

7. **TRANSFORMING CITIES IN AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE  
20-22 MARCH 2003, AUCKLAND**

<b>Officer responsible</b> Director of Information	<b>Author</b> Warren Brixton, DDI 941-8439
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The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee of the forthcoming Transforming Cities in Australia and New Zealand Conference titled 'Urbanism Downunder 2003' and seek approval for the Committee Chairman and one other member to attend.

Transforming car-based sprawling suburbs into attractive, walkable communities has become a focus over the last decade for urban designers, planners and developers in both Australia and New Zealand.

Urbanism Downunder 2003 will harvest the experiences of Australian and international practitioners in the art and science of transforming cities. The conference will be interdisciplinary, illustrating the mix of professional skills essential to creating liveable towns and cities - urban design, architecture, landscape design, planning, economics, transport, community development and communications.

The identified conference themes are:

- Design for change,
- Leadership and community,
- Design and development,
- Toolbox for change.

The three day programme will include a variety of keynote speakers and workshop sessions.

Some details of the conference have yet to be finalised and costs are not available, however, because this is the last meeting of the year, it is necessary to bring this matter forward at this time.

**Recommendation:** That the Committee approve the Chairman, Councillor Sally Buck and one other member of the Committee to attend the Transforming Cities in Australia and New Zealand 2003 Conference.