

appendix 2

Rationale for Council Activities

Local government enables the community to do together what people are not able to do individually.

1. Art Gallery

This activity provides for the maintenance and development of some 5,200 items of artwork, mounting of regular exhibitions from the permanent collection and temporary touring exhibitions. It also involves the provision of information and advice on the visual arts.

There is no statutory requirement for the Council to be in the business of Art Galleries. However, certain legal

obligations have been imposed on the city in respect of bequests and trusts made to the city in the past. This means that the Council becomes responsible for the collection items and donations which have been gifted to the city.

The Robert McDougall Art Gallery aims to enhance the cultural well-being of the community through the cost effective provision and development of an art museum to maximise enjoyment of visual art exhibitions. This also involves promoting public appreciation of the Canterbury region's art heritage by collecting, conserving, studying and disseminating knowledge of works of art.



The Council has commenced the construction of a new Art Gallery for the city. Virtually all the existing activities of this function will be operated out of this new facility and these will be greatly enhanced by the increased size and facility of the new building.

2. Car Parking

This activity provides for the management and operation of off-street parking facilities (3,600 spaces) and on-street parking meters (2,350 spaces); the fair enforcement of traffic regulations and parking by-laws; policing stationary vehicles; administering the removal and disposal of abandoned vehicles; the control of revenue from these activities.

The statutory requirement to engage in these activities is delegated to local authorities by Central Government through the Transport Act 1962 and pursuant to the provisions of the Local Government Act (1974).

The aim of the car parking activity is to enhance the amenity and accessibility of commercial areas. It also aims to ensure an efficient safe operation of the city's roading system by managing public parking resources and fair enforcement of traffic regulations and parking by-laws.

In the future there will be consideration of Suburban Parking initiatives, Inner City Parking initiatives in conjunction with developing inner city development initiatives including the development of further parking buildings.

3. City Streets

This activity provides management and maintenance of the city's roading system, including road and footpath surfaces, kerbs and channels, traffic signals and street lighting; traffic safety education, planning of new roads, and provision of the tram tracks in the inner city which are used by a commercial operator to run trams.

Statutory requirements to engage in these activities are contained in the Transit New Zealand Act (1989), the Land Transport Act (1993), the Local Government Act (1974), the Transport Act (1962) and the Resource Management Act (1991).

The long term transport vision of the Council aims to provide a city which has a sustainable, safe, convenient and efficient system of roads, cycleways, footways and passenger transport services ... so that ...

- People are satisfied with the level of service for personal mobility, and they have freedom of choice of transport mode - by car, bus, cycle or on foot.
- Businesses (and therefore the economy) are supported by levels of service for goods movement which are consistent with efficient business operations.
- Christchurch is the safest city in New Zealand, as perceived by road users and as judged by crash data.
- Christchurch is the most cycle friendly city - anywhere.
- People use passenger transport much more than they do today - and it keeps growing as a proportion of all trips.
- Christchurch is the most pedestrian friendly city, anywhere - especially for children, the elderly and the disabled.
- Physical assets on streets meet agreed community expectations and they are managed in the most cost effective way.
- The City's natural and physical environment is protected and enhanced.

4. Community Services

The objective is to provide for Community interaction through facilitation and advocacy services within communities and the Council Business Units. This is provided by:

- Advocacy including liaison and facilitation in the areas of
 - Metropolitan Groups
 - Local Communities
 - Youth



- Children
- Maori
- Organising and managing community activities and facilities for defined communities.
- The provision of Early Childhood Education through three Council owned and operated facilities and financially supporting other community managed childcare facilities.
- Advice on applications for metropolitan and community funding in accordance with established policy and guidelines.

Service delivery is from the Civic Offices and six suburban service centres. Administrative support to the Community Boards that are based at the six locations. These arrangements maximise the opportunity for the community to participate in the Council process affecting their area.

The Council believes the service delivery network is a key element in providing accessible local government to its communities.

- Provision and dissemination of Christchurch City promotion and marketing material.
- Promotion and co-ordination of, including seeking additional opportunities, for a wide variety of variety of exchanges with Christchurch's sister cities.

