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**REPORT 8**  
*(1215/52/IM)*

## **CLIMATE CHANGE WORKING PARTY: INVITATION TO WAITAKERE CITY**

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### **1. Purpose of Report**

To seek the Committee's agreement that Cr Wade-Brown, Chair of the Climate Change Working Party, and Cr Ahipene-Mercer travel to Waitakere City at the invitation of Mayor Bob Harvey to learn about its sustainability initiatives.

### **2. Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Note that the Mayor of Waitakere City, Bob Harvey, invited Cr Ahipene-Mercer, the Director of Policy and the Council's Energy Manager to Waitakere City to learn about Waitakere's sustainability initiatives.*
- 3. Note that the Climate Change Working Party recommended that Cr Wade-Brown should also attend the visit.*
- 4. Agree that Cr Wade-Brown and Cr Ahipene-Mercer accept Mayor Bob Harvey's invitation to visit Waitakere City and that a report on the visit be made to the Climate Change Working Party.*

### **3. Background**

Councillor Ahipene-Mercer, the Director of Policy and the Council's Energy Manager attended the *Accelerating Now* Conference in Melbourne in early May 2007. The Conference brought together leaders in local government from the Oceania region to discuss how local councils can strengthen their capacity for effective sustainable action. At the Conference, the Mayor of Waitakere City, Bob Harvey, invited Cr Ahipene-Mercer and the two Council delegates to visit Waitakere City to learn more about Waitakere's sustainability initiatives. Mayor Harvey's office recently confirmed the visit date of Tuesday, 14 August with Council officers.

The invitation from Mayor Harvey was discussed at the Climate Change Working Party ('the Working Party') on Thursday, 2 August. The Working Party recommended that Cr Wade-Brown join Cr Ahipene-Mercer in her capacity as the Environmental Portfolio Leader and as Chair of the Working Party.

#### **4. Discussion**

Waitakere City Council has demonstrated leadership in its commitment to sustainable development. A visit to Waitakere City by a delegation of councillors and officers will contribute to the development of the Council's Climate Change Work Programme. It is recommended that the Committee agree that Cr Wade-Brown and Cr Ahipene-Mercer accept Mayor Bob Harvey's invitation to visit Waitakere City. The travel expenses for Cr Wade-Brown and Cr Ahipene-Mercer are \$1,116 and this will be funded from the elected members travel budget. John McGrath, Director of Policy, and Dave Campbell, Energy Manager, will be travelling to Waitakere with the councillors.

#### **5. Conclusion**

This report is seeking the Committee's agreement for Cr Wade-Brown and Cr Ahipene-Mercer to accept an invitation from Mayor Bob Harvey to visit Waitakere City.

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<b>Supporting Information</b>
<p><b>1) Strategic Fit / Strategic Outcome</b>  <i>This report relates directly to two of the long-term outcomes from the Environmental Strategy as reflected in the LTCCP:</i></p> <p><b>4.5 More Sustainable:</b> <i>Wellington will reduce its environmental impact by making efficient use of energy, water, land and other resources; shifting towards renewable energy resources; conserving resources; and minimising waste.</i></p> <p><b>2.3 More Sustainable:</b> <i>Wellington will minimise the environmental effects of transport and support the environmental strategy.</i></p> <p><i>In addition, this report addresses one of the four three-year priorities from the Environmental Strategy as reflected in the LTCCP:</i></p> <p><b><i>“We will increase our promotion of water and energy efficiency and conservation, energy security, and the use of renewable energy sources, and we will take a more active leadership role in these areas.”</i></b></p>
<p><b>2) LTCCP/Annual Plan reference and long term financial impact</b>  <i>This report has no financial implications.</i></p>
<p><b>3) Treaty of Waitangi considerations</b>  <i>This report has no Treaty implications.</i></p>
<p><b>4) Decision-Making</b>  <i>This report does not require a significant decision to be made.</i></p>
<p><b>5) Consultation</b></p> <p><b>a) General Consultation</b>  <i>No consultation was sought for this paper.</i></p> <p><b>b) Consultation with Maori</b>  <i>No consultation was sought for this paper.</i></p>
<p><b>6) Legal Implications</b>  <i>There are no legal implications for this paper.</i></p>
<p><b>7) Consistency with existing policy</b>  <i>This report is consistent with the Council’s outcomes and priorities.</i></p>