

9. DRAFT CONSULTATION POLICY, PRESENTATION



Mary Richardson (Social Policy Analyst) presented the draft of the new Consultation Policy for discussion.

The Consultation and Communication Special Committee have been involved in the preparation of a new Consultation Policy. The draft policy has been signed-off by the Committee and is now presented to Community Boards for discussion and feedback. Following feedback the draft Consultation Policy will be submitted for adoption by the Council at its meeting on 24 July 2003.

A fundamental principle of the new Local Government Act is the importance of community consultation over local services and decision making (Section 14(1)(c)). Community consultation is seen as a key ingredient in quality decision-making and policy development.

While the Committee identified that the Council's current policies were consistent with the intent of new legislation, there were however, some inadequacies and discrepancies existing between various policies. Therefore the Consultation and Communication Special Committee agreed that it was appropriate for the Council review its consultation policies.

The proposed new consultation policy has been developed to incorporate and reflect the requirements of the Local Government Act 2002, as well as the Christchurch City Council's commitments to ongoing and effective consultation with the people of the city.

The Board **received** the information and invited individual members to advise Mary Richardson of any comments they wished to make on the draft policy.