

## PAPAKURA DISTRICT COUNCIL – 28 MAY 2007

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1. That the information be received
2. That in respect of the Greater Auckland Council, the Papakura District Council's preference is for:
  - i) Chair appointed by the members of the GAC, on the basis that this supports a strong mandate for that member in all matters including regional advocacy;
  - ii) Membership determined on the basis of either parliamentary boundaries or some other method to increase the size of the GAC from the current Regional Council, to recognise the increased responsibilities backed with more funding tools and the expectation that there will be much more visible regional leadership across a broad range of functions
3. That in respect of membership of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum, the Papakura District Council's preference is for:
  - i) Local Authority representation to be two members from each of the city Councils and one from each of the District Councils with each Council to decide its own representation, noting that this form of representation does provide some recognition of proportionality.
  - ii) Central Government to be represented but that a proposal for an appropriate representation approach should be made by Central Government as Councils are not well placed to understand the ramifications of such representation
  - iii) That Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua representation be considered further once a definite proposal is received from Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua
  - iv) That, the chair be appointed by the Greater Auckland Council and that membership be three members from the Greater Auckland Council, in keeping with the Forum's status as a standing committee of the Greater Auckland Council.
4. That in respect of the decision making and voting processes for the Regional Sustainable Development Forum Papakura District Council's preference is as follows:
  - i) That matters should be decided by consensus in the first instance, with a simple majority applying where consensus cannot be reached, noting that this approach may involve some loss of sovereignty by all although there remains checks and balances in the process with the GAC to approve the final Plan and the confirmation of specific obligations through separate contractual arrangements
5. That in respect of the relationship of existing regional fora to the Regional Sustainable Development Forum Papakura District Council's preference is for:
  - i) abolishing existing fora with their functions being undertaken by RSDF with advisory fora or sub-committees to be convened by RSDF as required; noting that keeping current fora in place has the potential to be either unnecessarily bureaucratic or confuse the roles of each fora with the role of the RSDF and that there may be need for additional

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## PAPAKURA DISTRICT COUNCIL – 28 MAY 2007

stakeholder engagement or specialist expertise to be input through new fora

6 That in respect of the "One Plan" and its component strategies Papakura District Council's preference is for:

i) The breadth of the Plan to encompass regionally significant issues across the four wellbeings with the content to increase over time; the depth of the Plan must include the vision, key strategic directions, actions (projects/programmes of regional scale) and funding parameters;

ii) The plan to be binding but action cannot be compelled through the Plan alone e.g major initiatives may require separate agreements; mechanisms to ensure transparency by all parties; the role of representatives to the Forum to be made clear through legislation so that it is legitimate for trade-offs to be made by Forum members of regional vs local interests; that the GAC be enabled to either adopt the Plan or to refer it back to the Forum for reconsideration – not to be able to make change directly

7 That Papakura District Council's support for the proposals is contingent on certainty that central government is as committed to active integration of key national strategies with the regional planning and, even more importantly, aligning central government funding (whether delivered directly or through agents) to match agreed regional priorities

8. That Papakura District Council supports the overall package of proposals set out in the attached paper, with a strong preference for the options expressed through the foregoing resolutions as it is considered these proposals will strengthen the overall governance of the Auckland region through a combination of:

- the integration and alignment of central, regional and local government strategies, priorities and funding;
- the collective decision making model of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum, and
- the much broader leadership role proposed for a newly constituted Greater Auckland Council with the funding tools to match this role

~~AS~~

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TO Council  
ON 24 May 2007  
FROM Warren MacLennan – Director Strategy & Planning  
APPROVED BY Vijaya Vaidyanath – Chief Executive Officer

SUBJECT **STRENGTHENING AUCKLAND REGIONAL  
GOVERNANCE: REPORT ON PROGRESS**

FILE REF AH/17/2: AE/6/1

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

- (a) That the progress report entitled "Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance – Report on Progress" be received.
- (b) That in respect of the Greater Auckland Council, the Rodney District Council's preference is for:
- i) Leadership  
Chair appointed by the members of GAC
  - ii) Membership determined on the basis of  
Reduce Status Quo to 7 plus the appointment of one person by/from each territorial authority;
- (c) That in respect of membership of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum, the Rodney District Council's preference subject to (e) is for:
- i) View on Local Authority representation
    - RSDF to comprise two representatives from each Council.
  - ii) View on Central Government representation and/or participation
    - Subsidiary membership (speaking but not voting rights)

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- iii) View on Mana Whenua/Tangata Whenua representation and/or participation
- Direct recognition as a key stakeholder with a separate consultation process
- iv) View on the appointment of chair
- The membership of the RSDF appoints the Chair in accordance with the voting procedures established for the RSDF.
- (d) That in respect of the decision making and voting processes for the Regional Sustainable Development Forum, Rodney District Council's preference is as follows:

- i) View on weightings and thresholds
- An honest attempt is made to make decisions by consensus. However, if this fails, RSDF decisions are made by majority vote. Each agency represented on the RSDF has one vote (as opposed to each member having one vote).

