

2. URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - DEVELOPING THE SCOPE, STRUCTURE AND PROCESS

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The purpose of this report is to:

- Update the Council on feedback to date from neighbouring District Councils and Environment Canterbury regarding the proposed Urban Development Strategy (UDS); and
- To recommend the next steps, in terms of defining the scope, structure and process for strategy development.

In July 2003 the Council adopted the following resolution regarding the proposed Urban Development Strategy:

“That the Committee progress discussions for managing metropolitan growth and strategic planning with the adjoining Council’s and Environment Canterbury seeking a collaborative approach.”

To progress this staff and Committee representatives met with relevant Councils, as set out below, presenting and seeking feedback on the initial UDS concept.

- Christchurch City Council Urban Planning and Growth Special Committee - 1 October 2003
- Environment Canterbury - 2 October 2003
- Waimakariri District Council - 7 October 2003
- Banks Peninsula District Council - 16 October 2003
- Selwyn District Council - 30 October 2003

Feedback from these Councils has been extremely positive including the following responses:

- Environment Canterbury (ECan): There was a full Council attendance at the seminar, with very positive discussion about the need for a Metro UDS. Chairman Richard Johnson commented that he believed that ECan would “strongly support” the initiative and the collaborative approach proposed.
- Waimakariri District Council: The Resource Management and Regulation Committee was very positive and resolved: *That the Committee “supports in principle Christchurch City Council’s Urban Development Strategy initiative.”*
- Banks Peninsula District Council: At the workshop approximately six councillors attended with Mayor Bob Parker “congratulating the City on its initiative” and the proposal, and suggesting that a small group of councillors be asked to further the discussion.

In all of the presentations there was support for staff to progress the following:

- Establish a joint staff team,
- Develop/confirm brief, scope, timeframe and structures,
- Explore the establishment of an external reference group,
- Establish joint Councillor team (eg 2-3 representations from each) to discuss the options for the brief, reporting structures and engagement.

As a result, staff from the respective Councils have agreed to further develop the proposed scope, structure and process for UDS preparation, and to report back to respective Councils in November or December 2003.

To assist this we believe dialogue over the next month or so among elected members of the respective Councils would be desirable. We recommend that representatives from each Council be appointed to progress this “scoping phase” of the UDS, and that the Urban Planning and Growth Committee appoint the Chair and three members to be the initial City Council representatives. This will lead to a common report, recommending the next steps for all participating Councils in late November/early December 2003.

Recommendation:

1. That to enable discussions to be continued between Councils, the Urban Planning and Growth Committee appoint the Chair and three other members to be the initial City Council representatives on the joint Council team, for further developing the scope, structure and process for the Urban Development Strategy.
2. That the Chair, Councillor Sally Buck and Councillors Denis O'Rourke, Sue Wells and Chrissie Williams be the initial City Council representatives.