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**REPORT 1.1**

*(1215/52/IM)*

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**LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN: REPORT  
OF THE HEARINGS SUBCOMMITTEE**

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**1. Purpose of Report**

An outline of the submissions made to the hearings subcommittee for the Long Term Council Community Plan is presented. The minutes of the hearings are also presented for receipt.

**2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Note the minutes of the Hearings Subcommittee attached in appendix one.*

**3. Background**

The Council is required to use the special consultative procedure as part of its adoption of its Long Term Council Community Plan. As part of that process the Council is required to offer submitters the chance to be heard and to hear those that request a hearing.

One hundred submitters took up this opportunity and presented their submissions over a four day period. The submissions were heard by a subcommittee and this paper summarises the main issues that were presented.

The written submissions have been distributed to elected members.

**3.1 Subcommittee Format**

The hearings subcommittee was established in October 2005. The subcommittee structure was thought to be an inviting format for submitters. Its informality was seen to provide greater opportunities for engagement than previous hearings.

**3.1.1 Membership and Attendance**

The subcommittee comprised each of the portfolio chairs. This ensured a range of perspectives were present.

The quorum of the subcommittee was four – equivalent to a majority of a quorum of the Council. The subcommittee had no decision making powers. Its delegations required it to report to the Strategy and Policy committee.

The attendance of subcommittee members at the hearings is detailed in the attached minutes. All councillors were able to attend the hearings. Crs Gill and Wain participated at times. Their attendance is also noted in the minutes.

## **4. Summary of themes**

The hearings were an open forum and submitters were free to comment on any items associated with the plan. The majority spoke to one item. Others spoke to a range of items within the plan.

In general, the issues raised at the hearings were indicative of the overall tenor of the written submissions. The Indoor Community Sports Stadium, the proposed closure of the mobile library, and proposed reduction in opening hours at the Thorndon Pool all received significant comment. The full set of written submissions has been distributed and are summarised in the *Consultation Feedback* report on this agenda.

The following section summarises some of the key and recurring themes that were raised in the hearings.

### **4.1 Consultation**

A number of submitters commented on aspects of the consultation process. Comments covered: the desire to be involved at earlier stages of the planning process; the structure of the publications; and the duration of the submissions process.

The subcommittee regularly posed a question to single issue submitters to ascertain why they had confined their comments to one item and whether they had a view on other aspects of the plan. Each stated that their motivation for submitting was their interest in the continuation or addition of the single issue. They generally expressed an overall comfort or indifference to the rest of the plan.

### **4.2 Indoor Community Sports Stadium**

A number of submissions were heard on the proposed Indoor Community Sports Stadium at Evans Bay. Submissions were received from individuals, organisations representing codes that may use the facility, and residents adjacent to the proposed site.

The main points raised in the submissions can be summarised as follows:

1. Traffic management: the impact that the stadium is likely to have on traffic and parking in the adjacent area will need to be assessed and planned in a way that causes the least disruption.
2. Project management: steps to mitigate disruption to adjacent properties during construction would be welcomed.
3. Consultation: comments ranged from concern that there had been limited time to contribute to those recommended that the working party model should be considered for use by the Council for future projects that a similarly large and complex.
4. Uptake of the facility: a number of requests were made to make use of the facility by minor sports codes such as handball and children's athletics. These codes were directed to officers to work through operational matters.
5. The size of the facility: netball supporters encouraged the Council to build a 12 court facility. This would reduce programming clashes with other sports;

provide for expected growth in the sport; allow more netball to be played at the one site; and presumably be cheaper and less disruptive than extending the facility at a later stage.

### **4.3 Mobile Library**

The proposed cessation of the mobile library received substantial comment. Those who expressed support for the continuation of service argued that it:

- provides an important focus for social interaction
- provides an introduction to the wider library network
- offers convenience to local communities that have no branch library
- provides a service that is distinct from other libraries - its size is an attraction to some users that find the scale of other libraries daunting.

Some submitters expressed uncertainty as to the rationale for the proposed closure and challenged the Council to explain the strategic basis for the decision and the use of some statistics. It was noted that the user numbers didn't necessarily reflect the number of people that benefit from the book loans. An example was where books for one family may be issued on one card.

### **4.4 Thorndon Pool**

The Council proposed changes to the operating period at its summer pools and to the operating hours on public holidays.

The reduction in the hours at the Thorndon Pool received significant comment. Comments on the Khandallah Pool were cursory and could be classed as neutral. The reduction in hours on public holidays received similar feedback.

Submissions on the Thorndon Pool were opposed to the proposed reduction. Recurring comments included:

- the pool is a great recreational facility for the area and community
- that promotion of the pool would add to the number of users and to revenue
- that reducing the opening period was contradictory to the Council priority directed at increasing participation in sport and recreation – the provision of the facility adds to the opportunities to combat obesity
- that the reduced season seems odd given that the facility was recently upgraded.

One submitter suggested that the cost savings could be achieved by making minor changes to the operating hours across the whole network. Other individual comments of note referred to branding the pool as the "Thorndon Baths" and to charge for the car parks during the off season.

### **4.5 Social housing**

The Council proposed altering its Housing Policy to allow 5 percent of properties to be let to people outside current criteria at market rentals. The proposal was intended to increase the number of working people housed within the portfolio thereby adding to the diversity in the mix of tenants. The proposal received mixed comments.

Some submitters expressed unease with the proposal and sought confirmation that it would not be extended – that more stock would not be let at market rates. While the notion of greater diversity was generally supported their was scepticism about meeting

the 5 percent target and fears that this would add to the waiting list for those that may meet the current criteria.

#### **4.6 Freyberg pool carpark**

A proposal to introduce a fee at the Freyberg Pool car park was part of a collection of changes to parking charges. Submitters spoke against the proposal.

Comments included the fact that the proposal appeared to be in contradiction of the Council's priority to increase participation in sport and recreation: it was argued that the fee was seen to be a barrier to use of the facility. One submitter noted that this would be the only Council recreation facility where a parking fee would apply. It was also argued that the revenue garnered from the new parking fee would be limited to the Council as a whole as fewer attendees at the pool would impact on its revenue.

As a way of mitigating the impact it was suggested that a system be established that meant users could access the pool without incurring a parking fee. A waiver / permit system or time restriction were raised as options. Dispensing with the charge was also suggested.

