

Report 14.45
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Committee Council
Author David Benham, Chief Executive

Triennial Agreement

1. Purpose

For the Council to endorse the proposed Triennial Agreement for the 2013-16 triennium and authorise the Chair to finalise and sign the Triennial Agreement.

2. Background

The Local Government Act 2002 requires that all the local authorities in the Wellington Region enter into a Triennial Agreement amongst themselves which sets out how they will work together for the good governance of their districts, cities and region by acting co-operatively and collaboratively. The Triennial Agreement for the 2013-2016 triennium is required to be in place by 1 March 2014. A Triennial Agreement was in place in the previous triennium.

The proposed agreement is based on the content of the 2010-13 agreement, with the addition of a new section on shared services' principles and prioritised services throughout the region. Four priority areas for the development of shared services are identified:

- ICT Back Office partnership
- Economic development
- Regional spatial planning
- Water services.

The focus on shared services principles aims to introduce greater collaboration amongst the region's councils, and also aims to introduce savings through the pooling of resources to promote greater efficiencies.

Eight other matters identified as priorities for the region are:

- Emergency management
- Housing Accord
- Transport

- Infrastructure
- Wellington governance
- Regional amenities
- Climate change
- Biodiversity.

The draft agreement has been circulated to the region's local authorities for consideration and endorsement. As some changes may be necessary as a result of the nine councils' considerations it is appropriate that the Chair be authorised to finalise the agreement provided that the changes do not significantly alter the key elements of the agreement.

3. Communication

The territorial authorities in the Wellington Region will be informed of the Council's decision on the draft agreement.

4. The decision-making process and significance

The matter for decision in this report has been considered by officers against the requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 2002.

4.1 Significance of the decision

Officers have considered the significance of this matter, taking into account the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines. Due to the procedural nature of this decision officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance.

Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the decision-making process is required in this instance.

5. Recommendations

That the Council:

1. ***Receives the report.***
2. ***Notes the content of the report.***
3. ***Endorses the proposed Triennial Agreement for the 2013-2016 triennium.***
4. ***Notes that the proposed agreement is subject to consideration by all councils in the Wellington region, and that this may result in changes being proposed which, if significant, will require the proposed agreement to come back to the Council for further consideration.***

5. *Authorises the Council Chair to sign the Triennial Agreement on behalf of the Council provided that no significant changes are made following consideration of the proposed agreement by other councils.*

Report prepared by:

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Attachment 1: Triennial Agreement for the 2013-16 triennium