



COUNCIL CONTROLLED ORGANISATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES OF THE INAUGURAL COUNCIL CONTROLLED ORGANISATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING OF WESTLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM ON WEDNESDAY, 16 April 2026 COMMENCING AT 1 PM

The meeting was livestreamed to the Westland District Council YouTube channel. Presentations are available on the Council website.

1. MEMBERS AND APOLOGIES

Chairperson:	Her Worship the Mayor
Members:	Deputy Mayor Burden
	Cr Gillett
	Kw Madgwick
	Kw Tumahai

NGĀ WHAKAPAAHA

APOLOGIES

Apology received from Kw Madgwick.

Moved Deputy Mayor Burden, seconded Cr Gillett and **Resolved** that the apology from Kw Madgwick be received and accepted.

ABSENT

Nil

STAFF PRESENT

B Phillips, Chief Executive; S Lewis, Chief Financial Officer; S. Hewett, Governance Advisor; N. Martin, Governance and Communications Officer.

2. WHAKAPUAKITANGA WHAIPĀNGA

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Interest Register had been circulated.

There were no changes made to the Interest Register.

3. NGĀ MENETI O TE HUI KAUNIHERA

MINUTES OF MEETINGS

Council Controlled Organisation Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes - 28 January 2026

Moved Cr Burden, seconded Gillett and **Resolved** that the minutes of the Council Controlled Organisation Meeting held on the 28 January 2026 be confirmed as a true and correct record of the meeting.

4. ACTION LIST

Item No.	Date Added	Item	Action	Completion Target Date	Officer	Current Status	Date and Next Steps	Status
3	27/03/2025	Destination Westland Ltd: Financial returns for individual businesses.	Financial information to be split to give a clearer picture of financial returns of each business going forward and be provided to the Committee.		G. Bishop	This item to come back to committee on:	2-Jul-26	Open
5	27/03/2025	Destination Westland Ltd: Land and Building Fixed Assets and Assets Under Construction Information	Chair Bishop to provide a breakdown of the 14 million Land and Building Fixed Assets along with clarification of \$105,000 of Assets Under Construction to the Committee.		G. Bishop	This item to come back to committee on:	2-Jul-26	Open
7	27/03/2025	Aeronautical Fees	Update on negotiation of aeronautical fees review.		M. Anderson	Due to commercial sensitivity, an update will be provided to a future meeting of the committee.	2-Jul-26	Open
9	27/03/2025	Committee Workplan	Update on Workplan to be provided to the Committee.		H. Lash	Workplan was discussed in 28 Jan 2026 Meeting - to be updated for 26/27 then adopted by committee	16-Apr-26	Open

Destination Westland Limited were updated on their outstanding actions which are due to be reported back to the Committee in the 2 July Meeting.

Item 9 - Committee Workplan will be presented to the Committee on today's agenda for adoption.

4. **PŪRONGO KAIMAHI
STAFF REPORTS**

Updated Workplan

The Chief Financial Officer spoke to the updated workplan, highlighting that it is largely unchanged from the previous year other than to reflect due dates for 2026/2027 financial year.

Moved Cr Gillett, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that:

1. The updated workplan be received.
2. The updated workplan be adopted by the CCO Oversight Committee.

6. **NGĀ TĀPAETANGA
PRESENTATIONS**

Westroads Limited Half Year Report to 31 December 2025

The Westroads Limited Chair presented the report touching on the following:

- **Financial performance:** Revenue is \$2.6M below budget, with a corresponding drop in gross revenue. Profitability is expected to decline despite a strong balance sheet and reduced debt.
- **People and Operations:** Staff retention is improving and there have been no reported WorkSafe incidents.
- **Cost pressures:** Rising fuel prices are a major issue, adding around \$100K per month in costs, with about \$40K currently unrecovered. Supply remains stable.
- **Risks:** There is a risk that increased costs could flow through to clients, potentially affecting their ability to proceed with projects.
- **Mitigation & outlook:**
 - o Some contracts include fuel price adjustments, and pricing is expected to increase over time, though there is a lag.
 - o Margins had been improving before the fuel cost spike.
 - o The organisation is financially positioned to manage current challenges but must adapt to ongoing economic pressures.
- **Strategic considerations:**
 - o A new piece of land has been secured.
 - o There may be a need for a more flexible, dynamic approach, including possibly diversifying the CCO role if economic challenges persist.