#### **4.7 Recreation**

In addition to the Indoor Community Stadium and changes to summer pools two other matters received commentary.

Current users of Wellington Indoor Sports spoke about their desire to retain a space in the CBD to host the activities that are currently held in Sheds 1 & 6 on Queens Wharf. The facility provides corporate and casual sports competitions. They are seeking a new site that is within 10 minutes walking distance of Post Office Square. It was argued that their proximity to the city offers recreational opportunities that would otherwise not be possible during week days. The subcommittee noted that to date the users meetings with officers had been positive.

The Council was commended for its support of mountain bike trails around the city but was asked to address the shortfall in the provision of facilities for children and beginners. The absence of such an area meant that families had to travel to the wider region to access facilities. The addition of such a facility in Wellington city was seen to have benefits for road safety, recreation and health.

In response to the question of preferred location it was argued that a number of smaller tracks would be better than a single larger site. The variety would bring a sense of new challenges and continued stimulation in the sport.

#### **4.8 Transportation**

A small number of submitters presented on matters in relation to the transport strategy. The introduction of a nominal fee for use of taxi stands was raised as was support for initiatives that focussed on cycle ways and pedestrians and integrated urban planning.

Specific requests to extend footpaths were noted and the prioritisation process that the Council follows and the fact that that is subject to regular review were explained.

One submitter spoke in support of the introduction of a permit for use of taxi stands. He encouraged the Council to extend the permit so that it included a quality assessment. A similar approach is applied at the airport to ensure that taxis that use that facility are of a sufficiently high standard. The importance of taxis as public transport mode was also raised during the hearings. It was argued that they be entitled to use priority bus lanes.

#### **4.9 Cultural and Arts**

The importance of encouraging the involvement of youth in dance and the arts in general were raised. The Council's priorities that contributed to this were applauded as they added to the social, cultural and recreational opportunities that the city offered.

Two organisations sought to extend their relationships with Council in this regard. Both Dance Aotearoa New Zealand and the Youth Council were directed to officers to advance this.

### **5. Conclusion**

A hearings subcommittee met over a four day period to receive submissions on the Council's Long Term Council Community Plan. In keeping with its terms of reference a report consisting of a summary and minutes of those hearings is presented for receipt.

Contact: *Cr Alick Shaw, Chair of the Long Term Council Community Plan Hearings Subcommittee*

**LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY  
PLAN HEARINGS SUBCOMMITTEE  
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING**

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**MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY 17 MAY 2006  
(Reconvened Thursday 18 May,  
Friday 19 May and Monday 29 May 2006)**

**9.20AM**

**Committee Room One  
101 Wakefield Street  
Wellington**

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**PRESENT:**

Councillor Ahipene-Mercer  
Councillor Cook  
Councillor Foster (9.36 – 10.17am, 11.16am – 12.04pm, 1.45 – 1.50pm.)  
Councillor Morrison  
Councillor Shaw (Chair)  
Councillor Wade-Brown

**APOLOGIES:**

Mayor Prendergast  
Councillor Foster (for lateness)

001/06PL **APOLOGIES**  
(1215/52/07/IM)

**RESOLVED:**

*THAT the Long Term Council Community Plan Hearings Subcommittee:*

- 1. Accept apologies for absence from Mayor Prendergast for Wednesday 17 May 2006.*
- 2. Accept apologies for lateness from Councillor Foster for Wednesday 17 May 2006.*

002/06PL **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**  
(1215/52/07/IM)

**NOTED:**

See 010/06PI for a conflict of interest declaration.

003/06PL **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**  
(1215/52/07/IM)

**NOTED:**

There was no public participation.

004/06PL **ORAL SUBMISSIONS TO LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY  
PLAN 2006/07 – 2015/16.**  
(1215/52/07/IM) (REPORT 1)

**NOTED:**

1. Dr Tania Kopytko on behalf of DANZ (Dance Aotearoa New Zealand) addressed the subcommittee to introduce the organisation. She emphasised the importance and range of dance styles available in New Zealand (from Kapa Haka to ball room) and how this could be utilised in combating obesity issues, especially among cultures with traditions of dance. Dr Kopytko encouraged the Wellington City Council to consider dance when developing recreation programmes and noted the willingness of the DANZ organisation to assist them in doing this.

(Councillor Foster joined the meeting at 9.36am.)

2. Jill Ford spoke to the subcommittee outlining the need for a beginner mountain biking track in Wellington. She outlined how Wellington was unique in its access to the 'near outdoors'. Ms Ford noted that opportunities for children to bike were limited these days as very few children rode bikes to school and creating a beginners mountain biking track would let children enjoy biking. She emphasised the importance of 'playing' and 'unstructured sport' in helping fight the obesity epidemic and believed that having children active on bikes was one way of achieving this.
3. Gabrielle McKone spoke on behalf of her parents who live at Village at the Park in Newtown and requested that the footpath outside be extended between Waripori Street and Adelaide Road. She noted the dangers that having no footpath presents for the older persons living in that area.
4. Gordana Vukomanovic spoke against the building of the Hilton Hotel on the waterfront and reinforced the importance of team sports for the physical and mental health of professionals working in offices.
5. Tracey White voiced support for public transport, walking and biking initiatives but requested that Council clarify its priorities. In reality she noted, the infrastructural mechanisms to support these initiatives were not in place. She asked that Council "do what it does now, but better" in respect of public transport, biking and walking before undertaking any new schemes. Ms White's submission also included support for the Indoor Stadium with reservations as to whether it would be big enough and bad decisions relating to infill housing under the district plan.

(Councillor Foster left the meeting at 10.17am.)

6. Wendy Randall representing the Disabled Persons Assembly along with Jenny Riccarton congratulated the Council on the computer hubs that had been made available around the city. She did note however that some computers should be fitted with adaptive technology so that all people could use them and she had some queries about accessibility to the computer hubs in some Housing complexes. As it was estimated that up to 20% of the population had some form of disability, the assembly requested that 20% of the Council Housing be made available to people with disabilities and that the laundry facilities in the Housing complexes return to being coin operated.

(The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.25am. The meeting reconvened at 10.41am.)

7. Doris McDonald queried the Council's decision to cut access to the "Passport to Leisure". She highlighted that presenting a Community



Services card to receive a passport to leisure contravened people's rights and noted that this had been confirmed by the Privacy Commissioner.