And

- Whether no voting threshold should apply;

- ii) View on who should undertake consultation

Recommendation by RSDF but GAC still consults

And

Local Community Outcomes

- All participating councils undertake their own consultation on their local issues and community outcomes

- (e) That in respect of the relationship of existing regional fora to the Regional Sustainable Development Forum, Rodney District Council's preference is for:

Abolish existing fora with their functions being undertaken by RSDF

BUT

- fora and committees convened by RSDF as required.

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(f) That in respect of the One Plan and its component strategies Rodney District Council's preference is for:

(i) Breadth

- Regionally significant issues

(ii) Depth

- Projects/programmes of regional scale only

AND

- Could include outcomes, objectives, strategic direction, priorities, actions, funding parameters

(iii) View on Enforceability, Sanctions and Levers

Enforceability of One Plan

- Not act inconsistently with

(iv) Sanctions and Levers to Encourage Implementation of One Plan

- Incentives

AND

- Strengthening the capacity of individual parties to fund and implement One Plan

AND

- Mechanisms to encourage buy-in to One Plan priorities

AND

Mechanisms to strengthen transparency and public accountability of parties to implement One Plan priorities

AND

- Mechanisms to improve alignment between all parties to the One Plan including areas outside the Auckland Metropolitan area.

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE CITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
HELD AT WAITAKERE CENTRAL, 6 HENDERSON VALLEY ROAD,  
HENDERSON,

WAITAKERE, ON thursday, 7 june 2007,

COMMENCING AT 9.30 am.

2A STRENGTHENING AUCKLAND'S REGIONAL GOVERNANCE

10 17 am Crs Battersby and Lawley returned to the meeting.

10.47 am Cr Dallow entered the meeting

977/2007

MOVED by Cr Clews, seconded Cr Battersby:

1 That Council adopt the amended workshop recommendations 1 and 2, 3 (a) - (h), relating to the proposed package to strengthen Auckland's Regional Governance

2 That Council forward a copy of the approved recommendations to the project team for incorporation into the final report

CARRIED

~~4/3/07~~

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## STRENGTHENING AUCKLAND'S REGIONAL GOVERNANCE Report on Councillor Workshop on Progress Report of 16 May

### PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

To adopt the recommendations of the Councillor Workshop on Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance held on 5 June 2007.

### BACKGROUND

Waitakere City Council has considered the latest report of the "Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance Project – Report on Progress – for discussion and feedback", dated 16 May 2007, at its Council meeting on 30 May and again at a special Councillor Workshop on 5 June 2007

### WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1 The Council acknowledges and confirms the essence of the problem statement agreed at the outset of the project, and in particular the need for improved arrangements for the region to effectively partner with and negotiate with central government in order to achieve international competitiveness as a city-region, and manage long-term development more sustainably.
- 2 The Council acknowledges that the proposals for reform constitute a start on a process of evolutionary (rather than sudden) change to address these issues, but notes that further and wider reforms may be desirable in the medium term.
- 3 Waitakere continues to support the proposals outlined in December 2006, and refined in the report of 16 May 2007. In order to advance and consolidate those proposals, Waitakere resolves to respond to the specific issues raised as follows:
  - (a) **GAC/ARC**

Recommend status quo

    - The name Auckland Regional Council should be retained
    - The role of the ARC should remain unchanged other than as a result of changes agreed in this process
    - The leader should continue to be appointed by members
    - The membership should remain as at present – 13 councillors elected across 6 constituencies aligned to TA boundaries

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(b) **Regional Sustainable Development Forum (RSDF)**

Recommend that the RSDF is the key new institutional mechanism for achieving agreement and collective responsibility at local, regional and national level for the development programme for the region

- The RSDF should be constituted as a **standing committee** of the ARC, using the provisions of sections 37SE – 37SH of the LGA74 in the first instance, if appropriate.
- The key function of the RSDF should be to prepare and recommend to the ARC, for adoption, the **One Plan** as a means of co-ordinating and integrating regional strategies for landuse (lead) transport, other infrastructure, economic, social and cultural development, and environmental performance.
- The RSDF should be the mandated primary **point of contact** for the government in engaging with regional development and planning issues that affect the whole region

