

STAFF REPORT

TO: Councillors
FROM: Chief Executive
REFERENCE: C780
DATE: 15 September 2005
SUBJECT: CEOs Report for August/September 2005

STAFFING

Negotiations have continued with the PSA for renewal of Council's Officers Collective Employment Contract. While a number of claims have been disposed of, settlement has not been reached at time of writing this report. The key unresolved issues centre on a union claim for special payments for union members only which we believe is probably illegal.

COUNCIL GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE OPTIONS

Council, following the October 2004 elections, set up a Committee structure and resolved to review the current committee structure after 12 months. A number of suggestions for alternative committee structure and possibly a reduced number of committees have been made informally in recent weeks.

It is, therefore, proposed to hold a Council Workshop in the near future to discuss and explore a number of alternative Committee governance options.

ROAD FUNDING LARGE PROJECTS

We have continued to seek ways to promote the Ruby Bay Bypass project for an earlier start. The Mayor, Chief Executive and Engineering Manager recently met with Land Transport New Zealand officials. A copy of correspondence is attached. Also attached is a copy of a letter from joint mayors of Nelson City and Tasman District Council to Local Government New Zealand drawing attention to some recent Crown road funding announcements, which appear to be extremely arbitrary.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROJECT

Stage I of the funding project has now been completed with a report to the Local Government Forum being accepted. I enclose a copy of the Executive Summary of this report. If Councillors would like to view the full report with the accompanying statistics they should contact me directly.

Stage II of this project, which is yet to get underway, is to consider options and recommend to Central Government what steps should be taken to address the long term identified funding problem. Stage II part of this project is currently on hold, pending the outcome of the Central Government elections.

The Chief Executive has been invited to join a small group from Local Government New Zealand in a Trans Tasman roundtable on financing local government. This Trans Tasman session will be held in Sydney in late September and will provide our local government team with a much clearer understanding of Australian perspectives and financing options.

GOLDEN BAY INTEGRATED HEALTH COMMITTEE

We have had an approach from this Committee requesting that Cr S Borlase be a Council representative on this Committee.

R G Dickinson
Chief Executive