

## 22. 2009 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE



<b>General Manager responsible:</b>	General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services, DDI 941-8549
<b>Officer responsible:</b>	Democracy Services Manager
<b>Author:</b>	Clare Sullivan, Council Secretary

**PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1. The purpose of this report is:
  - to seek authority for the Mayor and Councillors to attend the 2009 Local Government New Zealand Conference to be held in Christchurch from 26-29 July 2009; 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 Christchurch from Sunday 26 July to Wednesday 29 July 2009.
3. The Council usually authorises 5-6 Councillors to attend the conference. Last year, the Council gave approval for the Mayor and Councillors Helen Broughton, Ngaire Button, Yani Johanson and Bob Shearing to attend the conference. The Council also authorised Mrs Yvonne Palmer 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. The Annual General Meeting is being held on Wednesday 29 July 2009.
5. All Councillors have been supplied with a copy of the programme for this year's conference, the theme of which is *"Local government: our place in the world"*. The theme carries many interpretations, and reflects the changing needs facing local government. Keynote speakers include:
  - Judge Andrew Beecroft, Principal Youth Court Judge
  - Peter Biggs, Managing Director of Clemenger BBDO, Melbourne
  - Mai Chen, founding Partner of Chen Palmer
  - Honourable Peter Salmon, Chair of Royal Commission Auckland Governance.

The Honourable John Key, Prime Minister, will open the conference.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

6. Early registration fees, closing on 18 May 2009, of \$1,145 including GST will be incurred for each voting delegate/observer appointed by the Council. This expenditure can be accommodated within the provision for Mayoral/Councillor conference attendance and travel included in the 2008/09 Annual Plan.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

7. 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?**

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

14. 5. 2009

**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

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

9. Not applicable.

**CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

10. 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 2009 Local Government New Zealand Conference in Christchurch.
- (b) 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.