

10. REVIEW OF FIRE PREVENTION BYLAWS

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PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the review of the Christchurch City Council Fires Bylaw (1991) and the Banks Peninsula Fire Prevention Involving Vegetation Inside Urban Fire Areas (1994) Bylaw. The review is undertaken in accordance with s.158 of the Local Government Act 2002.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

2. This paper reports on a review undertaken on the Christchurch City Council Fires Bylaw (1991) and the Banks Peninsula Fire Prevention Involving Vegetation Inside Urban Fire Areas (1994) bylaw, in accordance with s.158 of the Local Government Act, 2002 (LGA. 02). Section 155 of the LGA 02 states that bylaws must be reviewed to establish whether a bylaw is the most effective way of addressing the perceived problem.
3. The object of the Christchurch City Fires Bylaw ("the City Bylaw") is the conservation of public safety by preventing danger from fire. The City Bylaw was implemented in accordance with the Clean Air Act 1972 (repealed) and the Local Government Act 1974. Conservation of public safety is achieved by restricting and/or prohibiting open air fires during specific times.
4. The object of the Banks Peninsula Bylaw is to prevent the spreading of fires involving vegetation by restricting open air fires in the "urban fire district". There is no set time prohibiting open air fires in the bylaw; restrictions are generally imposed at the same time as restrictions in rural areas in the Peninsula.
5. The purpose of the bylaws is to ensure that, where permitted, fires do not create any danger to persons or properties. As such, it is not a question of 'what' is burnt, but when open air fires are undertaken and in what manner. Since the bylaws were enacted more stringent standards on outdoor burning in residential areas have been implemented. This is due to an improved understanding of the impacts on health from discharges to air and growing concern with air quality in Christchurch City. Additional provisions contained in the City Bylaw on indoor fires and chimneys, have also been superseded by more recent fire and building regulations.
6. Discharges to air are now covered by central and regional planning mechanisms. Open air fires are subject to the relevant provisions of these documents. The proposed Regional Air Plan²⁴ ("the Plan") controls the discharge of contaminants into air in Canterbury. Under the Plan, outdoor burning is a discretionary activity in residential areas of Canterbury and in the Christchurch Clean Air Zone 1 (see Attachment 1 for map). Winter burning in these areas is non-complying. The bylaws have a specific role in regulating open air fires to prevent the risk of fire spreading in the CCC territorial area, but are inconsistent with external controls on discharges to air.
7. From May 2003 to May 2005 the Christchurch City Environmental Services Unit dealt with 240 complaints related to open air fires including nine complaints relating to the storage of waste which the complainant considered posed a fire risk. Just over 90 per cent of complaints were directly related to open air fires. The total number of complaints referred to 199 properties within the city, or 0.15 per cent of the estimated 135,000 households at June 2005. The former Banks Peninsula District Council did not maintain a complaints register for fire-related issues but reported low numbers of complaints.

²⁴ Proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan Chapter 3: Air Quality

8. It is difficult to justify controls on all of the matters covered by the current fire Bylaws. However, a bylaw is considered an appropriate method for dealing with open air fire matters, as written in its attached form, and is consistent with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act. A more succinct bylaw incorporating conditions that are consistent with recent air discharge provisions is deemed most appropriate. This is likely to equate to a ban on open air fires in urban and residential areas and controls on cooking fires such as barbecues.

FINANCIAL AND LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

9. Certain aspects of the Christchurch Fire Prevention Bylaw and Banks Peninsula Bylaw are inconsistent with regional policies and rules on open air fires.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

It is recommended:

- (a) That the bylaws be consolidated and contents updated. This will ensure consistency with external, legislative documents. In particular conditions regarding indoor fire standards and open air fires in residential areas be revoked. Fires will still be permitted (subject to regulations and restrictions) in areas outside the Clean Air Zone 1 and residential areas.
- (b) That the contents of the bylaws be simplified so that they reflect the purpose of the bylaw. This translates to retaining the conditions on barbecues and traditional cooking fires.
- (c) The inclusion of provisions relating to 'owner-responsibility' are recommended and will allow the Council to retain some control over the potential risk and promoting good practice.
- (d) That the attached statement of proposal be adopted and made available for public inspection at all Council Service Centres, Council libraries and on the Council website.
- (e) That further discussions be held with the Canterbury Regional Council to confirm enforcement procedures relating to overlaps in rules on open air fires.
- (f) That public notice of the proposal be given in "The Press" and in the "Christchurch Star" newspapers and on the Council's website on 21 June 2006.
- (g) That the period within which written submissions may be made to the Council be between 21 June 2006 and 9 August 2006.
- (h) That the period within which oral submissions will be heard by the Council be between 18 September 2006 and 22 September 2006.
- (i) That the Council appoint a panel of three of its members for the purpose of hearing the oral submissions.

