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**ORDINARY MEETING**

**OF**

**GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**MINUTES**

**Time:** 9:15am  
**Date:** Wednesday, 28 September 2016  
**Venue:** Committee Room 1  
Ground Floor, Council Offices  
101 Wakefield Street  
Wellington

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**PRESENT**

Mayor Wade-Brown  
Councillor Ahipene-Mercer  
Councillor Coughlan  
Councillor Eagle  
Councillor Foster  
Councillor Free  
Councillor Lee  
Councillor Lester (Chair)  
Councillor Marsh  
Councillor Pannett  
Councillor Peck  
Councillor Ritchie  
Councillor Sparrow  
Councillor Woolf  
Councillor Young



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## **1 Meeting Conduct**

### **1.1 Apologies**

**Moved Councillor Lester, seconded Councillor Ahipene-Mercer**

#### **Resolved**

That the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee:

1. Accept the apologies received from Councillor Foster for lateness and Mayor Wade-Brown and Councillor Woolf for early departure.

**Carried**

### **1.2 Conflict of Interest Declarations**

There were no conflict of interest declarations.

### **1.3 Confirmation of Minutes**

**Moved Councillor Lester, seconded Councillor Peck**

#### **Resolved**

That the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee:

Approve the minutes of the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee Meeting held on 25 August 2016, having been circulated, that they be taken as read and confirmed as an accurate record of that meeting.

**Carried**

### **1.4 Public Participation**

There were no public participants at the meeting.

### **1.5 Items not on the Agenda**

There were no items not on the agenda.

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## **2. General Business**

### **2.1 2015-16 Annual Report**

(Councillor Foster joined the meeting at 09:24 am.)

Bede Kearney from Audit New Zealand advised the Committee that there 2015-16 Annual Report will receive an “unmodified” audit opinion.

Councillor Peck, Chair of the Audit and Risk Subcommittee, presented the report and thanked everyone involved in the production of the 2015-16 Annual Report.

(Councillor Ritchie left the meeting at 10:10 am.)

(Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 10:11 am.)  
(Councillor Ritchie left the meeting at 10:14 am.)  
(Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 10:16 am.)  
(Councillor Ritchie left the meeting at 10:22 am.)  
(Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 10:23 am.)

**Moved Councillor Peck, seconded Councillor Woolf**

**Resolved**

That the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Note that the Audit and Risk Subcommittee has reviewed the Financial Statements and Statements of Service Provision in detail.
3. Recommend to Council:
  - a. That the Accounting Policies contained in the draft Financial Statements (attached to the officers' report) are formally confirmed for adoption for the Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2016.
  - b. The adoption of the Financial Statements and Statements of Service Provision for Wellington City Council and Group within the Annual Report for the year ended 30 June 2016, subject to receiving final unmodified audit clearance from Audit New Zealand.
4. Recommend to Council the adoption of the Annual Report for Wellington City Council and Group for the year ended 30 June 2016 (attached in Attachment 1).
5. Recommend to Council that it delegate to the Chair of the Audit and Risk Subcommittee and Chief Executive the authority to make minor editorial changes that may arise as part of preparing the 2015/16 Annual Report document for publication.

**Carried**

The meeting adjourned for morning tea at 10:33 am.  
The meeting re-convened at 10:56 am.

The following Councillors were present:

Councillors Ahipene-Mercer, Free, Foster, Lee, Lester, Pannett, Peck, Sparrow and Young.

(Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 10:57 am.)  
(Councillor Marsh returned to the meeting at 10:57 am.)  
(Councillor Coughlan returned to the meeting at 10:58 am.)

## **2.2 Productivity Commission - Better Urban Planning Report**

(Councillor Ritchie left the meeting at 11:01 am.)

(Councillor Eagle returned to the meeting at 11:04 am.)

(Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 11:05 am.)

(Councillor Ritchie left the meeting at 11:18 am.)

(Councillor Ritchie returned to the meeting at 11:24am.)

