

19. COMMUNITY ADVOCATE'S UPDATE

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Corporate Plan Output: Community Advocacy – Community Areas 6.1 text 14	

“City Care” Awards

At the suggestion of Mr Fred Hollingsworth, Manager of Garden City Festival of Flowers, staff have been investigating awards, in the form of medallions, for residents who act as “guardians” of street trees, road verges, riverbanks etc.

Mr Hollingsworth suggests the award be limited to horticultural activities but the Board may wish to extend the scheme to cover graffiti removal and similar assistance.

Mobile Library – Addington

To assist business activity in Addington I have investigated the possibility of mobile library visits to Addington Mall. However the mobile service is under review and no decision can be made until it has been completed.

Heritage Plaques

Staff are arranging the installation of heritage plaques at the Malthouse, Sign of the Takahe, and Sign of the Kiwi. An example will be available at the meeting.

Street Disturbances

The Board's letter of appreciation to Superintendent John Reilly, District Commander NZ Police, has been acknowledged with thanks and referred to the officers immediately responsible for operations aimed at curtailing the disturbances.

Staff continue to monitor the situation at Broad Oaks. Litter deposited at weekends is being cleared when necessary and further lighting is to be installed.

In view of Police efforts it was disappointing to learn at the Sydenham Business Association October meeting of continuing disturbances and offensive behaviour in the area between Milton Street north to Brougham Street. This was confirmed by subsequent discussions with business people in the area.

As a result of Police action in Spreydon-Heathcote wards, activities have shifted to Hornby. A report from Riccarton-Wigram Community Board to the October City Services Committee resulted in the matter being referred to the Road Safety Sub-Committee. A copy of the minutes will be circulated to members when available.

Graffiti

Spreydon-Heathcote wards appear to be less affected than other parts of the city but delays in actioning reports continue to hinder our efforts to control this nuisance which shows no evidence of it diminishing.

We are aware of some instances of reports taking more than three months to action.

Inner City Revitalisation

Following the 18 October meeting with community group representatives, staff are planning wider consultation with the community in South Christchurch. Subject to discussions with the Inner City Project Team and the availability of resources it is intended to stage “charette” displays at local malls.

Art in the Local Area

Following the Sub-Committee meeting on 19 October 2000, staff have met on-site at Addington with Jennifer Watt, Convenor of Addington Business Association.

Options for Co-ordination of art works with street treatments and the installation of street “furniture” were discussed and will be developed with City Streets Unit before a further report to the Board and Sub-Committee.

Library Consultation

Public meetings have been tentatively arranged as follows:

Tuesday 5 December	7-9pm	Function Room, Cashmere Club
Wednesday 6 December	7-9pm	Blue Room, Hoon Hay Club
Thursday 7 December	7-9pm	Theatre, Risingholme

These arrangements depend on the outcome of the Council meeting on 23 November 2000.

Sydenham Business Association – Heritage Buildings

The Association on behalf of heritage or “character” building owners expressed concern at the cost of meeting Resource Consent requirements when renovating buildings. A meeting of staff from appropriate Council units will investigate the extent of the problem and its effect on urban renewal.

Huntsbury Pre-School

Preschool equipment, steps and handrails were destroyed or seriously damaged by landslips and falling trees during the recent storm. Tree clearance is in hand but slip affected areas will need stabilising with adequate drainage before relandscaping can be commenced. In the meantime staff are investigating the extent of insurance cover and/or Council liability for reinstating damaged equipment and fittings.

Police Station – Beckenham

It is anticipated that construction of the new Police station in Beckenham will begin in the 2002 financial year with completion scheduled in 2004. There are positive implications in this for the future of the Beckenham business area but it is not entirely assured that construction will proceed. In discussions with Police representatives it has been suggested that an express of Board support may assist the case for construction as proposed.

Recommendation: That the information be received.