

10. REPORT FROM POVERTY TASKFORCE

Officer responsible Director of Policy	Author Mary Richardson, DDI 3711-1882
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The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Committee the report of the Mayoral Taskforce on Poverty.

BACKGROUND

The Council establishment of a Taskforce on Poverty to identify and advocate for solutions to poverty. Its focus is on finding solutions that address the causes of poverty, not just its symptoms. There terms of reference include:

- To develop strategies to strengthen responses to poverty in Christchurch.
- To review and make recommendations on the Council's programmes and policies with respect to their impacts on those on low incomes in Christchurch.
- To recommend to the Council, central Government and other bodies action to reduce the level of poverty in the different communities, including policy development and review.
- To build and maintain relationships among key government and non government agencies and organisations with responsibilities for addressing the causes and effects of poverty.
- To develop and report on performance measures of actions taken by the Taskforce.

The Taskforce comprised:

- Paul Dalziel, Economics Department, University of Canterbury
- Sue Bagshaw, 198 Health Centre
- Major Campbell Roberts, Salvation Army
- Mark Solomon, Kaiwhakahaere, Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu

Mayor Garry Moore and Carole Anderton (Chair Community Services Committee) also attend Taskforce meetings. The Taskforce wound up in September 2001.

REPORT

The Taskforce presented its final report to the Community Services Committee in September 2001. A copy of the report is circulated with the agenda.

This report outlined the activities undertaken by the Taskforce and made recommendations to the Council which the Taskforce believe may help address issues of poverty. Because the report was presented immediately prior to the election, the Committee agreed to hand the report to the incoming Committee and Chair (now Community and Leisure) to consider how they could action the recommendations.

Recommendation: That the Committee receive this information and consider the recommendations of the Poverty Taskforce.

Chairman's

Recommendation: That the recommendations of the Poverty Taskforce be fed into the Committee's priorities, outcomes and issues to be resolved over the next three years.