He Pou a Rangi Climate Change Commission Board meeting minutes (meeting 69)
Wednesday 25 February and Thursday 26 February 2026

A meeting of the Climate Change Commission Board was held at the office of the Climate Change Commission, Level 21, Aon Centre, 1 Willis Street, Wellington with attendees also joining via Teleconference Facility. The meeting started on Wednesday 25 February 2026 at 1.02pm and adjourned at 6.20pm. The meeting reconvened on Thursday 26 February 2026 at 9.31am and concluded at 3.43pm.

Climate Change Commission Board members in attendance:
Rt Hon Dame Patsy Reddy – Board Chair
Lisa Tumahai – Deputy Chair
Dr Judy Lawrence
Dr Andy Reisinger
Dr Tanira Kingi
Devon McLean
Felicity Underhill

Apologies:
Distinguished Professor Steven Ratuva

Climate Change Commission staff in attendance:
Alexandra Aimer-Seton – Manager, Built Environment & Energy Transition
Anne Jonathan – Executive Assistant
Astrid Nunns – General Manager, Corporate Accountability and Operations
Charlotte Delahunty - Programme Manager
Conor Loughran - Senior Advisor, Planning and Performance
Eva Murray - Principal Analyst, Evidence and Advice
Fran Lovell – Manager, Strategic Operations
Gemma Lawson – Senior Board Coordinator and Minute Taker
Gillian Thornton – Manager, Analytics and Economics
Grant Blackwell – Chief Science Advisor
Hans Landon-Lane - Principal Advisor Channels & Information Systems, Strategic Operations
Holly Walker – Project Director
James Muwunganirwa – Manager, Primary Industries & Environment
Jo Hendy – Chief Executive
Julia Fink – Chief Financial Officer
Karen Lavin - General Manager, Evidence and Advice
Lara Wood – Manager, Business Services
Leah Chamberlin-Gunn - Principal Advisor, Strategic Communications
Marcus Stickley – Manager, Impact
Martin Dutton – Manager, Reports – Deliver

Naomi O'Connor - Senior Technical Writer, Impact
Rachael Young - Principal Analyst, Analytics and Economics
Rob Aloe – Project Coordinator
Rob Carr – Project Director
Robert Liberona - Principal Advisor, Planning and Performance
Robin Campbell – General Manager, Delivery
Robin Wilkinson - Principal Advisor, Impact
Sally Garden – Project Director
Sam Holmes - Project Director
Sophie Carroll - Manager, Government Services and Performance Reporting
Tipene Wilson - Manahautū, Māori

External Guests:
Amanda Dudding – Public Affairs, NZ, IPSOS
Mayor Rehette Stoltz - President, Local Government New Zealand
Ranjani Ponnuchetty - Director Partnerships & Advocacy, Local Government New Zealand
Sarah Leslie – Partner, Luke Cunningham Clere
Joanna Judge – Associate, Luke Cunningham Clere

The meeting started at 1.02pm on Wednesday 25 February 2026

Patsy Reddy, Lisa Tumahai, Judy Lawrence, Andy Reisinger, Felicity Underhill, Devon McLean, Anne Jonathan and Gemma Lawson joined the meeting at 1.02pm

Agenda item 1: Board only time

1.1 The Board discussed Commissioner terms on the Board.
1.2 The Board discussed the agenda of the meeting.

Anne Jonathan and Gemma Lawson left the meeting at 1.17pm

1.3 The Board noted the self-assessment report and survey results for the Chief Executive's Key Performance indicators for the six months 1 July – end December 2025.
1.4 The Board discussed and agreed an overall assessment of the Chief Executive's performance over the six-month period between 1 July – end December 2025.

Jo Hendy and Astrid Nunns joined the meeting at 1.42am

Agenda item 2: CE KPIs 2025/26: Six-month progress review

2.1 The Board shared their assessment of performance with the Chief Executive.
2.2 The Board noted that information from this review will support the Chief Executive's annual performance review and in turn the Public Service Commission's annual remuneration review.

Robin Campbell, Karen Lavin, Sophie Carroll, Charlotte Delahunty, Rob Carr, Fran Lovell, Anne Jonathan and Gemma Lawson joined the meeting at 2.13pm

Patsy Reddy opened the meeting with a karakia.

