

3. NATIONAL LOCAL AUTHORITY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of The National Authority Community Development Conference to be held in August, so that it may select delegates and forward conference details on to Community Boards. Many of the discussion topics at the conference are of direct relevance to the Community Services Committee.

INTRODUCTION

The National Local Authority Community Development Conference entitled 'Promises into Practice – Walking the Talk' will be held in Auckland from 14-17 August. Responsibility for this annual conference moves around the various large local authorities and this year belongs to Auckland City and Manukau City Council. The Committee may recall that Christchurch hosted the 1997 conference in partnership with several other local agencies.

The Local Authority Community Development Conference has traditionally been seen as an opportunity for elected members and staff to network and learn about current community development issues. The Community Relations Unit views the conference as an important learning opportunity and will be represented by several staff. Councillors and Community Board members may find this a valuable opportunity to share their experience and hear about community development initiatives in other parts of the country. Registration is \$500 and accommodation at the conference venue is an additional \$210.

The draft Programme of the Conference is attached.

The Chairman notes that this is an important networking Conference.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be forwarded to Community Boards.
 2. That the Council agree that Councillors Erin Baker, Ingrid Stonhill, Alister James and Carole Anderton attend the conference as the Council's representative.