

**COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE
SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA**

**11 JUNE 2001
AT 12 NOON**

PART B - REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

10. CHRISTCHURCH PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGY UPDATE

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The purpose of this report is to advise of the further development of the process for the public health strategy and advice of the commitment of the other main agencies involved.

INTRODUCTION

An initial report on this project was presented to the Committee at its meeting on 5 February 2001 and it was resolved that the Committee endorse the Council's involvement in the development of a comprehensive Public Health Strategy for Christchurch. The Council at its meeting on 22 February 2001 adopted the resolution.

A further resolution was adopted that a report be brought to the Committee once the draft process for developing the strategy had been prepared and the other main agencies had confirmed their commitment.

This report will briefly describe action to date in progressing this matter.

DISCUSSION

An Officer Steering Group comprising representatives from Christchurch City Council, Crown Public Health, the Christchurch School of Medicine, District Health Board, He Oranga Pounamu, and the Ministry of Health has been meeting regularly to develop an engagement plan to commence the process. They have developed terms of reference for the process, which include the following.

Fundamental to our understanding is that:

- *A healthy Christchurch is of fundamental importance to the well-being of our community*
- *That there is potential for the improvement of public health in Christchurch*
- *Socio-economic factors are a major determinant of health in Christchurch*
- *Collaboration and strategic planning are effective tools to improve public health*
- *With regards to collaboration and strategic planning in public health we recognise that:*
 - *Valuable collaborative and strategic planning efforts already exist in Christchurch, but that no city-wide, collaborative strategic planning for public health has been undertaken*
 - *Strategic planning should have a shared vision and ownership amongst the whole of the Christchurch community and therefore an inclusive process of consultation and collaboration is vital*
 - *Strategic planning should have a long-term view, be based on the wider determinants of health and therefore should not be limited to public health service provisions and should offer the potential for effective, practical and sustainable strategies to improve public health*

The Steering Group does NOT intend to:

- *Replace existing networks or expertise*
- *Be an exclusive group*

The Steering Group DOES intend to:

- *Explore and facilitate collaboration and strategic planning for the purposes of improving public health in an equitable manner.*
- *Undertake this initiative with an inclusive, consultative process and in a manner that promotes sustainability.*

The Steering Group has developed an engagement plan which will, in Phase 1, contact networks rather than individual agencies. The engagement process is currently in progress. Groups are being invited to participate in face to face consultation in settings appropriate to the group. They are asked to take back to their individual member groups a response form, which asks the following.

- how they see themselves fitting in with the strategy
- how does this fit in with other strategies
- who else should we talk to about the strategy
- how we could make it a healthy Christchurch
- what they see as the public health issues
- how they see the contribution of all groups to improving health can be achieved.

This engagement phase, which runs until September, is aimed at finding out which other agencies want to get involved and what their priorities are. The responses will be our guide as to how the project should proceed.

The Steering Group has no pre-set ideas about what this initiative might look like. That will depend on what responses we get and which priorities seem to be obvious. Possibilities include sponsoring interagency projects, prioritising health impacts in agency planning, a health charter for the city. It is up to the groups which get involved. The Steering Group role is facilitating the process and fostering collaboration.

All Community Boards are being advised of the process and the development of a web site is being undertaken.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the information be received.