8. Patricia Reesby made a submission opposing the building of an indoor stadium at Cobham Park. She highlighted the importance of green space and its very different role in recreation to what could be achieved by having an indoor stadium. While supporting other Council initiatives like public transport and the skyline walkway, she noted the negative impact that the building of a stadium would have on the residents of Kemp Street and asked that the proposal be removed from Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP).

(The meeting adjourned at 11.04am due to absent submitters. The meeting reconvened at 11.16am. Councillor Foster was present when the meeting reconvened.)

9. David Murray representing 'Educating New Zealand' introduced the subcommittee to the organisation and the initiatives that they were involved in to create sustainable transport in the education sector. He requested that Council co-ordinate some of its similar initiatives with 'Educating NZ' and indicated that he would be happy to provide any additional information about its programmes to the Council.

(The meeting adjourned at 11.29am and reconvened at 11.30am.)

10. Gavin Valentine voiced support for a beginners mountain bike track in Wellington. He noted the high participation rate in cycling, as evident by the number of Wellingtonians participating in the 'Round the Lake' bike race in Taupo. He also highlighted that a beginners mountain bike track would not only cater for children learning to ride bikes but also adults who were wanting to learn to mountain bike. Mr Valentine believed that by placing an emphasis on biking in Wellington, cycling could move from not only a recreational sport but also feed into commuting opportunities for inner city workers and into a Wellington City Council (WCC) Vision for a "young, fit City".
11. John Freer, CEO of the New Zealand Academy of Sport along with Kate McIlroy and Kerry Fenton made an oral submission seeking WCC's continued support for the Academy. Mr Freer noted the high quality sports and recreational facilities available in the city and noted how the investment in this sporting infrastructure was an investment in the city producing world class athletes and coaches. The Academy recognised that the foundations of successful athletes lie in club sport so asked that WCC try and support these, but they also recognised the business opportunities that align with sporting events and investment (Rugby Union, Royal Port Nicholson Yacht Club etc).

(The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12.04pm. The meeting reconvened at 12.50pm. When the meeting reconvened Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Cook, Morrison, Shaw and Wade-Brown were present.)

12. Garry Highnam from Save out Sport voiced support for the lunchtime sports currently played on the Waterfront in Sheds 1 and 6, and expressed his disappointment that there was no mention of retaining sport in the central business district (CBD) in the LTCCP. He noted that the proposed indoor stadium would largely serve a different group of people than those who played lunchtime sport on the waterfront. He asked that the LTCCP be amended to maintain and expand sport in the CBD and emphasised that it was not specifically Sheds 1 and 6 as venues for this that was necessary.
13. Jane Aim and Diana Morrison from the National Portrait Gallery made an oral submission supporting the LTCCP proposal to permanently house the National Portrait Gallery in Shed 11. They spoke of all the support the Gallery received and the role it played in enhancing Wellington culture.
14. Peter Batra spoke about water meters and queried why sewerage rates were not tied to these. He presented four options that would make it possible to do this (detailed in his written submission).
15. Sheena Bennett supports the mobile library and made an oral submission opposing its closure. She questioned some of the statistics being used to justify the proposed closure including the 2006 AC Neilson poll which did not include the mobile library when surveying which WCC library people used. She highlighted the benefits of the mobile library including keeping people out of the central city during peak times and avoiding parking difficulties.
16. Tom Law representing 'Smart Newton' along with Rahul Joshie and Arthurs Winters commended the WCC ICT policy and proposed that the 'Smart Newton' model could be expanded as part of this to other parts of the city. Mr Winters spoke about the benefits he received as a user of the 'Smart Newton' programme and the ease with which it allowed him and others to contact family and friends as well providing an opportunity to job hunt etc.

(Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 1.45pm.)

17. Annesley Moiseiwitch spoke in opposition to the proposed closure of the mobile library. She detailed the important role that the mobile library facilities had provided her when she had been unwell and the role they played in her recovery.

(The meeting adjourned at 1.50pm Wednesday 17 May 2006 and reconvened at 9.20am on Thursday 18 May 2006.)

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Ahipene-Mercer  
 Councillor Cook  
 Councillor Foster (9.20 – 10.26am, 11.54am – 12.06pm, 1.42 – 4.04pm.)  
 Councillor Morrison (9.20 – 10.26am, 10.47am – 4.04pm.)  
 Councillor Shaw (Chair)  
 Councillor Wade-Brown

**APOLOGIES:**

Mayor Prendergast  
 Councillor Cook (for lateness)

005/06PL **APOLOGIES**  
 (1215/52/07/IM)

**RESOLVED:**

*THAT the Long Term Council Community Plan Hearings Subcommittee:*

1. *Accept apologies for absence from Mayor Prendergast for Thursday 18 May 2006.*
2. *Accept apologies for lateness from Councillor Foster for Thursday 18 May 2006.*

006/06PL **ORAL SUBMISSIONS TO LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2006/07 – 2015/16 (CONTINUED).**  
 (1215/52/07/IM) (REPORT 1)

**NOTED:**

1. Neale Pitches on behalf of Wellington Zoo Trust spoke about the importance of the Zoo to Wellington, providing both social interaction and education as well as being tourist attraction. He noted that the centennial year is approaching and requested a dedicated budget to fund a celebration.
2. Richard Taylor from Weta Workshop addressed the Subcommittee regarding Wellington Zoo. He noted that the Zoo has been a source of inspiration and creativity to Weta Workshop for many years and if it is allowed to degrade, then the city will lose something very important.

He urged the Council to support a centennial celebration by providing a budget solely for this purpose.

3. Jitesh Patel spoke in support of the mobile library saying that it is a great service for older people and children who are not able to travel to branch libraries. He noted that his children use the service currently and are too young to travel by themselves to the central library or the nearest library.
4. Marie Russell expressed support for the mobile library and the social and recreational services it provides to the community. She said that the mobile library fills a gap and gives a sense of social cohesion to an area without a library such as Newlands. She feels that the service is not used as much as it should be.
5. Kate Irving spoke about how important the Zoo was to children and families in Wellington and felt that a centennial celebration is important. She noted that as a member of the Zoo's Kids Club she visits the Zoo at least once a month and has learnt a lot as a result. Ms Irving noted that if the Zoo was given a greater Animal Acquisition Budget, it would be able to attract more visitors and tourists.
6. Lys Noble and John Gibson from Age Concern addressed the Subcommittee regarding the access of older people to recreation facilities and the passport to leisure. They noted that there are limited recreation activities available to the elderly and swimming is one. They feel that presenting a Community Services Card to access the reduced entry fee is a breach of rights and unnecessary. They noted that the elderly need to be kept fit and well and access to swimming pools is the best way to achieve this.

