

## 5. FUNDING OF AGRICHEMICAL COLLECTION

<b>General Manager Responsible:</b>	General Manager City Environment DDI 941-8656
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	City Water and Waste Manager
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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to request continued support of the regional agrichemical collection by central government.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Over the past three years the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) has contributed towards the disposal of the majority of chemicals collected through the Canterbury Targeted Agrichemical Collection.
3. Staff have been informed that there will be no funding available to Canterbury councils for the 2005/06 financial year as it is MfE's wish to concentrate "*on working in regions which are almost clear of the legacy of unwanted agrichemicals and those councils we have not previously worked with*".
4. This loss of funding has significantly reduced the amount of chemicals we can collect, and therefore the number of people who can participate.
5. The councils have, over the past four years gained the trust of the rural community to participate in a collection and come forward with their redundant agrichemicals. This trust and our current momentum could be jeopardised by this sudden loss of funding and our subsequent failure to meet the expectations that have been raised due to the successes of previous years. Therefore staff consider that a letter be sent by the councils to the Minister for the Environment requesting that funding be provided for this and subsequent financial years.

### FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

6. None required from the committee. However, in the 2005/06 year councils contributed \$218,000 and collected over 35 tonnes of material, with MfE funding the disposal of the majority of the intractable chemicals. This financial year the loss of this MfE funding means that although the participating councils have committed over \$197,000 we will only be able to collect 13 tonnes of material, a significant reduction.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the committee approve that the attached letter be sent to the Minister for the Environment requesting that funding be provided for this and subsequent financial years.