



Report 06.541

12 September 2006

File: E/06/03/02

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee held in the Wellington Regional Council Chamber, 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington on Tuesday, 12 September 2006 at 9.30 am

Present

Councillors Buchanan (Chairman), Aitken, Baber, Evans, Glensor, Greig, Kirton, Laidlaw, Long, McDavitt, Shields, Turver and Wilde

Officers Present

Benham, Bradbury, Corry, Cutler, Davis, Gray, Hastie, Kennedy, Norrish, Reay, Saywell and Turfrey.

Public Business

Procedural Items

PF&S 178 **Apologies**

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Turver)

That the Committee

Accepts the apology for lateness from Crs Glensor and Laidlaw.

Cr Glensor joined the meeting at 9.55 am.

Noted

No report was tabled for agenda item 6. It was deleted from the agenda.

PF&S 179 **Public Participation**

Tabled

RMTU Involvement in Wellington Rail Issues. Mani Ramati

Modal Share Objectives in the LTCCP. Paula Warren

Betty van Gaalen

Mrs van Gaalen spoke on the representation review. She was disappointed in the proposal and felt that a special case should be made for Kapiti, that was similar to the one made for the Wairarapa. She maintained that not everyone saw the consultation notice.

Brent Keith

Brent Keith spoke on behalf of the Rail and Maritime Transport Union. He discussed replacement of rolling stock, congestion of the Kaiwharawhara - Wellington Central section because of the inadequate number of tracks, platform height, and the possible introduction of light rail.

Paula Warren

Paula Warren reported that Transport 2000+ is confused about the final decisions on public transport modal share recorded in Greater Wellington's LTCCP. She asked for clarification.

Noted

Cr Buchanan undertook to respond to Ms Warren's concerns.

Matters for Consideration

PF&S 180 **Financial Report for the year ended 30 June 2006**

Report 06.413

File: G/04/01/05

Resolved

(Cr McDavitt/Cr Wilde)

That the Committee recommends that Council:

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

PF&S 181 **Constitutions for Greater Wellington Infrastructure Limited, Greater Wellington Rail Limited and Greater Wellington Transport Limited**

Report 06.422

File: M/30/09/01

Resolved

(Cr Evans/Cr Wilde)

That the Committee recommends that Council:

- 1. Receives the report.**
- 2. Notes the content of the report.**
- 3. Consents to WRC Holdings Limited adopting constitutions for Greater Wellington Infrastructure Limited, Greater Wellington Rail Limited and Greater Wellington Transport Limited.**
- 4. Requests that the Chairman of the Council confirms this consent in writing to WRC Holdings Ltd.**

Noted

Councillor Aitken requested that her vote against 3 be recorded.

PF&S 182 **Approval of Plan Change 2 to the Regional Freshwater Plan**

Report 06.442

File: X/32/01/06

Resolved

(Cr Long/Cr Greig)

That the Committee recommends that the Council:

- 1. Approves proposed Plan Change 2 to the Regional Freshwater Plan.**
- 2. Makes Plan Change 2 to the Regional Freshwater Plan operative on 30 September 2006.**
- 3. Publicly notifies the operative date for Plan Change 2 to the Regional Freshwater Plan on 23 September 2006**

PF&S 183 **Final representation proposal**

Tabled

Our People. Extract from Capital & Coast District Health Board publication (tabled by Councillor Aitken).

Resolved

(Cr Shields/Cr Glensor)

That the Committee:

- 1. Receives the report.**
- 2. Notes the content of the report.**
- 3. Recommends that Council chooses the following representation arrangements as the Wellington Regional Council's final representation proposal:**

Wellington constituency **Based on the current boundary of 5 elected members the Wellington City Council**

Upper Hutt constituency **Based on the current boundary of 1 elected member the Upper Hutt City Council**

Lower Hutt constituency **Based on the current boundary of 3 elected members the Hutt City Council**

Porirua and Kapiti constituency **Based on joining the current 3 elected members boundaries of the Kapiti Coast District Council and Porirua City Council**

Wairarapa constituency **Based on joining the current 2 elected members boundaries of South Wairarapa District Council, Carterton District Council and Masterton District Council, and the area of the Tararua catchment that is just south of the Owhanga River catchment.**

- 4. Recommends that the Council chooses the final proposal in 3 above for the following reasons:**

- a) **The Wairarapa is a distinct community of interest, and two elected members will ensure effective representation of the Wairarapa community. The Wairarapa comprises a large land area (74% of the region) that is sparsely populated, which makes it logistically more time-consuming for elected members to engage with their constituents.**

It is important that elected members are able to have a close relationship with constituents, given the kind of activities the Council carries out in the Wairarapa, such as flood protection, biosecurity (1080) and soil conservation (planting and land retirement) which directly impact on many individual landowners to a great extent. The numerous river and catchment scheme meetings are the point at which elected members can engage face-to-face with the people that are being rated.

- b) **A proposal that is based on 13 elected members, plus an additional member in the Wairarapa constituency (14 elected members in total), ensures that there is relative homogeneity in terms of the people per elected members across the whole region.**

A proposal that comprises ten members, plus an additional member in the Wairarapa constituency (11 elected members in total), would result in significant differences in the number of people per elected member across parts of the region.

- c) **While the Council contends that the different needs of separate communities of interest could be represented in the regional context by members elected from the merged Hutt Valley constituency, it acknowledges that this would largely depend on the individuals who were elected, e.g. how dedicated they are, how much effort and time they put in to representing the views of those across the entire constituency and how open they are to others' views.**

A strong case was made by submitters that separate communities of interest would be best served by a separate constituency, as this would guarantee at least one representative is elected from their area.