5. Economic Development and Employment

The overall service objective in the economic development and employment area is to provide sustainable economic development and increased employment through ensuring the co-ordinated provision of information, advisory, support and marketing services which result in the level of investment and the number of jobs in the city being greater than would otherwise be the case.

The Council develops policies and funds the implementation of service delivery. In some cases the Council directly delivers services, in most cases the services are delivered by others under contract.

The Council funds the Canterbury Development Corporation Ltd, which facilitates the creation of employment opportunities for young people and adults, assists with employment creation and provides a range of services to enhance the sustainability of small businesses by focusing on improved management capability.

70% of the distributable income from the Capital Endowment Fund is to be applied to economic development projects.

The Council also contributes to the work of Christchurch and Canterbury Marketing Ltd which provides services to visitors to the city, including convention marketing, tourism marketing and visitor information services.

These activities are carried out pursuant to the Council's policies of 'Business Policy - Attracting New Business To Christchurch'; and 'Employment and Economic Development Strategies'.

This activity also includes the promotion and operation of the Town Hall, Convention Centre and the WestpacTrust Sport and Entertainment Centre which are managed for the Council through Christchurch City Facilities Ltd by NCC (New Zealand) Ltd. These multi-functional facilities are designed to attract major sporting and entertainment events and any other shows or exhibitions requiring extensive indoor space.

The Council has recently formed Jade Stadium Ltd to overview the redevelopment and management of the park to ensure major outdoor sporting events continue to come to Christchurch.

The aim of these facilities is to provide cultural, social and economic benefits to the Christchurch community by promoting the convention and entertainment facilities as pre-eminent venues for presenting the performing arts, conventions, trade exhibitions, sports and entertainment.

6. Environmental Policy and Services

The service objective of the Council for this activity is to manage and plan the use, development and protection of the natural and physical resources of the city in a sustainable way which:

- meets the reasonable foreseeable needs of future generations;
- provides effective opportunities for business and other economic activities;
- protects and enhances the significant natural environmental qualities of the city;
- provides for a diverse range of housing needs;
- maintains and enhances the amenity values of the city;
- enhances the landscape, visual and heritage qualities of the city;
- limits the adverse effects of activities on the environment;
- provides for a pattern of community, recreation and shopping facilities that effectively services the needs of the city;
- co-ordinates development with the provision of services;
- provides effectively for movement around the city;
- balances the right of landowners to develop activities and the rights of the community to have external effects minimised;
- applies the principles of environmental health in ways which promote the health, safety, comfort and well-being of the citizens of the city;

This activity undertakes to:

- prepare, review, monitor and administer the objectives, policies and rules of the City Plan prepared under the Resource Management Act 1991;
- process land use and subdivision consents;
- administer the Building Act and Code;



- administer environmental health and animal control statutes and bylaws;
- monitor the preparation and administration of policy statements and plans prepared by Environment Canterbury and adjacent local authorities;
- prepare concept plans for urban renewal and environmental improvements of the city, including the Central City;
- provide policy advice on planning and development, conservation, design and heritage, transportation and environmental health issues, that affect the city;
- develop projects and prepare feasibility studies for achieving the objectives and policies of the City Plan, other than by regulation;
- administer funds set aside for promoting heritage retention and the removal of non-conforming activities;
- provide information and advice on statutes and regulations;
- process applications for land information memoranda;
- monitor and control adverse environmental effects;
- promote an awareness of the environmental issues and values of the city.

This service arises from community desires to maintain and enhance the environment in which we all live, work and play.

Statutory requirements to engage in these activities are contained in the following: Resource Management Act (City Plan and planning administration); Building Act 1991; Dog Control Act 1996; Food Act 1981; Heath Act 1956; Sale of Liquor Act 1989; Dangerous Goods Act 1974; and the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms Act 1996.

The Council endeavours to manage the use, development and protection of the natural and physical resources of the city in a manner which enables the city, and its communities and people, to provide in a sustainable, healthy and safe way, for their social, economic and cultural needs. It also undertakes to ensure that the statutory purposes and principles of building control, health, dangerous goods and liquor licensing, and of animal control, are achieved with minimal compliance costs.

