

6. CANTERBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD SUPPORT, CO-ORDINATOR REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Officer responsible Community Advocate	Author Roger Cave, Community Secretary DDI 372 2502
Corporate Plan Output: Riccarton/Wigram Community Board Vol 1 3.2 Text 6	

The following information has been provided, by New Zealand Police, to give the Board some relevant information in support of today's deputation which is seeking financial assistance to fund the full-time Christchurch Co-ordinator.

To date the deputation has met four Community Boards, with Hagley/Ferrymead and our Board this evening.

The four Boards have each pledged \$5,000 in 2001/02, with Fendalton/Waimairi carrying their commitment over the 2002/03 and 2003/04 financial years.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document is the Business Plan for Canterbury Neighbourhood Support for the year 2001/02. It should be read in conjunction with the Canterbury Neighbourhood Support Strategic Plan.

The plan outlines business objectives and key strategies from a five-year strategic vision of Canterbury Neighbourhood Support. It is anticipated that this plan will form the basis of outputs for the group in the current fiscal year and also set the scene for the follow years.

Key objectives include:

1. Developing Canterbury into the safest, most caring communities.
2. Strengthening Canterbury community's capacity to sustain the reduction, incidence and effects of crime.
3. Raising the profile of Neighbourhood Support.
4. Effectively targeting "at risk" areas.

The principle strategies for achieving these goals will include:

- crime prevention,
- education,
- deterrence,
- capacity building; and
- problem solving

The vision of Creating a Safer Canterbury together will easily be achieved by developing and maintaining an effective and sustainable Neighbourhood Support Network.

BACKGROUND

National

The concept of Neighbourhood Support had its origins in Auckland in 1983. Essentially it was established to provide a formal structure for "neighbours watching out for neighbours" and the concept has rapidly spread throughout New Zealand. Traditionally the Police encompassed this concept and together with a National Real Estate company, funds and resources were supplied so that Neighbourhood Watch groups were established and nurtured by another new concept, that of community policing.

The reality today is that the Police no longer have funds to support this concept and it is not seen as a part of core policing. The principal now being that the community must look after its own.

With this view in mind a national body, Neighbourhood Support New Zealand (Inc) has been formed to provide support for all neighbourhood support, rural support and neighbourhood watch groups throughout New Zealand by offering:

- Access to advice and support based on the district and national experience.
- Assistance with funding applications.
- Ongoing support including the provision and development of resources.
- Updates of local and national trends and programmes.
- Assistance in liaison with Police, local bodies and other like-minded organisations.
- Assistance in strengthening community networks.
- Access to a National Statistical Database if/when in place.

Local

The Canterbury Group commenced in Christchurch in 1985 and today services 2000+ groups incorporating approximately 20,000 households (est. 10% of population), from Timaru in the south to the Hurunui district in the north.

An Executive Committee manages the organisation, and day to day activity is supported by three Area Co-ordinators from Timaru, Ashburton and Christchurch. The Timaru and Ashburton co-ordinators are part-time and are currently funded by the local communities with resources being supplied by the Police. The Christchurch co-ordinator is currently full-time and funding is being sought from Community Boards and other organisations. However, at this time the position is homeless and a suitable venue for housing the co-ordinator is being sought.

The group is currently undergoing a review which includes establishing a strategic view of the future and a desire to establish itself as a professional and outcome focussed organisation.

- Recommendation:**
1. That the deputation be received.
 2. That an officer's report be obtained in accordance with Council resolution of December 1999 that addressed deputations to individual Community Boards requiring officer reports prior to Board decisions.

Chairperson's

- Recommendation:** That the Officer's recommendation be adopted.