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SUBMISSION FORM

Draft Annual Plan 2008/09 Submission Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY IN BLOCK CAPITALS

The public consultation period is from
Monday 17 March 2008 to Monday 21 April 2008.

It will help us if you:

- clearly state the issue you want the Council to consider;
- what specific action you think the Council should take, and why that should be done;
- cite the specific page(s) of the draft Annual Plan 2008/09;
- type or use black ink for your submission.

Please note: We are legally required to make all written or electronic submissions available to the public and to Councillors; this includes the name and address of the submitter (Subject to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987). If you consider these compelling reasons why your contact details and/or submission should be kept confidential, you should contact the Assistant Council Secretary Kevin Roche, telephone 841-8112. All submissions will be published on the Council's website from 2 May 2008.

You may send us your submission:

On the Internet:

You may enter your submission using the form provided on the Council's website at www.ccc.govt.nz.

Please follow all the instructions on the website

By email:

ccc-plan@ccc.govt.nz

Please make sure that your full name and address is included with your submission.

By mail:

(no stamp is required) to

Friarpost 76

Annual Plan

Christchurch City Council

PO Box 237

Christchurch

No anonymous submissions will be accepted.

Whether you use this form or not, you must provide your full name, address and telephone number. If you are submitting on behalf of an organisation, please state this and your role within that organisation.

Submissions must be received (NOT postmarked) at the Tuam Street Civic Offices no later than 5pm on Monday 21 April 2008. To ensure receipt, hand deliver last-minute submissions to the Civic Offices, 183-173 Tuam Street.

Your submission

If you wish, you can present your submission at a hearing. If that is the case, please tick the appropriate box below. The hearings will be held from 12 May 2008 to 14 May 2008. Five to ten minutes will be allocated for speaking to your submission, including time for questions from the Councillors. The Council will confirm the date and time of your hearing in writing, by email or by telephone call.

I do NOT wish to discuss my submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered

OR

I wish to discuss the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Monday 12 May 2008 and Wednesday 14 May 2008

Are you completing this submission:

For yourself

On behalf of a group or organisation

If you are representing a group or organisation, how many people do you represent?

Your Name

TONY GEMMILL

Organisation name (if applicable)

Organisation role (if applicable)

Contact Address

57 WOODSIDE COMMON,
CHRISTCHURCH 8025

Phone No. (day)

338-1472

Phone No. (evening)

DITTO

Email (if applicable)

Signature

Date

21. 4. 2008

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Submission Form

Please be as specific as possible to help us understand your views. What do you want the Council to consider? What specific action you think the Council should take? Why should this be done? Please refer to specific pages of the draft Annual Plan.

RATES/CONSULTATION

THE INTENT OF THE COUNCIL TO REDUCE THE RATES BURDEN IS TO BE COMMENDED - BUT IS IT ENOUGH?

THE ANSWER IS GENERALLY NO, BUT THERE MUST BE A COMMITTED EFFORT IN PREPARING YOUR COMPACT WITH THE COMMUNITY NEXT YEAR (THROUGH THE 2009/19 LTCCP) TO DELIVER ONGOING INCREASES WHICH ARE MUCH MORE PALATABLE THAN THOSE ARISING FROM THE LTCCP COMPLETED IN 2006.

THE REDUCTION FOR THE 2008/09 RATES HAS BEEN ACHIEVED THROUGH THE WELL WORN TECHNIQUE OF "DRAWING RABBITS FROM A HAT". THIS HAS BEEN USED ON MANY EARLIER OCCASIONS AND USUALLY INCLUDES FOR INCREASED DIVIDENDS FROM CCHL, AND DEFERRING WORK TO LATER YEARS.

UNFORTUNATELY THIS CAN NOT BE USED ALL THE TIME, AND IT IS NOW TIME THAT THE COUNCIL ADDRESSED THE MAIN RATES DRIVER ie. "THE OPERATING EXPENDITURE". TO DO THIS THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO CONSULT THE COMMUNITY (IN A MUCH BETTER WAY THAN AT PRESENT) TO UNDERSTAND WHAT THE COMMUNITY CONSIDERS ARE PRIORITIES FOR ONGOING DELIVERY - AND WHAT IT CONSIDERS ARE NOT PRIORITIES FOR THE FUTURE.