**RSDF Representation**

- *Council Representation:*
  - ARC: 4 members (Committee Chairs?)
  - Cities: 2 members each appointed by each Council
  - Districts: 1 member each appointed by each council
- *Central Government representation:*
  - 3 – 5 ministers or delegates (recognising the importance of this relationship)
  - Mana Whenua representation
 

The reason for Mana Whenua representation appears to be founded on the exercise of the Crown's Treaty partnership obligations, which elevates this group above stakeholders. Difficulties might be anticipated in providing an adequate resourcing and backup for these representatives. Until Treaty settlements are concluded, WCC recommends that the Minister of Maori Affairs hold specific representation on the Forum with the ability to appoint Mana Whenua representative(s) as his delegates, and for his Ministry of Maori Development to provide consultation and back up support for those representatives.
- It is recommended that the maximum membership should be 20 representatives

**RSDF Machinery of Government**

- The **RSDF Chair** should be appointed by the ARC from amongst the Forum members on the recommendation of the RSDF
- **RSDF decision-making** should be consensus whenever possible. If that fails, decisions should be by majority decision, but when decisions are to be formally binding on all parties, a 75% majority should be required.



- Each member should have one vote.
- Existing fora (such as RGF, RLTS, AREDF/Metro ) should be abolished and their responsibilities transferred to the RSDf for incorporation into the One Plan. (Thus simplifying and streamlining regional governance.)

(c) **The One Plan**

Recommend the development of a single strategic document that expresses the agreed regional development programme and funding commitments.

**One Plan Breadth**

- One Plan should develop over time, starting with the content of the RGS, RLTS, REDS, but expanding over time to cover the 4 wellbeings.
- Includes vision, goals, directional shifts and ethos of LTSP
- Initially records existing strategic agreements and funding agreements.
- Needs to urgently address regional responses to global forces of change
- Focus on regional priority actions that will achieve "step change" in competitiveness, efficiency, well being.
- Records Auckland's place in the nation, relationship with adjoining regions and NZ, and expectations about engagement with central government.
- Key function is horizontal and vertical integration of development programme.

**One Plan Depth**

- Issues of regional significance. Focus on high-level, complex, difficult to solve issues.
- Could include outcomes, objectives, strategic direction, priorities and funding parameters.
- Prioritised projects to be agreed.
- 20 – 30 year time frame with a view to 50 year horizon.

**Enforceability**

- A primary focus is engaging the Crown, so their representation is essential along with the use of multi-year-end bulk regional funding agreements, and performance contracts
- Until 2012, primary local government commitments should generally be limited to those in LTCCPs, but beyond 2012 LTCCP commitments may be revised to reflect One Plan funding needs.



- Capacity to enter into agreements with providers of infrastructure, including providers such as Watercare Services limited and energy companies
- Ability to conclude binding agreements between/among parties.
- Generally parties should be required to give effect to decisions, and as a minimum to not act inconsistently with One Plan The One Plan needs to be enforceable according to the needs of each policy, so that provisions should be able to range from advisory to mandatory.
- Generally, ARC should be the One Plan contract and funding agreement negotiating agent

#### **Sanctions/ Levers**

- Support for the range of incentives and sanctions including moral suasion The sanction of exclusion from the benefits of participation should only be used after careful consideration.

#### **Consultation**

- RSDF should be responsible for public consultation on the One Plan, and in recommending the Plan to the ARC for approval should also comment on the consultation process and outcomes.

#### **Relationship with Community Outcomes Process**

- RSDF should report to the ARC on the extent to which One Plan delivers on the Community Outcomes the ARC has recorded.

#### **Ability of the (GAC) ARC to amend One Plan**

- Follow the RGF provisions of Section 37SG (4) of the LGA74: "the function of the (RGSF) is to advise on and approve the (One Plan) and any amendment to that (One Plan) before any such amendment (or One Plan) is adopted by the Auckland Regional Council." ie the ARC can adopt a plan or amendment only on the recommendation of RGSF

#### **Transition**

- The One Plan will evolve with experience and time. The target should be to complete the first iteration of the One Plan by the end of 2008 in order to inform the local government 2009 – 2012 LTCCP process, and 2009 – 2012 budgets, with a review by 2011, in time for the 2012 LTCCP review

#### (d) **Three Waters**

##### **Status quo**

- WCC has signalled its intention to resolve that Watercare Services Ltd should not be able to pay a dividend The status quo should continue with respect to



Watercare Services Limited governance and legislative arrangements. This means that no proposals for Watercare Services Ltd to pay a dividend should be actioned at this time, and that there should be no change in the ownership by TAs. At some future date, it may be desirable to review whether the present arrangements are the best possible to ensure the sustainable development of the Auckland region. Work on the Three Waters Strategy should be reported to the RSDF

(e) **Regional Facilities**

- Any regionally funded facility should be owned by a regional entity. If funding is to be shared across units of local government, the proportionality formula should reflect usage by communities. WCC considers the West Wave Pool in Henderson to be such a regional facility.

