



6. IMPLEMENTATION AND PRIORITIES OF THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELL-BEING POLICY

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The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the process for reviewing the implementation of the Community Development and Social Wellbeing Policy, as requested when the policy was adopted.

INTRODUCTION

In late 1996 when the Council adopted the Community Development and Social Well-being Policy, it was agreed that the effectiveness of its implementation should be regularly reviewed. This was reiterated by the City Manager in the Community Leisure and Associated Services (CLAS) Review where he identified that the Policy Unit in collaboration with other Units should review the effectiveness of the Community Development and Social Well-being Policy.

More recently elected members have expressed a desire that the policy is clearer, more specific and measurable. Elected members have expressed concerns that there is no strategy or guidelines for implementing the policy.

On this basis the Policy Unit, in collaboration with the Community Relations Unit, Leisure Unit and Canterbury Development Corporation, has initiated a review of the policy implementation. This is a staged process in which those responsible for implementing the policy, including staff, elected members and community agencies will have an opportunity to have input.

THE SCOPE OF THE PROJECT

The project is seeking to evaluate the implementation of the Community Development and Social Well-being Policy rather than re-litigate the policy. However, the initial stages of the project identified that aspects of the policy require further clarity and elaboration to improve the effectiveness of its ongoing implementation.

The project will therefore include clarification of the roles and the scope identified in the policy and further specification of outcomes so performance measurement is possible. It will develop an operational strategy and identify an ongoing monitoring process.

The *Operational Strategy* will identify linkages with Council's strategic objectives and with other policies, particularly the target group policies (e.g. Children's Policy, Older Persons Policy, etc). It will provide a practical framework for determining priorities and implementing the policy statement and achieving measurable outcomes.

ELECTED MEMBER INPUT

Because of elected members' obvious interest in the policy and its implementation we are seeking elected member input at several stages of the process. Initially this input will be via Community Boards where we are seeking feedback on the elaboration of the roles, scope and boundaries of the policy.

We are also proposing to hold a Committee Seminar on the policy on 13 June 2000. At that stage we hope to have a draft Operational Strategy and will be seeking feedback on that.

The final Operational Strategy will be presented to Boards and the Community Services Committee for discussion and endorsement.

We would also welcome any other feedback at any stage during the project.

Recommendation: That the Committee endorse the above process for reviewing the implementation of the Community Development and Social Well-being Policy.

Chairman's Recommendation: That the Committee note the proposed seminar as a key opportunity to have input into the policy implementation and priorities.