

2. SAFER CHRISTCHURCH – A PROPOSED APPROACH

Officer responsible General Manager Community Services	Author Stephen McArthur, DDI 941-8534
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The purpose of this report is to advise of the proposed approach for the development and implementation of a Safer Christchurch strategy.

BACKGROUND

The Christchurch Safer Community Council was established as a trust in June 1994 and in October 2001 was renamed Safer Christchurch. This organisation is responsible for leading, facilitating and initiating crime reduction programmes in liaison with other key agencies and community organisations. It currently receives funding from the Crime Prevention Unit and the Christchurch City Council. A number of successful initiatives have been undertaken including installation of crime cameras, employment of youth workers and various community projects. Safer Christchurch employs a co-ordinator.

As a result of a review of the Safer Community Council network undertaken by the CPU in October 2003, the Council has moved to take a primary role in leading and co-ordinating safety in Christchurch City. The CPU decided that there would be no further funding for the Safer Community Councils in the current form and that metropolitan local authorities were best placed to act as lead agents for community safety initiatives. The Safer Christchurch Trust has resolved to wind up and pass lead agent responsibility over to the Christchurch City Council as at 30 June 2004.

A seminar was held for the Community and Leisure and Strategy and Finance Committees and Community Board Chairs in February which outlined the proposals contained in this report.

LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN

The Christchurch City Council adopted its draft Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) on 18 March 2004 for public consultation. One of the identified Community Outcomes is: A Safe City.

A Safe City

Outcomes	Challenges and Opportunities	Key Indicators
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our people are free from crime, violence, abuse and injury • Our City's urban form and infrastructure maximise safety and security for all people from crime, injury and hazards • Our economy invests in mitigating threats to safety and security 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve road safety • Reduce crime • Ensure safe neighbourhoods and children, young people and families <p>Council Activity Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City Development • Community Services • Refuse Minimisation and Disposal • Regulatory Services • Sewerage Treatment and Disposal • Streets & Transport • Water Supply • Waterways & Land Drainage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perceptions of safety, including child safety • Injury & Crime rates • Road Safety • Environmental Safety

The Council has included \$100,000 in the draft LTCCP to enable it to lead and co-ordinate safety in Christchurch City. The CPU will continue to fund the CCC for local crime prevention projects. However this is subject to an agreement on an acceptable governance model or mechanism which encourages a partnership approach and the provision of other information by 31 May 2004.

CPU REQUIREMENTS

The CPU has advised that a number of requirements need to be met by 31 May 2004 in order to complete funding allocation and contractual mechanisms. These are as follows:

- Proposed governance model and mechanisms to give effect to partnership approach
- Draft Safer City Strategy which identifies planned crime prevention activities for the next three years
- Evidence that the crime prevention plan is incorporated into the Draft LTCCP
- Structures and mechanisms are in place (or being implemented) that demonstrate how the Council will lead manage and monitor local crime prevention activities

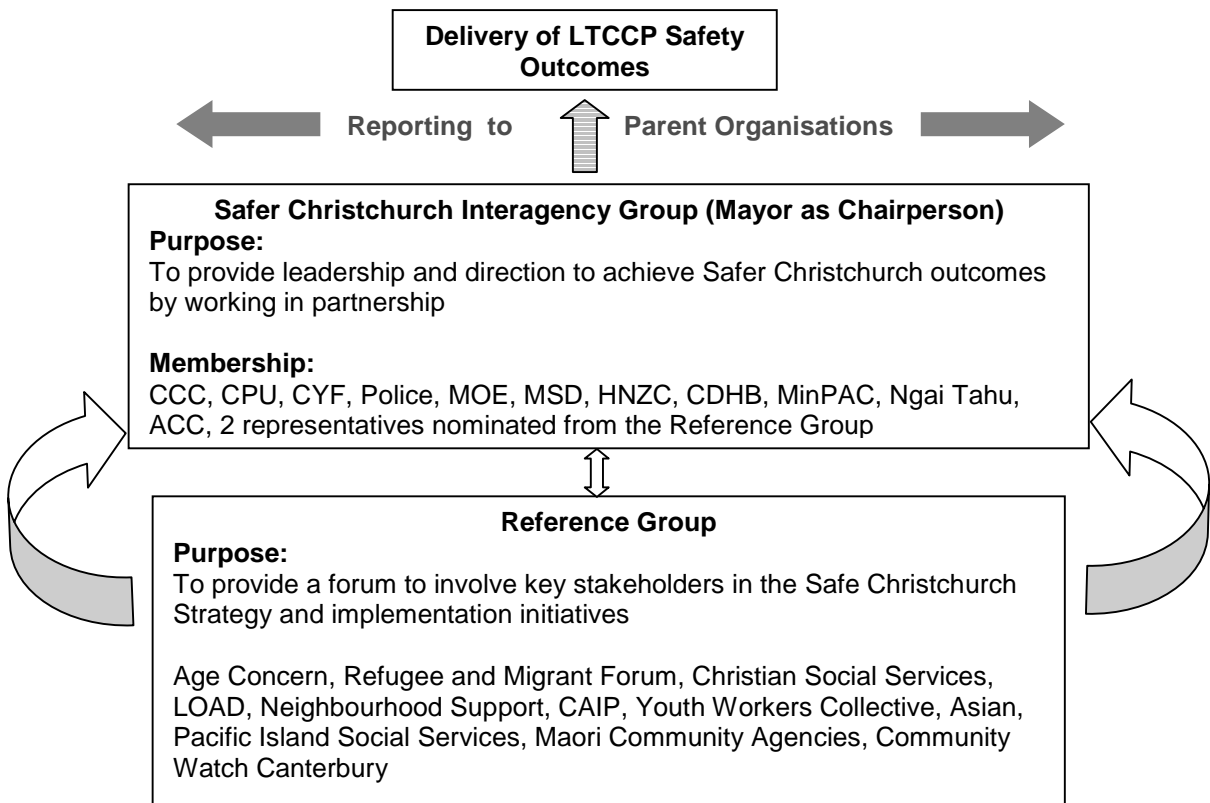
PROPOSED GOVERNANCE MODEL

A proposed governance model was presented to Councillors at a seminar in February. This model is outlined below. It is important that this model is discussed with the CPU to ascertain their likely support before it is recommended to the yet to be formed Interagency Group. Establishing the Interagency Group is a priority, as it will have a key role in guiding the development and implementation of the Safer Christchurch strategy.

Within the Christchurch City Council organisation the Chief Executive has allocated responsibility to the General Manager Community Services to:

- Oversee the development of the “Safer Christchurch” Strategy
- Facilitate partnerships and funding relationship with CPU (including project budget for the Interagency Group)
- Lead and co-ordinate staff activity across the whole organisation
- Report to the Council on outcomes
- Report to CPU

The General Manager will establish an appropriate staff team from across the organisation to ensure these functions are effectively delivered.



STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

It is important that a draft Strategy is developed to meet CPU requirements in order to qualify for funding. CPU have indicated that the deadline for supplying the CPU with a draft strategy is 31 May 2004. After discussion with CPU they have agreed that a 12 month project list for crime reduction will suffice by this date therefore allowing more time to develop the Strategy through the Safer Christchurch Interagency Group and engaging the key stakeholders in the process.

The Strategic Development Group has overall responsibility for strategy development and monitoring strategy effectiveness within the CCC. The group has agreed to prepare a project outline and recommended process for consideration of the Safer Christchurch Interagency Group.

STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION

Responsibility for leading and co-ordinating the implementation of the Safer Christchurch strategy rests within the Community Services Group, although other groups such as City Environment will also have a key role. Within the Community Services Group, the Community and Recreation Unit will provide the appropriate resources to oversee the implementation of the agreed City Council's responsibilities and projects which arise from the strategy and are funded through the LTCCP. Up until 30 June 2004 (when Safer Christchurch winds up) regular meetings will be held with Yvonne Palmer (Co-ordinator) and the current Safer Christchurch Management Group to ensure a smooth handover and appropriate involvement. Responsibility for winding up the trust will rest with the Safer Christchurch Management Group.

KEY MILESTONES AND NEXT STEPS

Task	Timeframe
Discuss Proposal with CEO and other key CCC staff	Completed
Discuss Proposal with Mayor and Deputy Mayor	Completed
Discuss Proposal with CPU	Initiated
Report to Strategy and Finance Committee	April
Establish Safe Christchurch Interagency Group	April
Establish Reference Group	April
Establish Staff Team	April
Initiate Safe Christchurch Strategy Development	April
Respond to CPU Requirements, including funding	31 May 2004
Finalise Safe Christchurch Strategy	1 July 2004
Project Implementation	1 July onwards

- Recommendation:**
1. That the information be received.
 2. That the Mayor be appointed as the Chairperson of the Safer Christchurch Interagency Group.
 3. That the Safer Christchurch Trust be thanked for its valuable work since 1990.
 4. That the General Manager Community Services be authorised to develop and approve terms of reference for the Safer Christchurch Interagency Group.