

**RECORD OF INTERVIEW - COUNCILLOR**

*OP GRAND*

EXHIBIT No. 329  
*allhand*.....CLERK

**TAPE NO:** 1 (of 1)

**DATE:** 17.01.06

**PLACE:** GOLD COAST CITY COUNCIL

**TIME COMMENCED:** 11:07 AM

**TIME CONCLUDED:** 11:26 AM

**INTERVIEWEE:** COUNCILLOR GRANT PFORR

**INTERVIEWER/S:** DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI

**LEGAL OFFICER:** DANIEL BOYLE

**RE:** OPERATION GRAND

**FILE NUMBER:** MI-05-2482

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: COUNCILLOR GRANT PFORR  
Legal Officer: DANIEL BOYLE  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

COPY TAPE 1 OF 1 - RECORD OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN DETECTIVE INSPECTOR  
KEN BEMI OF THE CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION AND COUNCILLOR  
GRANT PFORR. HELD AT THE GOLD COAST CITY COUNCIL ON TUESDAY 17  
JANUARY 2006. ALSO PRESENT INVESTIGATOR CRAIG HAWKINS.

LEGAL OFFICER: DANIEL BOYLE

RE: OPERATION GRAND

KB = Detective Inspector Ken Bemi (CMC)

GP = Councillor Grant Pforr

CH = Investigator Craig Hawkins (CMC)

- 1 KB The time now is 11:07 am on Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 2006. I'm present at the  
2 Nerang Council Chambers and I intend to conduct an electronic record of interview with  
3 Councillor Grant Pforr in relation to a current inquiry that the Crime and Misconduct  
4 Commission in Brisbane is currently undertaking pertaining to the Gold Coast City  
5 Council elections held in March 2004 and related events as delineated in the terms of  
6 reference. For the purpose of voice identification I'll ask every person present here  
7 starting with myself to state their full and correct name. My full name is Kenneth  
8 William Bemi. I'm a Detective Inspector of Police currently performing duties at the  
9 Crime and Misconduct Commission in Brisbane.  
10  
11 CH My full name is Michael Craig Hawkins. I'm an investigator with the Crime and  
12 Misconduct Commission in Brisbane.  
13  
14 KB Your full name thanks?  
15  
16 GP Ahh Councillor Grant Pforr, a Divisional Councillor for Division 3.  
17  
18 KB What I intend to do today Councillor is to conduct a tape recorded interview with you.  
19 By that I mean whatever you say or I say or my colleague says will be recorded as we  
20 speak. Are you agreeable to participate in this interview here today?  
21  
22 GP That's fine.  
23  
24 KB Do you understand what I wish to talk to you about today?  
25  
26 GP Ahh I believe so the document that you've just shown me.  
27  
28 KB Yes it's in relation to a briefing paper dated the 16 December 2004 and that should be  
29 the 16 December 2003.  
30

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31 GP That's correct.  
32  
33 KB It was a typo and specific...  
34  
35 GP Sorry was that the meeting date or was it the 18<sup>th</sup> I can't - no it was the 18<sup>th</sup> January wasn't  
36 it when [ui] second meeting. It's alright.  
37  
38 KB That's okay.  
39  
40 GP If that's the correct date of that meeting that's fine.  
41  
42 KB Specifically what I wish to discuss with you is a note that was made on a copy of this  
43 briefing paper to identify the handwriting and under what circumstances it was made.  
44  
45 GP I understand.  
46  
47 KB Can you please state your date of birth?  
48  
49 GP Ahh 29<sup>th</sup> of the 12<sup>th</sup> 1957 (29.12.'57)  
50  
51 KB And your current address?  
52  
53 GP Ahh my current address is 29 Lindsay Parade, Paradise Point.  
54  
55 KB And you're a Councillor here attached to the Gold Coast City Council?  
56  
57 GP That's correct.  
58  
59 KB How long have you held that position for?  
60  
61 GP Ahh this is my first term since ahh the March elections in 2004.  
62  
63 KB And what Division do you represent?  
64  
65 GP Ahh Division 3 as I've stated which covers umm Hope Island, Paradise Point, Runaway  
66 Bay, Coombabah.  
67  
68 KB Thank you. Now earlier on I made reference to a document that was dated the 16<sup>th</sup>  
69 December 2004 and it appears to be a briefing paper that outlines objectives, strategies,  
70 consensus on issues, the resource and next action. I'll show you that document.  
71  
72 GP Yep which is incorrectly dated.  
73

