
**CLIMATE CHANGE: THE POLICY CHALLENGES
SYMPOSIUM– WELLINGTON, 6 OCTOBER 2006**

1. Purpose of Report

To provide information on and to seek approval for one elected member to attend Climate Change: The Policy Challenges Symposium to be held in Wellington on 6 October 2006.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the attendance of up to two elected members at Climate Change: The Policy Challenges Symposium to be held in Wellington, 6 October 2006 and that the costs associated with attending the meeting are met from the Elected Members Budget (GVEM01).*
3. *Note that there is an Audit and Risk Management Subcommittee meeting on Friday 6 October 2006.*
4. *Note that a report back on the meeting will be presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee in accordance with Council policy.*

3. Discussion

Climate Change: Policy Challenges Symposium is a follow up symposium to the Climate Change and Governance conference held at Victoria University in March 2006. This conference highlighted the scope of change required to halt global warming. Climate Change: Policy Challenges Symposium will explore key policy issues.

The Climate Change: Policy Challenges Symposium is timely when Governments are discussing policies to mitigate climate change and New Zealand is developing a national energy strategy. A number of international speakers will lead discussions, including:

- Dr Bert Metz – Swiss Ambassador to New Zealand
- Professor Michael Grubb – Carbon Trust, UK, Imperial College London
- Dr Steve Hatfield-Dodds – CSIRO Integration Network, Canberra
- Dr Tim Denne – Convec
- Dr Adrian Macey – New Zealand’s Climate Change Ambassador
- Phil Gurnesy – Ministry for the Environment

It is noted that Councillor Wade-Brown is Chairing a discussion ‘From Policy to Action’.

Morning presentations will examine the global context, timeframes for action, how to stabilize and reduce greenhouse emissions, costs and benefits of available options, technologies available and the implications on New Zealand.

Afternoon presentations will cover examples of New Zealand policy issues, including the pros and cons of different policy. The symposium will look at New Zealand’s contribution to the development of post 2010 global climate change, with particular attention to forestry and agriculture.

Regular opportunities for questions and discussion have been allowed for in the presentation schedule. This will allow for a wide range of ideas and perspectives to be considered.

Further information on the presentations is attached at appendix one.

It is the intention of management to have officer representation at the conference.

3.1 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 total cost if two elected members are appointed is expected to be \$350.00 and will be met from the conference budget.

The cost of attendance per person is broken down as follows:

Item	Cost
Registration	\$175.00
Accommodation	N/A
Return Airfares	N/A
Total	\$175.00

The impact on the budget of two elected members attending this conference is outlined in Table One.

Table One:

	2006/2007 Budget	Year to Date Expenditure	Unexpended Funds
Total budget for conference fees, accommodation and travel	\$34,000	\$12,251 ¹	\$21,749
Impact of sending two elected member to the conference	\$350	\$12,601	\$21,399

4. Conclusion

A decision is required as to whether Council should approve the attendance of up to two elected members at the Climate Change: Policy Challenges Symposium to be held in Wellington, 6 October 2006.

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¹ The attendance of 5 Elected Members at the LGNZ Conference at a cost of \$5000.00.
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the TRAFINZ Conference at a cost of \$2310.00
The attendance of 2 Elected Members at the Safer Communities Conference at a cost of \$400
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the Digital Earth 06 Conference at a cost of \$1800
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the Youth and Local Government Conference in New Plymouth at a cost of \$776
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the LIANZA Conference in Wellington at a cost of \$1100
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the New Zealand Walking Conference in Christchurch at a cost of \$865

Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

*This project supports objective 9.2 City decision-making:
People are encouraged to participate in the decision making of the city*

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

Relates to C534: Committee and Council 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

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

Appendix One