

- **April 2018:** I started with this 'project' [www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/imagine/](http://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/imagine/)  
I created [www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/](http://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/), to collate my ideas/research for the rebuild of the Shirley Community Centre, as part of my submission to the Christchurch City Council 2018 Long Term Plan.
- **May 2018:** Presented my verbal submission to the Christchurch City Council's 2018 Long Term Plan, for the rebuild of the Shirley Community Centre, to create a multi-cultural centre as a "Gateway to the East."  
Mayor Lianne Dalziel said "Are you saying that rather than just building back a community centre, that actually we should look at the whole of the area, and look at the whole of the needs."  
So maybe what we need to be considering for the Long Term Plan is a budget that would enable a full needs analysis, and to look at what the different options are."
- **June 2018:** I began to look around at our Richmond suburb, and my ideas/research became my "Rise Up Richmond" website: [www.riseuprichmond.nz/](http://www.riseuprichmond.nz/).
- **July 2018:** Regenerate Christchurch asked for feedback on their Red Zone Futures Exhibition: [engage.regeneratechristchurch.nz/red-zone-futures-exhibition-online](http://engage.regeneratechristchurch.nz/red-zone-futures-exhibition-online)  
Created [www.riseuprichmond.nz/red-zones-future-ideas-map-by-joanna-gould/](http://www.riseuprichmond.nz/red-zones-future-ideas-map-by-joanna-gould/), for my Red Zone Futures ideas.  
Created [www.riseuprichmond.nz/otakaro-avon-river-corridor/](http://www.riseuprichmond.nz/otakaro-avon-river-corridor/), for my Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor feedback.
- **August 2018:** "Help develop the draft Arts Strategy for Ōtautahi Christchurch.  
Have Your Say on the draft Christchurch City Council Arts Strategy 2018."  
[ccc.govt.nz/culture-and-community/art-museums/toi-otautahi-christchurch-arts](http://ccc.govt.nz/culture-and-community/art-museums/toi-otautahi-christchurch-arts).  
Created [www.getcreativechristchurch.nz/ideas/](http://www.getcreativechristchurch.nz/ideas/), for my CCC Arts Strategy 2018 feedback.  
"Get Creative Christchurch" Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/GetCreativeChristchurch/](http://www.facebook.com/GetCreativeChristchurch/)  
"Get Creative Christchurch" Facebook Group: [www.facebook.com/groups/299724980619778/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/299724980619778/)
- **October 2018:** Met with Sarah Wylie, Social Researcher, to be interviewed for the "Richmond Community Needs Analysis" ([www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/richmond-community-needs-analysis/](http://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/richmond-community-needs-analysis/)).  
See attached .pdf: [RichmondResearchJoannaGould.pdf](#)
- **November 2018:** Attended Shirley Village Project meeting and focus group meetings.
- **February 2019:** Met with Peter Burley, Consultant, to be interviewed for the "Christchurch Community Facilities Network Plan" ([www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/community-facilities-network-plan/](http://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/community-facilities-network-plan/)).  
See attached .pdf: [ChchCommCentreNetworkPlanJoannaGould.pdf](#)

Shirley Community Centre (former Shirley Primary School) was built in 1915, to the design of Education Board architect George Penlington. Before the earthquakes, it was a Category 2 historic place and demolished in 2012.

As the Shirley Community Centre, it became a place for: Cultural, Educational and Recreational Activities.

Our community identity has been connected to our schools in the past. Since the earthquakes we have seen our schools closed, rebuilt and relocated. We have seen the demolition of the original Shirley Community Centre, and our community has become disconnected and displaced.

**"He muka harakeke, he whītau tangata.**

**The harakeke is woven with the human strand – binding people and places together."**

The rebuild of the Shirley Community Centre was my starting point, but through my research/community mapping, I realised that there was a need for more in our communities, more opportunities for everyone to find their space/ place, and to create a new identity (after the earthquakes) for our communities through creative placemaking.

