

9. 2004 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NZ CONFERENCE

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The purpose of this report is:

- to seek authority for Councillors to attend the 2004 Local Government New Zealand Conference;
- to seek the appointment of the Council's voting delegates to the conference; and
- to seek an indication as to whether the Council wishes to submit any remits to the conference through Zone 5.

APPOINTMENT OF CONFERENCE VOTING DELEGATES AND OBSERVERS

This year's conference will be held in Auckland from Sunday 25 to Wednesday 28 July 2004.

The Council usually authorises 4-5 Councillors to attend the conference. Last year, the Council's delegates were the Mayor, Councillors Oscar Alpers, Helen Broughton and Gail Sheriff and Mrs Yvonne Palmer. Based on last year's prices the cost of attending the conference will be approximately \$2,000 per delegate.

The Christchurch City Council is entitled to appoint three conference voting delegates, with any additional Councillors attending as observers.

REMITTS

The Association has also invited member authorities wishing to submit proposed remits to do so no later than Friday 28 May 2004. Meeting dates for Zone meetings have been scheduled to allow, and encourage, members to raise issues of importance through the Zone meetings and then the National Council meetings, rather than the AGM. The LGA therefore recommends that Council consider, before submitting remits, whether or not the issue could be better and more immediately dealt with through the Zone/National Council process.

Last year, the Christchurch City Council submitted three remits, which:

- Requested the appointment of a Remuneration Authority Commissioner with a background in local government.
- Expressed concerns regarding the content of the Transit NZ draft 2003/04 national programme.
- Sought the expedition of a review of the Reserves Act 1977.

Should the Council wish to submit a remit on any topic for discussion at this year's conference, it is suggested that, once the subject of the proposed remit has been identified, then the Infrastructure and Facilities Policy Leader (Allan Watson) be delegated power to prepare a draft remit in the required form, for consideration at the next Zone 5 meeting.

Staff

- Recommendation:**
1. That the Mayor and a further four Councillors and/ or Community Board members be authorised to attend the 2004 Local Government New Zealand Conference.
 2. That three of the members authorised to attend the conference be appointed as the Council's voting delegates.
 3. That the Infrastructure and Facilities Policy Leader be authorised to submit a draft remit to Zone 5 on any issues which the Committee and/or Council may decide should become the subject of a remit.

Chair's

- Recommendation:** To be tabled at the meeting.