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The Chief Executive  
Christchurch City Council  
PO Box 237  
Christchurch

**RE: SUBMISSION ON THE DRAFT CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL  
COMMUNITY PLAN**

The New Zealand Historic Places Trust Pouhere Taonga wishes to make the following submission to the Christchurch City Council draft Long Term Community Plan 2004-2014. The Trust wishes to be heard in support of their submission.

The Trust wishes to congratulate the Council on its continued financial support to provide a variety of valuable resources for the effective management of the heritage of this City. Among these resources it is pleasing to see greater involvement in heritage management by Community Boards. to support and promote heritage in their communities.

The Trust's submission to the 2003/04 Financial Plan and Programme urged the Council to continue its efforts to ensure the retention of the McKellar and Fleming Houses on Park Terrace. (The Trust took this case to the Environment Court). Combined with the willingness of the owners of the property, we are delighted with the outcome of the Council's negotiations to ensure the retention of these properties and the grant offered by Council to assist with the restoration and conservation of them.

The Trust is mindful of current applications for the demolition and removal of significant built heritage within the City and would welcome any Council initiatives that will ensure the retention of the Cashel Chambers, former St. James/Odeon Theatre in Tuam Street and Leinster House. We urge the Council to continue its efforts with the retention of these buildings.

The Trust supports Cr Alister James' introductory remarks (pp4-6) to the LTCCP which note that grants have been allocated to the Christ Church Cathedral, Theatre Royal, Canterbury Museum, Our City O-Tautahi (former Municipal Chambers) and Arts Centre of Christchurch to ensure that these significant heritage buildings can continue to be conserved and operate effectively. We also note that funding has been put aside for further heritage research and a new grant will be offered in year 2 for character houses. The Trust respectfully requests that the Council include in the LTCCP the definition of what constitutes a character house, clarifies the principle and intent behind this initiative and outlines the policy for this funding.

Given the Council's outstanding record of heritage management in the City the Trust is of the opinion that the service and performance measures for heritage (p38, vol 2) do not reflect the Council's current role nor provide a vision for the future role to 2014. In this instance we refer to the Senior Heritage Planner's report of 8 April 2004 to the Arts, Culture and Heritage Committee entitled, *Heritage Values + Vision + Mission Statements*. This statement has been formulated to guide the development of the Council's Heritage Management Strategy currently in progress. The Trust considers that it is the matters contained in this report and those of the proposed Heritage Management Strategy that should ultimately guide the Council's Service Provision for the management of heritage in this community through the LTCCP.

The Trust considers that the development of this Council heritage strategy to be one of the key instruments that will guide the regulatory side of heritage protection within this community. Thus given the changes to the Local Government Act the Trust respectfully requests that the key community heritage stake holders, including organisations such as Te Runga o Ngai Tahu, New Zealand Historic Places Trust and Department of Conservation be consulted in the development of this Strategy and that the LTCCP note the intended development of this Heritage Strategy.

With continued reference to (p38, vol 2), the Trust considers that one of the key service and performance measures for the Council's role in heritage is the provision of a defensible list of those buildings/sites/places (wahi tapu and archaeological) that are the key to the retention and protection the communities heritage. We would ask that this matter be addressed under this section.

The Trust notes that the Council owns and or maintains some 75 listed heritage items. Many if these are noted in the sections in Vol 2, p.53 and we note with reference to p.54 that the Council is currently developing an Asset Management Plan for its Community facilities. The Trust supports this project and requests that all Council owned heritage items be included in the development of this Asset Management Plan and that the LTCCP include a provision for all Council owned heritage items to have conservation, building condition and risk management reports/plans developed.

The Trust supports and appreciates the Councils commitment to long term financial assistance for key heritage places in the City. However as this is a long term plan over a decade the Trust considers it would be of benefit to include in the LTCCP a funding breakdown of the major heritage grants in the LTCCP. To this end we are delighted to note that the Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament is to receive a substantial grant over the next few years to assist with its structural strengthening programme.

The protection and retention of the City's heritage is vital to the well being of the community and its future generations.

The Trust thanks you for the opportunity to comment on the LTCCP.

Yours sincerely

Bruce Albiston  
General Manager, Southern