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Corporate Plan Output: Environmental Improvement Plans	

The purpose of this report is to update the Council on progress with the Wizard's stone in Cathedral Square.

BACKGROUND

In June 1997, a petition was received from forty-nine wizards requesting that a stone be placed marking the spot where the Wizard speaks in Cathedral Square. Wording to be carved into the stone was suggested by the wizards.

Councillor Murray presented that petition to the Council at the meeting on 25 June 1997. It was resolved that the petition be referred to the Central City Committee. It was then referred to officers for action.

Since that time, discussions have been held with the Wizard and Mark Whyte, the sculptor. These discussions were reported to the Environment Committee in February 1999 in the heritage update report.

THE STONE

A stone is proposed to be laid in recognition of the activities of the Wizard in Christchurch over the last 25 years. The stone will be laid flush with the existing granite in the centre of a grid. The wording proposed for the 793 x 490mm stone is "The Wizard Lies Here", with a decorative symbol, the Wizard's web site address, and the date the stone was laid. The stone will be the same light grey granite that the Square is paved in, the carving will be deep 'V' cut. A full scale plan of the stone will be presented at the meeting.

THE LOCATION OF THE STONE

The stone is to be placed in the location where the Wizard will speak once the Square redevelopment is completed, however, that location has not been finalised as yet. It will be somewhere in the vicinity of the police kiosk. Further discussions are to be had with the Wizard to confirm the location.

Submissions made to the Committee on this issue are referred to in clause 4.1 of the Committee's report.

Recommendation: That the Wizard's stone be placed flush in a Cathedral Square ground location where the Wizard will speak, once the redevelopment of the Square is complete.