



Public Excluded Climate Change and Sustainability Committee Meeting

30 January 2024

Report no: CCASC2024/1/13

Panel members for Low Carbon Acceleration Fund

Purpose of Report

1. To obtain agreement on the individuals proposed to be appointed to the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund decision-making panel (the panel) and to request changes to the make-up of the panel.

Recommendations

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- (1) approves that the number of Low Carbon Acceleration Fund panel members be increased from six to seven;
- (2) approves removing the requirement that public representatives must be chosen from the Climate Action Pathway Group;
- (3) approves the following individuals proposed to be appointed to the panel:
 - Mana Whenua representative: Richard Te One
 - Public representative: Karen Yung
 - Public representative: Wainuiomata High School representative Tautalalelea Sa'u
 - Public representative: Sigurd Magnusson
 - Business representative: Patrick McKibbin
 - HCC Councillor: Josh Briggs
 - HCC Councillor: Naomi Shaw; and
- (4) approves the release of the report to the public.

For the reasons outlined in this report.

Background

2. In 2021, Council implemented its [Carbon Reduction and Climate Resilience Plan 2021-31](#). Action 19 in this plan was to set up a carbon reduction acceleration fund.
3. [On 28 February 2023, the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee recommended, and Council later](#) agreed, to establish a Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (LCA Fund), with the funding envelope for each year based on the credits earned by Council in the previous year from forests registered under the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS).
4. On 12 December 2023 Council agreed ([Minute No. C 23517\(4\)](#)) to the final details of the Low Carbon Acceleration Fund (LCA Fund) including scope and nature, its objectives, the types of projects to be funded, eligibility, assessment criteria, and some broad outlines regarding the decision-making process.
5. The LCA Fund opens for the first round of applications in February 2024, closing in March 2024 with a funding envelope of \$160,000.
6. An outstanding action is for the Climate Change and Sustainability Committee to recommend, and later for Council to approve, members of the panel to be appointed.

Panel

Panel make up

7. The Committee report from 14 November 2023 proposed a panel consisting of up to six persons, including two public representatives. These public representatives were proposed to be solely chosen from the Climate Action Pathway Group.
8. However, in working through the process of identifying individuals to fill these roles, it was identified that the addition of one more 'public representative' position in the panel would provide more diverse representation and balance within the panel.
9. By broadening the scope of where the 'public representative' panel members can be chosen, the pool of potential panel members will be widened and it will provide more opportunity for the public to take part, as well as ensuring access to interested committed individuals who may not have been involved in the Climate Action Pathway Group.
10. Adding an additional member to the panel also provides more decision-making resilience. With a minimum quorum of four panel members being required to make decisions, there is a greater probability that at least four of the seven members will be available to participate in decision making and this step will not delay the fund's processes.

11. The proposed new panel member make-up is as follows:

- 1x Mana Whenua representative
- 3x public representatives with a preference for at least one member from the Climate Action Pathway Group. (To ensure a good linkage to the Lower Hutt Climate Action Pathway and associated actions, these representatives would not be councillors).
- 1x representative of the Lower Hutt business community
- 2x Hutt City Council Councillors

Proposed individuals

12. The following individuals are proposed for the panel:

- Mana Whenua representative: Richard Te One
- Public representative 1: Karen Yung
- Public representative 2: Wainuiomata High School representative Tautalaleleia Sa'u
- Public representative 3: Sigurd Magnusson
- Business representative: Patrick McKibbin
- HCC Councillor 1: Josh Briggs
- HCC Councillor 2: Naomi Shaw

13. A brief introduction is provided below for each proposed panel member:

- **Richard Te One:** Richard is of Te Ātiawa, Taranaki iwi decent. Richard is currently employed by Hikoikoi Management in a relationship liaison role and is on the Board of the Wellington Tenths Trust.
- **Karen Yung:** A Pito-one community board member and Te Ara Whakamua o Te Awa Kairangu Ki Tai (the Climate Action Pathway Group) member. Karen (Kaz) is also active in the climate change space in many ways including being a part of the Carbon Zero Hutt Network.
- **Tautalaleleia Sa'u:** Wainuiomata High school student representative.
- **Sigurd Magnusson:** Sigurd has a long history working in a range of climate and technology solutions. More recently he has been working in the clean transport space for Waka Kotahi and was instrumental in developing the clean car discount, which resulted in a significant lift in the uptake of electric vehicles.
- **Patrick McKibbin:** Patrick is the CEO of the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce and holds strong and meaningful relationships with the Lower Hutt business community. Patrick's passion is identifying and connecting information and involvement in conversations that lead to opportunities that deliver effective outcomes.
- **Josh Briggs and Naomi Shaw:** Information can be found on Council's website at <https://www.huttcity.govt.nz/council/meet-your-council/councillors>.

14. It is intended that panel members will participate in at least two funding rounds to support continuity of decision making and reduce the administrative burden of renewing the decision making panel more frequently.

Next steps

15. The first round of the LCA Fund gets under way in February 2024 and the evaluation of applications is scheduled for March and April 2024. Following Council's approval, the panel will commence its work on the evaluation of applications from the first round.

Climate Change Impact and Considerations

16. The matters addressed in this report have been considered in accordance with the process set out in Council's Climate Change Considerations Guide.

Consultation

17. There has been no public consultation on the panel make up and proposed individuals.
18. Individuals have been identified by the Chair of the Climate and Change and Sustainability Committee and Council officers, based on their role, experience and expertise.

Legal Considerations

19. There are no legal considerations.

Financial Considerations

20. Mana Whenua and community representatives would be eligible to receive an honorarium to reimburse them for their time. The honorarium would be set in line with the [Cabinet fees framework](#), which was developed to set rates for different types of decision-making panels and working groups. The estimated total cost per paid Decision Making Panel member is between \$1,380 and \$3,450. There is existing budget to cover this cost for the first funding round.

Appendices

There are no appendices for this report.

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