
REPORT 5
(1215/12/IM)

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT BACK

1. Purpose of Report

This report provides the Board with information about matters of interest to the Tawa Community.

2. Recommendations

Officers recommend that the Community Board:

- 1. Receives the information.*

3. Summary

The monthly report on general matters is attached as Appendix 1.

Contact Officer: *Neil Cherry, Chief Financial Officer*

Centres Policy

The Centres Policy was approved by Council on 29 August 2008. Although the Board did not submit on the Policy there was some discussion at the August Board meeting on the implications and effect of the Policy on the Tawa Community. As identified the purpose of the Policy is to provide clear guidelines on how Wellington's centres should be managed and developed in the future. The policy considers, in an integrated way, the important and varied roles of the specifically identified centres and how the Council can best support and strengthen these. The Centres Policy replaces the Retail Strategy (2003), which previously considered retail only from an economic perspective.

Under the Council's Centres Policy Tawa has been identified as a Town Centre within the developed hierarchy. Karori, Miramar and Newtown are the other Town Centres identified in the Policy. The hierarchy of centres framework has been introduced to provide guidance on the centre's role and function and to assist in assessing the appropriateness of proposed future developments. In accordance with the Policy the future role and function of a Town Centre has been identified as:

- servicing one or more suburbs
- large retail offer (ie between 10,000 - 20,000m² floorspace)
- anchored by traditional main street, with at least one or more large supermarket and a range of retail goods
- some civic or government services
- employment node
- range of community facilities
- residential uses above ground floor
- recreational and entertainment activities
- medium-scale professional office uses
- high level of pedestrian activity on main street
- very good accessibility by public transport
- on-street and off-street parking

A copy of the detailed Centre's Policy will be circulated to members of the Board under separate cover.

Consultation Document – Cycling Policy

The Council has issued for public comment and consultation a draft Cycling Policy. The draft Policy aims to improve the safety and convenience of cycling and cycling facilities throughout the city. The draft policy supports the Council's environmental outcomes and strategies. The key objectives of the draft Policy are:

- To improve cycle safety throughout Wellington
- To improve convenience of cycling in Wellington
- To improve the experience of cycle trips to and from the central area

APPENDIX 1

- To improve the experience of cycling trips made to and from suburban centres
- To improve the experience of cycling trips made to and from educational centres
- To improve the experience of cycling trips made for recreation.

The primary focus of the draft Policy is to make cycling in Wellington a safe and convenient travel mode. The draft Policy does not actively seek to increase cycling numbers until the cycling environment is improved.

The draft Policy sets out a number of policies, priorities and actions. Given the nature and extent of cycling within or to and from Tawa it is recommended that the Board carefully consider the draft Policy and whether it meets the needs of the Tawa Community. The draft Policy has been circulated under separate cover to the Board. Consultation on the draft Policy closes on 22 September 2008.

Consultation Document – Walking Policy

The Council has issued for public comment and consultation a draft Walking Policy. The draft Policy aims to ensure Wellingtonians see walking as a safe, viable and useful transport mode for all types of trips that they may undertake. The draft policy supports the Council's environmental outcomes and strategies. The key objectives of the draft Policy are:

- To promote the benefits of walking and encourage more people to walk
- To improve pedestrian safety throughout the city
- To improve the experience of those walking through or about the central area
- To improve the experience of those walking to or from public transport stops
- To increase the number of commuter trips taken by foot to and from the central area
- To increase the number of short walking trips to and from suburban centres
- To increase the number of short walking trips to and from educational centres.

A key focus of the draft Policy is road safety and addressing the potential conflict between vehicles and pedestrians. The draft Policy seeks to promote "walking for a purpose" such as the trip to work, and to encourage walking trips that would otherwise be taken by car.

The draft Policy sets out a number of policies, priorities and actions. Given the nature and extent of walking within or to and from Tawa transport stops it is recommended that the Board carefully consider the draft Policy and whether it meets the needs of the Tawa Community. The draft Policy has been circulated under separate cover to the Board. Consultation on the draft Policy closes on 22 September 2008.

Wellington City Council's Long Term Council Community Plan: 2009/10 – 2018/19

The Council is currently in the early stages of planning and developing the draft Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) for the 2009/10 – 2018/19 period. Given discussions on the topic at previous Board meetings and the current development of the Tawa Community Plan the following update is aimed at keeping the Board informed on key developments.

On 2 September 2008 the Council held an initial workshop on the development on the LTCCP. The primary focus of the workshop was on establishing the strategic context for the new LTCCP. To this end the workshop focused on:

- progress made over the last three years against the strategy framework
- high level strategic trends influencing council priorities and strategies (including, climate change, demographic change, political change and affordability impacts)
- the approach, process and timeframes for the development of the LTCCP.

The key future milestones for the development of the LTCCP include:

- September workshop – detailed review of current strategies and determination of high level priorities
- November / December workshops – review of proposed activities, service levels, asset plans to deliver on priorities
- February 2009 – agreement in principle to draft activities before community consultation

In principle, it is proposed that the Council retain the existing Community Outcomes and strategy areas. The significance of this is that the current framework can continue to be used by the Board in the development of Tawa Community Plan. Further, it would be desirable if the Board aligned its focus and work effort with the Council's Strategy areas.

As part of the development of the next LTCCP the Council will consider a range of innovative consultation and engagement techniques at critical points throughout the development of the draft LTCCP itself. As this progressive consultation will naturally encompass the Tawa community I will continue to report back to the Board on the Council's LTCCP process.