The recommended amendment and consolidated Bylaw are attached to this report as Attachment 2.

BACKGROUND ON REVIEW OF FIRE PREVENTION BYLAWS

10. In accordance with s.158 of the Local Government Act 2002 (LGA 02) the Council must review existing bylaws. Bylaws made under the Local Government Act 1974, and in force at 1 July 2003, continue in force but must be reviewed within five years of 1 July 2003. Any new bylaw made under the LGA 02 is subject to an initial review within five years of the date it is made. Once a bylaw has been reviewed, the next review must be carried out within 10 years.
11. Where bylaws are reviewed the Council must use the special consultative procedure in reviewing each bylaw [s.158]. Prior to the formal review process the Council must “determine whether a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problem” [s.155(1) LGA]. If a bylaw is considered appropriate to address the problem, then before making (or amending) the bylaw, it must define whether it is the most appropriate form and whether it gives rise to any implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.
12. The general bylaw-making power is contained in s.145 of the LGA 02 and covers bylaws for the purposes of protecting the public from nuisance; protecting, promoting, and maintaining public health and safety; and minimising the potential for offensive behaviour in public places. Specific bylaw-making powers apply including prevention of the spread of fires involving vegetation²⁵. Bylaws may also be implemented to conserve public health, and preventing or abating nuisances under s.64(a) of the Health Act, 1956.
13. The City Bylaw was implemented in accordance with the provisions of s.55A of the Clean Air Act 1972 (repealed) and the Local Government Act 1974. The object of the City Bylaw is the conservation of public safety by preventing danger from fire.
14. The City Bylaw is consistent with protecting public safety, prohibiting open air fires within the City of Christchurch during the months of November to February inclusive, when the spread of fire is considered greater. The City Bylaw allows for further restrictions on open air fires during March, April, September and October. During periods when open air fire bans are not in place individuals are responsible for minimising the risks associated with outdoor burning. Winter burning (May until August) is controlled by the Canterbury Regional Council under the Transitional Regional Plan and proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan.
15. There are no restrictions on the size of fires in the City Bylaw. However, guidance notes provided by the Council recommended that rubbish fires do not exceed one square metre in size. Additional restrictions apply in Bottle Lake and Chaney's Road and are managed separately to the bylaw.
16. Arguably, the City Bylaw is not consistent with maintaining public health or protecting it from nuisance in that the bylaw allows the burning of material in residential areas. Outdoor burning of household, garden and farm rubbish can cause localised nuisance problems, including impacts on amenity, from smoke and smell.²⁶ Smoke can also generate potentially hazardous compounds, for example, hydrogen chloride, sulphur oxides, volatile organic compound and dioxins, depending on what is burnt (MfE, 2003) .
17. The BP Bylaw applies to the “urban fire district” which incorporates small settlements and residential areas as defined in the Banks Peninsula District Plan. This includes Lyttelton, residential areas at Cass Bay, Corsair Bay, Church Bay, Governors Bay, Diamond Harbour, Duvauchelles and Akaroa. The scope of the BP Bylaw is complementary to the provisions of the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977 and the Forest and Rural Fires Regulations 1979, which also apply to areas outside of the ‘urban fire district’.

²⁵ S.146 (c) subject to sections 20 to 22 of the Forest and Rural Fires Act 1977.

²⁶ ECan state that the nuisance effects resulting from “backyard burning” of rubbish in Christchurch are the main source of air quality complaints received by Environment Canterbury. The Christchurch Clean Air Zones specifically address discharges to air from outdoor burning that may exacerbate Christchurch’s wintertime air pollution problem by up to 33% (Ecan, Chapter 3: Air Quality NRRP).

