6. NEW RESIDENT GROUPS, SEEKING BOARD RECOGNITION

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The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's consideration to the recognition and agreement to the boundaries of two recently-formed resident groups:

1 Upper Riccarton Residents' Association

In a recent letter to the Board the Associations' Secretary writes:

"The local residents of Upper Riccarton have found it necessary to set up a Residents' Group and would like official recognition from the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board.

The name of our group is:- Upper Riccarton Residents' Association.

The boundaries are:- Yaldhurst Road, Middlepark Road, Craven Street, Main South Road, English Street."

The Advocacy Team has considered the request; the only concern is that this group could be confused with the llam and Upper Riccarton Residents' Association.

In discussion with a spokesperson from the Association:

- They are very keen to retain the name "Upper Riccarton Residents' Association"
- At a recent public meeting they had 120 residents
- They have 12 committee members and have had three meetings
- They have appointed a Chairman and Treasurer

2 Steadman Road Area Residents' Group

Their Chairperson and Secretary write:

"On the 21 February 2004, a group of approximately 15 residents of the Steadman Road area met with the intention of forming a residents' group. In addition, other residents of the area, who were unable to attend this meeting, expressed their interest in belonging to such a group by responding to a letterbox drop late last year. In total, 32 individuals and families have indicated their support for such a group.

We are seeking official recognition of our residents' group from the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board of the Christchurch City Council.

Three residents' committee members were elected by the residents present at the meeting of 21 February and this group will co-opt two additional members to the committee once the residents' group is officially recognised."

The Advocacy Team is very supportive of the formation of this group. It is well defined and the residents have been active in a range of issues already (with Board members and the Community Advocate).

COUNCIL POLICY

A copy of the "Residents' Association Formation and Recognition Policy" of 23 August 2001 is **attached**, for members' information.

A map of the approved Riccarton/Wigram Residents' Groups/Association is shown below, with these two groups included.

CONCLUSION

These two groups have been quite active in their area for some time and their requests to become recognised Residents' Association is supported.

The Board will need to discuss the naming of the Upper Riccarton Residents' Association ...

It has been Board practice to approve up to two members to act in a liaison role with residents' groups and this has produced good benefits for all parties concerned.

Representatives from both groups have been invited to attend today's Board meeting to introduce themselves and perhaps make some comments on the role of their Associations and the issues that they see in their immediate area at this time.

