



**Report**            **04.199**  
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**Committee**      **Council**  
**Author**         **Margaret Shields Chairperson**

## **Chairperson's Report**

### **1. Changes to meeting schedule**

In December 2004, Council adopted a meeting schedule for 2004. Occasionally it will be necessary to make amendments to the schedule to accommodate changed circumstances. Councillors will have noted that the 1 April meeting of the Utility Services Committee was cancelled. In addition, the Chairperson of the Passenger Transport Committee has requested that the meeting scheduled for 6 May be moved to 7 May. I recommend that we adopt these changes to the meeting schedule.

### **2. Ara Tahi Workshop**

A workshop was held at the Raukawa Marae to explore further the way in which Greater Wellington can meet its obligations to Maori under the Local Government Act 2002. Originally this was to be a technical workshop for council staff and Iwi representatives, but a decision was made at the Ara Tahi meeting on 24 March to include Councillors. I'm sorry that this late decision precluded some Councillors from being able to attend.

Following the powhiri and introductory comments, participants worked in groups to identify a path forward. The outputs were reported back to the full group and will be included in a report to Ara Tahi before coming before the Council.

### **3. Local Government New Zealand**

#### **(a) National Council**

The latest meeting of the National Council of LGNZ took place in Christchurch, at the invitation of the Mayor, Gary Moore. As part of the programme the Council paid a visit to the new library on the edge of Sydenham. This library/community building is very similar to the new library in Kapiti and has attracted great interest and praise. Of more interest to Regional Councillors was the new transport exchange, which

seems to be working well insofar as it has encouraged a huge (25%) increase in public transport utilisation.

(b) **Key Issues**

The main issues concerning LGNZ at the moment are matters relating to the Building Act and the Foreshore and Seabed legislation. In addition, preparations for the LGNZ Conference are well advanced and, as usual, there will be an optional regional tour before the main conference gets underway. It would be helpful if councillors who would like to attend the Conference could indicate their interest to me as soon as possible.

(c) **Elections**

LGNZ is working closely with all the agencies that have responsibility for any aspect of the forthcoming local government elections. A logo for the material associated with elections has been adopted and work is ongoing on the major issue of co-ordination. Under a regime whereby there may be three or more different voting systems for electors to deal with it is critical, as far as is possible, to avoid confusion.

#### **4. Recommendations**

1. *That the report be **received**.*
2. *That the meeting schedule for 2004 be **amended** to delete the Utility Services Committee meeting on 1 April and to change the Passenger Transport Committee meeting from 6 May to 7 May.*

Report prepared by:

**Margaret Shields**  
Chairperson