

7. 2000 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE

Officer responsible Council Secretary	Author Julie Sadler
Corporate Plan Output: Public Accountability	

The purpose of this report is to seek authority for Councillors to attend the 2000 Local Government New Zealand Conference and to seek the appointment of the Council's voting delegates to the conference.

This year's conference will be held in Christchurch from Monday 10 July to Wednesday 12 July 2000. The theme of the conference is "Focused and Fighting Fit". This refers to the need for local government to prepare itself to meet the challenge, inter alia, of a new partnership with central Government. Both the Prime Minister and the Minister of Local Government will address the conference and engage in dialogue with delegates.

Over the past three years the Council has appointed four to five delegates to attend this conference. This year, however, because the Council is host authority all Councillors have been invited by LGNZ to attend this year's conference. The invitations are for host city Councillors only and cannot be transferred to another person if the Councillor invited is not able to attend. The invitation covers only the basic conference registration. Other expenses associated with the conference will be the Council's responsibility.

Last year Mrs Yvonne Palmer, Chairperson, Shirley/Papanui Community Board, attended the 1999 conference as an observer. Mrs Palmer has suggested, on behalf of the Community Boards Chairpersons Forum, that two Community Board members be authorised to attend this year's conference as there will be no travel or accommodation costs incurred.

The Chairman commented:

It would be valuable for as many Councillors as possible to attend the conference to enable the Council to be a good host. I would particularly urge all Councillors to attend the pre-conference Sunday afternoon tours. The three tours on offer are:

1. Sustainability Tour

This tour includes visits to the Garden City Composting Plant, the energy efficient demonstration home, Recovered Materials Foundation depot, as well as a drive past the Christchurch Waste Treatment Plant and associated activities. If time permits, the tour will also include Wigram Retention Basin.

2. Innovative Facilities/Tours

This tour will showcase a number of major Council projects, including the Entertainment Centre, Centennial Leisure Centre, New Brighton Library/Pier, Queen Elizabeth II Park.

3. **Revitalisation and Heritage Tour**

This tram tour will focus on urban redesign and landscape projects and will visit a number of inner city sites including Victoria Square, New Regent Street, Cathedral Square, the Arts Centre as well as viewing other significant heritage buildings along the tram route.

Ms Carole Stigley, Chief Executive, Local Government New Zealand, was in attendance for the discussion on this clause and recorded her appreciation of the work done by the Council in helping to organise this year's Local Government New Zealand Conference.

- Recommendation:**
1. That all Councillors be authorised to attend the 2000 Local Government New Zealand Conference.
 2. That two Community Board members, nominated by the Community Board Chairs, be authorised to attend the conference.
 3. That the Council appoint Councillors Carole Anderton, David Close and Gail Sheriff as its voting delegates to the conference.