

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
METROPOLITAN SPORTS FACILITIES PLAN HEARINGS PANEL**

**Held in the No 3 Committee Room, Civic Offices
On Friday 1 August 2008 at 9am**

PRESENT: Mayor Bob Parker (Chairperson), Councillors Sally Buck, Ngaire Button, Barry Corbett, David Cox, Yani Johanson, Sue Wells, Chrissie Williams and Norm Withers.

APOLOGIES: Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Helen Broughton, Claudia Reid, Bob Shearing, Gail Sheriff and Mike Wall.

IN ATTENDANCE: Tony Marryatt, Michael Aitken, John Filsell and Kevin Collier.

1. DRAFT METROPOLITAN SPORTS FACILITIES PLAN APRIL 2008

The Draft Metropolitan Sports Facilities Plan of April 2008 was advertised seeking public comment during the period 14 April 2008 and 31 May 2008.

The following edited extract from the executive summary outlines the considerations given to the Draft Plan:

Sporting codes, community funding organisations and government agencies have advocated for the establishment of a longer term planning process to map the future development of metropolitan sporting facilities. Through the establishment of a long-term planning framework the Council and other stakeholders can better work together to plan, fund, construct and operate a suite of facilities to best meet future needs of Christchurch (and the wider region) within limited available resources.

The Draft Metropolitan Sports Facilities Plan allows the Council to prioritise options for metropolitan sports facility developments during the next 20 years. Metropolitan sport facilities provide benefits and services for sport at a city-wide, national or international level; facilities below this threshold are not included in the Plan.

An examination of Council strategy, consultation with stakeholders and Councillor feedback, combined with other research has provided the information base from which key issues were identified, including a need to:

- Increase large-area indoor sports facility provision.*

- Continue reshaping QEII Park in line with the QEII Concept Plan 2005, ideally accommodating Canterbury Cricket and providing a viable test cricket venue.
- Continue to investigate the provision of a flat-water facility.
- Secure the on-going operation of motorsport at Ruapuna Park and continue the work on noise issues.
- Retire facilities no longer meeting current and projected needs.
- Investigate the provision of additional all-weather/artificial sports surfaces.
- Maintain current levels of service at most existing Council-owned metropolitan sports facilities.
- Proactively review lease agreements.

Preferred solutions were selected using the criteria approved by the Council in 2007. The criteria also enabled an assessment of priorities among these preferred solutions.

Identified priorities for metropolitan sport facility developments during the next 20 years are listed in the table following. Project timeframes and the extent of any Council financial contribution will be determined through the 2009-2019 LTCCP process. The Council will make decisions on contributions to specific projects based on a detailed business case developed at the time, and not automatically as a result of the Council adopting this Draft Plan.

The information in the table includes an indicative priority, description of the proposed development and an indicative range of capital costs. The indicative capital range may change considerably when detailed plans are established for each proposal. The Council will not be the only contributor. In reality, facility developments will only be feasible with capital and operational contributions from others.

The Plan recognises there will also be operational cost implications of any project. However, the majority of operational costs will be recovered through user charges and/or partner contributions.

Current levels of service at Porritt Park, the Addington Fencing Centre and Sockburn Squash Centre will be maintained.

Priorities as identified in the Draft Plan will guide development of metropolitan sports facilities for the next 20 years and inform Council decision-making for the 2009-2019 Long Term Council Community Plan. Adoption of the Plan does not guarantee a facility will be upgraded, redeveloped or built.

Priorities for metropolitan sports facility developments:

Priority	Action / Description (references apply to the Draft Plan document)	Indicative Financial Implications (2008 value)
1	Development of a mid-sized indoor sports arena (at least eight courts and 3,000 seats) at Addington. (Refer page 30)	\$15 to \$19 million CAPEX
1	Upgrade Cowles Stadium seating (1,500 seats), changing areas and event infrastructure. (Refer page 31)	\$1 to \$1.5 million CAPEX
1	Complete the upgrade of Powerbuilt Tools Raceway at Ruapuna hard-surface track to comply with international standards, improve garaging and hospitality facilities and continue the work on noise issues. (Refer page 32)	Under investigation
1	Retire Denton Park and investigate alternative options. (Refer page 34)	Possible OPEX saving
1	Proactively review leases for Council facilities with Council assuming asset management responsibilities in return for higher rent or transparent subsidy. (Refer page 35)	Unknown
1	Re-acquire lease and retire Rugby League Park. Work with League to find a new suitable site within the City's existing infrastructure. (Refer page 35)	Unknown
2	English Park remedial repair work to the pitch. (Refer page 35)	\$0 to \$1 million CAPEX
2	Develop up to 40 new outdoor courts at Addington to relocate netball from Hagley Park (with half the courts shared with tennis). (Refer page 35)	\$2 to \$3 million CAPEX
2	Development of an ICC-compliant arena for test cricket on the Village Green at QEII (alternative option is the Bert Sutcliffe Oval at Lincoln. (Refer page 31)	\$5 to \$10 million CAPEX
2	Incremental improvements to Kerrs Reach through removal of silt and weed and development of shore facilities. (Refer page 34)	Unknown
2	Continue to investigate the development of a flat-water sports facility at Hendersons Basin. (Refer page 34)	Under investigation
2	Reconfigure existing layout of QEII main stadium for rectangular field sports (rugby, soccer, rugby league) by removing the athletics track and upgrading the warm-up track on the QEII No 2 Ground following the IPC Athletics event in 2011 OR Maintain the status quo, keeping an athletics track in the main stadium. (Refer page 32)	Unknown ¹
2	Investigate the opportunity to locate metropolitan facilities for other indoor sports within the Wigram Hangars or at other large indoor spaces within the city as opportunities arise. (Refer page 31)	Unknown
2	Develop outdoor artificial surfaces to provide all-weather training and playing facilities at QEII Park. (Refer page 32)	\$1 to \$2 million CAPEX
2	Investigate partnership for provision of outdoor artificial surfaces to provide all weather playing and training facilities for city-wide use for rugby, soccer, rugby league and an additional artificial hockey field. (Refer page 35)	Under investigation
2	Upgrade Cuthberts Green Softball facility to improve seating, provide a small corporate hosting area and improve office facilities. (Refer page 35)	\$0.36 million Council \$0.1 million
3	Investigate site locations for an alternative outdoor cycling track, possibly as part of a cycling park development to meet minimum standards for training and local competition. (Refer page 34)	Unknown

¹ Seeking clear direction before pursuing indicative costs for any main stadium actions.

NB: Capital cost estimates are indicative estimates based on other known similar or planned developments. A 5% construction cost inflation rate has been used where estimates were sourced from past years. More detailed capital costs will be developed as part of the business case for each project.

A total of 100 submissions were received. 16 requesting to be heard (Volume I of submissions), 84 requesting not to be heard (Volume II of submissions).

Details follow:

CANTERBURY RUGBY LEAGUE

Ian Jenkins, Justine Wallace and John Coffey were in attendance on behalf of the Canterbury Rugby League.

See Attachment A for additional submissions covering inter alia:

- Desire to remain at Rugby League Park, Addington.
- Concern at lack of consultation regarding the plan – only one meeting held with Council staff prior to the plan being released.
- CRFL entered into a 40 year lease back in 1997 for RLP negotiated in good faith with the Council.

League representatives responded to questions and in closing, invited the Council to visit Rugby League Park so it (the Council) can see first hand the asset already there and the potential for further development.

The Mayor thanked the submitters for their presentations and signalled that the invitation to visit Rugby League Park would be given every consideration.

SQUASH CANTERBURY

Vaughan Utteridge, Chief Executive Officer, Squash Canterbury, pointed out that Canterbury currently lacks a show court for squash which can seat 250-350 people and assist in attracting major events (including international) to Christchurch.

See Attachment B for additional information.

In responding to questions from councillors, Mr Utteridge signalled:

- Squash Canterbury is heading the way at a regional level for the development of squash in NZ.
- The addition of a quality court will only enhance its reputation and assist with this development.

LAKE ISAAC TRUST

Stewart Mitchell (Trustee) expanded on the original submission which signalled concerns with the provision of an appropriately designed flat water facility to be easily accessible for city residents. The concerns covered:

- Safety.
- Lost opportunities.
- Process.

Following his responses to questions, Mr Mitchell stated that “the Trust’s sole concern is to see a flat water facility designed to cater for a wide range of sports and recreational activities (24) reinstated as a top priority and councillors vote to reinstate the funding back into the LTCCP.”