**"Tangata ako ana i te kāenga, te tūranga ki te marae, tau ana.**

**A person nurtured in the community contributes strongly to society."**

The building of the new Shirley Centre at 10 Shirley Road (opposite Shirley Primary School) represents laying a new foundation stone as the 'Gateway to the East', that says 'we value our children and everyone in the community, by creating a new identity to be proud of, providing access to well-being resources and life long learning for all'.

**"Inā kei te mohio koe ko wai koe, I anga mai koe i hea, kei te mohio koe. Kei te anga atu ki hea.  
If you know who you are and where you are from, then you will know where you are going."**

Shirley Centre, 10 Shirley Road, Christchurch, opposite Shirley Primary School  
New Inclusive Centre with: Shirley Library | Learning Spaces | Service Centre  
Supporting our communities: Identity | Well-being | Learning



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Below are some of the commonly asked questions I've been asked over the last year:

**Q. Is the 10 Shirley Road site the best place for a community centre?**

Yes. The new Shirley centre needs to be on Shirley Road. Our Shirley Library needs to be on Shirley Road. This is part of our identity as a community. This location has had an "educational" facility here since 1915. This location is opposite our biggest primary school, Shirley Primary. Kidsfirst Kindergartens MacFarlane Park is to the north, with Kidsfirst Kindergartens Richmond to the south, and Kidsfirst Kindergartens Shirley to the east. Shirley Playcentre is already part of this location, and there are other preschools/centres on Shirley Road. Plenty of Off Street Parking: Cnr Hills Road & Shirley Road Shopping Centre, pathway from car park to Slater Street, following Dudley Creek; Shirley Road; Slater Street; Chancellor Street, bridge over Dudley Creek by the Shirley Playcentre; Julius Terrace; and Stapletons Road. Bus stops are located outside 10 Shirley Road, and across the road, by Shirley Primary School.

- Orange Line: Halswell > Addington > Christchurch Hospital > Bus Interchange > The Palms > Burwood Hospital > Queenspark
- The Orbiter: Eastgate Shopping Centre > St Martins > Barrington Mall > Westfield Riccarton > University of Canterbury > Northlands > The Palms > Eastgate Shopping Centre
- 100 Wigram/The Palms via Riccarton: Halswell > Wigram > Church Corner > University of Canterbury > Westfield Riccarton > Merivale Mall > The Palms ([www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/where/](http://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/where/)).

More Housing NZ developments are being built in Shirley/Richmond. Private/Commercial property developers are building more "higher density" housing in Shirley/Richmond.

**Q. Why do we need another community centre?**

We don't. The old school 'community centre' model is out dated. The 'community centre' model is a 'one size fits all' centre. They cater for a specific group of people with targeted activities. They can appear 'closed', as they only look 'open' when activities are on. They can be intimidating for newcomers. Open hours, activity choices, faith based, personality differences can lead to residents feeling judged/excluded.

Libraries with learning spaces are the new 'community centre' model ([www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/this-is-what-a-librarian-looks-like/](http://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/this-is-what-a-librarian-looks-like/)).

"Public places on neutral ground where people can gather and interact. In contrast to first places (home) and second places (work), third places allow people to put aside their concerns and simply enjoy the company and conversation around them." "third places are the heart of a community's social vitality. Providing the foundation for a functioning democracy, these spaces promote social equity by leveling the status of guests, providing a setting for grassroots politics, creating habits of public association, and offering psychological support to individuals and communities."

