

Report 11.148  
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Committee Council  
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## Report on the Economic Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 17 March 2011

### 1. Purpose

To inform Council about the meeting of the Economic Wellbeing Committee that took place on 17 March 2011.

### 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. Report

There were ten speakers in the public participation part of the meeting. Iain McLean, on behalf of the Pukerua Bay Residents' Association presented a petition asking Greater Wellington to keep Muri Station open. Two other members of the public spoke on this item, also requesting that the station be kept open.

Seven individuals spoke on the cycles on trains paper. There was a general acknowledgement that the proposed policy had incorporated a number of suggestions from cyclists and that it represented an appropriate compromise position. The cyclists were keen to see the carriage of cycles on trains made as easy as possible and were also keen that cycles be carried on buses.

Councillors had a lot of discussion on a proposal to indefinitely withdraw rail services from Muri Station because of safety concerns. The concerns from the community were well understood as was the impact of the potential closure. However, the Committee ultimately considered that the funding required to bring the station up to an acceptable safety standard was not justified because of the low patronage and the close proximity of Pukerua Bay Station. Lower

cost options like locking off certain carriages had their own safety issues which were not acceptable to the Committee. Councillors acknowledged the work of the Pukerua Bay Residents' Association on this matter and the high quality of their submission.

The Committee considered a report on the carriage of cycles on trains and adopted an updated policy on this matter. The Committee also agreed to subsidise the purchase of folding bikes by Wellington region residents to the value of \$50 per bicycle until 31 December 2011, but requested that the funding be capped at \$5,000. The Committee was informed that a paper on the carriage of cycles on buses would be presented to the 16 May 2011 meeting of the Committee.

The Committee agreed to the draft Terms of Reference for the Otaki and Wairarapa public transport service reviews.

The General Managers' report updated the Committee on a number of key public transport and catchment management projects.

#### **4. Unconfirmed minutes**

The unconfirmed minutes of the Committee's meeting are attached as **Attachment 1**.

#### **5. Recommendations**

*That the Council:*

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Report approved by:

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Chair, Economic Wellbeing  
Committee

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**Attachment 1:** Unconfirmed minutes