

8. LANCASTER PARK REDEVELOPMENT - LOCAL BILL

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The purpose of this report is to advise Councillors of the content of the local Bill to be promoted by the Council in Parliament to facilitate the redevelopment of Lancaster Park.

As part of the Council's resolutions to redevelop Lancaster Park, the Council resolved to promote a local Bill whereby ownership of Lancaster Park would be transferred to the City Council. The main stadium land is currently owned by the Crown. The balance of the park is owned in the name of the Victory Park Board which bought the land separately. Attached is the proposed local Bill to enable the land to be transferred to the Council.

Key features of the Bill are:

- (a) The Act will come into force on the day after it receives the Royal Assent. As it is anticipated that the Bill will be introduced into Parliament in August this year, it is probable that the Bill will receive the Royal Assent early in 2002;
- (b) Both the land owned by the Crown and the land owned by the Board are to be transferred to the City Council which may use the land for sport, recreation, entertainment and public assembly purposes. The Council's use of the land will be confined to those four purposes and this clause is also important in relation to the Ngai Tahu right of first refusal;
- (c) The Council will have the ability to lease or licence the land for such terms and conditions as it thinks fit;
- (d) Ngai Tahu is granted a right of first refusal in relation to the land presently owned by the Crown (but not to the land presently owned by the Board). As a result of the Ngai Tahu Claims Settlement Act 1998, a memorial is presently lodged on the main stadium title (which is owned by the Crown) in favour of Ngai Tahu in terms of the provisions of that Act;

The effect of the clause is that if the day comes in the future the Council no longer wishes to continue use of the land for a stadium and wishes to dispose of the land, then it must give Ngai Tahu the right of first refusal in respect of the main stadium land. The wording in clause 6 has been accepted in principle by Ngai Tahu although there are issues of detail with regard to the exact wording to be resolved;

- (e) The Council takes on all the contractual obligations of the Victory Park Board;
- (f) The Council is responsible for arranging for the final balance sheet of the Board to be prepared given that the Board will be dissolved by the Bill.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.