greater WELLINGTON
REGIONAL COUNCIL
Te Pane Matua Taiao

Report 13.79
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Committee Audit, Risk and Assurance
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Capability

Report on Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee meeting, 27 February 2013

1. Purpose

To inform the Council of the Audit, Risk and Assurance Committee meeting of 27 February 2013.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Reports

3.1 Summary Risk Report

The Committee discussed the updated top ten risks identified in the Quarterly Risk Report, and considered that the current Risk Register needs revising in terms of adopting a more realistic approach to risk identification. The Committee was concerned that the comments associated with each risk either understated the nature of the risk, or did not make clear the relative priority of the risks. It was also noted that from the Council perspective, issues such as reputational risk did not appear to have been identified.

3.2 Project Management Policy

The Committee discussed Greater Wellington Regional Council's (GWRC) recently approved Policy on Project Management, which has been developed to improve and standardise how all projects, regardless of the specific division or group, are managed and reported on at GWRC. The Policy responds to previous issues around inconsistency in project management across the organisation, and will ensure GWRC delivers a more uniform and disciplined approach to Project Management.

The Committee noted its support for post-project implementation reviews, which will provide a debriefing of the positives, negatives and findings of each GWRC project.

3.3 Quarterly Review for the period ending 31 December 2012

The Committee discussed the Quarterly Reviews for the period 31 December 2012 from People and Capability, Finance and Support – ICT and Investment Management, and Strategy and Community Engagement – Communications.

The Committee noted the efforts to keep all GWRC staff, regardless of their location, informed of changes to regional governance through GWRC's intranet.

Following a discussion on the elected members financial report, the Committee sought further information on expenditure relating to Councillor training and conferences for the last year.

The ICT help desk statistics outlined in the Quarterly Review for ICT, were acknowledged by the Committee as positive results.

The Committee also discussed the Communications department's new logging system, in which all media requests are now logged by GWRC. The Committee acknowledged that the Communications department's process of alerting Councillors when a media inquiry is made is an improvement on previous practice. The Committee discussed a possible media alert system, which could stem from the new logging system.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. **Receives** *the report.*

2. **Notes** *the content of the report.*

Report prepared by: Report prepared by: Report approved by:

Bruce Simpson   **Leigh-Anne Buxton**   **Judith Aitken**
Chief Financial Officer   General Manager, People and   Chair, Audit, Risk and
                           Capability   Assurance Committee