

submission form

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Your Submission

You may use this form for your submission if you wish. Whether you use this form or not, please follow the guidelines for preparing submissions on the previous page.

Name Janet Begg
 Address 9 Hope St, Shirley, Christchurch
 Contact Telephone 3855 114
 Email (if applicable) —
 Signature Janet Begg

Please tick which applies:

- I do NOT wish to make a personal submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered.
- I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Tuesday 1 June and Friday 11 June 2004.

I will be available 8, 9, 10 + 11 June 2004.
My preference would be for 9 or 10 June, if possible.
The 5 volumes of the LTCCP. page 2
Civic Offices Accommodation. page 3
Libraries - hours of opening. pages 4 + 5
Christchurch Botanic Gardens. pages 6 + 7
Canterbury Museum (+ B. Gdns) pages 8 + 9

Please refer submission on attached pages.

6 MAY 2004.

filename:LTCCP1.WPT on D

SUBMISSION ON CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL'S
LONG TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN 2004 - 2014.

from: JANET BEGG
9 Hope St, Shirley, Christchurch.
Phone: 3855 114.

Yes. I do wish to talk to the main points in my submission.

1a. The 5 volume community plan.

Overall, yes. I do like the first 10 year LTCCP.
In the good old days up to 2002, the city council
printed the annual plans in PORTRAIT format, which is
much easier to hold and read .
Then it changed to the very unwieldy LANDSCAPE format;
that's 58 centimetres across. It's an unfriendly,
non-ergonomic shape for readers to study.
Please put it back the way it was - in portrait format.

1b. There are 4 maps that are too small and quite meaningless.
That's a shame. They could have been very interesting.
I'd like to see larger, coloured comprehensible versions,
please.

See Vol.1. p.14 Social Deprivation Index 2001.
Vol.1. p.15 Housing Density.
Vol.1. p.19 Vacant Residential Land.
Vol.1. p.20 Land Use.

.....
1c. Community Outcomes, Number 2 "A learning city"
that term is used throughout volume 1.
Please change the term to-
"A CITY OF LIFELONG LEARNING" (as used in Vol.1. p.50
under Library Services.)

.....
1d. I'm very sad, puzzled and angry that under
"Council Community Groups" Museum features large -
even though it's only a de facto child of the Christchurch
City Council.
And yet the Christchurch City Council's own Christchurch
Botanic Gardens have been completely left off the important
list of "Council Activity Groups". Why?
Tell me, who is responsible for this ridiculous
discrimination? The cuckoo's nest springs to mind.

.....
1e. I enjoyed the good natured introduction and overview
from Alister James. Thank you, Councillor James. Well done.

.....
1f. I couldn't find any mention of the important Council
Service Centres and the advocacy staff that provide the
council and the community with invaluable assistance.
Surely they are part of the long term council plan?

2a. CIVIC OFFICES ACCOMMODATION.

I fully support the LTCCP proposal for new office building/s to replace the unsatisfactory, refitted Millers showrooms and factory on Tuam Street.

The present Millers building gives a superficially gracious appearance with some elegant public areas; but behind many makeshift walls, the working conditions for many staff are depressingly inadequate. (Just as the staff offices in the Botanic Gardens are below acceptable standards). Even the Transition Manager, Ken Lawn has an "office in Bedlam". Please rescue that poor man. (See The Press, Mon. 3 May 2004, p. A4)

The proposal for NEW civic offices is mentioned in Alister James's overview. Vol.1. p.5

Vol.1. p.84 Office building projects
\$51.5m from 2004 to 2009.

Vol.1. p.29. Under Proposed Major new initiatives:
New Civic Offices Building \$53.71m

.....
2b. I have yet to read the Metropolitan Christchurch Transport Statement.
But I do appreciate the public passenger transport system in Christchurch. It just keeps getting better.
I've been travelling on buses since 1942, so I reckon I'm a seasoned bus passenger.
A really efficient bus service will have the same timetable every day, with a regular service.

.....
2c. I do want to encourage the council to proceed with the PUTRESCIBLE WASTE collection.
Although I have three compost heaps and use the green waste weekly collection, there are fish bones, animal bones and fat that I would like to stop putting in the black bags and start using a household putrescible waste collection.
Thanks for all the collections of recycables - even though a cantankerous old woman on her bike sneaks around our streets collecting/stealing the aluminium cans.

3. LIBRARIES

Our Christchurch free public libraries are a lifeline to many people, including me. The management and staff are exceptional in their helpfulness and friendliness at all times.

In council's Annual Report 2003, pages 62 & 63 recorded Environmental, Social and Economic Performance Indicators that showed the Libraries exceeded almost all of the targets.

That's a wonderful outcome.

Libraries continue to be the single most used Council facility.

CCC Plan Vol.2. p.77 "The hours of opening will be reviewed in 2004/05"

The Libraries Manager, Sue Sutherland, presented a very thoughtful and intelligent report on "Library Hours of Operation" to the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee on 9 February, 2004.

See the attached proposed plan of hours set out in Sue Sutherland's report.

The new South Christchurch Library at Beckenham is open every day and it's a huge success. Congratulations to all involved in the process.

At our Shirley Library, we also need the same hours as Beckenham - open every day.

Please reconsider the full proposal for all library hours at an operational cost over the whole city of \$240,000.

As Sue Sutherland's report states, the proposal results in a more uniform and logical approach to hours of operation.

It increases the hours of opening by 6% for a 1% increase in total expenditure.

The hours of operation provide best value for customers and ensures maximum use of the infrastructure of facilities that the council provides.

Excerpt from Sue Sutherland's report,
 "Library Hours of Operation", 9 Feb. 2004

Desired outcomes for changing hours of operation

- Consistent approach to opening and closing time to avoid customer confusion
- Spread of longer weekend hours across the city
- Hours of opening consistent with local facilities, eg malls, shops etc
- Hours of opening consistent with other services in the same building, eg cafes, council services
- Libraries with a wider range of services and volume of business open longer hours

Proposed hours of operation

Given these factors we believe the following changed weekday hours at Central Library and some community libraries and increased weekend hours at Central Library and selected community libraries offer the most consistent service across the city. The proposed hours are:

Library	Weekdays	Saturday	Sunday	Added hrs/wk	Notes
Central	9am-9pm	10am-4pm	10am-4pm	8	Additional 5 hours weekdays, opening 9am instead of 10am and 3 hours on Sunday
Fendalton	9am-7pm	10am-4pm	10am-4pm	4	Reduction of 5 hours weekdays, closing 7pm instead of 8pm; increase of 3 hours on Saturday and 6 hours on Sunday
South	9am-7pm	10am-4pm	10am-4pm	0	No change
New Brighton	9am-6pm	10am-4pm	10am-4pm	0	No change
Shirley	9am-6pm	10am-4pm	10am-4pm	9	Increase M-W, Fri from 5.30 to 6pm and reduction of late night Thursday from 8pm to 6pm. Increase of 3 hours on Saturday and 6 hours on Sunday
Papanui	9am-6pm	10am-4pm		3	Increase M-W, Fri from 5.30 to 6pm and reduction of late night Thursday from 8pm to 6pm. Increase of 3 hours on Saturday.
Linwood	9am-6pm	10am-4pm		6	Increase M-F from 10am to 9am and reduction of late night Thursday from 8pm to 6pm. Increase of 3 hours on Saturday.
Bishopdale	9am-6pm	10am-1pm		3.5	Increase M-F from 9.30am to 9am. Increase M-W, F 5.30pm to 6pm and reduction on Thursday from 7pm to 6pm.
Hornby	9am-6pm	10am-1pm		2.5	Increase M,W,F from 5.30pm to 6pm; reduction Tu,Th from 8pm to 6pm.; increase M-F from 10am to 9am. Sat change from 9am-12noon.
Spreydon	10am-6pm	10am-1pm		-2	Reduction in Th from 8pm to 6pm
Halswell	10am-6pm	10am-1pm		0	increase M-Th from 5.30pm to 6pm; reduction Fri from 8pm to 6pm.
Redwood	10am-6pm	10am-1pm		0	No change
Sumner	10am-6pm	10am-1pm		4.5	Increase M-F from 10.30am to 10am and M-W, Fri from 5pm to 6pm. Reduction Th from 8pm to 6pm.
Total additional hours per week				38.5	Increased by 6% from 641.5 to 680 per week

If we apply these hours of opening there is an increase in weekday hours of 11.5, Saturday hours of 12 hours and Sunday 15 hours per week.

Benefits of the changed hours

The proposal is applying a much more consistent approach to hours of closing than is currently the case. At present 6 of the 12 community libraries have one late night, 1 has two late nights, 1 opens to 8pm each night, 1 opens to 7pm on one night, 1 opens to 7pm each night, and 2 have no late nights at all, closing at 6pm each night.

Although we have yet to seek customer feedback on closing earlier on the late nights, we believe that any loss of availability of one to two hours on evening is offset by the earlier opening and the extended Saturday and Sunday hours. Central Library would still be open Monday to Friday until 9pm and two other libraries – one in the NW of the city and the other in the South of the city would be open every weekday until 7pm.

4. CHRISTCHURCH BOTANIC GARDENS .

4a.

LTCCP Vol.1. p.68 Capital Expenditure for 2004 - 2008. Thank you, Christchurch City Council. At last, our beloved Botanic Gardens are starting to be given the attention that they urgently need to be brought up to the high standards which we all expect.

4b

I heartily endorse the comprehensive submission on the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, from the Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens Incorporated.

The following thoughts are my own.

4c.

It's great to have the new Curator, Dr David Given and also Jeremy Hawker, in the new position of Operations Manager. That's a big step in the right direction.

4d

Now there is a need to give the management and staff control over the use of their buildings and open spaces in the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, Hagley Park and Mona Vale.

It is inappropriate to continue to give the Parks Unit, the Leisure Unit and the Housing Unit authority over those buildings, fields and open spaces. Botanic Gardens management and staff are treated as unimportant and left uninformed about bookings or leases. This procedure must change.

4e

The Christchurch Botanic Gardens people must be given the same recognition, status and mana as the Christchurch Art Gallery and the Canterbury Museum.