The functions listed above are linked to change and growth of the city, which requires continuous management. Over the next decade it is anticipated that the Proposed City Plan will become operative and changes to that document will be on-going.

7. Housing

The overall service objective of the Housing Activity is to provide safe, accessible and affordable housing to elderly persons, people with disabilities and people on low income thus ensuring their personal welfare and contribute to the community's social well-being.

This activity provides for the management and enhancement of Council owned elderly persons housing stock, public rental housing and some general housing and administering of its tenancy.

The Christchurch City Council has chosen as a matter of policy to continue to be engaged in providing affordable quality housing for qualifying individuals and groups. All tenants are of limited means, and most are elderly. Rental levels are below "market". However, they are such that this function is self-funding and is therefore not a charge on rates.

The Council is currently completing a Housing Asset Management Plan which will ensure the housing portfolio

remains sustainable in perpetuity. Surplus funds are held in the Housing Development Fund and will be utilised to ensure sufficient funds are available to meet the future needs of replacement of the ageing housing stock.

The significant trends in the Council provision of Housing include:

- The gradual integration of age groups
- A higher level of tenant support including organised activities
- Increasing financial support / partnership with community organisations who provide housing.

8. Library and Information Services

The Council operates a Central Library, 12 community libraries, one children's library and two mobile libraries which issue over five million items each year to 222,000 registered members. Services include lending a wide range of books, magazines, compact discs, videos and software; access to and assistance with information, both print and electronic; programmes and initiatives which support literacy, education, culture, arts and literature; and research and reference facilities for Canterbury and New Zealand material.

Statutory reference to libraries is made in the Local Government Act 1974, under S 601 (4), which provides for councils to run libraries. The Act allows for charges to be made for certain services, but states that membership shall be free to all residents.

The overall service objective for this activity is to develop the knowledge, literacy and information skills of the city's residents and to contribute to the city's cultural, economic and social well-being and cultural understanding by providing and promoting accessible, non-exclusive, high quality and cost effective library and information services. There is also an objective to continue to provide effective lending and information services to clients of the library system.

9. Public Accountability

The public accountability activity provides for the government of the city by the Mayor, Councillors and Community Board members. This function of the Council aims to achieve the purposes of local government, including recognising the identity, values and rights of the Christchurch community, providing for choice in the provision of public facilities and services, and encouraging effective public participation in the governance of the city. Public accountability also includes publishing the Annual Plan and Annual Report to enable the public to assess the effectiveness and performance of the Council. It also covers the monitoring of the Council's trading activities such as Orion, Christchurch International Airport, Red Bus, Lyttelton Port Company, Selwyn Plantation Board and City Care Limited. This monitoring is undertaken by Councils wholly owned subsidiary Christchurch City Holdings Ltd.

The Council has a statutory responsibility to engage in this activity under the Local Government Act 1974 and the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

The overall service objective for this activity is to achieve the purposes of local government, including recognising identity, values and rights of the Christchurch community, providing for choice in the provision of public facilities and services, and encouraging effective public participation in local government.

10. Sewerage

Specific activities relating to the provision of liquid waste services include sewage and other wastewater collection, reticulation, pumping, sewage treatment re-use and disposal. These activities have a significant impact on the maintenance of the health of the citizens of Christchurch and the quality of their environment. The network consists of:

- 80 sewer pumping stations;
- 1,562km of sewer mains in public roads;
- 1,180km of sewer laterals in public roads (117,036 connections);
- 22,105 manholes;
- 1,600 flush tanks;
- Three treatment works;
- Total replacement value is \$582M, current depreciated value \$291m as at June 2000;

Liquid waste services are provided by the Council under the requirements of the Health Act 1956, Local Government Act 1974, and Resource Management Act 1991.

In summary, the aim is the provision of liquid waste management services for the community in an efficient, safe, and environmentally responsible manner.

11. Solid and Hazardous Waste Minimisation and Disposal

Specific activities of the Council with regard to solid refuse are carried out under a Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Strategy. This includes operation of the following facilities:

- Three Refuse Stations
- Compost Manufacturing plant
- Three Recycling Centres and one retail outlet for recycled goods (Supershed)
- One Landfill

The size of the operation is indicated by the input of approximately 250,000 tonnes per year of refuse to the landfill.

