
APPOINTMENT OF ELECTED MEMBERS TO VARIOUS ROLES

1. Purpose of Report

To approve Council representation on and appointments to the Quality Partnership with Greater Wellington and Stagecoach and the Taxi Working Party, and to agree to authorise appropriate persons to administer minor changes to suburb boundaries.

2. Executive Summary

In the past, Council has been represented on a number of bodies that it has involvement with through membership or the provision of a strategic partnership. Council's membership on the Quality Partnership and Taxi Working Party has lapsed. In addition the persons authorised to approve minor suburb boundary changes need to be agreed.

3. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Strategy and Policy Committee:

1. *Receive the information.*
2. *Recommend that Council appoint one elected member representative to the Quality Partnership between Wellington City Council, Greater Wellington and Stagecoach.*
3. *Recommend that Council appoint the Mayor or her nominated alternate to be the Chair of the Taxi Working Party.*
4. *Agree that the Councillors appointed to these forums will report back to the relevant standing committee on a six-monthly basis.*
5. *Recommend that Council authorise the Portfolio Spokesperson: Urban Development and the Manager of Knowledge Solutions to approve minor changes to suburb boundaries. Where an extensive area is affected or there is a proposal to change a suburb name, the issue is to be referred to the Strategy and Policy Committee.*

4. Discussion

4.1 Quality Partnership Agreement

Since 1998 the Council has had a “Quality Partnership” with the Regional Council and Stagecoach. This provides for the parties to contribute to improving the quality of bus services in Wellington city, with the objective of increasing annual ridership.

In 1998 the Council approved a Quality Partnership Agreement (QPA) jointly with the Wellington Regional Council and Stagecoach Wellington. The QPA ran for a 5 year period through to the end of 2002 and set out a number of aims and objectives of the partners and also listed a number of projects and programmes to which the partners expected to contribute.

The parties met at roughly 3 monthly intervals. The City Council was represented usually by two councillors with relevant officers. Two councillors also represented Greater Wellington, with Directors of both Stagecoach and Mana Coach Services attending. The meetings provided a useful forum for discussing developments and specific projects. Since the first agreement, Mana Coach Services has been invited to join the group, and represents the Mana/Newlands operations.

In April 2003 the City Infrastructure Committee agreed to and adopted the Quality Partnership Agreement 2003-2007 and the chair of the City Infrastructure Committee (Cr Hutchings) was appointed to represent the Wellington City Council on this forum. It is proposed that Council appoint one elected member to the Partnership

4.2 Taxi Working Party

The Taxi Working Party was designed to develop a more organised way of communication with the industry and to improve on the negative perception of the Council by members of the industry. The intention was to form a core representation from the industry which would discuss primarily operational issues but also potentially talk about more strategic matters. Examples of the issues to be discussed were:

- How Council carries out its enforcement
- Interpretation of legislation and Court decisions
- Location of current taxi stands
- Minor changes to existing stands
- Possible location of new stands
- Use of loading zones, bus stops as taxi stands

The first meeting of the Taxi Working Party took place in September 2001, chaired by an independent Chair. The meeting had a wide ranging discussion and agreed on 5 representatives from the industry who would attend future meetings on behalf of the 30 or so companies. Then further meetings were held and some progress made. Much of the discussion however, took place on higher level policy matters e.g. re-regulation of the industry, when the focus had been intended to be on more practical operational matters.

In 2003, following a request from Councillor Wade-Brown, the City Infrastructure Committee asked for a report on the possible establishment of a quality partnership agreement with the taxi industry in Wellington. This was reported to the Committee in 2004, and outlined the history of Council's relationship with the industry and looked at options for future relations with the industry. It was resolved to establish the Taxi Working Party with a small group representing the industry interest and Council officers from Parking Services and Roading, Traffic and Transportation, to meet approximately six monthly and to be chaired by the chair of the City Infrastructure Committee, with other members of the Committee able to attend.

It is proposed that Council appoint an elected member to chair this group, in order to continue the work of the Taxi Working Party. It is proposed that the Mayor, as the Portfolio Spokesperson: Transport, be the Council's representative, and that she be given the authority to appoint a nominee to attend when she cannot attend meetings.

4.3 Minor Suburb Boundary Changes

Suburb boundaries were reviewed and updated by Council in 2003. At the time Council agreed that if there were any minor changes to suburb boundaries to be made, the Chair, Built and Natural Environment Committee and the Manager, City Information together would be authorised to approve these minor changes. A minor change would have included where a new subdivision extended over a suburb boundary and would have generally involved only three or four homes. However if a more extensive area was affected, it was agreed that the issue would be referred to the Committee. It was also agreed that if there were any proposals to rename a suburb, these would also be referred to the Built and Natural Environment Committee.

It is proposed that Council authorise an elected member (in this case, the Portfolio Spokesperson: Urban Development) to approve minor changes to suburb boundaries, along with the Manager of Knowledge Solutions. However, as before, where an extensive area is affected or there is a proposal to change a suburb name, this matter will be referred to the Strategy and Policy Committee.

5. Conclusion

It is recommended that the Strategy and Policy Committee recommend the appointment of an elected member to represent the Council on the Quality Partnership with Greater Wellington and Stagecoach, recommend the appointment of the Mayor or her nominated alternate to be the Chair of the Taxi Working Party, and recommend that the Portfolio Spokesperson: Urban Development and the Manager of Knowledge Solutions be authorised to approve minor changes to suburb boundaries.

Contact Officer: *Democratic Services.*

Supporting Information
<p>1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome <i>This project supports objective 9.2 City decision-making:</i></p>
<p>2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact <i>Relates to C534: Committee and Council process</i></p>
<p>3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations <i>There are no Treaty of Waitangi implications</i></p>
<p>4) Decision-Making <i>This is not a significant decision</i></p>
<p>5) Consultation a) General Consultation b) Consultation with Maori <i>Not required</i></p>
<p>6) Legal Implications <i>There are no legal implications</i></p>
<p>7) Consistency with existing policy <i>This report is consistent with existing Wellington City Council policy</i></p>