

2. CONSIDERATION OF COMMUNITY BOARD PLANNING STATEMENT (KEY ISSUES)

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Authors Jude Pani, DDI 941-6601; Gina Clarke, DDI 941-6615
Corporate Plan Output: Community Advocacy	

The purpose of this report is to provide information to enable the Board to prepare a Community Board Planning Statement (Key Issues) for consideration by Standing Committees in the September meeting round. To assist with preparation of the Planning Statement, a copy of last year's Planning Statement is attached, together with a copy of the Board's Objectives and Performance Measures 2002/04 and a copy of the Council's Strategic Objectives.

Last year the Board's Planning Statement identified key issues around: acquisition of green open space east of the inner city in the Hagley Ward; social initiatives funding; out of school programmes; community governance and resourcing; metropolitan benefits of Hagley/Ferrymead projects; consultation with Community Boards; E-Government, and traffic management.

As well as setting its Objectives and Performance Measures 2002/04, the Board also prioritised a number of key issues at its Planning Day in December 2001. The Board may wish to consider transferring some or all of these issues into this year's Planning Statement for discussion with the relevant Standing Committees. The key issues are listed below, together with comments on progress since December 2001. Also relevant to this year's statement are comments the Board made in last year's Planning Statement. The Community Board and staff team are trying to achieve the Social Wellbeing Policy and Community Board Objectives. All projects align with the Council's Strategic Objectives.

CURRENT ISSUES

Youth

Youth issues in Hagley/Ferrymead continue to be a major focus of the Board. In response to research and feedback, the Board has shown its commitment to youth by:

- supporting through its Project Fund the employment, by 198 Youth Health, of the Youth Initiatives Facilitators (YIF);
- supporting, again through its Project Fund, the LYFE Event (a youth experience developed by youth for youth);
- allocating resources from the Strengthening Communities Fund to projects identified through YIF research, and
- supporting the formation of a Youth Initiatives Trust.

The Youth Initiatives Trust, YIF and local youth have been working to progress a youth café. To ensure the success of such a project for youth, youth need to be involved at all stages in the process.

The Community Development Adviser (CDA) has been working closely with YIF and the Youth Initiatives Trust throughout the youth café process. The CDA forwarded an application for funding for the café to the Social Initiatives Fund in 2001. The Social Initiatives Funding Committee deferred the funding decision until this year. The Youth Initiatives Trust is applying for Social Initiatives funding for the café in September.

Linwood Park

The Board recently received a report on the Linwood Park consultation process. The staff team is now putting a strategy in place to implement the Board's recommendations in line with the community's wishes. The Parks and Waterways Advocate and the Community Recreation Adviser are progressing the short term initiatives identified in the report. These initiatives are being progressed with community input, and relate to maintenance improvements, an events programme, mural art and lighting. Discussions with the Tennis Club are about to commence to formulate ideas for an improved Linwood Avenue entranceway and better linkage with Linwood Park.

A long term planning process is about to start. This process will begin with a safety audit, using the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design process.

Central City

Inner city activities for the community continue to be a key issue. The Board recently received a presentation on three research projects on the social fabric of the central city. The community research carried out in the inner city east was of particular note. The Hagley ward has been identified (through research conducted in six New Zealand cities) as having one of the highest levels of social deprivation in New Zealand. Several New Zealand wards have the highest proportion of meshblocks in deciles 9 or 10 ranking. These are: Otara (Manukau) = 84%; Mangere (Manukau) = 71%; Tamaki (Auckland) = 62%; and Hagley (Christchurch) = 56%.

The social impact of urban renewal, particularly in the inner city east area, is an issue that continues to challenge. The Council could play a role in monitoring this social impact, and ensuring a mix of people is retained. Many in the community would like to ensure that the diversity of the neighbourhood is retained, and that there is diversity of housing options.

A briefing to the Board from the Central City Mayoral Forum is scheduled for August.

EMERGING ISSUES

Youth Crime Prevention

A number of new central government initiatives are targeting youth crime in the Board area. An additional youth justice coordinator has been appointed, and additional Crime Prevention Unit funding and Justice funding has been made available. The Board may wish to be involved with these central government initiatives to help ensure that they are coordinated with local initiatives.

Healthy Christchurch

The Board has endorsed the Healthy Christchurch initiative, and a number of groups in the Board area have become signatories to this initiative. The Board may wish to continue its involvement in and support to this initiative.

Long Term Community Plan

The Local Government Bill requires that councils develop a long term community plan. Work on this plan is to begin later this year. The Board may wish to request that it is actively involved in developing the plan, rather than merely being consulted on aspects of the plan.

Community Consultation

Effective community consultation has been an ongoing issue and objective. The new Local Government Act will require local government to engage in community consultation, effectively "from the bottom up". The Board may like to consider what it sees as its role in this consultation.

ADVOCACY

Central Government Advocacy

Out of School Programmes

The following is last year's OSP Board Planning Statement: *"The Board is concerned about the need and availability for Out of School Programmes and the responsibility the Council has to fund/provide these. The Board considers that Council, along with the Youth and Children's Advocates must lobby central government to influence, and seek policy change and additional funding."*

Out of School funding continues to be an ongoing issue. The Board has met with local MPs who have indicated their support for a partnership approach with central government. The Community Development Adviser is working closely with Hagley/Ferrymead OSP providers to ensure that the grass roots message is delivered to Government through the Council lobbying platform.

