

RESEARCH BRIEFS AND PROJECT PLANS FOR THE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ASPECT OF THE SMARTGROWTH UPDATE

The following research will be undertaken to assist SmartGrowth in defining its role in relation to social outcomes and as much as possible to ensure SmartGrowth actions positively impact on social outcomes. The projects are staged so that the first two projects which define SmartGrowth's role in social outcomes, including social infrastructure, informs the social impact assessment.

Stage 1 - Research Brief – Best Practice Strategies to Improve Social Outcomes in the Context of Growth Management

Background

The existing SmartGrowth Strategy makes reference to aspects of social outcomes in the 'Enhanced Lifestyles' section, in particular:

- Tangata whenua
- Smartspace
- Education
- Health
- Community development
- Affordable housing.

When the SmartGrowth Strategy was first developed the focus was very much on the immediate needs of roading and industrial land. Significant progress has been made regarding these issues allowing more consideration for the optimizing the use of the infrastructure by attracting businesses and people to the subregion. Providing for the social needs of the population and providing social infrastructure (e.g. arts, museum) are key methods for attracting businesses and people.

SGIC have clearly indicated that the SmartGrowth update will take an outcomes approach to growth management. It is not intended that SmartGrowth cover all components of social outcomes but rather this project will assist in defining SmartGrowth's role in relation to social outcomes.

Social wellbeing has been defined as encompassing those factors which enable communities to set and achieve goals, - such as education, health, strong community networks and associations, financial and personal security, rights, freedom and levels of equity¹.

It is recommended that a definition and indicators of social outcome need to be clearly identified and the role of the SmartGrowth partners in relation to social outcomes clearly outlined, based on good practice.

Project Goal

To identify the actions that result in the greatest potential gains to social development in the sub region.

Project inputs

- Local Government Act (2002)
- Report card on progress made to existing social wellbeing actions in the current SmartGrowth Strategy (as outlined in the 'Enhanced Lifestyles' section).
- Literature review on good practice interventions/activities to improve social outcomes within a growth management context.
- Workshops with SmartGrowth partners and relevant providers to define SmartGrowth role in social outcomes and their roles in contributing to social outcomes.

Project outputs

Report on:

- good practice interventions/activities actions that result in the greatest potential gains to social development in the sub region.
- Demonstrate how social development actively supports economic growth e.g. by attracting and retaining a quality educated workforce.
- proposed role of SmartGrowth partners and relevant providers in social development including how SmartGrowth can assist other sectors e.g. non government sector who contribute to social development.
- identification of actions and agencies responsible for improving social well being.

¹ Community Outcomes New Zealand www.communityoutcomes.govt.nz or see www.msd.govt.nz

Project methodology

- develop a detailed project plan/scope
- Undertake a stocktake of social outcome interventions/activities that have been undertaken as part of a growth management approach
- Undertake a literature review of actions that would result in the greatest potential gains to social development in the sub region.
- Conduct workshops with SmartGrowth partners and relevant providers* to define SmartGrowth role in contributing to the social development in the sub region .
- Draft report - feedback from IMG, SPF, CTWF, PATAG, Housing Affordability Forum, SGIC, Councils and relevant providers.
- Final report

Please see Appendix One for a more detailed project plan and identification of research inputs.

*Providers include the BOPDHB, Te Puni Kokiri, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development, social sector network, Polytech, kindergarten, private education providers etc.

Project Resources

Project Team

- Liz Davies, WBOPDC – Project Manager
- BOPDHB/Toi Te Ora - Public Health
- Representatives from partner Councils
- Combined Tangata Whenua forum representative/Tu Pakari advisor.

Workshop costs

Stage 2 - Research Brief – Social Impact Assessment of updated SmartGrowth Strategy

Background

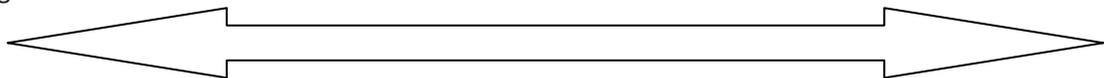
Why do a social impact assessment?

SGIC have agreed that the scope of the review of SmartGrowth is ‘an extended four well being approach’. A social impact assessment would ensure that the potential impact of SmartGrowth policies on social outcomes are identified, understood and where possible any negative impacts are mitigated and positive effects enhanced.

There is an indication at a national level that reference to the four well beings will be removed from the Local Government Act (2002). Notwithstanding this, it is clear that the proposed ‘public services’ sees Councils as having a role in economic development, provision of social housing, supporting festivals etc. Regardless, Council’s purpose to contribute to the wellbeing of communities evidenced by the provision of core infrastructure for the benefit of public and environmental health e.g. wastewater. Thus, while at this point in time the implications of the proposed legislation is not clear, nor the impact this would have on Council activities, it is clear Councils plays a key role in contributing to the wellbeing of communities.

At the other end of the spectrum there is growing interest in spatial planning spearheaded by Auckland city who have been legislatively required to undertake spatial planning. The spatial plan takes an extensive four wellbeing approach by considering not only Council activities but the role of central government agencies in contributing to the vision for Auckland. In relation to social outcomes or the ‘people’ aspect of the plan targets include increase the number of early childhood facilities, reduction in hospitalisations, improve school achievement of school leavers, reduction in crime etc.

The scope of the SmartGrowth review sits in the middle of the spectrum which acknowledges the inter-relationships between the four well beings and the impact of growth management on wellbeing.



Owners: Council plan SmartGrowth Council with roles for central
3 Councils and tangata whenua government agencies
plan with input from central
government and

		community agencies	
Purpose:	Land use	Land use focus	Geographical expression of
		including consideration	of economic, social, cultural
		of environmental, social	and ecological policies ²
		and cultural implications	

What is a Social Impact Assessment?

A social impact assessment is a formal process that aims to predict the potential effects of policies on the social outcomes of the affected populations. Given capacity and funding, the SIA would be undertaken by incorporating input from readily available sources including relevant literature, key informants and the community – primary research would not be undertaken as for a comprehensive assessment.

A social impact assessment supports the purpose of the SmartGrowth strategy which ensures population growth in the subregion is planned for and managed to ensure that the necessary changes improve the overall quality of life rather than detracts from it.

The main purpose of a SIA is to enhance the strategy review process. It is a practical aid to help facilitate better policy making that is based on evidence, focused on outcomes and encourages collaboration between a range of sectors and stakeholders. A SIA does not attempt to make the necessary policy decisions, but highlights areas of particular policy which may impact on the social outcomes of a population. It is recognised that sometimes policy makers may choose to make decisions which are not ideal in terms of social outcomes, though they meet the interests of other community or corporate goals. The SIA process is based upon ensuring that where a trade-off is involved, the decisions should be transparent and the impacts on social outcomes are readily understood by everyone affected by the decisions.

Once the social impact assessment has identified the positive and negative effects of the updated Strategy the subsequent piece of work to be undertaken by WBOPDC would identify ways for potential negative effects to be mitigated or minimised and positive effects to be enhanced to improve the social outcomes of communities.

Have SIA's or similar been undertaken on other growth management strategies and how did they influence the Strategy?

A number of health and social impact assessments have been conducted in New Zealand in the area of growth management, transportation and Council policies:

² European Regional/spatial Planning Charter (1983) in Wikipedia 30-3-2012

- structure plans and growth centre plans – City of Manukau, Hastings District Council, Far North District Council, Christchurch City council
- Regional land transport strategies – Canterbury, Waikato and Auckland
- Regional Policy Statements – Bay of Plenty Regional Council, Environment Canterbury, Wellington Regional Council
- Waste management plans – Wairoa District Council
- Council policies e.g. liquor licensing, gambling, fluoridation, graffiti vandalism – Whangarei District council, Hastings District council
- Road widening – North Shore City Council
- Air Quality change Plan – Hawkes Bay Regional Council

The most significant health impact assessment undertaken of a growth management strategy in New Zealand was undertaken in 2005 for the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy (UDS). A health impact assessment (HIA) is similar to a social impact assessment in that it is measuring the impact of policies, projects and programmes on the health/social outcomes of people and endeavouring to minimise negative effects and enhance positive effects.

