

Confirmed Public minutes of the Public Transport Committee meeting on Thursday 12 February 2026

Taumata Kōrero – Council Chamber, Greater Wellington Regional Council
100 Cuba Street, Te Aro, Wellington at 10.02am

Members Present

Councillor Connelly (Chair)
Councillor James (Deputy Chair)
Councillor Duthie
Councillor Elder
Councillor Free
Councillor Gaylor
Councillor Johnstone
Councillor Makarini
Councillor Ponter
Councillor Rhodes
Councillor Saw
Councillor Staples
Councillor Tupou
Councillor Woolf

Karakia timatanga

The Committee Chair opened the meeting with a karakia timatanga.

Public Business

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Declarations of conflicts of interest

There were no declarations of conflicts of interest.

3 Public participation

Anna McMartin spoke via Teams regarding her experience with replacement buses in early January 2026.

Hayley Vujcich spoke on public transport bus replacements following the closure of the Melling Train Station. A presentation was tabled.

Wendy Q spoke on public safety in Wellington bus services. A presentation was tabled.

Hayley Jeffrey spoke via Teams on the bike restrictions on trains.

Councillor Free left the meeting at 10.08am during public participation and returned at 10.23am.

Councillor Johnstone advised a conflict of interest for matters raised in public participation that reference the Police.

The Committee requested that officers provide reports to a future meeting of the Committee on the feasibility of:

- integrating bus communications into a central public transport communications system, and
- Enabling bikes to accompany passengers on trains during peak services.

The Committee Chair accorded priority to agenda item 5: NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Briefing – Report 26.31

4 NZ Transport Agency Waka Kotahi Briefing – Report 26.31 [For Information]

Emma Speight, Director, Regional Relationships, spoke to the report. A presentation was tabled.

5 Public Transport Performance - December 2025 – Report 26.5 [For Information]

Paul Tawharu, Senior Manager Operations, spoke to the report. Updated information on rail network owner performance and an updated Attachment 1 was tabled.

6 Recent Changes to Immigration Settings: Impact on Bus Drivers – Report 26.11 [For Information]

Paul Tawharu, Senior Manager Operations, spoke to the report.

7 Rail Replacement Services Action Plan: Update – Report 26.4 [For Information]

Paul Tawharu, Senior Manager Operations, spoke to the report.

The Committee requested that officers provide a report to a future Committee meeting that outlines options for the way forward for buses replacing trains, with reference to a set of customer-focussed metrics.

8 Lower North Island Rail Integrated Mobility Programme Overview – Report 26.3
[For Information]

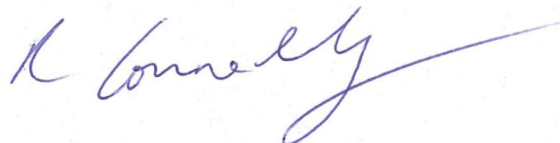
Karakia whakamutunga

The Committee Chair closed the meeting with a karakia whakamutunga.

The meeting closed at 12.33pm.

Chair Councillor R Connelly

Date:



19/03/26