

## 11. CANTERBURY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION NOMINATION OF COUNCILLOR DIRECTORS

RR 9858

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Corporate Plan Output: Economic Development and Employment	

The purpose of this report is to nominate Councillors to the Canterbury Development Corporation Trust for appointment as Directors of the Canterbury Development Corporation.

### BACKGROUND

The Canterbury Development Corporation Trust is a charitable trust set up to oversee the implementation of economic and employment initiatives agreed with the Christchurch City Council through the Canterbury Development Corporation. The trust also has the role of appointing directors to the Board of the Canterbury Development Corporation. Currently the board has 10 members with five Councillor appointments and five independent members to meet the equal number requirement under the constitution. Board members are appointed for a three year term with seven members (four Council appointments) due to retire on 30 May 1999. Councillor Stewart is also a member having been appointed on 30 June 1997 for a three year term expiring on 30 June 2000.

### DISCUSSION

The board has been in place for some time now with 10 members supported by staff. With the requirement to review the director appointments at this time there is an opportunity to review the size of the board. The constitution allows for an equal number of Councillors and independent directors but is silent on the total number. Current business practice suggests that 10 is too large for the size of the organisation and that 6–8 may be a more appropriate number. With the renewed emphasis on economic development during this term of Council and to ensure Council input to achieving these objectives, it is proposed that four Councillors be nominated to the Board in addition to four independent appointees.

Of the four Council Directors completing their term on 30 May 1999, three are no longer Councillors (Vicki Buck, Newton Dodge, Oscar Alpers) with only the Mayor, Garry Moore remaining. In addition Councillor Stewart has one year remaining to complete her term and it is proposed the opportunity is taken to move all Councillor directors to the same three year cycle.

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Strategy and Resources Committee recommend to the Council that four nominations for the Board of Canterbury Development Corporation go forward to the Trustees for consideration resulting in a reduction in the overall number of members to eight.

The Chairman commented:

There are some advantages in having a smaller board of eight, as the report proposes, to facilitate decision-making. However, reducing the size of the board makes it more difficult to represent the range of interests - manufacturing, agricultural, etc - that ought to have a voice at the table. The Mayor, who has been a director of the CDC for six years, holds the view that the current board of 10 is not too large.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Council nominate the Mayor and Councillor Stewart for a further three year term.
  2. That the Council decide whether the board should comprise eight or 10 directors.
  3. That the Council nominate two or three other Councillors for appointment.