

## 7. HERITAGE RESEARCH UPDATE PROGRAMME

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee on the upgrade of documentation on listed heritage items currently being undertaken by the Urban Design & Heritage Team, and also to report on the outcome of the first meeting of the Territorial Authority Heritage Planners Forum initiated by the Heritage Team.

### BACKGROUND

The City Plan includes in Volume 3, Chapter 10, Appendix 1 a list of 594 heritage buildings, places and objects. A number of these properties have their listing supported by substantial documentary support. However, for 458 buildings, places and objects in the list, a minimum standard of research and documentation was assessed as being inadequate, as reported to this Committee in February of this year. Of these 87 properties (Priority 1) were considered to be substantially lacking in basic information, with the remaining 371 properties (Priority 2) were identified as having a modest amount of information.

### PROGRESS TO DATE

Three highly qualified research consultants, Gareth Wright, John Wilson and Margaret Lovell-Smith, were contracted for research work on Priority 2 sites from the end of April 2004 to 30 June 2004. This was funded from available monies in the 2003/04 heritage budget. The total spent on the research update to date is \$13,000.

Researchers have been spending an average of 10 hours per site, and information for 50 listed heritage items has been updated so far. Items recently researched include a number of dwellings in Papanui Road and Park Terrace, the horse watering ramp in Victoria Square and a number of commercial buildings in Worcester Street. The Assistant Heritage Planner is also contributing to this project. Recently this has included research of Priority 1 sites such as Cashel Chambers and the former Odeon/Assembly of God.

The current research contracts in place will be reviewed for the 04/05 financial year, which has a budget item allocation of \$40,000 for this project. Due to the limited availability of qualified researchers and limited yearly budget available for the update (\$40,000 has been approved per annum for two years), this project and its budget is to continue into the 2005/06 financial year.

### HERITAGE RISK MANAGEMENT

Attached to this report is the current schedule of heritage properties at risk.

#### Chairman's

**Recommendation:** That the information be received.