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Committee Wellington Regional Strategy  
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## Ministry of Social Development - Regional Plan 2007/08

### 1. Purpose

To inform the Committee of the linkages between the Ministry of Social Development's regional plan "Leading Social Development – A plan for Wellington 2007 /2008" and the Wellington Regional Strategy (WRS).

### 2. Significance of the decision

The matters for decision in this report **do not** trigger the significance policy of the Council or otherwise trigger section 76(3)(b) of the Local Government Act 2002.

### 3. Background

The Ministry of Social Development (MSD) has recently released its regional plan "Leading Social Development – A plan for Wellington 2007 /2008".

The WRS process highlighted the importance of social capital and human capital to the region and therefore the MSD document is very relevant to aspects of the WRS thinking.

A copy of the MSD document "Leading Social Development – A plan for Wellington 2007 /2008" is circulated with this report for your information.

### 4. Regional Plan Contents

#### 4.1 Agenda for action

The Government's key priorities for the next decade are identified as Families – Young and Old, Economic Transformation and National Identity.

MSD is the lead agency for progressing Families - Young and Old, and works closely with other government agencies to contribute towards Economic Transformation and National Identity.

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Families - Young and Old contains five key themes:

- strong families
- healthy, confident kids
- better health for all
- strong and safe communities
- positive ageing.

These themes are largely inter-connected and success in one is identified as\* reliant on progress in the others.

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To successfully achieve the outcomes of Families - Young and Old, a holistic approach is recognised as required. This is consistent with findings of the WRS process over the inter-connections and interdependencies at work across the region around prosperity and quality of life issues.

MSD is charged with leading and contributing to work under Strong Families and Positive Ageing. The Ministry's vision around this is of:

"...an inclusive New Zealand where all people are able to participate in the social and economic life of their communities".

The Wellington Regional Plan reflects MSD's *Statement of Intent 2007/2008*<sup>1</sup> which establishes an outcome framework focusing attention on six key outcome areas:

- Leading social development
- Children and young people
- Working-age people
- Older people
- Families, whānau
- Communities, hapū and iwi.

The manner in which these are to be achieved are set out in more detail in the "Leading Social Development – A plan for Wellington 2007 /2008" document.

## 4.2 Links To WRS Action Items

The Wellington Regional Strategy includes a range of principles at page 56 including "shared benefit", "collaboration", "tangata whenua" and "benefits and supports local communities". As a consequence the WRS has a strong social and community ethic woven into it.

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<sup>1</sup> *Safe families, successful communities, strong New Zealand: Statement of Intent 2007/2008*, Ministry of Social Development.

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To the extent that a scoping of central government policy agendas informed the WRS development process it is anticipated that the WRS principles should provide a good basis for alignment with the MSD objectives and specific initiatives.

One of the main vehicles for this occurring will be via the Wellington Regional Labour Market Strategy elements (page 31 June 2007 final version of WRS).

The Regional Plan complements the WRS through providing a suite of specific initiatives which will be lead under the auspices of MSD, and go beyond the brief set under the WRS. Ongoing alignment of activity is to be achieved via operational level officer channels (i.e. the WRS office function, SORT and the CEG).

## 5. Communication

No specific communication response is needed on the material canvassed in this report.

## 6. Recommendations

*That the Committee:*

1. **Receives** the report.
2. **Notes** the contents of the report.

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