Ray Oldenburg ([www.pps.org/article/roldenburg](http://www.pps.org/article/roldenburg))

As part of my feedback on the Draft OARC Regeneration Plan, I created this "Community Needs" post ([www.riseuprichmond.nz/draft-oarc-regeneration-plan-community-needs/](http://www.riseuprichmond.nz/draft-oarc-regeneration-plan-community-needs/)) which includes:

Why are Identity, Well-being, & Learning important?; How can we "Get Creative Christchurch"?; Shirley Research by Joanna Gould; Richmond Research by Joanna Gould; Dallington Research by Joanna Gould; Social Isolation And Older People In Canterbury; An Inventory of Community-led and Non-governmental Organisations and Initiatives in Post-earthquake Canterbury (to September 2013); Community Needs Profile For East Christchurch for Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor Regeneration Plan.

My "Community Needs: Community Centres" post ([www.riseuprichmond.nz/community-needs-community-centres/](http://www.riseuprichmond.nz/community-needs-community-centres/)) outlines my research shows the need for two community centres:

- OARC Regeneration Plan Idea for Shirley/Richmond by Joanna Gould: "Shirley/Richmond, new Community Centre at 10 Shirley Road opposite Shirley Primary School, includes Shirley Library, Learning Spaces, Service Centre, sell Shirley Library building at The Palms."

- OARC Regeneration Plan Idea for Dallington/Burwood/Avondale by Joanna Gould: "Dallington/Burwood/Avondale, new Community Centre at 255 New Brighton Road close to All Saints Church, includes Coastal-Burwood Governance Unit more central to their residents, small Meeting/Learning spaces with kitchen, Service Centre, Volunteer Library similar to Redcliffs Village Library, sell Shirley Library building at The Palms."

- CCC Shirley The Palms Commercial Centre (2017): <https://ccc.govt.nz/assets/Documents/Culture-Community/Stats-and-facts-on-Christchurch/Community-Ward-Profiles/Commercial-Centre-Factsheets/Shirley-The-Palms.pdf>

**Q. Why are you suggesting we move the Shirley Library to the 10 Shirley Road site?**

The Shirley Library was built in 1996 (23 years old). In 2008 it was reported "Future need for more service capability. Space required to develop service for learning services to support need in the community."

The Land Use Recovery Plan in December 2013 "[Shirley suburb] identified as a key activity centres for business and community which aligns with the planning for new and retention of libraries in these areas." (cont'd over page)



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Below are some of the commonly asked questions I've been asked over the last year: (cont'd)

Does the current Shirley Library and Service Centre align with the Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan (May 2015)?

- Libraries will foster local communities' wellbeing by providing accessible meeting places and focal points for the community, learning and leisure activities.
- Library facilities will embrace the cultural diversity of local communities.
- The Plan will reflect Council's commitment to the Treaty of Waitangi by reflecting an understanding of and respect for the needs of the Tangata Whenua.
- Architecturally designed buildings will generate community pride and reflect the diversity of local cultures and life-styles.
- Urban Design Protocol: The value of public buildings such as libraries is emphasised in the Urban Design Protocol (which Christchurch City Council is a signatory to): they protect the cultural identity and heritage of our towns and cities; provide creativity; and add social, environmental and cultural benefits by creating well connected, inclusive and accessible places.
- Library Facilities: Important, central meeting place and focal point in a community; Open, spacious, welcoming environment; warm place to be in winter; vital social contact for many (especially older persons); place to meet (café) and relax with children and friends or family; Outstanding location (e.g. overlooking ocean, park setting), source of community pride, for the building and the resources available; Free learning environment; provider of 'second chance' opportunities for adults wanting to learn; Provider of general services, e.g. photocopiers, internet, community/local information.
- Location Preferences: Near local shops/supermarket/mall/bank/medical centre/schools/playground/toy library; malls and aquatic facilities not seen as highly desirable areas for co-location or as adjacent locations; co-location with a Council service centre favoured; On bus route/near transport hubs; handy walking distance from home, easily accessed, free, plentiful car parking adjacent to library; Attractive street visibility. ([www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/chch-libraries/](http://www.10shirleyroad.org.nz/chch-libraries/))

**Q. Why do we need Learning Spaces in a library?**

"Shirley and Parklands Libraries: these do not have dedicated 'learning' spaces. They have spaces that are able to be used for programming and events as part of the library footprint.

