

Report 12.138  
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File WRS/09/01/01

Committee Wellington Regional Strategy Committee  
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## Wellington Regional Strategy Committee - Draft Terms of Reference

### 1. Purpose

To seek endorsement of a revised Terms of Reference for the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee.

### 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.

#### 2.1 Significance of the decision

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking into account the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines. Due to the procedural nature of this decision officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

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

### 3. Background

Following the independent review of the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS), on 30 June 2011 the WRS Committee agreed that the function of regional economic development should be continued (Report 11.296). In making this recommendation to Council, the Committee also supported the review's recommendation that to fully recognise the benefits of a region-wide approach to economic development, it is important that the Strategy itself be refreshed and that changes to the governance and implementation arrangements should be considered.

At its meeting on 8 February 2012, the Committee considered the future role of the WRS Committee, and agreed that the membership of the WRS Committee should comprise a representative from each of the nine councils in the

Wellington region and five non-local government members (Report 12.8). The draft Term of Reference (refer to **Attachment 1**) reflects the role and composition of the WRS Committee as agreed at that meeting.

## **4. Terms of Reference and membership of the WRS Committee**

### **4.1 Changes to the membership of the Committee**

The draft Terms of Reference reflect key changes to the membership of the WRS Committee, as previously discussed by the Committee, including:

- The Committee will include nine local government representatives and five non-local government members.
- The non-local government members would be appointed on the basis that they are:
  - Individuals who have strong networks and are representative of sectors relevant to economic development and the aims of the WRS;
  - Individuals who can assist in advocacy to central government or business
  - Strong strategic thinkers who are able to present and think about issues on a regional (if not wider) basis.
- Non-local government members shall be eligible for appointment or re-appointment for a term up to five years. A non-local government member continues in office despite the expiry of his or her term of office until:
  - The member is reappointed; or
  - The member's successor is appointed
- The quorum for the Committee is eight members, of which one must be the regional council member of the Committee, and one must be the Chairperson or deputy Chairperson.

### **4.2 Changes to the role and responsibilities of the Committee**

Changes to the role and responsibilities of the WRS Committee have previously been discussed by the Committee (Report 12.8), and these have been included in the draft Terms of Reference:

- provide regional leadership, engage and establish partnerships with key Government agencies and non-government agencies involved in economic development, acknowledging that constituent local authorities also have leadership roles within their cities and districts;
- monitor the outcomes expected in the focus areas, and assess what further actions may be required as a result of monitoring;
- ensure the WRS continues to be relevant by reviewing economic trends, investigating opportunities for promoting economic growth and

developing and overseeing a process of periodic review as circumstances change.

#### **4.3 Key provisions retained**

While a number of changes are being recommended to the Terms of Reference to reflect the results of the review of the WRS, many of the current provisions would be retained. The following key provisions are unchanged in the draft Terms of Reference:

- Each of the territorial authorities is entitled to nominate an alternate member who may attend and vote at meetings of the Committee, but only in the event that the nominated and appointed member is unable to do so.
- One of the five non-local government members must be a suitable person to represent interests of Māori.
- The appointment of the Chairperson and deputy is to be determined by the full Committee when all 14 members have been appointed. The chairperson must be a non-local government member.
- Greater Wellington will not act independently of the Committee, so that any committee recommendations that the Council is not prepared to accept will be referred back to the Committee for further consideration.
- Each member of the Committee will have one equal vote and decisions will be made by simple majority with the exception of the following proposals which will require a three quarters majority vote:
  - i decisions on the recommended quantum of funding required for the Wellington Regional Strategy;
  - ii decisions on any recommended amendment to the Council's Revenue and Financing Policy;
  - iii decisions on the recommended targeted rate;
  - iv any decision resulting in a statutory consultation process under the LGA 2002 (such as establishing a new CCO);
  - v recommendations to Council on the appointment of directors of Grow Wellington;

Decisions relating to any process of periodic review of the WRS also require a three quarters majority vote. This includes agreeing revised terms of reference and any significant amendments to the WRS.

## **5. Next Steps**

The current WRS activity ceases on 30 June 2012. Subject to a Council decision to continue the function of regional economic development as part of the Long-Term Plan 2012-22, the WRS Committee will need to be formally re-established. The recommendations in this report will take effect at that time.

Each council will need to nominate its own representative and an alternate. Greater Wellington will then formally appoint those people.

Following a decision to appoint non-local government members, the Committee will need to go through a process to find suitable people. This can take place concurrently with the Strategy refresh process. A decision on appointments can be made by the Committee on 22 June 2012, with the formal appointments made by Greater Wellington prior to the Committee's first meeting in the second half of the calendar year.

## 6. Communication

No communications are planned resulting from this report.

## 7. Recommendations

*That the Committee:*

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Resolves to recommend to Council that the draft Terms of Reference for the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee in Attachment 1 be approved.***

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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**Attachment 1: Draft Terms of Reference for the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee**