



Report **06.131**
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Committee **Ara Tahī**
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Wellington Regional Strategy - Workshop

1. Purpose

To update Ara Tahī on the progress of the Wellington Regional Strategy and to inform the discussion at the Wellington Regional Strategy workshop on 27 April 2006.

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

As you know, the Wellington Regional Strategy Forum (the Forum) represents the nine local authorities that make up the Greater Wellington region, in partnership with Ara Tahī and in association with Positively Wellington Business. The Forum's aim is to build an internationally competitive region, prosperity for our residents, and also enhance our quality of life.

The region's leaders recognised that the best chances for the region's success will result from working together with a common vision, direction and commitment to act, so for the past one and half years the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS) team has been working on a sustainable economic growth and urban form strategy for the region. Ara Tahī has contributed to the process through workshops and through their representatives at the WRS Forum. Initial contact has also been made directly with Iwi around the region.

The first stage of the WRS process was completed in August 2005 with the release of a discussion document that outlined initial thoughts on the direction the strategy was taking. Feedback on the discussion document was very positive. The WRS Forum received and accepted a range of suggestions from Ara Tahī, including adopting Te Reka O Te Upoko O Te Ika A Maui as the Maori name for the WRS.

The WRS growth framework (from the discussion document) identified four focus areas:

- *Effective leadership and partnerships*
- *Quality regional form and systems*
- *Unlocking economic potential*
- *Internationalisation*

One of the action areas identified under *Quality regional form and systems* is 2.7 - "*Support marae as centres for change*". After consultation with Ara Tahī and individual iwi it was agreed that the word '*marae*' should be substituted with the phrase '*kainga-a-tikanga*'. This phrase was identified as being a more accurate description of the where Maori business development will unfold.

For the past nine months the WRS team have been obtaining input from Government, the private sector, the voluntary sector and local government. A clear picture is emerging of what and where things could be done to improve the success of Wellington region. Examples include 'long haul' air transport to better connect Wellington with the world, value chain strengthening, development of visitor attractions, and a strong leadership and partnership framework.

The draft strategy for formal public consultation is due at the end of June 2006 with the final document aimed to be adopted by the WRS Forum in September 2006. Performance towards the WRS vision and objectives will be measured with a Genuine Progress Indicator using quadruple bottom line criteria – i.e. environmental, economic, social and cultural measures.

4. Comment

The WRS team seeks Ara Tahī's views on the following issues at the Wellington Regional Strategy workshop on 27 April 2006:

- What process should be followed to ensure a strong and productive partnership endures between the WRS Forum / team, Ara Tahī and the iwi of the region?
- What are the kainga-a-tikanga in each part of our region and how can the WRS support kainga-a-tikanga?
- Are there any issues or opportunities facing Ara Tahī in relation to economic growth or urban form that might be addressed through the WRS, which have not been identified so far?
- In terms of the WRS process for consulting the peoples of our region during July and August this year do you see scope for Ara Tahī to play a role?
- Is there anything else we need to know?

5. Communication

There are no matters in this report that require further communication.

6. Recommendations

That the Committee:

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

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