

STAFF REPORT

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

RICHMOND OFFICE ACCOMMODATION

Please find enclosed a note from our Property Manager, Mr Jim Frater, detailing temporary organisational arrangements as part of the new office building project.

Obviously, the building alterations will cause extensive changes to staff locations and working conditions, and we will all need to be fairly patient to work through this stressful period.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUNDING PROJECT TEAM

I attended a meeting on 8 February 2005 of this Project Team and good progress was made in the development of agreed terms of reference and with various study papers to define this problem. While it would appear that government officials are moving towards a more acceptable measure of rating growth and rating affordability, it will take some time for quantitative data to emerge.

A report from this team on funding pressures and options will be prepared for the next Central/Local Government Forum scheduled for June 2005.

Attached is a media release from a recent meeting of Metropolitan Mayors. Councillors may also have noted the recent press announcement that Auckland City are talking of a 10% rate increase for the 2005/2006 year to meet growth pressures - this is a graphic example of the funding problem.

COUNCIL DELEGATIONS TO COMMUNITY BOARDS

Council confirmed at its 2 December 2004 meeting per CN04/12/04 that Tasman District Council:

- “a) Confirms Stage 1 delegation to the Golden Bay and Motueka Community Boards for this triennium;**

- b) staff investigate ways to enhance the Stage 1 delegations and report back to Council in 12 months.”**

and CN04/12/05:

“THAT pursuant to Standing Orders 3.9.17 that Council, amends part b) of the previous resolution, by deleting the word “staff” and substituting “working party of three councillors and two community board chairpersons” and by deleting the words “Stage 1 delegations” and replacing with “community board responsibilities”.”

Accordingly, Council now needs to nominate three Councillors to take part in this Working Party.

Recommendation

THAT Council appoints Crs ..., ... and ... to be the Councillors members of the Community Board Responsibilities Working Party.

ARGENTINE ANTS

I enclose for your information a recent press extract on Argentine ant colonies in Christchurch area. Of interest is the description of why the Argentine Ant is described as one of the World's worst pests.

R G Dickinson
Chief Executive