



Report 08.363  
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File WRS/09/01/01

Committee Regional Sustainability Committee  
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## Wellington Regional Strategy update and Genuine Progress Index (GPI) project

### 1. Purpose

To provide an update on Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) activities, in particular the Genuine Progress Index (GPI) project.

Report numbers 08.331 and 08.356 were presented to the WRS Committee on 4 June – update reports on WRS office activities and Grow Wellington quarterly activity update. These reports are attached to this document as **Attachment 1** and **Attachment 2**, respectively.

### 2. Genuine Progress Index (GPI)

Many regions across New Zealand (including Nelson/Marlborough, Christchurch, Waikato and Auckland) and central government agencies are interested in Genuine Progress Index (GPI) as a way of monitoring a range of economic, environmental and social indicators. Various frameworks are currently being developed. Statistics NZ is developing a framework for monitoring sustainable development and this may align with many of the GPI frameworks being developed around the country. Their framework is to be released in August 2008. Market Economics (an independent consultancy company) in conjunction with the New Zealand Centre for Ecological Economics (a Massey University and Landcare Research collaboration) is currently undertaking the first comprehensive attempt to develop a national level GPI for New Zealand. This is to be released on 7 July 2008.

Despite all the work occurring in this space, there doesn't seem to be any coordination of frameworks and approaches. The Wellington Regional Strategy office is organising an officer-level forum in Wellington on Thursday 19 June to bring the regions, central government agencies and technical experts together to discuss the different GPI approaches being undertaken in New Zealand. It is hoped that by discussing the different approaches early on, there may be opportunities for alignment at both regional and possibly central

government levels that may be beneficial for reporting and possible future comparisons.

### **3. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

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

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**Attachment 1: WRS Project Update Report**

**Attachment 2: Grow Wellington Quarterly Report January – March 2008**