



Report **05.88**
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Committee **Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee**
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Local Governance Statement

1. Purpose

To provide Council with a copy of Greater Wellington's local governance statement: *How you can have your say*.

2. Significance of decision

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

3. Background

Section 40 of the LGA requires councils to prepare a local governance statement and make it available to the public within six months after each triennial general election. This section also stipulates what information must be contained in the local governance statement. A local governance statement is a collection of information about:

- the processes through which the Council engages with its community
- how the Council makes decisions and
- the ways in which citizens can influence local democratic processes.

The statement is written for the information of the general public.

4. Comment

Greater Wellington's local governance statement is provided in **Attachment 1**. It is very similar to the Council's previous local governance statement, which was published in December 2003. Some minor amendments have been made to the document to take account of any changes to council policy, legislation and deadlines.

As the local governance statement is a statutory requirement and the details of what must be included in it are rather specific (**Attachment 2**) much of the content cannot be changed. Officers would, however, be interested to hear any

feedback councillors may have on the statement so that they can take it into account before publishing the final document at the end of March.

5. Communication

The LGA requires councils to make their local governance statement “publicly available”, but does not stipulate when and where the document should be made available. Council officers plan to place the document:

- in Greater Wellington’s offices
- in the region’s public libraries, including the Parliamentary Library
- on our website.

6. Recommendation

That the Policy, Finance and Strategy recommend that the Council:

- (1) *Receives the document: **How you can have your say – Greater Wellington Regional Council’s local governance statement***
- (2) *Notes the contents of the document.*
- (3) *Notes that council officers will update the document from time to time as appropriate.*

Report prepared by:

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