EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.

The Templeton community.

Templeton in one of a series of overlapping, interlocking communities in the peri-urban area to the south of Christchurch.

Between 1986 and 1991 the number of people living in private dwellings in the Templeton Census Area Unit increased by 18 per cent, and between 1991 and 1996 this number increased by 25 per cent.

In 1996 the Templeton Census Area Unit had 1905 people living in private dwellings, and 79 per cent of these people lived in the Templeton township.

There will be no significant growth in the number of dwellings in Templeton until its sewerage system is up graded. Funds for this are included in the Council's 'proposed budget' for 2000/2001.

The Templeton community had a very high proportion of children 14 years and under, and relatively few people 60 years and over in 1996. It had the highest proportion of households with at least one child 4 years and under, and also the highest proportion of families with dependent children in the Riccarton/Wigram Community Board's area.

The level of work force participation in Templeton in 1996 was significantly higher than for the Riccarton and Wigram Wards as a whole, and it was particularly high for women in families with their youngest child between 5 and 14 years of age.

Incomes in Templeton in 1996 varied widely, and reflect the fact that the community can be seen as a microcosm of New Zealand as a whole.

Facilities at Templeton and the Templeton Centre.

The facilities at Templeton used by groups based in the Templeton community are -

- The Templeton Community Hall
- The Templeton Primary School Hall
- The Templeton Anglican Church Hall
- The Prison Village Hall
- The Templeton swimming pool.

The Prison Village Hall will close when the houses at the Prison Village are vacated in the very near future.

The facilities at the Templeton Centre used by the Templeton community are -

- The indoor swimming pool which is used by the Templeton Swimming Club
- The hall which is used by the Templeton Primary School for its annual production

The other facilities at the Templeton Centre which could be of value to the community if they were became more readily available to those outside the institution are -

- A chapel
- A gymnasium
- A bowling green
- 2 lawn tennis courts
- A playing field with a large cricket wicket block
- A sports pavilion

Issues identified.

The main 'community needs' identified through consultation with people from the Templeton community, and from a household survey are -

- The lack of recreational opportunities for children and young people at Templeton.
- Limited services for pre-school children and their mothers/care givers.
- Difficulties with recruitment of leaders for community groups.

Other key findings from the survey were -

- There was a very high proportion of households with members involved with community organisations. The proportion involved with clubs and groups outside of Templeton was higher than the level of involvement with Templeton based groups. The majority of those involved with community groups were members of sports clubs.
- Recreational activities 'not available locally' was identified as a barrier to participation in activities outside of their home by a high proportion of respondents.
- Respondents were critical of the standard of the play equipment at the children's play ground in the Templeton Domain.
- The Templeton Community Hall was seen as 'very good' or 'good' by only 25 per cent of respondents. Respondents considered that it was 'too small' and 'too old' to meet the present needs of the community.
- A significantly higher proportion of respondents considered that the Templeton swimming pool was either 'very good' or 'good' in 1998, when compared with responses in 1993.
- A new community building at Templeton was seen as 'very important' or 'quite important' by 65
 per cent of respondents.
- There was strong support for a multi-purpose building.
- There was 70 percent support for either 'full' or 'partial' involvement the management of a new building by the Christchurch City Council.
- Improvements to outdoor recreation facilities for young people at Templeton were also seen as being important.

Likely users of a new community building sited on the Kirk Road Reserve.

The Templeton Primary School would make extensive use of a new community building sited on the Kirk Road Reserve.

Other important users would be the Plunket Society, the Templeton Netball Club, the Templeton Indoor Bowls Club, the Scout Association, and the Girl Guides. The building could also include an office for the area's Community Constable.

Such a building would also provide a good venue for youth activities at Templeton.

A number of potential users of any new community building at Templeton expressed concern about its 'affordability'.

Summary of recommendations.

The recommendations from this 'community needs analysis' are -

- 1. That a new multi-use community building be constructed on the Kirk Road Reserve.
- 2. Consideration should be given to locating the proposed community building sufficiently close to the Templeton swimming pool, to allow it and the pool to become a single complex.
- 3. That hard surfaces, including two tennis/netball courts and areas suitable for skate boarding and roller blading be developed on the Kirk Road Reserve.
- 4. That the play equipment at the children's play ground on the Templeton Domain be up graded.
- 5. That the Christchurch City Council adopt a 'pro active' approach to the development of activities for youth at Templeton.
- 6. That the enlargement of the Templeton swimming pool should be considered in the near future, depending on population growth in the area.

These improvements are needed to meet the needs of the immediate Templeton community, and are not affected by the uncertainty associated with the facilities at the Templeton Centre.



