



20 October 2005

David Cuthbert
Office of the Rt Hon Jim Anderton, MP
Parliament Buildings
WELLINGTON

CC: Elizabeth Maunsell
10 Hammond Place
Christchurch 2

Dear Mr Cuthbert

Leaflet distributed in Wigram and newspaper advertisement in the Christchurch Star on 16 September 2005 (both authorised by M. Currie)

On 12 October 2005 you referred to my office complaints received from electors in the Wigram electorate, about the leaflet and newspaper advertisement referred to above.

I have carried out a preliminary enquiry into the complaints. My general approach to such issues is set out in my public statement dated 7 September 2005 (copy attached), which I sent to all political parties.

I have noted the complaint from Mrs Maunsell about the accuracy or legitimacy of the address supplied by the person who has authorised this advertising. I have asked the police to investigate the accuracy of that address.

As to the other complaints you received regarding the content of the advertising, which appears to attack Mr Anderton's performance as an MP for Wigram and nationally, I understand from your discussions with Robert Peden, Assistant Chief Electoral Officer, that Mr Anderton accepts that electioneering attacking a candidate is inevitable and does not allege that any breach of the Electoral Act 1993 has occurred in that regard. I agree. I will respond to the complainants and confirm that no breach of the Electoral Act 1993 has occurred in that respect.

Yours sincerely


David Henry
Chief Electoral Officer

