

## 6. ECO ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2010

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| <b>General Manager responsible:</b> | General Manager Regulation & Democracy Services, DDI 941-8462 |
| <b>Officer responsible:</b>         | Democracy Services Manager                                    |
| <b>Author:</b>                      | Liz Carter, Community Board Adviser                           |

### PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the Board's approval for interested members to attend the ECO Annual Conference, to be held at Living Springs from 2-4 July 2010.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. ECO was founded in 1971 to meet the needs of the conservation community. It is a non-profit network of 70 organisations with a concern for conservation and the environment. Membership of ECO includes large international groups such as Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth, national groups including Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand and the National Council of Women, as well as small local groups such as Kapiti Environmental Action and Save the Otago Peninsula, and issue oriented groups like the Biodynamic Farming and Gardening Society and the Yellow-eyed Penguin Trust.
3. ECO has been centrally involved in campaigns to protect native forests, lakes and rivers, the reform of the Mining Act and defeat of the National Development Act, and in supporting the Resource Management Act and the establishment of the Department of Conservation and Ministry of the Environment.
4. The conference is to be held at Living Springs (Governors Bay) on Friday 2, Saturday 3 and Sunday 4 July 2010. The programme for the conference is focused on environmental, conservation and biodiversity issues, with addresses from a wide range of national and local speakers, as well as several interactive workshops, panel discussions and field trips to local sites. Some of the topics to be covered include:
  - Environment, Conservation & Economy: Foundations for the Future
  - Land and Water: Managing Long Term Values
  - Land and Water: Local and Regional Developments
  - International Year of Biodiversity: Foundations for Life

### FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. The cost of the conference is \$300 plus GST per person or \$110 per person, per day. With the conference being held locally there will be no accommodation funding required for Board members who wish to attend. The Board's 2009/10 conferences budget currently has an unallocated budget of \$1,500.

### Do the Recommendations of this Report Align with 2009-19 LTCCP budgets?

6. Yes, provision for elected member training is made in the LTCCP, specifically under the Elected Member Representation activity.

### LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

#### Have you considered the legal implications of the issue under consideration?

7. Yes, there are no legal implications.

### ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

#### Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

8. Not applicable.

**ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES**

**Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?**

9. Not applicable.

**CONSULTATION FULFILMENT**

10. Not applicable.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Lyttelton/Mt Herbert Community Board give consideration to approving the attendance by interested members at the ECO Annual Conference on 2-4 July 2010.