

3. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

DEAF WORKING PARTY

Ms Yvonne Palmer and Ava Buzzard, together with members of the Deaf Working Party consisting of representatives from: WINZ, Workbridge, Deaf Association, Deaf Society, PEETO, Christchurch Polytechnic Learning Centre, Blind Foundation and Van Asch Deaf Education Centre, addressed the Committee on the work of the working party of assisting people with hearing disabilities to acquire appropriate job training and employment.

At present, the Deaf Working Party is surveying employers on the extent of their employment of deaf people and reasons why they may be reluctant to employ them and, in addition, intends to pursue education for employers.

The working party sought assistance from the Committee towards the cost of providing interpreters for interviewing deaf clients and for employer education.

The opportunity was taken for members to ask questions of the working party, and the Committee referred the request for financial assistance to the extent of \$5,000 to the Manager, Community Relations, to discuss with the working party, together with the Canterbury Development Corporation, for possible funding from the Community Development initiatives budget.