10. COMMUNICATION PLAN 2002 – UPDATE

Officer responsible	Author
Community Advocate	Tony Gemmill, DDI 941-6701

In January the Board considered a report proposing a plan for "communication with the community".

The basic areas of coverage include for discussions with the following categories:
- resident groups/NSG co-ordinators
- sporting groups
- "community" – through a Consultative Forum
- schools
- Police
- support staff

In addition some recognition was given in acknowledging the opportunity for publicity/promotion through "City Scene".

The Board resolved to adopt an initial programme built around communication with the above categories, and it is now relevant to adopt a programme for the balance of 2002. The following approaches seem relevant:

a) **Residents Groups/NSG**

A successful meeting with the residents groups, and the (then) newly appointed Canterbury Neighbourhood Support co-ordinator was held on 21 February where a number of topical issues were discussed.

The original plan provided for at least two such meetings and it is now appropriate to host the further meeting required. Of particular interest will be the opportunity to receive feedback on the

work of Canterbury Neighbourhood Support since its inception in late 2001. It will be remembered that this is the second year of a three year commitment by the Board in allocating $5,000 p.a. toward the operation of this organisation.

b) **Sporting Groups**

As explained to the Board in January the various forums held during the Community Funding round provide the mechanism for an annual liaison with sporting groups. In terms of the Board's objectives the commitment for 2001/02 has been fulfilled.

There is, however, one matter which has recently impacted to some degree on sporting groups in the community – that of the demise of the earlier Hillary Commission support funding.

At the present time it is a little unclear on the overall outcomes from the review decision by SPARC although it is noted that this organisation has pledged to work with local bodies to address the approach for the future. From the Board's point of view it is very much a waiting game until further information arises.

c) **Consultative Forum**

Historically the Board has consulted with its community regarding opportunities/projects/needs for the future. While these occasions were not necessarily well attended, there were from time to time a number of "ideas" which the Board was able to develop.

In 2001 no Forum was held because of the (then) financial constraints on identifying new projects. As Members are aware there are now also constraints on the Council's finances, and it has been suggested that there should be caution against expectations by the community in identifying new project opportunities. On this basis it is suggested that the wider consultation should be again deferred.

d) **Police**

On 18 March the Board met with Inspector Graeme Cairns and other officers from the Papanui Police District. Members agreed at that time that this type of forum should be arranged on an ongoing basis. Again, this forum should be initiated within the next few months.

f) **Support Staff**

The first session for the year was hosted on 1 March, and it is now relevant that the second meeting earlier agreed to should now be arranged.

With some recent work being carried out in the review of support servicing for Community Boards it could be relevant, among other matters, to consider the success of changes implemented over the past months.

Staff
Recommendation: That the further programme for consultation be adopted for the balance of 2002:-

1. A meeting of Residents Group, and representation from the NSG Regional Committee, be held at 4.00pm on Wednesday 21 August.

2. A meeting with representatives from Schools outside of the North West Cluster be held in early-mid September.

3. A meeting with representatives of the Police be held in mid September.

4. An informal meeting with support staff be held in mid September.

Deputy Chairman's
Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.