



Report 07.351  
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Committee Wellington Regional Strategy  
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## Remuneration of Regional EDA Ltd Board and Chair of the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee

### 1. Purpose

To seek the approval of the Committee for revised remuneration rates for the Regional Economic Development Agency Board Directors and the Chair of the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee, to be recommended to 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. Background

The Terms of Reference for the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) Committee state that the seven political appointees to the Committee will not receive any additional remuneration for sitting on the Committee.

The remuneration rate for the independent members of the WRS Committee was set when the Committee was established as a permanent Greater Wellington committee in February 2007. On the recommendation of the Interim WRS Committee (**Report 07.21 Interim WRS Committee 30 January 2007**) Greater Wellington confirmed a rate of \$1,250 per month (\$15,000 per annum) which had previously been set for the independent members of the Interim WRS Committee. No special rate was set for the chair of the Committee.

Remuneration for the directors of the Regional EDA Ltd Board is currently \$1,000 per month. This fee was set for the period the initial three directors were appointed until the full Board was in place. Greater Wellington, on the recommendation of the WRS Committee, appointed the full Board at its meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2007.

## **4. Recommended Remuneration**

### **4.1 Wellington Regional Strategy Committee**

It is recommended that the members of the WRS Committee continue to receive the remuneration rate of \$1,250 per month previously set. The following principles were considered by the Committee when the rate was originally set:

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

The rate of \$1,250 per month continues to reflect the level that will attract and motivate people to perform the tasks required of them at a high level, recognising that there is also a public good element to the role.

The Chair of the Committee currently receives the same rate as other Committee members. This does not allow for the additional time spent by the Chair that, in addition to the commitments of other Committee members, includes duties related to meeting agendas, the media and attending public functions representing the Committee. It is recommended that the Chair receives an additional \$5,000 per annum. This would take the remuneration of the Chair to \$20,000 per annum.

### **4.2 Regional EDA Board Remuneration**

It is recommended that the Directors of Regional EDA Ltd be remunerated at the same rate as the independent appointees on the WRS Committee. While the roles are different there are sufficient similarities to suggest that the fees should be aligned. In particular:

- both the Board and the Committee seek to attract professional people with high community standing
- there is an element of public good contribution to both the Committee and the Board; and
- the directors and the committee members have the same expectations on them to use their skills, networks and mana to promote and enhance the WRS and its successful implementation.

It is therefore recommended that the Directors get paid an annual fee of \$15,000, and that \$20,000 be paid to the Chair.

These rates compare to similar Greater Wellington organisations as follows:

- 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.

#### **4.3 Review of the Fees**

It is recommended that the fees for the EDA Board be reviewed prior to the first planned re-appointment of directors in three years.

### **5. Communication**

There are no matters that require a press statement to be prepared in this instance.

### **6. Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

1. *Receives the report.*
2. *Notes the content of the report.*
3. *Resolves to recommend to Greater Wellington that the non-local government members of the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee continue to be paid a monthly fee of \$1,250, equating to an annual fee of \$15,000.*
4. *Resolves to recommend to Greater Wellington that Chair of the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee be paid an annual fee of \$20,000.*
5. *Resolves to recommend to Greater Wellington that Directors appointed to the Board of Regional EDA Limited be paid an annual fee of \$15,000.*
6. *Resolves to recommend to Greater Wellington that Chair of the Board of Regional EDA Limited be paid an annual fee of \$20,000.*

Report prepared by:

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