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**REPORT 2**

*(1215/11/IM and 1215/10/05/IM)*

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE  
AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, AUCKLAND,  
25-28 JULY 2010**

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**1. Purpose of Report**

This report provides information on the Local Government New Zealand Conference, to be held in Auckland from 25-28 July 2010, 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 28 July 2010.

**2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Council:

1. *Receives the information.*
2. *Approves the attendance of the Mayor and up to three additional elected members at the Local Government New Zealand Conference to be held in Auckland from 25-28 July 2010 and that the costs associated with attending the conference be met from the Elected Members' budget (GVEM01).*
3. *Notes that Wellington City Council can appoint up to four delegates to attend the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting on Wednesday 28 July 2010.*
4. *Appoints the following delegates to attend the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 28 July 2010:*
  - (a) *Mayor Prendergast 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) *up to two other delegates, who shall be Councillors.*

5. *Notes that there is an Agenda Meeting for Portfolio Leaders on Tuesday, 27 July 2010 in advance of the Strategy and Policy Committee meeting of Thursday, 12 August 2010, and that meetings of the St James Theatre Charitable Trust Board, the Westpac Stadium Trust, and the Disability Reference Group are also scheduled for that date, and a meeting of the Wellington Waterfront Limited Board and the Youth Council scheduled for Wednesday, 28 July 2010.*
6. *Notes 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 2010 conference is 'Building Prosperous Places' reflecting on the growing economy and business confidence following the recession that has grappled the global economy over the last few years.

The guest speakers will be discussing:

- leading and championing economic development
- the role of branding in building prosperous places
- the projection for Auckland and its prosperity as a super city

The keynote speakers include:

**The Right Honourable, the Lord Mayor of Brisbane Councillor Campbell Newman** – As Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Lord Mayor Councillor Newman leads the largest local government in Australia with some 617,854 voters in the Brisbane City Council area. He is dedicated to making Brisbane an innovative, liveable, new world city, and one of his top priorities is building a network of cross-city tunnels and bridges and improving public transport around the city. Lord Mayor Councillor Newman has experience as a civil engineer, was previously a Major in the Australian Army, and worked as a business consultant and manager for several large Australian companies before establishing his own consulting firm specialising in bulk commodity logistics. He has an honours degree in civil engineering from the University of New South Wales and a Masters in Business Administration from the University of Queensland.

**Peter Biggs** – Managing Director of Clemenger BBDO in Melbourne, winner of the B&T Agency of the Year for Victoria in 2007 and 2008 and Campaign Brief Agency of the Year in 2008. Before taking up his appointment in Melbourne in March 2006, he was Managing Director of Clemenger BBDO in Wellington, New Zealand. During his time at Clemenger BBDO/Wellington, the agency was New Zealand Agency of the Year in 2002 and 2004, and he was chosen as Agency Chief Executive of the Year in 2003 and Wellingtonian of the Year also in 2003. He is a member of the Board of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra,

Chunky Move Dance Company and the Centre for Books, Writing and Ideas. He is a sought after speaker on branding, marketing, creativity and leadership.

**Greg Clark** – Based in the United Kingdom, Greg Clark is a leading international authority on city building, investment and strategies for globalisation and brings a future focus to economic development. Mr Clark studied economics and political science and has twenty years experience in leadership roles for city agencies in the United Kingdom and advisory roles worldwide. Mr Clark was executive director of strategy, communications and intelligence at the London Development Agency and was the foundation chair of the OECD Forum of Cities and Regions. Mr Clark was a board director of the Council for Urban Economic Development in Washington DC, the European Association of Development Agencies in Brussels, and the British Urban Regeneration Association and United Kingdom Regional Policy Forum. Greg Clark has authored four books and currently has three in development.

In addition to the keynote speakers, the conference will hear from the Minister of Local Government, the Hon Rodney Hide, from the Prime Minister, the Hon John Key, who will officially open the conference on Monday 26 July 2010, and from the Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Phil Goff.

There will also be a panel discussion chaired by Local Government New Zealand Chief Executive Eugene Brown, between Mayors Bob Harvey (Waitakere City), Len Brown (Manakau City) and Andrew Williams (North Shore City).

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:

2005	Christchurch	The Mayor and Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Armstrong and Wade-Brown
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

The Mayor and Councillors Best and McKinnon 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
- the 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	\$500.00
Accommodation	\$398.00
Incidentals	\$350.00 <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,598.00</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Based on the estimated transfer and meal costs throughout the proposed travel plan. Incidentals are not included in the budget impact statement below.

The total cost of attendance for four elected members would be \$8,992.00 (plus incidentals) and the impact on the budget would be as follows:

	2009/2010 Budget	Year to Date Expenditure	Unexpended Funds
Total budget for conference fees	<b>\$39,500.00</b>	\$8,611.75 <sup>2</sup>	\$30,888.25
Impact of sending <b>four</b> elected members to the conference	\$8,992.00	\$17,603.75	\$21,896.25

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 2010 Local Government New Zealand Conference to be held in Auckland from 25-28 July 2010 and its presiding and alternate presiding delegate for the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting to be held on Wednesday 28 July 2010.

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<sup>2</sup> The 2009/10 contribution to the Local Government New Zealand Conference 2009 totalled \$1,576.50 (with the remaining \$6,544.50 being drawn from the 2008/09 GVEM01 budget for a total cost of \$8,121.00)  
The attendance of one Councillor at the TraffiNZ Conference at a cost of \$1,932.75  
The attendance of two Councillors at the Resource Management Law Association Conference at a cost of \$1,715.00  
The attendance of one Councillor at the LIANZA Conference at a cost of \$1,411.00  
The attendance of one Councillor at the Youth in Local Government Conference at a cost of \$450.00  
The attendance of one Councillor at the Sister Cities New Zealand Conference at an approximate total cost of \$1,524.50

## 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.*