(f) **Economic Development**

- Waitakere has a very successful and cost-effective EDA. The Council supports the strengthening of a Regional EDA, and the incorporation within that of Tourism Auckland, on a basis that does not undermine the effectiveness, profile and engagement with government of Waitakere Enterprise. The Regional EDA has a critical role in coordinating local EDAs.

(g) **Transport**

- Need to engage with Government immediately to incorporate proposals from the Transport Workstream into government policy and legislation on the implementation of ATSAP, the government's reform of transport entities, the "Next Steps in the Land Transport Review, 30 April 2007, and the Cabinet decisions on this review [POL min (07) 9/5 refers].

(h) **Shared Services**

- Support for continued action on shared services, including, for example investigations into coordinated rating and valuation systems

(i) **Funding**

- Acknowledge that existing funding mechanisms available to local and regional government are insufficient to meet the strategic and timely development needs of the region.
- There is a need to consider the cost-effectiveness of the RSDF/OnePlan proposal, and the funding arrangements for its operation.

(j) **Land Use**

- There needs to be further efforts to ensure that transport and other infrastructure planning and services give effect to the growth concept of the RGS and the shifts of the LTSP
- ARC needs to ensure that the landuse intent of the One Plan is reflected in timely revisions of the RPS prepared under the RMA.

~~AGC~~

(k) **Other**

- CDEM should continue to be a joint regional and local undertaking to ensure the continued engagement of local communities and marshalling of volunteers
- Parks, RMA, Harbours responsibilities of ARC should remain unchanged.
- Support for further investigations into regional development corporation for major projects.
- Consultation with the public on the proposed package is essential. WCC considers that an eight week concerted process is the minimum required. Consultation should be a shared government/ local government undertaking.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- 1 That Council adopt the workshop recommendations 1 and 2, 3 (a) – (h), relating to the proposed package to strengthen Auckland's Regional Governance.
- 2 That Council forward a copy of the approved recommendations to the project team for incorporation into the final report.

Report prepared by:

Graeme Campbell  
 Director: Strategic Planning  
 6 June 2007

Footnote: key to acronyms

AREDF: Auckland Region Economic Development Forum  
 ARC: Auckland Regional Council  
 ATSAP: Auckland Transport Alignment Project  
 EDA: Economic Development Agency  
 GAC: Greater Auckland Council  
 LGA 74: Local Government Act 1974  
 LTCCP: Long Term Council Community Plan  
 LTSF: Long Term Sustainability Framework (for the Auckland Region)  
 RGF: Auckland Regional Growth Forum  
 RGS: Auckland Regional Growth Strategy  
 RLTS: Auckland Region Land Transport Strategy  
 RMA: Resource Management Act  
 RPS: Auckland Regional Policy Statement  
 RSDF: Auckland Regional Sustainable Development Forum  
 TA: Territorial Authority





**Office of Hon Mark Burton, M.P. for Taupo**  
Minister of Justice  
Minister of Local Government  
Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations  
Minister Responsible for the Law Commission  
Deputy Leader of the House

- 7 JUN 2007

Mr Christopher Blake  
Joint Chair  
Joint Chief Executives' Steering Group on Auckland Governance  
C/- Department of Internal Affairs  
PO Box 805  
WELLINGTON

Ms Vijaya Vaidyanath  
Joint Chair  
Joint Chief Executives' Steering Group on Auckland Governance  
C/- Rodney District Council  
Private Bag 500  
OREWA

Dear Christopher and Vijaya

**Strengthening Auckland Governance: Report on Progress**

The document "*Strengthening Auckland Governance: Report on Progress*" was considered by Cabinet on Tuesday 5 June. I am writing to provide feedback on behalf of my Ministerial colleagues following that consideration. I have written to John Robertson, Chair of the Auckland Political Reference Group, and am writing to you so that this feedback may assist further joint work and the development of the final report.

At the outset, I want to reaffirm Ministers' commitment to the joint work to consider the potential of the December proposals. This work proceeds of course without committing councils or Government to recommendations in the final report. I believe that the joint work can be viewed as an example of the sort of innovative and positive collaboration that the proposal itself is seeking to facilitate for decisions affecting the future of the Auckland region.

