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WRC candidate name: Jo Wrigley

Please type in the space below each question, and use as much space as you require for each answer.

Please email your responses back to info@sustainablewaikato.org.nz not later than **Monday, September 5th 2016**.

- 1. What do you think are the top three challenges facing the Waikato region that WRC could influence over the next five to ten years?** *Transport, Sustainable Agriculture, Clean waterways.*
- 2. Do you believe the Regional Council has a role in economic development and in what ways? region, and how can WRC best address them?** *Think of the Waikato as the sustainability region of Aotearoa, create a picture of what we think that looks like in terms of flora, fauna, waterways, food production and communities. The WRC role in economic development is to partner with Iwi stakeholders and Industry to encourage change to achieve that picture.*
- 3. What are the major challenges to improving freshwater quality in the Waikato region, and, as a councillor, what would be your priorities?** *Green Party members have clear policies on this issue and these would be the standard that I would base discussion and debate around.*
- 4. What are the major challenges to improving freshwater quality in the Waikato region, and, as a councillor, what would be your priorities?**

Intensive agriculture, Put a levy on pollution going into rivers. We'll use this money to support sustainable land and water management programmes, like freshwater habitat restoration. Indigenous biodiversity, bring community groups on board to act as Kaitiaki for specific issues.

- *Put a hold on all new conversions of land to dairy farms.*
- *Require resource consents in cases where the proposed land use is more intensive than the current land use.*
- *Introduce rules that require all farms to be fenced from rivers and creeks, and for riverbanks to be planted so that excess run-off is absorbed.*
- *Introduce a charge on water used for irrigation. Those who profit from water use should pay for the privilege.*
- *Ensure Māori are recognised and supported in their role as kaitiaki of their taonga and tikanga.*

Sustainable Waikato questionnaire to Waikato Regional Council candidates 2016

- 5. What are the priority coastal marine issues in the Waikato region, and what do you think WRC needs to do to address them more effectively?** *Climate change induced sea level rise, mining and drilling. A benefit of cleaning waterways will be reducing land pollution of the coastal areas. Work with aquaculture to improve standards and optimise marine life. Develop a register of indigenous biodiversity and prioritise the maintenance of those area's. Develop a Regional position statement on mining & drilling for non renewables.*
- 6. Do you think WRC has a responsibility to have policies to mitigate climate change and manage its impacts? Could you please give some examples?** *WRC has a responsibility to ensure that mitigation is a minimum standard and explore methods of improvement to land, soil & air. Diversification and incentivising organic and permaculture methods in agriculture while working with environmental & social community groups to develop grass roots change and urban agriculture methods.*
- 7. What do you see as the priorities for transport in the Waikato region over the next five to ten years, and how could WRC bring about transportation improvements?** *Rail and access to affordable safe public transport options must be a priority across the Waikato. Political will tends to bring about improvements.*
- 8. How do you think WRC can best assist community groups and individuals who undertake environmental initiatives?** *By recognising that effective change starts at a grass roots level. Work with existing groups to develop an understanding of successful models and how the WRC can improve support for the work of these groups.*
- 9. What can WRC do to support businesses, schools, families and individuals to make more sustainable choices?** *Work with Community Waikato to create Community Coordinators who link groups and funding to initiatives.*
- 10. What have been your most significant contributions to enhancing environmental, social, cultural and/or economic wellbeing in the Waikato region?** *Actively support Living Wage campaign, Cofounder Peoples Power: Advocacy & Community Education, volunteer beneficiary advocate, Sustainability Coordinator: University of Waikato, develop & implement education for tertiary students on waste reduction with a focus on Re-use, repurpose, repair & refuse. Submitted against Mokau mining and part of the delegations to Waikato Regional Council to protect Karangahake from mining as well as TPPA Free Waikato.*