



27. 3. 2003

**REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE  
STRATEGY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**PART A - MATTERS REQUIRING A COUNCIL DECISION**

**1. REMITS TO 2003 LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE**

The purpose of this report is to seek Council approval for two remits to be considered by the Zone 5 meeting prior to submission for consideration at the 2003 Local Government Conference.

To be ready in time for the 16 April Zone 5 meeting it has been necessary to raise the matter at the Strategy and Finance Committee meeting and obtain approval at this Council meeting.

Community Boards have also been asked for potential remits and it would assist meeting deadlines if the Council delegated to the Strategy and Finance Committee a one-off power to approve any remits from this source, or from other Council Committees.

**REMITTS**

The two suggestions put forward at the Strategy and Finance Committee meeting were:

1. That, in view of the new responsibility of the Higher Salary Commission for establishing the remuneration level for Mayors and the size of the pool from which Councillors and Community Board members are to be remunerated, and noting the current lack of local government representation on the Commission, the Government be requested to give favourable consideration to the appointment of a commissioner with a background in local government.
2. That representation be made to central government expressing concern about the content of the Transit New Zealand Draft 2003/04 national programme submitting in particular:
  - Transit initiatives/promotions that seek to increase funding to the Land Transport Account/Roading Account or directly to Road Controlling Authorities are generally supported.
  - There is a need to provide an explanation of and better clarity and transparency on how the (non-block) programme was prioritised.
  - There has been a lack of weight given to community expectations built up on projects that are virtually ready for construction and will add considerable value to the State Highway network. To have such projects removed from the programme when they are almost at the point of implementation will be seen as inexcusable by the affected community.

**Chair's**

- Recommendation:**
1. That the two remits set out above be forwarded to the 16 April 2003 Zone 5 meeting for consideration.
  2. That for this year only the Strategy and Finance Committee be delegated responsibility to approve such other remits as may be proposed by Community Boards or other Committees of the Council.

**CONSIDERED THIS 27TH DAY OF MARCH 2003**

**MAYOR**