In responding to the *Report on Progress*, Ministers have recognised the interdependence of many of the issues and options, and have elected not to discount or exclusively endorse specific options. The Government does, however, wish to emphasise our commitment to principles of accountability and good governance, including the principles in the Local Government Act 2002, and our expectation that these will be reflected in the further refinement

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and development of the proposal. In particular, Ministers wish further joint work to recognise:

- the importance of the direct accountability of elected representatives to their constituents for decisions made on their behalf, including expenditure of public funds and stewardship of public assets. This includes the need to preserve and strengthen the accountability of a directly elected regional council to its community for regional outcomes and decisions, and would include strategic decisions in the context of the One Plan;
- that Ministers prefer a strong regional council over a more autonomous Regional Sustainable Development Forum (RSDF) or mixed accountability model. Ministers acknowledge, however, that the RSDF would have an important role to play in the development of the One Plan;
- the option of consultation on the One Plan being undertaken by the Greater Auckland Council (GAC);
- consideration of the option of allowing the GAC to modify the recommended One Plan, subject to public consultation on any changes to the One Plan contemplated by the GAC;
- the desirability of providing flexibility to allow future community choices in relation to representation arrangements on the GAC, including the issue of elected or appointed leadership of that council, through processes that are the same or similar to those for reviewing representation/electoral arrangements under the Local Electoral Act;
- that consideration of RSDF membership and decision-making options should be concerned to promote the effective development of a broad strategic plan and prioritisation of strategies and key actions in the interests of the region, and should include consideration of the RSDF including members representative of non-governmental interests;
- that Ministers support rationalising existing regional forums in the context of the RSDF, subject to the need to preserve existing statutory roles and relationships;
- endorsement of the concept of an integrated One Plan that explicitly links pragmatic funding and delivery actions to high-level outcomes and values;
- Government support for the concept of separate public consultation on the content of the One Plan;
- that Ministers consider the range of sanctions and levers proposed in the *Report on Progress*, including specific public reporting requirements, to represent the appropriate approach to promoting the implementation of the One Plan;
- that the proposal to allow Watercare Services Limited to pay dividends to be used to fund stormwater infrastructure investment involves a number of

complex policy issues, and that the proposed outcome, of water and wastewater consumers paying for stormwater investment, does not appear to meet funding transparency principles;

- an expectation that major regional facilities in which there may be a significant national interest would be first identified and prioritised within the One Plan process, with funding arrangements to be subsequently negotiated between the parties determined on a case by case basis;
- that Ministers support the proposal for an expanded role for the GAC in regional economic development;
- that the Government recognises that funding is a significant regional issue and is committed to:
  - continuing dialogue seeking enduring solutions that are consistent with accountability arrangements and the financial management principles in the Local Government Act 2002;
  - considering the outcomes of the Rating Inquiry in relation to the particular needs and circumstances of the Auckland region;
  - considering any business case for new regional funding mechanisms;
- that Ministers expect that territorial authorities, as well as Government, will be willing to commit significant new and/or reprioritised funding to the significant regional projects prioritised through the One Plan process; and
- that the Government considers that, while the timing and process for implementing new governance arrangements are important, these are secondary issues to be addressed after the key governance changes to be implemented have all been determined.

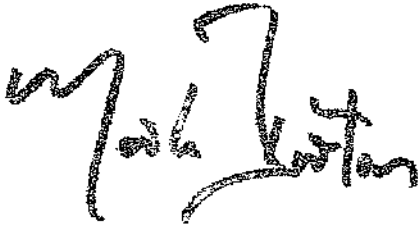
Ministers have also considered how Government might participate in regional strategic planning in Auckland in the context of the One Plan proposal. Subject, of course, to that proposal or something similar proceeding Ministers have indicated:

- their support for central Government actively contributing to, and supporting, the development of the One Plan. Ministers also noted that the nature of that contribution would need to be further defined;
- that, while the Government must retain its autonomy and accountability for decisions that promote the national interest, it is willing to contribute to the process in good faith, and with an expectation that the content of the One Plan will be given careful consideration when Government makes significant decisions impacting on the region;
- that the Government would be willing to engage in discussions with the GAC on how the priorities in the One Plan might be achieved including possible alignment of strategies and/or delivery, and options for funding; and

- an intention to enhance central Government coordination and integration in future engagement with Auckland.

I trust that these messages, together with feedback from the Auckland councils, will provide a constructive basis for joint officials to develop and shape the proposal further into the form of final recommendations. I look forward to receiving your final report.

