

11. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT - SUPERINTENDENT JOHN REILLY, NEW ZEALAND POLICE

Superintendent Reilly attended the meeting at the invitation of the Committee and spoke regarding the concerns expressed at the February meeting of the City Services Committee at the possible effects of the financial controls being introduced to reduce a possible budget deficit. Members had expressed concern at the effect of these on front-line policing, youth education and community policing.

Superintendent Reilly provided an outline of the Christchurch Police district structure, statistics on crime and road safety and details of their role in relation to youth education, community constables, prevention initiatives and budgets.

The opportunity was taken for members to ask questions of Superintendent Reilly and the possible budget variance for the current financial year and existing staff vacancies were noted.

Superintendent Reilly confirmed that the approximately nine vacancies currently in hand may take some time to fill by recruiting but confirmed that there was no intention to reduce allocations or existing staffing levels.

In response to a question from the chair, he confirmed that while the present allocation of resources in the Canterbury Police District could be described as fair, it was not adequate in terms of being able to meet all the demands which were currently placed on the Police. An additional 50 extra additional staff would allow him to undertake policing functions at a level that he would view as more satisfactory.

The Committee **moved** that the Council be asked to authorise the Mayor to write to the Minister of Police seeking an additional 50 extra front-line staff for the Canterbury District.