

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:

For yourself

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

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Date:

13 April 2009

Your Submission:

To whom it may concern,

I am making this submission in regards to the draft LTCCP 2009 - 19.

I understand the Council, as part of this plan is considering changes in practice concerning how rent is charged for community childcare centres.

I was directly involved with the Hoon Hay Community Creche in Mathers Road, Christchurch for a period of about eight years. All four of my children attended the creche, I was involved in the management committee as secretary and then into the role of chairperson until 2006.

Due to my intimate involvement with the centre I understand what the financial implications of such a change would be for all involved and ultimately the most effected would be the children and the communities they live in.

The Councils third goal in the Safer Christchurch Strategy states "Provide active support to locally led initiatives that make significant contributions to reducing incidence and effect of crime". Community childcare centres are significant contributors and the Council recognises this in the Early Childhood Education Strategy which sees these centres as supporting the parenting role. This in turn promotes healthy social development among individuals and communities and fosters the prevention of crime.

The up keep of the Hoon Hay community creches building and grounds are

maintained and financed almost exclusively by staff, management committee and parents or caregivers. These centres can only continue to operate effectively for the community if they are continually supported by the Council.

Extending any financial burden leads to a filtering down effect to the very people these centres are there to service. Furthermore flow on effects may mean even more money being spent on social problems. The Council should not be the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff. If this issue is not given the right consideration this may well be the future result.

Thank you taking the time to look at this submission.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Shelly Sydney