

2. CHARTERED INSTITUTE OF HOUSING CONFERENCE HARROGATE, ENGLAND JUNE 2003

Officer responsible Property Manager	Author Rob Dally, Property Manager DDI 941-8500
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The purpose of this report is to seek the Council's approval for the Chair of the Housing Subcommittee, Councillor Carole Anderton, to attend the Chartered Institute of Housing conference to be held in Harrogate, England, in June 2003.

BACKGROUND

The Christchurch City Council is the second largest landlord in New Zealand behind Housing New Zealand. It is acknowledged as the leading local authority social housing provider in New Zealand, with a proven record of progressive programmes of housing delivery including partnerships.

Councillor Anderton has chaired the Housing Subcommittee (and previously the Housing Working Party) for some five years, and has been instrumental with a number of housing initiatives including the Memorandum of Understanding with Housing New Zealand Corporation and the Aranui Community Renewal Project.

The Chartered Institute of Housing Conference is recognised as the leading social housing conference in the world, and has been recommended to the Council by Adrian Jones (Birmingham based researcher who has visited New Zealand twice in recent years) and Michael Lennon, CEO of Housing New Zealand Corporation, which has previously sent representatives to this conference.

The theme of the 2003 conference is "New Markets: New Approaches", which reflects the Council's September 2001 resolution to limit further construction of new housing pending completion of the asset management plan, whilst at the same time fostering housing partnerships. Whilst the full programme for the 2003 conference is not currently available, we have been advised as follows:

"The programme structure and content will be designed to reflect the challenges currently facing LA's and RSL's acknowledging the fundamental issues are different in different areas. It will focus on the Government's priorities of delivering on such issues as the Decent Home Target, market renewal, key worker strategies, quality of house design and ensuring that deprived communities become places where people want to live. All of these major initiatives require new thinking, new approaches to partnering and different management solutions which will be examined and discussed during that event".

Details of the 2002 conference are tabled.

COSTS

All the costs will be met from the Housing Development Fund (Policy & Research) and not from rates.

Air fares will be minimised through an early booking.

Estimated costs are as follows:

Airfares	\$2,500
Registration	\$1,000
Accommodation	\$1,000
General Expenses	<u>\$500</u>
Total cost	<u>\$5,000</u>

A daily meetings allowance for Councillor Anderton would also be payable.

The conference will provide an opportunity for Council representatives to see/hear about/discuss new social housing initiatives/developments first hand and to network with industry leaders.

Recommendation: That the Council approve the attendance of Councillor Carole Anderson, at the Chartered Institute of Housing Conference to be held in Harrogate, England from 17 to 20 June 2003.