

5. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

(a) YWCA

Ms Margaret Arnold and Teresa Foster briefed the Committee on the Women's Refuge operated by the YWCA in Hereford Street.

They explained the functions undertaken by the facility, the profile of the women utilising the accommodation, and indicated that the facility primarily dealt with "homelessness" as opposed to being a refuge, as it was not secure or confidential in its location.

The opportunity was taken by members to ask questions and the representatives of the YWCA indicated that at present they did not wish to seek additional assistance from the City Council, but may consider the matter in due course.

(b) ETHNIC RELATIONS ISSUES

Mr Patrick O'Connor, PEETO, Mr Tim Barnett, MP, and Mr Tuck Waaka addressed the Committee regarding ethnic relations issues in the city.

A discussion paper on the establishment of a strategic organisation to co-ordinate race relations issues for Christchurch City, in partnership with the Council and other key stakeholders, had been previously circulated to members of the Committee.

With the closure of the Race Relations Office in Christchurch, it was suggested that a deficiency existed in this area which could be met by a local initiative.

The Committee **resolved** that appropriate staff liaise with the delegation members regarding the scope, terms of reference and membership of a working party to look at organisational arrangements for improving race relations in Christchurch and report back to the Committee.