

11. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GREATER CHRISTCHURCH URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE



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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to recommend the establishment of the UDS Implementation Committee (UDSIC) as a joint committee of the four partner Councils, and for each Council to then appoint their respective representatives to the Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Urban Development Strategy is in the process of being adopted by the partner Council's. That process will be completed by the 26 April 2007. After that date, the focus will be on implementation. Once each Council has resolved to adopt the strategy, implementation must commence to ensure strategy momentum is not lost. The proposal is to establish a joint committee to oversee strategy implementation (see Attachment 1 for Terms of Reference).

Committee Purpose and Role

3. The UDS Implementation Committee is being established to:
 - Oversee the implementation of the Strategy, in particular the actions for the next three years.
 - Take responsibility for progressing those actions specifically allocated to the "UDS Implementation Committee" in the Strategy and making sure the implementation does occur. The challenges here should not be underestimated. They often involve a different way of working and not just doing one's own thing.
 - Monitor progress against milestones.
 - Review and adjust the Strategy if circumstances change.
 - Ensure that the statements of intent of council owned companies as well as any other implementation agencies, are aligned to reflect the strategic directions and outcomes of the Strategy.
 - Identify and resolve any consultation inconsistencies between the Strategy and subsequent public consultation processes of the partner councils.
 - Implement actions through partner council policy instruments such as the proposed changes to the Regional Policy Statement, Regional and District Plans, Long Term Council Community Plans (LTCCP), Triennial Agreements, the Regional Land Transport Strategy review and partnerships between local government and other bodies such as health and education service providers.
 - Co-ordinate actions across the implementation agencies as needed to avoid inconsistencies. Partner councils should align with the Strategy, unless aspects are re-negotiated and agreed through the UDSIC.

Key Tasks

4. The Committee will have a range of tasks which include:
 - Updating the UDS Implementation Plan every third year as a basis for detailed growth management through agency plans (preceding LTCCP's being compiled).
 - For the implementation of all actions, developing appropriate methods and processes for community engagement that take into account the principles of collaboration and awareness
 - Understanding of issues as a foundation for agreement, commitment and action.
 - Translate into each action the continuing high levels of community awareness of growth management issues generated from the Strategy. This reflects the importance of community engagement in Strategy implementation. It helps enable the needs of special interest groups, such as elders and disabled, to be taken into account in actions.
 - Establish protocols to ensure that implementation of Strategy actions are consistent with the agreed communications Strategy
 - Reporting back to the strategy partner Councils on a regular basis

Constitution of Joint Committee

5. The UDS proposes a Joint implementation Committee of two elected Members from each of the partner Councils together with the respective Mayor and Regional Chair of the partner Councils, one representative of Tangata Whenua and an Independent Chair (non-elected member), with a total membership of 14. The proposal for the Tangata Whenua representative arose during the hearing of submissions and is the adopted recommendation from the Joint Hearings Panel.
6. It is proposed to be a formal joint committee constituted under Schedule 7 (Clause 30) of the Local Government Act 2002.
7. It is also proposed that the committee have the power to co-op two additional non-voting members from the Strategic Partner Forum when required for specific action-related issues to ensure effective strategy implementation. This membership would be temporary, for the period of time the issue was being considered or addressed.

Independent Chair

8. The implementation committee will be acting for the collective good of the partnership and on that basis equality of representation on the committee from the partners is an appropriate arrangement. It is also proposed that the committee be supported by an independent chair.
9. The independent chair proposal supports the equality in representation approach, provides an opportunity for the chair to guide the committee through the collaborative implementation processes and demonstrates to the community the confidence the partner Councils have in working together and in having a non elected person involved to assist with providing guidance and input.
10. The role of the independent chair is outlined in Attachment 2 as are the skills and attributes sought.
11. Action 6.28.4(2) of the draft strategy provides for the appointment of an independent chair by the Implementation Committee, on the recommendation of the Mayors and Regional Chairman.
12. The Mayors and Regional Chair have considered this matter and propose to recommend to the UDS Implementation Committee that Bill Wasley (current UDS Project Leader Governance) be appointed to the position for an initial period of one year as it is considered he meets the requirements for the independent chair role as outlined in the attachment. In addition the appointment allows continuity in respect of project involvement and direction, and utilises some of the experience and knowledge gained as a result of him fulfilling a similar role in respect of SmartGrowth implementation in the Western Bay of Plenty.

Administering Authority

13. The Chief Executives have agreed that the administering authority for the UDS will be the Christchurch City Council for the first year of implementation. It is proposed that this be reviewed prior to 1 May 2008.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

14. There are financial implications in establishing the UDSIC. The UDSIC will need to be supported financially and administratively. Funding of the UDSIC and the independent chair will be shared proportionally among the partners. Environment Canterbury and Christchurch City will each contribute 37.5% and Waimakariri and Selwyn District will contribute 12.5%.

Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2006-16 LTCCP budgets?

15. Yes. The UDSIC and the Independent Chair are funded within the budgets established for the Christchurch City 2007/08 Annual Plan.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

16. There are requirements within the Local Government Act 2002 regarding the constitution of joint committees.

Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

17. The UDSIC will be a formally constituted joint committee of Environment Canterbury, Selwyn District Council, Waimakariri District Council and Christchurch City Council under Schedule 7, clause 30 of the Local Government Act 2002.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

18. NA.

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?

19. Yes. The UDS has been a key part of the work programme within the City Development Activity Management Plan.

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

20. NA.

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

21. NA.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

22. NA.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended:

- (a) That pursuant to Clause 30, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, a joint Committee of the Christchurch City Council, Waimakariri District Council, Selwyn District Council and Environment Canterbury be established to implement the UDS and that the Committee have the terms of reference and membership as outlined in Attachment 1.
- (b) That two Councillors be appointed to the UDS Implementation Committee. (The membership arrangements contained in the approved UDS provide for the appointment of the Mayors and Regional Chair to the Committee as of right.)