Submission on Christchurch LTCCP

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I wish to talk to the main points at the hearings.

POTENTIAL COMPOSTING SCHEME FOR HIGH DENSITY AREAS

My name is Nicki Bell. I live in the inner city in a narrow Street called Melrose with my partner Axel. Our house sits on 470sq. metres of land, which is generous compared with most properties in our high-density area. In our area we have Otley, Melrose, Ely Streets and Moa Place all within close proximity to beautiful Moa reserve. Our garden is fully planted out with natives and a small 2 metre square vege plot.

The problem with lack of land is insufficient space, sunlight and distance away from neighbours to have a successful compost heap. The boundary of our section is Moa Reserve. It has occurred to me that a communal composting system in Moa Reserve could work very well in our area and I would be keen to have a pilot scheme run to check the potential success.

We have a strong neighbourhood group that is active with community issues and projects. If the council foresees a problem with inappropriate dumping of rubbish in a communal bin then we could consider the option of a wire cage and a key system which could be looked after by a local committee or purchased with a bond from the CCC.

Advantages of such scheme:

- Composting eliminates the need for waste disposal use which is better on our sewage systems.
- Uses less rubbish bags (saving for residents).
- Reduces waste going to landfill (helps Council meet its waste reduction targets).
- Compost could be used in Moa Reserves gardens and planned herb plot.
- Convenient for locals needing to dispose of minor prunings and vege scraps etc.
- Potential social meetings and chance to meet other people in the neighbourhood.

If the bins fill before they have a chance to break down for use in the reserve then maybe there would need to be a collection every few weeks. This collection could be incorporated into the system that Council intends to set up for putrescible waste from commercial sources (see volume 2 – page 93).

The composting in the reserve proposal has the support of the Moa Neighbourhood Committee. Many of our members live immediately adjacent to the park and we believe that Council and us working together can make this proposal work.

Regards,

Nicki Bell
Member of Moa Neighbourhood Committee