



*caring about you & your environment*

**Report 02.668**

28 October 2002

File: SP 01/02/01

Report to Policy, Finance and Strategy Committee  
from John Allard, Corporate Policy Manager

## **Regional Community Outcomes and the Role of Greater Wellington**

### **1. Purpose**

For the Council to agree as part of the development of the ten year plan, to 15 interim regional community outcomes (“the cake”) as described in **Attachment One** and to agree on its contribution to meeting those outcomes (“the Council’s slice – Take 10”).

### **2. Background**

You will recall that the Council agreed to undertake a consultation process to determine community outcomes as an input in the development of our 2002/03 ten year plan which includes best practice components of the proposed new local government legislation (Report 02.463).

The proposed legislation states the purposes of the identification of community outcomes and priorities being to:

- enhance decision-making by aligning the activities of the local authority with community objectives; and
- provide scope to measure the contribution of the local authority to the achievement of community objectives; and
- provide a mechanism for setting priorities for the activities of the local authority; and
- promote the better co-ordination and application of community resources.

In addition the legislation requires councils to identify, so far as practicable, the other bodies capable of influencing either the identification or the promotion of community outcomes and priorities.

We have completed a consultation process with the regional community on the outcomes. The Council now needs to adopt these outcomes on an interim basis to

enable us to use them as a basis for developing the more detailed work programmes for the ten year plan.

The reason why we recommend the outcomes are only adopted on an interim basis is because some of the territorial authorities in the region are working on a different timeframe to ourselves so we cannot complete our consultations with them. We also need to talk further with central government departments about the linkages between their outcomes for the region and ours.

### **3. Consultation Process**

A special issue of Elements was distributed to households in the region in September 2002, setting out why we were seeking views, giving a vision of a sustainable region and what the WRC's focus was likely to be and asking for feedback on what is important for the region. In addition the Chairperson sent a copy of Elements to 250 community groups and encouraged them to contribute to the process.

149 responses were received – 127 from individuals and 22 from community organisations. In addition six community organisations invited councillors to meet with their group.

The response rate was significantly higher than the Council typically receives on the annual plan (e.g. 41 submissions on the 2002/03 annual plan) and demonstrates the relative success of actively reaching out to a wider audience. Many respondents thanked the Council for seeking their views.

There was general support for and interest in sustainability and looking after the region's environment by the majority of respondents. A summary of the responses is appended as **Attachment Two**.

In addition, as part of the consultation process, officers and elected members accepted invitations from Carterton and South Wairarapa District Councils to discuss what is important for the region and their communities. We anticipate having similar discussions with other territorial authorities at the appropriate point in their ten-year plan processes.

### **4. The Cake – Interim Regional Community Outcomes and Priorities**

We have had some comments during the consultation process that the wording of the sustainability outcomes could be clearer. We have taken this on board and refined the wording to improve their clarity. There was also concern that there was no explicit recognition of the economy in the outcomes and an outcome has been added to reflect this. The proposed outcomes are appended as **Attachment One**.

### **5. The Slice – The Role of Greater Wellington**

The majority of respondents to the consultation were comfortable with the Council's likely contribution to the regional sustainability outcomes being in the broad areas of biodiversity, water, air, energy, land, access/transport, waste, recreation&parcs, safety/hazards and community. It would be useful for Councillors to signal to the

region that they anticipate their involvement in these areas. This will also provide a clear steer for further development of the ten year plan.

## 6. Recommendations

*It is recommended that the Committee:*

- 1. confirm the interim regional community outcomes as specified in Attachment Two as the basis for the 10 year plan.*
- 2. indicates that the Council's 10 year plan activities will be broadly described under the "Take 10" headings of biodiversity, water, air, energy, land, access/transport, waste, recreation & parks, safety/hazards and community.*

Report prepared by:

Report approved by:

JOHN ALLARD  
Corporate Policy Manager

HOWARD STONE  
General Manager

### **Attachments:**

- 1- A Sustainable Region**
- 2 - Summary of Community Responses to LTCCP Elements Consultation on Regional Outcomes and Priorities September/October 2002**