

Report 11.630
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Committee Wellington Regional Strategy Committee
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Report on the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee meeting 7 December 2011

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee that took place on 7 December 2011.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Report

3.1 Wellington Regional Strategy review – next steps

The Committee considered a report outlining outcomes from a recent Mayoral Forum workshop on the future focus of economic development activities in the region. It also set out the governance arrangements for the WRS, as agreed at the workshop. A copy of the full report is attached in **Attachment 1**.

The Committee was told, considering the scope of the Strategy's focus areas will provide a starting point for the refresh of the economic development aspects of the review; however the non-economic development side of the WRS has yet to be discussed. The focus areas are clear high level goals that take advantage of the region's strengths. Committee members noted economic development that has positive environmental and social outcomes as being an important part of the Strategy.

A letter of expectation to Grow Wellington from the WRS Committee is intended to clarify the role of Grow Wellington and is required for the development of its Statement of Intent 2012/13. The letter of expectation is to be approved by the Committee in February.

At the recent Mayoral Forum workshop, it was agreed the WRS Committee would continue on as a Greater Wellington standing committee, however formal recommendations on the details of the governance arrangements are still

to be finalised. A workshop will be held to discuss these, and other WRS-related issues before officers are to report back to the Committee in February with a draft Statement of Proposal for restarting the WRS activity. Additional resourcing of the WRS office will be part of the workshop discussions as it is considered likely that more resources will be required to support the modified approach of the Committee.

3.2 Preferred areas for ultra fast broadband

The Committee approved a list of UFB rollout priorities for the region, to be sent to Chorus and Crown Fibre Holdings.

3.3 Genuine Progress Index

The Committee noted the recent SOLGM supreme award that was awarded to the region for the Genuine Progress Index (GPI), and congratulated the officers who were involved with the project.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Jane Davis
General Manager, Strategy
and Community Engagement

Fran Wilde
Chair

Attachment 1: WRSC report