Moved Cr Gillett, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that:

1. The report be received.

Westroads Limited 2026/2027 Statement of Intent

The Westroads Limited Chair spoke to the draft Statement of Intent, informing the Committee that the Board has reviewed the letter of expectation and stating that most of the expectations outlined are already embedded within the CCO.

The Westroads Limited Chair raised concerns around the expectation of profitability due to sensitivity around publishing commercial figures and contracts publicly. Westroads is also hesitant to commit to 2030 projections at this point in time due to the economic instability currently being seen in the sector, largely brought about by the conflict in the Middle East. Risk registers still need to be updated to reflect the level of risk this imposes but the impact on fuel has been immediate which has made it difficult to react to.

Moved Cr Gillett, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that:

1. The Westroads Limited Draft Statement of Intent be received.

2. The Committee recommend the Draft Statement of Intent to Council for adoption.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30pm.

Meeting reconvened at 1:56pm.

Destination Westland Half Year Report to 31 December 2025

The Destination Westland Chief Executive presented the report on behalf of the Chair who was appointed after the period the report covers.

The Destination Westland Chief Executive gave a summary of the report, highlighting the following:

- **Revenue:** Down on budget due to lower than forecast landing fees and a reduction in royalties and commissions on gravel and moss.
- **Wildfoods Festival:** Costs for the event fall within this reporting period however the revenue generated isn't recognised until March 2026, creating a timing mismatch that negatively affects the figures in this report.
- Power costs were up 21% and regional rates up \$8000 against forecast.
- **Cash position:** A \$500,000 loan repayment was made on 30th June 2025 leading to reduced cash during this reporting period however this is now rebuilding as expected.
- North Runway Gold Mining project started later than expected which has had an impact on the reporting period figures. Noting that Destination does not have any Capital Investment in the project and there is an obligation to restore the land to a usable state.
- Pensioner housing is a community service and currently runs at a financial loss and it was agreed that future discussion on how this is managed needs to be had.
- Looking forward, Destination Westland are tracking towards breaking even for the financial year however there remains uncertainty due to current economic conditions.

Moved Cr Gillett, seconded Cr Burden and **Resolved** that:

1. The Report be Received.

Destination Westland 2026/2027 Statement of Intent

The Destination Westland Chair spoke to the draft Statement of Intent noting that changes are expected in the final version, focussing on how airport land can be used or developed however due to commercial sensitivity will need to be discussed further in the public excluded section of the meeting.

The Chair raised that there is currently a public perception around the organisation being difficult to work with and therefore wants to emphasise a shift towards being customer centric and easy to work through and this has been expressed within Destination Westland's mission statement and values.

There is a key focus in the upcoming year on improving regular passenger transport in and out of Hokitika Airport which will be expressed through the upgrades to the runway lighting to improve pilots' ability to land in poorer visibility conditions and improving the customer experience at the airport starting with reopening the café within the terminal rather than the coffee cart currently operating outside.

The crosswind runway has been closed since February due to surface conditions, the causes of which have now been investigated and monitored and Destination Westland will be working towards reopening it on a semi-permanent basis, only closing it again when it causes a safety issue, the cause of which is now believed to be excessive rainfall.

Moved Cr Burden, seconded Cr Gillett and **Resolved** that:

1. The Destination Westland Statement of Intent be received as draft.
2. Feedback be given prior to the final draft coming back to council by June.

7. RESOLUTION TO GO INTO PUBLIC EXCLUDED

Moved Cr Gillett, seconded Cr Burden and Resolved that Council move into the Public Excluded Section of the meeting at 2:19pm.

**DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL CONTROLLED ORGANISATION OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING – 2 JULY 2026
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 36 WELD STREET, HOKITIKA AND VIA ZOOM**

MEETING CLOSED AT 2.37 PM

Confirmed by the Council Controlled Organisation Oversight Committee at their meeting on 2 July 2026.

**Her Worship the Mayor
Chair**

Date: