

## Tracy Hatton

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**From:** Tracy Hatton  
**Sent:** Thursday, 2 November 2023 3:09 pm  
**To:** Ben Douglas; Sean Judd; Krissy Trigg; Fiona Thomson; Tom Logan; Nohah Forde; Lee Harris; Penny Bicknell; Paul Zaanen; Sharon Hornblow  
**Cc:** Di Rossiter  
**Subject:** RE: Outcomes from meeting re engagement in Buller

Hi Ben,

We will make the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> work.

Thanks  
Tracy



Dr Tracy Hatton  
Joint Managing Director  
p: +64 21 160 7707  
e : [tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz](mailto:tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz)  
w: [www.resorgs.org.nz](http://www.resorgs.org.nz)

---

**From:** Ben Douglas <ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 2, 2023 11:41 AM  
**To:** Sean Judd <sean.judd@bdc.govt.nz>; Krissy Trigg <krissy.trigg@bdc.govt.nz>; Fiona Thomson <fiona.thomson@wrc.govt.nz>; Tracy Hatton <tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz>; Tom Logan <tom.logan@canterbury.ac.nz>; Nohah Forde <nohah.forde@pg.canterbury.ac.nz>; Lee Harris <lee.harris.consulting.ltd@gmail.com>; Penny Bicknell <Penny.Bicknell@bdc.govt.nz>; Paul Zaanen <Paul.Zaanen@bdc.govt.nz>; Sharon Hornblow <sharon.hornblow@wrc.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Di Rossiter <di@dextera.co.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Outcomes from meeting re engagement in Buller

Hi everyone

Re timing for the consultation sessions – we had actually booked venues for Sunday 26 November. I'm not sure if that was clear? Given it's a Sunday, I wouldn't imagine there would be a clash with other BDC work?

I've just found out the 4 December is a public holiday here on the Coast, so it'd be a pity to spend two days of a three day weekend at work and imagining others will likely feel similarly.

Please confirm if you can attend a Sunday 26 meeting (our timing was 0830 – 1130 at Ngākawau and 1230 – 1530 at Carter's Beach, but understand we'll need longer sessions now with the combined approach)

I'm thinking Punakaiki we should do an evening session during the week- say the 27<sup>th</sup> from 4pm – 7pm?

Thanks

**Ben Douglas**

Senior Planner | West Coast Regional Council

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**From:** Ben Douglas <[ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz](mailto:ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 2:52 PM  
**To:** Di Rossiter <[di@dextera.co.nz](mailto:di@dextera.co.nz)>; Sean Judd <[sean.judd@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:sean.judd@bdc.govt.nz)>; Krissy Trigg <[krissy.trigg@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:krissy.trigg@bdc.govt.nz)>; Fiona Thomson <[fiona.thomson@wrc.govt.nz](mailto:fiona.thomson@wrc.govt.nz)>; Tracy Hatton <[tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz](mailto:tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz)>; Tom Logan <[tom.logan@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:tom.logan@canterbury.ac.nz)>; Nohah Forde <[nohah.forde@pg.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:nohah.forde@pg.canterbury.ac.nz)>; Lee Harris <[lee.harris.consulting.ltd@gmail.com](mailto:lee.harris.consulting.ltd@gmail.com)>; Penny Bicknell <[Penny.Bicknell@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Penny.Bicknell@bdc.govt.nz)>; Paul Zaanen <[Paul.Zaanen@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Paul.Zaanen@bdc.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** RE: Outcomes from meeting re engagement in Buller

Thanks Di, that looks good.

Once everyone BDC confirms if the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> December will work for the drop in sessions, I'll confirm the venues.

The branding will need to be TPPP rather than WCRC as it's a separate entity and needs to be kept at arm's length.

I've attached our comms material. We will have a media release and public notice ready in the next few days as well and I'll send that through when it's available.

I've attached the powerpoint we looked at as well- our principal planner put it together for a Committee meeting some months ago

Regards

**Ben Douglas**

**Senior Planner | West Coast Regional Council**

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---

**From:** Di Rossiter <[di@dextera.co.nz](mailto:di@dextera.co.nz)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 31, 2023 2:36 PM  
**To:** Sean Judd <[sean.judd@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:sean.judd@bdc.govt.nz)>; Krissy Trigg <[krissy.trigg@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:krissy.trigg@bdc.govt.nz)>; Fiona Thomson <[fiona.thomson@wrc.govt.nz](mailto:fiona.thomson@wrc.govt.nz)>; Ben Douglas <[ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz](mailto:ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz)>; Tracy Hatton <[tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz](mailto:tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz)>; Tom Logan <[tom.logan@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:tom.logan@canterbury.ac.nz)>; Nohah Forde <[nohah.forde@pg.canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:nohah.forde@pg.canterbury.ac.nz)>; Lee Harris <[lee.harris.consulting.ltd@gmail.com](mailto:lee.harris.consulting.ltd@gmail.com)>; Penny Bicknell <[Penny.Bicknell@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Penny.Bicknell@bdc.govt.nz)>; Paul Zaanen <[Paul.Zaanen@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Paul.Zaanen@bdc.govt.nz)>  
**Subject:** Outcomes from meeting re engagement in Buller

Hi all,

Thanks for the meeting and effort put in to unpack and build a solid engagement approach.

Key outcomes/notes:

1. WCRC and BDC will hold 3 x joint drop-in sessions in Buller (Ngakawau, Carters Beach, Punakaiki) on 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> December with the purpose of:
  - TTPP – informing community about updated coastal hazard maps (Hector to Punakaiki – except Westport), explaining proposed Plan change, explaining process for submitting, and sharing Plan timeframes
  - Climate adaptation – introducing the team to the community, informing district of climate adaptation project, asking communities what they value and want to retain, listen to them – no risk or technical information shared at this early stage
2. Strong WCRC planning interest in climate adaptation project – broader than TTPP
3. BDC climate adaptation project will also hold drop-in sessions later that same week in Karamea, Mokihiui, Reefton, Charleston (but not Westport area) – WCRC will also be present at these – Fiona Thomson / Di Rossiter and Tracy Hatton to coordinate
4. Key messages for all projects are needed across all linked projects ahead of drop-in sessions – climate adaptation, TTPP, master planning, Westport resilience project – Lee Harris progressing
5. Advertising – need to explain in the advertising “why not Westport yet?” – same for Karamea / Little Wanganui – take a joint up approach to advertising – Fiona Thomson / Di Rossiter and Tracy Hatton
6. Media – need to ensure consistent and aligned proactive messaging with media ahead of 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec – Lee Harris progressing
7. Iwi / stakeholder communications ahead of 2<sup>nd</sup> Dec – Lee Harris progressing – is this right?
8. Branding on TTPP will clearly be WCRC, and climate adaptation will be BDC / UC

Other things we didn't touch on:

- climate adaptation team will have BDC Councillor representation at the drop-in sessions – Jamie is happy for the project to contact the Councillors directly
- also considering having CDEM-contracted welfare coordinator Steph Newburry there – strong link between CDEM and adaptation; important that community welfare approach taken for later engagement when district's full risk profile is shared. Will confirm Steph's involvement later in month.

What have I missed?

Please ensure all climate adaptation project matters are shared with Tracy Hatton during 1<sup>st</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Nov as I'll be on A/L. Will have emails for anything urgent.

Thanks all! Go forth 😊

**Ngā mihi**

**Di Rossiter**



## Tracy Hatton

---

**From:** Tracy Hatton  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 14 November 2023 3:14 pm  
**To:** Councillor Toni O'Keefe  
**Subject:** RE: Community Engagement: WCRC Coastal Hazards/BDC Climate Adaptation  
**Attachments:** WCRC Run Sheet 26 and 27 Nov.docx

Hi Toni,

Thanks for your time and wisdom this morning.

We had a lot of debate across the project team about joining the WCRC engagement. Our feelings were that we wanted those community members attending to at least know that there is a project looking at what to do about the risks. We wanted our attendance to offer hope that there are discussions to be had, in the very near future with the community about what to do about the risks, what the trigger points for changing tack might be and that these discussions are to result in tangible plans created with, not for the community.

Although WCRC have called these drop-in sessions, their draft run sheet (attached), has a presentation by each council and then QandA. Although they have given us a 30-minute speaking slot, we are intending on talking for a max of 10 minutes to introduce us and the project only. We will also have a number of posters etc with information and a post it note with map to ask for their contributions. These static displays are intended for people simply to interact on arrival, leaving or when waiting to talk to WCRC staff. Originally that post it note and map was about what they value. Given our conversation this morning, I have a meeting with the project team later today to discuss the addition of what do you think should be done.

We felt that just leaving WCRC to talk about updated risks, maps and planning processes didn't give attendees any comfort that anybody was ever going to do anything to work with the community to look at adaptation over the short and medium term. By showing up together, we hoped to break those silos and start to build some relationships. We don't necessarily have to get anything from the community at this engagement, just show them that there is a team, supported by leadership and councillors that is trying to address this head on. We will be doing this across the District starting 11 December – these three engagements were brought forward to try and show the joined up approach to communities who we suspect doesn't really care which council does what. This is only the first of multiple planned phases of engagement. We will be promising the community that we will be back mid-2024.

One of our key principles of engagement is to be open and accountable. Show up when we say we will, do the work beforehand and be totally honest about what we know and what we don't know. All in aid of slowly building trust. One of the other key principles is to engage with a genuine desire to listen and incorporate community ideas and concerns. I think that showing up and listening, while ensuring we don't take away from their ability to talk with WCRC staff is quite important.

Sound OK?

Regards  
Tracy



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w: [www.resorgs.org.nz](http://www.resorgs.org.nz)

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**From:** Councillor Toni O'Keefe <Toni.O'Keefe@bdc.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 14, 2023 10:52 AM  
**To:** Tracy Hatton <tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz>  
**Subject:** Re: Community Engagement: WCRC Coastal Hazards/BDC Climate Adaptation

Hi Tracy,

I had a large think about the WCRC Coastal Hazards meeting, you need to separate these 2 meetings asap.

WCRC needs to be free to explain the mapping changes & answer all questions relating to this subject only; ie: **Can I put an extension on my house? Can I upgrade my septic tank? How big can I build my wall?**

I feel that people will be asking the wrong questions & WCRC won't get the chance to give/hear the targeted information they need.

If you have a good comms person assigned, any questions relating to the BDC meeting can be passed onto Di so she gets a heads up on what people want to know, this will assist BDC greatly, so Di & the team can deliver their message properly & no time will be wasted,

This could be very stressful coming up to Christmas, not something we can rush,

Feedback on this would be greatly appreciated

Kind regards Toni

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**From:** Tracy Hatton <[tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz](mailto:tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 November 2023 4:44 PM  
**To:** Councillor Toni O'Keefe <Toni.O'Keefe@bdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** RE: Community Engagement: WCRC Coastal Hazards/BDC Climate Adaptation

Thanks Toni,

I'm free between 9-10am, and 11-12.

Regards

Tracy



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**From:** Councillor Toni O'Keefe <Toni.O'Keefe@bdc.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 1:58 PM  
**To:** Tracy Hatton <[tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz](mailto:tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz)>; Councillor Andrew Basher <[Andrew.Basher@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Andrew.Basher@bdc.govt.nz)>;  
Councillor Phil Grafton <[Phil.Grafton@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Phil.Grafton@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Joanne Howard <[joanne.howard@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:joanne.howard@bdc.govt.nz)>;  
Councillor Annelise Pfahlert <[Annelise.Pfahlert@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Annelise.Pfahlert@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Colin Reidy <[Colin.Reidy@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Colin.Reidy@bdc.govt.nz)>;  
Councillor Rosalie Sampson <[rosalie.sampson@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:rosalie.sampson@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Grant Weston <[grant.weston@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:grant.weston@bdc.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Di Rossiter <[di@dextera.co.nz](mailto:di@dextera.co.nz)>  
**Subject:** Re: Community Engagement: WCRC Coastal Hazards/BDC Climate Adaptation

Hi Tracy, I will be attending Ngakawau & Carter's Beach, I'm tied up in a training session for most of the day, but would be good to chat tomorrow morning, what time works for you?

Kind regards Toni

Sent from [Outlook for Android](#)

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**From:** Tracy Hatton <[tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz](mailto:tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 11:10:41 AM  
**To:** Councillor Andrew Basher <[Andrew.Basher@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Andrew.Basher@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Phil Grafton <[Phil.Grafton@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Phil.Grafton@bdc.govt.nz)>;  
Councillor Joanne Howard <[joanne.howard@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:joanne.howard@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Toni O'Keefe <Toni.O'Keefe@bdc.govt.nz>;  
Councillor Annelise Pfahlert <[Annelise.Pfahlert@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Annelise.Pfahlert@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Colin Reidy <[Colin.Reidy@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Colin.Reidy@bdc.govt.nz)>;  
Councillor Rosalie Sampson <[rosalie.sampson@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:rosalie.sampson@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Grant Weston <[grant.weston@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:grant.weston@bdc.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Di Rossiter <[di@dextera.co.nz](mailto:di@dextera.co.nz)>  
**Subject:** Community Engagement: WCRC Coastal Hazards/BDC Climate Adaptation

Kia ora councillors

On 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of November, WCRC are holding drop-in sessions in three Buller communities, in relation to feedback on a draft variation to the TTPP to introduce new coastal hazards mapping - see <https://tppp.nz/coastal-hazards-variation/>

The Buller climate change risk assessment and adaptation team (Future Buller) were originally scheduled to commence community engagement in December across the district but have brought this forward for these three communities so that we can attend these WCRC organised sessions.

WCRC are approaching this as a planning exercise. We hope to be able to provide more context for these communities around the project BDC has underway to understand risks now and into the future, and to develop adaptation plans in consultation with these communities. In short, WCRC are talking about a refined understanding of risk, the BDC team want to present hope around there being a process in place to consider how to adapt or manage that risk.

Di Rossiter who is leading this project for BDC is currently away on leave, so I am reaching out hoping to begin a conversation about your potential attendance at these sessions. Mayor Cleine has indicated that an elected members attendance is essential if possible. We would include you in a pre-engagement briefing, but primarily your role is to be visible, listen and support.

Please could you let me know if you might be able to attend, and which session(s):

Sunday 26 November:	Ngakawau Hall	0900-1130
	Carter's Beach Hall	1400-1630
Monday 27 November:	Punakaiki Tavern	1430-1630

Please give me a call if you would like to talk through what's involved.

Thanks and Regards

Tracy



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## Tracy Hatton

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**From:** Tracy Hatton  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2023 2:56 pm  
**To:** Ben Douglas; Di Rossiter; Sean Judd; Krissy Trigg; Fiona Thomson; Tom Logan; Nohah Forde; Lee Harris; Penny Bicknell; Paul Zaanen  
**Subject:** RE: Outcomes from meeting re engagement in Buller

Hi Ben,

Just confirming that we have received the run sheet, calendar invites etc and the BDC climate team are all ready to go.

We will likely only talk for up to 10 minutes, as we want to ensure we don't take away anything from your key messages but just let people know who we are and what our project aims to do. We will have quite a lot of printed material (posters etc) for people to engage with if they choose.

Attending from our side are myself, Di Rossiter and Nohah Forde. We also have BDC councillors confirmed to attend: Councillor Toni O'Keefe for Ngakawau & Carter's Beach, Councillor Grant Weston for Carter's Beach and Councillor Joanne Howard for all three.

Regards  
Tracy



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**To:** Di Rossiter <di@dextera.co.nz>; Sean Judd <sean.judd@bdc.govt.nz>; Krissy Trigg <krissy.trigg@bdc.govt.nz>; Fiona Thomson <fiona.thomson@wrc.govt.nz>; Tracy Hatton <tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz>; Tom Logan <tom.logan@canterbury.ac.nz>; Nohah Forde <nohah.forde@pg.canterbury.ac.nz>; Lee Harris <lee.harris.consulting.ltd@gmail.com>; Penny Bicknell <Penny.Bicknell@bdc.govt.nz>; Paul Zaanen <Paul.Zaanen@bdc.govt.nz>  
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I've attached our comms material. We will have a media release and public notice ready in the next few days as well and I'll send that through when it's available.

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Regards

**Ben Douglas**

**Senior Planner | West Coast Regional Council**

✉ [ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz](mailto:ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz) | 📞 +64 3 768 0466 extn. 9070 | 📱 0274355966



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Hi all,

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Key outcomes/notes:

1. WCRC and BDC will hold 3 x joint drop-in sessions in Buller (Ngakawau, Carters Beach, Punakaiki) on 2<sup>nd</sup> / 3<sup>rd</sup> December with the purpose of:
  - TTPP – informing community about updated coastal hazard maps (Hector to Punakaiki – except Westport), explaining proposed Plan change, explaining process for submitting, and sharing Plan timeframes
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4. Key messages for all projects are needed across all linked projects ahead of drop-in sessions – climate adaptation, TTPP, master planning, Westport resilience project – Lee Harris progressing
5. Advertising – need to explain in the advertising “why not Westport yet?” – same for Karamea / Little Wanganui – take a joint up approach to advertising – Fiona Thomson / Di Rossiter and Tracy Hatton
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Other things we didn't touch on:

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What have I missed?

Please ensure all climate adaptation project matters are shared with Tracy Hatton during 1<sup>st</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Nov as I'll be on A/L. Will have emails for anything urgent.

Thanks all! Go forth 😊

**Ngā mihi**

**Di Rossiter**



## Tracy Hatton

---

**From:** Tracy Hatton  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2023 5:39 pm  
**To:** Mira Schwill  
**Cc:** Di Rossiter; Nohah Forde  
**Subject:** FW: Community Engagement: WCRC Coastal Hazards/BDC Climate Adaptation

Hi Mira,

Is it possible as Councillor Howard suggests to email Punakaiki residents?

Key points below:

TTPP staff are holding a drop in session 230-430 at the Punakaiki Tavern on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November to discuss **a draft variation to introduce new coastal hazards mapping. For more information, see: <https://tppp.nz/coastal-hazards-variation/>**. The BDC climate adaptation team will also be there to explore your ideas for climate adaptation now and into the future.

All welcome.

If its not possible, please just let me know so that I can go back to Jo Howard.

Thanks  
Tracy

---

**From:** Councillor Joanne Howard <[joanne.howard@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:joanne.howard@bdc.govt.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 5:19 PM  
**To:** Tracy Hatton <[tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz](mailto:tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz)>  
**Cc:** Di Rossiter <[di@dextera.co.nz](mailto:di@dextera.co.nz)>  
**Subject:** Re: Community Engagement: WCRC Coastal Hazards/BDC Climate Adaptation

Re advertising for Punakaiki, BDC has a email list for Punakaiki residents. Can ask Mira Schiller, BDC, to forward invitation to recipients.

Regards  
Joanne Howard | Councillor  
Email [Joanne.Howard@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Joanne.Howard@bdc.govt.nz)

**Buller District Council** | Phone [0800 807 239](tel:0800807239) | [www.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://www.bullerdc.govt.nz)  
PO Box 21 | Westport 7866

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---

**From:** Tracy Hatton <[tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz](mailto:tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz)>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 13, 2023 11:10:41 AM  
**To:** Councillor Andrew Basher <[Andrew.Basher@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Andrew.Basher@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Phil Grafton <[Phil.Grafton@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Phil.Grafton@bdc.govt.nz)>;

Councillor Joanne Howard <[joanne.howard@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:joanne.howard@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Toni O'Keefe <[Toni.O'Keefe@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Toni.O'Keefe@bdc.govt.nz)>;  
Councillor Annelise Pfahlert <[Annelise.Pfahlert@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Annelise.Pfahlert@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Colin Reidy <[Colin.Reidy@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:Colin.Reidy@bdc.govt.nz)>;  
Councillor Rosalie Sampson <[rosalie.sampson@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:rosalie.sampson@bdc.govt.nz)>; Councillor Grant Weston <[grant.weston@bdc.govt.nz](mailto:grant.weston@bdc.govt.nz)>  
**Cc:** Di Rossiter <[di@dextera.co.nz](mailto:di@dextera.co.nz)>

**Subject:** Community Engagement: WCRC Coastal Hazards/BDC Climate Adaptation

Kia ora councillors

On 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> of November, WCRC are holding drop-in sessions in three Buller communities, in relation to feedback on a draft variation to the TTPP to introduce new coastal hazards mapping - see <https://tppp.nz/coastal-hazards-variation/>

The Buller climate change risk assessment and adaptation team (Future Buller) were originally scheduled to commence community engagement in December across the district but have brought this forward for these three communities so that we can attend these WCRC organised sessions.

WCRC are approaching this as a planning exercise. We hope to be able to provide more context for these communities around the project BDC has underway to understand risks now and into the future, and to develop adaptation plans in consultation with these communities. In short, WCRC are talking about a refined understanding of risk, the BDC team want to present hope around there being a process in place to consider how to adapt or manage that risk.

Di Rossiter who is leading this project for BDC is currently away on leave, so I am reaching out hoping to begin a conversation about your potential attendance at these sessions. Mayor Cleine has indicated that an elected members attendance is essential if possible. We would include you in a pre-engagement briefing, but primarily your role is to be visible, listen and support.

Please could you let me know if you might be able to attend, and which session(s):

Sunday 26 November:	Ngakawau Hall	0900-1130
	Carter's Beach Hall	1400-1630
Monday 27 November:	Punakaiki Tavern	1430-1630

Please give me a call if you would like to talk through what's involved.

Thanks and Regards  
Tracy



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**From:** [Di Rossiter](#)  
**To:** [Steve Gibling](#); [Councillor Jamie Cleine](#); [Councillor Joanne Howard](#); [Sean Judd](#); [Krissy Trigg](#); [Shelley Jope](#); [Mira Schwill](#); [Penny Bicknell](#); [Paul Zaanen](#); [ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz](mailto:ben.douglas@wrc.govt.nz)  
**Cc:** [Nohah Forde](#); [Tracy Hatton](#); [Tom Logan](#)  
**Subject:** Heads up for The Westport News - climate adaptation project  
**Date:** Monday, 20 November 2023 4:28:00 pm

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Kia ora koutou,

FYI, Buller's Climate Adaptation project team had a conversation this afternoon with Ellen Curnow at The Westport News. A summary of our discussion is below:

- *BDC climate adaptation planning is a 3-year joint project by UC & BDC*
- *Community engagement kicks off with a handful of drop-in sessions in late Nov and Dec across the district*
- *Our aim is to ensure The News is kept in the loop about this work – it's so important that we get the community of Buller involved throughout the district's first adaptation planning cycle*
- *We provided an overview of work to date, small team of passionate people who value the coast*
- *The four phases of engagement - we're here to listen on a regular basis and share updates*
- *This complements the huge amount of work underway for Resilience Westport, but it doesn't currently include Westport in our initial scope – it's the rest of the district*
- *Importance of understanding the risk and having a single source of info for decision making*
- *Risk Explorer will offer a visual tool displaying all the publicly available info about risk, this will be shared in mid-2024*
- *We're aware that this will have huge implications, but we believe that knowledge is power and everyone has the right to know and understand the risk so that they can make those informed decisions*
- *Importantly, we're not making these decisions for anyone, we aren't going to force anyone to move or make decisions for them – that's not our role (and we don't have that power)*
- *Explained how this work came from the 2021 LTP funding and how it is linked to the National Adaptation Plan, also why it's important for Buller to get underway and start planning sooner rather than later*

Ellen has indicated that she will attend one of the community engagement sessions scheduled for Monday 26<sup>th</sup> November – either Ngakawau 8 – 11.30am or Carters Beach 1.30 – 4.30pm. An article will then follow.

Ngā mihi,  
Di Rossiter

**From:** [Nohah Forde](#)  
**To:** [Di Rossiter](#); [Tracy Hatton](#); [Tom Logan](#); [Sean Judd](#)  
**Cc:** [Steve Gibling](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Westport News article  
**Date:** Tuesday, 28 November 2023 4:52:59 pm

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Kia ora koutou

Just working on an action plan for our Future Buller team (Di, Tracy, Tom and I) after the last few days of community drop in events.

One of the items on my list is to reach out to Ellen who I've been having conversations with at the News to update her on how our first few community sessions went. Hopefully we can get another story written about the productive conversations we had over the weekend with some communities, and how we'd love to see a better turn-out at our next events in Dec.

From a communications/reputational perspective, the below is frustrating but doesn't warrant a direct response. They've not even correctly identified the project as Future Buller, or noted our collaboration with the University of Canterbury.

I'll share our team's next steps in an email shortly.

Nohah

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**From:** Di Rossiter <di@dextera.co.nz>  
**Date:** Tuesday, 28 November 2023 at 3:58 PM  
**To:** Tracy Hatton <tracy.hatton@resorgs.org.nz>, Nohah Forde <nohah.forde@pg.canterbury.ac.nz>, Tom Logan <tom.logan@canterbury.ac.nz>, Sean Judd <sean.judd@bdc.govt.nz>  
**Cc:** Steve Gibling <Steve.Gibling@bdc.govt.nz>  
**Subject:** Westport News article

Hi all,

Please see below letter. While annoying and insulting from a professional perspective, I am also concerned what this does to community confidence...

Thoughts on a response?



