

9. COUNCIL INVOLVEMENT WITH THE ROAD SAFETY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

General Manager responsible:	General Manager City Environment
Officer responsible:	Transport and City Streets Manager
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to outline the developments since the last report on the Council's involvement and relationship with the Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee (RSCC) was considered by the Council on 14 April 2005, particularly in line with the recommendations of that Council meeting.
2. At the 14 April 2005 Council meeting, the Council resolved:
 - (a) That the Council support the continuation of the Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee.
 - (b) That Councillors Bob Shearing and Carole Evans be appointed as the Council's representatives on the Committee for the balance of the current term of Council.
 - (c) That the Committee be requested to review its present purpose, objectives and outcomes, and report back to the Council on the alterations to these proposed in the staff report.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

3. The Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee met following the 14 April Council meeting on 27 April 2005, and discussed at length the Council's resolutions and the Committee's desired relationship with the Council in the context of the proposed amendments to the Committee's purpose, objectives and outcomes.
4. The RSCC appreciated the Council's resolution to support the continuation of the Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee, and welcomed the two nominated Councillors. It also considered that it would accept the opportunity to be domiciled at the Council's offices with associated secretarial support.
5. In discussing the proposed amendments to the Committee's purpose, objectives and outcomes, the Committee considered that with some minor modifications, the Council's proposed amendments were acceptable. These minor modifications are noted in the Purpose, Objectives and Outcomes below, with strikethrough text being proposed deletions and underlined text as proposed additions by the Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee:

PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE

To improve road safety through co-ordination, co-operation, support and information dissemination amongst road safety organisations in Christchurch.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Committee are:

- a. *To provide a forum for information exchange, liaison, networking, and team building between members of the road safety community in Christchurch.*
- b. *To encourage commitment to road safety as a priority in the activities of member organisations.*
- c. *To increase the public perception of the importance of road safety and to promote a "road safety culture" in the community.*
- d. *To encourage community engagement in road safety and inform the community so they can participate in road safety issues and actions.*
- e. *To receive regular reports from members on their activities and monitor (and when appropriate provide feedback to) inter-sectoral groups which plan and manage road safety education, awareness and community development projects.*

- f. To inform the Council and policy makers of member organisations about community road safety issues both for the organisations and for the citizens of Christchurch.
- g. To discuss priorities and encourage member organisations and their community networks to contribute funding and resources to community road safety projects.
- h. To encourage ~~an agreed~~ a strategic direction and facilitate strategic alignment for road safety in Christchurch agreed to by all member participants and documented in the Christchurch Road Safety Strategy, but not make decisions about activities of member organisations nor enter into final decision making about engineering details at specific sites, or specific details of education and awareness projects. (Feedback on strategic implications of engineering details at specific sites, or specific details of education and awareness projects could be provided to project groups and working parties, as Committee responses to consultation and project review processes.)
- i. To review and support progress on the implementation of the Christchurch Road Safety Strategy.
- j. To make recommendations to the Christchurch City Council on co-ordinated proposals for Safety Administration Programme and Community Road Safety Programme funding.
- k. To provide transparent reporting to partner organisations and the community of the achievements of the approved Community Road Safety Programme funding and associated developments, and of the achievements and progress of the Safety Administration Programme.
- l. To contribute to the Council's LTCCP obligations and the community consultation requirements of member organisations through the links this Committee provides between the organisations and the Christchurch community.
- m. To be effective in ~~lobbying~~ advocacy locally and nationally for improved road safety.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

The desired outcomes for the committee are:

- (i) A reduction in the number and severity of road injury collisions in Christchurch.
 - (ii) More effective road safety programmes through co-ordination of resources and timing.
 - (iii) Reduced duplication of effort.
 - (iv) A high level of information flow between all groups with interests in road safety, leading to an improved level of understanding of road safety issues and inter-relationships amongst those organisations.
 - (v) Successful and integrated applications for the Safety Administration Programme and the Community Road Safety Programme funding for Christchurch, enabled through Committee co-ordination and information sharing.
 - (vi) Provide useful input to the Council's LTCCP processes, and member organisations are better able to fulfil their obligations of community consultation.
 - (vii) An increased level of enthusiasm in the community for road safety, and the growth of a "road safety culture" in the community.
 - (viii) An effective and unified approach to securing additional sources of funding or sponsorship for road safety initiatives.
 - (ix) An effective and unified voice for ~~lobbying~~ advocacy on road safety issues.
 - (x) An increased level of co-operation between road safety groups and more effective community development.
6. During the RSCC discussions, the question of responsibility for funding and programme expenditure was discussed. It was pointed out that the contract for the Land Transport NZ funding is between the contracted providers, such as the Council, and Land Transport NZ. Thus the Council is responsible for its spending, not the RSCC. The Committee can provide advocacy for its spending but the final decision will be through Council processes. The Committee can therefore provide guidance but not final decision making. The point was made in relation to Objective h. that the project groups make decisions about the details of education and awareness projects, and report them to the Committee. The project groups are essentially project teams for each initiative or programme activity, made up of representatives of the relevant organisations represented in that activity, and is separate from the Committee. The project group members would be responsible for their organisation's expenditure on the project.

