

**Report** 15.272  
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**Committee** Wellington Regional Strategy Committee  
**Author** Peter Biggs, Chair, Wellington Regional Economic Development Agency (WREDA)

## **WREDA's proposed final Statement of Intent (SOI) for 2015/16**

### **Purpose**

- 1 To receive WREDA's proposed final SOI for 2015/16 and to identify any matters for consideration by the WREDA Board.

### **Background**

- 2 WREDA is a council controlled organisation owned by Wellington City Council (80%) and Greater Wellington Regional Council (20%).
- 3 WREDA was established in December 2014, combining Positively Wellington Tourism, Positively Wellington Venues and Grow Wellington/Creative HQ. Major Events from Wellington City Council will be transferred to WREDA in October following the arrival of the new Chief Executive in early September.
- 4 The drafting of the SOI has taken place in an environment where the CEO has yet to start, the business units are still operating largely as separate units. While a lot of progress has been made a number of major decisions will await the arrival of the CEO.

### **Legal Requirement for a SOI**

- 5 Section 64 of the Local Government Act 2002 (the Act) requires WREDA to have a SOI which sets out the nature and scope of the activities WREDA intends to undertake over the next three years.
- 6 This SOI for 2015/16 covers the financial and governance aspects of WREDA, including Grow Wellington/ Creative HQ, Tourism and Major Events (currently within WCC).
- 7 Schedule 8 of the Act sets out the requirements for a SOI.
- 8 At their meeting in April the WRS Committee endorsed the process whereby they would receive the draft SOI which satisfied the minimum statutory

requirements, with more detailed consideration being delayed until the availability of the proposed final SOI.

- 9 At their meeting in February the WRS Committee approved a Letter of Expectation (*refer Attachment 1*); the proposed final SOI also includes WREDA's responses to this.

### **Progress to date**

- 10 There have been a number of stages involved in the production of this proposed final SOI; in summary these are:
- Strategy day with the Board, management and shareholders in January
  - Plan on a Page produced
  - Presentation of the Plan on a Page to the WRS Committee
  - Series of strategy sessions between CEOs and Directors
  - WRS Committee/WREDA strategy day

### **Looking forward**

- 11 The WREDA Board at their meeting on 18 June will approve the proposed final SOI for release to the WRS Committee. The proposed final SOI will be then uploaded onto the GWRC website on Friday 19 June and also sent to the WRS Committee.
- 12 Any comments raised by the WRS Committee on 23 June will be considered by the Board for incorporation into the final SOI. In addition, it is suggested that any comments from members of the WRS Committee following the meeting could be sent to the Chair (of the WRS Committee) for collation and given to WREDA. If this could occur by 26 June it will allow time for the WREDA Board to consider these for the final SOI and still deliver it to the shareholders by 30 June.

### **Communication**

- 13 Once the proposed final SOI has been agreed and finalised by the Board it will be sent to the members of the WRS Committee.
- 14 The final SOI will be delivered to the shareholders by 30 June.

### **The decision-making process and significance**

- 15 Part 6 of the Local Government Act requires Greater Wellington Regional Council to consider the significance of the decision. The term 'significance' as a statutory definition set out in the Act.

Officers have considered the significance of the matter, taking the Council's significance policy and decision-making guidelines into account. Officers recommend that the matter be considered to have low significance. Officers do not consider that a formal record outlining consideration of the

decision-making process is required in this instance.

16      **Recommendations**

*That the Committee:*

1.      ***Receives and notes*** the contents of the report.
2.      ***Provides*** any comments on the proposed final WREDA Statement of Intent 2015/16, for consideration by the WREDA Board.

**Report prepared by:**

**Peter Biggs**

**Chair, WREDA**

**Attachment 1: Letter of Expectation**

**Attachment 2: WREDA proposed final SOI for 2015/16 (to come)**