



Report 08.909  
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Committee Wellington Regional Strategy  
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## Wellington Regional Strategy office update

### 1. Purpose

To inform the WRS Committee of activities of the office and council-led projects.

### 2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report **do not** trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3) (b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 3. Wellington Regional Strategy Summit

The Wellington Regional Strategy Summit was held on 14 November 2008 at the Chaffers Dock Atrium. In previous years this gathering was called the Strategic Partners Forum. Approximately 85 regional leaders attended the summit. We have received excellent feedback about the event.

Key note speaker Lloyd Morrison quoted New Zealand's GDP sliding rapidly relative to other nations and New Zealanders working longer hours but productivity falling behind our peers. He challenged us to "lift our sights" and work together to connect the Wellington region to the world.

Other speakers were Brian Sweeney from NZ Edge, Cameron Bagrie from ANZ National Bank, Wendy McGuinness from Sustainable Futures and Mark Steel from Ministry of Economic Development. We also heard updates on progress with the three key areas of the strategy, Grow Wellington (sustainable economic growth), Wellington Regional Strategy office (good regional form projects) and Ministry of Social Development (regional labour market initiatives).

Key issues and opportunities facing the region were also discussed in group breakout sessions. A summary of the breakout session outcomes is in **Attachment 1** to this report.

## **4. Council-led projects**

### **4.1 Broadband**

A separate report on broadband is included in the Agenda.

### **4.2 Genuine Progress Index**

Phase 1 (monitoring framework) was to be signed off at the 10 December 2008 meeting. This has now been deferred to March 2009 to enable sufficient time for the GPI working group to collate indicators, and have external experts comment on the framework.

Both Capital and Coast District Health Board (CCDHB) and Hutt Valley District Health Board (HVDHB) have been consulted on health indicators and a workshop on these is planned with the CCDHB Population Group on 15 December 2008.

Tangata whenua-specific indicators were recommended by the GPI working group to Ara Tahi's 4 December 2008 meeting, recognising the special role of tangata whenua in the region.

## **5. Updates to councils**

The WRS Office has made itself available to update Councils on WRS activities. The office provided an update to Porirua City Council in November. Both the WRS Office and Grow Wellington also provided updates to the combined Wairarapa Councils' meeting and Wellington City Council. Councillors generally expressed keen interest in WRS activities.

## **6. Communication**

Projects and other activities will continue to be communicated as the opportunity arises.

## **7. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

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