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74 KB Alright. It's got here the 16<sup>th</sup> the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2004. I believe that should be the 16<sup>th</sup>  
75 December 2003?  
76  
77 GP That would have been correct. I remember seeing that document at the first meeting.  
78  
79 KB And this was tabled at the first meeting the document okay?  
80  
81 GP It came in the meeting ohh probably half way through. It wasn't there on the table when  
82 we came in it was brought in later and I can't remember whether Chris brought it in or  
83 one of his assistants.  
84  
85 KB Alright can you tell me who prepared this paper?  
86  
87 GP I've got no idea who prepared it. I suspect ahh Chris Morgan may have prepared it.  
88  
89 KB He's from Quadrant?  
90  
91 GP That's correct.  
92  
93 KB Can you tell me why it was prepared?  
94  
95 GP Ahh probably dot points for for for us to look at.  
96  
97 KB And who organised this meeting?  
98  
99 GP Umm I'm not aware of who organised it. I went - my initial ahh association with  
100 Quadrant was to use them for umm sort of media professionalism ahh 'cos not being -  
101 being my first campaign ahh I didn't have a lot of knowledge in how how to run a  
102 campaign. Ahh we had done some initial ahh work ourselves from October. We'd  
103 already started umm with our business cards.  
104  
105 KB Yep  
106  
107 GP A number of ahh ahh local newsletters some advertisements ahh wherever possible  
108 getting out to community groups meeting with them. Ahh I'd had some initial discussions  
109 with several councillors past and sitting councillors to see what was the best way of of  
110 handling a campaign and ahh I actually went to Dawn Crichlow and Dawn Crichlow's  
111 ahh journalist Henry Black helped me with my first October/November newsletter that  
112 went out in the the free one that gets delivered to Division 3 and that was my first initial  
113 media out there.  
114  
115 KB Right  
116

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117 GP But I obviously thought well if we're going to run a professional campaign we need  
118 professional people and umm I think ahh in speaking to the previous Mayor Gary Baildon  
119 he'd used ahh Quadrant before and the word was that they were a professional group so I  
120 made contact with Quadrant. Had never met Chris Morgan before ahh and I assume that  
121 going to that meeting at that date that it was only my wife and myself and I was very  
122 surprised to find that there was other people there.  
123  
124 KB Can you recall other people there at that meeting when you attended at Quadrant?  
125  
126 GP Ahh yes I can yep.  
127  
128 KB You can. Can you tell me who else was present?  
129  
130 GP Ahh Brian Rowe umm Rob councillor well Rob Molhoek at the time. Umm Greg Betts  
131 who I'd never met before. Ahh Roxanne Scott umm there was ahh Councillor Power ahh  
132 Councillor Robbins and I think Councillor Shepherd may have come later. They were the  
133 only sitting councillors [ui].  
134  
135 KB So how did you come to get this paper? You call it a briefing paper or how would you  
136 describe this?  
137  
138 GP Well I dunno. To me it's like an agenda of a meeting.  
139  
140 KB Say an agenda. So how did you come to get hold of this agenda?  
141  
142 GP It was brought - as I said it was just brought in to the meeting probably half way through.  
143 It wasn't sitting on the table when we got there umm it was more of an intro - it was  
144 brought in by one of Chris Morgan's staff.  
145  
146 KB Were you expecting a document like this at the meeting at all?  
147  
148 GP Well I mean if I go to a meeting I'd suspect some sort of notes to be addressed.  
149  
150 KB But ...  
151  
152 GP We had probably a couple of pencil ideas in our own mind. Ahh we just basically go  
153 down we took some samples of what we we had done so far. We had our own little ahh I  
154 suppose display book umm and we went in with that thinking well we'll start with that  
155 and see where we go from there.  
156  
157 KB But as far as you were concerned you weren't expecting these other people that were in  
158 attendance only yourself and your wife?  
159  
160 GP No not at all yeah.