The HIA for the Christchurch UDS focussed on water, air, housing, transport, social connectedness and Maori. It has been published in two peer-reviewed journals and been presented on widely in New Zealand and Australia. The HIA has been evaluated two years after it was undertaken to see what impact, if any, the HIA had on the UDS.

A total of 24 of the 32 recommendations of the HIA were included in the final UDS. Of these 17 were translated into action points in the final strategy, with attached responsibilities and timelines. Recommendations adopted included:

- Ensure an efficient public transport system that connects people of all incomes to their neighbourhoods and the wider city.
- Incorporate universal design principles when planning and designing public spaces to allow access for all people
- Plan a range of housing types (size and price) that reflect and promote community diversity.
- Involve residents in the design of new communities.
- Incorporate urban, road, footpath and cycleway design strategies that maximise road safety.

Another key impact was the inclusion of a new section into the final strategy titled “Health and well-being”. This Section on Health and Wellbeing includes an explanation of Health’s inclusion, Growth Issues, Key Approaches and an Actions table with timelines.

There is also evidence of the HIA impacting policy in local government more widely. A key informant at Environment Canterbury described the HIA process and resulting relationships as contributing to

amendments made to the recharge zoning of the Natural Resources Regional Plan (NRRP) Groundwater Allocation and Policy Implementation (Environment Canterbury 2007).

Workshop participants identified cross-sectoral collaboration as the single most important impact of the HIA. This was also a prominent theme in key informant interviews.

Project Goal

To assist the SmartGrowth review process by providing information about the impact of the updated SmartGrowth Strategy on the social outcomes of communities in the WBOP sub region.

Aims

- To provide evidence for decision making about the link between subregional development and social outcomes; and
- Recommendations to increase the positive impact and decrease the negative impact of the updated SmartGrowth Strategy on social outcomes.

Objectives:

- To strengthen partnerships working between sectors
- To build capacity and knowledge of SIA's.

Project Manager

Liz Davies, Policy Analyst – Strategic, WBOPDC

Project Inputs

- Employment of 'mentor' to ensure the process for undertaking the SIA is robust.
- Information from the Community wellbeing checklist undertaken by the other SG research projects . Use of the checklist for the SG research projects would also encourage consideration of the four well beings in the scoping and planning of the research.
- Report on good practice interventions/activities actions that result in the greatest potential gains to social development in the sub region.

- Social Infrastructure planning reports and SG Update report on social infrastructure planning.
- Demographic data including those undertaken by SmartGrowth and to be undertaken as part of the SmartGrowth review process
- Demographic Drivers and Housing Preferences research.
- Council's Annual residents survey and Community Outcomes report
- Other relevant research undertaken for SmartGrowth e.g. Aged Communities Literature review, Tangata Whenua Perspectives, Residential intensification, Growth Management Approaches etc
- Any other relevant research and reports from Ministry of Social Development, Bay of Plenty District Health Board etc

Project Outputs

Social Impact Assessment report which identifies the impact of the draft updated SmartGrowth Strategy on social outcomes with recommendations about how to minimise negative effects and enhance positive effects.

Presentation of draft and final reports to SGIC and interested parties.

Project methodology

The timing of the project will depend on when the draft updated SmartGrowth Strategy is close to completion so the impact assessment is undertaken on what is likely to form the Strategy and before decisions are finalised so the SIA is able to influence final decisions.

- Development of detailed project plan/scope
- Workshop with stakeholders e.g. Councils, social and health agencies and iwi organizations to identify which aspects of the SmartGrowth Strategy to focus on
- Rapid literature review of the focus areas
- Workshops on the focus areas with stakeholders*
- Draft report – feedback from SGIC, Councils, iwi, social and health agencies
- Final report

Please see Appendix One for a more detailed project plan and identification of research inputs.

*Stakeholders include the BOPDHB, Te Puni Kokiri, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development, social sector network, Polytech, kindergarten, private education providers etc.

Project Resources

Project Team

- Liz Davies
- Consultant/mentor
- Toi Te Ora – Public Health/Brian Pointon, BOPDHB
- representatives from other Councils
- Combined Tangata Whenua representative/Tu PakariAdvisor

Workshop costs

APPENDIX 1

SmartGrowth Research Projects – project stages and timing

Stage 1 - Best practice Strategies to Improve social development in the context of growth management/land use

Project steps	Timing
Scope: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and review of national and international literature regarding the relationship between growth management/land use and social outcomes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - how do land use practices impact on social outcomes - what land use practices enhances social outcomes. - What land use practices are detrimental to social out comes. • Compare subregional social infrastructure with ‘good practice’ levels of social infrastructure for the size and geography of the subregion. 	
Establish a reference group for all the projects – Brian Pointon, BOPDHB, Rep’s from Partner Councils, Tu Pakari Advisor (is this necessary????):	?
Literature review to identify good practice activities to improve social outcomes in a growth management/land use context including a social infrastructure gap analysis. (Antoinette/Liz)	May-June
Stocktake on progress with social outcome actions in the current SG Strategy (Liz)	May
Consult with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPF – 19 June • PATAG – 20-21 June • CTWF – 27 June (Liz)	June
Based on the literature review, stocktake and consultation hold a 2 hour workshop with SGIC prior to SGIC meeting. (Liz)	11 July
Draft report (including incorporating any relevant implications from the social infrastructure planning project) (Liz)	July-August
Circulate draft report (check with Justine) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMG 7 August • Research Panel ? • SPF – 28 August • PATAG 29/30 August • CTWF ? (Liz/Justine)	August
Incorporate feedback and finalise report including implications of	End August – early

this work to the Social Impact Assessment i.e. will inform the identification of focus areas for the SIA and literature reviews. (Liz)

September (if circulating draft to SPF, PATAG and CTWF)

Research inputs:

- Social cities - 2012 (Grattan Institute)
- Creating and sustaining mixed income communities – A Good Practice Guide - 2006 (Joseph Rowntree Foundation)
- Rethinking Urban Environments and Health – 2008 (Public Health Advisory Committee)
- Healthy Places, Healthy Lives: Urban Environments and Wellbeing – 2010 (Public Health Advisory Committee)
- Urban Planners Knowledge of health and wellbeing issues – 2010 (Public Health Advisory Committee)
- The Health of People and communities: the effect of environmental factors on the health of New Zealanders – 2002 (Public Health Advisory Committee)
- Strong communities handbook – In what ways can urban and regional planning contribute towards high levels of social capital and community strengths in new and re-developed communities? – 2006 – Queensland University of Technology.
- Health, Social wellbeing and community development in the Bay of Plenty
- Creative Classes (Richard Florida)
- Unlocking Growth in cities - 2012 (UK government)
- Western Bay of Plenty SmartGrowth Study Parts 1-3 – 2002 (McKinlay Douglas Ltd)
- Guidelines for local authorities to strengthen ‘a sense of place’ and ‘a sense of community’ – 2012 (Andries Cloete, Masters thesis)

Stage 1a - Social Infrastructure Planning Update

Project steps	Timing
<p>Scope:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The extent WBOPDC and TCC have integrated SI planning into Council plans, policies etc. • how WBOPDC and TCC have used SI planning to inform provision of Council SI community engagement in SI planning. • level of local and regional collaboration in the planning and provision of social infrastructure • Community perception of social infrastructure • How agencies have identified SI needs. • Investigate provision of private social infrastructure through development (e.g. community centres in retirement villages) • Identification and analysis of the drivers that influence decision making regarding the provision of social infrastructure . 	
Meet with TCC Strategic Planner and confirm scope of project	May
<p>Undertake a stock take at Western Bay of Plenty District Council and TCC to assess:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent to which SI planning is evident in both Councils planning documents • Review Council SI planning reports. • Evidence of community participation in SI planning • Evidence of collaboration in the planning and provision of SI • Evidence of sharing of information and joint planning between Council, local, regional and central government. • Review annual residents survey, Regional Council Quality of Life survey regarding SI and any reports indicating community participation in Si planning. • Identification of types of new SI built or planned, against identified needs. • Identify private social infrastructure as part of network of SI (Liz, Western Bay of Plenty District Council and Cheryl, TCC) 	June-July
<p>Consult with: (is this needed?????)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SPF – 19 June • PATAG – 20-21 June • CTWF – 27 June 	June
Draft report (Liz & Cheryl))	July-August
<p>Circulate draft report (check with Justine)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMG 7 August • SPF – 28 August • PATAG 29/30 August • CTWF ? 	August
Incorporate feedback and finalise report including implications for social outcome strategies (i.e. recommendations regarding social infrastructure planning requirements and how it relates to the social	End August – early September (if circulating draft to SPF, PATAG and

infrastructure gap analysis) and for the SIA (i.e. implications of social infrastructure planning on social outcomes) (Liz and Cheryl)	CTWF)
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Research inputs:

