

S O L G M

NZ SOCIETY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT MANAGERS



Strategic Planning Working Party Newsletter # 2 – May 2008

The Working Party met by conference call on 16 May. The business discussed is summarized below.

Community Planning Conference 2008 and Introduction to the LTCCP

The WP got an update on the development of the programme for the Conference. This is shaping up well. The Conference will be held at the Holiday Inn, Christchurch on Monday 11 and Tuesday 12 August. It will be a 1 ½ rather than a full 2 day programme.

The Steering Group for the Community Plan Conference had been asked to look at ways to cater within the conference programme for both experienced strategic planning staff and for newcomers wanting more introductory level material about the LTCCP and related processes.

The proposal from the SG is that this be done by running a ½ day introduction to the LTCCP programme designed for new local authority staff. Subject to there being sufficient numbers this would be held on the afternoon of Sunday 10 August immediately preceding the Community Plan Conference. The WP agreed with this approach.

The aim is to allow scope for people to attend either or both of the two related events depending upon their needs and interests

Expect the final programmes to be released during the first week of June. This will be published at: http://www.solgm.org.nz/tools/events/list.aspx?SECT=Business_School_Events and notified on relevant listservs.

Independent Inquiry into Rating

The WP was briefed on the SOLGM and LGNZ's involvement with the ongoing Government policy processes to make decisions on the numerous recommendations made by the Inquiry.

Taking a Sustainable Development Approach and the 2009 LTCCP

The WP got an update on work in progress towards the planned guide. This is intended to be a fairly short and snappy supplement to the "2009 and Beyond" series about how an underlying SD approach might manifest itself in the 2009-19 LTCCP, rather than a comprehensive guide about SD. Suggestions were sought for other people from the sector who might be well placed to contribute to the project. Anyone interested please contact dmackay@solgm.org.nz.

Community Outcomes Guide

The WP was briefed on the difficulties we were having getting the team back together during Annual Plan season. The WP discussed the scope of the guide and confirmed that it sees a guide with a focus primarily on the working to advance CO.s and monitoring as timely. We still aim to complete this for release ahead of the Community Planning Conference in August.

There has been some attrition of the original project team. Anyone who would like to contribute to this work please contact Raymond Horan rhoran@solgm.org.nz

2009 and Beyond For Decision Makers

Raymond reported on the “2009 for Decision-Makers” seminar series. Attendance had been disappointing in some areas of the country but feedback had been extremely positive.

An offer is currently on the table to hold an additional seminar for the 45 South (aka “Highlanders”) Branch area, if there is sufficient interest. Anyone from an Otago or Southland (or event from further afield) who believes their elected members would be interested should contact Raymond Horan rhoran@solgm.org.nz a.s.a.p. if they have not already done so.

DIA Community Outcomes Workshop – 4 April

The WP was briefed on the session which SOLGM contributed to the workshop. Copies of the presentations are available at:

http://www.dia.govt.nz/copwebsite.nsf/wpg_URL/Community-Outcomes-Process-News-&-Events-News-&-Events?OpenDocument

Monitoring Sustainable Development

SOLGM has been approached to nominate a person to be part of an advisory panel for a Statistics New Zealand project in this area. An individual was identified who will be approached about this role.

Climate Change Adaptation

The WP remains keen to assess whether there is a need for guidance for local authority on this area. This will require an assessment to be made of what is already in the market and whether there is a gap that needs to be addressed. We are keen to hear from people who are involved in developing responses to climate change for their local authorities who may be able to assist us in making this assessment. Anyone who is interested please contact Don Mackay dmackay@solgm.org.nz

Feedback and Offers of Assistance

Are always welcomed. Contact dmackay@solgm.org.nz