
REPORT 5
(1215/52/IM)

**TOWNS AND CITIES NEW ZEALAND 2010
CONFERENCE, WELLINGTON
24 AUGUST – 25 AUGUST 2010**

1. Purpose of Report

To provide information on and to seek approval for one elected member to attend the “Towns & Cities New Zealand 2010 Conference” to be held at the Holiday Inn, Wellington City Centre, 24 – 25 August 2010.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Approve the attendance of one elected member at the Town & Cities Conference to be held in Wellington from 24 August–25 August 2010 and agree that the costs associated with attending the conference be met from the Elected Members’ budget (GVEM01).*
3. *Agree that should the nominated elected member(s) be unable to attend, they may select another elected member to attend in their place.*
4. *Note that there is currently a Strategy and Policy Committee meeting and a Council meeting scheduled for the 25 August.*
5. *Note that a report back on the conference will be presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee in accordance with Council policy.*

3. Discussion

Town and Cities New Zealand (TCNZ) is a relatively new not for profit national organisation, holding its second annual general meeting this year. The objectives of TCNZ are to:

- Assist member town and city centre organisations to develop sustainable economies and raised property values
- Provide members with opportunities to improve governance and therefore, improved sustainable outcomes for their members.
- Work collaboratively with local territorial authorities to assist sustainable development of New Zealand's town and city centres.
- Encourage and facilitate educational opportunities for existing town and city centre managers.
- Assist and development of town and city centre management as a career path for existing managers and for newcomers.
- Foster best practice principles of urban design and architecture in town and city centres.

This year's Annual Conference is entitled '*Raising the Bar – A new decade and new issues for town and city centres*'. Guest speakers include: Kerry Prendergast, John Hamilton (Director Civil Defence Emergency Management); Jan McCredie (Manager City Strategy & Urban Design, Wellington City Council); Greg McBride (Urban Design Manager, Harrison Grierson); Hon Rodney Hide (Minister of Local Government); Ian Cassels (Managing Director, The Wellington Company); Leon Grice (Director, New Zealand 2011 Office); Mike Cherrett (Deputy High Commissioner, British High Commission); Cameron Brewer (Chief Executive, Newmarket Business Association); Karen Remetis (Principal, Town Centre Development Group); and Connal Townsend (Chief Executive, Property Council New Zealand).

The conference involves presentations from key speakers, workshops and a panel discussion.

The conference programme is attached as **Appendix One**.

3.1 Future Conferences

The Town & Cities New Zealand 2010 Conference is scheduled for 24 -25 August. Funding for the conference will impact on the budget for conferences for the remainder of the 2010/11 financial year. Council Officers are currently compiling a list of prospective conferences for consideration by the incoming Council.

3.2 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:

Item	Cost per person (including GST)
Return Flights (approximately)	N/A
Accommodation (approximately)	N/A
Registration	\$700
Total	\$700

The total cost of attendance for one elected member to attend the conference will be approximately \$700.00 and the impact on the budget will be as follows:

	2010/2011 Budget	Year to Date Expenditure	Unexpended Funds
Total budget for conference fees	\$39,500	\$3,977.89 ¹	\$35,522.11
Impact of sending one elected member to the conference	\$700	\$4677.89	\$34,822.11

The costs incurred will be met from the elected members' conference budget (GVEM01). Furthermore, if attendance is approved by the Committee, The Resource Management and Law Association conference scheduled for September, will incur a further cost of approximately \$1632.00.

4. Conclusion

A decision is required as to whether the Committee should approve the attendance of one Elected Member at the "Towns & Cities New Zealand 2010 Conference" to be held in Wellington on 24 – 25 August.

Contact Officer: *Natalie Jacobson, Team Leader – Meeting Support*

¹The attendance of one councillor to the 2010 Trafanz Conference at a cost of \$945
The attendance of one councillor to the 2010 Walking Conference at a cost of \$551.25
Incidental costs incurred for four councillors to the 2010 LGNZ conference, subject to change, at a cost of \$2481.64.

Supporting Information

1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome

This project supports Outcome 7.2.B – More actively engaged: 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.