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Committee Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee
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Appointment to and remuneration of the external committee members of the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee

1. Purpose

To seek the Committee's approval for the appointment to and remuneration of the five non-local government members of the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee, to be recommended to Greater Wellington Regional Council (Greater Wellington).

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. Exclusion of the public

Grounds for exclusion of the public under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 are:

That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist, (ie to protect the privacy of natural persons).

4. Background

4.1 Role of the Committee

The Council established the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee to oversee consultation on the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) as well as

a governance and funding proposal for the strategy. This was in response to a request by the WRS Forum.

The WRS aims to deliver sustainable regional economic growth, focussing on making Wellington an internationally competitive region. The strategy identifies three areas of focus:

- Effective Leadership and Partnerships
- Investment in Increasing Exports
- Quality Regional Form and Systems.

The strategy has a long term (50 year) outlook, with actions identified and prioritised for 10-20 years.

The Committee has been set up on an interim basis with the specific tasks of managing the consultation on the WRS and recommending a final strategy, a governance model and funding levels to Greater Wellington. It is expected that the same membership will continue, subject to the outcome of the consultation.

Should Greater Wellington confirm its new role the Committee will be responsible for owning and monitoring the implementation of the WRS. It will also establish a regional economic development agency (EDA), appoint members to the Board of the EDA and recommend to Greater Wellington on-going funding necessary to implement the WRS. The Board of the EDA will be responsible to the Committee, who in turn will be responsible to Greater Wellington.

4.2 Terms of Reference

Under its Terms of Reference the Committee is to have seven political appointees, comprising representatives of the Wellington region's territorial authorities and Greater Wellington, or their alternates, and five eminent non-local government people.

The Committee's responsibilities, under its Terms of Reference, include overseeing the identification and recommendation of the five non-local government members for appointment to the Committee. Section (1) of the Terms of Reference provides for:

- “(e) Five non-local Government Members, recommended by the seven Local Government Members, appointed on the basis of skills, experience, standing and networks in the regional community relevant to the goals of the Wellington Regional Strategy.*
- (f) One of the five non-local Government Members must be a suitable person to represent interests of Maori.”*

The Terms of Reference also provides for remuneration of members as follows:

“Each Council shall be responsible for remunerating its representative on the Committee for the cost of that person’s participation in the Committee.

The remuneration of the Non Local Government Members will be determined and approved by the Council, following consideration of any recommendation by the Committee.”

At its meeting on the 8th August 2006 Greater Wellington appointed Chairman Ian Buchanan as its representative on the Interim Committee, with Councillor Fran Wilde as the Greater Wellington alternate. The region’s territorial authorities have been invited to nominate their representatives. On receipt of the nominations those people will be deemed to be appointed to the Committee. It is anticipated that all territorial authority representatives will be appointed in time for the first meeting of the Interim Committee, at which this paper will be considered.

5. Appointment of non-local Government Members

5.1 Appointment Process

A process for the selection of candidates for the non-local government positions on the committee has been based on selection criteria developed through consultation between the Greater Wellington Chairman and the Region’s Mayors. The timing of the appointment of the members, within the context of the wider timetable restrictions for the consultation process, has meant that this work has occurred prior to the committee meeting for the first time.

In keeping with understandings reached by the WRS Forum and subsequently confirmed through the consultation process between the Greater Wellington Chairman and the Mayors, the criteria recommended for the non-political members are:

1. A leadership profile and strong networks and mana in the region.
2. A strong affinity for the Greater Wellington region and long-term commitment to the future prosperity of the region.
3. A contribution to a mix of complementary skills which would result in an effectively functioning WRS Committee. Although sector representation is not a basis for the makeup of the committee, this could include experience in specific sectors such as business, research or education.
4. Experience in working in partnership relationships across organisations, particularly where these include central and/or local government organisations, and an understanding of the political dynamics this entails.
5. At least one member able to represent the interests of Maori.

Appointees may potentially be encouraged to act as spokespersons and / or champions for aspects of the WRS.

A range of sources of potential candidates has been explored including databases available through central government, the Institute of Directors, and from the Region's Mayors. Through consultation with the Mayors the Chairman identified a list of preferred candidates and then met with these people in turn, with assistance from the Chair of the WRS Forum, Murray McCaw. At the meetings the Chairman outlined the WRS and explained the governance proposal. The purpose of the meetings was to determine interest in joining the Committee and availability. The potential for conflicts of interest were also discussed with the candidates.

5.2 Proposed appointees

On the advice of the Greater Wellington Chairman, the following people are available to take up appointments to the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee:

- Sir John Anderson
- Professor Paul Callaghan
- Professor Ngatata Love
- Diana Crossan

A fifth person has yet to be confirmed. As soon as the position of the other person is known the name will be forwarded to the Committee.

Further information about each of these people is in **Attachment 1**. These people all satisfy the criteria outlined above. Collectively they will provide a balance of skills and experience of issues across the region.

5.3 Term of appointment

The independent appointments will be for the period of the triennium. Consistent with appointments to other Greater Wellington committees, the appointment of members will be carried out at the beginning of each new council term.

6. Remuneration of the Interim Committee Members

6.1 Need for remuneration

The Terms of Reference state that the seven political appointees will not receive any additional remuneration for sitting on the Committee. However, it is considered appropriate that the five non-local government appointees should be remunerated.

It is expected that the committee will meet approximately four times a year once the initial consultation and setup period has ended. Prior to that it is likely there will be more commitment required, especially around consultation and hearing submissions, and the establishment of the EDA.

The remuneration for the non-local government members should be set at a level which will attract and motivate the people to perform the tasks required of them at a high level. The following principles should be considered:

- The hours committed to the committee including preparation and travel time.
- The level of fees paid to people in comparable organisations.
- The rates paid by comparable organisations.

6.2 Level of fees in comparable organisations

In respect of Greater Wellington:

- The external directors of WRC Holdings Limited are paid \$12,500 per annum.
- The directors of CentrePort are paid \$33,000 per annum.
- Westpac Stadium trustees are paid \$12,000 per annum

In respect of other council controlled organisations in the region:

- Positively Wellington Business trustees are paid \$10,000 per annum for meeting 4-6 times per year.
- Wellington Waterfront directors are paid \$25,000 per annum

6.3 Discussion

The proposed nominees will be expected to not only attend and contribute to the success of the Committee, but to also contribute to the success of the WRS outside the committee room. It is envisaged that these members will be using their skills, networks and mana to promote and enhance the WRS and its successful implementation.

The quality of the independent members and their expected role implies that the fees should be at the higher end of the fees paid by similar organisations.

However, it should also be acknowledged that appointees to this type of position usually accept a level of remuneration below pure market rates in recognition of their contribution to public good.

Therefore it is recommended that the five independent members be paid a fee of \$15,000 per annum.

7. Communication

Communication of the matters in this report will be communicated as set out in the Council report on the same matters.

8. Recommendations

That the Committee:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Recommends to the Council the following people are appointed to the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee:***
 - *Sir John Anderson*
 - *Professor Paul Callaghan*
 - *Professor Ngatata Love*
 - *Diana Crossan*

A fifth person to be confirmed at the meeting.

4. ***Recommends to the Council the non-local government appointees to the Interim Wellington Regional Strategy Committee be paid an annual fee of \$15,000.***

Report prepared by:

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Report approved by;

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Attachment 1: Profiles of Recommended Non-Local Government Committee Members