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Submission to LTCCP

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

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Care, Share, Learn and Grow

Contact Details

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Organisation Name: Belfast Community Network
Organisation Role: Manager

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 and Belfast School**, strongly oppose the exclusion of an upgrade to Belfast Pool being omitted from the LTCCP. We offer the following reasons in support of our submission:

1. Removing the planned upgrade of Belfast pool from the Council's long term plan is disappointing and creates uncertainty around the long term future of Belfast pool.
2. Council staff have assured us that they will look at an alternative 'lower cost' option however, it remains the preference of the Belfast community to persist with the original plan which was submitted as a project in the Council's 2009/2019 LTCCP process - estimated to cost \$150,000. This would provide the community with certainty over the future of the pool and allow Belfast School to properly prepare to take over the running of the pool.
3. As we do not know what the 'lower cost' option is for decreasing the depth of the pool for younger children, we therefore do not know if it will meet the requirements of Belfast School and the wider Belfast Community.
4. Council staff have advised us that the pool is in good repair so we would hope that this would be a positive aspect of retaining a community pool in Belfast. A pool in Papanui is not a viable option for Belfast School pupils to access as we currently do everyday throughout the summer at our community pool which is a very short distance from our school.
5. 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). Losing a facility would not be a strategic move for an area that will see such growth

6. 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.
- Connectedness and information sharing across a wide variety of organisations to support community development.

. It is important that the Belfast community retains a facility that ensures our children are educated in water safety by having access that is both, beneficial, cost and **time** effective. The wider community should also be able to access a great OUTDOOR facility that can provide a fun recreational activity during the summer months.

Thank you for considering our submission in your planning,

Lynda Goodrick
Manager
Belfast Community Network

Peter Simpson
Principal
Belfast School