

4. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

RR 1981

Officer responsible Council Secretary	Author Julie Sadler
Corporate Plan Output: Elected member representation	

The purpose of this report is to seek appointment of the Council's representatives to the organisations to which the Council makes appointments.

1. BACKGROUND

In the 1995-98 term the Council appointed a total of 49 representatives to some 34 organisations, 40 of whom were elected members. The remainder were staff (2), former elected members (4) and private individuals. A list of the organisations concerned is attached.

2. PRESENT COUNCIL POLICY

The present Council policy governing these appointments is as follows:

“That the Council appoint formal representatives on outside organisations only where the proposed appointment will be of clear public benefit or benefit to the Council, or where the appointment is required for statutory reasons, or under the provisions of the relevant Trust Deed or Constitution etc of the organisation concerned.”

3. REVIEW OF LEVELS OF REPRESENTATION

The working party appointed by the previous Council to undertake a review of Council processes and structures to identify areas for change addressed this issue and reported to the September Council meeting as follows:

“The Working Party agreed that this matter needed to be kept under constant review to ensure representation on outside organisations is justified in view of the costs involved to the Council in terms of meeting allowances and Councillor time.

The working party reviewed the list of organisations and suggested that of these the only organisations on which the Council should have representation were:

*CDC Trust
Canterbury Museum Trust Board
Canterbury Tourism Council (and the replacement organisation)
Ferrymead Trust
Mayor's Welfare Fund
Riccarton Bush Trustees
Safer Community Council
Crime Prevention Action Group
Turning Point 2000 Executive Committee
Turning Point 2000 Trust
Victory Park Board
Zone 5 Local Government Association*

In relation to the other organisations listed the working party does not consider that Council representation is warranted and notes that in respect to the Canterbury Technology Park and Orton Bradley Park representation is by staff only."

The working party's recommendation that the incoming Council appoint representatives only to the above organisations was adopted at the September meeting of the previous Council subject to the Recovered Materials Foundation and the Children's Christmas parade Trust being included on the schedule of organisations on which the Council is represented if required by statute or the organisation's constitution.

4. **CURRENT POSITION**

In December 1997 the Council appointed Councillors O'Rourke and Howell as its representatives on the Recovered Materials Foundation Board. The appointments were for a three year term which commenced on 16 January 1998.

At its inaugural meeting the Council appointed the following members as its representative for Zone 5, Local Government New Zealand:

The Mayor
Councillor Harrow
Councillor Stewart
Alternates: The Deputy Mayor, Councillors Close and O'Rourke

5. **CANTERBURY MUSEUM TRUST BOARD**

The Director, Canterbury Museum has written as follows:

“Under the Canterbury Museum Trust Board Act 1993, “... within three months after each general election held pursuant to the Local Elections and Polls Act 1976 ... those contributing authorities and other bodies referred to in section 5(2) of this Act shall each appoint a person (or persons) to be members of the Board”. The Christchurch City Council is entitled to appoint four persons to the Canterbury Museum Trust Board.

Representation from the Christchurch City Council has been:

From 1982 – Councillor David Close

From 1990 – Mr Alex Clark

From 1996 – Councillor Barbara Stewart

From 1996 – Councillor Lesley Keast

If I can provide you with any further background please don't hesitate to call.”

To ensure the legal time frame relating to the appointment of the incoming Board is met, the Council must appoint its representatives at the December Council meeting.

6. **RICCARTON BUSH TRUST**

The Council is required to appoint six persons to the Trust. The practice followed since the 1992-1995 term has been for the Council to appoint three representatives and the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board, the remaining three.

Tony Gemmill, Community Advocate, Fendalton/Waimairi, has drawn attention to the fact that when the appointment process was changed in the 1992-95 term the intention appeared to be that Community Board representatives should be jointly decided by the Riccarton/Wigram and the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board and not just the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board.

It is understood that the logic for this was that Riccarton Bush is immediately adjacent to the boundary between the two communities. Nonetheless the Bush is within the Riccarton Ward so it is proposed that one of the Council appointees be on the basis of a recommendation from the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board.

7. **REMAINING ORGANISATIONS**

Contact has been made with the remaining organisations listed in the attached list to determine the constitutional position relating to Council representation and also to seek their views on the need for ongoing Council involvement. The outcome of this consultation is summarised below:

(a) **Arts Centre Trust**

The trust's constitution requires the appointment of one City Councillor. The trust would be very disappointed if the present level of involvement were discontinued as the Council's input is valued.

