3. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

(b) START – MAGGIE TAI RAKENA

Ms Maggie Tai Rakena of START (Sexual Abuse Therapy and Rehabilitation Team) updated the Committee on the team's work, as funding had been received from the Council. Ms Linda Goodrick was present in support. The Committee was provided with a description of the work and services provided, particularly those relating to specialising in counselling and therapy for children. Some of the challenges described included challenging the Family Court system; sourcing qualified people as approved by ACC (approximately five people post-graduate per annum in New Zealand, and there are no Maori ACC-approved Councillors in Christchurch); and the language difficulties encountered with ethnic groups. A large number of referrals come from CYFS and the Police. Statistics indicate that "stranger danger" is almost a redundant phrase.

The information was received.