18. The BP Bylaw is more general compared with the City Bylaw. Fires are controlled on three levels: permitted, restricted and prohibited. Open air fires are only permitted during the "open fire season" or during the "restricted fire season". The timing of the open fire season is not specified, instead it is set annually, and publicly notified. Conditions may be outlined through the public notice. The "prohibited fire season" allows for the prohibition of fires during periods of extreme risk. Exemptions, including special events, can be applied for.
19. Under the City Bylaw barbecues and hangis are subject to similar conditions as open air fires, but are exempt from buffer zones and time restrictions. The definition of barbecues includes equipment for cooking food. Clause 7 of the City Bylaw, outlines conditions for lighting barbecues and hangis but does not include other traditional cooking methods such as umu; the BP Bylaw includes all traditional cooking fires. Both impose good practice conditions. These should be retained in any amendments to the bylaws.
20. Both bylaws are indicative of the distinction made between open air fires in urban areas as opposed to rural areas. Urban fires tend to be undertaken to burn waste, whereas open air fires in rural areas are considered a land management tool. Outdoor fires in urban areas are no longer considered an acceptable waste management option in urban and residential areas and are inconsistent with waste minimisation goals. However, in some of the smaller settlements of Banks Peninsula there may be limited options for alternative waste management tools at this time.
21. In addition, the Department of Conservation (DOC) is responsible for preventing and controlling fires on public conservation land, all unoccupied crown land (including crown riverbeds) and within one kilometre of these lands. A year round restricted fire season applies to all public conservation lands and within one kilometre of these lands. Any fire lit in the open in these areas requires a fire permit from DOC.

Redundant Provisions

22. A number of provisions in the City Bylaw are considered redundant because they are regulated by national or regional legislation, or deemed to be inconsistent with the object of the Bylaw.
23. Clause 10, *Fires in Buildings*, restricts the lighting of fires within buildings. Clause 11, *Fires in Chimneys*, aims to prevent chimney fires by ensuring chimneys and flues are in adequate condition. These matters are regulated by other legislation. Part I, 7 of the Fire Safety and Evacuation of Buildings Regulations, 1992 controls 'open flames' in buildings. In accordance with the Regulations:

7. Control of open flames

(1) Any appliance that gives an open flame or is fuelled by any flammable liquid or gas shall not be used unless the appliance is so constructed, secured, and protected as to minimise risk of fire to the building or its contents.

(2) No fire shall be lit within the building other than in

A fireplace that conforms to any bylaws in force at the time of its construction or to the building code, as the case may be: or An appliance maintained in proper repair.

(3) No chimney shall be used for a smithy, furnace, foundry or other similar use unless the chimney is constructed for such purpose and is properly maintained.

(4) For the purposes of subclause (3) of this regulation "chimney" includes any flue, vent, or stove pipe installed or provided to allow the escape of smoke, fumes, heat, or other products of combustion.

The Regulation also requires that, in accordance with the First Schedule of the Building Regulations, 1992, Clause C1.2:

In buildings fixed appliances using the controlled combustion of solid, liquid or gaseous fuel, shall be installed in a way which reduces the likelihood of fire.

