



caring about you & your environment

Report 02.463

31 July 2002

File: CP/4/3/1

Report to the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee from
John Allard, Corporate Policy Manager

Process to Establish Desired Community Outcomes

1. Purpose

For the Council to agree to undertake a consultation process to determine community outcomes as an input in the development of the Long Term Financial Strategy (LTFS).

2. Background

The proposed new local government legislation requires councils to undertake a process for identifying community outcomes and priorities for the district or region.

The proposed legislation states the purposes of the identification of community outcomes and priorities being to:

- enhance decision-making by aligning the activities of the local authority with community objectives; and
- provide scope to measure the contribution of the local authority to the achievement of community objectives; and
- provide a mechanism for setting priorities for the activities of the local authority; and
- promote the better co-ordination and application of community resources.

In addition the legislation requires councils to identify, so far as practicable, the other bodies capable of influencing either the identification or the promotion of community outcomes and priorities.

Whilst the passage of the legislation through Parliament has been disrupted by the election, it is proposed that the WRC implement best practice components of the proposed legislation in the 2002/03 LTFS including a process for identifying community outcomes and priorities.

3. Comment

Officers are currently discussing with the territorial authorities in the region the extent to which it is feasible for us to co-operatively undertake a process to identify community outcomes and priorities. The discussions to date have been very positive. I will provide an update on progress at the meeting.

However it is likely that the consultation process will include:

- selected government agencies
- community groups
- a process for public input

Various approaches are being considered to give the community the opportunity to have a say, for example using *Elements* and gaining input from the range of mechanisms used by the territorial authorities. It is anticipated that the work done to identify the characteristics of a Sustainable Region will be a resource for the process.

The results of this work to identify desired outcomes and priorities should be available in October to allow the Council to identify its role in their delivery and the roles of others. The Council's role will then be firmed up as the LTFS.

Note, iwi input is being sought through a specific process with Ara Tahī members.

4. Recommendations

That the Committee recommends to Council:

- (i) *That the report is received and the contents noted.*
- (ii) *That the Council agrees to undertake a consultation process to identify community outcomes and priorities as an input for the LTFS, working in a co-operative manner with the territorial authorities in the region.*

JOHN ALLARD
Corporate Policy Manager