

9. CENTRAL CITY BOARD – STATEMENT OF CORPORATE INTENT

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Corporate Plan Output: City Planning and Development	

The purpose of this report is to recommend the adoption of the Statement of Corporate Intent for the Central City Board (separately circulated).

The Council endorsed the concept that a Central City Board be established “to facilitate and undertake property development projects that revitalise the Central City” (see Strategy and Resources recommendations 18 October 1999). An Interim Central City Board was created comprising a number of business and community leaders, as well as a number of Councillors, to establish a Statement of Corporate Intent.

The Statement of Corporate Intent was adopted by the Interim Board at its meeting of 23 May 2000. The Statement of Corporate Intent specifies the objectives, nature and scope of activities to be undertaken by the Board, as well as performance targets and measures.

In general the Statement of Corporate Intent will require the Board to lead and stimulate central city revitalisation for Christchurch, in association with the City Council. Specifically the primary objective of the Board will be to provide leadership, to act as an initiator or investment catalyst on appropriate projects, and to actively market and participate in, through development projects, the revitalisation of the Central City.

The overall aim for the Board is *to position the Christchurch Central City as the Australasian capital of quality lifestyle and urban sustainability.*

To achieve this it is recommended that the Central City Board be formed as a Local Authority Trading Enterprise. The Board would have reporting responsibilities to the Council on development projects and associated Council planning processes reporting through relevant Council Standing Committees as appropriate, while reporting commercial performance requirements via Christchurch City Holdings Limited (CCHL).

The Statement of Corporate Intent recommends a Board structure of up to eight members (up to five independent and up to three Council representatives including the Mayor), with the chairperson of the Board to be the Mayor of Christchurch (or his/her nominee), and members appointed on a rotating three year term by the City Council.

It should be noted that it is not normal practice for a company to predetermine a board’s chair, as generally a constitution would provide for the board to select a chair, with the major shareholders having input on an informal basis. In this instance, however, the Interim Board believed that the Mayor should be appointed to chair the Board because of the importance and high profile of central city revitalisation for Christchurch.

A Council seminar was held on 12 May which identified the following points:

- That the formal reporting structure provide for the input of Standing Committees into central city projects.
- In selecting Board members, emphasis should be placed on business people with appropriate skills, and that it would be inappropriate for property developers to be Board members.
- The Constitution to provide for the retirement of Board members.
- The Strategy and Resources Committee rather than CCHL to recommend Board appointments to the Council.
- Chairs of Standing Committees should not be members of the Board.

These points have been or will be addressed and included during the process of Board selection and project/programme development by the Board.

Recommendation: That the Statement of Corporate Intent for the Central City Board be adopted by the Council.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.