24. In addition, Building Code Compliance Documents C to C4 cover fire safety. Acceptable Solution C/AS1 part 9 covers outbreak of fire. In accordance with s.18(1)(a) of the Building Act bylaws may not be achieve performance criteria that are additional to, or more restrictive than, the performance criteria prescribed in the building code in relation to that building work.
25. In effect, indoor fireplaces and chimneys are adequately addressed in legislation relating to the design and management of these appliances. Clauses 10 and 11 are not considered relevant to the open air fires bylaws and are outside the scope of the bylaw. In addition, discharges to air, for example from open air fires and chimneys, are controlled through regional planning mechanisms. Chapter 3 of the proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan controls discharges to air from existing and proposed open fires and wood-burners (as discussed below).
26. Clause 13 outlines conditions to safeguard premises from the spread, danger or evacuation of buildings in the event of fire and on the storage of goods on premises that may constitute of create a fire hazard. The Fire Safety and Evacuation of Buildings Regulations 1992 (s.9) address these matters.
27. The City Bylaw includes clauses on preventing fire hazards posed by the storage of goods with specific mention of hay and timber. "Goods" are defined as: "all kinds of combustible personal property and includes combustible wastes of any kind". A general clause on precautions against fire would capture all types of materials to assist prevention of fire hazards. There are no comparable clauses in the Banks Peninsula Bylaw. Again, these matters are adequately covered by the Fire Safety and Evacuation of Buildings Regulations 1992 (s.9).
28. Clause 17 of the City Bylaw prohibits the use of explosives in non-designated areas. This clause is considered redundant. The importation, manufacture and use of explosives is now regulated under the Hazardous Substances and New Organisms (HSNO) Act 1996. HSNO replaces the Explosives Act, 1957 under which licences for storage and manufacture were issued. Test certificates are required under HSNO for storing and handling explosives in quantities above certain trigger levels. In addition, the Christchurch City Plan contains rules on hazardous substances including limits on explosives.
29. Additional powers to remove fire hazards are embodied in s.183 of the LGA 02. Section 183 empowers territorial authorities to "cut down, eradicate, or remove any growth on the land or to remove or destroy any matter on the land if the growth or matter is likely to become a source of danger from fire" and recover costs. Section 184 provides a right of District Court appeal of a section 183 notice.
30. As such, there is some duplication between the various regulations and the Bylaw. While a reference to a precautionary approach to lighting fires and storing goods is consistent with the object of the Bylaw it is not considered necessary in light of the provisions contained in the Fire Safety and Evacuation of Buildings Regulations 1992.

Regulatory Overlaps

31. The Canterbury Regional Council Transitional Regional Plan includes restrictions on burning and incorporates the Christchurch City Council bylaw²⁷ controls on winter burning. At present ECan and Christchurch City Council work co-operatively to enforce the summer and winter bans. Generally, the Christchurch City enforces summer fire bans. Stricter restrictions are proposed in the Natural Resources Regional Plan.

²⁷ Christchurch City Fires Bylaw 1991 became part of the Transitional Regional Plan by virtue of section 368(e) of the RMA

32. In accordance with s15(2) of the RMA, no person may discharge any contaminant into the air, or into or onto land, from any place in a manner that contravenes a rule in a regional plan or proposed regional plan unless the discharge is expressly allowed by a resource consent. Amongst other controls, the proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan (NRRP) prohibitions on burning certain types of materials and includes a number of rules on discharges to air. Chapter 3 (Air Quality) was notified in June 2002 and clarifies the existing situation regarding outdoor burning and introduces discretion regarding open air burning in residential areas. It does not restrict barbecues or hangis. Policy AQL 4 aims to restrict outdoor burning by promoting good practice and restricting the burning of certain materials. Policy AQL 21 restricts outdoor burning in the Christchurch Clean Air Zones 1 and 2 (see Attachment 6). Any outdoor burning will be assessed in accordance with Policy AQL 4. Policy AQL 21(b) constrains outdoor fires during winter months (May and August inclusive) in the Christchurch Clean Air Zones 1 and 2.
33. The NRRP introduces a number of rules restricting open air burning in the Christchurch Clean Air Zone 1 and residential areas. Specifically, rule AQL 29 restricts the discharge of contaminants into air from outdoor burning of vegetation, paper, cardboard and untreated wood in all residential areas. Burning of these materials is permitted outside residential areas provided certain conditions are met. As noted by ECan (2005), the combined effect of permitted activity conditions is to:

...exclude outdoor burning of vegetation, paper, cardboard and untreated wood from residential areas; require separation between the fire and dwellings (notional boundary), residential areas, public amenity areas and places of public assembly; control the effect at the property boundary; and limit the source of the material to be burnt.

34. Under Rule AQL29 outdoor burning of vegetation, paper, cardboard and untreated wood is not permitted in residential areas, or areas 100 m upwind or 50 m in any other direction of any sensitive activity. By definition in the plan, sensitive activities include dwellings, residential areas and public amenity areas. This rule applies to the entire Canterbury region. In essence a resource consent is required to burn waste from September to April in residential areas. Under rule AQL 35, outdoor burning during winter, is a non-complying activity in both Clean Air Zones²⁸.
35. The bylaws are inconsistent with the NRRP in allowing open air fires in residential areas, at certain times of the year. In the City Council's submission²⁹, Councillors expressed individual views ranging from a support for a total prohibition of burning garden vegetation to support for similar provisions as contained in the existing bylaw. However, the Council was vague in what it sought from its submission on Policy AQL 4 stating it:

Supports either a total prohibition of outdoor burning of garden vegetation on residential properties, or past provisions allowing the burning of such vegetation for four months of the year.