## Letters to the Editor

### Scaremongering

Buller District Council (BDC) ratepayers should be incensed that council are paying consultants large sums of money for a blather of words that are no more than rabid scaremongering.

That 'managed retreat' from sea level rise could be considered shows a lack of common sense. Why spend many billions of dollars relocating the town when a mere few millions of dollars extra on planned floodwalls would protect the town from any anticipated sea level rise for the next 100 years?

To investigate I attended council's climate change travelling circus and requested to be directed to the data used to claim Westport is facing rising sea level and rising groundwater. They had no data, in which case ratepayers are paying for very expensive and baseless reports that will invariably be filed and ignored like so many others.

That BDC prioritises such major spending on consultants for a 'range of climate change related projects' over provision of clean drinking water once again shows a distinct lack of leadership. Ratepayers need to contact their councillors and get this wasteful spending stopped as it is

robbing them of the financial resilience to pay for practical solutions when the need arises.

Paul Reynolds  
Westport

### Sand seepage

Re the river consultant employed by the council. In the other night's paper he was quoted as saying sand is seeping into the river on the seaward side of the west breakwater and seaward of the signal station.

While this is true, sand has always seeped through the west breakwater from the Carters Beach side tide line because of the sea drift.

It first started years ago - just past the tip road near the turn off road - and as the sand piled up the seepage naturally moved seaward.

I wonder how much council paid for this tripe from the river expert/consultant? More waste of ratepayers' money.

PS for the council's and others' info I am not a newcomer or know-all. I have spent 30 years working for the harbour, a great deal of my time as the dredge mate/skipper etc.

WJ Ratcliffe  
Westport

**Ngā mihi**

**Di Rossiter**

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# Community Engagement Drop-in Sessions: Week commencing 27<sup>th</sup> November

## Climate Adaptation Engagement #1 & TTPP Hazard Modelling Updates

### Purpose:

Online meeting to integrate natural hazard risk and climate adaptation community engagement #1 (with a question also being raised about LTP engagement) – engagement scheduled for **week commencing 27 November**.

### Invitees:

Sean Judd, Krissy Trigg, Ben Douglas, Sharon Hornblow, Paulette Birchfield, Fiona Thomson, Tracy Hatton, Nohah Forde, Tom Logan, Di Rossiter, Lee Harris, Penny Bicknell, Paul Zaanen

### Agenda:

1. Brief introductions
2. Purpose of pending engagement, including key messages from each team
3. Engagement drop-in sessions timings – preferences from both teams
4. Managing media communications – joint or separate
5. Managing iwi and stakeholder communications
6. How to address questions from the community regarding:
  - Westport
  - Snodgrass Road and Carter's Beach
  - Other high-risk areas (Mokihinui, Granity, Hector)
  - Other at-risk areas not included in updated coastal hazards (Karamea)
7. Outstanding questions

### Desired outcomes from this meeting:

1. Agreement on shared engagement approach (or not)
2. Confirmed plan for engagement during week of 27 Nov (why, where, when, who, what, how)
3. Action list with assigned responsibilities

The engagement we undertake the week of 27 November marks the beginning of a long-term conversation between our at-risk communities and BDC. We have very challenging conversations and decisions to come, and it's important we build trust and confidence across our communities.

Additionally, because climate and natural hazards are high-stakes and triggering for much of the Buller community (and receive significant local media attention) we also need to align:

### Key questions/issues to explore:

1. Engagement timing. WCRC have pushed back one week. Our team brought forward by 2 weeks. Our original timing (11 Dec) was determined so that BDC would only have one engagement going on at a time (currently pre LTP). 27<sup>th</sup> Nov or 11 Dec are our teams two windows. What are the timelines WCRC are working to? What's going to work best for all, and for the community?
2. What's the format for the engagement, and what material will be involved?
3. How will it be advertised?
4. What does the WCRC information mean for the community?
5. Are there further engagement sessions planned in 2024 in relation to natural hazards/climate: where/on what?
6. Do we (Tom) have the updated hazard layers they are using for the TToP variation?



# FUTURE BULLER

## ADAPTING TO CLIMATE CHANGE

[future.bullerdc.govt.nz](http://future.bullerdc.govt.nz)



## Future Buller – Community Engagement Interim Report – Phase One

*Authors: Alyssa Ryan, Di Rossiter, Tracy Hatton*

*May 2024*

### Project Overview

Future Buller is a joint long-term project between Buller District Council and the University of Canterbury, working in collaboration with the local community to find ways to respond to the changing climate and related events, for now, and into the future.

Future Buller's primary objective is to develop a robust climate adaptation plan for the Buller district.

### Community Engagement

#### The Importance of Engagement

Effective and ongoing community engagement is vital for climate adaptation. Community engagement can empower the decision-making process and provide an avenue to work collectively for a shared vision of the future. This is not a one-off process but a series of ongoing conversations with communities across the next decades.

The key principles that underpin our approach to engagement design can be summarised as:

#### Open and Accountable:

- Engage openly and transparently – be honest about what we know, what we are doing, and what our constraints are.
- Deliver on commitments made.
- Ensure duty of care to participants and the engagement team.
- Provide accessible, applicable (relevant to the community), and actionable information and outputs.

- Ensure one common language across all engagement.