Shirley hosted 416 programmes with 9,381 participants, Parklands hosted 260 programmes with 3,800 participants. Aranui Library has a dedicated whānau room which is a multi-purpose space. The Library hosted 433 programmes with 5,213 participants. The Programme statistics for Sumner saw 106 sessions hosted with 2,322 participants." (LGOIMA request, Library Plans/Learning Space Participants, November 2018)

If "Shirley hosted 416 programmes with 9,381 participants" without dedicated 'learning' spaces, what opportunities could they offer the communities if they did?

I was first inspired by the open learning spaces ([www.getcreativechristchurch.nz/learning-spaces/](http://www.getcreativechristchurch.nz/learning-spaces/)) in the new building at Shirley Primary School. Then after attending the Ministry of Awesome: 'Coffee & Jam' sessions at the EPIC Innovation Campus, I thought wouldn't it be a great opportunity to invite guest speakers from all the different Government agencies, organisations, community groups, support services, community workers to come & 'introduce' themselves to the community, in a non-threatening way that was accessible for all, through the learning spaces at the library, so they become more than a name, approachable familiar faces to the residents of our communities.

**Q. Why not just leave the 10 Shirley Road site as a park?**

"The World Health Organisation's definition of health says that it is 'more than the absence of disease'; it is 'a state of complete physical, social and mental wellbeing'." ([www.getcreativechristchurch.nz/well-being/](http://www.getcreativechristchurch.nz/well-being/))

In focusing so much on our physical health, we have been neglecting our 'social and mental wellbeing'.

We already have enough parks in this area with: St Albans Park to the west, Westminster Park to the north-west, MacFarlane Park to the north, Burwood Park to the east, Richmond Park to the south-east, Petrie Park to the south.

**Q. What is one word to describe your idea, that represents your "why" this centre is needed?**

Inclusive. "The definition of inclusive is something that does not leave any part or group out."

Libraries are inclusive by design. Every age/stage/race/religion/beliefs/values is catered for, within the words of the books, and the information you find online.

Anyone can go into a library, find a book that they can identify with: who they are, their beliefs, their values & their circumstances in life.

Libraries are not just for books, they empower people. You don't have to wait on a waiting list for help. You can help yourself by asking a librarian for guidance to find the book/information you need. Librarians show us that it's ok to ask for help, it's ok to ask questions there. They are a safe place to teach children social skills. And for some they are a second opportunity for education.



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Below are the CCC Plans, Strategies & Policies documents “that help us to plan and shape the future of our city.”

### Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy Update (2016)

<http://greaterchristchurch.org.nz/assets/Uploads/5243-PLAN-Urban-Development-Strategy-Update-Aug2016-SCREEN-Final.pdf>

- Shirley, Richmond: Urban Growth Area

- Shirley: Key Activity Centre (The Greater Christchurch settlement pattern through to 2028, Pg 22) Existing and proposed commercial centres identified as focal points for employment, community activities and the transport network; and that are suitable for more intensive mixed-use development.

- Strategic goals, Healthy communities:

The distinct identities and sense of place of the towns, suburbs and city areas are recognised and enhanced.

People and communities have equitable access to a range of integrated community infrastructure, facilities and services, including education, health, sport, recreation and core council services.

With good urban design, neighbourhoods and their centres include communal spaces, are liveable, walkable, safe and attractive, and have good connectivity and accessibility.

- The determinants of health and wellbeing have influenced the strategic goals of the Strategy Determinants of health and wellbeing are factors that contribute to the state of health of people and communities. These factors may be biological, socioeconomic, psychosocial, behavioural, environmental or social in nature. How we plan and develop our neighbourhoods, towns and cities impacts on these determinants of health and wellbeing. It also contributes to the conditions in which people live and work, their access to facilities and services, their lifestyles and their ability to develop strong social networks.