(The meeting adjourned at 10.26am for morning tea. When the meeting reconvened at 10.44am Councillors Shaw, Wade-Brown, Cook and Ahipene-Mercer were present.)

7. Jane Harding addressed the Subcommittee regarding the need for mountain bike tracks for children in Wellington. She feels it is important to encourage children to cycle as it promotes healthy lifestyles, however noted there is a lack of facilities for children aged 8 – 15 years old. Ms Harding suggested creating tracks for children near existing playgrounds, which allows for supervision and accessibility.

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 10.47am.)

8. Fred Woodford expressed concern about the proposal to reduce the opening hours of the summer pools, in particular Karori Pool. He felt that if anything, the hours should be extended. He noted that the

reduction in hours will affect school's swimming programmes and Freyberg Pool will experience increased use and congestion.

9. Carol Oliver, Ian Sheerer and John Shrapnel spoke on behalf of the Wadestown Community Centre about the importance of Community Centres. They noted that the Wadestown Community Centre have resolved governance issues and request that the \$260,000 grant be re-instated for the development of a new Community Centre for Wadestown. If this amount is not possible, they requested funding of \$100,000 be provided.
10. Kendal Jules from the Disability Reference Group thanked the Council for making Wellington a welcoming place for those with disabilities but felt more could be done. Mr Jules noted that it is important to remove physical/structural barriers to improve accessibility and allow participation. He noted that some developments do not allow access by the disabled and would like to see this improved. He felt that public transport needed to be upgraded for the disabled and aging population of Wellington.
11. Kara Vandeleur spoke about the importance of protecting the city from genetically modified research and testing. She expressed concern that companies that test in the Wellington area be responsible for cleaning up and this cost is not passed to the rate payer. She suggested policy change to protect the area.
12. Steve Hind, representing Capital Swim Club, spoke about the proposed parking charges at Freyberg pool. He noted that Capital Swim Club has 65 individual swimmers, 50 of whom swim daily at Freyberg. The proposed charges will have a significant impact on these swimmers, parents of younger swimmer and senior swimmers.
13. Rosamund Averton spoke on behalf of the Mount Victoria Residents Association regarding a number of issues, including funding allocation for footpaths, walkways and trees. The Association would like to see plaques on trees noting their significance, for example the Walnut tree in Mt Victoria. She also noted a need for seats, steps and signs indicating approximate walking time. Ms Averton also highlighted a concern over public participation and felt meetings should be advertised wider.

(Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 11.54am.)

14. Coralie Leyland spoke about the proposed rates differential and expressed concern that residential ratepayers will be paying a higher proportion of rates with no way of recovering this cost. She noted her support for the Indoor Community Sports Centre, but was concerned that Tacy Street will become a 'race track'.

(The meeting adjourned at 12.06pm for lunch. When it reconvened at 12.56pm Councillors Shaw, Morrison, Wade-Brown, Cook and Ahipene-Mercer were present.)

15. Paul Winter from Employers & Manufacturers Association Central expressed support for the proposed rating differential, which will attract and retain business in Wellington. He noted that Wellington City Council needs to provide leadership to achieve a strategy which will benefit and grow the region.
16. Donald McDonald addressed the Subcommittee on a number issues city wide. He indicated his support for the proposed City Housing 5% of rent at market rates, which will encourage diversity in City Housing. He also spoke on the poor repair of signage around the city, feedback not being acknowledged and requested an 0800 number to contact the Council.
17. Rosamund Averton spoke on behalf of the Wellington Federation of Progressive and Residents Associations regarding the issue of governance. The Association feel that too many decisions are made outside the public domain in public excluded. The Association requested that before any action is taken with the Wellington Airport that the public are given an opportunity to comment. Ms Averton also expressed concern for lack of transparency and information regarding the LTCCP process.
18. Roland Sapsford expressed concern over the proposed closure of the mobile library. He noted that there is no public support for its closure and it is a feature of the community, providing independence to those who are themselves not mobile. He pointed out a clear need for the service and believed that it should in fact be expanded.

(Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 1.42pm.)

19. Warwick Taylor and Ron Oliver of the Wellington Residents Coalition spoke on a number of proposed changes which will adversely affect those in lower socio-economic groups. They feel that the LTCCP has failed to address the gap between the rich and poor. They encouraged Wellington City Council to support the use of solar energy and the extension of the trolley bus network.
20. Trevor Fitzjohn addressed the Subcommittee regarding the importance of the Zoo in providing interaction with animals and as a research facility. He feels it is important to allow the Zoo to celebrate 100 years in Wellington and requested a budget be created to allow for a centennial celebration. He also requested that funding be allocated to expand research and animal acquisition.

21. Tim Cossar of Positively Wellington Tourism spoke about the Wellington Regional Strategy and the affect this may have on tourism in Wellington. Positively Wellington Tourism expressed support for Wellington City Councils events strategy and the importance of obtaining and retaining events for the city. Mr Cossar noted the competitiveness in the events market and the importance of the remaining competitive.
22. Deborah Cranko expressed concern at the proposed reduction in hours of the summer pools. She would like to see the hours of Thorndon Pool extended through to March or April as Wellington traditionally has late summers. As a member of Wellington Girls' College Board of Trustees, she noted that the school makes good use of Thorndon Pool during summer, using it as a resource for provisional development. She notes that the students enjoy this option and is more productive, safer and healthier than going into the CBD after school.

(The meeting adjourned for afternoon tea at 2.20pm and reconvened at 2.40pm.)

