

Strategic Partners Forum – Terms of Reference

The following paper is a summary of the terms of reference to be utilised for the on-going governance and implementation role of strategic partners post the adoption of the SmartGrowth Strategy.

These terms of reference were developed in collaboration with the strategic partners.

That the Strategic Partners Forum continues to provide community governance to the SmartGrowth strategy with the two broad responsibilities being;

Strategic partners acting as a community audit

- The strategic partners have been an integral part of the process within the development of the SmartGrowth strategies and actions and as such have a strong basis of understanding of the issues related to growth management within the western Bay of Plenty sub region.
- They play an important role in acting as a “consumer audit” providing a monitoring function to ensure the strategy and actions are met, not just by local authorities but also by Central Government and community agencies that have lead roles within the strategy.

Strategic partners to act as a knowledge pool for SmartGrowth Leadership Group Structure

- As sector agencies the strategic partners are to play a strong role in acting as a steering agent and a knowledge pool to the SmartGrowth Leadership Group (SLG) and to assist guiding decisions relating to implementation.
- Many of the strategic partners are regional associations of national agencies representing specific sectors. This network of knowledge should be utilised to ensure that the best decisions are made with respect to the implementation of SmartGrowth.
- The basis of this role is that the strategic partners are able to provide support to the SmartGrowth Governance structure in a collaborative fashion rather than in a strict audit and monitoring role.
- Many strategic partners have specific roles as either lead or support agencies within the actions of SmartGrowth. This will further enhance the ability to provide sound community governance advice to the SLG and identify potential solutions to issues.

Strategic partner representation guidelines

The Strategic Partners Forum generally consists of organisations based on the following:

- agencies with a national or regional affiliation
- mandate to speak on behalf of sectors effected by the SmartGrowth Strategy
- cover the sub region, which is the scope of the strategy
- represent the 4 well-beings defined in the Local Government Act 2002 being social, economic, cultural and environmental well-being
- have a structure in place that allows outwards and in wards communication in respect of membership

Current Members

- Federated Farmers
- Independent Representative
- Katikati Fruitgrowers
- Te Puke Fruitgrowers
- Bay of Plenty Tertiary Partnership
- Te Puke Fast Forward
- Priority One
- Housing NZ Corporation
- Chamber of Commerce
- Creative Tauranga (Zest Consulting)
- Forest and Bird Society
- Creative Tauranga
- SmartGrowth Independent Chair
- Mainstreet Tauranga
- Sport Bay of Plenty
- Bay Trust
- Katch Katikati
- Kiwifruit Growers Inc
- Bay of Plenty Branch NZ Property Council
- Population Ageing Technical Advisory Group
- Combined Tangata Whenua Forum
- Social Sector Forum
- Housing Affordability Forum
- Property Developers Forum
- Environment and Sustainability Forum

It should be noted that some central government sectors such as health or education sectors will also deal with individually as they are acting as lead agencies in major actions throughout the strategy. With the agreement of the SLG additional strategic partner members can be added.

Frequency of meetings

The strategic partners meet bi-monthly. They meet prior to the SLG meeting. This would also allow for members of the Strategic Partners to be co-opted to the SLG if required to provide insight into specific issues related directly to the strategic partner's area of expertise. The Strategic Partners Forum is serviced by the SmartGrowth office for items such as venues, agendas and report materials.

The chair of the SLG also chairs the Strategic Partners Forum.