CANTERBURY CHILDREN’S ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Mr Dave Riddell (President) submitted “As a major user of the athletics track, QEII main stadium, over the summer season, the Association registers 700 plus 7-14 year olds each summer who get the opportunity to compete every Saturday morning.

“We strongly feel that for the future of junior athletics in this centre, the status quo (keep an athletics track in main stadium) must remain. To move to a lesser facility without the infrastructure available at QEII would strongly impact on our ability to supply a quality core sport to the youth of this community.” Mr Riddell responded to questions and clarified areas of interest to all concerned.

CANTERBURY ROWING ASSOCIATION

Mr John Wylie from the Association stated that Kerrs Reach is now a over-crowded and bordering on an unsafe, water facility. He mentioned that a new flat water facility is urgently required to allow high performance water sports to flourish. Responding to questions from councillors, the following points made by Mr Wylie are noted:

- Kerrs Reach will still be required when a new facility is available.
- A new facility will attract neighbouring (to Christchurch) schools as well as Lincoln University.
- Discussions under way with Ngai Tahu concerning partnerships.
- Initial construction of a new facility would include:
 - o starting facility
 - o finishing tower
 - o accommodation for officials
- An international event would require additional facilities (eg, dormitories etc).

SPORT CANTERBURY

Rob Ecclestone (Sport Development Manager) reiterated points made in the written submission from Sport Canterbury, including other matters of mutual interest (noted following discussion):

- The plan appears to cater for present needs and/or up to five years, not the next 20 years as signalled!
- Correct issues have been identified in the draft plan.
- Disappointed at the speed of the process and limited consultation.
- Submission prepared by staff of Sport Canterbury, being a collective insight of SC administration. Agreed to confer with Board and report back in due course to the Council.
- Will follow up other regional funding models.

CANTERBURY CAR CLUB

Lloyd Proctor (Chief Executive Officer), David Abbott and Sophie McMillan attended and provided background information on the quality of Ruapuna Park and other matters of interest, including partnerships with the Council over the promotion of motor sport.

The representatives responded to questions from councillors and confirmed the Club's vision on improvements to facilities. "Motorsport continues on its strong growth curve, driven by Australian and New Zealand V8's and the popularity of televised motorsport in all its form. It helps that NZ has always been at the leading edge on the world stage with the likes of Scott Dixon, Jonnie Reid and Greg Murphy".

CYCLING CANTERBURY

Brent Lewis and Al Stewart expanded on the written submission from Cycling Canterbury, highlighting the following points:

- Denton Park "well past its used by date!"
- An indoor velodrome at say QEII combined with a BMX track and a 2 km criterium/fitness circuit would be the "icing on the cake". The velodrome would be a 250 m wooden track with seating for 300.
- Internationally rated BMX track could be accommodated at QEII at a minimal cost.
- High performance/sports science centre already available at QEII.
- A dormitory at QEII would complete the essentials for an international quality, high performance multi-sports facility hub.
- Possible partnerships for the velodrome would include:
 - o triathlon
 - o bowls (indoor/outdoor)
 - o weightlifting
 - o netball and basketball
 - o badminton
 - o stadium motocross
 - o car or boat shows
 - o cultural activities and education.
- Proximity to an international airport makes Christchurch a most attractive centre for international competitors.

Responding to questions, the representatives concluded their presentation by asking the Council to reconsider the shape and scope of such a facility to that recommended under the draft Metropolitan Sports Facilities Plan.

CANTERBURY CRICKET

Lee Germon, Chief Executive Officer (former NZ cricket captain) attended and with the assistance of overheads (attached as item "E") expanded on the Canterbury Cricket Association Inc's original submission. The overheads covered the following:

- A backgrounder
- A new venue required for cricket
- A world-class venue in a world class city
- The proposal
- Conclusion

Combined submission from Canterbury Cricket, New Zealand Cricket and Vbase tabled (see attachment "F"). This submission authorised by Lee Germon (CEO Canterbury Cricket Association Inc), Justine Vaughan (CEO New Zealand Cricket) and Bryan Pearson (CEO Vbase) recommended:

- Canterbury Cricket and Vbase meet with the Council to discuss the above submission.
- A site analysis of Hagley Oval is conducted by Council staff.
- An action plan is developed upon the ratification of this submission.

