

8. NEW ZEALAND COMMUNITY BOARDS' FORUM JULY 2006 – BOARD MEMBER ATTENDANCE

General Manager responsible:	Peter Mitchell. General Manager, Regulation and Democracy Services
Officer responsible:	Liz Carter
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek Board approval for the attendance of Board Members Steve Lowndes and Bryan Morgan at the forthcoming New Zealand Community Boards' Forum to be held in Lower Hutt from 13 to 15 July 2006.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The purpose of the forum is to examine the nature of relationships between Councils and their Community Boards. The theme of the forum is "Meeting Expectation". The forum will consider the expectations that Community Board members, Councillors, staff and electorates have of each other and of themselves. The aim is that participants will go away with:
 - o A clearer understanding of the functions of Community Boards, Council and staff; and
 - o Guidelines on how Councils, Community Boards and staff can work together positively to achieve good governance and vibrant communities.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

3. There are no legal considerations.
4. The total costs per member to attend would be around \$1,000, which would be met from the Board's operational budget for 2005/06. (A budget of \$6,000 was allowed for Akaroa-Wairewa Community Board members to attend conferences for the 2005/06 year, of which none has been expended) The cost includes the \$500 conference registration fee, approximately \$250 for return flights and \$275 for two nights' accommodation.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board gives consideration to the approval of the attendance of Steve Lowndes and Bryan Morgan at the New Zealand Community Boards' Forum 2006, in Lower Hutt during period 13 to 15 July 2006.