

DRAFT Regional strategy and partnerships

Ko ā mātou mahi

What we do

Greater Wellington coordinates regional strategy and partnerships activities on a range of issues and priorities across the region. Our long-term approach is to build, develop and maintain strong relationships at all levels so we can achieve integrated decision making at a regional level to successfully deliver projects. This includes building sustainable partnerships and relationships with mana whenua and regional planning with other local governments and central government.

As the only regional local government organisation in the Wellington Region, we coordinate regional spatial and transport planning, planning for action on climate change, regional economic development plans and emergency management. Many of the issues faced by our communities are complex and require a regional whole-of-system approach. We connect with our communities by actively partnering with mana whenua, and engaging with mātāwaka, key stakeholders, central government and local communities to have wider conversations.

This group of activities supports our Community Outcomes:

Thriving environment

We lead from the front to make sure our environment is front and centre

Connected communities

People are engaged in the decisions that affect them

Resilient future

We plan for the big issues ensuring the future is resilient

Activities of the Regional strategy and partnerships group

Regional partnerships with mana whenua and Māori

The regional mana whenua relationships activity leads the organisation's approach to improving outcomes for mana whenua and Māori. This requires a programme focused on systemic changes to unlock the potential for mana whenua and Māori through the work that Council delivers. The activity builds an organisational approach to partnership including co-design, cogovernance and co-management opportunities with mana whenua that enhance and influence the strategic and operational outcomes of mana whenua and Māori across our work programmes.

We aim to strengthen the capacity of mana whenua as kaitiaki to engage at all levels through mutually agreed arrangements for both urban and rural environments. We will build on our relationships with mātāwaka Māori through their marae on key projects in which they have shared interests with mana whenua. This programme supports the

advancement of Māori Economic Development through the implementation of the strategy Te Matarau a Māui, towards building prosperous outcomes for Māori of the region.

Climate change

Our Climate Change activity has a dedicated programme to improve transparency and accountability for progressing climate action.

We plan to address, respond and deliver on the challenges of climate change

Our role is to accelerate the reduction of corporate carbon emissions, strengthen regional climate action and increase

Greater Wellington's role in pursuit of a climate safe region.

Regional transport planning and programmes

Greater Wellington is responsible for leading the development of objectives, policies and priorities for transport networks and services in the region. Our focus areas are the alignment of priorities, opportunities for advocacy and regional responsiveness. The Regional Transport Committee plays an important role in mediating national and local priorities, advocating for greater regional outcomes and enabling stronger collaboration across regional and district boundaries.

The 2024-2034 Regional Land Transport Plan (RLTP) is our blueprint for a transport network.

The focus of the RLTP is on 10 year transport targets including 40 percent reduction in deaths and serious injuries on our roads, 30 percent reduction in transport-generated carbon emissions and 40 percent increase in active travel and public transport mode share.

Regional spatial planning

The Wellington Regional Growth Framework (WRGF) provides a blueprint for regional growth. It addresses regional issues and provides councils, central government and mana whenua with an agreed regional direction for growth and investment. Greater Wellington is committed to the creation of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee, a Joint Committee which will be responsible for the implementation of the WRGF. The role of the Joint Committee is to set regional direction and monitor activities with a particular focus on the WRGF, regional economic development and regional recovery.

Regional economic development

Greater Wellington is committed to leading and enabling regional economic development, prioritising COVID-19 recovery and supporting Māori economic development. We are well positioned to lead and facilitate growth and development opportunities and challenges facing our region to ensure the Wellington Region is equipped to adapt and thrive into the future, working closely with our regional development agency WellingtonNZ.

Emergency management

The Wellington Region Emergency Management Office (WREMO) co-ordinates Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) services on behalf of the nine local authorities across the Wellington Region including Greater Wellington. Greater Wellington provides equipment and trained staff to operate the Regional Emergency Coordination Centre (ECC) in the case of a civil defence emergency. We also engage in a programme of business continuity by identifying critical business functions and planning for any disruption.

Democratic services

The Democratic Services activity enables citizens and communities to engage with decision makers for the benefit of the region. We oversee Council and committee meetings on behalf of our regional communities. We also review Greater Wellington's representation arrangements, three yearly Council elections and any other elections and polls that are required. Greater Wellington has also established advisory groups to provide advice to the Council on a wide range of matters.

Relationship with mana whenua and mātāwaka

We will strengthen systems and processes in working with our six mana whenua partners through a poutama framework aimed at excellence in all that we do. We will continue to act in a manner that upholds the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and fulfils our statutory obligations to Māori under the guidance of the Mana whenua and Māori Outcomes Framework.

We will aim for excellence in working with other councils and central government agencies to prepare for and position any new settlement redress arrangements as our mana whenua partners complete their Te Tiriti o Waitangi historical negotiations with the Crown and advance their aspirations in the post-settlement environment. We will increase the co-design, co-governance and co-management arrangements and our resources to mana whenua partners as kaitiaki to strengthen their capacity to engage in decision making through mutually agreed arrangements from beginning to end with regards to the natural and urban environments. We will build on our relationships with mātāwaka through their marae on key projects in which they have shared interests with mana whenua.

We will also work with mātāwaka and build on the existing key projects on the Māori economy and marae preparedness for civil defence emergencies. We value the opportunity to work with new emergent legislative and policy requirements.

This includes working with mana whenua applicant groupings under the Marine and Coastal Area Act (MACA) and engaging with the new Mana Whakahono-ā-Rohe (iwi partnership arrangements) under the new Resource Legislation Amendment Act 2017 as required.

We are also committed to holding Crown funding for the Wairarapa Moana Statutory Board to develop the Ruamāhanga catchment document as part of the shared settlement redress between Rangitāne O Wairarapa and Ngāti Kahungunu ki Wairarapa.

Opportunities and challenges

Opportunities

- Opportunities to plan and provide for an uptake in travel choice
- Strengthen capacity for mana whenua partners as kaitiaki to engage in decision making
- Diversification of the regional economy by growing businesses in new and emerging sectors
- Leading the regional transition to a low carbon economy, which is resilient to the effects of climate change

Challenges

- Greater pressures on our transport planning to allow for changing transport dynamics and movement of people around the region
- Robustness of our infrastructure and emergency management functions to respond to emergency situations including the ability to recover quickly
- Spatial planning that takes into account predicted trends in regional population growth and geographic distribution
- Uncertain regional economic growth in the region due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic
- Partnerships with mana whenua will be increasingly significant for Greater Wellington as co-design, co-governance, co-management arrangements increase and Te Tiriti o Waitangi/Treaty of Waitangi settlements are finalised in the region.

Significant negative effects and how we will address them

There are no significant negative effects from any Regional Strategy and Partnerships Activities.