

# LTCCP 2006-16 SUBMISSION

Submissions close on 5 May 2006

I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this submission be considered.

**I am completing this submission:**  
On behalf of a group or organisation

**Number of people you represent:**  
120

**My submission refers to:**  
Summary Version of the LTCCP

**Page Number:**  
8

**I also want to respond to:**

<b>Name:</b>	Geoff Macpherson
<b>Organisation:</b>	Evangelical Presbyterian Church
<b>Daytime Phone:</b>	3433 878
<b>Evening Phone:</b>	342 8617
<b>Email:</b>	info@journey.org.nz
<b>Address:</b>	PO Box 31-210, ILAM, Christchurch.
<b>Your Submission:</b>	<b>Do you have any comments on the major projects in our Draft Community Plan?</b>
	<b>Do you have any comments on groups of activities (The activities and services the Council provides?)</b>
	<b>Do you have any other comments or suggestions you want to make?</b>
	<p>Page 8 - Council's Proposals to Save Money 20% Reduction of Community Halls.</p> <p>The Evangelical Presbyterian Church is a longterm tenant at the Fendalton Community Centre, Clyde Road. We are very appreciative to the council for providing such an excellent facility.</p> <p>We would be very concerned to know that the number of 'community spaces' is to be reduced. In other centres like Auckland, church and social groups are finding it increasingly difficult to find adequate facilities to use. Some groups end up competing with a number of others for school halls.</p> <p>Councillors should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the cost for a church to build its own facility has become prohibitive for most medium to small churches.</li><li>- If the council wishes to promote cultural diversity and a sense of community, public meeting spaces are essential to achieve that aim.</li><li>- Community facilities should not be evaluated purely in terms of financial goals but social health.</li><li>- The low usage of certain facilities is connected to their quality. When the Fendalton Centre was upgraded, the rise in user was significant.</li></ul> <p>Suggestion: Offer neglected community halls to church groups for longterm lease with the proviso that they are made available for other users.</p> <p>Conclusion: If the population of the city is expected to decrease over the next twenty years, then a reduction in the number of public facilities is reasonable. If, on the other hand, the population is expected to grow, then revamp the facilities and watch the community use increase.</p>