

### 32. DUAL MEMBERSHIP OF COMMUNITY BOARDS AND TERRITORIAL AUTHORITIES

The Board considered a report seeking its comments on whether or not it supported the principles outlined in a proposed Private Member's Bill to Parliament, promoted by Mr Ian Revell, MP. This Bill provided that a person could not be both a Councillor and an elected Community Board member and that where a person stood for both positions and was elected to both, that person was deemed to have been elected as a Councillor. As a result, the next highest polling Community Board candidate who had not been elected to the Council would be declared elected to the Community Board.

At its meeting on 24 June 1999, the Council had considered a recommendation from the Shirley/Papanui Community Board that it support this Private Member's Bill in respect of dual membership of Community Boards and Territorial Authorities. The Council had declined to adopt this recommendation and had referred the matter for consideration by the Strategy and Resources Committee in conjunction with comments from Community Boards.

The Board **resolved** to advise the Strategy and Resources Committee of its views on the draft Bill as follows:

- (a) The Board supports the general principles of the draft Bill.
- (b) The Board has concerns relating to the reference on page 2 of the memorandum from the Senior Policy Analyst to the Minister of Local Government relating to the proportion between directly elected Community Board members and members appointed by the territorial authority.

The Community Board did not agree with changing the proportion of appointed members to elected members from one-third to one-half as appears to be implied in this document. The Board believes that the existing balance between Council appointees and directly elected Community Board members should be retained.

- (c) The Board has a concern that, should this Bill be passed and a member be elected to both the Council and the Community Board and then choose to relinquish his Community Board position, there is no guarantee that this member will be appointed to that Community Board by his Council. The Board considers that this is a little unfair and undemocratic when the community has clearly given this candidate sufficient support to allow him to be elected to the Community Board.