



Report 07.126  
Date 8 March 2007  
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Committee Regional Passenger Transport Plan Hearing  
Subcommittee  
Author Margaret Meek Policy Analyst

## **Process for considering submissions on the draft Wellington Regional Passenger Transport Plan**

### **1. Purpose**

To outline the process for handling submissions, both at this meeting and following the consideration of submissions.

### **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 (the Act).

### **3. Background**

This meeting completes the public consultation phase on the draft Wellington Regional Passenger Transport Plan (draft Plan).

The Regional Passenger Transport Plan Hearing Subcommittee will hear oral submissions at this meeting. The Subcommittee will meet in April to consider both the oral and written submissions it has received, and must decide if it wishes to recommend any changes in respect of the draft Plan to the Passenger Transport Committee. The final Plan will be adopted by the Council.

The Regional Land Transport Strategy Hearing Subcommittee is considering submissions on the draft Regional Land Transport Strategy. A number of submitters have requested that they be given the opportunity to present submissions on both the draft Regional Land Transport Strategy and draft Plan on the same occasion. In order to provide submitters with this opportunity, the two Subcommittees are meeting concurrently on 19 March. The two Subcommittees will then diverge and the Regional Passenger Transport Plan Hearing Subcommittee will further consider submissions on the draft Plan.

### **3.1 Principles of consultation**

Six principles of consultation are set out in the Local Government Act 2002. One of these principles is that views presented to a local authority should be accepted with an open mind, and should be given due consideration by the local authority, in making a decision.

It is consistent with best practice that members hearing submissions must be present for the duration of the hearing of the oral submissions.

## **4. Submissions received**

Greater Wellington has received 122 submissions on the draft Plan.

### **4.1 Distribution of submissions**

All submissions have been distributed to members of the Subcommittee.

All submissions will be made available to the public on request, unless there is good reason to withhold them or any part of them under the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. However, the name and contact details will be removed from those submissions for which the submitter has requested it.

## **5. Comment**

### **5.1 Draft Plan submission process**

#### **5.1.1 Oral presentations**

The purpose of this meeting is to hear oral presentations in support of written submissions. At the time of writing, 24 submitters have requested that they be heard on the draft Plan.

Ten minutes have been allocated to each submitter (with the exception of one or two submitters who specifically requested more time). This allows approximately five minutes for the submitter to present their key points and five minutes for Subcommittee members to ask questions of clarification. The draft timetable of oral submissions is included as **Attachment 1** to this report. Please note that this is not the final timetable, as officers are still waiting for some submitters to confirm. The final timetable will be provided to you at the meeting on 19 March 2007.

#### **5.1.2 Written submissions**

Written submissions will be considered by the Subcommittee when it meets in April. It is suggested, at that meeting, that written submissions are taken as read by the Subcommittee, and that Subcommittee members only discuss those submissions on which they want to make a particular comment.

### 5.1.3 Consideration of issues raised in submissions

There will be an opportunity to discuss the issues raised in both written and oral submissions at the Subcommittee meeting in April, with the purpose of forming recommendations for consideration by the Passenger Transport Committee. The Subcommittee will be provided with officers' comments on the key issues raised by submitters which may help to inform that discussion.

## 5.2 Process after consideration of submissions

The Subcommittee's recommendations will be considered by the Passenger Transport Committee. The Passenger Transport Committee will then agree a final Plan and recommend that it be adopted by the Council.

It is proposed that formal responses be sent to submitters following the final decision on the draft Plan. These responses should originate from the Passenger Transport Chairperson. Under the Local Government Act 2002, reasons must be given for decisions made, including a decision not to take any action.

## 6. Recommendations

*That the Committee:*

1. *receives the report;*
2. *hears the oral submissions;*
3. *agrees to consider all written and oral submissions in the manner set out in section 5 of this report.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

Margaret Meek  
Policy Analyst

Francis Ryan  
Manager, Secretariat

Attachment 1: Timetable of oral submitters