

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE SUBMISSION PANEL MEETING

**Held in the Mayor's Lounge
on Thursday 18 June at 2.30pm**

PRESENT: Councillor Sue Wells (Chairperson),
Councillors Chrissie Williams (Deputy Chairperson),
Bob Shearing and Mike Wall.

IN ATTENDANCE: Mayor Bob Parker

1. DRAFT COUNCIL SUBMISSION – LAND TRANSPORT (ENFORCEMENT POWERS) AMENDMENT BILL AND VEHICLE CONFISCATION AND SEIZURE BILL

The Panel instructed staff to submit a combined submission on both Bills with the following points:

- The Council broadly supports the approach of the Vehicle Confiscation and Seizure Bill. The Council acknowledges that the Bill bestows no additional powers on local authorities.
- The Council considers that, in the first instance, the Land Transport (Enforcement Powers) Amendment Bill should be national legislation rather than contain a bylaw making power for local authorities, even if this has an “opt in/opt out” provision for local authorities. Bylaws can be challenged and be difficult to enforce effectively. For example, in Christchurch “boy racers” could simply be displaced and congregate in the Selwyn or Waimakariri Districts to avoid prosecution.
- If the Amendment Bill is to contain a bylaw making power it needs to be improved as it requires a local authority to make a bylaw, but Police to enforce it.
- If the Amendment Bill is to contain a bylaw making power, it needs to be easily tailored to local environments and local problems. In addition, the ability to alter a bylaw should not be subject to a Special Consultative Procedure under the Local Government Act 2002, thus ensuring flexibility.
- The Council opposes the bylaw making provision but, if enacted, The Council considers that the Amendment Bill needs to encourage and facilitate the ability for the Council and Police to share resources and work more closely. This is particularly relevant in the use of technology.
- The Amendment Bill needs to clear in what it is trying to achieve. Illegal street racing or cruising may not adequately capture what is currently happening. These two activities need to be separated in the Bill.
- The Panel suggested that the following problems and desired outcomes be emphasised in the Amendment Bill:
 - (a) Issue of car-based congregation on streets and private property
 - (b) Clarify cruising - where it intimidates others by noise, numbers, and anti-social behaviour
 - (c) The above issues cannot be effectively policed under a bylaw

- (d) There is frustration at the inability of local authorities to enforce
- (e) Enhanced use of technology – use of cameras and other forms of recognition
- (f) Use of warrants to empower additional enforcement officers.

The Panel instructed staff to circulate a final draft of the submission to members of the Panel and the Mayor prior to final submission to Parliament.

2. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Submission Panel was not established.

The meeting concluded at 4.06pm.