Manawatū-Whanganui Local Advisory Committee Meeting

Minutes

Date: Friday 27 February 2026 **Time:** 09.00 am – 2.00pm

Venue: Palmerston North Fire Station, 50 Cook Street, Palmerston North Central, PN 4412

Present:

Materoa Mar	LAC Chair
Stefan Speller	LAC Deputy Chair
Amy Valentine	LAC Member
Bonnie Kuru	LAC Member
Ross Brannigan	LAC Member
Paul Patel	LAC Member

In attendance:

Bruce Stubbs	Regional Manager Te Ūpoko
Deane Chalmers	Acting District Manager
Barry Madgwick	Community Risk Manager
Lucy Chamberlain (Online 10:30 -12)	National Manager Local Advisory Committees
Michelle Bartlett (Online)	Senior Advisor Local Advisory Committees

Apologies:

Paul Sharland	LAC Member
Graeme Spiers	LAC Member
Nigel Dravitzki	District Manager
Kerry O'Keefe	Community Risk Manager
Aiden Crawford	Pou Takawaenga Te Ūpoko

Welcome and Whakawhānaungatanga

The meeting was opened with a karakia by the Region Manager. The Chair welcomed members and noted apologies.

Committee operations

Amendments to the members register of interests were noted. Members to email updates to the secretariat and copy in the Chair. The minutes were confirmed, actions updated, and correspondence since that meeting was noted. The Code of Practice for Fire Fighting Water Supplies public consultation will begin on 19 March 2026 with one representative from each LAC to provide feedback.

Refreshed LAC Terms of Reference

The Chair presented on the updated Terms of Reference and led discussion. The National Manager Local Advisory Committees acknowledged the discussion and noted feedback will be provided to the Fire and Emergency Board.

District Update

The Acting District Manager updated the LAC on recent activity and matters of interest for the committee including the organisation changes, and industrial action.

The Community Risk Manager updated the LAC on the recent risk prevention work and discussed progress and ongoing challenges for the Manawatū-Whanganui region and the organisation. Central District Field days is coming up on the 19th-21st March 2026. FENZ will be in attendance and offered two additional tickets each day for LAC members who would like to attend and support. An attendance scheduled was agreed with the LAC members.

The LAC noted the potential to set up community disaster resources in advance such as marae having bulk supplies for emergencies and preparing for this in advance with having supplies in strategic locations.

LAC Engagement

The LAC reviewed its annual engagement plan and discussed re-aligning it with the refreshed Terms of Reference. It also discussed potential portfolios and geographical areas with the membership changes.

Review of Engagement Reports

Members reviewed and discussed the following engagement that were completed prior to this trimester meeting with a retired volunteer leader

Secretariat update

The updated claims process was presented and discussed. Members are encouraged to contact the secretariat if they have any questions.

General Business

The committee confirmed the actions from the meeting.

Next trimester meeting

The next meeting is **29 May 2026** at Whanganui Fire Station.

Closing

The meeting closed by the Chair at 2.00pm with karakia. The meeting is 5 hours.

Action Log

Date	Action	Responsible	Due	Status
27 February 2026	Share web-based link to Convene to LAC members	Senior Advisor	Post meeting	Complete
27 February 2026	Convene- Members unable to view meeting pack without starting the meeting.	Senior Advisor	Post meeting	Complete
27 February 2026	Can Whāriki reports from other committees be shared with this committee as examples	Senior Advisor	20 April 206	Progressing
27 February 2026	LAC member to collate LAC insights from meeting minutes ahead of annual reporting Includes Disaster resource mapping and models of volunteerism	LAC member – Amy Valentine	29 May 2026	Progressing
27 February 2026	Plan of district events to be shared with the LAC and members to indicate to Chair what they will attend	District Manager	20 April 2026	Progressing
27 February 2026	Share Light Right resources as they come available	District Manager	As available	Complete