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# Draft Long-Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP) 2009-19

## Submission form

### PLEASE READ BEFORE COMPLETING YOUR SUBMISSION

The public consultation period is from Tuesday 10 March 2009 to Thursday 16 April 2009.

It will help us if you clearly:

- state the issue you want the Council to consider;
- state what specific action you think the Council should take, and
- state why that should be done.
- type or use black ink for your submission.

Please note: We are legally required to make all written or electronic submissions available to the public and to Councillors, including the name and address of the submitter. In making submissions available to the public, the submissions will be posted electronically on the Council's website. Information will be available to the public subject to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987. If you consider there to be compelling reasons why your contact details and/or submission should be kept confidential, you should contact the Council Support Team, telephone 941 8999.

### You may send us your submission:

#### On the internet:

You may enter your submission using the form provided on the Council's website at [www.ccc.govt.nz](http://www.ccc.govt.nz)

#### By email:

[ccc-plan@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:ccc-plan@ccc.govt.nz)

Please make sure that your full name and address is included with your submission.

#### By mail:

(no stamp is required) to:

Freepost 178  
Draft LTCCP  
Christchurch City Council  
PO Box 237  
Christchurch 8140

*No anonymous submissions will be accepted. Whether you use this form or not, you must provide your full name, address and telephone number. If you are submitting on behalf of an organisation please state this and your role within that organisation.*

*Submissions must be received (NOT postmarked) at the Tuam Street Civic Offices no later than 5pm on Thursday 16 April 2009. To ensure receipt, hand deliver last-minute submissions to the Civic Offices, 163-173 Tuam Street.*

## Your submission

If you wish, you can present your submission at a hearing. If that is the case, please tick the appropriate box below. The hearings will be held from 11 May 2009 to 18 May 2009. Five to ten minutes will be allocated for speaking to your submission, including time for questions from the Councillors. The Council will confirm the date and time of your hearing in writing, by email or by telephone call.

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

OR

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

Are you completing this submission:  For yourself  On behalf of a group or organisation

If you are representing a group or organisation, how many people do you represent?

Contact Name Stephanie Humphries

Organisation name (if applicable) Styx Living Laboratory Trust

Organisation role (if applicable) Secretary

Contact Address 57 Karnak St, Christchurch Postcode

Phone No. (day) 03 3429513 Phone No. (evening) 03 3429513

Email (if applicable) stephaniek@clear.net.nz

Signature [Signature] Date 16 April 2009

## Submission Form

Contact Name Stephanie Humphries  
Organisation Name Styx Living Laboratory Trust  
Organisation Role Secretary  
Contact Address 57 Karnak Crescent, Christchurch 8042  
Phone no 03 342 9513  
Email [stephaniek@clear.net.nz](mailto:stephaniek@clear.net.nz)

Date 15 April 2009

The Styx Living Laboratory Trust's concerns about the long Term Council Community Plan 2009 – 2019 are as follows -

### 1. Acknowledgement of Styx Vision 2000 - 2040

On 26 July 2001, the Christchurch City Council formally adopted the Styx Vision 2000 – 2040, which seeks to achieve the following -

- Vision 1 To achieve a **viable Springfed River Ecosystem** to complement the other representative protected ecosystems of Christchurch such as the Port Hills, Travis Wetlands and the coastline.
- Vision 2 To create a **Source to Sea Experience** through the development of an Urban National Reserve.
- Vision 3 To develop a **Living Laboratory** that focuses on both learning and research as envisioned by Dr Leonard Cockayne (1885 - 1934).
- Vision 4 To establish **the Styx as a Place to Be** through maintaining and enhancing the special character and identity of the area.
- Vision 5 To foster **Partnerships** through raising the quality of relationships as we move forward together.

The Styx Vision 2000 - 2040 is not, even once, acknowledged in the Plan although in the submission to the previous LTCCP the Council said that this omission would be addressed.

The Styx River is an important feature in the northern part of the City and will be even more so in the future. A considerable amount of work has already gone into its planning and implementation by Council staff, the community and other organisations.

**REQUESTED ACTION Acknowledge the Styx Vision 2000 – 2040 in the LTCCP.**

**2. Land protection alongside waterways in the Styx catchment**

The Styx catchment is rapidly becoming urbanised (Belfast Area Plan, several Private Plan Changes). Urban development has already impacted on the ecological health and natural character of the Styx River ecosystem. To protect it from further degradation it needs space to function as a healthy ecosystem. Planning mechanisms are insufficient on their own to provide this protection. The Christchurch City Council has recognised this with support for a number of important land purchases along the waterway margins. Once the land is zoned residential, property prices will be exorbitant and beyond the reach of Council budgets. A line item needs to be identified in the budget specifically for purchase of rural land in the Styx catchment before it becomes residential.

**REQUESTED ACTION Provide a line item in the LTCCP specifically for a programme of land purchases alongside waterways in the Styx catchment.**

**3. Development of ecological green corridors and walkway network**

Although protecting the land and waterways has greatest priority in terms of the Styx Vision 2000 – 2040, development of walkways, habitat restoration, and amenity areas are also important to achieving the Vision. Some budget needs to be set aside specifically for this purpose in the 10 year plan.

**REQUESTED ACTION Provide a line item in the LTCCP specifically for a programme of habitat restoration, walkways, and amenity areas.**

**4. Ranger for the Styx**

Over the last few years a number of activities have been developed on the Styx that require ranger overview and input. They include overseeing the people (approximately 100) who regularly harvest flax from Janet Stewart Reserve, community monitoring volunteers, grazing activities of land that is being held for habitat restoration and development, as well as habitat restoration, pest control, education and public liaison. Other activities are planned for the future, including the Styx Field Centre and the Maori medicinal garden.

**REQUESTED ACTION That a full time ranger position be created for the Styx**

**5. Styx Living Laboratory Trust**

The Styx Living Laboratory Trust was established specifically to achieve Vision 3 above, which is a Council policy. The Trust has a Memorandum of Understanding with the Christchurch City Council, Environment Canterbury, NIWA, Landcare Research, and Lincoln University to achieve this vision. To date the Trust has initiated a number of activities including community monitoring programmes, summer student research scholarships with Lincoln University, Royal Society Teacher Fellowships, and other promotional events. The Council has also acquired land for a field centre on Lower Styx Road. Each year the Trust applies for funding through the Community funding programme to support its activities, but there is never any certainty in the outcomes from this process. The Styx Living Laboratory Trust believes that a budget line item

should be established for the operational and capital costs necessary to achieve this Council policy.

**REQUESTED ACTION** Provide a line item in the LTCCP specifically for the Styx Living Laboratory Trust, and the planning and development of the Styx Field centre.