7. The RSCC also considered the 14 April Council meeting discussion on the issue of potentially combining the Committee and the Cycle Steering Group. RSCC members felt that the focus of the two groups was different and they should remain separate, but the Committee could invite representation from the Cycle Steering Group.
8. The RSCC also discussed options for reporting back to the Council, given the history of previously reporting back to a Council committee, but reached little by way of conclusive views. The discussion expanded to note that it is the responsibility of each Committee member to report back and liaise with their constituent organisation or agency. As quarterly progress reports are compiled as part of the Safety Administration Programme (SAP) contractual arrangements with Land Transport New Zealand and are also received by the RSCC, it would appear that this process would be a good option to generate a related update report to the Council on both progress of the SAP projects and any meetings of the RSCC.
9. The RSCC resolved at its 27 April meeting:
 - That the modifications and amendments to the Purpose and Objectives of the Committee as discussed be reported back to the Christchurch City Council.
 - That the Committee be domiciled at the Council with secretarial support.
 - That the reporting mechanism for the Committee to the Christchurch City Council be supported as part of the six monthly review of the Council.
 - That the Cycle Steering Group not be merged with the Committee but that the Group be invited to have a member on the Committee, and that the terms of reference for membership of the committee be reviewed.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

10. The Council's support for the administration of the Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee is able to be accommodated within current budgetary allowances.
11. There are no legal considerations regarding the operation and support of this (liaison) committee or forum.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:

- (a) That the Council confirm support for the continuation of the Road Safety Co-ordinating Committee, with its purpose, objectives and outcomes as follows:

PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE

To improve road safety through co-ordination, co-operation, support and information dissemination amongst road safety organisations in Christchurch.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Committee are:

- a. *To provide a forum for information exchange, liaison, networking, and team building between members of the road safety community in Christchurch.*
- b. *To encourage commitment to road safety as a priority in the activities of member organisations.*
- c. *To increase the public perception of the importance of road safety and to promote a "road safety culture" in the community.*
- d. *To encourage community engagement in road safety and inform the community so they can participate in road safety issues and actions.*
- e. *To receive regular reports from members on their activities and monitor (and when appropriate provide feedback to) inter-sectoral groups which plan and manage road safety education, awareness and community development projects.*

- f. *To inform the Council and policy makers of member organisations about community road safety issues both for the organisations and for the citizens of Christchurch.*
- g. *To discuss priorities and encourage member organisations and their community networks to contribute funding and resources to community road safety projects.*
- h. *To encourage a strategic direction and facilitate strategic alignment for road safety in Christchurch agreed to by all member participants and documented in the Christchurch Road Safety Strategy, but not make decisions about activities of member organisations nor enter into final decision making about engineering details at specific sites, or specific details of education and awareness projects. (Feedback on strategic implications of engineering details at specific sites, or specific details of education and awareness projects could be provided to project groups and working parties, as Committee responses to consultation and project review processes.)*
- i. *To review and support progress on the implementation of the Christchurch Road Safety Strategy.*
- j. *To make recommendations to the Christchurch City Council on co-ordinated proposals for Safety Administration Programme and Community Road Safety Programme funding.*
- k. *To provide transparent reporting to partner organisations and the community of the achievements of the approved Community Road Safety Programme funding and associated developments, and of the achievements and progress of the Safety Administration Programme.*
- l. *To contribute to the Council's LTCCP obligations and the community consultation requirements of member organisations through the links this Committee provides between the organisations and the Christchurch community.*
- m. *To be effective in advocacy locally and nationally for improved road safety.*

DESIRED OUTCOMES

The desired outcomes for the Committee are:

- (i) *A reduction in the number and severity of road injury collisions in Christchurch.*
 - (ii) *More effective road safety programmes through co-ordination of resources and timing.*
 - (iii) *Reduced duplication of effort.*
 - (iv) *A high level of information flow between all groups with interests in road safety, leading to an improved level of understanding of road safety issues and inter-relationships amongst those organisations.*
 - (v) *Successful and integrated applications for the Safety Administration Programme and the Community Road Safety Programme funding for Christchurch, enabled through Committee co-ordination and information sharing.*
 - (vi) *Provide useful input to the Council's LTCCP processes, and member organisations are better able to fulfil their obligations of community consultation.*
 - (vii) *An increased level of enthusiasm in the community for road safety, and the growth of a "road safety culture" in the community.*
 - (viii) *An effective and unified approach to securing additional sources of funding or sponsorship for road safety initiatives.*
 - (ix) *An effective and unified voice for advocacy on road safety issues.*
 - (x) *An increased level of co-operation between road safety groups and more effective community development.*
- (b) That the Council support the RSCC being domiciled at the Council with secretarial support.
 - (c) That the RSCC initially report to the Council quarterly in alignment with quarterly Safety Administration Programme reporting to Land Transport New Zealand, and that the reporting mechanism for the committee to the Council be reviewed as part of the six monthly review of the Council structure.