

Environment and Sustainability Committee

A healthy future requires that all levels of government focus on showing strong leadership in developing and implementing strategies required to produce necessary changes in environmental, economic and social development.

In Canterbury many measures such as tree planting and education classes on composting, worm farming and our environmental footprint have begun. However, I believe a committee dedicated to our future direction with input from the community, business/industry and government, and, from local community organisations is essential.

It is important to have these groups contributing and directing Council. Their involvement is important for their first hand knowledge and experience of the problems related to establishing a sustainable economy and environment. It will also mean that they, and therefore the community, have a sense of ownership and commitment that will enable the implementation of changes that at times may be difficult.

The Committee aims to guide Council on sustainable management of our resources; to assist in monitoring programs, projects and initiatives so that best practice is maintained; to ensure the community is aware of what we are doing and why; and to ensure that all members of our culturally diverse population are informed and benefitting from changes being implemented.

I wish to thank Robert Davidson, Director of City Planning, and Nell Graham, Environmental Officer, for the preparation of this Charter.