

Report 10.628
Date 17 November 2010
File E/06/26/03

Committee Wellington Regional Strategy Committee
Author Jane Davis, General Manager, Strategy & Community Engagement

Wairarapa representation on the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee

1. Purpose

To propose an amendment to the current provision for Wairarapa representation on the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) Committee.

2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report do not trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

3. Background

In accordance with the Wellington Regional Strategy – Multilateral Agreement in regard to Wellington Regional Strategy (the Agreement), which was agreed to at the time the WRS was established, the Wairarapa is represented on the WRS Committee by one person. Last term this was the Mayor of South Wairarapa District Council, with the Mayor of Masterton District Council as her alternate.

The Committee's terms of reference reflect the membership arrangements set out in the Agreement. The Agreement records Greater Wellington's undertaking that no significant amendment will be made to the Committee's terms of reference without a recommendation from the Committee.

The three Wairarapa territorial authorities have advised that they wish to each have direct representation on the WRS Committee. The Committee should, therefore, consider the request and make a recommendation on the matter to Council.

4. Comment

The Wellington Regional Strategy Committee has now had three years of operating. Its business has involved issues of relevance to Wairarapa. The

absence of Carterton and Masterton direct representatives on the Committee has meant that input and communication with these two councils on relevant WRS matters has been challenging. Also, the review of the strategy is now underway and a significant decision will be made midway through 2011 on whether the region wants it to continue with the strategy. This will be an important decision impacting all councils in the region.

For these reasons it would be appropriate that Masterton District Council and Carterton District Council are directly represented on the Committee.

5. Next steps

If the Committee agrees to invite Masterton District Council and Carterton District Council to each have a direct representative on the Committee this recommendation will be sent to Greater Wellington for confirmation and a change made to the Committee's terms of reference. An invitation will then be sent to the Councils to nominate their representative. Appointments will be able to be made prior to the first meeting of the WRS Committee in 2011.

6. Communication

No general communications are necessary as a result of this report.

7. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. ***Receives*** the report.
2. ***Notes*** the content of the report.
3. ***Recommends*** that the Council amends the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee's terms of reference by replacing the current provision for Wairarapa membership with a provision that enables the Masterton, Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils to each nominate a member.

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Jane Davis
General Manager, Strategy &
Community Engagement

David Benham
Chief Executive