



Report 09.422
Date 14 July 2009
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Committee Council
Author Shelley Martin Regional Policy Statement Hearing
Coordinator

Proposed Regional Policy Statement Hearing Committee

1. Purpose

To establish a hearing committee to hear submissions on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement.

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. Background

The Proposed Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington region 2009 was publicly notified on 21 March and public submissions closed on 8 June after an extension to the original closing date of 25 May 2009. A summary of submissions was then publicly notified on 11 July 2009. Further submissions will close on 7 August 2009.

There are currently 67 submitters wishing to be heard. This number may increase once further submissions have been received.

When all further submissions have been received staff will assess submissions and determine matters where pre-hearing meetings may assist with clarifying or resolving issues. Staff will facilitate these meetings.

Staff will then prepare an Officers' Report that will make recommendations on the submissions. The Report will be sent to all submitters prior to the hearing. Submitters then have the opportunity to be heard by the hearing committee, whose task it is to hear submissions and make recommendations to the Council.

4. Terms of Reference for committee

The proposed terms of reference for the committee are attached (**Attachment 1**).

5. Local Government Act 2002

It is consistent with best practice and the requirements of section 83(1) of the Local Government Act (special consultative procedures) that members hearing submissions should be present for the duration of the hearing and consideration of the submissions. The only constraint, therefore, is the availability to sit through the anticipated six days (and possible extra days, if required) and be available for deliberations.

6. Hearing dates and committee

It is proposed that the hearing be held between Monday 9 and Monday 16 November. The morning of the 18 November has also been set aside for deliberations.

The proposed membership of the hearing committee is Cr Fran Wilde, Cr Sally Baber, Cr Ian Buchanan, Cr Rex Kirton, and Te Waari Carkeek (Chair of Ara Tahī). It is proposed that Cr Wilde chair the committee. The inclusion of Te Waari Carkeek on the hearing committee is to provide an iwi perspective and is in line with method 36 of the Proposed Regional Policy Statement. Method 36 seeks the appointment of an iwi representative to the committee that hears the Regional Policy Statement which addresses matters of significance to tangata whenua.

7. Communication

Submitters will be advised of the hearing well in advance of the hearing and a hearing schedule prepared in discussion with submitters. The Officers Report will be sent to submitters at least 5 working days before the hearing (in accordance with Resource Management Act 1991).

8. Recommendations

That the Council:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the contents of the report*
- 3. Resolves to establish the Proposed Regional Policy Statement Hearing Committee to consider submissions on the Proposed Regional Policy Statement for the Wellington Region 2009 and to report to Council with recommendations for the adoption of the Regional Policy Statements.*
- 4. Appoints Crs Wilde, Baber, Buchanan, Kirton, and Te Waari Carkeek as members of the committee, and appoints Cr Wilde as Chair.*

5. ***Adopts the Terms of Reference for the Committee as set out in Attachment 1 of this report.***

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

Shelley Martin
Regional Policy Statement
Hearing Coordinator

Tim Porteous
Acting Manager,
Environmental Policy

Nigel Corry
Divisional Manager,
Environment Management
Division

Attachment 1: Terms of Reference for the Regional Policy Statement Hearing Committee