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161  
162 KB And what's your wife's name?  
163  
164 GP Ahh Elizabeth ahh Liz Pforr. She likes to be called Liz.  
165  
166 KB And she decided to attend ...  
167  
168 GP Liz was my - well she was my campaign manager.  
169  
170 KB Alright  
171  
172 GP She ahh she left her her job ahh at school ahh as a full time teacher. She'd been there for  
173 6 years and ahh she wanted a change of thing and in the interim she became my campaign  
174 manager and we worked very well together over the years of all our government  
175 applications for funding for grants for our our youth and sporting facilities that we've  
176 done through Surf Life Saving and and the current one out at Coomera. Umm we sort of  
177 knew each other so you know we knew what - well being married as well - we knew what  
178 each other thought and where we wanted to go with something.  
179  
180 KB Alright so you and your wife attend. There's other people whom you've outlined in  
181 attendance at the meeting.  
182  
183 GP Yes  
184  
185 KB The meeting was with Chris Morgan of Quadrant.  
186  
187 GP Yes yes. It started with Chris and then I think Councillor Power arrived. I think ahh Sue  
188 - we sat in reception and I think I stated ahh I ran into umm Sue Robbins out in the car  
189 park. Ahh I don't really - I just said hello to her in the car park I don't think she really  
190 knew who I was 'cos I sort of hadn't seen her for years and years and years. Ahh she just  
191 politely said hello and she went in and she wasn't in reception when I went in. She was in  
192 ahead of us so I suspect she was already in ahh sitting talking to Chris Morgan.  
193  
194 KB What time did this meeting commence?  
195  
196 GP Ohh look I don't have my notes on me but it would be in my diary.  
197  
198 KB Any idea? Morning, afternoon on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2003?  
199  
200 GP I think it was the late afternoon from from memory 'cos it went went quite late but I can  
201 certainly confirm that in my diary. It would be a diary entry and I submitted that all to the  
202 CMC both my wife's and my own diary and they would both confirm the time.  
203  
204 KB So you can't recall Chris Morgan handing this document out himself during the meeting?

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205  
206 GP Well honestly believe that his - his his - one of his assistants came in. It could have been  
207 any staff member umm who brought it in and and just handed it to Chris. It may then  
208 have got - the bundle may have been passed to the first person and then was handed  
209 around the table from there.  
210  
211 KB So did all attendees at that meeting receive this document?  
212  
213 GP I think we all did. I think my wife and I just shared one.  
214  
215 KB So there was one copy between your wife and yourself?  
216  
217 GP Yeah  
218  
219 KB Now this document was obtained by the Crime and Misconduct Commission from  
220 yourself.  
221  
222 GP I also supplied - I supplied yes.  
223  
224 KB Yes alright so it's part of your documentation that you supplied.  
225  
226 GP Yep and I and I checked this morning and I took a full copy of what I supplied to you and  
227 I do have a copy of that.  
228  
229 KB Alright. If I can now show you the document.  
230  
231 GP Yep  
232  
233 KB And take notice of any of the notes on the first page.  
234  
235 GP Yes  
236  
237 KB If you come to the second page under "Consensus on Issues" ...  
238  
239 GP Yes  
240  
241 KB ...and next to "Growth Management" now there's some notes that appear.  
242  
243 GP Yes  
244  
245 KB Can you tell me who made those notes?  
246  
247 GP That's my handwriting.  
248

