



Report **04.622**
Date 4 November 2004
File E/7/7/6

Committee **Council**
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Reconstitution of the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum

1. Purpose

To reconstitute the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum.

2. Background

2.1 Joint project to produce a regional growth strategy

Greater Wellington resolved on 31 May 2004 to join the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum and to appoint two members and an alternate to be on this joint committee.

The Wellington Regional Strategy is a project of the councils of the Wellington metropolitan area working together to build an internationally competitive Wellington. It is a growth strategy seeking to achieve sustainable and desirable growth for the long term benefit of the region's citizens, businesses and institutions. The Strategy provides the opportunity for the councils of the region to work together to develop agreed directions, and then make that common agreed future happen. It will recognise and reflect the uniqueness of the Wellington region and that which should be protected and enhanced as the region grows. The project has a long-term outlook to the year 2050, with a more detailed focus of action and priority for the next ten to 20 years.

The strategy takes into account the Wairarapa (those Councils are represented on the project), Nelson- Marlborough and the southern parts of the adjoining Manawatu-Wanganui region.

2.2 Project participants

The project is being undertaken and funded by Upper Hutt, Hutt, Porirua and Wellington City Councils, Kapiti Coast District Council and the Greater Wellington Regional Council in association with New Zealand Trade and

Enterprise and Positively Wellington Business (the territorial councils' regional economic development agency). These councils will work in association with a Strategic Partners Forum, including the Wairarapa district councils, business and community groups, infrastructure providers and central government.

2.3 Establishment of the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum

The Wellington Regional Strategy is overseen by the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum, a joint committee established under clause 30(1) (b) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, which states "*a local authority may appoint a joint committee with another local authority or public body*". As a joint committee, the Forum was deemed to have been disestablished as the end of the triennium. It is necessary then, to re-establish this forum to ensure that it can continue to function as an effective decision making body and complete the approved WRS Forum project plan.

2.4 Governance & Management

The project is steered by a Joint Committee of elected representatives of the six councils. A non-voting representative of the Wairarapa also attends these meetings. Wellington councils' Chief Executives' Forum is managing the project, assisted by a Project Executive Group of senior staff from each of the participating councils. A central government officials group is working with the Project Executive Group, recognising that a key role of the Strategy is to provide a focus for working with central government in a way that would not otherwise happen.

Adrienne Young-Cooper, based at Greater Wellington Regional Council, is the Project Director and has been appointed to manage and co-ordinate the project across all councils. Murray McCaw, based at Wellington City Council, is the independent Project Chair.

Ara Tahi, the iwi liason group of Greater Wellington, are acting as advisors on matters of significance to Tangata Whenua.

A strategic Partners Forum of representatives of sectors such as business, infrastructure providers and Central Government will be formed and used for consultation.

Each council member is to be represented on the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum by two persons only, being two elected persons with an alternate representative(s) in the absence of the primary representative(s). An alternate representative must be an elected person from that local authority

3. Communication

Other member councils will be informed of the Council's decision.

4. Recommendations

That Council:

1. ***Agree** to establish with Upper Hutt, Hutt, Porirua and Wellington City Councils, and Kapiti Coast District Council the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum, as a joint committee under clause 30(1)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.*
2. ***Agree** to elect two members and an alternate to represent Greater Wellington on the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum.*
3. ***Agree** to the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum Terms of Reference as attached as **Attachment 1**.*

Report prepared by:

Wayne Hastie
Council Secretary

Attachment 1: Wellington Regional Strategy Forum Terms of Reference