

## 19. 2008 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE



<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services, DDI 941-8462
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Democracy Services Manager
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### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is:
  - to seek approval for the Mayor and Councillors to attend the 2008 Local Government New Zealand Conference to be held in Rotorua from 27 to 30 July 2008; and
  - to seek the appointment of the Council's voting delegates to the Annual General Meeting.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. This year's conference will be held in Rotorua from Sunday 27 July to Wednesday 30 July 2008.
3. The Council usually authorises 5-6 Councillors to attend the conference. Last year, the Council gave approval for the Mayor and Councillors Graham Condon, Anna Crighton, Carole Evans, Bob Parker, Bob Shearing and Mrs Yvonne Palmer (Chairperson Shirley/Papanui Community Board) to attend the conference.
4. The Christchurch City Council is entitled to appoint one presiding delegate with voting rights for the Annual General Meeting and an alternate voting delegate. The Council is also entitled to have up to four additional Councillors attending being classed as viewing delegates. It is proposed that the Mayor be the presiding voting delegate with a Councillor named as the alternate voting delegate. The rules of the New Zealand Local Government Association provide that the term "delegate" includes both an elected member and an officer of a member authority.
5. A request has been received for the Council to approve the attendance of both Yvonne Palmer, (Zone 5 representative for Community Boards') and Mike Mora (Zone 5 deputy representative) at the conference. There is a session on working with Community Boards during the conference.
6. All Councillors have been supplied with a copy of the programme for this year's conference, the theme of which is "*Sustainable Communities*". The theme carries many interpretations, and reflects the changing needs facing local government. Keynote speakers include:
  - Brian Dollery, Professor of Economics and Director, Centre for Local Government, University of New England, Armidale, New South Wales, Australia
  - Dr Judy McGregor, Equal Employment Opportunities (EEO) Commissioner with the Human Rights Commissioner
  - Simon Upton, Chairman of the OECD Round Table on Sustainable Development, responsible for a programme of climate change related to work over the next three years. A consultant with PriceWaterhouseCoopers, Mr Upton is also a Visiting Fellow at Otago University

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

7. Registration fees of \$1,145 (including GST) will be incurred for each voting delegate/observer appointed by the Council, plus approximately \$1,000 per person for travel, accommodation and incidental costs. This expenditure can be accommodated within the provision for Mayoral/Councillor conference attendance and travel included in the 2007/08 Annual Plan. Early registration at a reduced cost closes on 15 May 2008.

### LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

8. There are no legal implications associated with the appointment of the Council's delegates/observers to attend this conference.

#### **ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS**

##### **Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2006-16 LTCCP?**

9. Pages 110 and 111 of the LTCCP refer to the provision of support for elected members (which includes attendance at such conferences).

#### **ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

##### **Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?**

10. Not applicable.

#### **CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

11. No consultation is required.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that:

- (a) The Mayor and such other elected members as may be nominated at the Council meeting, be authorised to attend the 2008 Local Government New Zealand Conference in Rotorua.
- (b) That the Council appoint the Mayor as the presiding voting delegate and a Councillor as the alternate voting delegate, and up to three Councillors and the Chief Executive attending the conference, as the Council's viewing delegates at the Annual General Meeting.