Agenda item 3: Welcome and introductions

3.1 Apologies

3.1.1 The Board noted that Steven Ratuva had provided an apology for the meeting.
3.1.2 The Board noted that Tanira Kingi and Felicity Underhill had provided apologies for parts of the meeting and that their attendance would be recorded in the minutes.
3.1.3 The Board noted no other apologies had been received for the meeting.

3.2 Call for additional items

3.2.1 The Board noted no additional items were raised.

3.3 Review of interest management

3.3.1 The Board noted receipt of the *Memo on Commissioner Interests* dated 16 February 2026.
3.3.2 The Board noted that Lisa Tumahai and Tanira Kingi have interests that that hold the condition that they may not be involved in the oversight, preparation, or authorisation of advice on pricing related to domestic units created for the New Zealand's Emissions Trading Scheme (NZ ETS).
3.3.3 The Board noted that this means that they would be excused from attending *agenda item 9: Update from the Technical Evidence and Assurance Committee* and *agenda item 12: Update on the NZ ETS*.
3.3.4 The Board noted no other interests required management in relation to the meeting agenda.
3.3.5 The Board noted the update made to an existing interest confirmed since the last meeting.
3.3.6 The Board noted that Judy Lawrence's interest with Transpower has extended to 30 June 2026.
3.3.7 The Board noted no interests required management in relation to the meeting agenda.
3.3.8 The Board reviewed the updated table of Board member's interests.

3.4 Approve draft Board meeting minutes

3.4.1 The Board reviewed and confirmed the minutes from the 28 and 29 October 2025 Board meeting minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

3.5 Letters for noting

3.5.1 The Board noted the letter from Chair of the Climate Change Commission to Dr Daniel Hikuroa regarding Pou Herenga Membership, dated 10 November 2025

3.5.2 The Board noted the letter from the Chief Executive of the Climate Change Commission to the Secretary to the Treasury regarding the Treasury's potential upcoming work on New Zealand's Paris Agreement NDC, dated 18 December 2025
3.5.3 The Board noted the letter to the Climate Change Commission Chair from the Public Service Commissioner regarding Notice applying Te Tauaki Whanonga mo te Rangai Tumatanui I The Code of Conduct for the Public Sector to the Climate Change Commission, dated 3 February 2026, including a copy of the Code of Conduct for the Public Sector.
3.5.4 The Board noted the letter from Chair of the Climate Change Commission to the Minister of Climate Change acknowledging the amendments to the Climate Change Response Act 2002 and outlining our approach to providing advice on the NZ ETS settings, dated 18 December 2025.
3.5.5 The Board noted the letter to the Climate Change Commission Chair from the Minister of Climate Change regarding options for 2026 ETS Settings advice, dated 23 January 2026.
3.5.6 The Board noted the letter to the Minister of Climate Change from the Climate Change Commission Chair regarding 2026 ETS Settings advice, dated 30 January 2026.

3.6 Actions Register

3.6.1 The Board noted the actions proposed for closure.
3.6.2 The Board noted the ongoing actions.
3.6.3 The Board agreed to the proposed closure of actions.

3.7 Board Horizon Report

3.7.1 The Board noted and discussed the Board Meeting Agenda Horizon Report.
3.7.2 The Board requested that a strategy meeting for the Board be confirmed for 2026 *(refer to action item 503/2026)*.

Alexandra Aimer-Seton, Gillian Thornton, James Muwunganirwa, Martin Dutton and Marcus Stickley joined the meeting at 2.20pm

Agenda item 4: Chief Executive's Verbal Update

4.1 The Chief Executive updated the Board on the wider strategic context of the Commission's work and advice.
4.2 The Chief Executive provided the Board with an overview on recent and upcoming work at the Commission.
4.3 The Chief Executive updated the Board on recent engagements.
4.4 The Board discussed the local and global context informing the Commission's work.
4.5 The Board discussed and noted the Chief Executive's verbal update.

