

# Our Community Plan Submission Form

## Instructions

### Please read before completing your submission

It will help us process your submission if you clearly state the issue you want the Council to consider, what specific action you think the Council should take, and why that should be done.

If you wish, you can present your submission at a hearing. (If that is the case, please tick the box). The hearings will be held between Thursday 25 May and Wednesday 7 June 2006. Generally, 10 minutes are allocated for hearing each submission, including time for questions.

It will help us if your submission also refers to the page of either the full version or the summary version.

Please note: We are legally required to make all written or electronic submissions available to Councillors and to the public. This includes the name and address of the submitter. All submissions will be published on the Council's website from 10 May 2006.

No anonymous submissions will be accepted.

You may send us your submission:

### By mail

Please mail your submission (no stamp is required) to:

Freepost 178  
Our Community Plan  
Christchurch City Council  
PO Box 237  
Christchurch 8003

### By email

Please email your submission to:  
ccc-plan@ccc.govt.nz  
Please make sure that your full name and address is included with your submission.

### On the internet

You may enter your submission using the form provided on the Council's web site at  
<http://www.ccc.govt.nz>  
Please follow all the instructions on the web site.

Please remember to indicate if you wish to present your submission in person at one of the hearings.

Please ensure your submission arrives no later than Friday 5 May 2006.

## Your submission

You may use this form for your submission on our draft Community Plan if you wish. Whether you use this form or not, please include your name, address and contact telephone number with your submission.

Tick one  I do NOT wish to present my submission at the hearing, and ask that this written submission be considered OR  I wish to talk to the main points in my written submission at the hearings to be held between Thursday 25 May and Wednesday 7 June 2006

Are you completing this submission:  For yourself  On behalf of a group or organisation

If you are representing a group or organisation, how many people do you represent?

My submission refers to:  Full version  Page No.  Summary version  Page No.

Do you also want to respond to:  Development Contributions  Aquatic Facilities  Other

Contact Name AF Familton

Organisation name (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Address 41 Kilburn Street

Christchurch 8005

Phone No. (day) 3598578 Phone No. (evening) 3598578

Email (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature AF Familton Date 23 April 2006

# Our Community Plan Submission Form

## SUBMISSION

1. The statements :-

- a. "Rationalize community libraries" and
- b. "Providing 14 libraries with books and other stock for reference and/or borrowing"

do NOT support one another

It can be assumed that the decision on libraries has already been made and, in the near future, "rationalize" will become "justify"

It is little wonder that people become suspicious

2. Councils over the years have stated the need for an educated workforce and have lauded the provisions available in Christchurch – including our libraries

The statements :- \* a city of lifelong learning

- Christchurch people are skilled people

Are not references to the work of the education sector in isolation. The community library is a vital part in the education of the people and any thought of closing a well-functioning library, such those mentioned in the report, will deprive generations of the chance to use the "heart" of their community – whether it be for skill development or recreational reading.

It is the responsibility of the local authority to take reading and study to the people in the form of their library – not to withdraw the opportunity from them

3. From the changes being made around Bishopdale Mall, one could easily see that the library could be enhanced by having more space in which to place the "books and other stock for reference and or borrowing, and an information service". Enhancing the facility is certainly not achieved by considering closure.

By considering library closure the council is looking in the wrong direction. I urge all councillors to turn round and face the future – that is the direction in which to look if the vision is to be seen

*AK Hamilton*  
*23 April 2006*

For office use only	
Submission #:	<input type="text"/>
Referred to:	<input type="text"/>
Date referred:	<input type="text"/>
Date required:	<input type="text"/>
Heard:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

To – Mayor and Councillors

Re – Community Plan and Suggestion Some Libraries May Be Closed

It was with amazement and dismay that I noted that the council has decided to review the need for three suburban libraries, as well as the mobile library.

My immediate concern is the situation surrounding the Bishopdale Library.

1. Within the Bishopdale area there has been a significant increase in the amount of infill housing which brings more intensive settlement
2. The development of the western side of Bishopdale Mall, highlighted by the new YMCA building, will bring more residents to the area :-
  - a. to use the facilities
  - b. to do their shopping
  - c. to use their library
3. The council should be exploring means for library enhancement rather than library withdrawal

New Zealand is a country that prides itself on the educated level of its citizens. Governments are always seeking means by which to increase this level. City Councils, over many years, have been strong advocates of learning for life. What has changed that view ??

Schools promote the interest and enjoyment available through books, video and computer, and the use of the community facilities. To see this at work, one only has to visit a local library at the end of a school day. The council success with library development and promotion in south Christchurch and Riccarton shows the way forward for all community libraries.

Contemplating closure is akin to saying :-

- a. the library in this district was only a trial
  - b. the trial has not been successful ie the residents either don't want or need a library
- OR**
- c. the "trial" has been very successful and the district no longer requires a recreational or educational facility ie the need for a library no longer exists

The council of 40+ years ago had a vision for the development of Bishopdale. That vision included a community centre which housed a library. Such a vision is even more applicable in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

In the City Scene [March 2006 p.4] a statement says "that councillors have said they are keen for people to say where they would like money saved if they want it spent in another area".

That is the task that faces councillors and council officers – not the residents. At no time have I heard anyone say "Close our library and build another piece of road etc."

Any thought of closing a library is a retrograde move. A negative action is certainly not the way forward.



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