neil Holdom, Councillors Sam Bennett, Gordon Brown, David Bublitz, Murray Chong, Amanda Clinton-Gohdes, Harry Duynhoven, Stacey Hitchcock,

Members attending via Audio-Visual Link

Councillors Tony Bedford, Anneka Carlson, Richard Handley, Colin Johnston, Richard Jordan, Dinnie Moeahu and Marie Pearce

Staff in Attendance:

Craig Stevenson and Julie Straka

EMERGENCY PROVISIONS FOR COVID-19 RESPONSE PERIOD

ECM8268497

The matter for consideration by the Council is establishment of emergency provisions to ensure governance functions can continue during the COVID-19 response period.

Council Resolution

Mayor Neil Holdom

Cr Richard Jordan

That having considered all matters raised in the report:

- a) Due to the uncertainty around the impact of Covid 19 on the Taranaki economy the Council:
 - i) Broaden the scope of potential uses of the \$1.263m reserve established from the 2018/19 rates surplus to include NPDC's response to the Covid 19 pandemic to meet the needs of the region not supported by the range of central government initiatives.
 - ii) Allocate the remaining \$150,000 in the Council Agility fund for the 2019/20 financial year to the Economic Development and Covid19 reserve to support NPDC's response to the Covid 19 pandemic to meet the needs of the region not supported by the range of central government initiatives.
- b) The Council note the Economic Development and Covid 19 reserve is specifically set aside to meet emerging community needs which fall outside Central Government's response. The fund is not intended to be a reserve for NEMA or TEMO.

Chief Executive Delegations

- c) The Council delegates to the Chief Executive (and any Acting Chief Executive) all of the Council's powers, duties, and responsibilities that the Council can lawfully delegate to officers. These powers, duties, and responsibilities include the ability to enter into any contract or to authorise any level of expenditure. They do not include the

powers, duties, and responsibilities that the Council has already delegated to the Chief Executive by resolution dated 28 February 2017 as set out in the Delegation to the Chief Executive section of the [New Plymouth District Council Delegations Register](#) or any other delegations in force at this time, or any authority to make any Council decisions under the Civil Defence Emergency Management Act 2002 (which shall be dealt with in accordance with that Act).

This delegation is subject to the following conditions:

- the delegated powers, duties, and responsibilities may be exercised only in circumstances where the Council, its committees, or its community boards are unable or unavailable to hold meetings that comply with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002 and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987;
- the Chief Executive and any Acting Chief Executive must exercise the delegated powers, duties, and responsibilities in agreement with the Mayor (or, if the Mayor is unavailable, the Deputy Mayor or, if the Deputy Mayor is unavailable, the Chairperson of the relevant committee or community board or, if the Chairperson of the relevant committee or community board is unavailable, any Deputy Chairperson of the committee or community board);
- the Acting Chief Executive may exercise the delegated powers, duties, and responsibilities only in the event that the Chief Executive is unavailable; and
- any decisions made and documents executed in exercising the delegated powers, duties, and responsibilities must be reported to the next ordinary meeting of the Council.

This delegation may be revoked at any time by the Council. In the event there is any inconsistency between this delegation and any other delegations made by the Council, this delegation takes precedence.

Standing Orders

- d) The Council approve attendance at any meeting of the Council or a committee meeting by audio or audiovisual link for any member of the Council (or relevant committee) during the period of the COVID-19 response period.
- e) The Council agree that in the event there is a legislative change to enable those attending via audio or audiovisual link to be counted as present for the purposes of the quorum, the following standing orders be amended:
- f) Standing order 12.8 be amended to read:
Members who attend meetings by audio or audiovisual link will be counted as present for the purposes of a quorum.

- g) Standing Order 12.12A be inserted as follows:
In the event of an emergency (as determined by the presiding member) the notice to give two clear working days' written notice of a person's desire to participate (as required under Standing Order 2.12) may be waived, at the sole discretion of the presiding member.

Carried unanimously

The Council meeting closed at 5.54pm.