I AM THEREFORE PROPOSING THAT THE COUNCIL INITIATES A MUCH MORE SINCERE PROCESS IN "CONSULTING WITH THE COMMUNITY". THE CURRENT USE OF "INFORMATION SESSIONS" WITH SOME DISCUSSIONS WITH COMMUNITY GROUPS IS FAR FROM ADEQUATE !!

You may add more pages if you wish. Thank you for your submission.

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AT THE UPCOMING HEARING I WILL ELABORATE FURTHER ON OPTIONS FOR THE COUNCIL DOING IT BETTER!

AS I BELIEVE THAT THE "COMMUNITY" WILL IDENTIFY THE REAL PRIORITIES THERE SHOULD BE AMPLE SCOPE FOR THE COUNCIL TO REDUCE ITS OPERATING EXPENDITURE BY TERMINATING THE DELIVERY OF "NON-CORE" EXPENDITURE.

AS THERE WILL BE REQUIRED TIME AND MONEY TO CONSULT PROPERLY THIS SHOULD BE COMMENCED THIS YEAR, AS PART OF THE PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEXT (2009/19) LTCCP. IF NECESSARY ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE COULD BE ALLOCATED FOR THE EXTENSIVE SURVEY THAT MAY BE REQUIRED - ALTHOUGH I WOULD IMAGINE THAT THE FUNDING WOULD PROBABLY BE SOURCED FROM THE \$300 MILLION BUDGETED FOR THE 2008/09 OPERATING EXPENDITURE!

AS AN EXAMPLE OF HOW WELL TO CONSULT, THE COUNCIL MAY CARE TO LOOK AT THE EXERCISE CONDUCTED BY THE PRESS (2 YEARS AGO?), WHEN THEY RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 7000 SUBMISSIONS ON HOW TO IMPROVE THE CONTENT/APPEARANCE OF THEIR ALREADY POPULAR NEWS PAPER.

REVIEW OF NON-CORE ACTIVITY

IN MY VIEW THE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS TOWARD "COMMUNITY SUPPORT" SHOULD BE CRITICALLY REVIEWED. IT IS CLEAR THAT MUCH OF THIS FUNDING IS USED FOR NON-CORE ACTIVITY (SUCH AS EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION, AND OUT OF SCHOOL CARE). I CAN NOT UNDERSTAND HOW THE COUNCIL DECIDED TO "TOP UP THE WINE GLASSES" TO PROVIDE ACTIVITY WHICH IS, CLEARLY, CORE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY!!

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IN ADDITION THE COUNCIL MUST SERIOUSLY REVIEW ITS FUNDING ALLOCATED TO THIS PLETHORA OF "COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS" ACROSS THE CITY. WHILE THERE ARE A RAFT OF EXTREMELY WELL MEANING, AND ACHIEVING, ORGANISATIONS IN PLACE, THERE ARE EQUALLY MANY WHICH ACHIEVE NOTHING TOWARD IMPROVING "WELL-BEING" IN THE CITY.

NEW WASTE MINIMISATION PLAN.

I SUPPORT THE PROPOSED CHANGE TO THE REFUSE COLLECTION PROGRAMME, TO CATER FOR THE USE OF DIFFERENT SIZED COLLECTION BINS.

IN SAYING THIS I AM ACKNOWLEDGING A RECENT ANNOUNCEMENT STATING THAT FLEXIBILITY WILL BE PROVIDED TO RATEPAYERS TO CHOOSE FROM "SOME OR ALL" OF THE BINS AVAILABLE - POSSIBILITY TO BETTER SUIT THOSE IN THE HILL SUBURBS?

I DO, THOUGH, HAVE ONE RESERVATION REGARDING THE CHANGE AND THAT RELATES TO THE ONGOING OVERALL TIDINESS OF THE CITY. I HAVE NOTICED IN SOME METROPOLITAN AREAS THAT THERE CAN BE A RELUCTANCE, OR TARDINESS, WITH HOUSEHOLDS LEAVING THE BINS ON THE STREET FRONTAGE (OR EVEN THE STREET) FOR A NUMBER OF DAYS. FROM AN ENVIRONMENTAL POINT OF VIEW THIS DOES DETRACT FROM AN OTHERWISE TIDY STREET (i.e. WILL AVENUES SUCH AS MEMORIAL AVENUE NOT PRESENT AS WELL AS WITH THE PRESENT -BAG/BIN- SYSTEM ???).

SUMMARY

AS INDICATED EARLIER I WILL ELABORATE ON SOME ASPECTS OF MY SUBMISSION AT THE HEARING

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