

# 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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**Date:**

16 April 2009

**Your Submission:**

To whom it may concern,

I read, with concern, that the council is considering selling off some of it's Early Childhood Centres. As a professional in early intervention, a business owner who spends time doing professional development for preschool staff and a future mother I feel that this is a critical, and very poor move.

I have visited many preschools over the years, as well as being interested and researching the state of early childhood education at the University of Canterbury. In my opinion the community based ones are nearly always better for children than the privately owned ones. Some private preschools are indeed of a high quality, but I find, so often, that the ones that are run as businesses genuinely treat children as commodities and run their preschool day with some very strange ideas.

I have experienced so many wonderful community based preschools that have a nurturing, playful feel which is exactly what children need for holistic brain development. In my years of experience the privately run preschools are more likely to have a less nurturing feel, less passionate staff, "higher quality" play equipment yet considerably less to actually play with as it appears "low class" (such as things that children love like boxes, planks of wood and tin cans).

I think that the council needs to start competing with large shareholder run corporations that promote their centres and continue to develop their own in line with latest academic thought on early childhood "education"

Please take the time to consider this. This piece of a child's life is so important and should not be sold with the view that private companies can do better. Talk to anyone in the field objectively - there is very little positive feeling about many private day cares and preschools.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.