

COUNCIL 23. 2. 2012

6. APPROVAL OF A DELEGATE TO THE YOUTH IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONFERENCE 2012

General Manager responsible:	General Manager Regulation and Democracy Services, DDI 941-8462
Officer responsible:	Unit Manager Democracy Services
Author:	Amanda Wall, Assistant Council Secretary

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is ask the Council to consider funding a youth delegate to attend the Youth in Local Government Conference 2012.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. The Youth in Local Government Conference 2012 will be held in Invercargill from 18-20 April 2012. The conference is comprised of workshop sessions covering four themes; leadership and communication skills, youth engagement and youth development, youth connections – reframing our future and youth specific workshops – capacity building for youth audiences. Delegates may choose from a variety of workshops for each of the themes, including how to best use available networks and resources, application of youth development principles, running effective youth consultation, trends in youth employment, youth event planning, and media engagement.
3. Local authorities are able to fund more than one delegate to the conference, but the conference provides for each local authority to send **one** nominated youth delegate at a discounted rate of \$295. The full registration rate is \$503. Should a territorial local authority wish to register more than one youth delegate, a ballot will be held by the conference to determine further subsidies if under-subscribed.
4. Both Sam Johnson, Riccarton/Wigram Community Board member, and Anna Button, Shirley/Papanui Board member, have expressed interest in attending the conference as the Council's youth delegate. Mr Johnson and Ms Button have been advised that they can seek Community Board funding to attend the conference as full delegates.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5. Attendance at the conference by a youth delegate will incur the following costs to the Council:
 - (a) \$295 for registration
 - (b) approximately \$250 for accommodation
 - (c) approximately \$500 for return flights to Invercargill.
6. There is sufficient funding available in both community boards' budgets should either Mr Johnson and Ms Button wish to attend the conference as a full delegate.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council determine:

- (a) Whether to fund only a youth delegate to attend the Youth in Local Government Conference 2012, (being either Sam Johnson or Anna Button), or
- (b) Whether to fund both Mr Johnson and Ms Button; one as a youth delegate and one as a full delegate, or
- (c) Whether to fund neither Mr Johnson or Ms Button as a youth delegate, but instead ask the relevant Community Board to consider funding both candidates respectively as full delegates.