

#### 4. ADDINGTON CEMETERY CONSERVATION PLAN

<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager City Environment
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Michael Aitken, Greenspace Unit Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Ann Liggett, Parks and Waterways Area Advocate, DDI 941-5111

##### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval to adopt the Addington Cemetery Conservation Plan.

##### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. A copy of the conservation plan has previously been distributed to Board members for their perusal.
3. A conservation plan is a practical tool, which documents the history of the cemetery and assesses its heritage significance. Next, policies, implementation strategies and conservation guidelines are developed to guide future works.
4. A conservation plan does not mean that the cemeteries are "set in stone" and cannot be touched; rather, it gives guidance for their appropriate future development and use to ensure their survival and relevance for future generations.
5. In June 2005 the Community Board supported and funded the preparation of a conservation plan for Addington Cemetery to guide the Council in respect of its future maintenance and preservation.
6. The Plan went out for public consultation during August/September 2005 and copies were sent to key stakeholders and made available for the general public at the South Christchurch Service Centre, Our City and libraries. A number of copies were also posted out on request from members of the public.
7. During the consultation period there were a number of media releases, radio stories, and a significant article in The Press which raised vast public interest.
8. An open day was held at Addington Cemetery on Saturday, 3 September 2005 where approximately 85 people attended (on a very cold day), sharing stories and having an informal walk around the Cemetery.
9. During the consultation period people were asked to register their interest if they had family members buried in the Cemetery and 146 registrations of interest from descendants have been received.
10. The Conservation Plan has been widely supported by both the descendants of people buried in the Cemetery and by specialist interest groups, eg Historic Places Trust of New Zealand.
11. As a result of the consultation there were no significant issues raised in relation to the content of the document, although some minor changes were made to correct some of the details.
12. John Rhind, Funeral Directors, has also pledged to sponsor part of the restoration of the Cemetery to mark the company's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary and in recognition of the fact that the present John Rhind's grandfather is buried there.
13. The Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board has embraced a similar process and is currently in the consultation phase for the preparation of a conservation plan for Linwood Cemetery.

##### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

14. The Conservation Plan was funded by the Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board, all ongoing work in the Cemetery will be funded through the Greenspace Unit Capital Works budget and other sources of funding which may arise.
15. Addington Cemetery is a listed heritage site within the City Plan.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Community Board approve the adoption of the Addington Cemetery Conservation Plan.

**CHAIRPERSON'S RECOMMENDATION**

That the staff recommendation be adopted.