

## CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

## CONFIDENTIAL

20 March 1992

Dear Parent

## CIVIC CHILD CARE CENTRE

The Christchurch Police are currently investigating allegations of sexual abuse against a long term former staff member of the Civic Child Care Centre.

While we do not wish to cause undue alarm, this matter is being taken seriously. Our records indicate that this person was possibly employed during the time your child was attending the centre. Because of the large number of people this may affect, a meeting is being organised to give information in relation to the investigation.

The meeting is to be held in the Hall of the Knox Centre, 28 Bealey Avenue. It is at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 31st March 1992.

At the request of the Police, we ask you not to speak to your children in relation to this prior to attending the meeting. If you are a parent who is already aware of the circumstances or has already been in contact with the Police, this will not apply. The meeting is designed to give as much information as possible to as many people as possible at one time.

The meeting has been arranged by the Police, Council Management and the Civic Child Care Management Committee. Speaking at the meeting will be Detective Eade of the Christchurch Child Abuse Unit, Susan Sidey of the Specialist Services Unit of the Department of Social Welfare, Sarah Crane who is a child counsellor, Council staff and Civic Management Committee personnel.

For additional information there will be a social worker, a psychologist dealing with persons who offend against children and information from the Accident Compensation Corporation.

We request that at this time you do not contact either Council representatives or the Police so that the same level of information is available to all, simultaneously. This option will be available following the meeting. This is a Police request.

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CONTACT

FILE

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This is not a public meeting and entry will be restricted to those who can produce suitable identification, including this letter. A register will be held at the entrance and the right of admittance is reserved.

We genuinely believe that premature publicity is not in the interests of either yourselves or your children, and indeed it may prejudice ongoing police enquiries.

Yours faithfully

J H Gray CITY MANAGER Simon Fraser SPOKESPERSON

CIVIC CHILD CARE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE