A SECTION BY SECTION GUIDE

Financial Overview

These pages (pages 10 to 14) explain how the long term financial strategy ensures that large infrastructural costs and the funds borrowed to pay for these costs are manageable in the context of the day to day running of the Council's operations. The Council uses a strict set of well-established financial guidelines to maintain this strategy. These are outlined here, along with a summary of future financial projections for the next 10 years.

Also included within this section on pages 15 and 16 is information on the rating system and the impact the 2000/01 rates will have on a cross section of properties.

Service Level & Programme Changes

This section (pages 17 to 26) summarises the differences between this Annual Plan and the 1999 Edition of the Annual Plan. The individual items have been listed in bullet point form under the following headings:

- committed costs - new capital initiatives

cost increases due to growth
efficiency gains

- new operating initiatives

Also included in this section are the changes resulting from the submission process. They include both the financial and policy changes which were approved at the Council meeting to finalise this Plan. At the end of this section are the capital projects which have been deleted from the 5 year programme. These projects were included in the 1999 Plan and have, for various reasons (which have been noted) been deleted. There is also a page (see page 24) detailing the extension to the land drainage rating area.

Strategic Elements

This section (pages 27 to 37) sets out the Council's vision, goals and strategic objectives. It outlines where the Council is headed both in the short and long term. This section provides the context in which the detailed programmes and list of projects for 2000/01 have been prioritised.

In addition, this section includes a summary of the Council's Funding Policy, Investment Policy and Borrowing Management Policy.

Plans for Customer Service Activities, Corporate Service Providers, Other Organisations and Trading Activities

This section (pages 38 to 81) outlines and provides a budget for each of the Council's services. Included are the infrastructural services, such as city streets, parks, sewerage and waterways; cultural, community and recreational services such as the art gallery, museum, libraries and Council housing; and the Council's trading enterprises such as the Orion Group, the Lyttelton Port Company and the Christchurch International Airport Company. For each activity or organisation, all new services are described.

For the Council activities the budgets have been summarised on an output class basis. Output classes are best described as groups of related or similar goods or services. Any revenue relating to an output class is matched against the expenditure.

The performance indicators include a mix of measures in terms of quantity, quality, timeliness, etc. Each indicator is related back to a specific objective and indicates whether the objective or specified progress towards it has been achieved. For Objective 1 Performance Indicators 1.1, 1.2 etc. are relevant, Objective 2 Performance Indicators 2.1, 2.2 and so forth.

The capital expenditure which relates to each activity is summarised separately below the Cost of Service Statement.

The categories used to classify capital expenditure are:

- Renewals and Replacements Maintaining existing assets. Necessary to sustain agreed levels of service.
- Asset Improvements Capital expenditure that improves or adds to the level of service of existing assets.
- New Assets Works or purchases creating wholly new assets.
- Capital Funding Reflects a capital contribution e.g. For the new Art Gallery.

Forward Capital Programme

This section (pages 82 to 101) itemises what capital improvements are scheduled throughout the city for the next five years, and how much is budgeted for each. It includes infrastructural renewals and replacements such as to streets, parks and water services; as well as developments to improve sports, leisure, recreation, community, economic and environmental services.

Community Board Funded Projects

This section (pages 102 to 105) itemises Community Board funded projects. These projects, which relate to each Community Board area, include new operating initiatives as well as capital expenditure on neighbourhood parks and suburban streets.

Supporting Information

This section (pages 106 to 123) contains the budgeted financial statements, a list of proposed fee changes for various Council services, the Equal Employment Opportunity Programme for 2000/01, a list of elected members and senior staff, trading activity boards, membership of other bodies and a glossary of terms. A directory of Council Service Centres can be found on the inside back cover.