

10. ARRANGEMENTS FOR CO-OPERATION BETWEEN ENVIRONMENT CANTERBURY AND CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

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The purpose of this report is to propose a possible set of structural arrangements for co-operation between Environment Canterbury and the city at elected member level.

Over the last two terms of Council, and particularly in the last term, considerable efforts have been made at elected member level within both Councils to work co-operatively, recognising that the wellbeing of Christchurch is best served by a collaborative approach and that in several areas the two Councils have important complementary roles.

During the last term of the Council there was a formally established Joint Committee which effectively functioned in seminar mode as an opportunity for committee members from both Councils to discuss papers and issues of common concern. Outside of that Joint Committee there were also a number of other co-operative elected member arrangements (for example on what is now called Future Path Canterbury).

It is suggested that on significant issues of joint interest we move to more formally establish ad hoc working parties of elected members from both Councils (say three or four from each). From the Christchurch City Council point of view these elected members would be drawn predominantly from the Standing Committee responsible for the issue under consideration.

These working parties would meet regularly and would be serviced by relevant staff from the two Councils. In the case of some, for example the Public Passenger Transport Working Party, the Working Party is likely to be ongoing although maybe its frequency of meetings will vary from time to time. For other issues a working party would be formed when required and then disbanded when the issue had been dealt with. We see this option as giving flexibility and ensuring that the elected members involved are those with a high interest in the matter under consideration.

It is suggested that initial working parties would include:

- (i) Public Passenger Transport
- (ii) Air Quality in Christchurch
- (iii) Water Chapter of the Regional Resource Management Plans

In addition the Council will need to appoint Councillors to:

- (i) Regional Land Transport Committee
- (ii) Future Path Canterbury

There is also a need for Councillors from both Councils to have regular but infrequent opportunities to canvass wider issues of joint concerns and also to meet to decide whether to set up a working party on a particular topic. It is therefore suggested that our Strategy and Finance Committee could meet informally with representatives of Environment Canterbury in a seminar meeting say quarterly.

The agenda for such meetings would be consideration of matters of joint concern. Where decisions were required as a result of these deliberations they would go through as a paper to the Strategy and Finance Committee and thence onto the Council.

- Recommendation:**
1. That, if such arrangements are agreed, they be proposed to Environment Canterbury for consideration
 2. That the following Councillors be appointed to represent the Council on the working parties/committees listed below:

Public Passenger Transport

Councillor Denis O'Rourke
Councillor Chrissie Williams
Councillor Carole Evans
Councillor Helen Broughton
Councillor Ishwar Ganda (alternate)

Air Quality in Christchurch

Councillor Alister James
Councillor Anna Crighton
Councillor Sue Wells
Councillor Barry Corbett

Water Chapter of the Regional Resource Management Plans

Councillor Sally Buck
Councillor Ishwar Ganda
Councillor David Cox
Councillor Pat Harrow

Regional Land Transport Committee

Councillor Denis O'Rourke
Councillor Ingrid Stonhill
Councillor Ron Wright
Councillor Carole Evans (alternate)

Future Path Canterbury

Councillor Sally Buck
Councillor Sue Wells
Councillor Anna Crighton
Councillor Chrissie Williams
Councillor Pat Harrow
Councillor Carole Evans