

6. HEALTH FUNDING AUTHORITY BRIEFING

RR 9409

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Corporate Plan Output: Policy Advice	

The purpose of this report is to introduce a briefing paper from the Health Funding Authority (HFA) detailing the structure and functions of the HFA, and the arrangements which are being made for communication between the Christchurch City Council and the HFA.

Since 1 January 1998, health and disability services for the people of New Zealand have been purchased by the Health Funding Authority, a national organisation which was formed through the amalgamation of the former Regional Health Authorities. Jill Nuthall, Community Relations Manager for Canterbury/West Coast and Nelson/Marlborough, wishes to attend this Committee Meeting in order to inform Councillors of the recent changes and answer any questions about how the new organisation works. She will also answer any other questions which Councillors may wish to raise. Her briefing paper is attached.

As discussed in the briefing paper, the HFA wishes to maintain a good working relationship with the Christchurch City Council, by facilitating information exchange in the following areas:

- Council input into the HFA's locality plans
- Updates on national/local initiatives
- Briefings on policies on which the HFA is consulting

It is envisaged that the first point of contact for any of these issues will be through one of the Policy Analysts at the Council, and through the Community Relations Manager at the HFA. The Policy Analyst will liaise where appropriate with the Councillors on the Community Services Committee who have expressed an interest in health issues.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.