

COUNCIL 1. 3. 2012

5. REQUESTS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC FORUM

Officer responsible:	Chief Executive
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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. This report provides information, or an update on progress to provide that information, in response to queries arising from previous public forums.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. At its meeting on 1 December 2011, the Council requested that each agenda for Council Earthquake meetings include a report answering questions asked/issues raised in the public forum section of previous meetings. **Attachment one** provides information on the issues raised by public forum participants at the Council meeting on 16 February.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Council note the information contained in attachment one on responses to issues that have been raised during the public forum agenda item of the 16 February 2012 Council meeting.

Attachment One

Council Earthquake Meetings: Public Forum Action List

Date of Meeting	Public Participant	Council Request	Response
2 February 2012	Graham Russell, Ian Harrison and David Lynch from the Victoria Streetscape Precinct presented to Council on 1 December 2011 regarding their willingness to assist ongoing business in the area.	That the Victoria Streetscape Precinct be invited back to speak at an earthquake-focused council meeting to provide an update on progress to councillors.	The Victoria Streetscape Precinct group has accepted the Council's invitation and staff will soon be able to confirm which meeting the group will attend.
16 February 2012	Alison Mander addressed the Council on rates relief for residents, particularly in Mt Pleasant, whose homes are not considered habitable as a result of the 2011 earthquakes.	<p>Staff were asked to provide a report to Council covering the following issues:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the status of the Council's request to the Government for an Order in Council that would allow rates relief for homes ordered to be demolished • how far rates relief or rebates can be backdated to • comment on rates for homes behind the central city cordon and inaccessible to their inhabitants. <p>Staff were also asked to ensure that people in the same situation as Ms Mander are not being asked to pay penalties on their rates, and that information be made available to the public relating to rates, rates relief, and the status of the requested Order in Council.</p>	A report is being drafted and will be presented to the Council at an upcoming earthquake Council meeting.