

CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL

Draft LTCCP 2009-19

- Received via Web

Submissions close on 16 April 2009

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

Are you completing this submission:

On behalf of a group or organisation

If you are representing, how many people do you represent?

Name:

Jan Rogers

Organisation Name:

Family and Community Division of Anglican Care

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Date:

15 April 2009

Your Submission:

We want the CCC to reconsider taking \$1.5 million out of the grants allocation through the Strengthening Communities Fund.

Our understanding is that the cost of administering the fund is estimated at \$1.5 million which has not come out of the grants allocation in the past.

The loss of \$1.5 million to the fund comes at a time when it is most needed for the people of Christchurch who are most affected by the recent economic downturn.

The NZ Federation of Voluntary Welfare Organisations in their report of the value added by Voluntary Agencies has evidenced that for every dollar provided to a voluntary Agency between \$3-5 are delivered in the community largely because of the contribution made by volunteers.

The people of Christchurch get value for money when grants are made to community organisations

The people of Christchurch also gain in social capital through the participation of people in community groups.

At a time when people are feeling insecure and uncertain, are lacking in resources and feeling stressed, there is a need for support from local community groups.

Groups that provide a sense of belonging, build neighbourhood supports, enable local resources and knowledge to be shared and give more value for

every dollar spent.

For these reasons we ask the CCC not to take the \$1.5 million out of the Strengthening Communities Fund.

We also ask the CCC to reconsider selling their pre-schools in particular Tuam Street pre-school that is one of the only pre-schools that offers casual places for parents needing short term care for their children.

The care of our children is the most important job that a community does. This care needs to be of the highest quality.

The CCC pre-schools provide the highest quality care to parents most in need.

We ask you to continue providing this valuable service to the most vulnerable members of our community, children.

Enabling parents to have time out particularly on a casual basis when they need it, can make all the difference to stressed parents and their ability to parent well.