

Submission to LTCCP

Belfast Community Network
 PO Box 26 Belfast Christchurch
 Telephone (03) 323 9731 Fax (03) 323 9732
 Email: belfastcommunity@paradise.net.nz

Supporting Our Community As It Grows Tautokohia to tatou iwi kainga I tana tipuranga

Contact Details

Contact Name: Sally Carter
 Organisation Name: Belfast Community Network
 Organisation Role: Member of Executive Committee
 Contact Address: as above for the Network
 Personal contacts: 15 Highsted Rd, Bishopdale Christchurch 8053
 Phone: 03-3603536 (day or night)
 email: sally.frank@vodafone.net.nz

We wish to discuss the main points in our written submission at the hearings to be held between Monday 11 May, 2009 and Monday 18 May, 2009.

We, the Belfast Community Network, strongly support the LTCCP regarding the provision of community facilities in the Belfast area.

- The Belfast Community Network, since its establishment in 2001 has grown steadily in the delivery of services to various sectors of the community. The need for such facilities has been clearly identified through research commissioned by the network in 2006
- The present building which is the sole designated site for community activities will be required for roading in the proposed John's Rd Horticulture development, currently before the Environment Court.
- Evidence presented in the case currently before the court strongly supports the need for community facilities in the Belfast area.
- The population of the Belfast area is projected to double from just over 4000 to over 8000 between now and 2031, with significant growth before 2021. (Statistics New Zealand Area population projections)
- The Urban Development Strategy highlights the importance of 'resilient communities' and the need for
 - Providing opportunities for social interaction, leisure activities and engagement in community issues and decision-making.
 - Achieving robust resilient communities to face significant change, such as that arising from economic instability and natural disasters.
 - Connectedness and information sharing across a wide variety of organisations to support community development.

We believe that the provision of facilities which serve the whole Belfast area will make a significant contribution to achieving these objectives.
- The present building, even if still available, will not be adequate to deliver the services required

by the increased population.

- There are at present three development projects proposed in the Belfast area. Each project identifies the need for community facilities. We do not see the need for three separate facilities, and in fact would see this as counter-productive in building a sense of community in the Belfast area.
- We strongly suggest that Christchurch City Council engage in conversation with the parties to the three developments, particularly in determining the location and nature of community facilities in the area.

Thank you for considering our submission in your planning,

Sally Carter
Belfast Community Network Executive Committee Member.