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The purpose of this report is to inform the Strategy and Resources Committee about progress on the Christchurch Art Gallery.

ARCHITECT ENGAGEMENT

At the April 1998 meeting, the Council resolved to run a two-stage architectural design competition for the new Art Gallery project. The other design consultants would be selected through a registration of interest and invitation to tender process.

The outcome of the architectural competition was that the concept design prepared by The Buchan Group from Auckland was announced as the winner at a function for Councillors on 25 November 1998.

CONSULTANT ENGAGEMENT

The following consultants have been engaged for the project:

Quantity Surveyor	Rawlinson & Co
Mechanical Engineer	Connell Wagner
Fire Engineer	Holmes Fire & Safety
Electrical Engineer	Pederson & Partners
Structural Engineer	Holmes Consulting Group
Resource Consents Consultant	Glasson Potts
Traffic Engineer	Traffic Design Group

All of these consultants as well as the Project Manager (Carson Group) are based in Christchurch.

All appointments have been confirmed up to completion of the Concept Design Report and Delivery Options Report and would be extended following Council approval to proceed with the project.

PROJECT PROGRAMME

The design team are currently working on preparation of the Concept Design Report, Delivery Options Report, Cost Plan and Project Programme which are expected to be submitted to the May 1999 meeting of the Strategy and Resources Committee for endorsement, with subsequent adoption by Council.

ARCHITECTURAL COMPETITION EXHIBITION

All 94 entries received for the Art Gallery architectural competition will be on public display at the Robert McDougall Art Gallery Annex from 5 February until 28 March 1999.

FUNDRAISING TARGET

Of a total \$13 million sought from other than rate-payer funded sources towards the total cost of the new gallery project, \$5.2 million has already been raised (which includes \$3.8 million from The Community Trust towards the site purchase, an investment portfolio of \$850,000 from the late Ms Monica Richards, and \$640,000 in pledges from other supporters).

Additionally, a formal application to the Ministry of Cultural Affairs for \$7.8 million in financial assistance (under the Policy for Government Assistance towards Capital Projects at Regional Museums) has been submitted for Cabinet consideration in the coming Budget.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.