

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

NOTES OF A SEMINAR OF THE COUNCIL

**Held in the Council Chamber, Civic Offices
on Wednesday 13 June 2007 at 5.30pm**

PRESENT:

Christchurch City Council

Councillors Graham Condon and Barry Corbett

Community Board

Val Carter, Steve Lowndes, Yvonne Palmer, Claudia Reid,
Linda Burt and Yani Johanson (from 6.10pm)

APOLOGIES:

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from
Mayor Garry Moore, Councillors Carole Evans and
Norm Withers.

Ngaire Button, Bill Bush, Myra Barry, Tina Lomax,
Carmen Hammond and Mike Wall

1. NEW FIRE LEGISLATION – FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES ACT

Chris Gilbert support by Murray Sinclair and Keith Marshall provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Department of Internal Affairs discussion document covering:

- Current system structure
- Current structure - Council
- Current structure - funding
- Proposed structure
- Proposed structure – other issues
- Proposed structure – funding
- Possible submissions from Council

Questions and comments were made in respect of:

- What was the situation that applied to Banks Peninsula
- What was the situation in respect of other than vegetation fires, in respect of brigade attendance
- Who reimburses the fire brigades for fighting fires under the new proposal
- The scheme had a similarity to that of Civil Defence
- The public would not like to see the Council pull out of any fire fighting role.
- What is so broken that the Department of Internal Affairs needs to fix it
- What was the affect on volunteers joining the brigades
- Had there been consultation with the volunteer fire brigades in the Christchurch District
- What was the process involved in any submission
- There is heavy reliance on Banks Peninsula for fire brigades to turn out to all types of fires
- The control of lighting fires was another issue

- At present New Zealand Fire Service does not charge Local Authorities for fighting fire – this was likely to change under the proposal

OUTCOMES

It was agreed that submissions be made along the lines put forward in the presentation with community boards to add their support through a separate submission

In this regard the information was to be provided to Community Boards, who may decide to facilitate some discussion with the volunteer fire brigades in their areas.

The seminar concluded at 6.42pm.