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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:

On behalf of a group or organisation

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

Name:

Joanne Small

Organisation Name:

Christchurch Tramway

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Date:

9 April 2009

Your Submission:

Christchurch Tramway support the VBase development proposal. Business tourism is crucial to the success of the tourism industry, especially due to the fact that the Conference and Incentive market often assists us during our standard 'off peak' time.

Every conference or incentive group that comes to Christchurch not only utilises VBase facilities but the fact they (and often their partners/family) stay in accommodation, dine out and partake in pre/post touring is vitally important for the economic growth of this city. The tramway often gain business through this market either by simple tram charters as a unique transport option or Cocktail hour and dinner packages for groups up to 220. We find this market important to supplement our general FIT/group tourist market.

This market, constantly are looking for the best value for money and the best facilities. It is important that our key conference facilities are kept modern and able to compete with both national and international bids. For this reason we support the upgrade of the Christchurch Town Hall and expansion of the Convention Centre.