Solid waste minimisation and disposal services are provided by the Council under the requirements of the Health Act 1956, Local Government Act 1974 and the Resource Management Act 1991. Part of this activity is to educate the public to be responsible in the recycling of materials.

In summary the aim is the provision of solid and hazardous waste management services for the community in an efficient, safe and environmentally responsible manner.

12. Water Supply

Specific assets operated by the Council in this area include:

- 1,300km of water mains;
- 2,000km of water sub-mains;
- 111,606 connections;
- 54 primary pumping stations (sites with wells that abstract water) plus 32 secondary pumping stations (many, but not all are located at reservoirs);
- 7 principal bulk storage reservoirs plus 24 secondary reservoirs;
- Instrumentation and Control system
- Total replacement value \$310M, current depreciated value \$165m as at June 2000

While there is no mandatory requirement that the Council provides these services, empowerment to undertake the activity is provided by the Local Government Act 1974. The ability to fund the services derives from the Rating Powers Act 1988.

The overall service objective for this activity is to provide a sufficient, reliable and cost effective supply of high quality potable water to the Christchurch business and residential communities.

13. Sport, Leisure, and Events

The service objectives of the Leisure function is to promote healthy and enjoyable lifestyles through the direct and indirect

provision of recreation, sport, arts and events in the city.

(a) Sports, Recreation and Arts

This activity provides for the operation and maintenance of a variety of swimming pools, recreation facilities and sports stadia including the management of leased facilities such as camping grounds, stadia and golf courses and also includes the provision and facilitation of recreation, sports and arts activities in the community including Community Board funded programmes and activities focusing on meeting the needs of the local communities in their own locations.

This activity also includes the attraction of major sports events to the city and working with organisers to ensure they are a success.

These activities are significant ways in which the Council achieves the outcomes of the Recreation and Sports Policy, ie contributing to the quality of life of residents, particularly youth and children by supporting a broad range of recreation and sport services, facilities and programmes.

(b) Festivals and Events

Festivals and Events activities include the direct provision of major events and festivals eg Summertime, the administration of core funded festivals eg International Buskers Festival and the promotion of the Christchurch Events Calendar – 'Be There'.

These activities contribute to the achievement of the Festivals and Events Policy outcomes, increasing the well-being of residents, attracting economic benefits through visitors and



promoting the development of the events industry.

14. Parks and Waterways

The purpose of this activity is to manage and plan the city's parks, waterways and greenspace assets and services in accordance with legislative requirements and Council Strategic Objectives and, in a manner that contributes to the sustainability of environmental, economic, recreational, cultural, amenity, social and community values.

This activity includes:

- Maintenance and development of the city's parks, reserves and greenspace areas.
- Preservation and development of the city's urban tree resource.
- Provision of facilities for informal recreation and organised sport.
- Maintenance and operation of cemeteries.
- Maintenance and development of the city's Botanic Gardens and the preservation of plant collections.
- Management and provision of an effective drainage network for the city.
- Protection and enhancement of waterways, wetlands, ecological sites and other natural features.
- Provision of opportunities for community education, participation and guardianship education.
- Management of rural fire fighting responsibilities.
- Delivery of related planning and regulatory functions.

Statutory requirements to engage in these activities are contained in the Reserves Act (1977), Local Government Act (1974), Resource Management Act (1991), Forest and Rural Fires Act (1977), Burial and Cremation Act (1964) and the Christchurch District Drainage Act.

Significant components of growth in this activity include:

- Provision of additional reserve areas to meet community requirements for recreational open space.
- Purchase and protection of significant ecological heritage sites to maintain and enhance the city's biodiversity.
- Purchase, protection and restoration of waterways and wetlands to enhance drainage, landscape, recreational, cultural, ecological and heritage values.
- Purchase and development of a new cemetery site to service the needs of the city's residents.
- Planning, provision and management of sustainable storm water solutions for new and existing residential subdivisions.
- Storm water pumping station stabilisation from earthquake induced liquefaction.

