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<p>Corporate Plan Output: Community Boards 3.2 text 4</p>	

The purpose of this report is to seek confirmation of action taken by the Chairman of the Strategy and Resources Committee in authorising the attendance of Yvonne Palmer at the Local Government New Zealand Conference to be held in Auckland on 12-14 July 1999.

Arising from the Community Board Conference held in Christchurch two years ago, a small working party was set up to investigate the establishment of a Community Boards Association. Mrs Palmer was a member of that working party. The working party formed the view that the establishment of such an association was inappropriate and that it would be better to tap into the LGNZ zone meetings. This view was also supported by Local Government New Zealand.

Local Government New Zealand also noted that there was nothing to prevent a Council from sending a community board representative to its Conference either as a delegate or observer. Accordingly, the question arose as to whether a Community Board representative should attend this year's conference as an observer.

At the recent Community Board Conference held in Taupo a further working party was established. Membership of that working party is now based around LGNZ's zones and Mrs Palmer was again appointed. The Council had earlier appointed its delegates to the conference and when this matter was raised there was insufficient time for it to be debated by Community Boards.

At staff level, merit was seen in a Community Board representative attending the LGNZ Conference. Accordingly the Chairman of the Committee authorised Mrs Palmer's attendance. Costs will be met from within existing budgets.

**Recommendation:** That the action taken by the Chairman of the Strategy and Resources Committee in authorising the attendance of Mrs Yvonne Palmer as an observer to the 1999 LGNZ Conference be confirmed.