
Policy Review Committee

OPEN MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of Policy Review Committee held in the Council Chambers, 15 Forth Street, Invercargill on Wednesday, 7 October 2015 at 9am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Rodney Dobson Mayor Gary Tong
Councillors	Lyall Bailey Stuart Baird Brian Dillon John Douglas Paul Duffy Bruce Ford George Harpur Julie Keast Ebel Kremer Gavin Macpherson Neil Paterson

IN ATTENDANCE

Ian Marshall, Group Manager, Services & Assets, Bruce Halligan, Group Manager, Environmental & Community, Damon Campbell, Chief Information Officer, Sarah Bedford, Communications Officer, Fiona Dunlop, Committee Advisor, Alyson Hamilton, Area Officer, Riverton, Paul Casson, Chief Executive, Venture Southland, Tina Harvey, Community Development Team Leader, Venture Southland, Emma Hunter, Tourism Media & Marketing, Venture Southland, Steve Watson, Community Development Planner, Venture Southland.

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Leave of absence

There were no requests for leave of absence.

3 Conflict of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4 Public Forum

There was no Public Forum.

5 Extraordinary/Urgent Items

There were no Extraordinary/Urgent items presented for discussion.

6 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution

Moved Cr Ford, seconded Cr Dillon

and resolved that the minutes of the Policy Review Committee meeting held on 26 August 2015 be confirmed.

7 Reports

7.1 Venture Southland Community Development Update

Record No: R/15/9/16900

At this point Mr Casson introduced Steve Watson, Community Development Planner, and Emma Hunter, Tourism Media & Marketing to the Committee.

Tabled before the Committee was a report prepared by Mrs Harvey (Community Development Team Leader) updating the Committee on Venture Southland community development activities.

As part of the report Mrs Harvey made a power point presentation which covered the following regional projects and local initiatives;

- Research Plan & Strategies
- Southland Funding Forum
- Significant Funding Applications
- Local Initiatives (including Winton Community worker, Winton Memorial Hall, Winton Playground, Moores Reserve Combined Sports Complex, Limehills War Memorial, Winton Skatepark)
- Around the Mountains Cycle Trail Update
- Tourism Update
- Events Update

In response to a query from the Committee regarding marketing of the cycle trail Ms Hunter advised that marketing of this project is to commence prior to its completion with the view of encouraging public awareness.

The Committee raised the issue of the lack of commercial activities (seafood, lamb, beef) being promoted in Southland; in response Ms Hunter advised any promotion of commercial activities requires funding and a funding source is required.

Resolution

Moved Cr Dillon, seconded Cr Kremer

and resolved that the Policy Review Committee:

- a) Receives the report titled “Venture Southland Community Development Update ” dated 21 September 2015.**

7.2 Venture Southland Projects and Activities Report - July/August 2015

Record No: R/15/9/16968

Report by Mr Andrews (Communications Manager) updating the Committee on Venture Southland projects and activities for July and August 2015, was tabled.

In the absence of Mr Andrews, Mr Casson spoke to the report.

- Performance targets exceeded 2014-2015; in discussing comments relating to this issue Councillor Kremer stated it was pleasing to see performance targets have been met, however queried the possibility of a breakdown of the activities and projects included within these targets.
- Lonely Planet Accolade for Southern Tourism; the Committee was informed that Southern Tourism had received praise from the “Lonely Planet” publication with special mention made of Fiordland National Park and Stewart Island.
- Significant Funding Applications lodged during this particular period namely Around the Mountains Cycle Trail and Curio Bay Natural Heritage Centre.
- Around the Mountain Cycle Trail where the Official Partner Programme was initiated with personal visits to prospective accommodation, hospitality and activity operators throughout Northern Southland.
- Joseph Parker Fight Event was considered a successful event in terms of positive exposure for the region.
- Southland Digital Strategy was submitted to the Minister of Business, Innovation & Employment (MBIE); provision of the strategy allows Southland to participate in the Urban Fibre Mobile Broadband.
- Aeromag Survey Extension; \$343k of the \$686k target local share has been committed and Environment Southland has finalised its commitment. Southland Survey will commence in the summer of 2015/16.
- Silicon samples are being investigated and a comprehensive prefeasibility will follow.

- Aquaculture; 4 out of the 9 sites have been investigated as worthy of further investigation.
- Electricity Transmission Pricing Methodology; the Committee was informed that Southland Stakeholders Southern NZ businesses are paying \$64 million more each year since 2004 towards the upper North Island grid development.
- Awarua Space Station; the Committee was informed that 2 new Ground stations have recently been commissioned and 4 new proposals have been prepared for consideration by International Clients. The Winton Ground Station planning is well advanced. It was noted this project is self-funded and not relying on ratepayer's contributions.
- Lean programme; the Committee was informed seven Southland companies attended a recent presentation which highlighted the Lean management principles, of focusing on adding value and eliminating waste for businesses.
- Energy Efficiency & Conservation Authority (EECA); the Committee was advised that the EECA are working with Venture Southland to lower energy-related carbon emissions in Southland with the object to improve air quality and provide local employment and business opportunities.
- Christchurch Rebuild; it was reported eight local businesses are partaking in the Christchurch rebuild.
- Revenue Attraction; comment was made that Year to date Venture Southland has secured additional \$6.5 million revenue into the region on top of ratepayer's contribution.

Also covered in the report for July/August 2015 was a report on projects and activities that come under the umbrella of;

- Southland Tourism
- Destination Fiordland
- Conference and Events
- Community Development
- Business and Strategic Projects

Resolution

Moved Cr Kremer, seconded Cr Macpherson

and resolved that the Policy Review Committee:

- a) **Receives the report titled "Venture Southland Projects and Activities Report - July/August 2015" dated 21 September 2015.**

The meeting concluded at 10.10am

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD AT A MEETING OF THE POLICY REVIEW COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 7 OCTOBER 2015.

DATE:.....

CHAIRPERSON:.....