- d) **While the Council had identified many aspects that align Kapiti and Porirua in a regional council context when it decided on its initial proposal, submitters feel strongly that there are numerous differences which make Kapiti and Porirua separate communities of interest, including:**

- **Kapiti and Porirua have different interests and focuses on key issues of concern to Greater Wellington, i.e. harbour management, water supply, separate water catchments, flood protection, environmental concerns, river and wetland management and transport.**

Kapiti and Porirua are differently affected by flooding and sea level rise. Kapiti suffers from inadequate rail infrastructure, poor internal connectivity, and lack of rail passenger services up north.

- **Kapiti and Porirua are geographically separated between Pukerua Bay and Paekakariki. There will never be adjacent housing. The Transmission Gully road will result in further separation.**
 - **Kapiti sees its closest kinship with Horowhenua, not Porirua. Porirua links with Tawa, Wellington, and the Hutt Valley.**
 - **Porirua is city focused, while Kapiti is more coastal and rural.**
 - **Kapiti has a larger older population, and Porirua has a higher number Of Māori and Pacific Island people. This results in different social and cultural issues.**
- (e) While the Council generally agrees with submitters' comments on separate constituencies for Kapiti and Porirua, after exploring all the possible representation options, the Council has concluded that no representation option can accommodate having separate Kapiti and Porirua constituencies if the Council is to make every effort to comply with the requirements set out in the Act and provide for the effective representation of the Wairarapa.**
- (f) While the Council had identified many aspects that align Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt in a regional council context when it decided on its initial proposal, submitters feel strongly that there are numerous differences which make Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt separate communities of interest, including:**
- **Upper Hutt has large rural areas and a provincial character.**
 - **Lower Hutt has the sea, and Upper Hutt is inland.**
 - **Upper Hutt people identify with the facilities and services within their community.**
 - **Upper Hutt has significant regional resources, many of which are important for the whole region, e.g. water supply, forestry, regional parks, transport link between Wellington and Wairarapa.**
 - **Lower Hutt and Upper Hutt have different needs and views on key matters of concern, e.g. flood protection and transportation.**
- (g) The Council generally agrees with submitters' comments on separate constituencies for Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt, and notes that this can be achieved without compromising the effective representation of the Wairarapa and the Council's efforts to comply as best it can with the requirements set out in the Act.**

- (h) **The constituency name of Porirua and Kapiti would be a more appropriate name for the merged constituency because:**
- **Most people know the area as Porirua, not Mana.**
 - **Porirua should go first as it has the largest population.**
 - **The word “and” signifies that there are two communities in the one constituency.**
- 5. Recommends that Council notes that the above proposal differs from the Council’s initial proposal in that it has separate constituencies for Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt, with 1 and 3 elected members respectively, and the constituency name Kapiti-Mana has been changed to Porirua and Kapiti.**
- 6. Notes that the Council’s final proposal will be forwarded to the Local Government Commission for its determination, after appeals and objections have been received from the public.**
- 7. Confirms whether or not it recommends that the Council also places information on the Council’s final representation proposal in the region’s community newspapers.**

Moved as an amendment

(Cr Wilde/Cr Baber)

That recommendation 3 be changed to provide that the Upper Hutt and Lower Hutt Constituencies be combined with a total of four elected members.

The amendment was put to the vote. There being a majority against, the amendment was lost.

Moved as an amendment

(Cr Turver/Cr Aitken)

That Kapiti and Porirua Constituencies remain separate, with one representative each.

The amendment was put to the vote. There being a majority against, the amendment was lost.

A division was called for on the substantive motion. The results of the voting are as follows:

For: Crs Buchanan, Glensor, Greig, Kirton, Laidlaw, Long, McDavitt and Shields.

Against: Crs Aitken, Baber, Evans, Turver and Wilde.

There being a majority, the motion was carried.

PF&S 184 **Report of the Meeting of the Landcare Committee held in the Council Chamber, Regional Council Centre, 142 Wakefield Street, Wellington on Thursday 10 August 2006**

Report 06.462

File: E/06/16/02

Resolved

(Cr Laidlaw/Cr Shields)

That the report of the meeting of the Landcare Committee held on 10 August 2006, item LC 130 and the recommendations contained therein, be adopted.

Noted

The local share fund
ing of the Chrystalls Extended Stopbank is still a matter of discussion between Kapiti Coast District Council and the Landcare Committee.

PF&S 185 **Exclusion of the Public**

Report 05.461

Resolved

(Cr Buchanan/Cr Wilde)

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting namely:

- (1) Heads of Agreement for Toll Involvement in the Procurement of New EMU Trains*
- (2) Review of the Chief Executive's Remuneration*

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

<i>General subject of each matter to be considered:</i>	<i>Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each</i>	<i>Ground under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution</i>
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(1) *Heads of Agreement for Toll Involvement in the Procurement of new EMU Trains* *To protect information where the making available of that information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied the information or who is the subject of the information.* *That the public conduct of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist.*

To protect information which is subject to an obligation of confidence.

To enable the Council to carry on commercial negotiations without prejudice or disadvantage

(2) *Review of the Chief Executive's Remuneration* *Because of the need to protect the privacy of natural persons.*

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public are as specified above.

The meeting was adjourned for morning tea between 10.50 am and 11.11am for morning tea.

The open part of the meeting closed at 11.55 am.

Cr I M BUCHANAN
Chairman

Date:

Greater Wellington Regional Council 12 September 2006

To be moved

That Council

Adopt the Report of the Meeting of Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee held on 12 September 2006, PF&S 178 to PF&S 185 inclusive