

Report 13.643
Date 23 May 2013
File E/11/01/04

Committee Council
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Report on the Economic Wellbeing Committee meeting 23 May 2013

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the Economic Wellbeing Committee meeting of 23 May 2013.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Public Participation

Geoff Norman, CEO, Mana Coach Services, spoke to item 5 on the agenda – Porirua Post Implementation Review.

4. Report

4.1 Porirua Post Implementation Review

The Committee discussed the Porirua Post Implementation Review (PIR), which began in July 2012. The purpose of the PIR was to assess the success of the February 2011 changes to public transport services in Porirua, and enable these to be fine-tuned. The review included an extensive analysis of patronage data as well as feedback from customers and stakeholders.

As a result of the PIR, two options were identified in order to ensure service levels met demand and remained sustainable to the ratepayer. After targeted public consultation, Option A was identified as the preferred option from respondents. Through some minor non-material changes, officers have identified that it is possible to build some aspects of feedback into Option A from those responders preferring Option B, therefore mitigating some of these areas of concern.

The Committee commended the officers involved for their thoroughness and the way in which they responded to public feedback.

4.2 NZTA Consultation – Implementing the Public Transport Operating Model

The Committee received an update on the implementation of the new procurement model for public transport services (the Public Transport Operating Model, or PTOM).

Greater Wellington Regional Council (GWRC) is currently preparing a submission on the New Zealand Transport Agency's (NZTA) proposed amendments to its Procurement Manual, which is a key document for GWRC. The Procurement Manual sets out various requirements and rules which GWRC must follow in order to be eligible to receive NZTA funding (from the national land transport account) and then to apply that funding. In order for GWRC to implement the PTOM, NZTA needs to update parts of the Procurement Manual that relate to the procurement of public transport services (bus, ferry and rail).

The Committee discussed GWRC's process for approving its submission on the NZTA's Procurement Manual, and the impact the proposed manual has on the PTOM.

4.3 General Managers' report to the Economic Wellbeing Committee on 23 May 2013

4.3.1 Derailment of GanzMavag Porirua to Wellington passenger train on Monday 20 May 2013

The Committee discussed the derailment of a GanzMavag passenger train travelling between Porirua and Wellington on the morning of Monday 20 May 2013. The Committee expressed their concern over the incident and discussed how the resulting Transport Accident Investigation Commission (TAIC) and KiwiRail incident reports will be essential to understanding and learning from the event.

The Committee was advised by Angus Gabara, Manager, Rail Operations, on the maintenance of the GanzMavag units. GWRC has had a proactive response to maintenance of the GanzMavag units. All 26 GanzMavag units were inspected after Monday's incident with no issues found.

The Committee requested that officers provide a report to Council addressing the following:

- The expected timing of KiwiRail's incident report
- GWRC's safety monitoring practices
- Current TAIC reviews being undertaken in relation to Tranz Metro's Wellington operation

4.3.2 Real Time Information (RTI)

The Committee received an update on the installation of RTI signs in the CBD, the first of which are scheduled to be installed in September.

4.3.3 Total Mobility Fraud

The Committee discussed the occurrence of fraud within the Total Mobility Scheme, following on from the 2011 discovery of a taxi driver accessing the Scheme through client electronic photo ID cards when there was no actual taxi travel being undertaken. It was noted that irregularities within the Scheme are much easier to track with the new electronic system as opposed to the old paper system. The lessons learned from the 2011 case have also been incorporated into the recently issued new terms and conditions for drivers' access to Total Mobility and contracts with transport operators.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

- 1. Receives the report.*
- 2. Notes the content of the report.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Peter Glensor
Chair