

# PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee Meeting  
Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration  
Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 18 February 2026, commencing  
at 9.01am.**

**Members Present:** Lorna Johnson (in the Chair), and Councillors Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Rachel Bowen, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

**Apologies:** The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Deputy Mayor Debi Marshall-Lobb (late arrival on Council Business)

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillor Vaughan Dennison were not present when the meeting started at 9.01am. They joined the meeting at 9.08am. They were not present for clause 1.

## **Karakia Timatanga**

Councillor Lorna Johnson opened the meeting with karakia.

### **1-26 Apologies**

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

### **The COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the apologies.

Clause 2-26 above was carried 13 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

#### **For:**

Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillor Vaughan Dennison entered the meeting.

### **2-26 Public Comment**

Comments from Katrin Stroppel-Jones, Health Consultant in support of Item 6 – Soft Plastics Trial – Options and Costs were read aloud by Hannah White, Governance Manager.

## COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - PART I - 18 FEBRUARY 2026

Diane Koch, from Environment Network Manawatū, made a public comment in support of Item 6 – Soft Plastics Trial – Options and Costs.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Rachel Bowen.

### The COMMITTEE RESOLVED

1. That the Committee receive the public comments for information.

Clause 2-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

**3-26**

### Soft Plastics Trial - Options and Costs

Report, presented by Natasha Hickmott, Acting Manager Resource Recovery.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Grant Smith.

### The COMMITTEE RECOMMENDS

1. That Council approve a soft plastics recycling drop off trial at both Ferguson Street Recycling Centre and Supermarkets commencing Quarter 1 2026/27 for a period of twelve months (Option 1).
2. That Council establish a new Capital Programme called 'Recycling – Soft Plastics Storage Shelter' for the purposes of building a storage shelter at Awapuni to facilitate implementation of a trial for soft plastics recycling.
3. That Council transfer \$82,600 from Programme 727 – Recycling – Materials Recovery Facility Development to new programme 'Recycling – Soft Plastics Storage Shelter' in the current Financial Year.
4. That Council refer to the Annual Budget 2026/27 deliberations additional operating expenditure of \$43,000 and additional operating revenue of \$15,000.
5. That the Chief Executive report back to the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee by 17 February 2027 outlining the effectiveness of six months of the trial, including costs and amount of soft plastics diverted.

Clause 3-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - PART I - 18 FEBRUARY 2026

**4-26 Committee Work Schedule - February 2026**

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

**The COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee receive its Work Schedule dated February 2026.

Clause 4-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

**For:**

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

**Karakia Whakamutunga**

Councillor Lorna Johnson closed the meeting with karakia.

The meeting finished at 9.50am.

Confirmed 11 March 2026

**Chair**