Alexandra Aimer-Seton, Rob Carr, Sophie Carroll, Charlotte Delahunty, Gillian Thornton, James Muwunganirwa and Martin Dutton left the meeting at 2.55pm
The meeting adjourned from 2.55pm until 3.02pm
Tanira Kingi, Amanda Dudding, Leah Chamberlin-Gunn and Hans Landon-Lane joined the meeting at 3.02pm

Agenda item 5: 2025/26 Perception Research Project results

5.1 Amanda Dudding from IPSOS updated the Board on the results from the 2025/26 Perception Research Project.
5.2 The Board noted the background to the 2025/26 Perceptions Research Project.
5.3 The Board discussed the results of the 2025/26 Perceptions Research Project, including some potential stretch targets for both stakeholder and iwi/Māori engagement ahead of the next round of research due in 2027/28.
5.4 The Board noted how the results of the 2025/26 Perceptions Research Project will be used to guide the Commission's upcoming work.
5.5 The Board thanked IPSOS and Commission staff for their work.

Amanda Dudding, Fran Lovell, Marcus Stickley, Leah Chamberlin-Gunn, and Hans Landon-Lane left the meeting at 4.23pm
Lara Wood joined the meeting at 4.23pm

Agenda item 6: Summary of Board Self-Assessment/ Evaluation

6.1 Felicity Underhill introduced the results of the Board self-assessment questionnaire for 2025.
6.2 The Board noted and discussed the results of the Board self-assessment questionnaire for 2025.
6.3 The Board agreed to the key actions the Board will take going forward.

Lara Wood left the meeting at 5.01pm
Felicity Underhill, Anne Jonathan and Gemma Lawson left the meeting at 5.09pm
The meeting adjourned from 5.09pm until 5.22pm.
Rehette Stoltz and Ranjani Ponnuchetty joined the meeting at 5.22pm

Agenda item 7: Guest: LGNZ President, Mayor Rehette Stoltz

7.1 The Board was introduced to LGNZ President, Mayor Rehette Stoltz.
7.2 The Board and Mayor Rehette Stoltz discussed local government perspectives as they relate to the role of the Commission, and the Commission's work programme.

The meeting adjourned for the day at 6.20pm.

The meeting reconvened on Thursday 26 February 2026 at 9.31am
Patsy Reddy, Lisa Tumahai, Judy Lawrence, Tanira Kingi, Andy Reisinger, Devon McLean, Jo Hendy, Grant Blackwell, Robin Campbell, Tipene Wilson, Karen Lavin, Astrid Nunns, Martin Dutton, Rob Carr, Marcus Stickley, Sally Garden, Anne Jonathan and Gemma Lawson joined the meeting at 9.31am

Agenda Item 8: Discussion: Key/Strategic Issues

8.1 Commission staff updated the Board on the outcomes of the Government's efficiency review of the Climate Change Response Act (Act), and how this relates to the Commission's ongoing work.

8.2 The Board discussed and noted the considerations for the Commission's current deliverables.

8.3 The Board discussed the implications and impacts of the efficiency review of the Act on the Commission's forward work programme.

8.4 The Board noted three unexpected aspects of Cabinet's efficiency review decisions regarding the Commission's work programme, and that there would be an opportunity for these to be discussed with the Minister at the next quarterly meeting.

8.5 The Board discussed possible future case studies that the Commission might undertake to build the Commission's evidence base.

Jo Hendy left the meeting at 10.15am
Sam Holmes and Holly Walker joined the meeting at 10.19am
Lisa Tumahai, Tanira Kingi, Tipene Wilson, Sally Garden, Rob Carr, Martin Dutton and Marcus Stickley left the meeting at 10.25am

Agenda item 9: Update from the Technical Evidence and Assurance Committee

9.1 The Chair of the Technical Evidence and Assurance Committee (TEAC) updated the Board on the 16 February 2026 meeting, on key judgements relating to the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme.

9.2 The Chair of TEAC noted that a summary of this meeting had been circulated to the Board.

9.3 The Board noted the update from the TEAC Chair on the 16 February 2026 TEAC meeting.

9.4 The Board noted the 1 October 2025, 7 October 2025, 3 November 2025 and 8 December 2025 Committee meeting minutes, as approved by the Committee.