To enable this to happen, the Christchurch Botanic Gardens also needs a Director; like Tony Preston, Anthony Wright and Tony Paine, those charismatic ambassadors for their prestigious amenities, the Christchurch Art Gallery, the Canterbury Museum and the Christchurch Arts Centre.

4f.

THOSE AMAZING TALL TREES.

It's a great joy to know that the life span of the elderly tall trees in the Botanic Gardens is being attended to at last. For Dieter Steinegg, Parks Unit arborist has been telling us loudly and clearly for at least ten years that these trees, like you and me, live and then die.

So, Hurrah for the allocation of \$100,000 for tree replacement in 2004/2005 and 2005/2006.

Those tall trees provide the very soul of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

They always lift my spirits. Praise be.

Christchurch Botanic Gardens (continued)

4g. LTCCP Vol.1. p.51. Parks and Open Spaces .
Contribution to Outcomes.
Please ADD as a 6th Outcome "A City of Lifelong Learning.

" - Parks and gardens provide opportunities to share
information about plants, birds, insects and
about nature in general."

4h.

A very good place for the Christchurch Botanic Gardens
Information Centre, near the main entrance on Rolleston
Avenue, would be within the beautiful Robert McDougall
Art Gallery Building in the Botanic Gardens.

It's not too late to make that happen.

The inordinately long-term fifty year lease of the
council-owned Robert McDougall Gallery building is
still only in draft form.

But if we cannot agree with having our own Christchurch
Botanic Gardens information centre in our own Robert
McDougall Gallery building, then I suggest that the
next best places are -

(A) in the small area of Botanic Gardens land in the
rectangular space to the south of the McDougall and
west of the Roger Duff wing of the Canterbury Museum.

(B) Another good site for the Information Centre is -
Alongside the Christ's College boundary and west of
the Canaday wing of the Robert McDougall Gallery building.

5. CANTERBURY MUSEUM
and questions in conjunction with
the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

5a
Throughout the LTCCP volume 1, there is a grouping called
"art gallery, Museum and "our city" -
If that is the cultural, heritage and historic grouping,
then it must include the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

Why is the Christchurch Botanic Gardens so pointedly
excluded from "Council's activities, Contribution
to outcomes.? See Vol.1. p.40.

5b
Why is the Canterbury Museum so lauded in the LTCCP,
when it does not even belong to the Christchurch City Council?
- it's a de facto relationship.

Surely, with greater requirement to care, protect and
promote one's own "children", The Christchurch City Council
should not be giving preferential treatment and
scarce resources to the Canterbury Museum,
whilst the beautiful Botanic Gardens have a desperate
need for far more adequate operational as well as
capital expenditure. It will take ages for Cinderella
to regain her rightful inheritance!

5c
Vol.1. p.66. Capital Works Programme

Again, 'Art Gallery, Museum and "Our City" '
- with no mention of Christchurch Botanic Gardens
in this group.

Vol.1. p.66 -
Museum entry . Description says "Museum" \$2,700,000

Hey..... 2.7million dollars for what?
That's totally unacceptable.
Stop the subterfuge.

Delete that entry and transfer the allocation of
2.7 million dollars to the Christchurch Botanic Gardens
for a much needed Information Centre near the main
visitor entrance off Rolleston Avenue.

Or to any of the urgently required capital works
in the Botanic Gardens, as highlighted by the in-depth
submission from Cam Moore on behalf of the
Friends of the Christchurch Botanic Gardens.

5d.
About \$52 million has been given to the Canterbury Museum, by central and local governments, for a revitalisation of its stone building on Rolleston Avenue. Its obviously a very restricted piece of land.

In another ten years, the Canterbury Museum Trust Board will be asking the taxpayers and the ratepayers for another big handout - because the building is too small.

I believe that our Long Term Council Community Plan should be looking at feasible alternatives to spending so much money on that one restricted site.

The Canterbury Museum on Rolleston Avenue should be the heritage museum.

Other buildings should be seriously considered for a more modern museum and maybe include a science museum.

Right now there is a great opportunity for the Museum to purchase the New Zealand Post's seven storey mail centre on prime land in the cultural precinct. It runs through from Hereford Street to the Worcester Boulevard, right opposite the exciting new Christchurch Art Gallery.

With landscaping, the north-facing open space could become a great place for informal outdoor gatherings. It would be far more sheltered than the area outside the Christchurch Art Gallery.

It would also provide a more appropriate location at ground level, for the Ngati Porou whare whakairo, rather than perching it on top of the elegant Robert McDougall Art Gallery building as the Museum proposes. That would be a crass insult both to the McDougall building and to the Maori whare.

5e
The Canterbury Museum is considered in the LTCCP as a cultural amenity. It is important that only the very best items are kept in the collections.

At present, there is an accumulation of many pieces that are not quality items.

They should be sorted out regularly.

Overseas, many top museums hold auctions to ensure that their collections are of a very high standard.

There is also a move internationally for taonga to be returned to their original homes, sometimes on permanent loan.

.....
I look forward to speaking to the main points in this submission. Thank you.
Sincerely, Janet Begg.

