



Report 11.61
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Committee Council
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Local Governance Statement

1. Purpose

To provide a draft of Greater Wellington's local governance statement *How you can have your say* for consideration and approval.

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.

3. Background

Section 40 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) requires councils to prepare a local governance statement and make it available to the public within six months after each triennial general election. This section also stipulates what information must be contained in the local governance statement. A local governance statement is a collection of information about:

- the processes through which the Council engages with its community
- how the Council makes decisions
- the ways in which citizens can influence local democratic processes.

The statement is written for the information of the general public. The local governance statement must be updated over the course of the triennium, when appropriate, to reflect changes to Council policies, practices or structures.

4. Comment

The draft of Greater Wellington's local governance statement is provided in **Attachment 1**.

The changes made to the existing local governance statement following the recent election are minor and reflect the Council's new committee structure,

and updates to Greater Wellington’s key approved planning and policy documents.

Further changes to the document will need to be made from time to time to reflect changes both to legislation and to key Council planning and policy documents.

A significant proportion of the content of the local governance statement is prescribed by the Act.

5. Communication

The Act requires councils to make their local governance statement “publicly available”, but does not stipulate when and where the document should be made available. It states, however, that the document must be accessible and that the public is made aware of the document and how to obtain a copy. To meet this requirement, Council officers plan to place the document:

- in Greater Wellington’s offices
- in the offices of the district and city councils in the Wellington region
- in the region’s public libraries, and the Parliamentary Library
- on our website.

6. Recommendations

That the Council:

- (1) ***Receives*** the draft document: *How you can have your say – Greater Wellington Regional Council’s local governance statement.*
- (2) ***Approves*** the contents of the document.
- (3) ***Notes*** that the Local Governance Statement will be made publicly available following Council’s approval of the document.
- (4) ***Authorises*** the Chief Executive to make modifications to the document during the course of this triennium, which reflect any changes to Council policies, practices or structures.

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