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**REPORT 5**  
*(1215/11/IM)*

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE  
AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, WELLINGTON,  
10-13 JULY 2011**

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**1. Purpose of Report**

This report provides information on the Local Government New Zealand Conference, to be held in Wellington from 10-13 June 2011, and to seek approval for the Mayor and up to three additional elected members to attend the conference. The report also recommends that the Council elects a presiding delegate to exercise the votes on behalf of Wellington City Council at the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting on 13 July 2011.

**2. Recommendations**

Officers recommend that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the attendance of the Mayor and up to three additional elected members at the Local Government New Zealand Conference to be held in Wellington from 10-13 July 2011 and that the costs associated with attending the conference be met from the Elected Members' budget (GVEM01).*
3. *Note that Wellington City Council can appoint up to four delegates to attend the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 13 July 2011.*
4. *Appoint the following delegates to attend the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 13 July 2011:*
  - (a) *Mayor Wade-Brown as its presiding delegate, with authority to exercise Wellington City Council's six votes;*
  - (b) *an alternate presiding delegate (in the event that the Mayor is absent from the floor of the meeting at any time), who shall be a Councillor; and*
  - (c) *two other delegates, who shall be Councillors*

6. *Note that a report back on the conference will be presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee in accordance with Council policy.*

### 3. Discussion

The theme for the 2011 conference is 'Future Focus'. It will ask what delegates need to consider in the future, covering topics such as leadership, the green future, spatial planning and more.

The guest speakers will be discussing:

- Building 21<sup>st</sup> century intelligent communities
- Working better together for New Zealand abroad
- Future cities lighting up the world
- Growing a green future
- Ancient wisdom – modern solutions for leaders
- Leadership

The keynote speakers include:

**Brett O'Riley** – Chief Executive of the NZICT Group, representing 300 companies in the hi-tech and information communications technology industries.

**John Allen** – Chief Executive and Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

**Harry Verhaar** – Senior Director, Energy and Climate Change, and head of strategic sustainability initiatives at Phillips Lighting.

**Melissa Clark Reynolds** – an entrepreneur for 20 years, Melissa will speak widely on how to grow technology businesses.

**Ngahi Bidois** – Ngahi is the face of New Zealand with many years of speaking and leadership experience in the education, business and Maori sectors.

**Shaun Coffey** – Chief Executive of Industrial Research, a technology company that serves a range of industries with an emphasis on the manufacturing, processing, biopharmaceuticals, medical and energy sectors.

In addition to the keynote speakers, the conference will hear from the Minister of Local Government, the Hon Rodney Hide, and from the Prime Minister, the Rt Hon John Key, who will officially open the conference on Monday 11 July 2011, and from the Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Phil Goff.

A copy of the full programme is attached as Appendix One to this report.

The Chief Executive of Wellington City Council, in addition to other senior officers, will also be attending the conference.

### **3.1 Appointment of delegates to the conference**

There is no restriction on the number of delegates Council can send to the conference.

The Council's elected member representatives at this conference over the last five years have been:

2006	Wellington	The Mayor and Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, McKinnon and Shaw and Ngaire Best (Tawa Community Board)
2007	Dunedin	The Mayor and Ngaire Best (Tawa Community Board)
2008	Rotorua	The Mayor and Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Best and McKinnon
2009	Christchurch	The Mayor and Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Coughlan and McKinnon
2010	Auckland	The Mayor and Councillors Coughlan, McKinnon and Wade-Brown

The Mayor and Councillors Best, Eagle and Foster are the Council's current representatives on *Local Government New Zealand Zone 4*.

### **3.2 Appointment of Delegates to the AGM**

The Rules of *Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ)* allow the Council to appoint up to four delegates to attend the AGM.

To enable a Council to exercise its voting rights at the AGM the *LGNZ* Rules require a member authority to:

*“appoint one of its delegates as its presiding delegate and may appoint one or more alternate delegates; provided that the number of alternate delegates does not exceed the number of delegates appointed.”*

Member authorities are required to advise the Chief Executive of *LGNZ*, in writing, of the names and positions of the presiding, alternate and other delegates attending the AGM. This allows *LGNZ* to closely monitor the numbers attending and so meet their obligations under the rules of their constitution.

Other elected members may attend the meeting as observers but have no speaking or voting rights and will be seated away from the Council's official delegation.

Wellington City Council is entitled to six (6) votes at the AGM and these votes are cast by the presiding delegate.

### 3.3 Considerations

When deciding whether elected members should attend this conference, consideration should be given to:

- the cost; and
- the impact of attendance on the budget; and
- other conferences elected members may wish to attend later in the financial year.

The cost of attendance per delegate is detailed as follows:

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost (including GST)</b>
Registration	\$1,350.00
Return Airfares	n/a
Accommodation	n/a
Incidentals	n/a
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,350.00</b>

The total cost of attendance for four elected members would be \$5,400.00. The impact on the budget would be as follows:

	2010/2011 Budget	Year to Date Expenditure	Unexpended Funds
Total budget for conference fees	<b>\$39,500.00</b>	\$22,155.04	\$17,344.96
Impact of sending <b>four</b> elected members to the conference	\$5,400.00	\$27,555.04	\$11,944.96

The costs incurred will be met from the elected members' conference budget (GVEM01).

## 4. Conclusion

The Council is required to appoint its delegates to the 2011 Local Government New Zealand Conference to be held in Wellington from 10-13 July 2011 and its presiding and alternate presiding delegate for the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 13 July 2011.

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## Supporting Information

### **1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome**

*This project supports long-term outcome 7.2.2 – “Wellington will operate an open and honest decision-making process that generates confidence and trust in the democratic system”.*

### **2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact**

*Relates to C534: Elections, Governance and Democratic Process.*

### **3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations**

*There are no Treaty of Waitangi implications.*

### **4) Decision-Making**

*This is not a significant decision.*

### **5) Consultation**

#### **a) General Consultation**

*Not required.*

#### **b) Consultation with Maori**

*Not required.*

### **6) Legal Implications**

*Nil.*

### **7) Consistency with existing policy**

*This report is consistent with existing Wellington City Council policy.*