

7. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATION TO OUTSIDE BODIES

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PROPOSAL/PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to seek the appointment of Council representatives on certain Council-related or outside bodies where such appointments are required urgently, or where the appointment of a Council representative is mandatory.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Previously, the Council appointed a large number of representatives to outside organisations. During the 2001-04 term the Council appointed over 50 representatives to approximately 35 organisations.

Since the elections, Councillors have held informal discussions concerning such representation. The appointments proposed cover those organisations where early appointments are required. A further report will be submitted in due course on the possible appointment of representatives to the remaining organisations, to which the Council has traditionally made appointments.

A schedule listing the proposed appointments is attached.

PRESENT COUNCIL POLICY

The present Council policy governing these appointments is as follows:

"That the Council appoint formal representatives on outside organisations only where the proposed appointment will be of clear public benefit or benefit to the Council, or where the appointment is required for statutory reasons, or under the provisions of the relevant Trust Deed or Constitution etc of the organisation concerned."

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Where Councillors are appointed to outside organisations, their attendance at meetings will be covered by their elected members' salary, and meeting fees will not apply. Thus, there are no substantial financial implications, apart from the payment of mileage incurred in attending such meetings.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:

- (a) That the persons listed in the attached schedule be appointed to represent the Council on the organisations shown with effect from 1 January 2005.
- (b) That, where no specific person is proposed, the Council decide at the present meeting which person/s are to be appointed in respect of the affected organisation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON SOME OF THE ORGANISATIONS LISTED

Councillors have previously requested some further background information regarding some of the organisations listed, ie:

Estuary Ihutai Trust

Advice was sought as to whether a Council appointment/s was required in this case. It has since been ascertained that the Christchurch City Council representative is an ex-officio member of the trust, with full voting rights.

Mayor's Welfare Fund

The fund's trust deed is currently being checked to confirm the eligibility of the Mayoress (Pam Sharpe) to serve as chair.

Summit Road Protection Authority

Information was sought as to when the Authority met, and the duration of the meetings. This is a separate Authority set up under an Act of Parliament. It is funded by and has representatives from several local authorities, Ngai Tahu, land owners and DOC. The Christchurch City Council appoints one representative. The Authority meets at the Beckenham Service Centre once every two months, with each meeting taking up to two hours. There is also an advisory committee which meets on the same day, prior to the full meeting of the Authority.

Canterbury Development Corporation Trust Destination Christchurch Trust

The role of the Canterbury Development Corporation and Destination Christchurch Trusts is to hold the shares in the Canterbury Development Corporation and Christchurch and Canterbury Marketing Ltd respectively, to appoint the directors and to review the annual performance of both organisations. In the past the same Councillor has served on both trusts and it would be ideal if this arrangement could continue as it provides a good overview of the two organisations which deliver services in the economic development area. The trusts meet only 2-3 times a year and meetings are between one and two hours in duration. The time commitment is therefore not demanding.

PROPOSED COMMITTEE STRUCTURE REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

The previous Council established the above subcommittee to make recommendations to the incoming Council on a range of governance issues, including the appointments to outside organisations.

The Subcommittee, in reviewing this issue, noted that with the reduction in the total number of Councillors, there would not be the same number of Councillors available for appointments to outside organisations as there had been in the past.

After discussion, the Subcommittee agreed that the following criteria should apply to requests for Councillors to be appointed to outside organisations:

- What is the extent of Council funding of the organisation (ongoing, significant)?
- Is there statutory provision that the appointment is compulsory?
- If appointment is requested by way of a constitution or trust deed which is not compulsory, then the appointment needs to meet one or more of the other criteria.
- The impact or relationship with Council activities or the Council's strategic interests.
- If the appointment is to be during the establishment phase or during a crisis management phase of an organisation, therefore a fixed time only.
- That the appointment adds value as a Councillor, as distinct from any other appointee.
- That appointees, instead of Councillors, could be a Community Board member, staff (if approved by the Chief Executive) or a member of the public. In that situation, the following additional criteria could be relevant:
 - local interest in the matter
 - particular interest of a Community Board member
 - particular skills or expertise.