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249 KB Can you tell me what that says at all?  
250  
251 GP Well being a registered builder umm I obviously have a a feel for what I believe is is  
252 good building and bad building ahh particularly in development and during the discussion  
253 around the table I just made a couple of notes of some issues that I thought well maybe of  
254 importance and I quickly just put them to paper. Umm but as a - obviously there was no  
255 other discussion and I didn't really put any other ahh consensus of other issues because I  
256 really thought well I agree water was one and sewerage and public roads and the usual  
257 things and I thought well narrow streets is probably another thing that I would would try  
258 and campaign on.  
259  
260 KB Can you read out what that says?  
261  
262 GP It just says Development ahh and then it says minimum 17.5 metres narrow streets. It's  
263 just a bit of notation for myself.  
264  
265 KB And where did that refer to?  
266  
267 GP Where did it refer to?  
268  
269 KB Yeah  
270  
271 GP Next to next to growth management it's here sitting there.  
272  
273 KB Any specific street or?  
274  
275 GP Well when I door knocked ahh 'cos that was one of the first things we started to try and -  
276 and I've lived on the Coast for 48 years now.  
277  
278 KB Yeah  
279  
280 GP So I know I've lived from from Tweed Heads up to Paradise Point. Umm I know the  
281 Gold Coast streets pretty well so I've experienced narrow streets in most sub - you know  
282 most Divisions of the Gold Coast. Umm I have particular interest in in Sydney Nolan  
283 Drive at Coombabah because I believe that was ahh an old planning scheme that ahh  
284 should have been [ui] transport modes and wasn't and subsequently umm paying for it at  
285 the end of the day. Ahh poor poor design.  
286  
287 KB So you made that notation? That's your handwriting?  
288  
289 GP Yeah  
290  
291 KB As you've stated.  
292

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293 GP Yep  
294  
295 KB When did you make that notation?  
296  
297 GP That would have been made at the meeting.  
298  
299 KB So before you left the meeting? During the meeting that was made?  
300  
301 GP During during the meeting just quickly.  
302  
303 KB Alright  
304  
305 GP Umm but I actually left the document on the table and my wife actually picked it up 'cos  
306 we were I think just it wasn't needed. I didn't need to take it away 'cos when you look at  
307 it it's the objectives, strategic, consensus, growth, resources I mean I'm very familiar with  
308 sitting up business plans as I've done for the Surf Club so really they're they're strategies  
309 that you use doesn't matter what you do.  
310  
311 KB So when the meeting was concluded you're saying that you didn't take...  
312  
313 GP No  
314  
315 KB ...this copy with you.  
316  
317 GP I left it there but my wife picked it up. She said she might - she obviously took it for  
318 referral later on herself.  
319  
320 KB And what happened to it?  
321  
322 GP I see enough paperwork I don't need...  
323  
324 KB What happened to it after the meeting when your wife...  
325  
326 GP Ahh we - I mean we keep very good records and ahh obviously we kept it and ahh when  
327 we were asked to by the CMC to supply all the documentation we did so. As you see it's  
328 our submission was quite extensive.  
329  
330 KB So was it taken back to your home to your office?  
331  
332 GP Yeah yep  
333  
334 KB Which one?  
335  
336 GP To home.

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337  
338 KB To home.  
339  
340 GP Yeah. At that stage our home - our office is in our home.  
341  
342 KB Right  
343  
344 GP Yeah we don't have a a business registered shop front or something like that.  
345  
346 KB So how many copies did you leave with? Just the one copy just this?  
347  
348 GP I didn't leave with anything. My wife...  
349  
350 KB Sorry your wife.  
351  
352 GP My wife just would have picked this copy up.  
353  
354 KB So there are no other ahh copies taken only the one?  
355  
356 GP Well I've copied it since.  
357  
358 KB Yeah  
359  
360 GP And submitted it to you.  
361  
362 KB Yep  
363  
364 GP Umm but I didn't - I don't - I would have only just grabbed one copy.  
365  
366 KB Alright so there's only the one that was taken away?  
367  
368 GP She would have grabbed the one copy yeah. What was the use of taking any more?  
369  
370 KB Yep. And you said that you have since made copies of that?  
371  
372 GP I've made - since made copies of it yes umm  
373  
374 KB That was after the meeting of course?  
375  
376 GP No well when the CMC...  
377  
378 KB Yeah after the meeting you had at Quadrant?  
379  
380 GP No when the CMC asked for us to supply documentation ...