23. Deborah Burns on behalf of Jennifer Pike addressed the Subcommittee regarding the proposed closure of the mobile library. She notes that the library is compact, comfortable and ideal for children and the elderly. She used the service when she had young children and has been using the library for 33 years. She believed it provides a spontaneous meeting place for the community and is a valuable community facility.
24. Sheena Bennett of the Mobile Action Group spoke in support of the Mobile Library and noted her concern at the proposal to discontinue the service. She pointed out that many find the central library daunting and are unable to travel to their branch libraries. She noted that as the bus only travels a small distance, it is economical and that costs could be covered through other areas of the library network. She suggested extending the service to rest homes and council housing.
25. Deborah Burns expressed her support of retaining the mobile library as it provides an important social function in Communities. She feels that the Council should focus on small community based projects rather than large and expensive projects like sports amenities.
26. Maria Gobbi expressed concern at the proposed closure of the mobile library. She visits weekly with her children and finds it far more convenient than using the branch library. She feels it will provide minimal savings but have a large effect on the communities it visits. She noted that the visitation statistics do not allow for those who do not borrow books but visit to browse and return books.

27. Jan Simmons of the District Health Board spoke about the difficulty in accessing Wellington Hospital and would like the support of Wellington City Council with encouraging alternative transport methods. The creation of cycle lanes and markings, public transport and safe walkways are important to the reduction of congestion near the hospital. She noted that the District Health Board are already working with Infrastructure, Parks & Gardens and the Disability Reference Group to reduce congestion and improve the health of Wellingtonians.
28. Robin Boldarin of the Miramar/Mapua Progressive Residents Association spoke on a number of issues which concern the Association. These include the proposed closure of the mobile library, transport issues in the Miramar area and the lack of cover adshell bus shelters provide. She also noted the difficulty elderly have with kerb crossings rising and falling over footpaths.
29. Marcel Baajiens expressed concern that the Council has not provided support for Art Compass which sells the art of artists with disabilities. He feels that the Council has acted unprofessionally and with a lack of understanding towards Art Compass and their artists. He noted the loss to the city despite his best efforts to keep the centre open but has received no support of funding from Wellington City Council.
30. John Gilberthorpe, Chief Executive of the Wellington Museums Trust and Stuart Grant from Capital E, addressed the Subcommittee regarding funding for Capital E. They note that Capital E provides a valuable service to the city but is a different service to the Arts Centre and should not be shifted there. They expressed concern that if the shift were to take place, the organic operating structure which inspires creativity will be lost. They also noted that there are three years left in the lease and potential for growth if adequately funded.

(The meeting adjourned at 4.04pm Thursday 18 May 2006 and reconvened at 9.25am on Friday 19 May 2006.)

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Ahipene-Mercer (9.25am – 12.08pm.)

Councillor Cook

Councillor Foster (9.29am – 12.08pm, 1.06 – 2.38pm.)

Councillor Morrison

Councillor Shaw (Chair)

Councillor Wade-Brown (9.25am – 12.04pm, 1.02 – 4.07pm.)



**APOLOGIES:**

Mayor Prendergast  
Councillor Cook (for lateness)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Wain (in place of the Arts and Cultural Portfolio spokesperson)  
(1.02 – 4.07pm.)

007/06PL **APOLOGIES**  
(1215/52/07/IM)

**RESOLVED:**

*THAT the Long Term Council Community Plan Hearings Subcommittee:*

1. *Accept apologies for absence from Mayor Prendergast for Friday 19 May 2006.*

008/06PL **ORAL SUBMISSIONS TO LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2006/07 – 2015/16 (CONTINUED).**  
(1215/52/07/IM) (REPORT 1)

**NOTED:**

(Councillor Foster joined the meeting at 9.29am.)

1. Paul Cameron made an oral submission on behalf of Sport Wellington noting the collaborative efforts made with the WCC to provide events in Wellington such as ‘Round the Bays’ and the ‘Push Play’ campaign. He asked that Council work alongside Sport Wellington in their new initiative “Club Health Check” to improve the ‘health’ of club sport in Wellington where the foundation of many successful athletes is built. Mr Cameron reiterated Sport Wellington’s total support of the proposed indoor stadium and asked that the support from potential users of the facility in the future be taken into consideration.
2. John Cramer spoke against the proposed reduction of opening hours at the Thorndon pool. While Mr Cramer noted that there were financial issues to be addressed he suggested that the WCC look at other ways to increase revenue at the pool such as by rebranding it, introducing a public holiday surcharge, charging for carparks, leasing it out for corporate events, birthday parties and swimming galas or by using volunteer lifeguards. He also believed investing in some solar or more energy efficient ways to heat the pool would be of financial benefit.

3. Jacek Krawczyk requested in his oral submission that handball courts be included at the proposed indoor stadium. He noted that Wellington is devoid of permanent full size handball courts and any that any indoor venue large enough for players to create their own court was expensive and difficult to access. Mr Krawczyk highlighted the detrimental effect this was having on players' ability to increase their skills.
4. Frances Robinson represented both herself and her husband in their opposition to the proposed reduction of opening hours at the Thorndon Pool. She outlined the benefits Thorndon Pool had for both young people (accessibility to schools), office workers (proximity to the CBD) and the aging population who increasingly have more time to undertake leisure activities such as swimming.
5. Roger Hay outlined some concerns he had about Wellington's preparedness for a major earthquake, in particular the utilisation of the Johnsonville trainline. Mr Hay also spoke about the provision of better Council Housing, suggesting the creation of medium density housing on hillsides with architectural assistance rather than high-rise apartments.

(The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10.20am and reconvened at 10.15am.)

6. Ngaire Best on behalf of the Tawa Community Board (TCB) spoke in support of their submission. Ms Best thanked the Council for their support of the TCB and in particular the ability for them to hold a Civic Awards ceremony. Of concern to the TCB however is the delays in the Northern Growth Framework due to operational and capital expenditure reductions and a lack of green-waste recycling facilities in the Northern Ward. The TCB is concerned about the accessibility of the Proposed Indoor Stadium in the Eastern Ward but highlighted the excellent patronage and facilities at the recreation centre in Tawa.
7. John Markham spoke about the alignment of the Thorndon Pool with the "Absolutely, Postively, Wellington" motto and image of the WCC. He outlined the advantages of the pool for people living healthy, active lives and its role as a vibrant community facility. Mr Markham believed that he was lucky to live in a city where the local authority cared about the health of its residents but was opposed to the shortening of opening hours at the Thorndon Pool asking that instead a more vigorous marketing campaign is undertaken to increase patronage.
8. Margot McLean and Claire Aspinell from Regional Public Health (RPH) made an oral submission outlining the areas of Council policy

such as Housing, Transport and Environment that impacted the work undertaken by RPH. They indicated that there was much room for the two organisations to work together in achieving mutually desirable outcomes in these areas. Concerns held by RPH however related to the 5% of Council Housing proposed to be leased at market rates, the shopping centre upgrade programme, pandemic planning and the proposal to limit the opening hours of swimming pools. They asked that Activity 6.5.3 be referred to as “Public Health Regulatory Activities”.

