

4. NOMINATIONS FOR OFFICE OF PRESIDENT OF LGNZ

The Mayor reports:

Following the resignation of Louise Rosson as President LGNZ have now called for nominations, with a closure date of 26 September.

Under the LGNZ constitution any person currently holding elected office on a Council is eligible. Nominations for the President are not restricted to current members of the National Council as is the case with the Vice-President positions which have now also fallen vacant.

The purpose of this report is to recommend that this Council work with other Councils to ensure the nomination and if need be the subsequent selection of Claire Stewart, Mayor of New Plymouth for the position.

In bringing this recommendation to you I have had extensive discussions with Mayors of other metropolitan cities and within Canterbury during which I believe a consensus has emerged around Claire Stewart. In my view the criteria which need to be fulfilled in the next President of LGNZ are as follows:

- An individual who will provide leadership which ensures that LGNZ is seen as credible and competent in the eyes of its constituent local bodies, central government and the community at large.
- An individual whose preferred style of operation is to use facilitation techniques to identify the positions of alternate stakeholders and secure agreement on ways forward.
- Someone who has significant experience of elected office.
- An individual who is prepared to commit significant time to the role of LGNZ President.

Claire Stewart was elected to the New Plymouth District Council in 1989 and has been Mayor since 1992. Within the New Plymouth/Taranaki area she has been formally involved in the establishment of organisations or mechanisms to further economic development, health, education, needs of disabled persons, and neighbourhood support networks. Her personal interests include music, dance, theatre and sport (she has been a provincial representative in both hockey and golf). After extensive canvassing I am not aware of any potential candidate who would better fulfil the criteria than Claire Stewart.

Recommendation: That the Council support the nomination and subsequent election of Claire Stewart as President of LGNZ.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.