Mr Germon responded to questions from councillors "playing a straight bat to all pitched on middle stump!".

Written submissions from Canterbury Cricket Trust, Nicholas Davidson QC (on behalf of himself, Tim Gresson, Lee Robinson, Trevor Thornton, Peter Guthrey, Chris Herbert, Chris Doig, Geoff Saunders, Nick Sibley, Humphrey Rolleston) were noted.

CANTERBURY RUGBY FOOTBALL UNION

Tim Gilkison, Manager, Amateur Rugby, spoke to the written submissions, highlighting:

- Denton Oval is important to rugby particularly for the Hornby RFC and Christchurch Metropolitan Rugby Club's Association.
- Lighting at Denton Oval.
- Lack of rugby grounds in Halswell and Hornby areas.
- Interest in partnerships.

Mr Gilkison answered questions from councillors.

MAINLAND FOOTBALL

Mark Stewart (Director) and Mike Coggan (Chief Executive Officer) with the aid of a Powerpoint presentation (see Attachment "G") amplified the written submission contained in Volume One. In summary, Mainland Football signalled:

- It is a major Canterbury sport seeking Council support for change:
 - (i) Organised and planned.
 - (ii) A move to QEII supported by the Council will have a huge positive effect.
 - (iii) There will be significant regional sport demand for both English Park and QEII.
- Mainland Football committed to working with the Council to make project happen.

Responding to questions from Councillors, the delegation emphasised:

- English Park will maintain its importance.
- An office staff of 10 currently housed in unsatisfactory accommodation.
- Other areas have been considered, cost benefit analysis favours QEII.

CANTERBURY HOCKEY

Tim Shannahan, Chief Executive Officer, Canterbury Hockey Association, provided further information to the submission contained in Volume One.

He stressed the urgency required to provide additional artificial hockey fields in Christchurch and the value of the Canterbury Hockey Association as a partner to the Council with this project.

- **Christchurch vs Non-Christchurch Participants:**

Total teams	=	307
Christchurch teams	=	292 (95.1%)
Non-Christchurch teams	=	15 (4.9%)
Total participants	=	3,724
Christchurch participants	=	3,508 (94.2%)
Non-Christchurch participants	=	216 (5.8%)

- **Additional Turf : Participant Ratios for Major Cities:** The following figures are estimates of the ratio of participants to each turf in the major cities in New Zealand, based on the provincial figures presented in the original submission, but modified following an indication as to how many of those artificial turfs are within the major metropolitan centre and estimates received from each major association as to how many participants would actually reside in the metropolitan area:

Hamilton City	1:440
North Shore City	1:740
Dunedin City	1:851
Auckland City	1:888
Wellington City	1:1,020
Christchurch City	1:1,169

- **Location of Turfs in Canterbury:** As indicated, there are only three artificial hockey turfs in Canterbury and all three of these are in Christchurch (two at Porritt Park and one at Nunweek Park). The participation numbers in the Selwyn and Waimakariri Districts could not presently justify the development of an artificial turf in either district and without significant growth in either district it may still not be feasible in 20 years to have an artificial turf located in either district.

The Canterbury Hockey Association will be making submissions to both of these district councils seeking financial contributions in the future towards the existing turfs in Christchurch which are of benefit to their residents, and hopefully in the future participation numbers in each district will justify the development in both districts of an artificial turf.

- Financial Benefit of Artificial Turfs to Council: As indicated during the presentation, the following are financial figures in relating to the benefit to the Council of having hockey played on artificial turfs as opposed to grass fields:
 - o Cost of an artificial turf - \$1.5 million to install and then ongoing maintenance of \$50,000 per year to cover turf and shock pad replacements
 - o Cost of maintaining a grass field by the Council - \$12,500 per year

On the basis of these figures, and in the knowledge that usage of an artificial turf is equivalent to 15 grass fields, an artificial turf becomes more cost effective than 15 grass fields for the Council after approximately 10 years of use. That 10 year theory is based on the Council paying the full installation and maintenance costs associated with an artificial turf. Where the Council does not cover these costs in full, as has been the case with all three of the existing artificial turfs and is likely to be the case with future artificial turfs that may be developed, it takes even less than 10 years for the Council to gain cost effectiveness. Recently the Palmerston North City Council agreed to cover all future turf and shock pad replacement costs for the turfs in that city because it was recognised as being more cost effective than what was previously paid to have the sport take place on grass.

