

1. DEPUTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

(a) COUNCILLOR INGRID STONHILL - BERTELSMANN AWARD

Councillor Ingrid Stonhill gave a presentation on her Bertelsmann study trip to the United Kingdom on the Implications of the Ageing Population and the Role of Local Government.

Over the two week trip Councillor Stonhill visited more than 10 different organisations including Age Concern UK, Local Government UK and some local authorities, Bristol Housing Centre, Sheffield University and Sheffield City Council, a New Leaf housing project and 50+ Elders Congress.

Councillor Stonhill commented on the differences between the United Kingdom and New Zealand and the different methods of delivering services.

Some of the key learning points included:

- no separation between health and caring for elderly - all services were available based together
- a good integration of central government and local government services
- an emphasis on ageing at home with quality caring
- hospitals having a single assessment process.

The Committee agreed that both this presentation and Councillor Chrissie Williams' presentation show the value and merit of the Bertelsmann study awards.

(b) HUGH CANARD, WHITEWATER CANOE CLUB

Hugh Canard and George Field from the Whitewater Canoe Club were in attendance to put forward their proposal for a whitewater park for Christchurch.

They requested that the Council carry out a feasibility study into the establishment of a whitewater park. They argued that it would be used by:

- kayakers, canoe polo, rafting, bodyboarding and multisports;
- it could be used by high schools;
- be a venue for major international canoe slalom events;
- northern hemisphere athletes could use it as a training venue;
- a training venue for swift water training and civil defence workers, police and fire officers.

The only other southern hemisphere whitewater park is at Penrith in Sydney.

There are a number of options for siting a park based on natural waterways and existing sporting facilities.

It was suggested that the canoe club approach the Ministry of Economic Development about the proposal.

The Committee **decided** to ask staff to undertake some preliminary work to a level where the proposal would be ready to start a feasibility study and report to the incoming Council.