

4. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

Messrs Tim Barnett (Christchurch Central Electorate Member of Parliament) and Yani Johanson (a former Christchurch Youth Council member, former youth strategy working party participant and skate activist) made a presentation to the Committee on a proposed skate facility outside the new Art Gallery. The submission covered:

- Reference to the Council's Youth Policy and Strategy ("To ensure that the views and needs of young people are taken into account in Council activities").
- Reference to the Council's Recreation Policy ("7. Providing services, facilities and programmes where there is a proven need and no other provider exists").
- Reference to Council resolutions:
"That the design of public spaces and objects take into account the possible effects of skateboarding." (Council meeting, 25 February 1998)
"That the provision of a street skating facility at an appropriate central city site be investigated." (Environment Committee, 10 August 2000)
- Reference to the Art Gallery Functional Design Brief:
 - aims and objectives of the Gallery
 - external elements
 - children and families
 - landscape

They submitted:

Reasons for Skate Facility

- Consistent with Council policy and resolutions.
- Consistent with Art Gallery's Functional Brief.
- Works positively with skaters rather than negatively against.
- There is a need for a central city skate facility.
- Skating is a creative form of expression.

Type and Location of Skate Facility

- Vertical ramp
- Alaskan example
- Location not in conflict with sculpture park
- On Worcester Boulevard

Recommendation from Messrs Barnett MP and Johanson:

"That the Christchurch City Council (in consultation with skaters) investigate the design and implementation of a skate facility at the new Art Gallery."

The opportunity was taken to allow Committee members to ask questions of the deputation. Members agreed that while an inner city skate facility would be popular with skaters, the site recommended by the promoters (Messrs Barnett and Johanson) was not appropriate.

Recommendation: That the matter of a central city skate facility be referred to the Council's Parks and Recreation Committee for consideration.