The financial savings on grass hockey field maintenance to the Christchurch City Council since the installation of the first turf at Porritt Park in 1985 would be estimated at \$8.8 million (47 years of cumulative turf availability @ 15 grass fields per turf @ \$12,500 per field) in 2008 values. This figure illustrates the benefits to the Council in having sports use artificial turfs.

Furthermore, given the use of artificial turfs frees up grass fields for use by other sports, at a time that grass fields are at a premium in Christchurch, supporting the development of additional artificial turfs for hockey would be advantageous to other sports.

Supporting written submissions were received from:

- Hockey New Zealand (“no other area in the country where elite hockey players are required to train on an area of less than half a field!”).
- Tania Brownlee and 237 individual submissions from hockey enthusiasts voiced concern at the lack of hockey turfs (fields) in the city.

At this stage (12.20pm) Councillors Barry Corbett and David Cox left the meeting.

ATHLETICS CANTERBURY

Dr Rob Stein and Alan Tucker attended the hearing and expanded on the written submission lodged by John McBrearty, Chairman, Track and Field Committee. This submission stated:

“Option 1: Maintain the main stadium in its current format and its continued use for athletics.

Option 2: Reconfigure the main stadium to accommodate grass-based rectangular field sports and convert the 2011 IPC (International Paralympic Committee) athletics warm-up track located on the No 2 ground to competition standard to become the city’s main athletics venue”.

The representatives voiced their support for Option 1 and their concerns that Option 2 would be further considered.

The representatives responded to questions from councillors and confirmed that Athletics Canterbury is staffed by volunteers.

CANTERBURY NETBALL

Noeline Ward, Board member, Netball New Zealand, Lyn Miles, President, Christchurch Netball Centre and Helen Mahon-Stroud, Coach Skope Tactix and High Performance Director, attended to expand further the written submission received from Canterbury Netball. Andrew Hercus, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Team Canterbury Netball Ltd (Skope Tactix) was also in attendance.

Points covered (see also attachment “H”) including responses to questions, included:

- A need for a multi-use stadium
- Consequences of a lack of a facility
- Recent impacts
- Abilities for flexibilities
- Netball NZ requirements
- Other netball facilities
- Consequences of a new facility
- Financial
- Structure
- Stadium usage
- Stadium availability
- What netball can offer.

The delegation concluded their presentation by emphasising the necessity for a multi-use stadium to accommodate all sports both regionally and nationally.

CANTERBURY VOLLEYBALL ASSOCIATION

Professor Derrick Moot attended to expand on the written submission.

The major issue being the lack of a central facility large enough to support national events, eg, the 2009 secondary schools tournament.

In responding to questions, Professor Moot signalled:

- A 6 court (volleyball) venue required.
- Social and recreational volleyball generating a growing interest.
- Cowles Stadium upgrade would help.
- Prepared to participate with “Netball” regarding a new stadium.

NEW ZEALAND ACADEMY OF SPORT SOUTH ISLAND INC

Peter Cox and Iain Ansell (Sport Services Manager) congratulated the Council on the development of the Draft Metropolitan Sports Facilities Plan and offered assistance where appropriate. Points covered by Messrs Cox and Ansell are included in the attachment shown as “I” attached to these minutes.

VOLUME 2 – SUBMITTERS WHO DID NOT WISH TO BE HEARD

Details are as follows:

