

Community Forum
Private Bag 4999
Christchurch 8140

**Meeting notes for the meeting of the CERA Community Forum
Thursday 4 April 2013, 6.00pm
Canterbury Club, Durham St North**

Present:

Community Forum members:

Richard Ballantyne, Belinda Charteris, Weng Kei Chen, Leanne Curtis, Martin Evans, Wendy Gilchrist, Maria Godinet-Watts, Ruth Jones, Tom McBrearty, Deborah McCormick, Lesley Murdoch, Faye Parfitt, John Peet, Bruce Russell, Patricia Siataga, Brian Vicelli.

Apologies

Gill Cox, Jocelyn Papprell, John Wong

Chair

Darren Wright

In Attendance

Hon Amy Adams, Associate Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery

Jane Bryden, Advisor, Office of the Hon Gerry Brownlee

Benesia Smith, Deputy Chief Executive, Corporate and Governance, CERA

Jacinda Lean, General Manager, Office of the Chief Executive, CERA

Amanda Shaw, Senior Advisor, Office of the Chief Executive, CERA

Advisor, Recovery Strategy Planning and Policy, CERA

Richard Lindsay, National Advisor, Sports NZ

Julyan Falloon, Chief Executive, Sport Canterbury

Lynn Smith, Secretary for the Community Forum

1. Notes Of The Last Meeting

The meeting notes from the 21 March 2013 meeting will be confirmed at the next meeting.

2. Matters Arising

- Lesley Murdoch's apologies are to be added to the previous two meeting notes.
- Bruce Glavovic will be invited to speak at an upcoming Community Forum meeting.

Withheld under section 9(2)(f)(iv)

- A note from EQC Chief Executive, Ian Simpson, was circulated to the Forum.

3. **Minister's Open Discussion – Hon Amy Adams**

Hon Amy Adams, Associate Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery, held an open discussion with the Forum and the following points were noted:

- The Associate Minister confirmed that both she and Minister Brownlee have found feedback and advice from the Forum to be very useful. By channelling their networks Forum members assist Ministers to have a more informed view, often highlighting issues that had not been considered, and the two Ministers are able to feed this information into the Cabinet consideration process.
- The Associate Minister advised that Housing New Zealand announced today that a further 40 homes would be opened in Rangers Park to be used for short term, and eventually, long term accommodation.
- The Forum noted that trade training programmes, such as those for Pasifika and Maori, are great, however there are concerns with the gap between benefit payments being ceased and student allowance payments commencing. This lack of income has attributed to students dropping out of these programmes
- The Forum noted that they are often unable to disseminate information received by the Forum back to their groups because it remains confidential until decisions have been made and announced by Ministers. The Forum requested that the Minister for Canterbury Earthquake Recovery consider where it might be possible, through public statements, to acknowledge when an issue is being considered but where decisions have not yet been made, to provide some reassurance and lessen stress and anxiety within the community.
- The Associate Minister requested that the Forum highlight areas where the community feels there is a void of information and people are anxious that nothing is being done. The Forum noted that recovery of the arts and culture sector is an area where there is a void.
- The Forum noted that resource consent processes undertaken by the Christchurch City Council are causing undue stress to a community which is already suffering from deteriorating mental health. For example, sports bodies which have the funding and the land to go ahead with rebuilding facilities but are held up by resource consent processes. The Forum queried why CERA is not doing more to remove impediments to recovery, in accordance with the Recovery Strategy.
- The Associate Minister noted that "removing impediments" can be problematic if it involves taking power and control away from local authorities and not undertaking the usual community consultation processes. There is a risk of achieving progress at the expense of local democracy and autonomy.
- The Forum would like better dialogue with the Christchurch City Council executive and seek clear leadership, vision and goals from them.
- The Associate Minister agreed that enhanced interaction between the Forum and local authorities, the Christchurch City Council in particular, would be positive.
- The Forum would like an update on the review of the Earthquake Commission Act 1993 conducted by Treasury.

ACTION:

Chair will write to Tony Marryatt inviting him to attend a meeting and discuss ongoing dialogue with the Forum.

CERA representative will follow up with Treasury for an update on the Earthquake Commission Act review

4. **Update from Ruth Jones**

- Accessibility for the disabled community is vital in the rebuild in both buildings that we live and work in, and transport in and around the city. Accessibility also has a financial imperative – people will spend their money at places they can get to.
- A large proportion of the community have mobility impairments.
- Guidelines for the NZS Standards 4121 are currently in draft form and due to be launched in May.
- The 'Coordinating and Enabling Good Lives' project has been delayed to current issues around paid caregivers but is due to restart soon.
- An Employers Breakfast on 16 April will inform employers of what practical support is available and gives businesses confidence in employing from the disabled community.
- The disabled community is a strong community but needs ongoing support.

5. **Draft Sports and Recreation Recovery Programme – CERA**

Richard Lindsay from Sport NZ and Julyan Falloon from Sport Canterbury spoke to the Forum on the draft Sports and Recreation Recovery Programme and noted the following:

- The sport and recreation leadership group consists of 6 people with support from Sport New Zealand, Sport Canterbury and West Coast, ECan, Christchurch City Council, Selwyn and Waimakariri Councils
- The lack of facilities has had a huge impact on sport participation.
- The sport and recreation leadership group have:
 - been working with sports on future planning and delivery
 - initiated new events and portable facilities.
 - held consultation meetings with a wide range of organisations
- The draft programme covers greater Christchurch, Waimakariri and Selwyn and looks at long term growth.
- Sport participation is now at or above pre-earthquake levels.
- Lack of facilities still remain a challenge, however this has provided an opportunity to do things smarter.
- The next steps involve reviewing feedback before forwarding it to Minister McCully (Minister for Sport and Recreation) who will seek comment from Minister Brownlee before a final decision is made.
- The temporary stadium is serving a purpose at the moment, other codes now need to receive support.
- The business plan for the Metro Sports Hub is currently being developed.
- Other swimming facilities have been prioritised over a temporary 50m pool – this will be catered for in the Metro hub.

ACTION: Forum is to review the draft Sports and Recreation Recovery Programme and the Issues and Options Paper and prepare for in-depth discussion at the next meeting.

6. **Next Meeting – Thursday 18 April 2013, Canterbury Club, Durham St North**

Meeting closed 8.05pm