

Executive Summary

Rates

For the year ending 30 June 2004, rates for Christchurch ratepayers will increase overall by 3.09%. For more details on what impact this increase will have on the various sectors and on a selection of individual properties, see pages 33 and 34.

Operations

The total operating expenditure, the cost necessary to provide the services and facilities operated by the Christchurch City Council for the year ending 30 June 2004 is \$284.45M. Christchurch ratepayers are required to contribute a total of \$152.07M towards this cost.

The balance will be paid for by revenues from these activities and by interest and dividends earned by the Council through its ownership of enterprises such as the Orion Group, the Lyttelton Port Company and Christchurch International Airport Ltd.

Capital Improvements

The total capital expenditure, the cost necessary to pay for new assets or to renew or upgrade the existing assets is \$98.92M.

These improvements and developments will be paid for through cash surpluses on operations, utilising Council reserves and from external funding. There is no borrowing for new works planned for in 2003/04. The only borrowing for 2003/04 relates to capital/loan contributions to Christchurch City Facilities Ltd (for investing in the Christchurch Engine Centre) and to Transwaste Canterbury Ltd.

A full summary of the capital and operating income and expenditure for 2003/04, along with forecasts for each year through until 2012/13, can be found on page 23.



"Tell us a story". Canterbury Crusader Richie McCaw reads to children at the launch of the Reading Crusade organised by Christchurch City Libraries.



Canterbury Crusader's captain Ruben Thorne autographs a jersey amongst a crowd of fans. The Reading Crusade promotion organised by Christchurch City Libraries spurred more than 7,000 primary and intermediate students to read more than 87,000 books during February and March 2003.

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Contents of the Plan

The Council is committed to improving the quality of life in Christchurch by ensuring the services it provides make a positive contribution. In addition to the wide range of services included in previous plans, the Council is proposing the introduction of the following new initiatives in this Financial Plan: (It should be noted that many of these have been funded by way of substitution, matching revenue or efficiency gain.)

- Wainoni Park Redevelopment \$501,200 (\$1,347,000 spread over 3 years) (operating and capital)
- Canterbury Museum - Revitalisation Project Grant \$288,000 (\$1.44M spread over 5 years)
- Riccarton Bush Grant for Predator Fencing \$50,000
- Botanic Gardens - Cunningham House - Remedial Works \$97,300
- Additional Resources for City Plan Zoning work \$317,000
- Road Network Improvements - Planning Work \$180,000



Artist's impression of the new South Christchurch Library, Service Centre and Learning Centre which is currently being constructed.

- Enforcement of Cleanfill Bylaws \$100,000
- Consultation Co-ordination \$80,000
- Economic Development and Employment Initiatives \$325,000
- Increase in Uniform Meter Charge (Gold Coin Per Half Hour) \$275,000
- Council Housing carpet replacement \$819,000 (\$8,200,000 spread over 10 years)
- Christchurch City Facilities Ltd Equity/Loan Investment \$24,000,000 (for the Christchurch Engine Centre)
- Real Time Information Signs for Car Parking Buildings \$300,000
- Paystations to be installed in Lichfield and Farmers Carparks \$250,000
- Hollis Avenue Improvements \$250,000
- Two new Sludge Digesters at the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant \$6,000,000 (spread over 3 years)
- Ocean Outfall \$24M (additional capital spread over 8 years)
- Provision of 26 Black Rubbish Bags \$308,515 (\$2.39M over 2 years)

