2. **STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES ACTION PLAN**

On behalf of the Riccarton/Wigram Community Core Group, Penelope Goldstone (Community Development Adviser, Sockburn Service Centre Advocacy Team) made a presentation to the Board on the group's "Strengthening Communities Action Plan".

An elected member seminar in November 1998 endorsed the concept of developing "Strengthening Community" Action Plans as one means through which Council and Community Boards, collectively with their metropolitan and local communities, can work to make communities a "healthier and safer" place to live. The Action Plans will identify the priorities and the projects that the Council and the Community Boards will support in order to enhance social well-being and community safety.

The aims of the Strengthening Community Action Plans are:

- To improve people's sense of belonging to and being part of the community
- To enhance safety from crime
- To support people, communities and neighbourhoods to identify and achieve their own aims

The project has been proposed on the understanding that each Community Board will develop its own Action Plan. Each Board has a different starting point. Plans will incorporate the varying levels and understanding of "community". The plans will be one of many ways which communities can and will work on to address issues of community wellbeing.

At its February meeting the Board agreed that Alison Wilkie, Bob Shearing and Mike Mora would be its representatives on the Core Group.

Community representatives are Jan Savage and Wendy Barney; the Police are represented by John Doyle, with Peter Laloli and Bill Chamberlain.

Members of the Service Centre Advocacy Team support the Core Group.

It was noted that the Plan would be widely distributed, the implementation of the "strategic actions" outcomes would be facilitated by the Community Advocacy team, and that the Core Group would meet again in February 2000 to review the outcomes.

In **receiving** the Plan, the Board recorded its appreciation of the work done by the Core Group.