

You may use this form for your submission on the draft Our 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

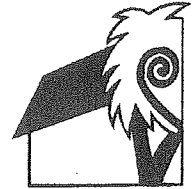
Are you completing this submission: For yourself On behalf of a group or organisation

If you are representing a group or organisation, how many people do you represent? 100 + families

My submission refers to: Full version Page No. Summary version Page No. 1, 4, 8

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

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Submission to Long Term Council Community Plan 2006
Christchurch O-Tautahi
1st May 2006

Dear Council Members

Thank you for this opportunity to write a submission in regard to your draft LTCC Plan.

As a community organisation that has been working in a low-socio economic suburb for sixteen years we would first of all like to thank the council for their continued support, both financially and with the extensive resources provided by our excellent community advisors. It was heartening to see that the council will honour its commitment to the community with its continuance of the same level of funding.

1. We noticed on the front page of the summary of the draft plan that it was mentioned that
'Christchurch has less poverty than New Zealand as a whole'.
We do not see evidence of this working in Waltham and surrounding areas. One in three children are raised in poverty in New Zealand and we find many families have problems such as:
 - Cold and damp housing.
 - Expensive rents – long waiting lists for state houses
 - Electricity is expensive
 - Latest fuel costs will increase all living costs
 - Families have to cut back on food costs to make ends meet – Our emergency food cupboard can be a life saver when an unexpected bill arrives
 - People are getting sick because of their unheated houses.
 - Some people/families double up with up to ten in the household. This increases health problems
 - Some people/families are living in caravans, in cars and even the local school
 - That many people/families become isolated and are unable to participate in the community because of lack of money (eg sporting clubs, school trips)
 - Sometimes children are kept home from school as there is no food in the house for their lunches**Christchurch has a unique problem with the above because:**
 - Of the smog problem
 - Being unable to use log fires
 - Electricity cost are high (subsidised electricity for low income is an idea)
 - Very cold winters

- Not having LPG access direct to houses

2. Reduction of funding to CDC jeopardises:

- The many community organisations who provide services to assist those mentioned above

3. Rationalising community libraries will disadvantage:

- The people who do not have their own transport – the ones who needs the libraries the most
- The children both pre-school when they are learning about the love of books and school children for their projects – not every family has a computer!
- The elderly when going to the library for books is combined with it being a social event
- The community as an information/resource service

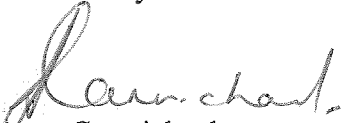
4. We disagree with using NZ Post for all Council payment because:

- It could lead to there no longer being a counter service area where questions and queries are answered and where a huge range of information is available for the community
- If this happens then people will have to ring an impersonal call centre
- Busy people from the Service Centre may be asked to go on the counter service area

Where to find any addition money needed:

- Surely the Art Gallery's building contract should cover the \$0.2 million cost for the air conditioning upgrade. Its hard to understand why this cost was not factored into this new building
- Fit-out for the new Civic Offices. Can some fixtures such as desks, files, chairs etc could be used in this new building instead of new fixtures. If this was done then there could be some saving from the \$4.3 million allocated

Yours Sincerely



Adrienne Carmichael

Community Development Facilitator

On behalf of Te Whare Roopu o Oterepo Waltham Community Cottage