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381  
382 KB Yeah yeah but that was after the meeting. That wasn't the day you didn't make copies the  
383 day of the meeting at Quadrant?  
384  
385  
386 GP No no no I've only made copies of it because it was in our files...  
387  
388 KB Yep  
389  
390 GP ...umm that was kept either in a in a A4 folder or it was in the loose-leaf umm refer  
391 documents.  
392  
393 KB After you made that notation on the document did you speak about that at all?  
394  
395 GP Did I speak at the meeting about it? No.  
396  
397 KB You didn't.  
398  
399 GP No. That was just something that I had ahh I felt was an important planning issue ahh  
400 that needed to be addressed across the City.  
401  
402 KB So you didn't raise it at the meeting? You didn't speak on that notation you made?  
403  
404 GP Ahh look as I, as I said in ahh before I think in my statement or at the Inquiry ahh the first  
405 part of the meeting was just around the room the individuals just to say who you are what  
406 you've done. This I believe came well and truly late in to the thing and really we - a lot of  
407 us dismissed it. Umm I wasn't there as I stated for funding. I was there to get  
408 professional help to make sure that I was on the right umm right road for ahh my media  
409 and presentation.  
410  
411 KB Is that the only notation you made?  
412  
413 GP I believe so. I mean that's a copy. I mean if you've got any other - if there's any other  
414 copies I'm happy to ...  
415  
416 KB So it was next to growth management. It had the word "development" ...  
417  
418 GP Yep  
419  
420 KB ..."minimum 17.5 metres narrow street". Is that referring to future developments should  
421 be 17.5...  
422  
423 GP Yes. Wider roads than currently that they are.  
424

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425 KB Minimum?  
426  
427 GP Yeah  
428  
429 KB And that was your view?  
430  
431 GP That was my view and I think quite a few views of a lot of other people in the community  
432 who live in streets that are narrow.  
433  
434 KB Do you know if the other attendees at that meeting took this document away with them?  
435  
436 GP No. Look I was one of the last ones there umm I think umm my wife and myself just  
437 chatted umm with Councillor Molhoek. Molhoek and Mr Rowe we were probably we  
438 were the last ones that were left at the meeting. We were just talking about generally  
439 about how we were going with our campaigns.  
440  
441 KB How long did the meeting go for?  
442  
443 GP Umm it was a couple of hours at least a couple of hours.  
444  
445 KB And what was resolved at the end of that meeting anything? What was decided?  
446  
447 GP Umm that we would have another meeting basically umm and I think ahh I thought I  
448 wrote somewhere down the meeting, the next meeting or something like that. Is there  
449 another page there?  
450  
451 KB No  
452  
453 GP It says next meeting.  
454  
455 KB When did the next meeting...  
456  
457 GP At the end of agenda item. Next action no. Resources nuh. All that was resolved that  
458 there would be another another meeting just to keep us up-to-date.  
459  
460 KB So this notation was of your own volition. It was your idea to make that notation?  
461  
462 GP Yep  
463  
464 KB No-one suggested you do that?  
465  
466 GP No. Look it's been that long ago. You're talking December ...  
467  
468 KB Yeah

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469  
470 GP You're tryin' to ask me something that to be very accurate about. I mean I looked at it.  
471 This was my reaction. I picked it up. I looked at it and I've gone yeah objectives,  
472 strategies, consensus, resources, next action. Standard business practice. Looked at a  
473 couple of the items gone growth management okay development - I had a couple of issues  
474 in my head narrow streets. Made a notation [ui] and really watched the body language  
475 and trying to get the feel of the people I hadn't met before. I mean what were these  
476 people in the room for. You know I wasn't expecting those people there. I thought I was  
477 having a one on one with Chris Morgan and my wife.  
478  
479 KB Craig  
480  
481 CH Did you end up getting any assistance and advice for your?  
482  
483 GP Ohh obviously  
484  
485 CH Yeah  
486  
487 GP That was all put...  
488  
489 CH So it was all part...  
490  
491 GP Yeah I gave you all that electronic versions and the hard copy versions. I gave you  
492 everything bar probably cor flute [ui] and the signs. I think I even supplied the plastic  
493 stands that had like the name on.  
494  
495 KB You don't know the date of that next meeting?  
496  
497 GP Ahh that was in January.  
498  
499 KB 2004?  
500  
501 GP Yeah  
502  
503 KB Before the elections?  
504  
505 GP Yeah yeah. We only had two meetings. Umm with as in the people that were at the first  
506 and then actually not all of them were there anyway and I can't remember who attended  
507 the second one not accurately. Umm and really there could have been in and out you  
508 know that some come some left. It was nearly one and one type of thing at the second  
509 meeting. And the rest of the time it was just phone call such and such is your printing is  
510 ready come down and pick it up. My wife would have shot down picked it up. Had 15  
511 minutes with Chris updated him on a few things umm just running meetings.  
512

