

# 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:**  
For yourself

**Number of people you represent:**

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

**Page Number:**  
86

**I also want to respond to:**

<b>Name:</b>	Sally Blundell
<b>Organisation:</b>	
<b>Daytime Phone:</b>	03 942 6156
<b>Evening Phone:</b>	same
<b>Email:</b>	sallyblundell@paradise.net.nz
<b>Address:</b>	247 Fifield Tce Opawa Christchurch
<b>Your Submission:</b>	<b>Do you have any comments on the major projects in our Draft Community Plan?</b>
	<p>CLOSURE OF LIBRARIES</p> <p>Closing suburban libraries is an extraordinarily short-sighted attempt to cut costs. Over the last year Christchurch has come under some heavy criticism - violence has risen, under-age prostitution has added to a "sleaze city" reputation, the overseeing of some of our cultural facilities has been widely queried. One fact has not had as much prominence in the media - Christchurch has a relatively low rate of qualified school leavers. Surely this explains much of the above. The presence of a local library from age 1 to 100 is vital in bringing learning and the enjoyment of learning into the day to day lives of a city's citizens. For young mothers, for the elderly with mobility difficulties, for those without private transport, the library offers a place to go and look and read and learn. It also acts as a community centre - without a local library many areas are left with the ubiquitous mall with its relentless, culturally void commercial pressure as its only community focus. Libraries are a vital antidote to boredom, despair, ignorance and loneliness. They fall outside of profit-making ventures but they are inspirational and indicative of a city's real priorities.</p>
	<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>