

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?

Name:

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5 April 2009

Your Submission:

I would like the Council provide funding to enable the Canterbury Hockey Association to develop additional artificial playing surface(s).

This should be done for many reasons including the following.

The existing fields cannot accommodate all requests for use of the existing fields, with over one-third of training time requests turned down in both 2008 and again this year.

The sport is at capacity and many clubs are turning players away because they simply can not be accommodated in teams.

Some local competitions actually are forced to roster teams off each week because there is insufficient field availability to allow every team to play each week.

The existing fields are used to such an extent that it is not possible to accommodate national team requirements for local players in national squads to train on a regular basis.

The ratio of registered players to each field in Christchurch is the highest of any metropolitan centre in New Zealand.

Council policy identifies a commitment to encouraging participation in sport and recreation as it has a positive benefit on the community, so should support the development of additional hockey facilities that will be well used and result in increased participation.

Council policy states that it is a priority to ensure communities have access to community facilities that meet their needs and this is not the case presently for hockey.

Council policy states that it is a priority to increase participation in sport programmes and hockey is a sport capable of significant increase (30% increase achieved in only four years after the last field was established in

2002).

Developing artificial fields decreases increasing demand on already limited grass fields required by other sports and is more cost effective for Council with the annual cost of maintaining an artificial field less than that of maintaining 15 grass fields required to handle the same number of practices and matches.

There were funds in the Council budget for development of another field in 2007, so it was recognised at that time as an appropriate project.