

13. SUSTAINABILITY : NEW NAME NEW GAME : 23 AND 24 OCTOBER 2001

Officer responsible Director of Policy	Author Jonathan Fletcher, DDI 371-1548
--	--

The purpose of this report is to enable the Council to decide whether it wishes to send any elected members to the abovenamed conference.

Representatives of the Shire of Yarra Ranges attended the Redesigning Resources Conference in Christchurch in June 2000. The Shire was one of six case study organisations at the conference along with Macpac, Manaaki Whenua Landcare Research, Orion, the Warehouse and the Christchurch City Council. At the end of the Conference the Shire agreed to host a similar event in Australia in 2001. Originally this was planned for June 2001, but it has now evolved into a big event jointly hosted by the Shire, Business Yarra Ranges, and Swinburne University. It will be held over two days on 23 and 24 October 2001 and will include international keynote speakers and focus on a series of local case studies.

The Shire of Yarra Ranges is a city of the order of 150,000 on the eastern fringe of the Melbourne metropolis.

Through the Redesigning Resources network the Council has been working with the other case study organisations including the Shire of Yarra Ranges, developing triple accounting principles and the preparation of annual reports on a triple accounting basis. The Shire of Yarra Ranges has been connected to the Redesigning Resources gatherings in Christchurch by teleconference, and on one occasion several people from the Shire travelled to Christchurch to participate. The conference falls in the period when the Council is unlikely to have any elected members. Despite its very inconvenient timing, attending the conference would have the following benefits for the Council:

- (i) It would enable those attending to exchange views on progress in redesigning resources and sustainability with representative of another urban Council committed to working on the same principles;
- (ii) It would enable us to showcase progress that has been made in Christchurch;
- (iii) There is a strong likelihood of at least some of the local case studies being relevant to our situation;

Conference registrations and brochures are not yet available for this conference so it is not possible to give the conference fee at this stage. However, an indicative budget per person for attendance is:

Air Fare	\$900.00
Hotel costs three nights at \$180.00 per night	\$540.00
Incidentals	\$100.00
Conference fee (estimate)	<u>\$600.00</u>
Total	<u>\$2,140.00</u>

If it is decided that one or more elected members should attend this conference, attendance can be funded from the Elected Member international travel budget of \$20,000.

Recommendation: That the Council determine whether or not it wishes to be represented at this conference, and if it does, decide how many and which elected members should attend.

Chairman's Recommendation: That Mr Denis O'Rourke represent the Council at the conference.