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# Local Government New Zealand

te pūtahi matakokiri

1 September 2009

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EN12-02

Kerry has this noted in diary 12-21 Dec.  
Copy in Bing Clips for 7/9 for meeting with Kerry.

*Send to Kerry*

Mr Garry Poole  
Chief Executive  
Wellington City Council  
PO Box 2199  
WELLINGTON 6140

Dear Garry

Re: Leadership of Local Government Delegation to Copenhagen

At the UN Climate Change Conference in December 2009, national governments will be negotiating a new global climate agreement. At the same time, cities will present solutions needed to combat climate change at the Copenhagen Climate Summit for Mayors, hosted by Copenhagen. Half the world's population is now living in cities which are collectively responsible for 80% of global CO2 emissions. Any solution to climate change must therefore involve active participation of cities.

A number of local government representatives will travel to Copenhagen to join in the talks on climate change. With Wellington City Council's exemplary leadership in the climate change arena, and as Vice-President of the National Council of *Local Government New Zealand*, it is fitting that Mayor Prendergast lead local government representation from New Zealand. The role of Kerry as leader at these talks was mandated by the National Council at its last meeting on 26 July, 2009.

Sector concern for the impact of climate change on our communities is growing, and the importance of local government leadership in preparing communities for the impacts of climate change is increasingly acknowledged by government. Local government commitment to helping New Zealand face the challenge of climate change has recently been captured in the Local Government Leaders Position Statement. It is anticipated that many Councils will have signed up to this position statement prior to the talks in Copenhagen.

Wellington City Council's own vision of becoming carbon neutral, together with the Mayors role in the National Council, ensures Mayor Prendergast is well placed to speak on behalf on local government in New Zealand, at Copenhagen.

Yours sincerely ↗

Eugene Bowen  
Chief Executive  
*Local Government New Zealand*

*effective local governance*

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