

# Making your opinions count

**The submission form opposite** is designed so you can effectively register your views. Remember, the findings of the working party and the purpose of the consultation process are to determine who should pay for Council services. In reaching the findings outlined in this booklet, Christchurch City Council's working party has endeavoured to follow the criteria laid out in the Local Government Amendment Act (No. 3) 1996.

**When participating in the public consultation process** you should comment on the working party's assumptions made in the three step process applied to each service activity, which was to:

- **Examine** who receives the benefit from the service and the ratio of direct and general benefits.
- **Decide** whether or not this principle should be modified by issues of:
  - community interest,
  - fairness and equity,
  - Council policy,
  - practicality.
- **Allocate** costs accordingly.

You can also comment on the uniform annual charge.

Whether you wish to participate by completing the form opposite, or decide to prepare a more detailed submission, you should address the following questions:

- **Has the working party accurately** assessed how much direct and how much general benefit is provided by each service?
- **Do the working party findings fairly** apportion these benefits among the various users and ratepayer groups?
- **Has the working party appropriately** considered how the issues of community interest, Council policy, fairness and equity and practicality apply to whether rates or user charges are appropriate to pay for each service?

**Please complete and return the form as directed, or prepare a written submission based on these issues.**

**If you believe more detailed information is required to help you prepare your submission, please call the Christchurch City Council on 371 1888.**