

Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy

Report To: UDS Implementation Committee (UDSIC)
Subject: UDS Bi-Monthly Implementation Report
Report Author(s): Independent Chair & Implementation Manager
Report Date: 22 June, 2010
Reference to UDS: Effective Governance and Leadership

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide a bi-monthly update to the Committee on UDS implementation.

2. IMPLEMENTATION

2.1 RPS PC1

The Environment Court continues to prepare for hearing PC1 early next year. Judge Jackson has made a number of procedural decisions which set the stage for these hearings. Of concern is his decision to allow PC 45 in the city to be heard by the court ahead of PC1, see the risk profile below for more discussion.

The legal team acting for the partners is working extremely well, and under the leadership of Royden Somerville QC a large team of witnesses has been brought together to present the case for PC1.

The written evidence that was exchanged on August 27, and that from ECan and the other UDS partners will be made available to UDSIC members at the meeting.

2.2 Action Plan Update

(see separate agenda item)

2.3 UDS Conference/Event

UDSIMG has been considering ways in which to share the 'UDS story' with a wider local government and planning audience and thinks the idea of hosting a mini-conference in the middle of next year has merit.

We would like to continue to think through the logistics and appropriate subject matter before reporting to UDSIC in February with a substantive proposal.

2.4 Phase 2 Review: RMA 1991

The two reports due as part of the phase 2 RMA 1991 reforms still have yet to be made publicly available.

The Urban Technical Advisory Group (Urban TAG) is looking at how the RMA 1991 is working in urban areas. Part of their work will include the consideration of developer incentives which seek better urban design in the country's largest cities. Metropolitan urban limits policies will also be looked at. The Urban TAG's report was due to the Ministry for the Environment on 30 June 2010 but it is far from clear what is happening with it.

The Infrastructure Technical Advisory Group (Infrastructure TAG) is looking at the issues around having the right infrastructure 'in place at the right time' for supporting urban development. The Infrastructure TAG report was due 31 March 2010. Our understanding is that this report has gone to the Minister but has not yet been released to the public.

2.5 End of the Triennium

This meeting marks the last meeting of the UDSIC for this triennium, the first full triennium implementing the UDS.

Despite a sometimes bumpy path, in general we have come a long way since 2007. PC1 has progressed well, and significant achievements have been made towards achieving the UDS vision, as well as more specifically implementing the UDS Action Plan.

Certainly, the last three years have demonstrated to us both that the benefits of partnership far outweigh the cost that would result from falling back into old behaviours.

2.6 The Election Break

Over the break for the local government elections it seems sensible that the Independent Chair and the Implementation Manager continue act on matters of UDS importance as they would throughout the triennium and report to UDSIC in 2011 on any significant activity. During the break we will liaise with Chief Executives.

We would also like the opportunity to brief incoming councils on UDS issues as part of the normal induction process following the local government elections in October 2010.

2.7 Risk Profile

There are several key risks which this implementation phase of the project faces between now and the end of 2008:

Nature of Risk	Probability ¹	Impact	Comment
Adequate and consistent resourcing in a timely manner. This covers both purely budgetary and staff resourcing. (CEAG to address risk in the first instance)	2(2)	5	Budgets are on track for the remainder of 09/10. Budgets have been adjusted for 10/11 to account for partnership costs of defending PC1 in the Environment Court
Failing to successfully implement, in a form intended by the UDS partners, the growth management strategy through	5 (6)	10	The PC1 legal team continues to build our case and prepare for PC1 hearings in the

¹ Rankings for both Probability and Impact are between 1 = low and 10 = high; Bracketed is previous

Nature of Risk	Probability ¹	Impact	Comment
the Regional Policy Statement.			beginning of 2011. Partners should have confidence that this work is progressing well.
Private Plan changes undermining RPS and UDS	8(5)	3-9	Private Plan Changes are a significant threat to establishing the land form sought through PC1. The Environment Court's to hear Christchurch City Plan Change 45 in advance of PC1 is extremely troubling, and a strong legal response is required.
Inconsistent communications/ Lack of alignment	3(3)	3	Ongoing work on social marketing and branding will need monitoring for alignment as it matures.
Government Engagement alignment	2(5)	5	A consistent approach will need to be adopted in the new triennium to make further progress on significant infrastructure issues.

2.8 Future Agenda Items

UDSIC will be brought together in February, 2011. At that time likely agenda items will be the 2011 work programme as well as updates on what has occurred during the break.

3. RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 *That the monthly report of the Independent Chair and Implementation Manager be received.*
- 3.2 *That UDSIMG report to the UDSIC in February 2011 with a proposal to hold a conference on the UDS in 2011.*
- 3.3 *That UDSIC request the Independent Chair and the Implementation Manager to act on matters of UDS importance during the election break, in liaison with Chief Executives and report to UDSIC in 2011 on any significant activity.*
- 3.4 *That UDSIC request Independent Chair and the Implementation Manager to brief incoming councils on the UDS as part of the normal induction process following the local government elections in October 2010.*
- 3.3 *That the next meeting of the UDSIC be held in February 2011 at a venue to be advised.*

Bill Wasley - Independent Chair
James Caygill - Implementation Manager