

CANTERBURY LOCAL AUTHORITIES TRIENNIAL AGREEMENT

1. PURPOSE

All local authorities within each region must enter into a triennial agreement containing protocols for communication and co-ordination amongst them during the period until the next triennial general election of members (Section 15, Local Government Act, 2002 – the Act).

This triennial agreement will seek to ensure appropriate levels of communication and co-ordination are maintained between the local authorities of the Canterbury region.

2 AGREEMENT

The parties:

Ashburton District Council
Banks Peninsula District Council
Canterbury Regional Council
Christchurch City Council
Hurunui District Council
Kaikoura District Council
Mackenzie District Council
Selwyn District Council
Timaru District Council
Waimakariri District Council
Waimate District Council
Waitaki District Council

agree to work in good faith together for the good governance of their localities and the region.

As signatories to this agreement each local authority will ensure:

- early notification to affected local authorities party to his agreement through the distribution of draft documentation, of major policy initiatives or proposals which may have implications beyond the current geographic boundaries (or for constituent authorities) of the decision-making authority;
- opportunities for involvement by affected local authorities in the development of policies or plans that have inter-jurisdictional or cross boundary implications;
- the application of a “no surprises” policy whereby early notice will be given of potential disagreements between local authorities
- that where practicable, processes for engaging with communities and agencies in order to identify community outcomes, and prioritise these outcomes, are undertaken jointly or in a collaborative manner.

3 NEW REGIONAL COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

Section 15 (2) of the Local Government Act requires the inclusion in this agreement, the process for consultation on proposals for new regional council activities. The process to be followed is:

- Any new significant activity, as defined in Section 16 (1) of the Act, proposed by the Canterbury Regional Council, will be advised to the appropriate meeting of the Canterbury Mayoral Forum, in addition to any Section 16 (1) requirement.
- Any new activity proposed by the Canterbury Regional Council not considered to be significant will be advised to the appropriate territorial authorities in the Canterbury Region.

4 COMMUNICATION AND CO-ORDINATION

Co-ordination and communication in relation to this agreement will be primarily through, but not limited to, the Canterbury Mayoral Forum (the Forum). The Forum will meet three-monthly and operate in accordance with its agreed Charter of Purpose (attached).

The Forum will be supported by:

- Meetings of the Chief Executives within the region;
- Other regional and sub-regional forums as required;
- Meetings between staff as necessary.

5 AGREEMENT TO REVIEW

The parties to the triennial agreement may meet and agree to amendments to the agreement at the next available Forum meeting following a request from any one or more authorities party to this agreement in writing to the Secretary of the Forum, received at least two weeks prior to the meeting date.

This agreement will be placed on the Forum agenda at the final Forum prior to a triennial election to review, with the purpose of recommending changes (if any) to the incoming councils.

Other Agreements

This agreement does not prevent local authorities entering into other agreements amongst themselves or outside the region to facilitate their responsibilities. Any other such agreement should not be contrary to the purpose of this agreement.

Authority

This agreement is signed on this -----day of-----2005 by the following on behalf of their respective authorities.