

1. **COLLABORATIVE PLANNING : MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
WITH THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT**

Officer responsible
Director of Policy

Author
Jonathan Fletcher, DDI 941-8548

The purpose of this report is to seek approval for the Council to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Ministry of Social Development (copy of draft memorandum attached).

As the Memorandum of Understanding states, this project began at the initiative of the Mayor and the City Manager, both of whom approached the Minister and the Ministry of Social Development suggesting that a pilot collaboration project be undertaken.

From the Council's point of view there is much to be gained from this project including:

- If we can get government departments in Christchurch to better co-ordinate their activities this should lead to greater effectiveness and better outcomes for the Christchurch community;
- There are a number of issues facing Christchurch (the so called 'wicked issues') that will only be effectively addressed by good collaboration between government agencies;
- The proposals in the Local Government Bill require the City Council to engage with government departments and others in determining the outcomes wanted by the Christchurch community;
- The project may well give us an opportunity to influence central government priorities and get government services that better suit the needs of Christchurch.

The Ministry of Social Development has seconded Bruce Ash (from his position as Regional Commissioner within the Work and Income Section of the Ministry of Social Development) to work in the Strategic Policy Section of the Ministry of Social Development in Wellington. Bruce works half time on this collaborative planning project and gave a presentation to the Community Plans Special Committee meeting on 24 July.

The Memorandum of Understanding formalises the Council and the Ministry of Social Development's commitment to working on this project.

Recommendation: That the Council authorise the Chair of the Community Plans Special Committee to sign the attached Memorandum of Understanding on behalf of the Christchurch City Council.