Submitter	Comment
Badminton Canterbury Inc	Development of an indoor facility
Korfbal Canterbury	Redevelopment of Cowles Stadium
Canterbury Basketball	Redevelopment of Cowles Stadium
Christopher Webster	Redirection of Orbiter bus route to sports facilities
Alice Shanks	New turf for hockey
Lyttelton-Mt Herbert Community Board	Marina - clean up remaining storm damage – road cycling - safety issues on roads
Christchurch Civic Trust	Relocate netball courts from Hagley Park to Addington
Christchurch YMCA	Reconfigure QEII park
Nicola Stokes	More indoor netball courts
Coastal Spirit Football/Linfield Sports	Partnerships
Helen Kendrick	Integration of sport
Gavin Wright	Supports partnerships
Luke Goodseeker	Bigger and better facilities
Adrian Baker	“Don’t wait for tomorrow!”
Rebecca Wardell	Upgrade QEII park
Ruth Lawson	Additional turfs for hockey
Ethna Rouse	Land status
Mareite Taylor	Discourage motor sport
Linda Jones	Land for soccer
Rob Dally	Sharing of resources
Stephen Shimmin	International facilities
Sara Kikstra	Develop flat water facility
Volleyball New Zealand	Development of facilities
Canterbury United Inc	Lack of venues
Rangi Ruru Rowing Parents	Better facilities
Alpha K Management Ltd	Relocation of netball courts
Arawa Canoe Club Inc	Flat water facility
Wairewa Runanga Inc Soc	Flat water facility
Royal NZ Pipe Band Association Inc	Upgrade facilities for use in contests
Lyttelton-Mt Herbert Community Board	Upgrade of Naval Point marina roading development
John Coffey	Poor consultation over rugby league park
Netball NZ	Supports indoor stadium
Bowls Events NZ	Indoor bowls facility for Christchurch
Hornby United AFC Christchurch	Denton Park
Michelle Watson	New turfs for hockey
Kay Webb	Cycling
Sandra Pooch	New turfs for hockey
Rangiora High School	New turfs for hockey
Quieter Please Inc	Noise issues Ruapuna Park
Shirley Volleyball Club	New stadium
Linda Stone	Hockey turfs
M Ryder, W Shaw, H Ryder, Mr & Mrs JC & MJ Rich	Ruapuna Park

Submitter	Comment
Clint Thorburn	Hockey turfs
Aoraki Dragon Boat Association	Henderson Basin
Katie B	Hockey turfs
New Brighton Athletic Club Inc	Relocation of athletics track QEII
Sport Guidance Ltd	Partnerships
Jane Casey	Hockey turfs
Christchurch School of Gymnastics	Indoor facility
Katie Clark	Hockey turfs
Susan Colville	Hockey turfs
Annabel Darby	Hockey turfs
Mark Darvill	Cycling facility
Carl Dawson	Hockey turfs
Kelly de Lambert	Hockey turfs
Mrs F Didham, Mr A Didham and Mr & Mrs D Mackie	Ruapuna Park
Chris Edwards	Hockey turfs
Dave Evans	Excellent review
Rachel Gibson	Dedicated facility for Opawa/Woolston
Peter Glasson	Denton Park upgrade
Lloyd Greenfield	Hockey turfs
Ngai Tahu Property Ltd	Partnership
Terry Gyde	Denton Park
Ann Harper	Hockey turfs
Wayne Hawker	Netball courts
Active Health QEII	Track cycling
Canterbury Hockey Association	Hockey turfs
H SOB/Burnside Hockey Club	Hockey turfs
Stephen Lambie	Hockey turfs
Devan Menon	Hockey turfs
Smash Volleyball Club	Volleyball facilities
Leisure Marching	Indoor arena
St Bede's College	Partnerships
Pete Neale	Hockey turfs
Pegasus Cycling Inc	Velodrome
Burwood/Pegasus Community Board	QEII and other facilities
Fendalton/Waimairi Community Board	Supportive of plan
Hagley/Ferrymead Community Board	Netball courts: Cowles Stadium
Hockey NZ	Hockey turfs
Port Hills Athletic Club	New athletics track at QEII to meet IAAF standards
Marist Albion	Wider consultation
Spreydon/Heathcote Community Board	Lack of sports facilities at Addington
Riccarton/Wigram Community Board	Supports direction of plan
Anonymous	No reference to disabled

Discussion by Hearings Panel included:

- Input from Community Boards: Staff to present a roadshow to all Boards and possibly the UDS (Urban Design Strategy) partners.
- Aim to have metropolitan sports facilities in the next LTCCP.
- Consideration of a regional approach with neighbours, Selwyn and Waimakariri.
- Consideration of UDS involvement.
- Alternatives to QEII which, from submissions, could end up being over committed.
- Consideration to be given to other sports, eg, inline hockey, snow boarding, disabled sports.
- Enhancements of existing facilities.
- Follow up on those who did not make a submission.

NEXT STEP

- At the Council seminar on Thursday 11 September 2008, obtain Councillor feedback and direction on the draft plan and the specific initiatives contained in the plan.

The hearings concluded at 2.30pm.