

6. BUSINESSCARE TRUST: SUPPORT FOR COUNCILS AND LOCAL BUSINESSES

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Corporate Plan Output: Information and Advice to the Council	

The purpose of this report is to inform the Subcommittee about Businesscare Trust, a new cleaner production service to assist local authorities and businesses. An introductory pamphlet of Businesscare Trust is attached.

BACKGROUND

The following information has been received from Peter Crosland, National Coordinator of the BusinessCare Trust, who will be in attendance at the Subcommittee meeting to do a short presentation and answer questions.

“BusinessCare’s intended aim is to work with, support, assist and encourage local businesses to use more sustainable practices and minimise their wastes. It has been set up to assist and support councils and local businesses in their continuing efforts to do this work. It is funded by the Ministry for the Environment’s Sustainable Management Fund, the Zero Waste Trust and supporting councils. The Ministry’s funding is for 3 years.

BusinessCare is also able to support local authorities with implementing their Waste Management Plans as required under the recent Local Government Act amendment. It can assist Council’s in waste minimisation and management efforts. We support local authorities in their work with businesses to implement Cleaner Production in their work practices.

To achieve this, we aim to have a nationwide network of local coordinators, each appointed by their authority, working with local businesses.

We offer councils:

- *Advice on appointing a coordinator*
- *Training in Cleaner Production and Sustainable Management customised to your local business’ needs (available from August 2001)*
- *Sharing of information about what other local authorities are doing*
- *Resource sharing – drawing on other local authority initiatives*
- *Information/contacts/service expertise on Cleaner Production in New Zealand and internationally”.*

SUMMARY

The BusinessCare Trust has a potential role of stimulating activities, such as the CCC Target Zero programme, across New Zealand. It could assist in creating and supporting interest across Canterbury in programmes similar to Target Zero, but may not have the resources to actually work with businesses on behalf of councils. Members councils may wish to consider how their councils could benefit from using resources such as BusinessCare.

Chairman’s

Recommendation: That the information be received.