

13. AMENDMENT TO THE CANTERBURY TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT FOR FUTURE CONSULTATION ON THE CANTERBURY REGIONAL POLICY STATEMENT



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| General Manager responsible: | General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services, DDI 941-8549 |
| Officer responsible: | Secretariat Manager |
| Author: | Max Robertson, Council Secretary |

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval for an amendment to the Canterbury Triennial Agreement (prepared under the Local Government Act 2002) to incorporate an agreement for future consultation on the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. Environment Canterbury has commenced a review of the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement (CRPS). In accordance with the 2005 amendments to the Resource Management Act, this requires an amendment to the Triennial Agreement (prepared under the Local Government Act 2002) to incorporate an agreement on the consultation process for affected local authorities.
3. A proposed amendment was tabled at the Canterbury Mayoral Forum on 20 August 2006 and consulted on during the preparation of the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement Review Scoping Paper. The proposal was for a new clause to be added to the Canterbury Triennial Agreement, indicating that the agreement, particularly the consultation components, will apply to any changes, variations or review of the Canterbury Regional Policy Statement. A copy of the Triennial Agreement, incorporating the proposed amendment, is attached.
4. The feedback received has indicated support for the proposed amendment. For it to take effect, ratification is now required by all local authorities within the Canterbury Region.
5. More detailed consultation processes will need to supplement the Triennial Agreement. It may, for example, include a region-wide forum to meet to review progress and proposed policies during the CRPS review. Frequently the consultation will need to be tailored to specific issues. For example, in addressing hazardous waste issues, the already established Canterbury Hazardous Waste Working Party should be consulted. Similarly, for biodiversity there is an existing Regional Biodiversity Strategy Advisory Group, and it would be appropriate for the Regional Land Transport Committee to be consulted during the revision of the transport chapter of the CRPS. All of these groups have representatives from a range of relevant organisations, including territorial authorities.
6. The proposed amendment does not preclude briefings or updates to individual councils as required, or communication through other channels. If at any stage in the future, the consultation framework is found to be inadequate, the Triennial Agreement can be reconsidered. If agreement is not reached, the amendment will be determined either by mediation or by the Minister for the Environment.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

7. There are no financial considerations. The amendment to the Triennial Agreement proposed is in accordance with the requirements of the Resource Management Act (1991).

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council ratify the proposed amendment to the Triennial Agreement.