Inclusive:

- Engage early and keep engaging.
- Be responsive and flexible – engagement is not a one size fits all programme.
- Provide a sense of agency/self-efficacy.

Collaborative:

- Engage with a genuine desire to listen and incorporate community concerns and ideas.
- Build strong local partnerships with Mana Whenua, Māori, relevant agencies, and community groups.

What does successful engagement look like for Future Buller?

1. **Inclusive Engagement:** Ensuring that a wide range of community members with diverse perspectives actively participate in the project.
2. **Acceptance of Adaptation:** Achieving community acceptance, even if reluctant, of adaptation strategies and trigger points for future actions.
3. **Community Behaviour Change:** Evidencing proactive steps taken by the community to adapt to challenges and changes.
4. **Positive Community Sentiment:** Maintaining an optimistic and positive outlook within the community.
5. **Integration into Decisions:** Integrating community engagement into decision-making processes.

Phases

Our community engagement approach is based around four phases aligning with the broader project goals. This report focuses on the preliminary findings derived from Phase One.

Phase	Phase 1	Phase 2	Phase 3	Phase 4
Title	<b>What do you value?</b>	What is at risk?	What are our options?	Make it happen
Description	<b>Raise awareness of the project &amp; identify what is valued. Setting the scene &amp; understanding communities. Questions focused on what is important, rather than what might be lost.</b>	Understand climate risk & share information from the detailed risk analysis. Provide opportunities for questions & feedback.	Explore adaptation options & pathways. Provide a platform for community ideas on adaptation options.	Confirm 'Preferred Options'. Feedback on draft adaptation plans, pathways, or decision points.

Aim	<b>Listen and building relationships.</b>	Education & providing space for dialogue.	Collaborating with community & stakeholders to define options & outcomes.	Listen & gather feedback. Ensure a draft plan is submitted to council.
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## Phase One Activities

In November and December 2023, Future Buller hosted eight community drop-in sessions across the Buller District to start raising awareness of the project and begin a dialogue with the Buller community. Alongside these sessions, an online platform ([Future Buller: Adapting to climate change \(bullerdc.govt.nz\)](https://futurebuller.govt.nz)) was launched to enable those unable to attend a face-to-face session to share their voice and engage with the project.

Approximately 90 participants attended the drop-in sessions:

- Karamea 17
- Ngakawau 18
- Mōhikinui 5
- Carter's Beach # 1 6
- Carter's Beach #2 20+
- Charleston 8
- Punakaiki 15
- Reefton 1

These drop-in sessions were informal with posters and opportunities to talk to the project team about the Buller District and community values. As the intent was to listen to, and build relationships, there was no formal presentation about the project, rather a brief overview was provided with scope to explain during the conversations. The online platform continues this approach with community members able to add notes through the Buller District Council website detailing what they value and like about the district.

Two of the face-to-face engagements were shared with the West Coast Regional Council as part of their roadshow about amendments to the natural hazard layers in the the Te Tai o Poutini Plan (TTPP). Given the shared messaging and cross-over in engaging and communicating with various communities, it was agreed that Future Buller would work with WCRC and share part of their space.

All face-to-face sessions were held in community facilities and to minimise expenditure, the project team attended multiple sessions on each day, and on consecutive days. This reduced the flexibility around the 'when' each workshop was held and 'for how long'. We are aware this led to some non-optimal timing for communities and will seek to better address this withing our budgetary constraints in phase two.

## Phase One Findings – What do we value?

Post-it notes collected at face-to-face engagements and contributions to the online platform were analysed to reveal the following key values:

### **The importance of the natural environment**

*“I like the clean rivers, bush and beaches” (Charleston resident)*

*“Sounds of bird life and little traffic” (Karamea resident)*

Across many contributors, the importance of the connection and ease of access to the natural environment was noted. From clean rivers, natural bush, and the sounds of the sea through to the inverse of little traffic, few people and bird rather than car noise. Also noted was the dynamic nature of the environment with on-going adaptation needed.

### **The importance of community**

*“A living community with local shops and a pub” (Ngakawau resident)*

*“Small community that supports each other” (Charleston resident)*

Many contributors noted the sense of belonging including historical ties to place, along with community connectivity and social ties. Also, within this theme it was noted that non-conformity was OK. Reduced crime was mentioned, along with distance from larger communities being a good thing.

### **The importance of affordability**

*“Affordable property and people moving here from big cities” (Ngakawau resident)*

*“Price of property is a big driver” (Karamea resident)*

Affordability went hand in hand with amenity of space and natural environment. Also noted under environmental was the need to maintain a local economy, and links to tourism between local amenity and the natural environment. Also noted was the need to enable community members to make good investment choices across adaptation pathways.

### **Concerns around this project’s aims and cost**

*“The decision of BDC to spend \$538,000 developing a ‘climate policy’ is yet another grotesque waste of ratepayer funds” (Westport resident)*

*“Money should only be spent on identified problems” (Westport resident)*

A minority of community members expressed very strong concerns about the wisdom and expense of this project. Concerns included whether climate change exists, historical occurrences of expensive reports commissioned but no action taken, the focus on future rather than current problems, issues around equity and conflicts of

interest in how decisions are made in the region, and concerns about agendas to take people's land.