Sam Holmes left the meeting at 10.35am
The meeting adjourned from 10.35am until 10.45am
Jo Hendy, Lisa Tumahai, Tanira Kingi, Marcus Stickley, Rob Aloe and Naomi O'Connor joined the meeting at 10.45am

Agenda item 10: National Climate Change Risk Assessment 2026: Update

10.1 Commission staff updated the Board on the current status of the National Climate Change Risk Assessment (NCCRA) 2026, including the update to the delivery date.

10.2 The Board discussed considerations for planning the approach to delivering and releasing the NCCRA 2026.

10.3 The Board noted the update on NCCRA 2026.

Holly Walker, Marcus Stickley, Rob Aloe, and Naomi O'Connor left the meeting at 11.14am
Fran Lovell, Rob Carr, Gillian Thornton, Robin Wilkinson and Racheal Young joined the meeting at 11.16am

Agenda item 11: Update on Emissions Budgets advice

11.1 Commission staff confirmed that the project team was seeking initial guidance from the Board before going to TEAC with a more detailed scope.

11.2 The Board agreed that the updated emissions budget advice will be a targeted update, rather than fresh analysis of what budget levels should be.
11.3 The Board discussed how the Commission should reflect the changes to the 2050 target within its updated budgets advice.
11.4 The Board discussed the appropriateness of the Commission providing multiple recommendations on changes to budgets two and three.
11.5 The Board discussed how the Commission should address agriculture and the impacts on food production in its updated budgets advice.
11.6 The Board noted the evidence build the Commission is undertaking which may enable it to strengthen its economic analysis and narrative for this piece of advice.
11.7 The Board noted the analytical questions staff will bring to the TEAC for the project scoping.
11.8 The Board discussed and agreed to the engagement approach set out, and agreed for final decisions on the engagement approach to be made by the Chief Executive.

Tanira Kingi, Lisa Tumahai, Fran Lovell, Rob Carr, and Gillian Thornton left the meeting at 12.05pm
Sam Holmes and Eva Murray joined the meeting at 12.06pm

Agenda item 12: Update on the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme

12.1 The Board noted and discussed the update on the progress of the New Zealand Emissions Trading Scheme 2026 advice.

Sam Holmes, Eva Murray, Racheal Young, Robin Wilkinson, Gemma Lawson and Anne Jonathan left the meeting at 12.33PM
The meeting adjourned from 12.33pm until 1.05pm
Lisa Tumahai, and Julia Fink joined the meeting at 1.05pm

Agenda item 13: Update from Risk, Audit, Safety and Health Committee

13.1 The Chair of the Risk, Audit, Safety and Health (RASH) Committee meeting, updated the Board on the 17 February 2026 RASH meeting.
13.2 The Board noted the verbal update on the 17 February 2026 RASH meeting.
13.3 The Board noted the approved 21 October 2025 RASH committee minutes.
13.4 The Board approved the updates to the Schedule of Financial Delegations.
13.5 The Board noted that the Commission remains on track to meet its Statement of Performance Expectation budget with a forecast year-end surplus of $21k.
13.6 The Board approved for the Chief Executive to spend in line with the updated forecast.
13.7 Commission staff introduced the draft FY26-27 and indicative out-years budget, which had been endorsed by RASH.
13.8 The Board noted the assumptions within the draft FY26-27 and indicative out-years budget as set out in the paper.
13.9 The Board approved the Draft Budget FY2026-27 and Indicative Out-Years.
13.10 The Board noted that the Commission will be advising the Minister of Climate Change, of the intention to access the Commission's reserves.

Tanira Kingi joined the meeting at 1.28pm
Grant Blackwell left the meeting at 1.35pm

Sophie Carroll, Robert Liberona, Conor Loughran, Gemma Lawson and Anne Jonathan joined the meeting at 1.39pm
Grant Blackwell joined the meeting at 1.41pm

Agenda item 14: 2025/26 Q2 Performance Report - as endorsed by RASH

14.1 Commission staff introduced the Quarterly Performance Report for Q2 2025/26 (Q2 Report) and summarised the feedback received from the RASH committee.
14.2 The Board noted the Q2 Report had been endorsed by the RASH Committee.
14.3 The Board reviewed and provided feedback on the Q2 Report
14.4 The Board approved the Q2 Report, subject to the Board's feedback.
14.5 The Board delegated authority to the Chief Executive to approve and sign out any amendments post-Board meeting.
14.6 The Board agreed to send the Q2 Report, subject to incorporation of the Board's amendments, to the Commission's Crown monitoring agency.

