



We have listened

Public consultation on the draft LTCCP took place over five-and-a-half weeks from 10 March 2009 to 16 April 2009. The Council received 1385 public submissions and 316 of these submitters asked to speak to their submission at Council hearings. Public hearings took place over several days between 11 and 18 May 2009.

A summary of the draft LTCCP was distributed to every household in the city. The summary included an explanation of the LTCCP process, information on some of the key proposals and changes in the draft, and details on how to make a submission and how to find out more.

Local information sessions were also held across the city and peninsula so residents could drop in and ask questions or learn more about what was in the draft plan. These eight sessions were held in New Brighton, Beckenham, Diamond Harbour, Linwood, Duvauchelle, Fendalton, Sockburn and Papanui.

In order to encourage public feedback, the Council involved local media in the process with information briefings and media releases; printed information in Our Christchurch, the Council's newsletter to the public; and made copies of the draft document, summary version and submission forms available from libraries, service centres and on the Council's website.

The Council also ran a promotional competition before the release of the draft plan to find a photograph for the front cover. Seventy-two entries were received to this competition (each entrant was entitled to submit up to three photographs) and a winner selected by a judging panel.

Submissions were received on a wide and varied range of issues, with some members of the public making submissions on a large number of topics. Each submission was considered by the Council and used to inform decisions made and subsequent changes that have been incorporated into this final LTCCP 2009-19.

What you told us

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The 1385 submissions received from the public raised a number of important city issues which the Council was able to consider and, in some cases, incorporate into the final plan. Public feedback to the draft LTCCP is essential to ensure we are heading in the right direction and the Council would like to thank those individuals, groups and organisations who took the time to make a submission to the draft plan.

The Council was in a position to make a number of additions to the draft plan as a result of the Government's announcement earlier this year of \$15 million funding for the AMI stadium redevelopment project. This allowed the Council to redirect some of the money allocated to the stadium to other projects. The New Zealand Transport Agency also advised that funding for the new transport interchange would be increased, freeing-up further Council funding for other projects.

While the Council was able to make significant changes from the draft to final plan, we could not meet everyone's wish list at this time. However, some issues that are not in the plan are still on the agenda for further discussion and investigation. The Council regards these issues as important. Every matter raised by our residents has been documented, with some already referred back to staff for future reports to the Council.

There were a number of issues of importance to the community that came through loud and clear during the submission process, some of the key themes are highlighted below.

Sports and recreation

With easy access to a wide range of sporting and recreation opportunities, it's no wonder Christchurch people are keen on leisure activities and the outdoors. The Council provides recreation and leisure facilities for the people of Christchurch to enjoy. These include aquatic facilities, sports stadiums, fitness centres, parks and walking tracks.

Our love of sports and recreation was apparent throughout the submission process, with recreation and leisure issues, including sports parks and facilities, receiving the highest number of submissions. Of the 610 submissions received on this subject, 427 called for more hockey facilities in the city. Funding for the proposed introduction of test cricket facilities at Hagley Park and other cricket-related issues drew 62 submissions; calls from city netball supporters for a new multi-sports facility prompted 35 submissions; and 36 submissions requested a new aquatic facility in Christchurch.

The Council has set aside funding in the final LTCCP for new and improved recreation and leisure facilities across the city, including the new Graham Condon Leisure Centre in Papanui, the development of artificial surfaces at a number of sports venues, a new leisure centre, funding for test cricket facilities in Hagley Park, a new aquatic facility at a site to be determined after investigations, and a new indoor multi-sports facility in the city.

Traffic and public transport

Compared to larger cities around the world and in New Zealand, Christchurch commuters experience relatively low levels of traffic congestion. However, as our population increases, pressure on our roading networks will grow and demand for public transport will rise. The Council is already planning for this increased demand on both our roads and our public transport system.

Many of our submitters wanted street and transport improvements, and significant funding in our capital programme has been set aside for this purpose. The Southern Motorway extension has been approved in the final plan, along with additional spending to improve roads in the city's south, servicing growth areas in the south-west. Funding has also been allocated to address northern roading issues, including the extension of the northern arterial and Hills Road, and capacity improvements on Cranford Street and Northcote Road.

While Environment Canterbury provides Christchurch bus services, the City Council is responsible for maintaining and improving infrastructure for public transport. The Council is right now preparing to launch new bus priority measures and bus lanes on busy city routes. Funding of \$14.2 million is included in the final LTCCP for additional bus priority routes across the city.

What you told us

Cycling

Christchurch's mostly flat terrain makes it a perfect city for commuter and recreational cycling and the number of people taking to their bikes is increasing. Submitters to the draft LTCCP encouraged the Council to increase the amount of funding available to cycling.

The LTCCP contains funding of \$28.3 million for cycleway projects over the next 10 years. This covers a range of projects including the Southern Motorway Cycleway, Central City projects, bridges and underpasses. Within the first three years of the LTCCP 2009-19 it is estimated that a further 26km of cycleways will be provided in Christchurch.

Water and waste

Taking care of our important water resources and disposing of our wastewater are two of the core services provided by the Council. The Council is committed to the protection of our quality drinking water and actively encourages people to reduce their water consumption to preserve this precious resource for the future. There are also a number of infrastructure projects underway to expand and enhance our wastewater and water supply networks to cater for a growing population.

A number of submissions were received on the roll-out of these water and waste projects, with residents keen to ensure work is carried out as soon as possible in local areas. As a result of submissions, the Council has reprogrammed some of this work, bringing forward water and waste projects on Banks Peninsula at Charteris Bay and Little River.

Central City revitalisation

The Council's Central City Revitalisation Strategy aims to reinvigorate the heart of Christchurch, attracting more residents, protecting city heritage, promoting business opportunities and creating interesting public spaces.

Submitters to the draft LTCCP were supportive of plans to revitalise Central Christchurch and many submitters, businesses in particular, wanted to ensure these plans were successful.

The Council is working to guide development in the Central City, with a focus on the development of our unique laneways and the area in the Central City South. Included in the LTCCP is the extension of the city tramway, the continuation of the City Mall renovation and funding for heritage protection and urban renewal.