

## 9. LATIMER SQUARE REVITALISATION

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The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee that of the progress being made with the Latimer Square revitalisation as it relates to the Fitzgerald Statue.

A Council, cross unit project team is now in a position to form a brief which will lead to the development of plans to revitalise the square. A recently completed community consultation process did not show any significant numbers concerned with the siting of the Fitzgerald statue. The consultation did however indicate the public's preference for any initiative to liven up the area as a higher priority than radical changes in the actual form/shape of the space.

The Fitzgerald Statue is a large structure of significant importance and as such, will require a space reflecting that status if it is shifted into Latimer Square.

In order to complete the Landscape Architect's brief, the project team needs to know whether or not the Fitzgerald statue and its associated space is to be included in draft designs.

A very good report from the Council's heritage team is attached which states the case from a historic perspective, it contains information that is not common knowledge but is important when considering the likelihood of shifting the statue.

Shifting the statue would cost between \$20,000 and \$30,000 a more accurate figure will be obtained if and when the shift is approved.

The attached report from Amanda Ross along with the views of this forum will be presented to a joint meeting of Sustainable Transport and Utilities, Parks Gardens and Waterways, this forum and the Hagley Ferrymead Community Board on 9 December 2002. Recommendations from this 9 December 2002 meeting will be carried on to a full council meeting later in December.

### **Staff**

**Recommendation:** That the Committee considers and reports its position on whether or not the Fitzgerald statue is shifted to its initially intended location, Latimer Square.

**Deputy Chairman's Recommendation:** For discussion.