

17. 2011 LOCAL GOVERNMENT NEW ZEALAND CONFERENCE

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services
Officer responsible:	Democracy Services Manager
Author:	Clare Sullivan, Council Secretary

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is:
 - To seek approval for elected members to attend the 2011 Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) Conference to be held in Wellington from 10-13 July 2011.
 - To seek the appointment of the Council's voting delegates to the Annual General Meeting.
 - To seek whether the Council will: authorise Mike Mora to attend the LGNZ Conference; submit any remits for consideration at the Annual General Meeting, by 16 May 2011; and nominate any persons for the office of President and Vice-President, by 17 June 2011.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. This year's conference will be held in Wellington from Sunday 10 July to Wednesday 13 July 2011.
3. The Council usually authorises 5-6 Councillors to attend the conference. Last year, the Council gave approval for the Mayor and Councillors Helen Broughton, Sally Buck, Ngaire Button, Bob Shearing and Mike Wall to attend the conference.
5. In 2009 the Council also authorised, Mrs Yvonne Palmer and Mr Mike Mora to attend the conference, following a request from the National Executive Committee of Community Boards. However, the Council did not authorise this in 2010. A request has been received from Mr Mora for the Council to authorise that he attend the conference. Mr Mora is the Zone 5 Community Board representative.
6. The Christchurch City Council is entitled to appoint one presiding delegate with voting rights for the Annual General meeting, and an alternate voting delegate. The Council is also entitled to have up to four additional Councillors attending, being classed as viewing delegates. It is proposed that the Mayor be the presiding voting delegate, with a Councillor named as the alternate voting delegate. The rules of the New Zealand Local Government Association provide that the term "delegate" includes both an elected member and an officer of a member authority. The Annual General Meeting is being held on Wednesday 13 July 2011.
7. All Councillors have been supplied with a copy of the programme for this year's conference, the theme of which is "Future Focus 2011". The theme carries many interpretations and the emphasis will be on thinking and planning for the future of our communities. Keynote speakers include:
 - Brett O'Riley, Chief Executive NZICT Group
 - John Allen, Chief Executive Ministry Foreign Affairs and Race
 - Harry Verhaar, Senior Director, Energy and Climate Change, Philips Lighting
 - Melissa Clark Reynolds, Growing a Green Future.

The Prime Minister the Honourable John Key will open the conference.
8. In addition the Council has been asked by LGNZ as to whether it wishes to submit proposed remits for consideration at the LGNZ Annual General Meeting. These must be submitted by 16 May 2011. The remit policy is attached as **Appendix 1**. The Council has not proposed any remits for the past few years.
9. Nominations are also called for the offices of President and Vice-President. Nominations for these offices must be received by 17 June 2011.

12. 5. 2011

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FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10. Earlybird fees of \$1,300 including GST will be incurred for each voting delegate/observer appointed by the Council. Accommodation and travel expenses will also be incurred. This expenditure can be accommodated within the provision for Mayoral/Councillor conference attendance and travel included in the 2010/11 Annual Plan.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. There are no legal implications associated with the appointment of the Council's delegates/observers to attend this conference.

ALIGNMENT WITH LTCCP AND ACTIVITY MANAGEMENT PLANS

Do the recommendations of this report support a level of service or project in the 2009-19 LTCCP?

10. Pages 156 and 157 of the LTCCP refer to the provision of support for elected members (which includes attendance at such conferences).

ALIGNMENT WITH STRATEGIES

Do the recommendations align with the Council's strategies?

11. Not applicable.

CONSULTATION FULFILMENT

12. No consultation is required.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that:

- (a) The Mayor and such other elected members as may be nominated at the Council meeting, be authorised to attend the 2011 Local Government New Zealand Conference in Auckland.
- (b) The Council appoint the Mayor as the presiding voting delegate and a Councillor as the alternate voting delegate, and up to three Councillors and the Chief Executive attending the conference, as the Council's viewing delegates at the Annual General Meeting.
- (c) The Council consider whether it wishes to:
 - (i) Authorise Mike Mora to attend the LGNZ Conference;
 - (ii) Submit any remits for consideration at the Annual General Meeting, by 16 May 2011;
 - (iii) Nominate any persons for the office of President and Vice-President, by 17 June 2011.