

## 16. GRAFFITI

<b>Officer responsible</b> Community Advocate	<b>Author</b> Barbara Ford
Corporate Plan Output: Advocacy 6.1.text.47	

In addressing the escalating problem of graffiti throughout the city, the Council has allocated finance to support a co-ordinator to oversee and guide a citywide co-ordinated effort to significantly reduce the problem, while at the same time tackle the factors that make graffiti vandalism attractive to a small section of our community.

The first step, which is currently underway, is to explore the opportunity of bringing all the affected parties together under one umbrella with a common reporting system that will ensure a speedy and professional reaction to incidents of graffiti.

This proposal is receiving positive support from our public utility suppliers, the Police and Council Units, who up until now have been acting independently with some duplication in effort and costs.

Information gained from overseas experience indicates that our citizens can play a very important role in the reporting, discouraging and in some instances, the removal of graffiti on private property. If this role is accepted by our Residents' Associations and other community groups there is a first class opportunity to strengthen our community partnership and for an effective liaison to be established between the community and the Council on an issue of common concern.

Whilst planning is still underway Community Boards are requested to consider the allocation of \$5,000 for the 2000/01 financial year from Discretionary Funds to support community groups in their community should the proposed scheme proceed. Individual Boards would distribute the money as required to community groups in their area for the purchase of paint and other materials associated with graffiti reporting and/or removal.

*Report of a meeting held in St Albans on 13 February 1999 is attached for information.*

**Recommendation:** That the Board allocate \$5,000 from 2000/2001 Discretionary Funds for the purpose of supporting the community in the reporting and removal of graffiti within the Shirley/Papanui area.

**Chairperson's Recommendation:** That the officer's recommendation be adopted.