



Report 07.306
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Committee Planning and Monitoring Subcommittee
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Process for considering submissions on the proposed 2007/08 Annual Plan and LTCCP amendment

1. Purpose

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

2. Significance of the decision

The adoption of the 2007/08 Annual Plan and the amendment to the Council's 2006-16 Ten-Year Plan are decisions for which 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

3.1 Public Consultation

This meeting completes the public consultation phase on the Council's Proposed 2007/08 Annual Plan. The Planning and Monitoring Subcommittee must consider both the oral and written submissions it receives at this meeting, and must decide if it wishes to recommend that the Policy, Finance, and Strategy Committee and Council make consequent changes to the Proposed 2007/08 Annual Plan.

3.2 Submissions received

Greater Wellington had received 78 submissions at the time of writing this report. Report 07.312 - Summary of submissions received on the Proposed 2007/08 Annual Plan - provides a summary of these submissions.

3.3 Managers' responses to submissions

Submissions have been circulated to the relevant divisional managers for their response. Subject to the outcome of the Subcommittee's deliberations on the

submissions and subsequent Council decisions, these responses will form the basis of the Council's replies to submitters. Managers have prepared their responses based on current Council policy. The responses are not intended to preclude the Subcommittee from making different or additional comments, and all decisions rest with the Council.

3.4 Distribution of submissions and managers' responses

Two sets of documents are included with this order paper. They are:

- (1) Copies of the submissions
- (2) Print-outs of the submissions and managers' responses from our database.

These 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.

4. Comment

4.1 Annual Plan submission process

4.1.1 Oral presentations

A key purpose of this meeting is to hear oral submissions in support of written submissions. At the time of writing, 22 submitters have requested that they be heard. Each submitter has been allocated ten minutes, with additional time allocated for organisations. This allows approximately five minutes for the submitter to present their key points and five minutes for councillors to ask questions of clarification. The timetable of oral submissions is included as **Attachment 1** to this report.

4.1.2 Written submissions

The Subcommittee must consider all written submissions, regardless of whether or not an oral submission has been made. It is suggested that written submissions are taken as read by the Subcommittee, and that councillors only discuss those submissions on which they want to make a particular comment or make changes to managers' responses.

4.1.3 Consideration of issues raised in submissions

There will be an opportunity to discuss the issues raised in both written and oral submissions once all submissions have been heard.

4.2 Process after consideration of submissions

After considering all submissions, it is appropriate for the Subcommittee to propose that specific matters be further considered by the Policy, Finance & Strategy Committee at its meeting on 12 June 2007. It is desirable to seek management advice on funding, resource and workload implications. It is

suggested that the Chief Executive be asked to report on these matters, as well as on any other matters that could impact on overall rate requirements.

It is proposed that formal replies be sent to submitters on the basis of managers' responses, or as otherwise directed by the Subcommittee and Council, following the formal adoption of the 2007/08 Annual Plan and LTCCP Amendment. It is appropriate that these replies 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.

It is proposed that the Council adopt the 2007/08 Annual Plan and LTCCP Amendment at its meeting on 28 June 2007.

5. Additional Item for consideration

At its meeting on 8 May 2007 Council approved an additional item for consideration as part of the final deliberations associated with the adoption of the 2007/08 Annual Plan. The additional item is a proposal for funding of an additional \$300,000 for the construction of a new Beacon Hill Communications Station. Report 07.206 refers.

6. Possible additional item for consideration: Kopuaranga River Enhancement Project

The Kopuaranga River Enhancement Project involves a proposed new river scheme for the Kopuaranga River. The proposal was recently formally submitted to the Kopuaranga River community; it did not receive overwhelming endorsement. An amended scheme is currently being developed for community consideration, and it is expected that subject to community endorsement of the amended scheme, the proposal will be formally submitted to Council to enable it to be considered prior to the adoption of the 2007/08 Annual Plan.

7. Recommendations

That the Subcommittee:

- (1) receives the report*
- (2) hears the oral submissions*
- (3) considers all written and oral submissions in the manner set out in section 4 of this report*
- (4) notes the responses from managers on the submissions*
- (5) considers the proposal, for the inclusion in the 2007/08 Annual Plan, for funding of an additional \$300,000 for the construction of a new Beacon Hill Communications Station*

- (6) *notes that an amended proposal relating to the Kopuaranga River Enhancement Project may be submitted to Council for consideration prior to the adoption of the 2007/08 Annual Plan*
- (7) *asks the Chief Executive to further report on the implications of any proposals that it considers warrant further consideration at the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee meeting on 12 June 2007, as well as on any matters which may impact on rate requirements, and*
- (8) *agrees that the Council Chairman sign the formal replies to all submitters on the basis of managers' replies, or as otherwise recommended by the Subcommittee and determined by Council, following formal adoption of the 2007/08 Annual Plan.*

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Attachment 1: Timetable of oral submissions