

6. ARANUI COMMUNITY RENEWAL PROJECT

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Corporate Plan Output: Advice to Council	

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on progress with the Aranui Community Renewal Project and other Christchurch City Council/Housing New Zealand partnership projects.

INTRODUCTION

At its 28 July 2000 meeting, the Council resolved that the Housing Working Party develop a partnership with Housing NZ Ltd related to affordable housing in Christchurch. Three partnership projects were identified, these being an affordable housing needs assessment project, community renewal strategy for Aranui, and a joint tenant charter.

Since that time the following actions have occurred in relation to the Aranui Community Renewal Strategy:

1. A formal (but not legal) partnership agreement has been drawn up and concluded between the Housing Working Party of the Council and Housing New Zealand Ltd (HNZ). This establishes a steering group with representatives from both parties, since augmented by some local representation, including the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board. The group has so far met on four occasions.
2. A project brief for Aranui has been prepared and agreed between the parties.
3. Staff project teams involving both Council and HNZ staff have commenced work, including the establishment of contact with and commitment from many of the business units of the Council.
4. Strong support and assistance from the Burwood/Pegasus Community Board, led by Chairperson Chrissie Williams.
5. Preliminary meetings with members of the Aranui Community, more particularly to develop a process of public consultation and appointing community representatives to a local steering group. A "temporary" Aranui group is in place until a more permanent community forum is established.
6. Agreement to establish project office/community house, using an existing property owned by HNZ, with a resource consent application about to be lodged.
7. A Community Consultation co-ordinator appointment is pending.
8. Annual Plan bids have been prepared for various aspects of the Strategy.
9. Because of my new role as Central City Policy Leader, and the heavy workload that involves, I have regretfully had to advise that I am no longer able to continue as the Council's joint project leader (shared with HNZ). This task is to be managed by a colleague from the Professional Services Unit.

The affordable housing needs assessment study being undertaken by Professor David Thorns and Simon Campbell of the University of Canterbury has recently been completed and will be reported separately.

At this stage work on the third matter, the joint tenant charter, has not proceeded.

Chairman's

Recommendation: For the Committee's information.