Yours sincerely



Hon Mark Burton  
Minister of Local Government

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**12 AUCKLAND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE**

1145/2007

MOVED by Cr Clews, seconded Cr Clow:

1. That the Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance report be received.
2. That Waitakere City Council:
  1. **Note** that the model has been developed, taking into account all the feedback from both local and central Government to improving regional governance.
  2. **Note** that the December proposal for "Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance" proposed:
    - i) An appropriately mandated and accountable strengthened regional council able to engage with central Government on regionally significant matters
    - ii) That the strengthened regional council is appropriately funded
    - iii) The creation of a regional forum of all the local authorities and central government to ensure prioritisation, agreement and coordination of regionally significant activities and funding across the region
    - iv) Central Government aligning more closely its national strategies and policies with regional strategies and its funding with regionally agreed priorities.
  3. **Note** the central Government's feedback set out in the letter from the Minister of Local Government to the Auckland Mayors and Chief Executives dated 7 June 2007.
  4. **Note** that in particular, the central Government recognises that funding is a significant regional issue and is committed to:
    - a) continuing dialogue seeking enduring solutions that are consistent with accountability arrangements and the financial management principles in the Local Government Act 2002.
    - b) considering the outcomes of the Rating Inquiry in relation to the particular needs and circumstance of the Auckland region.
    - c) considering any new business case for new regional funding mechanisms.
  5. **Note** that there are no changes to representation recommended for the strengthened regional council at present, due to the impending Local Government election in October 2007, but note the central Government's indication of the desirability of providing flexibility to allow future community choices in relation to representation arrangements on the GAC, including the issue of appointed or elected leadership of the Council;

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### Proposed Model for "Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance

6. Agree to the proposed model for strengthening regional governance as described in the Final Report dated June 2007, which includes the following elements:
- i) A strengthened regional Council with the overall role to exercise responsibility for regionally significant issues associated with the social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing of the region and adopting a sustainable development approach to its functions including:
    - a) the current functions of the Auckland Regional Council (ARC);
    - b) advocacy to, and negotiation of implementation agreements with, central government on regional priorities across all the dimensions of the four well beings;
    - c) convenor of and provider of secretariat support for the RSDF;
    - d) to adopt the One Plan for the Auckland region on the recommendation of the RSDF;
    - e) guardian of the One Plan to facilitate and support its implementation by relevant parties;
    - f) implement One Plan decisions for which it has direct responsibility;
    - g) facilitate agreements for funding and implementation of One Plan decisions agreed to by other parties to the One Plan;
    - h) monitor and report on progress with implementation of One Plan decisions;
    - i) regional economic development; tourism promotion and regionally significant (major) events management;
    - j) facilities and amenities that contribute to regional community well-being, including the funding of services provided by regional organisations; and
    - k) assess the need for and establish, if necessary, an agency to undertake urban development or renewal projects required to advance One Plan objectives; and
    - l) Subject to further work, (yet to be completed) and the preparation of business cases the strengthened regional council would have available to it new/additional funding tools to undertake its new role.
  - ii) The strengthened regional council will have a new name, *Greater Auckland*, to reflect its new expanded role, to signal a change from the past and to better distinguish it from the Auckland City Council.

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- iii) Establishment of a Regional Sustainable Development Forum (RSDF) as a standing committee of Greater Auckland responsible for developing a One Plan including developing the vision and outcomes sought for the region, including specifying the priorities and funding envelopes/parameters that parties are prepared to commit to the agreed priority regional strategies; with membership of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum being for:
- a) local authority representation to consist of two members from each of the City Councils, one from each of the District Councils and four from the regional council, with each council to decide its own RSDF members and alternates for those members, noting that this form of representation provide some recognition of proportionality
  - b) central Government to contribute to the Regional Sustainable Development Forum with full speaking rights but not voting rights, with up to three participants with the right to speak
  - c) Ministers to meet with RSDF periodically to allow discussion of the key issues and provide a framework for the ensuing work of the RSDF.
  - d) Mana Whenua representative(s) as participants in the RSDF with mechanisms by which they will participate to be developed in conjunction with them over the coming months
  - e) the Chair of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum to be appointed by Greater Auckland it being envisaged that this will follow consultation with members of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum
  - f) the Regional Sustainable Development Forum to endeavour to make decisions by consensus in the first instance and where consensus is unable to be reached, that voting be by simple majority vote of those present (i.e. no proxies) with each representative having one vote.
- iv) Development, by the Regional Sustainable Development Forum, of a One Plan for Auckland, which will promote social, cultural economic and environmental wellbeings, and where the One Plan and its component strategies will:
- a) include the strategic vision for the region articulated in the Auckland Sustainability Framework and have a 50 years + time horizon
  - b) have a prioritised set of projects/programmes of regionally significant scale, and funding and implementation parameters over a ten-year period
  - c) be developed under a progressive approach, whereby its scope and breadth of actions is expanded over time
  - d) be taken into account when Government makes significant decisions impacting on the Auckland region.

