

7. GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE CANTERBURY MUSEUM TRUST BOARD AND RICCARTON BUSH TRUSTEES

Officer responsible General Manager Regulation & Democracy Services	Author Peter Mitchell, DDI 941-8549
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The purpose of this report is to provide information on the governance structures of the Canterbury Museum Trust Board and the Riccarton Board Trustees.

BACKGROUND

At its meeting on 15 March 2004, the Committee considered a report on the membership of the Riccarton Bush Trustees.

In that discussion, questions were raised regarding the governance structures of the Canterbury Museum Trust Board and the Riccarton Board Trustees, and staff were requested to provide further information to the Committee on these governance structures for the two bodies. This report provides that information.

CANTERBURY MUSEUM TRUST BOARD

The Canterbury Museum Trust Board is established by the Canterbury Museum Trust Board Act 1993. The Board consists of:

- Four members appointed by the Christchurch City Council
- One member appointed jointly by the Hurunui and Waimakariri District Councils
- One member appointed jointly by the Selwyn and Banks Peninsula District Councils
- One member appointed by the University of Canterbury
- One member appointed by the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand
- One member appointed by the Ngāi Tahu Māori Trust Board
- One member appointed by the Association of Friends of Canterbury Museum
- One member appointed by the Canterbury Pilgrims and Early Settlers' Association

A chairperson is elected from the members of the Board.

The functions of the Board are to:

- Appoint a Chief Executive who is to be appointed as Director of the Museum
- Establish for the guidance of the Director, broad lines of policy consistent with the objectives of the Museum
- Ensure that the Museum building, collections and documentation are maintained in good order and condition
- Ensure that the Museum is run effectively and efficiently in accordance with its policy.

The Board has the power to set binding levies through a process involving consultation with and approval of its Annual Plan by contributing authorities and those contributing authorities are able to set and assess a Canterbury Museum rate for the purpose of providing for those levies. Excluding funding specifically promised for the revitalisation project this Council contributes approximately 91% of the local authority funding. The amount forecast for 2004/05 is \$4.2 million.

RICCARTON BUSH TRUSTEES

The Riccarton Bush Act 1914 (together with a significant Amendment Act in 1947) establishes a Board under the name of the Riccarton Bush Trustees, as a body corporate.

This Board is charged with the responsibility of the management of Riccarton Bush.

The Board has nine members consisting of:

- Six nominated by the Christchurch City Council
- Two nominated by the members of the family of John Deans
- One nominated by the Canterbury Branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand

The Board is empowered to levy a contribution on the Christchurch City Council through a process set out in the 1947 Amendment Act and that contribution is currently \$108,310. In addition, this Council pays an annual operating grant above the statutory levy which makes the total contribution budgeted for 2004/05 \$181,000. From time to time capital grants are also made.

GENERAL COMMENTS

If the Council were minded to consider any change to the governance structures of either of these two bodies, then given that the existing structures are prescribed in an Act of Parliament, it would require another Act of Parliament to give effect to any change. This would normally be done by the promotion of a Local Bill usually by the body affected by the change, i.e. the Canterbury Museum Trust Board or the Riccarton Bush Trustees. Given the Council's involvement in both bodies, then the position of this Council in relation to such a Local Bill would be of importance to the promoter and to the Select Committee hearing the Bill.

A Local Bill would take at least 12 months including the drafting of the Bill, the pre-consultation phase for the Bill amongst interested parties in Christchurch, and then the formal parliamentary procedures.

Recommendation: That the Council, in conjunction with the Riccarton Bush Trust promote a Local Bill which includes a reduction in the number of members nominated by the City Council.