As such, no specific outcome was sought and the submission was rejected by ECan.

36. Seventeen public submissions were made in relation to Rule AQL 29, condition 2. Eleven submissions requested that the condition be deleted. One submitter requested an exemption for Living Hills Zones and low density areas where properties exceed 1000 square metres. Hearings on the NRRP reconvened on 30 January 2006, submissions on rule 29 and related matters have been heard but no decision has been made.

²⁸ Banks Peninsula is outside of these zones

²⁹ Dated 30th August 2002

Table 1. Summary of Open Air Fire Rules

Month	BP Bylaw	City Bylaw	NRRP		
			Residential Areas	Clean Air Zone 1 ³⁰	Clean Air Zone 2
Jan	Subject to notification	Prohibited	Discretionary		Permitted
Feb		Permitted			
Mar					
Apr					
May	Prohibited under the Transitional Regional Plan		Non-complying		
Jun					
Jul					
Aug					
Sept					
Oct	Subject to notification	Permitted	Discretionary		Permitted
Nov		Prohibited			
Dec					

Complaints Register

37. Between May 2003 and May 2005 the Christchurch City Council Environmental Services Unit dealt with 240 complaints related to open air fires and waste. Over 90% of these referred to problems with open air fires; just under 4% regarded rubbish posing a fire risk; and a similar number regarding indoor fires (the latter are not covered by the Bylaw object). The total complaints referred to 217 properties over the city, or 0.15 per cent of the estimated 135,000 households at June 2005. Complaints regarding open air fires are predominantly of a general nature alerting the Council to a fire on private property. Only a small number of complaints referred to concerns with fire hazards posed by storage of materials (1.6% of total complaints in the category). Smoke and smell were specific concerns for a number of people with 81 of the 220 complaints referring to this aspect.
38. Based on the number of complaints received open air fires may not be considered a significant issue in Christchurch City. Arguably the small number of complaints and incidents of open air fires may illustrate a good understanding by Christchurch residents of the Bylaw and/or restrictions on open air fires.

OPTIONS

39. **Option 1 - Consolidate the Banks Peninsula and Christchurch City Council Bylaws and revoke redundant provisions.** In accordance with s.83 of the Local Government Act, 2002 a bylaw review, including is subject to special consultative procedures. When a bylaw is to be revoked a statement to that effect must be produced [LGA 02, s.86 (2)(b)].
40. **Option 2 - Retain the Status Quo.** Retain both bylaws as they currently stand.
41. **Option 3 - Retain the Bylaws in their current state and review once the NRRP is operative.** The NRRP is a proposed plan and may change over the life of its development. The bylaws could be retained in their current format and reviewed once the Plan becomes operative. However, under s15(2) of the RMA, no person may discharge any contaminant into the air, or into or onto land, from any place in a manner that contravenes a rule in a regional plan or proposed regional plan unless the discharge is expressly allowed by a resource consent. In addition, in accordance with s.104(1)(b)(iv) of the RMA, applications for resource consents must take proposed plans into consideration. The proposed Natural Resources Regional Plan (NRRP) restricts burning in specific areas covered by the Bylaws.

³⁰ Burning of agricultural wrap and containers is discretionary however, outdoor burning of vegetation, paper, cardboard and untreated wood is permitted in the Clean Air Zone 1

PREFERRED OPTION

42. Option 1

ASSESSMENT OF OPTIONS

The Preferred Option

43. Option 1. Consolidate the Banks Peninsula and Christchurch City Council Bylaws and revoke redundant provisions. See *Attachment 2*

	Benefits (current and future)	Costs (current and future)
Social	Reduced complaints arising from nuisance effects of open air fires.	No specific costs.
Cultural	No specific matters.	No specific costs.
Environmental	Improved, localised air quality in urban and residential areas. Reduction in the risk of fire in urban and residential areas arising from open air fires.	Potential increase in occurrences of dumped green waste from landowners not willing to pay waste disposal costs or lacking composting facilities.
Economic	Reduction in cleaning costs for external surfaces affected by emissions from open air fires. Will still allow for special permits for burning to be issued to landowners outside of the Clean Air Zone 1, provided they are not in residential areas and/or meet all the conditions imposed by the Regional Council.	Potential increase in green waste disposals particularly in more remote locations.