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- v) The One Plan to be implemented through the following:
- a) binding funding and implementation agreements between parties for particular projects/programmes
  - b) all Councils will be required to show One Plan commitments in Long-Term Council Community Plans and publicly report progress towards meeting those commitments
  - c) inclusion of agreed One Plan commitments in the statement of intent of relevant council controlled organisations and Crown agencies
  - d) sanctions could include moral persuasion, peer pressure, financial penalties, exclusion from benefits of participation in other regional programmes, and mechanisms to ensure transparency and accountability
  - e) Greater Auckland, as guardian of the One Plan, will be responsible for facilitating contracts between other parties to the One Plan as necessary, and will also negotiate funding and implementation agreements with central Government to support agreed decisions in the One Plan.
- vi) Greater Auckland will have the choice to adopt the One Plan as recommended by the Regional Sustainable Development Forum or refer it back (in full or in part) to the Forum, but if agreement is not reached on specific aspects at the second attempt then Greater Auckland can amend those aspects of the plan
- vii) That with regard to the priority function areas:

#### Funding

- a) The Auckland Councils, led by *Greater Auckland* will work together to:
- identify funding required for specific regional initiatives/services to meet the future needs of the region and achieve a step up in Auckland's performance
  - fully optimise their respective rating bases and other existing funding lines
  - identify the gap between current funding available and future needs
  - explore options for additional funding and develop business cases to support any specific additional funding mechanisms necessary to meet requirements.
- b) That work will commence after an assessment of the report of the Rating Enquiry and the Government will engage with Auckland Councils in this assessment including discussing how it will engage with the work outlined in (a) above.

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- c) The Government will work with the Auckland Councils to develop business cases for specific major regional projects that have been identified and prioritised in the development of the One Plan and will develop funding proposals for such projects. Detailed funding arrangements for specific priorities identified in the One Plan will form part of implementation discussions between relevant parties, which may include Government.

#### Three Waters

- d) The current arrangements for water services, with respect to Watercare Services Ltd (WSL) will continue.
- e) Existing Three Waters strategy work will be continued with a view to achieving a more optimal alignment between the planning of, funding for and delivery of water, wastewater and stormwater infrastructure and services.
- f) The Auckland Councils and central Government will continue to investigate the merits of legislative amendments relating to the ability of the owners of WSL to operate it within the general legislative model of a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO).

#### Transport

- g) Legislation will be amended with a view to:
- The Auckland Regional Land Transport Strategy (RLTS) being enabled to include major projects and priorities;
  - Responsibility for the appointment of directors to the Auckland Regional Transport Authority being transferred to Greater Auckland.

#### Regional Facilities

- h) Greater Auckland to assume ownership and/or funding responsibility for existing facilities of a primarily regional nature, including the Auckland War Memorial and Transport Museums, and those facilities and services requiring regional funding; with any transfer of ownership and/or funding subject to a process of negotiation and agreement between parties. The starting point for the process would be the proposed 'Auckland Regional Amenities Bill' promoted by eleven region organisations and supported by Auckland City Council. Transfers will be contingent on:
- identifying a transparent process for the identification of the reduced rating requirements by relevant territorial authorities as a result of the transfer of functions
  - identification of additional regional funding sources to support both existing and new facilities
  - certainty (possibly through legislation) about the funding obligations and mechanisms that are to operate within the region.

Economic Development, Tourism and Major Events

- i) Auckland Plus, the regional economic development agency to assume a more active role in economic development initiatives within the region, as well as assuming responsibility for regional tourism and events management
- j) The option of Auckland Plus also coordinating, and allocating Government funding to local economic development agencies to be further investigated.
- k) Greater Auckland, in consultation with other parties as appropriate, investigate the feasibility of and need for a regional agency to undertake urban development or renewal projects required to advance One Plan objectives.

Shared Services

- l) The Councils of the Auckland Region to actively identify and pursue opportunities to secure efficiencies through a more integrated approach to service provision. The work would build upon that already underway in the region, and draw on the results of the study planned by Auckland and Manukau City Councils.

Other

- m) Other issues of regional significance, including issues about the regional governance of the Auckland Civil Defence and Emergency Management group, and the relationship between regional and local land use policy require further consideration.
  - n) The One Plan and Regional Sustainability Framework processes, together with the investigation of shared services, envisaged by the proposal create an opportunity for these issues to be explored further and resolved within the context of long-term regional strategic planning.
7. **Note** that the current powers and roles of community boards will be retained.

**Implementation**

8. **Agree** to implementation of the model and the implementation steps as described in the report and set out below:

**(a) Auckland Councils**

- As early as possible but no later than 31 August 2007, reach and sign agreement, building on councils' resolutions, concerning:
  - the interim membership and operation of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum,
  - the scope and effect of the One Plan,
  - the process and timetable for development of the interim One Plan; and
  - how One Plan commitments will be reflected in council planning and accountability documents.
- By December 2007, reach agreement with the Mana Whenua Forum concerning how they will engage with and contribute to the development of the One Plan by the Regional Sustainable Development Forum.

