



Report **05.352**
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Committee **Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee**

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Wellington Regional Strategy - Growth Framework Discussion Document

1. Purpose of report

To seek endorsement from the Council to release the Wellington Regional Strategy Growth Framework discussion document for public consultation.

The Wellington Regional Strategy project has been working towards the release of a Growth Framework discussion document in August 2005. The Wellington Regional Forum has considered the draft Growth Framework with the aim to release the document to the public for consultation in August.

2. Significance of Decision

While matters in this report do not in themselves trigger the significance criteria, there are aspects that will require a more detailed approach to consultation than would otherwise be the case. Specifically, the WRS Growth Framework contains the community outcomes that are proposed for adoption as an input to the LTCCP 2006/16 of this council. Officers are ensuring that that aspect of the WRS consultation is not under-played.

3. Background

The Wellington Regional Strategy is a joint project of the councils of the Wellington region with a goal of working together to build an internationally competitive Wellington. It is a growth strategy seeking to achieve sustainable and desirable growth for the long term benefit of the region's citizens, businesses and institutions. The Strategy provides the opportunity for the councils of the region to work together to develop agreed directions, and then make that common and agreed future happen. It will recognise and reflect the uniqueness of the Wellington region and that which should be protected and enhanced as the region grows. The project has a long term outlook to the year 2050, with a more detailed focus of action and priority for the next 10 to 20 years.

The WRS is being undertaken and funded by all councils in the Wellington region, and in association with Positively Wellington Business. The councils are working in association with a Strategic Partners Forum, business and community groups, infrastructure providers and central government.

4. Growth Framework discussion document

The key output for the 2004/05 financial year of the WRS project is the production of a Growth Framework to be used as the basis for public consultation and as the basis for the Regional Strategy itself. A copy of the Growth Framework discussion document is included as attachment one.

The following five elements are the key components of the document:

Project vision:

The discussion document proposes that the draft vision for the Regional Strategy should be:

"In 2025, Wellington is recognised as one of the top Asia-Pacific regions.

Our thriving, diversified economy will reinforce sustainability, foster strong communities and tangata whenua, and celebrate our cultures and natural advantages. These include:

- * *being the centrally located capital of New Zealand and linked to the world*
- * *having a smart and diverse population*
- * *a dramatic setting with unique natural environments; and*
- * *being home to a range of successful, innovative enterprises and institutions"*

Outcomes:

A set of proposed regional outcomes is included in the Discussion Document. These are drawn from the community outcomes expressed in each of the councils' first LTCCPs and provide the backbone for policy and strategy development for each individual Council and the Wellington Regional Strategy.

Issues:

The proposed regional issues have been drawn from analysis of the initial background reports and feedback from members of the Regional Forum, the Strategic Partners' Forum and the Regional Assembly.

Some issues contained within the discussion document will be addressed directly through the WRS. Others may be more for action by central government, with advocacy from the region. A third set are shown as issues that are indeed regional and need consideration, but are best managed through a separate regional exercise with the WRS maintaining links.

Principles:

Outcomes are the end results that we want to achieve from our actions. They differ from principles, which are used to describe the qualities of urban development, economic development and transport that will deliver the outcomes.

The Growth Framework Discussion document proposes five 'overarching principles' which are present across all three areas of economic development, transport and urban development. A number of other proposed principles relate specifically to each of the three growth framework areas (economic development, urban development and transport).

Focus Areas:

Four focus areas, each with more detailed actions flowing from them, are identified as part of the discussion document. The four focus areas are:

- Effective leadership and partnership
- Quality regional form and systems
- Unlocking economic potential
- Internationalisation.

Each focus area is discussed in more detail in Attachment Two of this report.

The aim of the focus area component of the project is to identify the key economic and urban development interventions that the region should focus on in order to address as many of the identified regional issues as possible, and to deliver on the Regional Strategy goals.

Other Councils' Responses:

This council is the last of the partner authorities to be considering the release of the Growth Framework discussion document. An oral report will be provided at the meeting of any matters of significance raised by the other councils.

5. Communication

The Wellington Regional Forum met to consider the Growth Framework Discussion document and general direction of the strategy, on Thursday 30 June 2005. The Forum agreed that the Framework be sent for consultation. Each council within the Wellington region is now being asked to agree that consultation be undertaken on the Growth Framework discussion document. The Forum will meet on 28 July to consider any questions from councils prior to releasing the document for consultation. The consultation will be undertaken in accordance with a Consultation and Communication Plan approved by the Forum within the following timeframe:

August 2005:	Growth Framework launched.
August/September 2005:	Receive public feedback on Growth Framework.
October-December 2005:	Public feedback collated and used in developing a draft Wellington Regional Strategy document.

Feedback obtained during consultation on the Growth Framework discussion document will be reported to the Policy, Finance & Strategy Committee.

Further consultation will be undertaken once the draft Growth Strategy has been completed in 2006:

March-June 2006: Draft Wellington Regional Strategy processes for public feedback.

Mid 2006: Wellington Regional Strategy document launched.

As noted in Report 05.351, also on this order paper, the Wellington Regional Strategy Growth Framework consultation will be aligned with that for the Regional Land Transport Strategy strategic options.

6. Conclusion

The Council is asked to agree to release the Growth Framework Discussion Document for public consultation.

7. Recommendations

That the Committee recommend to Council that it:

- 1) *Receives the information.*
- 2) *Agrees that the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum undertake consultation on the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) Growth Framework discussion document.*
- 3) *Notes that officers will report back to the Policy, Finance & Strategy Committee on the feedback arising from consultation on the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) Growth Framework discussion document.*

Report prepared by:

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Attachments:

Attachment One: Growth Framework discussion document

Attachment Two: Focus Area reports for Growth Framework Discussion Document