

OPEN Briefing – FINAL DRAFT WELLINGTON REGIONAL GROWTH FRAMEWORK

Date of Briefing: 28/10/2020 – 6pm

Attendees

Elected Members: Mayor Barry, Deputy Mayor Lewis, Cr Dyer, Cr Edwards, Cr Hislop, Cr Mitchell, Cr Shaw and Cr Sutton

Staff: Ms J Miller, Chief Executive, Ms H Oram, Director Environmental and Sustainability, Mr K Puketapu-Dentice, Director Transformation and Resources, Ms K Stannard, Head of Democratic Services, Mr G Craig, Head of City Growth, Mr N Geard, Senior Environmental Policy Analyst and Nathan

Attendees: Ms K Kelly and Mr S Mahoney from Greater Wellington Regional Council (GW) and Mr B Patchett

Apologies / Absences

Elected Member Apologies: Crs Bassett, Briggs, Brown, Milne and Rasheed - Elected Member
Absent: none

Key Objectives of the Briefly

The purpose of the briefing is for GW to provide information on the draft Wellington Regional Growth Framework (WRGF) and the proposed Joint Committee.

Presentation – Wellington Regional Growth Framework – Ms Kelly

- The partnership approach between local government, Iwi and central government.
- The development of the framework and delivery on the Urban Growth agenda objectives of the government.
- Policies and plans.
- WRGF objectives and the four key challenges.
- The framework has been developed with a number of partners and stakeholders.
- Current population, population scenario and population projections.
- The assessment process developing the framework.
- Commenced with the continuum of six urban development options.
- Results from the key spatial findings.
- Future Urban Areas and Urban Renewal Areas identified in the WRGF.

- Key moves - things to do differently to make a difference (harness growth, make better use of the region's limited supply of greenfield land, unlock the urban development potential of current and future transit orientated corridors, unlock new areas of housing and urban development, deliver transformational housing and development outcomes for Iwi/Māori) and address the urban development challenges of climate change and zero-carbon economy).
- Spatial Representation of Growth - Western Growth Corridor (Tawa to Levin), Eastern Growth (Hutt to Masterton), possible new West-East Growth Corridor (Porirua to Heretaunga) and possible new West-East Growth Corridor (Johnsonville to Wainuiomata)
- Key spatial initiatives underway and others needed to understand better before committing to them as key spatial projects.
- List of other key initiatives – eg develop a 50-100 year regional three waters strategy, increase rapid transit rail/bus network accessibility, develop a regional approach to climate change impacts including coastal protection

In response to a question from a member, Ms Kelly advised that she was setting up the three year work plan for the Joint Committee and the operating costs would be included in that work.

In response to a question from a member, Mr Patchett advised that it was too early to understand the long term results of COVID in relation to employment.

In response to a question from a member, Ms Kelly advised that there needed to be plan changes in place to ensure our food baskets were not taken up with greenfield developments.

Presentation – Regional Leadership and the Joint Committee – Ms Kelly

- Background relating to the governance for regional growth.
- Drivers – top connections, cohesion, fit for the challenges, complete puzzle meaningful partnerships, changes coming and adapt and thrive.
- Preferred option – Joint Committee to cover WRGF, Regional Economic Development and Regional Recovery.
- Membership of the Joint Committee along with observers (non voting).
- Key lessons from other regions – independent chair, dedicated secretariat, sufficient core funding, 3 year work programme commitment, consensus decision making, conflict resolution process, mana whenua at the table.
- Who does what Joint Committee (regional) and Councils (local)
- Workings of the Joint Committee – decision making and role.
- Support for the Joint Committee – joint secretariat, Chief Executives Forum and Senior Managers Group, Council, Iwi and central government staff, WellingtonNZ and Wellington Region Emergency Management Office and administering authority
- Funding – regional rate to provide the funding for the Joint Committee and Joint Secretariat, funding for projects in an agreed 3 year work programme.

Mr Mahoney

- Role of WellingtonNZ – advice on regional and delivery.

Next Steps

- Workshops/hui with mana whenua (**ongoing**).
- Workshops/meetings with Councils on WRGF and governance (**October/November 2020**).
- Councils to endorse WRGF (**November/December 2020**).
- Iwi to endorse WRGF and formal agreement to Joint Committee (**November 2020-February 2021**).
- Councils to consider formal agreement to Joint Committee (**January/February 2021**).
- Cabinet to endorse the framework and agree to join the WRGF (**end of February 2021**).
- Operational (**early 2021**).
- Public consultation on the draft WRGF (**2nd quarter 2021**).

In response to a question from a member, Ms Kelly advised that the Whaitua te Whanganui-a-Tara Committee would be contributing to the plan.

In response to a question from a member, Mr Mahoney advised that there would likely be a regional Council rate. Ms Kelly advised that GW was happy funding the secretariat rate and the Joint Committee would sign off on the projects.

Briefing finished at 7.06pm

Briefing Materials

Draft Wellington Regional Growth Framework presentation
Regional Leadership and the Joint Committee presentation