(b) **Age Concern**

The constitution requires Council representation but the representative need not be an elected member. Age Concern would be disappointed if representation were discontinued as a formal link with the Council would be lost. The relationship provides a conduit for information to the City Council on issues affecting older people, internationally, nationally and locally. The commitment required is only 1 hour each quarter, plus some meeting preparation.

(c) **Canterbury Technology Park Joint Venture**

Ian Hay, the current Council representative, advises Council membership of the trust is still essential as the Council is part owner of the land still to be sold. Ian is available to continue serving as the Council's representative on the trust, if required.

(d) **Aurora Centre**

In mid 1998 the previous Council addressed the question of Council representation on the Aurora Centre Board and resolved to appoint, in consultation with the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board, three trustees, one of whom must be a City Councillor.

At its special meeting on 17 November 1998 the new Council appointed Mr Brian Law and Mr Tony Gemmill as interim trustees until 10 December to enable the trust to continue to operate. The Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board considered this matter at its November meeting and will be reporting direct to the December Council meeting with its recommendation on the appointments for the ensuing term.

(e) **Canterbury Sports Foundation**

The Christchurch City Council has been a member of the Canterbury Sports Foundation since its inception in 1978. The organisation's rules provide for several membership categories (including local government) and for two persons to represent the local government sector. The representatives do not have to be elected members. A change to the rules would almost certainly be required if the Council elected to discontinue its membership of the foundation.

(f) **Canterbury/Westland Sports Trust (Sport Canterbury)**

The Deed of Trust requires an appointee of the Mayor of the Christchurch City Council to be a member of the Board of Trustees. The appointee does not have to be an elected member. However in the past the Mayor's representative has usually been a City Councillor.

(g) **Children's Christmas Parade Trust**

The trust's constitution requires the Council to be represented on the trust but the appointee does not have to be an elected member. Any discontinuation of Council involvement would have to be trust decision as the Christchurch City Council is one of a number of constitutional trustees. The trust would be deeply disappointed if the Council discontinued its present level of involvement.

(h) **Christchurch Civic Music Council**

The Christchurch Civic Music Council was originally established by the Christchurch City Council in 1941. The constitution provides for the Christchurch City Council to have three members on general council, and for one of those three to be on the executive council. The representatives do not have to be elected members and past Councils have appointed non-elected representatives from time to time. The Christchurch Civic Music Council considers that since it was originally set up by the Christchurch City Council, the Council should continue to be represented on its governing bodies.

(i) **Christchurch Ethnic Council**

The constitution does not require Council representation. However the Ethnic Council would be disappointed if the City Council did not maintain the status quo.

(j) **Christchurch Heritage Trust**

The constitution provides for the Council to appoint one representative. The appointee does not need to be an elected member but the trust would prefer this level of representation.

(k) **Christchurch Garden City Trust**

The constitution requires the Council to be represented on the trust at elected member level, plus the Parks Manager or his representative. The trust would be disappointed if the Council discontinued its present level of involvement. Given it receives a major annual grant from the Council the trust considers Council representation is appropriate to monitor spending and also to give the trust a voice at the Council table.

(l) **Christchurch Olympic City Committee**

There is no constitutional requirement for the Council to be represented on the Christchurch Olympic City Committee. Membership dates back to 1991 when the then Council resolved to accept Olympic City designation from the NZ Olympic and Commonwealth Games Association. The Council also adopted the Parks and Recreation Committee's recommendation that the Chairman of that Committee or his/her nominee chair the Christchurch Olympic City Committee. The Christchurch Olympic City Committee would be most disappointed if the Council discontinued its involvement. A spokesman for the Committee felt that such a move could also put the city's Olympic City status in jeopardy as the designation is only awarded to local authorities.

(m) **Christchurch Symphony Orchestra**

The Christchurch Symphony Orchestra has recently restructured and is now Christchurch Symphony Orchestra Limited with two shareholders: CSO Foundation Trust and CSO Inc. Under the constitution of CSO Inc Council representation is required. The appointee does not necessarily have to be an elected member. CSO Inc will eventually be wound up, but until this happens the CSO Manager felt it would be appropriate to continue to have Council representation.

(n) **Citizens' Advice Bureau**

There is no constitutional requirement for the Christchurch City Council in particular to serve on the governing bodies. However, the Citizens' Advice Bureau would like its present association with the Council to continue.

(o) **Kate Sheppard Memorial Award Trust**

The trust's constitution requires the Council to be represented on the trust but the appointee does not have to be an elected member. The trust would be disappointed if the Council discontinued its involvement given that the trust is newly established and needs Council support until it finds its feet. As the trust meets only 3-4 times a year the commitment is not a demanding one.