9. Ross Davis from the Boys’ and Girls’ Institute (BGI) complimented the Council on a clear LTCCP document. He highlighted however that it did not address ‘Youth’ issues specifically which was both good, as it incorporated youth into the wider community, but also bad in that it was difficult to define these issues were being addressed. Mr Davis asked that the issue of cycling around the city be addressed so that kids could ride their bikes on the roads safely.
10. Tim Reddish from the NZ Taxi Federation spoke to their submission about the role of Taxis in Wellington. Mr Reddish requested that Taxi’s be allowed access to bus/transit lanes to make efficient use of the road space available. He also raised concerns about open entry in to the taxi industry and asked that WCC lobby central government to explain that the market was saturated. The NZ Taxi Federation also believes that charging for Taxi stands will not be an effective way to regulate the industry, rather a quality based permit system might be of more benefit.
11. Thomas Van Raamsdonk requested in his oral submission that a handball court be permanently marked out at the proposed Indoor Stadium. He clarified the dimensions that would be required for the subcommittee.
12. Eldon Potaka representing Ngati Tama came to speak to the Subcommittee about the relationship between Ngati Tama as Tangata Whenua and the WCC. He outlined a relationship of mutual benefit that both could enjoy while working together toward creating a better city, in particular those activities coming out of the economic development, urban development, environmental, cultural wellbeing and governance strategies. Ngati Tama is largely in support of the LTCCP and the idea of building Wellington into an economic hub.

(Councillor Wade-Brown left the meeting at 12.04pm.)

(The meeting adjourned at 12.08pm for lunch and reconvened at 1.02pm. When the meeting reconvened Councillors Shaw, Cook, Morrison, Wade-Brown, and Wain were present.)

13. Bill O'Donnell spoke about the proposal to register taxis in taxi stands. As a long term taxi driver, he acknowledges that taxis have been a concern to the city for some time, but feels all taxis should be registered to maintain a high standard across the industry. He noted that he would support the proposed cost of registration if the number of taxi ranks could be increased and policed to provide an advantage to drivers registered.

(Councillor Foster returned to the meeting at 1.06pm)

14. Mrs Shepard spoke on behalf of Friends of the Botanical Gardens regarding the heritage bush remnant of the Botanical Gardens. She feels that further ecological research is needed to ensure re-vegetation and requested that the Council employ an ecologist to supervise this process. She also noted that the facilities at the Tree House are not being fully utilised and the hours could be extended.
15. Mark Hayes of Bus Tunnel Studios spoke to his submission about upgrading Cuba Mall and the positive effect busking has on the culture of the city. Mr Hayes requested that areas be preserved for busking which is safe for performers as well as the public. He suggested extending Cuba Mall the length of Cuba Street. He also requested more cycle lanes in the city by utilising bus lanes and marking them as cycle lanes also.
16. Ronald Henry spoke as a long term Kelburn resident who has used the Mobile library for many years. He feels that this service is an important one and is valued by the community. He notes that his wife has impaired mobility and values the service. He feels that the proposed outreach service will not provide what the mobile library is able to.
17. Anne Mitcalfe expressed concern over the presentation of information in the LTCCP process. She feels that there is not enough information for the public to fully understand the proposed budget and feels that it should be recorded and presented consistently.
18. Ben Wilde spoke on behalf of Option 3 regarding public transport issues in the city. They feel that more emphasis needs to be placed on mass transportation and solutions to congestion rather than building roads. Option 3 urged the Council to provide the public more options than just using cars and suggested the Council encourage cycling and urban villages.
19. John Robinson, Nick Jennings and Robin Buxton from Self Selected Group noted their concern over consultation and governance and the way the city is consulting the public. They feel that the lack of

background information makes the consultation ineffective. Objective explanations are needed so decisions are informed.

20. Peter Reinmann of Trelissick/Ngaio Working Group addressed the Subcommittee regarding the importance of maintaining parks like Trelissick Park. Pest management is a concern as is the control of weeds and more funds are requested for this. They noted the plan has no provision for new walking tracks and asked for a budget to create both new and link tracks. They also expressed concern over stormwater in new subdivisions and the effect of run off on streams.
21. Frances Lee spoke to some points from her written submission. She expressed concern that the budget does not focus on environmentally important issues such as pest and weed control. Ms Lee requested the Council purchase Huntleigh Park rather than letting it turn into a subdivision. She noted that Otari-Wilton should be placed on the native tourist attraction cluster with Karori Sanctuary.

(The meeting adjourned for afternoon tea at 2.38pm and resumed at 3.05pm. When the meeting reconvened Councillors Shaw, Cook, Wade-Brown, Wain and Morrison were present.)

22. Chris Clarke and Linda Hobman lead a delegation from the Newtown Health Union Service and spoke to their submission regarding improving the quality of life in Wellington. They expressed concern over the proposed 5% of rent at market rentals in City Housing as these tenants often have high and complex health needs. They would like to see greater collaboration of Council with their group to ensure the well being of tenants.
23. Chris Gray spoke to the Subcommittee about the importance of urban development which will not compromise the city. He felt that standards for development, especially the Linconshire Farm development, should be lifted so each new house has heat pumps, water tanks and solar panels. He encouraged the Council to consult and debate a trolley bus upgrade and the use of public transport rather than cars. He believes the Council should continue to provide good leadership and take action to ensure high standards.
24. Dame Laurie Salas addressed the Subcommittee on the inclusion of a National Portrait Gallery/National Centre for Photography in the Long Term Plan. She feels that Shed 11 is an ideal location after refurbishment and would benefit the city as a cultural centre.
25. Tom Law spoke on behalf of the Newtown Residents Association regarding a number of concerns in the Newtown area. Some of these included maintenance and planting of trees, funding the community

centre, the Riddiford Street development and other general maintenance of the area.

