

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Rates

For the year ending 30 June 2001, rates for Christchurch ratepayers will increase overall by 2.38%. For more details on what impact this increase will have on the various sectors and on a selection of individual properties, see the table on page 17.

Operations

The total operating expenditure, the cost necessary to provide the services and facilities operated by the Christchurch Council for the year ending 30 June 2000, is \$236.2M.

Christchurch ratepayers are required to contribute a total of \$128.6M towards this cost.

The balance will be paid for by revenues from these activities, interest and dividends earned by the Council through its ownership of enterprises such as Orion Group, the Lyttelton Port Company and Christchurch International Airport Ltd.

Capital Improvements

The total capital expenditure, the cost necessary to pay for new assets or to renew or upgrade the existing assets provided by the Council for the year ending 30 June 2000, is \$109.3M.

These improvements and developments will be paid for through cash surpluses on operations, utilising Council reserves and from external funding. There is no borrowing for new works planned for in 2000/01. The only borrowing for 2000/01 relates to capital contributions to Jade Stadium Ltd, ChCh City Facilities Ltd and Transwaste Canterbury Ltd.

A full summary of the capital and operating income and expenditure for 2000/01, along with forecasts for each year through until 2009/10, can be found on page 12.

Contents of the Plan

The Council is committed to improving the quality of life in Christchurch by ensuring the services it provides make a positive contribution. The Council is working towards this objective by including the following new initiatives in this draft Plan:

- Central City initiatives (\$155,000)
- Heritage Building emergency retention grant (\$200,000)
- Planning for Stage 5 of Cathedral Square Redevelopment (\$50,000)
- New Environment Centre (\$250,000)
- Leaf collection (\$35,000)
- Cycle promotion (\$36,000)
- Road Safety campaign (\$20,000)
- Safety management system (\$20,000)
- Landscape maintenance (\$100,000)
- Expansion of kerbside recycling (\$795,000)
- Canterbury Cricket Association Grant for Village Green at QEII Park (\$100,000) (First year of a \$500,000 grant)
- World Youth Touch Tournament (\$25,000)
- Older Adults Recreation Programmes (\$20,000)
- School Holiday and Recreation Programmes (10-13 year olds) (\$40,000)
- Canterbury Hockey Association Grant (\$80,000)
- FINA Masters Swimming 2002 (\$35,000)
- Cemetery maintenance to a higher standard (\$90,000) (\$490,000 over 5 years)
- Community Board Discretionary Funding increased by (\$300,000)
- E-Council Projects (\$100,000)
- New Brighton Commercial Area Redevelopment (\$88,600)
- New Brighton - Beresford St Carparking Development (\$200,000)
- Upgrading pedestrian area at Jade Stadium (\$100,000) (A total of \$365,000 over two years)
- Village Green (QEII) - Toilet Facilities (\$180,000)
- North Hagley Park - Events Area (\$50,000)
- Coast Care Development Projects (\$100,000)
- Travis Wetland Natural Heritage Park Toilets (\$70,000)
- Spencer Park Paddling Pool Filtration System (\$30,000)
- Riverbank Landscape Projects - Otukaikino South Branch (\$10,000)
- New Economic Development and Employment Initiatives (\$150,000)
- Upgrading of Oxford Tce (Hereford-Gloucesters) to allow street cafe dining (\$500,000)

The Council has resolved to consider providing free car parking for the first hour in Council Parking Buildings. This initiative will cost approximately \$1.43M but has not been factored into the Draft Plan. It is subject to broad support from central city businesses and would be funded by a special rate on Central Business District properties. There are some legal and practical issues which would also need to be resolved prior to any implementation.