

6. HAGLEY/FERRYMEAD LEISURE PARKS AND WATERWAYS STUDY

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| Corporate Plan Output: Leisure Planning; Recreation Programmes and Promotion | |

The purpose of this report is to inform the Board about the development of a Leisure, Parks and Waterways Study for the Hagley/Ferrymead area. Work on the Study is due to commence in February 2003.

BACKGROUND

Currently planning for Leisure and Parks and Waterways needs tends to be for a one-year duration, in line with the Council's budget process. In addition, Council Units with responsibility for this area (Leisure, Parks and Waterways) plan separately, requiring staff and Board members to often have knowledge of several plans or strategies.

A local Leisure and Parks and Waterways Study will give recommendations to Board members and staff on the issues and needs in the Hagley/Ferrymead area. It will also assist the Board to make decisions on allocating Project Funding, by providing a suggested 3-year Implementation Plan detailing services to be provided or facilitated, plus information on available Parks and Waterways and Leisure operational and capital budgets for this 3-year period.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The Study will cover parks, sportsgrounds, play equipment, youth recreation facilities such as skateboarding areas, recreation/arts programmes and advisory services and community events. Recommendations from existing research studies such as the Youth Initiatives Facilitators' Report and the metropolitan skateboarding strategy will be incorporated into the plan and relevant Board and Council policies and objectives will be taken into account. The Study will also provide an opportunity for in depth research and consultation about the need for any new leisure facilities in the Hagley/Ferrymead area.

The Study will also identify other organisations already active or wishing to be active in the Hagley/Ferrymead area (schools, community groups, local businesses, etc). Community organisations are key partners in ensuring the recreation/sports and arts needs of residents are met. This exercise will also enable identification and clarification of the roles of both community organisations and of Council in providing these services.

Existing research and demographic profiles of the area will be examined and the Hagley/Ferrymead community will be consulted as to its needs and preferences.

The result will be a document that clearly outlines and prioritises how the Board, Council Units and community organisations are going to work together to best meet the Leisure, Parks and Waterways needs of the Hagley/Ferrymead community.

PROCESS TO DEVELOP THE STUDY

The research will be undertaken by leisure planning consultants the Global Leisure Group.

A steering group consisting of relevant staff plus two Board representatives and two community organisation representatives will be established to oversee the development of the study and to report back to the Board. The time commitment required will be to attend two to three meetings over a six month period to overview and comment on progress.

IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Once the Study has been completed and its recommendations reported to the Board, a small team of staff and Board members will then meet two to three times to develop a detailed 3-Year Implementation Plan for presentation to the Board.

Staff

Recommendation: That the Board nominate two representatives to be on the Leisure, Parks and Waterways Study Steering Group.

Chairperson's

Recommendation: For discussion.