26. Tom Law and Linda Hobman, speaking on behalf of the Newtown Community/Cultural Centre to request funding for the upgrade of the Community Centre. They note that the centre is extensively used by the community, but requires an upgrade as it is an old building. They also expressed concern over the consultation process. They felt the process should be an opportunity for Wellingtonians to tell the Council what they want to see happen.
27. Stephen Moore from the Kilbirnie/Rongotai Residents Association spoke to the Subcommittee regarding the proposed Indoor Community Sports Centres location at Cobham Drive Park. They noted concern that the number of car parks will not support the facility and will increase traffic congestion in the area. The Association requested resident only parking in Tacey Street and that additional land not be sold to allow for future parking at the sports centre.

(The meeting adjourned at 4.07pm Friday 19 May 2006 and re-convened at 9.24am on Monday 29 May 2006.)

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Ahipene-Mercer

Councillor Cook (9.24am – 1.02pm, 3.00 – 5.47pm.)

Councillor Foster (11.31 – 11.41am, 4.07 – 5.47pm.)

Councillor Morrison (9.24am – 1.06pm, 3.38 – 5.47pm.)

Councillor Shaw (Chair)

Councillor Wade-Brown (9.24am – 1.06pm, 3.38 – 5.47pm.)

**APOLOGIES:**

Mayor Prendergast

Councillor Foster (for lateness)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Gill (12.46 – 1.06pm.)

Councillor Wain (4.12 – 4.27pm.)

009/06PL **APOLOGIES**  
(1215/52/07/IM)

**RESOLVED:**

*THAT the Long Term Council Community Plan Hearings Subcommittee:*

1. *Accept apologies for absence from Mayor Prendergast for Monday 29 May 2006.*
2. *Accept apologies for lateness from Councillor Foster for Monday 29 May 2006.*

010/06PL **CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS**  
(1215/52/07/IM)

**NOTED:**

1. Councillor Wade-Brown declared that she was a member of 'Living Streets Aotearoa' (Submission 1080) but as she had withdrawn from drafting their submission that she was not conflicted and would remain at the table to hear their oral submission.

011/06PL **ORAL SUBMISSIONS TO LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2006/07 – 2015/16 (CONTINUED).**  
(1215/52/07/IM) (REPORT 1)

**NOTED:**

1. Collin Willis expressed his gratitude to the Council for its continued commitment to providing council housing. He raised some concerns about housing including welfare of tenants when rent increases and benefits (on which many rely) do not. He highlighted that Council Housing was there to provide for sick and disabled people, low paid employees and migrants to help them participate in society. As such he believed that the proposal to let 5% of housing stock out at market rentals shows a lack of understanding Council tenants as it assumes they do not want to work.
2. Stan Andis expressed his dissatisfaction with the LTCCP document and the oral hearings process. Mr Andis was unhappy about only being allotted 10 minutes to speak and referred to problems he saw with the Local Government Act 2002 which required only that oral submitters have the chance to be heard but failed to outline how these

submissions should be incorporated into the final decision. He criticised the expenditure programme in the LTCCP and requested a complete and entire revision of the document.

(The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 9.52am and reconvened at 10.20am.)

(The meeting adjourned at 10.21am to wait for submitters and reconvened at 10.26am.)

3. Mike Rumble representing Wellington Regional 2020 Communications Trust voiced support for the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) Policy and Activity 6.4.7 in the LTCCP. Mr Rumble believed that both were closely connected to the values of Wellington 2020 and complemented its strong, positive position on community ICT. He spoke about the continuing success of Wellington Community Net and requested additional funding so that it could continue to grow.
4. John Welsh was opposed to the shortening of the opening hours at Thorndon pool. He argued that Thorndon pool was a much more attractive place to swim than Freyberg pool. While Mr Welsh conceded that a reduction in opening hours at Khandallah pool might be fiscally necessary, he proposed that the \$20,000 savings proposed at the Thorndon pool could be found by leasing out the car-parks next door.

(The meeting adjourned to wait for submitters at 10.50am and reconvened at 10.59am.)

(The meeting adjourned at 11.00am for the Development Contributions Subcommittee and reconvened at 11.31am. When the meeting reconvened Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Cook, Foster, Morrison, Shaw and Wade-Brown were present.)

5. Geoff Henry from Athletics Wellington spoke in support of the proposed Indoor Stadium but requested that during the “downtime” (school hours), Athletics Wellington be allowed to run the International Fun and Team Athletics (IFTA) “Sportshall Athletics” programme. He played a DVD to the Subcommittee outlining the purpose and scope of the programme and advised that while they held “Sportshall” events currently there was no venue big enough in Wellington to hold multiple school events.

(Councillor Foster left the meeting at 11.41am.)

6. Paula Warren from Living Streets Aotearoa spoke both as a representative of the group and as an individual. Living Streets



Aotearoa believes that walking has benefits both as a form of transport for Wellingtonians and for health and recreation. She asked that the Council address illegal car parking across footpaths and recognise that role that light rail could play in resolving the bus congestion in Lambton Quay. As an individual Ms Warren requested a comprehensive volunteer programme be instigated at the WCC and noted that while the current coastal plan was good, that Council should ensure people were still able to access the water.

7. Alan Royal along with Shelia Williams spoke on behalf of Senior Net. They spoke about the positive impact the organisation had in providing a strong social network for seniors to communicate with each other as well as allowing them to contact family nationally and internationally. They recognised the financial assistance that Senior Net received from WCC for accommodation but noted that they were at risk of having to find new premises. If that was to happen, Senior Net requests that WCC help them cover the shortfall for finding new accommodation.

(Councillor Morrison left the meeting at 12.04pm.)

8. Peter Papas proposed that the Indoor Sports Stadium have tennis courts included. He noted that there were a lack of tennis facilities in Wellington for children and those facilities that were available were in a “user-pays” system, at the exclusion of some socio-economic groups. He believed grassroots training was required to produce top level tennis players which he sees New Zealand as currently lacking. Mr Papas was happy to provide a proposal to WCC to set up a coaching clinic at the Indoor Sports Stadium that would be accessible to children of all socio-economic groups.
9. Roland Sapsford on behalf of Heartbeat Wellington requested that Wellington City adopt a ‘Smart Growth Plan’ that addressed problems with the ‘growth spine’ and the tension that currently exists between various forms of transport. He suggested Suburban Centres be developed as ‘nodes’ and linked together rather than promoting densification along the growth spine.

(The meeting adjourned at 12.25pm and reconvened at 12.27pm.)

