

## LTCCP 2006-16 Submission - Received by Email

<b>Name:</b>	St Andrews House Community Trust Shelley Walker [shelley@clear.net.nz]
<b>CC:</b>	
<b>Sent:</b>	Fri 5/05/2006 22:59
<b>Your Submission:</b>	<p>Submission to LTCCP</p> <p>Shelley Walker on behalf of St Andrews House Community Trust 107 Marriott's Rd North New Brighton.</p> <p>ph. 382-0995 (day) 980-3509 (eve) e-mail: <a href="mailto:shelley@clear.net.nz">shelley@clear.net.nz</a></p> <p>The St Andrew's House Community Trust operates as a community development project in the North New Brighton area. Community development is an established way of working with generally socially and economically depressed communities and is aimed at helping to redress imbalances of power and choice, access to resources and information, community participation, education etc. that contribute to the overall community well being.</p> <p>We appreciate the history of community support given to our group and others by the City Council, and commend the desire to build strong and inclusive communities. The directions of council policy however (Strategic directions, Summary p.7) are jeopardised by their very means of implementation. A desire to "increase involvement in lifetime learning" for example, is inconsistent with the closure of branch and mobile libraries. Whole sections of our communities are at risk of being sidelined in the pursuit of an idealistic vision which fails to take account of reality. (Challenges, p.50, full document)</p> <p>Civic engagement.</p> <p>We thank the City Council for the opportunity to participate in this process, but acknowledge that not everyone feels able to do so. The documents need to be easier to understand, with a minimum of jargon. Terms used need to be clearly defined, so that policy makers and respondents have a common understanding. Many definitions are given in the draft document, but tend to be well hidden in the text. A full index and appendix of definitions would be helpful, as would some way of correlating the draft and the summary documents.</p> <p>Libraries</p> <p>A need to develop services to new housing areas is clear, but the removal of those services from established areas is of great concern. If it is necessary to re-site branch libraries to provide access in other parts of the city, the retention of the mobile service is essential. Access to books and other resources, whether for information, education or pleasure, must remain free - both in terms of cost and physical access. The library network is in fact a key ingredient in many of the city's community outcomes, underpinning city, community and personal development.</p>

**Your Submission  
(Cont'd):**

Partnership with Maori.

p.51 (Full document) "The council needs to work with iwi and other Maori groups..." This and other references scattered through the document imply that the Council recognises a responsibility to work with and consult Maori in implementing policy. Although the necessity for explicit acknowledgement of the Treaty of Waitangi has been withdrawn, it is disappointing to have all references omitted. The council's commitment to working in partnership with Maori should be clearly expressed, and strategies by which this is to be achieved should be documented (page 289 notwithstanding).

City development.

"We design our city to meet current needs and future challenges" p.7 summary  
Concentration on developing the city centre and urban beautification (i.e. 'enhancement') falls short of our future challenges. Developing local communities is essential as we move into an era of high fuel prices and peaking oil production. Strong, self-sufficient and diverse communities where services and amenities can be accessed without reliance on fossil-fuel transport should be on the town planners' agenda. Attractive neighbourhoods are not enough – it is the activity within those neighbourhoods (not at some far distance venue) that is the community issue. It should also be noted that suburban malls do not automatically create strong communities.

In terms of current needs, low cost public transport is essential to address the social isolation of depressed socio economic communities in the city – this is even more pressing as fuel prices increase. The removal of assets such as the Redbus Company and CityCare from the list of strategic assets is also of concern as it carries the implication these are being considered for privatisation. Subsidised public transport is a boon to Christchurch residents and many would be significantly disadvantaged by any changes to the system.

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

Shelley Walker

Community Development Worker

St Andrew's House Community Trust.