- SmartGrowth Subregional social Infrastructure Planning Framework
- Western Bay of Plenty District Council Social Infrastructure Planning guidelines
- Tauranga City Council social Infrastructure Planning
- Research used to develop the above Framework and Guidelines e.g. London Thames Gateway social Infrastructure Framework; Waitakere City Social Infrastructure Planning Framework; South East Queensland Regional Plan 2005-2026 – Implementation Guidelines No 5 – Social Infrastructure Planning; Planning for Community Infrastructure in Growth Areas (Victoria, Australia).

Stage 2 – SIA

Project steps	Timing
Scope: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To identify areas of the updated Draft SmartGrowth Strategy that will have the most impact on social outcomes, identify the nature and extent of the impact and recommend ways in which to mitigate the negative effects and increase the positive effects. 	
Keep updated re the progress of the SmartGrowth update to assist in 'fast tracking' the SIA once the draft SG update is released.	June – December 2012
Reference group meeting – Toi Te Ora – Public Health representatives from other Councils and the Tu Pakari Advisor (is this necessary???)	Late 2012
Negotiate and contract an expert mentor to provide advice throughout the process and be involved in the workshops.	October 2012
Contact potential workshop attendees to advise them of the SIA, the process and invite them to participate, explaining the time frames. (Liz)	October-November 2012
Conduct Workshop to identify which aspects of the SG Strategy to focus on (Liz/contractor to facilitate; Council staff to organise)	January 2013 (dependent on release of the Draft)
Undertake rapid literature review of the focus areas to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is currently occurring - Identify evidence of the nature and extent of the impact - Identify how the impact links with social outcomes - Identify strategies to mitigate the negative effects and 	January-February 2013

enhance the positive effects (Antoinette/Liz)	
Organise and conduct workshop/s on the focus areas to identify how it links to social outcomes and the nature and extent of the impact, (Liz)	Jan-Feb 2013
Draft report – including incorporating relevant information from Stage one projects. (Liz)	
Circulate draft report (check with Justine) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IMG 7 • Research Panel • SPF • PATAG • CTWF • Other stakeholders (Liz/Justine)	Feb 2013 (will depend on when the final report is due)
Incorporate feedback and finalise report in time for SGIC deliberations on the hearings (Liz)	Feb-March 2013)

Research Inputs:

- Other relevant HIA's or SIA's:
 - Bay of Plenty Proposed Regional Policy Statement: Social and Economic Impact Assessment (2011)
 - Social and Cultural Impact Assessment Report on Mangere Puhinui Rural Zone Review (2006)
 - Manukau Harbour Crossing Social Impact Assessment – 2006 (Transit NZ)
 - Waterview Social Impact Assessment – 2010
 - Puhoi to Wellsford Rd of National Significance Social impact assessment;
 - MacKays to Peka Peka Expressway project – Assessment of Social Effects (2011)
- Guidance for Planning instruments – An Outline of Health and Wellbeing Considerations - Health and Social Impact Assessment of the South East Queensland Regional Plan – 2005-06 (Queensland Health)
- Healthy urban Planning: Recommendations from the NSW HUIA Project – 2006 (Centre for Primary health Care and Equity)
- Gold Coast Planning Scheme Policy – Social and Health Impact Assessment Policy – 2010 (Gold Coast City Council)

- Social Impact Assessment for the TCC Smart Living Plan – 2005/6 (Faye Ryan, Bay of Plenty District Health Board)
- Searchable evidence base for health impacts of the built environment (Human Impact Partners)
- Literature on Wider Health and Wellbeing Impacts of Transport planning (Environment Canterbury)
- Achieving Healthy urban Planning: A Comparison of three methods – 2012 (School of Population Health, University of Auckland)
- Integrating Health Impact Assessment in urban Design and Planning: The Manukau experience