

Attachment 2

SmartGrowth and Central Government Spatial Plan Partnership - Memorandum of Understanding

Establishing the principles and approach to the creation of an enduring spatial plan partnership between Central Government and the SmartGrowth partners (Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Tauranga City Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council and tāngata whenua)

Section 1 - Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") is to:

Establish the principles and approach to the creation of an enduring spatial plan partnership between Central Government and the SmartGrowth partners (Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Tauranga City Council, Western Bay of Plenty District Council and tāngata whenua¹).

Section 2 - Parties

The Parties to this MOU are Central Government, western Bay of Plenty sub-region tāngata whenua, the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Tauranga City Council and Western Bay of Plenty District Council.

Section 3 - General Principles

The parties to this MOU will use best endeavours to:

SUPPORT the aim of the spatial plan partnership to develop a thriving western Bay of Plenty sub-region that is prosperous, has high levels of sustainable economic growth, supports affordable housing and a transport system that can support that growth.

SUPPORT a four well-being approach to urban growth and spatial planning which incorporates cultural, economic, environmental and social well-being and builds on the SmartGrowth 'live, learn, work and play' vision.

COMMIT to the shared purpose and outcomes as outlined in this MOU while assisting each other to achieve individual partner objectives.

REINFORCE an integrated planning approach incorporating land use, all infrastructure and funding.

AGREE to build on the existing SmartGrowth work, including the 2013 Strategy, outcomes from Urban Form and Transport Initiative, and the general SmartGrowth arrangements already in place.²

ADOPT a shared evidence base so that all parties are using common data.

¹ This is a reference to western Bay of Plenty sub-region tāngata whenua.

² SmartGrowth Leadership Group membership, functions and procedures are dealt with through a different process, namely a Joint Agreement under Clause 30A, Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION AND ADOPTION, recognise and support the existing Urban Form and Transport Initiative ("UFTI") which will underpin the development of a joint sub-regional spatial plan.

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ACKNOWLEDGE the benefits of a collaborative approach to urban growth and spatial planning, and to share responsibility for such planning between the parties in consultation with key sector groups and the sub-regional community.

AGREE to six-monthly reporting to the SmartGrowth Leadership Group on implementation of the principles and achievement of the outcomes as set out in this MOU.

ACKNOWLEDGE that this partnership is part of a wider Government Urban Growth Agenda initiative.

SUPPORT the economic and social aspirations of tāngata whenua while protecting cultural identity.

SUSTAIN and IMPROVE the natural environment.

Section 4 – Outcomes

The outcomes sought from the urban growth partnership are to:

- Commit to the development and implementation of a joint, comprehensive sub-regional spatial plan. The first phase to be completed by June 2020 concentrates on an integration of the current UFTI and spatial planning work. Phase 2, that is likely to be completed by the end of 2020 will also encompass the Future Development Strategy as well as an update of the 2013 SmartGrowth Strategy. The aim is to develop in two phases a single strategic document for the western Bay of Plenty sub-region, which is implemented through co-governance arrangements. Engagement and consultation will occur as part of this process. It is likely that formal consultation will take place at the end of Phase 2.
- Wherever practicable commit to the development and implementation of an agreed investment and funding plan that is co-governed across all partner agencies, to enable timely implementation of the outcomes arising from the Urban Form and Transport Initiative, and the agreed joint spatial plan as outlined above.
- Take account of the Western Bay Transport System Plan findings.
- Commit to examining the opportunities for the development of an inter-regional collaboration between the SmartGrowth and Future Proof partnerships, with the strategic intent to have a joint Auckland-Hamilton-Tauranga corridor approach to spatial planning, particularly relating to transportation noting that where appropriate this initiative will also include any other authorities where agreed.
- Subject to financial analysis Invest in all agreed infrastructure, together, through innovative funding and financing tools.
- Work together on improving the quality of the built and natural environments.
- Ensure that tāngata whenua are adequately resourced to effectively engage in the partnership and the key outcomes.
- Advance planning reform, through legislation and local planning instruments, to encourage growth both up and out.
- Commit, where possible, to supporting the development aspirations of Maori landowners for housing and other economic initiatives.
- Undertake joined up central and local government thinking, funding and commitments, including greater co-ordination of service delivery.
- Maintain a focus to ensure that housing affordability remains top of mind through all initiatives.
- Commit to funding the operation of the enhanced SmartGrowth partnership.

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Section 5 – Next Steps

The parties to this MOU will use best endeavours to implement the spatial planning partnership by:

SUPPORTING an expansion of the SmartGrowth Leadership Group to include Central Government representatives.

COMMITTING to a review of tāngata whenua representation to ensure this is appropriate and comprehensive and will allow for meaningful contribution.

NOMINATING representatives to participate in SmartGrowth structures at all levels.

ALLOCATING sufficient resources to enable the partnership to deliver the outcomes.

COMMITTING to completing a draft of the joint spatial plan no later than June 2020.

COMMITTING to agreeing a draft joint transformational urban growth – spatial planning programme no later than June 2020.

COMMITTING to investigating the establishment of an urban growth partnership fund where applications can be made for funding transformational projects on an annual basis.

Section 6 - Interpretation

- SmartGrowth partners refers to the Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Tauranga City Council, the Western Bay of Plenty District Council and tāngata whenua. It also includes the New Zealand Transport Agency and the Bay of Plenty District Health Board as non-voting partners. This membership is subject to review from time to time.
- Central Government refers to all Government ministries and agencies.
- Joint spatial plan refers to a plan that is agreed by central government, local government partners and tāngata whenua and implementation partners
- SmartGrowth means the western Bay of Plenty Spatial Plan 2013 as approved by the three partner Councils and tāngata whenua and supported by strategic partners.
- The SmartGrowth Leadership Group is the joint governance committee responsible for overseeing the SmartGrowth Strategy.
- The western Bay of Plenty sub-region refers to all of the land within the administrative areas of Tauranga City and the Western Bay of Plenty District and includes that part of the administrative area of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council as it relates to the two districts.

Any questions of interpretation of this MOU are to be raised with the parties to this MOU and collectively resolved. The parties agree to act in good faith in respect of implementing this MOU.

This MOU will run until the next review or update of the SmartGrowth Strategy, or alternatively no later than October 2022.

This MOU takes effect on the date it is signed by all parties.

SIGNED for and on behalf of Central Government by:

SIGNED for and on behalf of Central Government by:

SIGNED for and on behalf of the Tāngata Whenua by:

SIGNED for and on behalf of the Bay of Plenty Regional Council by:

Buddy Mikaere

Doug Leeder
Chair Bay of Plenty Regional Council

SIGNED for and on behalf of the Tauranga City Council:

SIGNED for and on behalf of the Western Bay of Plenty District Council:

Tenby Powell
Mayor Tauranga City Council

Garry Webber
Mayor Western Bay of Plenty District Council

Dated: