
REPORT 4
(1215/52/IM)

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON GAMBLING, 13-15 SEPTEMBER 2006, AUCKLAND

1. Purpose of Report

To provide information on and to seek approval for one elected member to attend the International Conference on Gambling to be held in Auckland, 13 - 15 September 2006.

2. Recommendations

It is recommended that the Committee:

- 1. Receive the information.*
- 2. Approve the attendance of one elected member at the International Conference on Gambling to be held in Auckland, 13-15 September 2006 and that the costs associated with attending the meeting are met from the Elected Members Budget (GVEM01).*
- 3. Note that there is a Strategy and Policy Committee meeting, Wellington Regional Strategy Forum meeting, Regional Land Transport Committee meeting and a Tawa Community Board meeting scheduled on Thursday 14 September 2006.*
- 4. Note that a report back on the meeting will be presented to the Strategy and Policy Committee in accordance with Council policy.*

3. Discussion

Three questions have been chosen to provide a focus for the conference which represent broad themes. These questions are:

- What impacts does gambling have on individuals, communities and societies?
How can we assess impacts and respond to them?
- What are the major developments and innovations in gambling policy, practice and research internationally and locally?
- To what extent are gambling policy, practice and research related?

The conference will incorporate several keynote presentations and speakers who will cover the three questions.

Below are the details of the keynote speakers and presentations:

Gambling availability, participation and problem gambling: How are they related?	Prof. Max Abbott
Ethnic issues on gambling	Maureen Waaka and the Ethnic and Cultural Committee
Assessing the impacts of gambling: Research and policy influence	Alice Marchand
Promoting self-recovery through brief motivational interventions	Dr David Hodgins
Ethical blindness - EGMs and public policy	Dr James Doughney
Looking back to move forward	Shayne Nahu

In addition to the keynote speakers there will be paper and workshop presentations which are broken into streams which include:

- Cultural Issues
- Research
- Community
- Treatment
- Public Health
- Regulatory
- Host responsibility

It is the intention of management to have officer representation (a Senior Policy Analyst from the Policy Directorate) at the conference.

Information copied from the International Conference on Gambling website, which provides a full description of speakers and topics, is attached as Appendix One.

3.1 Considerations

When deciding which elected member should attend this conference, consideration should be given to:

- the cost; and
- the impact of attendance on the budget; and
- the other conferences elected members may wish to attend later in the financial year.

The total cost if one elected member is appointed is expected to be \$1,035.00 and will be met from the conference budget.

The cost of attendance is broken down as follows:

Item	Cost
Registration	\$375.00
Accommodation	\$300.00
Travel	\$360.00

Total	\$1,035.00
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The impact on the budget of one elected member attending this conference is outlined in Table One.

Table One:

	2006/2007 Budget	Year to Date Expenditure	Unexpended Funds
Total budget for conference fees, accommodation and travel	\$34,000.00	\$10,286.00 ¹	\$23,714.00
Impact of sending <u>one</u> elected member to the conference	\$1,035.00	\$11,321.00	\$22,679.00

4. Conclusion

A decision is required as to whether the Committee should approve the attendance of one elected member at the International Conference on Gambling to be held in Auckland, 13-15 September 2006.

Contact Officer: *Nicola Hay, Committee Advisor*

¹ The attendance of 5 Elected Members at the LGNZ Conference at a cost of \$5000
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the TRAFINZ Conference at a cost of \$2310
The attendance of 2 Elected Members at the Safer Communities Conference at a cost of \$400
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the Digital Earth Conference in Auckland at a cost of \$1800
The attendance of 1 Elected Member at the Youth in Local Government Conference in New Plymouth at a cost of \$776

Appendix One