

11. ADMINISTRATION MANAGERS UPDATE

11.1 NOTIFICATION PERIOD FOR SUBMISSION HEARINGS

At the August meeting I reported that Council did *“not have a formal policy in respect of other hearings”* (referring to hearings other than where there is a statutory requirement). The advice I had received on this issue was inaccurate. Council does in fact have a Consultation Policy, although it does not stipulate a minimum notification period for advising submitters of when their submission will be heard. Council would however always endeavour to give sufficient notification to submitters on any issue.

This issue came to the Board's table in respect of the notification period for submissions to the LTCCP. Council received over 2,000 submissions to the LTCCP, of which approximately 420 submitters wished to be heard. The Council had to consider all submissions in a relatively short time period. There was a complaint to the Auditor General's Office regarding the Council's processing of submissions and time allocated to hearings on the LTCCP. The Auditor General responded by saying *“The Local Government Act 2002 requires a local authority to give submitters a reasonable opportunity to be heard should the submitter so request. The act does not specify matters such as the time that must be made available for submitters, and it is for each Council to determine that having regard to practical considerations noted above.”* The timing of the LTCCP is governed by the Local Government Act 2002.

11.2 ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS – AKAROA MUSEUM

At the 26 July meeting of the Board, Mr Lowndes asked the following question: *“What is the Akaroa Museum's Activity Management Plan status within Christchurch City Council, with special regard to the care of the heritage buildings under the management of the Museum?”*

The Acting Director of the Christchurch Art Gallery, Hubert Klaassens, has replied as follows:

“The Activity Management Plan referred to was not formally adopted by Banks Peninsula District Council. However, the 10-year budgets embedded in the Plan have been incorporated in Christchurch City Council's financial planning framework for Akaroa Museum.”

The current budget allows for maintenance of all Akaroa Museum facilities over the next ten years. It does not allow for specialist conservation work on the Museum's heritage buildings, such as identified in conservation plans adopted by the former Akaroa Museum Board.

The Council is experienced in managing heritage assets, and will maintain the current standard of the heritage buildings under the management of Akaroa Museum.

The Council will also, over the next 12-18 months, develop asset management plans for a number of Banks Peninsula facilities, including the Akaroa Museum. These plans will assist the Council with determining the appropriate conservation priorities and budgets for Banks Peninsula's built heritage. This will include reviewing the current condition of the asset, the conservation plan, any existing information on the asset and budgets.”

11.3 SPEED RESTRICTIONS BYLAW – WESTERN VALLEY ROAD

At the 21 April meeting of the Board, it was resolved that staff be requested to report on the status of the speed limits imposed on Council controlled roads, specifically, the position of the open road sign on Western Valley Road, Little River.

The Transport & Greenspace Manager has replied: *“The Council is considering the current round of speed limit reviews at its meeting tomorrow (21 September). There will be another round in twelve months time, including Banks Peninsula.”*

11.4 LITTLE RIVER PLAYGROUND

The 21 April meeting of the Board resolved that staff be requested to report on the playground equipment and landscaping at Little River, focussing on the safety of the design and the compliance with contract standards of the structures; AND provide an update on landscaping and general maintenance of the area as there are some small areas of lawn around the railway station that do not appear to be on the Council register.

The Contracts Manager has reported that he is satisfied that there are no issues remaining with the safety compliance of the Little River playground and that all associated landscaping has been completed. He has confirmed that there are areas of lawn around the railway station that are not maintained under the Council mowing contract but has pointed out that those areas were never included under the contract.