- By December 2007, reach agreement (in consultation with Ministry of Economic Development, NZ Trade & Enterprise and Tourism NZ) concerning the enhanced responsibility of *Greater Auckland* including funding streams for economic development, tourism promotion and the promotion of major events. Implementation on 1 July 2008.
- In consultation with the promoting organisations, amend the draft "Auckland Regional Amenities Bill" supported by Auckland City Council to reflect the agreed transfer of responsibilities to *Greater Auckland*, and promote for enactment as early as possible.
- By March 2008, initiate an agreed joint process to identify, develop and implement initiatives to secure efficiencies through shared service provision.
- By 30 September 2007 agree to a terms of reference for the work to be undertaken concerning the funding issues identified earlier in this report.

**(b) Auckland Regional Council**

- By 31 October 2007, investigate and determine in consultation with Government and other Auckland councils, the potential and desirability of promoting urgent legislative change to strengthen regional governance in the form of a Local Bill.
- No later than 31 January 2008, change the operating name of the council as agreed in the proposal and determine, in consultation with Government and other Auckland councils, the desirability and urgency of changing the legal name of the regional council;
- No later than 31 January 2008, reach agreement, with all Auckland territorial authorities relating to the transfer of ownership and/or funding responsibilities for existing regional facilities and services, in a way that transparently transfers funding responsibility and capacity to the regional entity. Implementation on 1 July 2008.
- By 28 February 2008, appoint the RSDF as a committee of the council in line with the agreement with all councils, and convene the first meeting;

**(c) Joint Council/Govt officials**

- By 31 October 2007, investigate and report on the consequences of delayed legislative recognition of the One Plan concept;
- By 30 June 2008, obtain council and Government agreement to a process and criteria for analysing proposals for major new facilities within the region that may contribute to national as well as regional outcomes;

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(d) **Government**

By 31 July confirm that Government will:

- actively contribute to the development of the One Plan, initially through;
  - periodic meetings between relevant Ministers and the Regional Sustainable Development Forum;
  - active attendance by up to three senior officials at meetings of the Regional Sustainable Development Forum;
  - active engagement by Government officials with Auckland council officials in supporting the development of the One Plan
  - Recognise the significance of the One Plan and give it careful consideration when Government makes significant decisions impacting on the Auckland region;
  - Be prepared to engage in discussions with *Greater Auckland* on how specific priorities in the One Plan might be achieved including possible alignment of strategies and/or delivery, and options for funding;
  - Consider any business cases for new regional funding mechanisms submitted by *Greater Auckland*;
  - Refer the issue of the desirability of greater flexibility for future reviews of regional representation arrangements within Auckland to the Local Government Commission to report and make recommendations, as a matter of priority;
  - Utilise the RSDF as a mechanism for engagement between Ministers and the Auckland Region;
  - Continue to improve the coordination and integration of Government interests in respect of Auckland as a basis for future engagement with the RSDF;
  - Include in any legislation to implement decisions resulting from the 'Next Steps in the Land Transport Sector' Review authority for the Auckland Regional Land Transport Strategy to identify major projects and priorities;
  - Enact legislation to repeal the special ARTA appointment process at the earliest opportunity.
  - Initiate discussions with Auckland councils in developing a response to the findings from the Local Authority Rating Inquiry (Inquiry report due end July 2007).
9. Note the need for and scope of any further consultation on the proposed model for strengthening regional governance will be determined once the proposal becomes definitive in July, following consideration by central Government.
10. **Agree** that the Political Reference Group be empowered to conduct ongoing discussions with Government ministers as to the refinement and implementation of the final proposal; and that the details of the proposal will be presented to Councils for their ratification in the form of an agreement among the Auckland Councils signed before 31 August 2007.

**CARRIED**

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1146/2007

MOVED by Cr Lawley, seconded Cr Gilmour:

1. That the feedback be received.
2. That the Council include the feedback provided by Te Taumata Runanga with any Council feedback provided to the Auckland Regional Governance process.
3. That any feedback from the four Community Board meetings scheduled to be held in July 2007 on the Strengthening Auckland's Regional Governance be forwarded to the Auckland Regional Governance process.

**CARRIED**

1147/2007

MOVED by Cr Flaunty, seconded Cr Gilmour:

1. That Council hold a public information meeting at an appropriate date and time on the Strengthening Regional Governance Proposal.
2. That Council strongly reiterate its request for a regional public consultation process of at least eight weeks in duration on the Strengthening Regional Governance proposal.

**CARRIED**

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