

Terms of Reference for the Proposed 10-Year Plan 2009-19 Hearing Committee

March 2009

Contents

1.	Membership	3
2.	Meeting procedures	3
3.	Powers	3
4.	Responsibilities.....	4
5.	Duration of Committee	4

1. Membership

The membership of the Proposed 10-Year Plan 2009-19 Hearing Committee shall be made up of nine members of Council as set out below:

- Sally Baber
- Paul Bruce
- Ian Buchanan
- John Burke
- Barbara Donaldson
- Sandra Greig
- Rex Kirton
- Fran Wilde
- Nigel Wilson.

Councillor Wilde is Chairperson of the Committee.

The quorum is five members.

2. Meeting procedures

The Wellington Regional Council Standing Orders apply.

All members have equal speaking rights and a deliberative vote. In addition, the Chairperson has a casting vote in the case of an equality of votes.

Hearings will be open to the public, except where there are grounds to exclude the public in terms of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Members must be present for the substantial part of the hearings and deliberations in order to participate in the decision-making of the Committee.

3. Powers

The Committee has the power to:

- consider both the written and oral submissions on the Proposed 10-Year Plan 2009-19, incorporating the Proposed Annual Plan 2009/10 and a proposed change to the charge-out rate for processing and monitoring resource consents;

- summarise the outcomes of the consultation process;
- seek clarification from Council officers on any technical matters; and
- prepare a report to Council, containing recommendations on amendments to the Proposed 10-Year Plan 2009-19, incorporating the Proposed Annual Plan 2009/10 and the proposed charge-out rate for processing and monitoring resource consents, for consideration at the Council meeting on 9 June 2009.

4. Responsibilities

The Committee shall ensure that:

- the hearing and consideration process is carried out in a way that is effective and timely;
- submitters are provided with the best possible opportunity to be heard in support of their submission;
- Committee members receive submissions with an open mind and give due consideration to each submission; and
- the decision-making process is robust and transparent and the summary of the consultation process adequately, fairly and demonstrably reflects the submitters' comments.

5. Duration of Committee

The Committee is deemed to be dissolved at the end of the decision-making process on the 10-Year Plan 2009-19.