

6. CATHEDRAL SQUARE REDEVELOPMENT COST REVIEW REPORT

RR 8230

The Senior Projects Co-ordinator presented a report on the comprehensive cost review exercise carried out on the Cathedral Square Redevelopment Project. The Major Projects Co-ordination Unit had requested the project consultants to carry out a comprehensive cost review of the Cathedral Square project. The Co-ordinator's report, together with the cost review report by City Design, is attached for the Council's information. A supplementary report (Clause 16) submitted by the Committee Chairman, together with a memorandum tabled at the meeting by the City Design Manager, are attached also.

The Senior Projects Co-ordinator and the Major Projects Co-ordinator answered questions from Committee members. They advised that Stage 4 would be tendered later this year, and that they would be in a better position to report on possible savings on receipt of those tenders. It was possible that savings could be made in other areas to meet the increased cost of the project. An independent review by Shipston Davies had been very valuable and offered a significant increase in the level of confidence attached to the cost review. They had been engaged to continue to monitor and report on the budget on a monthly basis.

The Committee **decided** that the Council note the current cost as outlined in the report and that officers work towards completing the outstanding work within the 1997 budget figure, taking into account tendered prices for Stage 4 of the project and further consideration of design aspects (but within the design concept as agreed in 1997).

It was agreed that the existing Police Kiosk remain until a brief and preliminary design and costing is adopted by the Council and that, in the meantime, \$150,000 remain as a provisional sum, with the knowledge that the amount required may be greater.

The following recommendations from the Committee Chairman will lie on the table:

- (i) That the reasons for the delays and letting of contracts prior to resource consents being obtained be further reviewed with a view to improved Council procedures.
- (ii) That the Major Projects Co-ordinator be asked to review the continued engagement of City Design on the cost control and project management of the Cathedral Square project.

The Committee has sought a report back to an early meeting of the new Council.