### **Moved Councillor Foster, seconded Councillor Lester**

#### **Recommendations**

That the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Agree to the submission appended (as *Attachment 1*) to the officer's report on the draft report 'Better Urban Planning' from the Productivity Commission, **with the following additions:**
  - a) **Amend the response to Q7.2 to stress that Plan Changes are a key part of Council Policy making, that there is no evidence that Councillors cannot do a very good job in hearings, and that Council does use independent commissioners as part of hearings panels from time to time.**
3. Delegate to the Chair of the Transport and Urban Development Committee and the Chief Executive, the ability to approve any minor editorial changes to the submission.

### **Moved Councillor Pannett, seconded Councillor Lee, the following amendment, new 2 (b)-(e):**

That the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee:

2. **Agree to the submission appended (as *Attachment 1*) to the officer's report on the draft report 'Better Urban Planning' from the Productivity Commission, with the following additions:**
  - b) **That Council believes that existing appeal rights should be maintained and that the current role of the Environment Court be retained.**
  - c) **That Council raised concerns around the development of spatial plans in line with previous submissions to the Local Government Commission.**
  - d) **That Council believes that the built and natural environment and infrastructure needs to be considered in an integrated manner at a policy and legislative level and note that cities can provide rich habitats for wildlife.**
  - e) **That issues around the impact of climate change and sea level rise be emphasised more strongly in terms of the development of infrastructure.**

**Carried**

### **Moved Councillor Free, seconded Councillor Eagle, the following amendment, new 2(f)-(g):**

That the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee:

2. Agree to the submission appended (as *Attachment 1*) to the officer's report on the draft report 'Better Urban Planning' from the Productivity Commission, with the following additions:
  - f) **That the Council believes that better urban planning should recognise the rights of existing property owners and residents, and seeks to enhance amenity values.**
  - g) **That Council raises concerns around potential pricing mechanisms being applied to drinking water in line with Council policy.**

**Carried**

### **Resolved**

That the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee:

1. Receive the information.
2. Agree to the submission appended (as *Attachment 1*) to the officer's report on the draft report 'Better Urban Planning' from the Productivity Commission, with the following additions:
  - a) Amend the response to Q7.2 to stress that Plan Changes are a key part of Council Policy making, that there is no evidence that Councillors cannot do a very good job in hearings, and that Council does use independent commissioners as part of hearings panels from time to time.
  - b) That Council believes that existing appeal rights should be maintained and that the current role of the Environment Court be retained.
  - c) That Council raised concerns around the development of spatial plans in line with previous submissions to the Local Government Commission.
  - d) That Council believes that the built and natural environment and infrastructure needs to be considered in an integrated manner at a policy and legislative level and note that cities can provide rich habitats for wildlife.
  - e) That issues around the impact of climate change and sea level rise be emphasised more strongly in terms of the development of infrastructure.
  - f) That the Council believes that better urban planning should recognise the rights of existing property owners and residents, and seeks to enhance amenity values.
  - g) That Council raises concerns around potential pricing mechanisms being applied to drinking water in line with Council policy.
3. Delegate to the Chair of the Transport and Urban Development Committee and the Chief Executive, the ability to approve any minor editorial changes to the submission.

**Carried**

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### 3. Public Excluded

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#### Moved Councillor Lester, seconded Councillor Marsh

#### Resolved

That the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee :

Pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, exclude the public from the following part of the proceedings of this meeting namely:

General subject of the matter to be considered	Reasons for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under section 48(1) for the passing of this resolution
3.1 Health and Safety	7(2)(b)(ii) The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.	s48(1)(a) That the public conduct of this item would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding would exist under Section 7.

**Carried**

The meeting went into public excluded session at 11:53 am.

The meeting concluded at 11:59 am.

In accordance with clause 3.22.2 of Council's standing orders, we hereby confirm the correctness of the minutes of the last meeting of the Governance, Finance and Planning Committee held on 28 September 2016 prior to the next election of Wellington City Council.

Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

Confirmed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Executive Officer