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**Committee** Wellington Regional Strategy Hearings  
Subcommittee  
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## **Process for considering submissions on the proposed Wellington Regional Strategy and proposed amendment to the Long Term Council Community Plan**

### **1. Purpose**

To suggest a process for handling submissions, both at this meeting and following the consideration of submissions.

### **2. Significance of the decision**

Amending the 2006-16 long-term council community plan (LTCCP) and the proposed Wellington Regional Strategy are significant decisions. In order to make these decisions, the Council is required to follow the consultative procedure set out in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002. This procedure includes public notification of the Council's proposals, and a formal submission process.

### **3. Background**

This meeting completes the public consultation phase on the proposed Wellington Regional Strategy and proposed amendment to the LTCCP.

The Wellington Regional Strategy Hearing Subcommittee will hear oral submissions at this meeting. The Subcommittee will meet later in December to consider both the oral and written submissions it has received, and must decide if it wishes to recommend any changes in respect of the proposed Wellington Regional Strategy and proposed LTCCP. The Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee will, in turn, make recommendations on the proposed Wellington Regional Strategy and proposed LTCCP to Greater Wellington's Council (the Council).

#### **3.1 Principles of consultation**

Six principles of consultation are set out in the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act). One of these principles is that views presented to a local authority

should be accepted with an open mind, and should be given due consideration by the local authority, in making a decision.

It is consistent with best practice that members hearing submissions must be present for the duration of the hearing of the oral submissions.

## **4. Submissions received**

At the time of writing this report, Greater Wellington had received 439 submissions on the draft Wellington Regional Strategy and 253 submissions on the proposed amendment to the LTCCP.

### **4.1 Distribution of submissions**

All submissions have been distributed to members of the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee and the Council.

All submissions will be made available to the public on request, unless there is good reason to withhold them or any part of them under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. However, the name and contact details will be removed from those submissions for which the submitter has requested it.

## **5. Comment**

### **5.1 Proposed amendment to the LTCCP and proposed Wellington Regional Strategy submission process**

#### **5.1.1 Oral presentations**

The purpose of this meeting is to hear oral presentations in support of written submissions. At the time of writing, 68 submitters have requested that they be heard on the proposed Wellington Regional Strategy and 36 requested that they be heard on the proposed amendment to the LTCCP. These figures include 31 submitters who have requested that they be heard on both the proposed Wellington Regional Strategy and the proposed amendment to the LTCCP.

Ten minutes have been allocated to each submitter (with the exception of one or two submitters who specifically requested more time). This allows approximately five minutes for the submitter to present their key points and five minutes for Subcommittee members to ask questions of clarification. The draft timetable of oral submissions is included as **Attachment 1** to this report. Please note that this is not the final timetable, as officers are still waiting for some submitters to confirm. The final timetable will be provided to you at the meeting on 4 December 2006.

#### **5.1.2 Written submissions**

Written submissions will be considered by the Subcommittee when it meets later in December. It is suggested, at that meeting, that written submissions are taken as read by the Subcommittee, and that Subcommittee members only discuss those submissions on which they want to make a particular comment.

### 5.1.3 Consideration of issues raised in submissions

There will be an opportunity to discuss the issues raised in both written and oral submissions at the Subcommittee meeting later in December, with the purpose of forming recommendations for consideration by the Interim Wellington Strategy Committee. The Subcommittee will be provided with officers' comments on the key issues raised by submitters which may help to inform that discussion.

## 5.2 Process after consideration of submissions

The Subcommittee's recommendations will then be considered by the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee. Recommendations made by the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee will be presented to the Council in February 2007.

It is proposed that formal responses be sent to submitters following the final decision on the proposed amendment to the LTCCP and proposed Wellington Regional Strategy. These responses should originate from the Council Chairperson. Under the Local Government Act 2002, reasons must be given for decisions made, including a decision not to take any action.

## 6. Recommendations

*That the Committee:*

1. *receives the report;*
2. *hears the oral submissions;*
3. *agrees to consider all written and oral submissions in the manner set out in section 5 of this report.*

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### Attachment 1: Timetable for hearing oral submitters