

## 5. URBAN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The purpose of this item is to enable discussion on the merits, commitment, and process of the preparation and implementation of an urban development strategy.

Previously Canterbury Regional Council, Christchurch City Council, and Hurunui, Waimakariri, Selwyn and Banks Peninsula District Councils had agreed to the joint preparation of an urban development strategy. The process of preparation 'slowed' following a request from Christchurch City Council because of concerns about 'conflicts' with its Proposed City Plan hearing process.

An 'urban development strategy' has the potential to:

- provide a clear 'vision' and direction for development of greater metropolitan Christchurch;
- ensure integrated urban development outcomes;
- provide a framework for decision making to reduce adverse effects on the environment; and
- allow more efficient expenditure of public and private resources.

Now that the decisions on the City Plan are imminent (the amount of new zoning is already known – subject to any references) it is now an opportune time to reassess the implications of these on the need for, and approach to, an urban development strategy.

To achieve these benefits it is important that the preparation of an urban development strategy is undertaken as a local authority 'partnership' project. This will require joint commitment to the preparation of a strategy, resourcing to be made available from each council, and a willingness to act.

Report prepared by Jeff Page, Senior Resource Management Planner, Canterbury Regional Council.

### **Chairman's**

**Recommendation:** For discussion.