

10. NEW ZEALAND PLANNING INSTITUTE ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2003

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The purpose of this report is to advise that the New Zealand Planning Institute is holding its annual conference in Hamilton from 22 to 24 May 2003.

The theme of this year's conference is to reflect on 50 years of planning since the initial 1953 Planning Act. The conference committee is aiming to get back to the basics of planning on a wide range of topic areas; present the latest best practice examples; analyse new legislation and national strategies and to equip those working in the planning field with ideas, techniques, approaches and tools for the next 50 years. Guest speakers at this year's conference include Geoffrey Palmer, Marian Hobbs, Minister for the Environment and Morgan Williams, Parliamentary Commissioner for the Environment. These speakers will discuss topics related to the future of the Resource Management Act. There are also a wide range of workshops relating to topical issues including the New Zealand Waste Strategy, changing the way we think about energy, the use of wind to generate electricity, heritage and transportation planning.

Information on the conference can be obtained from the conference website: www.nzplanning.co.nz/conferences. Expressions of interest from Councillors wishing to attend are now sought.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For discussion.