



Report 07.366
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Committee Environment Committee
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Port noise plan change hearing committee

1. Purpose

To approve the appointment of a hearing committee to hear Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Regional Coastal Plan (port noise).

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

Wellington City Council and Greater Wellington are addressing port noise changes jointly, so that the end result will provide for port noise management that is integrated across jurisdictional boundaries. Wellington City Council's District Plan has jurisdiction above mean high water springs, and Greater Wellington's Regional Coastal Plan has jurisdiction below mean high water springs (e.g. the Overseas Passenger Terminal, Queens Wharf).

Proposed Plan Change 1 to the Regional Coastal Plan sets up a regime for managing noise related to port activities. It was notified on 19 December 2006 and public submissions closed on 26 February 2007. A summary of submissions was then publicly notified and further submissions closed on 18 April 2007.

There were 8 submitters on the plan changes. Two submitters made further submissions.

A consultant is currently preparing reports that make recommendations on the submissions. These reports will be sent to submitters prior to a hearing when submitters will have the opportunity to be heard by a hearing committee. The task of a hearing committee is to hear submissions and make recommendations on them to the Council. A hearing date of 2 July 2007 has been set.

4. **Hearing committee appointment**

The appointment of hearing committees for regional plan changes is delegated to the Environment Committee and cannot be sub-delegated.

Wellington City Council is the lead agency for these plan changes. A hearing committee of Wellington City Councillor Leone Gill, Greater Wellington Councillor Sally Baber and Commissioner Ian Hutchings is recommended.

5. **Communication**

Submitters have been sent a letter informing them of the hearing date and venue. The consultant's report will be sent to the submitters prior to the hearing. No other communication is necessary.

6. **Recommendations**

That the Committee:

1. **Receive** the report; and
2. **Approve** the appointment of Councillor Gill, Councillor Baber and Ian Hutchings to the Hearing Committee for Plan Change 1 to the Regional Coastal Plan (port noise).

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