

Action plan to support the declaration of a Climate Emergency

OVERALL

1. Establish appropriate governance arrangements for climate change
2. Support decision making and policy development by including robust analysis of climate change impacts
3. Review the GWRC climate change strategy and establish a senior management champion for climate change priorities within the organisation to ensure an internal culture shift is achieved
4. Advocate to Central Government to ensure legislation enables GWRC to expedite climate change and related water quality and quantity actions and consent based on an emissions threshold

REGIONAL ADAPTATION

5. Support territorial authorities to create and implement proactive place-based, inclusive and community-led, engagement programmes relevant to the different dynamics of each area, which draw on existing community networks and reflect the interdependent nature of environmental issues and people
6. Undertake additional technical research:
 - a. to be able to provide detailed, fit-for-purpose advice to support community engagement programmes and advise infrastructure renewal programmes
 - b. to inform fine scale mapping of areas at highest risk of flooding in conjunction with Wellington Water's storm water investigations
7. Actively work with central government to identify funding opportunities for community engagement programmes and financing adaptation responses

REGIONAL MITIGATION

8. Work collaboratively with key institutions and agencies across the region to develop a Regional Climate Mitigation Plan
9. Actively build a regional afforestation brokering role to build partnerships which capitalise on the Billion Trees programme and expand permanent native forests on public and private land
10. Embed emissions reductions targets in key programmes and projects to ensure the region contributes to the target of Net Zero New Zealand 2050, and long term infrastructure investments properly account for the anticipated increased cost of carbon resulting from the introduction of the Climate Change Response (Zero Carbon) Amendment Bill