Julia Fink and Conor Loughran left the meeting at 1.48pm
Tipene Wilson and Fran Lovell joined the meeting at 1.51PM

Agenda item 15: Strategic building blocks for the Statement of Intent 2026-30 and the Statement of Performance Expectations 2026/27

15.1 Commission staff introduced the discussion around the strategic building blocks for the Statement of Intent (SOI) 2026-30 and the Statement of Performance Expectations (SPE) 2026/27.
15.2 The Board discussed and provided feedback on the vision, outcome and impact statements as presented.
15.3 The Board approved the wording of the Vision, Outcome and Impact statements within the strategic framework, subject to the Board's feedback.
15.4 The Board discussed and approved the proposed organisational performance measures.
15.5 The Board discussed the potential strategic themes for the SOI 2026-30 and the SPE 2026/27.
15.6 The Board agreed on three strategic themes that will frame the narrative in the Commission's accountability documents.
15.7 The Board noted that the draft SOI and draft SPE will be tabled with the Board in April before they are provided to the Minister of Climate Change for feedback.

Robin Campbell left the meeting at 2.16pm
Robin Campbell joined the meeting at 2.21pm
Sophie Carroll, Robert Liberona and Fran Lovell left the meeting at 2.27pm
The meeting adjourned from 2.27pm until 2.37pm

Agenda item 16: Update from Pou Herenga

16.1 The outgoing Chair of Pou Herenga introduced the update on the Pou Herenga.

16.2 The Board noted the draft minutes from the 30 October Pou Herenga hui, and the approved minutes from the 27 May 2025 Pou Herenga hui.
16.3 The Board discussed the update to the Pou Herenga membership.
16.4 The Board agreed that the in-person meeting between the Board and the Pou Herenga be postponed until the new Pou Herenga members are in place and subject to budget.
16.5 The Board noted that Commission staff are working through the terms of appointment of all Pou Herenga members and the potential recruitment of new Pou Herenga members
16.6 The Board agreed that Tanira Kingi would form part of the panel for the potential recruitment of new Pou Herenga members, as the outgoing Chair of Pou Herenga.
16.7 The Board noted that future updates will be provided to the Board in due course.
16.8 The Board noted that the terms of appointment and appointment to any role on the Pou Herenga may be amended or terminated by resignation or Board resolution, as per the Pou Herenga Terms of Reference.
16.9 The Board noted the 31 July changes in membership structure of the Pou Herenga.
16.10 The Board agreed to extend the term of Pou Herenga membership of Hayden Swann and Tui Shortland to 30 April 2028.
16.11 The Board approved the appointment of Tui Shortland as Tumuaki (Chair) of Pou Herenga until 30 April 2028.
16.12 The Board approved the appointment of Hayden Swann as Tumuaki Tuarua (Deputy Chair) of Pou Herenga until 30 April 2028.

Sarah Leslie and Joanna Judge joined the meeting at 2.47pm
Gemma Lawson and Anne Jonathan left the meeting at 2.49pm

Agenda item 17: Waitangi Tribunal climate change inquiry

17.1 Commission staff and representatives from Luke Cunningham Clere updated the Board on the request being made of the Commission in relation to the Waitangi Tribunal climate change inquiry.
17.2 The Board noted the Commission’s possible involvement with the Inquiry.

Sarah Leslie and Joanna Judge left the meeting at 3.34pm

Agenda item 18: General Business

18.1 The Board agreed to appoint Devon McLean the new Chair of the RASH Committee, and thanked Lisa Tumahai for her time as Chair.
18.2 The Board noted that there will be a review of the RASH terms of reference and that the draft will come to Board for approval.
18.3 No other matters of general business were raised.

Lisa Tumahai closed the meeting with a karakia.

The meeting finished at 3.43pm.

These minutes have been accepted as a true and accurate record by the Board of the Climate Change Commission.

Signed: ______________________ Date: 22/4/2026
Chair