

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE, WILL BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 29 CIVIC AVENUE, GORE, ON TUESDAY 12 FEBRUARY 2008, FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

**Steve Parry
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

4 February 2008

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FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA

FEBRUARY 2008

1. WAIKAKA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AREA

(Memo from General Manager, District Assets - 23.01.08)

At the November Committee meeting, Cr Gardyne suggested that a Community Development Area be formed for Waikaka. Cr Gardyne has since supplied a list of six organisations who he thought should be represented on the Area Development Sub-Committee, he also advised that there were another 18 groups, clubs and organisations that existed locally.

The Council does not have a formal Community Development Area Policy and a draft policy (based on the Southland District Council policy) is attached for the Committee's consideration.

Once the Council has considered and approved the policy a meeting will be held in Waikaka to elect a Steering Committee to identify the purposes and perceived needs of the proposed Sub-Committee as well as the area to be covered and to organise a petition to gauge support for the proposal.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT subject to any amendments, the draft Community Development Area Policy be adopted by the Council.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AREAS

Policy and Goal

To establish community development areas that reflect communities of interest which would be represented by Sub-Committees appointed from residents and ratepayers within the area.

Functions of Community Development Area Sub-Committees

The functions of Community Development Area Sub-Committees will be those delegated by the Council.

Establishment Procedures

Community Development Areas and Sub-Committees shall be established as follows:

- (i) The initial approach by those interested in setting up a Community Development Area should be to the Chief Executive.
- (ii) A public meeting will be called to elect a Steering Committee to identify the purposes and perceived needs of the proposed Sub-Committee and area and organise a petition to gauge support for the proposal.
- (iii) The petition would require to demonstrate the support of over 50% of ratepayers in the proposed area. A petition indicating support of over 50% of electors in the area may also be acceptable.
- (iv) If the appropriate support is demonstrated by petition, the Chief Executive will organise a public meeting to elect a Sub-Committee to represent the area.
- (v) The Sub-Committee, assisted by Council Officers, will define the boundaries of the area.
- (vi) The Community Development Areas shall be established by special order in Council.
- (vii) A Community Development Area or Sub-Committee can be dissolved by resolution of the Sub-Committee or District Council, should the purpose for the formation of the area be completed or for some other practical reason.

- (viii) Appointment to the Sub-Committee will be for a three year period, via a public meeting called within the first six months in the year following the election of the District Council.

Administration

Council Officers shall be available to attend up to two meetings per annum. Additional attendance will be subject to the authorisation of the Chief Executive.

Operation of CDA Sub-Committees

- (i) An elected member of a Sub-Committee shall be disqualified from being a member if:
 - (a) The member, while holding office, ceases to be qualified as a parliamentary elector; or
 - (b) The member, while holding office, is convicted of an offence punishable by imprisonment of two years or more; or
 - (c) The member, while holding office, becomes a mentally disordered person within the meaning of the Mental Health Act 1969; or
 - (d) The member, while holding office, is absent without leave of the Sub-Committee from two consecutive meetings of the Committee.
- (ii) The Sub-Committee shall abide by the Council's Standing Orders for conduct of its meetings and those of its Sub-Committees.

The application of Standing Orders is left to the discretion of the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee.

Standing Orders may be suspended during a meeting following the passing of an appropriate resolution.

2. ELECTED MEMBERS REMUNERATION

(Memo from Chief Executive – 23.01.08)

The Remuneration Authority has recently announced its total indicative pools and mayoral gross salary levels for the 2008/09 financial year. A copy of the Authority's funding formulae and factors summary for all local authorities is attached.

A comparison with remuneration levels is as follows:

	2007/08	2008/09	Increase
Remuneration Pool (Excluding Mayor)	\$146,308	\$152,736	4.39%
Mayor	\$55,440	\$57,347	3.44%

The Authority has asked the Council to advise how it intends distributing the remuneration pool (excluding the Mayor) amongst elected members. The current salary rates for elected members are as follows:

Deputy Mayor	\$18,213
Chair	\$18,213
Councillor	\$10,045
Community Board Chair	\$2,930
Community Board Member	\$836

In line with past practice, it is recommended that the remuneration of all these positions be adjusted by 4.39% to reflect the increase in the remuneration pool determined by the Authority.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the Council approve a distribution of the new remuneration pool to elected members on the basis of a 4.39% increase to each elected member and notify the Remuneration Authority of the following new salaries for members with effect from 1 July 2008:

Deputy Mayor	\$19,013
Chair	\$19,013
Councillor	\$10,486
Community Board Chair	\$3,060
Community Board Member	\$873

3. UPDATE FROM THE CONTROLLER AND AUDITOR-GENERAL

(Memo from General Manager, Corporate Services – 21.01.08)

Attached for Councillors information, is a letter from the Auditor General, Mr Kevin Brady outlining the present reporting environment as seen from the auditors perspective.

This provides some interesting feedback on various matters including the level of interaction required between local authorities and their auditors, the impact of legislation change (and the perceived benefits from them), and the number of amendments to existing LTCCPs. The need to plan for the 2009-2019 LTCCP is also commented upon, particularly the note of caution regarding the non-discounting of fees should the auditor be required to undertake additional work due to incompleteness of underlying information on which a local authority's LTCCP is based. This was not an issue for the Gore District Council in the 2006-2016 round of LTCCPs, but the ongoing ground rules have been noted.

RECOMMENDATION

THAT the information be received.