

25. 3. 2004



REPORT NO 2 OF THE MAYOR

1. VISIT TO TASMANIA

I visited Tasmania at the invitation of the CEO of Antarctica New Zealand, Lew Sanson, for four days earlier this month. Mr Sanson was accompanied by his Chairman and I was accompanied by Larry Podmore from CDC.

Councillors will be aware that we allocated \$65,000 to focus on Antarctica and its economic benefits to this city in our draft budget last week.

It was obvious from our visit that Tasmania is co-ordinating those involved in its Antarctica programme much better than we do in Christchurch, and we learned much from our visit. We are currently working on a comprehensive review of how we can improve our support to, and promote greater co-ordination of those involved in, everything Antarctic in this city. It is estimated that \$70 million is spent in the city every year on this programme.

2. COUNCILLOR RELATIONSHIPS

I congratulate Councillors Evans and Stonhill for sorting out their difficulties. I would urge Councillors to sort out their differences (which are very common in politics, and can be very healthy and lead to new knowledge and understandings) in as private a manner as possible. Our task as colleagues, when differences occur, is to promote dialogue, friendship and reconciliation.

3. THE SQUARE

(Separately circulated)

CONSIDERED THIS 25TH DAY OF MARCH 2004

MAYOR