

9. MEETING ROOM IN NEW RICCARTON LIBRARY

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The purpose of this report is to seek approval from the Council to provide for a meeting room, which could also be used as a Community Board room, in the new Riccarton Community/School Library.

The Council's Libraries and Property Units, Riccarton High School and the National Library of NZ are currently working together, under the project management of City Solutions, as the project control group for the building of the new joint school and community library in the grounds of Riccarton High School. The building is expected to be completed early December 2005.

Consultants have been engaged to develop the concept and detailed design for the building, with Warren and Mahoney having been contracted as the architects. The terms of reference for the project and the brief have been developed for a 1,500m² building and we are currently at the stage of developing the concept which will then be costed by the quantity surveyor.

The 1500m² comprises 230m² of staff accommodation, 470m² of school library space and 800m² of library. This space is of similar size to the New Brighton Library and about 150m² smaller than Fendalton Library space. It will provide for collection, study space, children's area, lounge seating, computer area and small café. It does not provide for a meeting room.

The opportunity exists now to incorporate a community meeting room, which could double as a community board room for either the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board, or any future board in that area. The current Board facility in the Sockburn Service Centre is not well sited, being upstairs, with no lift access. This property is currently under investigation by Property Unit to its longer term use but no decisions have been made.

The board room in the South Library has proven in a very short time to be a very well used facility for the community as well as the Board. This is similar to the situation in the Fendalton Library and Service Centre. The project control group is confident that having such a facility in the new Riccarton Community/School Library would also be of benefit both to the community and the Council for meetings and programmes.

The additional space required is 100m² which would accommodate a meeting room, associated toilets and small kitchen to enable use outside library opening hours. The estimated additional cost to the project is \$210,000-\$230,000.

The concept design and associated documentation is scheduled to be presented to the Council in March 2004. We need a decision before the end of the year as to whether or not the architects should proceed with include the additional 100m² in the facility as it cannot be provided within the existing 1,500m².

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That planning proceed for a 100m² board room and meeting facility to be added to the new Riccarton Community/School Library at an approximate cost of \$210,000-\$230,000.
 2. That the Annual Plan Subcommittee be requested to add financial provision of this amount in the capital expenditure programme.

Chair's

Recommendation: For discussion.