

**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 10 JUNE 2008, FOLLOWING THE CONCLUSION OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Stephen Parry  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**4 June 2008**

## ***A G E N D A***

1. Auditing the 2009-19 LTCCP  
(Pages 1-11)
2. Changes to rates Rebate Scheme  
(Pages 12-17)
3. Presentation from Gore Multi-Sports Complex Charitable Trust  
(Pages 18-20)
4. BUSINESS TO BE CONSIDERED PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIAL INFORMATION AND MEETINGS ACT 1987:
  - Animal Services and Noise Control Contracts

## FINANCE AND POLICY COMMITTEE AGENDA

JUNE 2008

### 1 AUDITING THE 2009-19 LTCCP

(Memo from General Manager, Corporate Services – 28.0.08)

Further to the Self-Assessment Checklist which has recently been provided, attached is a newsletter from Kevin Brady, Controller and Auditor General, relating to the audit process for the next LTCCP. In essence this sets out the areas our auditors have been instructed to concentrate their attention on, the “audit 10”, being objectives identified from lessons learned from the audit round and debrief following the 2006-16 LTCCPs.

It is clear from the newsletter that the expectations from the local government sector as a whole will be much higher than those from the last LTCCP round and any additional costs incurred will most certainly be passed on. The Gore District Council received a clear audit opinion for its 2006-16 LTCCP, so with the lessons learned from that round, we are well placed to begin the journey into the next LTCCP.

As you will have seen from the Self-Assessment Checklist and the attached outline, there will be significant demands on both Councillors and staff in order to prepare the LTCCP and we are beginning the planning process, with a view to starting in earnest in August or September 2008.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the newsletter from the Controller and Auditor General be received.**

## 2 CHANGES TO RATES REBATE SCHEME

(Memo from General Manager, Corporate Services – 28.0.08)

Further to the announcement in the Budget, attached is the latest information released from the Minister of Local Government on this issue.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the letter from the Minister of Local Government be received.**

3. PRESENTATION FROM GORE MULTI-SPORTS COMPLEX CHARITABLE TRUST

(Memo from Chief Executive – 04.06.08)

At last month's round of Committee meetings, the quantum of building consent fees levied against Stage 3 of the Gore Multi-Sports complex was discussed. The Gore Multi-Sports Complex Charitable Trust, which is overseeing the construction of the new development, has questioned the amount of fees charged by the Council's Building Control Department.

Representatives of the Trust were not able to be present during last month's consideration of this item. They will be in attendance at this Committee meeting to speak to this item and to answer any questions Councillors may have. A copy of the report considered by Councillors last month is attached.

## **COPY OF REPORT TO MAY REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **1. GORE MULTI-SPORTS COMPLEX - STAGE 3 FEES**

(Memo from Building Control Manager – 02.05.08)

Following my report to the Council dated 14 April, the overdue fees have since been paid. A further invoice was generated on 16 April to bring all current outstanding inspection and consent fees up to date – a total of \$26,952.73.

This included all consultant fees involved in the consent process so far - MWH, Fire Consultants Ltd and NZ Fire Service Design Review Unit. Also included were costs associated with on-going inspections and administration by Council staff.

I consider the fees to be fair in light of the amount of additional work that has been required, particularly by the review professionals to ascertain compliance within the fire safety clauses of the NZ Building Code. They represent a true indication of the quality of documents submitted for review.

The original peer review of the fire design was estimated at approximately \$6,000 so given three appraisals were necessary, the figures are realistic.

MWH was chosen by the Council to peer review the fire report generated by Calder Developments' fire designer, ASBIC Consultants Ltd. This was done following a request from Calder's. The Council has a contractual agreement with MWH to provide such services, so engaged it to undertake the peer review.

This process was repeated another two times, due to lack of detail being provided or insufficient evidence to substantiate the rationale of the design. At this point the consent documents were forwarded to the Fire Service for further comment by the Design Review Unit, (which is only required when aspects of fire safety fall outside the acceptable solutions in Fire Safety Clauses C1, 2, 3 & 4 of the NZ Building Code)

The findings from reports sent from MWH, and its contracted fire experts – Fire Consultants Ltd, were considered, together with comments from the Design Review Unit, to enable the Council to grant the building consent, subject to several conditions being met to satisfy these findings.

To date, several of these conditions have not been addressed, so the Committee may now appreciate my initial concerns outlined in my earlier report.

I also understand that a recent meeting of the Stage 3 Trust Committee has revealed that an amendment to the building consent will be required if some structural design modifications are initiated. This follows apparent inconsistent understanding amongst Committee members of the final design that was submitted and consented to.

In conclusion, this project has taken a long time to reach its current stage. The delays and problems encountered are disproportionate to the size of the project. This is due to several factors, all of which have been beyond the Council's control. I have included some comparisons to other recent projects handled by the Council's Building Control Department.

A final note to be aware of is, the Council's short term Building Control Officer, Colin Gray has spent a great deal of time processing all of these projects, and is widely regarded amongst the building control fraternity as one of the most respected and highly regarded officers in New Zealand - a reputation not easily achieved.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

**THAT the information be received.**