(p) **Kingslea Community Liaison Committee**

The Children, Young Persons and Their Families Regulations 1996 allows for two persons to be appointed by the Council to the above Committee.

(q) **Keep Christchurch Beautiful**

There is no constitutional requirement for the Council to be represented on the governing body. Keep Christchurch Beautiful would not be concerned if Council representation were discontinued.

(r) **McLean Institute Board of Governors**

The McLean Institute Act 1908 provides for the Mayor of Christchurch to be a member of the Institute's board of governors. An amendment to the legislation would be required to change the current membership of the board.

Since the early 1990s Mrs Edna Hanafin, wife of a former Councillor, Mr John Hanafin, has represented the Mayor on the board of governors.

(s) **Christchurch Music Centre Trust**

The trust's constitution requires the Christchurch City Council to be represented on the trust by an elected member. The trust would be very disappointed if the Council discontinued its present level of involvement. The trust feels it still needs Council representation for another 2-3 years at which time Council involvement could be discontinued as it is hoped the Music Centre will be self funding within the next five years.

(t) **Christchurch Community Arts Council**

The constitution allows, (rather than requires), Council representation. The representative does not have to be an elected member. A spokesman for the CCAC suggested that the Community Arts Worker could perform this role. As Council representation in the past has not been strong the Christchurch Community Arts Council would not be unduly upset if it were discontinued.

(u) **Orton Bradley Trust**

The trust was set up by an Act of Parliament in 1972 and trustees, of which the Christchurch City Council is one, are specified in the Act. Council representation is therefore mandatory. However, the representative does not have to be an elected member. The Parks Manager, Craig Oliver, currently serves in this capacity. The trust would be disappointed if the present representation were changed as Craig Oliver's input is valued and appreciated by the trust board.

8. **SUMMARY OF RESPONSES**

The outcome of the consultation detailed in 7 above can be summarised as follows:

(a) **Statutory requirement for the Council to appoint a representative** (3)

Kingslea Community Liaison Committee
McLean Institute Board of Governors
Orton Bradley Trust Board

(b) **Constitutional requirement for the Council to appoint an elected member representative** (3)

Arts Centre Trust
Christchurch Garden City Trust (1) (plus Parks Manager)
Christchurch Music Centre Trust

(c) **Constitutional requirement for the Council to appoint a representative(s)** (10)

Age Concern
Aurora Centre Trust (3) (by earlier Council resolution one to be an elected member)
Canterbury Technology Park Joint Venture
Canterbury Sports Foundation (2)
Canterbury/Westland Sports Trust
Children's Christmas Parade Trust
Christchurch Civic Music Council (3)
Christchurch Heritage Trust
Christchurch Symphony Orchestra
Kate Sheppard Memorial Award Trust

(d) **Continuation of status quo requested by organisation** (3)

Christchurch Ethnic Council
Christchurch Olympic City Committee (Council membership virtually obligatory)
Citizens' Advice Bureau (City)

(e) **Council representation no longer required** (2)

Christchurch Community Arts Council
Keep Christchurch Beautiful

9. **REMUNERATION**

In the past meeting allowances for meetings of outside bodies have been paid at the Community Board daily remuneration rate (currently \$145) rather than the Council daily rate (\$185).

At the Committee meeting staff were requested to quantify the potential exposure of the Council to claims for Councillor attendance at meetings of outside organisations.

Councillor meeting claims for the 12 months to 30 September 1998 have been checked and the following information extracted:

No of Claims	145
Total Cost @ \$135 per meeting	\$19,575
No. of organisations for which claims were lodged	15
Percentage of total meeting payments	2.6%

The research disclosed that over this period fewer than half the Councillors entitled to do so lodged claims for attending meetings of outside bodies.

Provided there is not a significant increase in the number of Councillors claiming meeting payments or in the number of meetings held, the annual cost for the 1998-2001 term should be in the order of \$21,000.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Council continue its association with the organisations listed in section 3 of the report and in categories 8(a)-(d) above, but that representation be reassessed if the circumstances of any organisation change.
 2. That the Council discontinue its representation on the organisations in category 8(e) above.
 3. That the Council appoint three representatives to the Riccarton Bush Trust, one of them on the basis of a recommendation from the Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board and that the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board be delegated authority to appoint the remaining three representatives.
 4. That, in the case of the Kingslea Community Liaison Committee, the Council appoint one person and the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board the second.
 5. That the level of remuneration of Councillors who claim payment for attendance at meetings of outside bodies be at the Community Board rate ie \$145.
 6. That the appointments be made at the December Council meeting.