Extent to which community outcomes are achieved:

Primary alignment with community outcome for Healthy Environments
Also contributes to Safe City.

Impact on Council's capacity and responsibilities:

Reduced need to enforce procedures. Open air fires will be controlled under the NRRP in Christchurch Clean Air Zone 1. City Council and other (e.g. Department of Conservation) enforcement procedures continue to apply in Clean Air Zone 2

Effects on Maori:

No specific effects.

Consistency with existing Council policies:

This option is consistent with the waste management approaches adopted by Council on landfill and the Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan, 2003. A primary focus of the Plan is to remove organic matter from the waste stream and to use it beneficially.

Views and preferences of persons affected or likely to have an interest:

Submitters to the Air Quality Chapter of the Natural Resources Regional Plan (NRRP) are likely to be interested in this matter. Individuals living in hill zones expressed particular concerns with the proposed NRRP rules on open air fires in residential areas.

Other relevant matters:

This option is consistent with rules outlined in the NRRP.

Maintain The Status Quo (If Not Preferred Option)

44. Retain both bylaws as they currently stand.

	Benefits (current and future)	Costs (current and future)
Social	Reduction in the risk of fire in urban and residential areas arising from open air fires	Likely to cause confusion for landowners due to the inconsistency between City Bylaw and NRRP
Cultural	No specific matters	No specific costs
Environmental	Reduction in the risk of fire in urban and residential areas arising from open air fires	Continued impacts on localised air quality and overall air emissions in Clean Air Zone 1
Economic	Reduced waste costs for individual land owners	Costs associated with enforcement procedures and fire protection measures by surrounding land owners

Extent to which community outcomes are achieved:

Primary alignment with community outcome safe cities. Does not contribute to any other significant community outcome.

Impact on Council's capacity and responsibilities:

No significant impacts on capacity and responsibilities. Impact is per current approach

Effects on Maori:

No effects noted

Consistency with existing Council policies:

Not considered consistent with the Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan, 2003

Views and preferences of persons affected or likely to have an interest:

Environment Canterbury will have a particular interest. When the NRRP rules become operative, it is our expectation that the discharge to air rules in the Transitional Regional Plan, including the outdoor burning rule, will be withdrawn. ECan expects the decisions on the Air Plan rules to be released mid-2006, and after that will have a clearer idea of when the rules are likely to become operative. Prior to the new rules becoming operative ECan and CCC will need to discuss the implications of the changes to the regulations with Christchurch City Council.

Other relevant matters:

None

Option 3

45. Retain the bylaw and review once the NRRP is operative.

	Benefits (current and future)	Costs (current and future)
Social	Reduced complaints arising from nuisance effects of open air fires	No specific costs
Cultural	No specific matters	No specific costs
Environmental	Improved, localised air quality in urban and residential areas. Reduction in the risk of fire in urban and residential areas arising from open air fires	Potential increase in occurrences of dumped green waste from landowners not willing to pay waste disposal costs or lacking composting facilities
Economic	Reduction in cleaning costs for external surfaces affected by emissions from open air fires	Potential increase in green waste disposals particularly in more remote locations

Extent to which community outcomes are achieved:

Primary alignment with community outcome safe cities. Does not contribute to any other significant community outcome.

Impact on Council's capacity and responsibilities:

No significant impacts on capacity and responsibilities. Impact is per current approach

Effects on Maori:

No effects noted

Consistency with existing Council policies:

Not considered consistent with the Solid and Hazardous Waste Management Plan, 2003

Views and preferences of persons affected or likely to have an interest:

As per option 2 and submitters to the NRRP who supported restrictions on open air fires.

Other relevant matters:

Environment Canterbury Officer's report for hearings did not recommend any changes to the Rules relating to open air burning in residential areas or Christchurch Clean Air Zone 1. However, it did recommend deleting Rule AQL30 and AQL31 regarding outdoor burning of polyethylene agricultural wrap. This is not considered to affect the option outlined here.