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513 KB That's all I have Craig. Would you like to say anything further Councillor?  
514  
515 GP Umm not really I, I probably will send some stuff up to you particularly in relation to ahh  
516 articles printed in the Bulletin leading up to the campaign. I've actually handed a copy of  
517 a letter to ahh another person within the CMC in relation to misrepresentation of the  
518 Bulletin of myself prior to the election and after the election. So I'll make that all part of  
519 my submission.  
520  
521 KB Submission - thank you. Thank you for your time today. Do you agree that you  
522 participated in this interview of your own free will?  
523  
524 GP Of course.  
525  
526 KB And is what you've told me true and correct to the best of your knowledge and belief?  
527  
528 GP That's right.  
529  
530 KB That being the case the time now is 11:26 am on Tuesday the 17<sup>th</sup> day of January 2006.  
531 This interview is now concluded.  
532  
533 GP Okay  
534  
535 **INTERVIEW CONCLUDED**  
536  
537 **TAPE ENDS**

AL/I-PFORR, Grant Tp1 of 1 17.01.06

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16 December 2004

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1. Objectives
2. Strategy
3. Consensus on issues
4. The Resource
5. Next action

### **Objectives**

- To achieve consensus among a select group of Councillors and Candidates that acknowledge public concern on (5) key issues that are top of mind across all Divisions. And most importantly to promote a desire on the part of this group to jointly work together to achieve prompt, cost effective solutions.
- To work to re-establishing on the part of the electorate, pride and respect in these Councillors/candidates as a result of their professional conduct and their consensus on solutions they propose to key city issue problems.
- To focus public opinion on these individual Councillors/candidates in that they recognize/understand the frustrations of rate payers and business houses alike and are willing to adopt a joint *common sense* approach to solutions.
- To develop a resource of management & marketing expertise plus funding, that individual Councillors/candidates can access as required to compliment their own Campaign Committee structures. This combined resource being initially to harness the experience of sitting Councillors and Quadrant's marketing skills and be available only to individuals in the nominated group for the purpose of projecting an agreed position on the 'key city issues'.

## Strategy

- The overall plan is comprised of four elements -
  1. group consensus on above objectives;
  2. agreement on a defined 'charter' that can be presented to campaign donors to engender confidence;
  3. an agreed media position once awareness of this resource for 'Campaign for Commonsense in Council' (working title) becomes public and finally...
  4. the development and management of the resource inventory.

## Consensus on Issues

Suggested 'key city issue' topics in no particular order are:

- Environment
  - Growth management - *Development*
  - Crime / public safety
  - Water - Conservation/supply
  - Water - Flood prevention
  - Public transport
  - Roads
  - Any other 'key topic' not included?
- Mid. 17-5m Narrow Street*

## The Resource

The extent of the Resource will naturally depend on the size of the funding achieved. Where various jobs can be combined, costs efficiencies can apply. The Resource could potentially include:

- Research (city wide and by division)
- Professional graphic art & design resource
- Professional copy writing resource
- Photography co-ordination
- Advertising & public relations
- Corflute signage & brochure printing e.g. 'how to vote' literature



- Campaign strategy development
- Pre election planning e.g. door knocking
- Booth worker recruitment and management
- Election Day check list

#### **Next Action**

- Consensus on Objectives
- Consensus on key city issues
- Attitude to eventual Media position
- Funding
- Resource requirements