

 Report
 12.5

 Date
 8 February 2012

 File
 WRS/09/01/01

CommitteeWellington Regional Strategy CommitteeAuthorKate O'Regan, Policy Advisor, WRS Office

Wellington Regional Strategy Refresh Process

1. Purpose

To outline the process for the refresh of the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS).

2. The decision-making process and significance

The matters requiring decision in this report have been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines into account. Officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance in accordance with the definition of "significance" in the Local Government Act 2002. Irrespective of its "significance" this is an important decision.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

3. Discussion

The Committee has begun the process of refreshing the WRS. The first step in this process was the endorsement at the Committee meeting in December 2011 of six focus areas as the basis for the Strategy. These include:

- 1. Commercialisation of innovation
- 2. Investment mechanisms for growth
- 3. Building world class economic infrastructure
- 4. Attracting business, investment and talent to the region
- 5. Education and workforce development to service regional economy needs
- 6. Open for business.

These focus areas now need to be developed and responsibilities for implementation identified. In addition, measures to quantify the effectiveness of the Strategy will need to be developed.

The proposed process includes engagement with key stakeholders. This engagement will both test the appropriateness of the focus areas and assist in identifying how the Strategy can be most effectively implemented. Officers will work with Committee members to identify the stakeholders to be invited to participate in workshop sessions.

Proposed process and indicative timeline

It is recommended that the following process take place for the refresh of the Strategy.

February – March 2012	Officers to develop the focus areas and options for actions, goals and measures:
	 Commissioned work
	 Discussions with key stakeholders and experts
March – April 2012	WRS Committee workshops with Grow Wellington Board and key stakeholders, using the outputs of the officers' work, above
May – June 2012	Draft Strategy developed
22 June 2012	WRS Committee adopts final Strategy

4. Communication

The refresh of the WRS will include the input of a wide range of stakeholders to ensure their views are taken into account.

5. Recommendations

That the Committee:

- 1. **Receives** the report.
- 2. Notes the content of the report.
- 3. Agrees to the process set out in section 3 of this report.

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

Melanie Thornton Project Leader Jane Davis General Manager, Strategy & Community Engagement Tony Stallinger Chair, CEO Forum