10. John Bishop, Chairman of ‘Friends of the Town Belt’ spoke on behalf of the group. They supported the Biodiversity policy but believed that it must be action oriented and that the emphasis should be more immediate. Mr Bishop noted that it was essential that WCC safeguard the integrity of the town belt land and consequently opposed the building of a proposed ice-skating rink on town belt land. Friends of the Town Belt complemented the Council on the native planting

proposal but were disappointed that funding for encroachment resolution and pest control had been dropped.

11. Shelley Addison on behalf of Wellington Volleyball spoke in support of the proposed Indoor Stadium at Cobham drive. She noted that current volleyball facilities in city were limited, and of poor quality. Ms Addison told the subcommittee that currently Wellington Volleyball was unable to host events in the city due to the lack of facilities and noted the cost of taking events to Palmerston North and Wanganui was decreasing the accessibility of the game to young participants.

(Councillor Morrison returned to the meeting at 12.46pm.)

(Councillor Gill joined the meeting at 12.46pm.)

12. Sue Ryall from Netball Wellington region, along with Jill McIntosh spoke in support of the proposed Indoor Sports Stadium. Both noted the lack of tournament and training facilities for netball in Wellington and the direct correlation this had to few Wellington players representing New Zealand in the sport. It was highlighted that at elite level Netball is essentially an indoor sport. They encouraged WCC to think about providing a larger facility than currently proposed due to growth in the sport.

(Councillor Cook left the meeting at 1.02pm.)

(The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1.06pm and reconvened at 3.00pm. When the meeting reconvened Councillors Shaw, Ahipene-Mercer, Cook and Morrison were in attendance.)

13. Sunjay Sewamba, John Stevenson and Andrea Miller on behalf of Housing New Zealand Corporation spoke to the Subcommittee on the issue of the high demand for affordable housing in Wellington. They would like to work with Wellington City Council to provide this service to the city and try to increase accommodation options. They noted there are development opportunities in areas such as Newtown which has high density living.
14. Wendy Barry on behalf of WWF addressed the Subcommittee regarding Enviroschools. WWF believe education for sustainability is important and can be gained through Enviroschools. Ms Barry suggested the Council incorporate a permanent part time Enviroschools facilitator to provide a range of education for sustainability initiatives for Wellington.
15. Raewyn Penman of Netball Wellington Centre spoke to the Subcommittee on their submission on the proposed Indoor

Community Sports Centre. She voiced support for the proposal but requested the centre be extended to 12 courts as 8 will soon reach capacity. They feel that by extending the facility to 12 courts from the beginning, the project will be more economical as costs of extension are eliminated. They noted there is a strong demand for netball in the city, yet players are not represented the national competition level, an indoor facility will be essential in the future of Wellington Netball.

16. David Langman of the NZ Centre for Photography voiced support for a National Portrait Gallery at Shed 11. They believe this location is a good venue and has had good visitor numbers to recent exhibitions held there. He noted that there are many aspects to photography, including education, research and heritage aspects. Mr Langman believes there is a world wide interest in photography and requested support of the city for the gallery to remain at Shed 11.

(Councillor Wade-Brown joined the meeting at 3.38pm.)

17. Justin Toebes and Barry Chalmers of Wellington Basketball addressed the Subcommittee on the importance of the proposed Indoor Community Sports Centre to the future of basketball in Wellington. They requested the facility be extended from 8 courts to 12 as they feel 8 courts will not be enough to cope with demand. Wellington Basketball need a dedicated home for the development of the sport in the city. They noted that if there were 4 indoor courts at another location, this would serve Wellington Basketball needs also.
18. Michael Scott spoke to the Subcommittee with concern over proposed projects such as the Marine Education Centre and the Indoor Community Sports Centre. He felt that projects such as the proposed water and sewage surcharge favour the rich and that the Council is not in touch with the needs of the residents of Wellington.

(Councillor Foster joined the meeting at 4.07pm.)

19. Father Burns of St Anne's Parish spoke to his submission on the proposed 5% of City Housing rented at market rates. He expressed concern at a lack of low income housing which is close to the city and facilities. He noted that there is Council housing in nice areas of the city and expressed concern that this may be sold.

(Councillor Wain joined the meeting at 4.12pm.)

20. Fiona MacNamara and Amy Hatfield from the Youth Council addressed the Subcommittee on concerns of the Youth Council. One concern was the lack of education on the importance of recycling and they would like the Council to increase awareness of and encourage recycling. They also requested a space for youth for performances and

displaying art. They believe that Capital E is a space for younger children and not suited to the needs of youth.

(Councillor Wain left the meeting at 4.27pm.)

21. Michael Taylor representing the Tararua Tramping Club addressed the Subcommittee regarding a number of concerns of the club. They feel that tramping promotes a healthy lifestyle, yet as it is not listed as a formal recreational activity it receives disproportionate funding. The Club noted their disapproval of the plan to plant Pohutakawa trees along the Quays as they are not a regional plant, suggesting instead that trees native to the area should be planted.
22. Michael Taylor, speaking as an individual, spoke to his submission on a number of issues. He would like to see what is happening in the city, not just what the Council would like to happen and feels this should be reflected in the plan. He expressed concern over the proposed rates differential and the water and sewage flat rate. He feels that a better solution would be to meter household water so residents are charged for what they use.
23. Chris Parkin of NZ Hotel Council – Wellington spoke on the benefits of hospitality and tourism to the city and the need to enhance the attractiveness of the city. He noted a concern over the proposed regional strategy and the effect this may have on the hospitality industry in the region. The Hotel Council recommend increasing the funding of PWT as this promotes the city which promotes continued growth.
24. Angus Napier expressed concern over financial governance. He feels that the level of debt is not sustainable. He believes that the Council should defer planned debt, or assets should be sold to finance the debt. He believed that the city is living beyond its means, which should be a concern to the Council.
25. Sam Cottier of Meridian Energy addressed the Subcommittee on the proposed wind farm at Makara. They believe the Council should introduce a differential tax for the wind farm based on land value rather than capital value. As the wind farm will have high construction costs, it will have a high capital value yet places low demand on Council services.
26. Robert Cameron of NZ Railways Corporation – On Tracks discussed the project to upgrade the Wellington Train Station. They have received funding to comply with heritage site requirements. However they feel that further refurbishments are required which are outside the heritage requirements and would like the support of Wellington City Council for this. They note that the Train Station is under increasing

