



Report 05.577
Date 10 October 2005
File E/01/06/12

Committee Policy, Finance and Strategy
Author Amy Norrish Policy Analyst

Delegation to Chief Executive

1. Purpose

To delegate the attached powers, functions and duties to David Benham, Chief Executive

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

On 30 August 2005 the Council appointed David Benham as the Chief Executive of Greater Wellington Regional Council. The Council now needs to formally delegate to him the powers, functions and duties he requires to carry out his responsibilities as Chief Executive.

The Council meeting on 18 October is the first opportunity the Council has had since David Benham's appointment to make this delegation. In the interim, David Benham was temporarily sub-delegated the powers he required to perform his role from Jane Bradbury when she was still the Acting Chief Executive.

4. Comment

It is suggested that the Council delegate the powers outlined in **Attachment 1** to David Benham, the Chief Executive. These are the same powers that were delegated to Barry Harris. They are based on the principles and philosophy of delegation that were agreed by the Council at the beginning of 2005.

Officers feel that it is still appropriate to delegate these powers, functions and duties to the Chief Executive. The delegation is based on the annual plan. This makes it flexible enough to enable the Chief Executive to carry out his broad responsibilities, i.e. implementing Council policy and carrying out the day-to-

day operations to achieve the outcomes set by the Council. He can do this in an efficient and effective manner, without having to obtain approval from Council for something that has already been authorised in the annual plan e.g. insurance renewal.

At the same time the delegation holds the Chief Executive accountable to executing only those work programmes and budgets that are set out in the current annual plan, except in an emergency. There are also several provisos under the conditions section of the delegation that hold the Chief Executive to account. He must seek the input of a committee or the Council where a decision is politically sensitive and major decisions made under delegated authority must be reported in writing to the Council or relevant committee.

The delegation also provides for the Chief Executive to sub-delegate relevant powers to staff members. There is, however, a limit to his ability to sub-delegate. Except in specific circumstances the Chief Executive cannot sub-delegate to any divisional manager or other officer or person the power to approve expenditure over \$200,000 in respect of any single item.

5. Communication

A copy of this delegation will be provided to the Chief Executive and recorded in Greater Wellington's Delegations Register.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee recommends that Council:

1. **Receive** the report.
2. **Note** the content of the report.
3. **Delegate** the powers in Attachment 1 to this report to David Benham, the Chief Executive of Greater Wellington Regional Council.

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Delegation to David Benham, Chief Executive