

Report 13.53
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Committee Council
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Report on the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee 13 February 2013

1. Purpose

To inform the Council about the meeting of the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee that took place on 13 February 2013.

2. The decision-making process and significance

No decision is being sought in this report.

3. Report

3.1 Wellington Regional Strategy – Draft implementation plan

Colin Drew, Project Leader, WRS office, presented the draft Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) Implementation Plan to the Committee. The plan outlines the actions that will be undertaken in the next ten years to lift economic performance in the Wellington region. Refreshed in 2012, the new WRS has a tighter focus than the original Strategy, and focuses primarily on economic development matters.

3.2 Genuine Progress Index and Full Cost Account Report

The Committee discussed the recommendation that the next Genuine Progress Index (GPI) report (due in the second half of this year) be delayed until late 2013/early 2014 when more useful data at a regional level is made available after the 2013 census, thus ensuring a more up-to-date report. It was acknowledged by the Committee that the public will still have access to the interim non-census datasets via the GPI website.

The Committee also discussed the final Full Cost Account (FCA) report on Physical Inactivity, which was developed jointly with Auckland Council and Waikato Regional Council. It was agreed that further consideration would be given to the future use of the GPI, and ideas on how the Committee wishes to

progress the findings from the FCA report. Further discussion on the application of the methodology for other activities was scheduled for the Committee's April workshop.

3.3 Creative HQ Update

Paul Mersi, Chair, Grow Wellington, presented an update on Creative HQ. Mr Mersi noted that since its inception, Creative HQ has supported 84 start-up companies through its programmes, including 22 this financial year to date. It is estimated that the 59 companies that exited Creative HQ have generated \$59.2 million in economic value, with 37% of their 2011/12 revenue from exports.

3.4 Appointments

The Committee went into a public excluded session to discuss a non-local government appointment to the Wellington Regional Strategy Committee and appointments of directors to the board of Grow Wellington.

4. Recommendations

That the Council:

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

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

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Fran Wilde
Chair