

12. OWLES TERRACE - ECO VILLAGE

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Corporate Plan Output: Asset Management	

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise the Property Unit's concerns with regard to the report to be presented to the Projects and Property Committee on Friday 12 May with respect to an Eco Village at Owles Terrace. The current report and recommendation could be misleading in that it creates the impression that such a use of the site is already pre-determined.

By way of background in 1993, after full public consultation, the Council adopted a concept for redevelopment of the old yard and existing reserve areas at Owles Terrace. The consequential rezoning of the recreation and residential areas was incorporated into the proposed City Plan. The concept provided for residential development, together with open space suitable for playing fields and community/sports buildings. Submissions to the proposed City Plan zoning were considered by a Commissioner who amended the proposed Living/Open Space boundaries to accommodate the concerns of the submitters. The Commissioner's decision was subsequently adopted by the Council.

From a property perspective the Owles Terrace yard is contained within the Property Unit's surplus property budget for recovery of an estimated \$1.5m net revenue from property development and sales. You will recall that the Projects and Property Committee have requested we progress this matter with some expediency. Our intention is to present the Committee with an "options report" to do this. Essentially we propose to outline how the Council can maximise its return from the portion zoned Living 1 and attend to the recreational and open space areas with a lesser degree of urgency as these portions have significant issues with consultation and existing occupancies which have been slowing the process to date

We view Eco Village developments as one of a number of options that can be considered. It is therefore premature to be investigating and sanctioning this option at this stage prior to a full options report being presented.

We would suggest that the recommendation be altered to reflect that a full options report will be progressed in due course which will investigate an Eco Village as one option.

To assist we suggest an amended Chairman's recommendation as follows:

12. 5. 2000

- 2 -

Chairman's

Recommendation:

1. That establishment of a use for the residential zoned portion of the Owles Terrace site be the subject of a full "options report" as required by Council policy.
2. That the investigation of an Eco Village be endorsed as one of a number of possible site use options to be reported upon.
3. That the an Eco Village Working Party be established, consisting of Chrissie Williams, Carole Evans, Caroline Kellaway, Don Rowlands, Glenda Burt, Sally Buck, Anna Crighton, Eric Park and Pam Ellis, to investigate the feasibility of creating an Eco Village at Owles Terrace to be incorporated in the "options report".