## Summary

Phase one of community engagement was intended to generate awareness of the Future Buller project and begin the discussions about what the community values, and as a means to inform future dialogue. These four themes represent the community feedback to date. These are the things that we must ensure are retained and considered to enable successful climate change adaptation.

## Community Engagement Reflections

Some aspects of the first round of engagement proved challenging with opportunities for our team to learn and adapt.

## Key Issues & Challenges

- Strategic integration and prioritisation of communications and community engagement across multiple projects (with interdependencies) that enables:
  - Best use of resources, and
  - Best outcome for communities.
- Building trust across our communities following a turbulent post-disaster period.
- Best use of available budget to avoid sub-optimal outcomes e.g., events with little participation.
- Developing best practice as we work through the process i.e., there are currently no “off the shelf templates” for the delivery of climate risk assessments and adaptation plans in Aotearoa, nor for engaging with diverse communities.
- Working effectively under the challenge presented by Buller's significant climate risk profile, in the absence of central government policy for these already highly exposed and impacted communities.
- Working effectively to communicate the considerable and increasing risk to our built environments and social structures, as well as the complex indirect and cascading risk profile.
- Keeping our most vulnerable communities safe while we face the reality of no ‘good’ options (for some).

## Lessons Learned

The first round of community engagement had some limitations and unpredicted responses that led to a refocus from hosting community members towards managing safety for the female project team in the different community spaces. The following points reflect on the lessons learned from Phase One – What do we value? They also highlight the key takeaways for subsequent iterations of community engagement as we progress through the risk and adaptation phases.

**1. If possible, avoid earlier than planned engagement:**

Future Buller was pulled into early engagement due to TTPP engagement on coastal hazards. As there was the desire to align the interdependencies of approaches and messaging, Future Buller began the community engagement with a different plan than originally intended. To address this, Future Buller will:

- Ensure engagement is scheduled months in advance so we can build awareness of what is happening and what potential conflicts may arise.
- Ensure alignment between project schedules well in advance by maintaining effective communication and informing the different projects.

However, consideration for the moving parts to coordinate means the need to remain flexible may inevitably require adaptation in our engagement planning.

**2. Community does not care which organisation we are from (BDC or WCRC or other):**

Future Buller is associated with other projects as there is a similar message or theme of climate change, exposure, and resilience. To manage this cross-over, Future Buller will:

- Ensure there is a joined-up approach (both Councils), and if possible, with other agencies and departments – no ‘passing the buck’.
- Align messaging, the communications strategy, and schedule as it is all one project (Buller district future resilience).

**3. We need to keep working on community awareness and participation:**

Lower community participation impacts the diversity of views and reduces process robustness and legitimacy. We need to do better to:

- Ensure multiple opportunities and mechanisms are provided for engagement and offered over a period of time, including the various awareness-building activities and promotion of online engagement.
- Ensure support mechanisms (e.g., transport or online support at the library) are provided so all community members are given the opportunity to engage, whether that is at a workshop or through other methods.
- Target already established community networks and groups and community events and use these to propagate communications.
- Engage directly with youth forums and schools to ensure a diverse range of voices are heard.
- Consider fewer workshops but at more convenient times for community e.g., group Karamea / Northern Buller workshop and hold in, say, Ngakawau, from 3pm – 7pm.
- Use community connectors to connect people and help build awareness of the project, and the process. Part of this includes establishing a relationship with the various community connectors so there is a willingness to participate and support the process in some instances.

- Budget availability will impact on the number (but more importantly timing) of in-person workshops that can be held. This may affect attendance as people may be less willing or able to travel longer distances to attend workshops.

**4. There is misinformation, climate change denial, and mistrust regarding incompetence or hidden agendas of the Future Buller project:**

To address this, Future Buller will:

- Start communicating and keep communicating (even if we have nothing new to share) through proactive engagement with The Westport News, other print media and social media, to fill the gap with facts and counter misinformation with science.
- Develop and manage a wide range of community relationships which can alleviate some of the pressure and spread of negative perceptions.
- Budget availability will impact on communications resourcing but there is the option to maintain a presence through Council's website and the Future Buller engagement platform.
- Maintain our key principles of openness and transparency, noting where there is uncertainty in the science.

**5. Confrontations at events are off putting for attendees and project team members:**

- Individual community members intent on derailing the process and female project team members reported feeling unsafe.
- Consider security to manage escalations for safety of the project team and other community members attending the workshops.
- Develop mixed community engagement approaches to have a wider reach throughout the community.

## Next Steps

Activities already underway to address our lessons learned include:

- Planning for greater awareness and reach for Phase Two engagement via engagement with community connectors, greater advance planning, and the use of a variety of communication channels.
- Continuing to work with aligned projects to ensure integration.

## Summary

Community engagement is an iterative process that needs to be flexible and adaptive in the style and approaches used. There is no clear guide to effective inclusive engagement and there is always scope to reflect and evaluate on the next steps. Future Buller needs to establish rapport to build trust and develop lasting relationships, which will help to bring awareness to the project but also help to inform the adaptation planning and decision-making. We continue our efforts to gather data

on 'What is valued', to ensure that adaptation plans keep the things that matter most to Buller communities.