Youth Policing

The issue of youth policing was raised through the Linwood Park consultation process. Regular meetings with Inspector Dave Lawry are being held to build the Board's relationship with the Hagley/Ferrymead Police team, and provide a forum for receiving information and inputting the Board's perspective to the Police.

Internal Advocacy

Swimming Facility

The Board has discussed creating a swimming facility in the Ferrymead ward to meet the needs of the Ferrymead community. This issue has been discussed in Committee and Board meetings, and discussions have also been held with the Leisure Unit. The swimming facility continues to be a high priority issue for the Board. The Board has requested a meeting with the Pools and Stadia Subcommittee and the Community and Leisure Committee to continue internal advocacy. The swimming facility will also be discussed at the next Community, Policy and Finance Committee meeting.

Funding

Funding Review

The Community Board has inputted into the current funding review. Board members are invited to attend a Community and Leisure Committee funding seminar on 17th September.

Social Initiatives Funding

The following is last year's Social Initiatives Funding Board Planning Statement: *"The Board is very concerned that Social Initiatives Funding for 2002/2003 is proposed to be reduced for the Hagley/Ferrymead Board area with no communication or consultation with either staff or the Board. This could have consequences for Board project funding, and of an uninformed Board. Where a standing committee makes a decision that will affect a community board and the local community, the standing committee should consult with the community board before the decision is made."*

The Board may wish to consider expanding on last year's statement by suggesting to the Standing Committee that the Board would like greater influence on where Social Initiatives funding is distributed in the Board's area.

Sport Fund

The Board is involved in discussion with stakeholders to ensure input into a process to determine any new community sport fund. There may be community expectation that Board funding will close the gap in grass roots sporting community funding caused by the halt to the Hillary Commission.

Lottery Community Facilities Funding

The Lottery Community Facilities Committee was discontinued in 30 June 2002. The final Community Facilities Committee regional distribution meeting will be held in late October or early November 2002. The final national distribution meeting will be in mid to late November 2002.

The allocation of funds from the Lotteries Commission to the Lottery Grants Board has decreased by \$18.5 million over the last year, and has decreased by nearly \$40 million since 1999. Facing this decrease, the Lottery Grants Board decided that there would be less impact on communities if lottery grants continued to fund the ongoing cost of social services organisations, rather than funding one-off project/facility costs.

This withdrawal of facility funding will impact on the Christchurch community and on the Board. The Board should expect increased applications for capital works project funding.

Community Governance and Resourcing

The Board's relationship with Standing Committees continues to be blurred. It is hoped that the Framework of Governance will help clarify this relationship. STV, Council structure and metropolitan versus local discussions continue.

Board members continue to have high demands placed upon them for efficient communication channels with both the community and the Council in their representative and governance roles. Appropriate resourcing with the appropriate hardware and software to enable high speed internet connection is still a requirement.

TREATY OF WAITANGI

The Board has identified the need to engage with tangata whenua. Some Board members have had Treaty of Waitangi training presented from a Pakeha perspective. Training from a Maori perspective is also being arranged. This training will cover Maori protocol and culture, as well as Treaty issues.

ENVIRONMENT

Jade Stadium/Charleston

At the July AGM, the Charleston Residents' Association and Jade Stadium's Chief Executive Officer discussed the possibility of reinstating community meetings with Jade Stadium management. The Community Advocate is to follow this up with the Residents' Association.

Eastgate Mall

At recent meetings the Board has indicated a wish to work closely with Eastgate Mall. The Board recently attended a site tour of the Mall hosted by Arrow International (Project Manager of the mall redevelopment).

Community Gardens

The Community Board continues to demonstrate its commitment to community gardens by supporting the employment of a Community Garden Coordinator through its Project Fund. Smith Street Community Garden (the largest community garden on Council land in Christchurch) is one of the projects that this Coordinator is involved in. Interest in the Smith Street garden continues, as does interest in the organic market more generally. This interest is providing both opportunities and challenges. The Board will receive a community garden presentation from Te Whare Roimata late in 2002, as required by Te Whare Roimata's Smith Street Garden Agreement. Council staff are currently discussing the suitability of using this site for a composting toilet trial.

Green Open Space

Issues around the need for green open space in some parts of the Board area, and maintaining acceptable service standards of green open space, are continually being raised with the Board. Recommendations have been made to the Parks and Waterways Unit to acquire land adjacent to the Doris Lusk Reserve and work is underway to identify suitable property in Charleston to help remedy the lack of public open space in these neighbourhoods.

Service Standards

The level of street maintenance and cleaning standards continues to concern some Board members.

Neighbourhood Improvement Plans (NIPs)

A review of NIPs has been raised. In light of the central city revitalisation projects, it could be timely to treat NIPs for the central city as a priority. The inner city east/Latimer NIP was completed in 1995. There are many challenges facing the inner city east community. Community input into a review of the inner city east/Latimer NIP could be discussed. Other inner city areas could also benefit from development or review of NIPs. In recent meetings, the Board has discussed the Gloucester Street/Linwood Avenue intersection and the use of Worcester Street through to Latimer Square. The Board has also expressed concern at the state of the Worcester Street/Stanmore Road intersection and the opportunity for planning for Worcester Street more generally.

TRAFFIC

The Board has discussed the following issues relating to traffic:

- **Ferrymead Bridge**
- **Linwood/Dyers Intersection**
- **Main Road Study**
- **Sumner Village Traffic Management**
- **Cypress Street**
- **Gloucester/Linwood Intersection**
- **Worcester Street**

Chairperson's

Recommendation: For discussion.