- Community in Mind: He Puāwai Waitaha – a flourishing Waitaha. CERA published Community in Mind in 2014. This strategy addresses health and wellbeing from a psychosocial perspective. It sets out a number of objectives under the six components of recovery with a goal to ensure that people belong to positive and inclusive communities and actively lead the lives they want. Priority actions are set out under three focus areas: community-led, communication and engagement, and innovative services. CDHB and the Ministry of Social Development are overseeing psychosocial services. Their main goals are to respond to the needs of the most vulnerable, and benefit the wellbeing of people and communities most affected by the earthquakes.

- the percentage of people aged 65 years and over is projected to increase from 14 percent of the population to 25 percent. The number of those over 80 years is also projected to increase, from 4 percent of the population to 11 percent. This trend has significant implications for many aspects of the urban environment, including housing, social infrastructure, and service provision, as well as raising issues for funding council services.

- Māori, Pacific and Asian populations are projected to increase faster than other ethnicities. This means that in the future, people from these groups will make up a greater proportion of the Greater Christchurch population than now.

- Having more people living in an area can also help to reduce housing development costs. To achieve these benefits, intensification needs to be well designed and occur in appropriate areas supported by infrastructure, services and community facilities.

- Canterbury Wellbeing Index. CERA, with strategy partners, set up the Canterbury Wellbeing Index to track the wellbeing of communities through the recovery process. In 2015, while the recovery was progressing in areas such as economic opportunities and physical repairs and rebuilds, issues remained, such as: loss or relocation of services; housing pressures; pressures on family wellbeing and strained relationships; additional and compounding stressors, such as insurance issues, living in more damaged areas, and pre-existing vulnerabilities; and loss of recreational, cultural and leisure facilities, and the lack of opportunities to engage with others in the community through arts, cultural, sports or other leisure activities.

- 7.3.2 Community facilities. (Pg 36) It is important for all Greater Christchurch residents to have access to appropriate community facilities and services, including those for health, education and recreation. These serve as focal points for creating connections between people and developing a sense of place.

Appropriate community and recreation facilities need to be re-established in existing neighbourhoods. Here neighbourhoods are growing, community facilities and services need to keep up with this growth. They must also reflect the needs of the changing population so that they are appropriate for older and more culturally diverse residents and for changing lifestyles...and in council facility rebuild programmes, to make them fit-for-purpose for the future.

- 7.3.3 Community identity (Pg 37) Where we live influences not only our health, but also our identity as communities. The challenge and opportunity for the Strategy over the next few years is to work with Regenerate Christchurch on programmes to support the regeneration of the eastern suburbs, and to recognise the importance of providing facilities and services close to where people live.



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### Citizen Hub Strategy (2015)

- We currently operate a very "bricks and mortar" service arrangement, where different Council services have developed stand-alone service locations and approaches (often all in the same neighbourhood). The review has found that this siloed legacy service model is no longer fit for purpose. Customers increasingly expect joined up services, easy one-stop transactions, and channel choice in how they engage with us.
- A set of design principles have been developed to guide improvement opportunities and the future state model. An implementation approach whereby council libraries will form the base for integrated, multi-discipline citizen hubs is proposed. The focus will shift to the delivery of an integrated customer experience and channel choice including more self-service options.
- "More and more I think libraries need to become community hubs and reflect the needs of the community."  
(Source: [yourvoice.ccc.govt.nz/your-library/what-are-your-must-haves-for-new-central-library](http://yourvoice.ccc.govt.nz/your-library/what-are-your-must-haves-for-new-central-library))
- There is a worldwide trend towards establishing community hubs. A hub can be far more than a place from which service is delivered. It can bring community services together, be a gathering place for the community to play, learn, and engage with each other.
- Christchurch City Libraries have already incorporated human-centred design principles in their facility design, fit-out, and service model.
- Hub Principles: Integrated, multi-discipline hubs will be created where it makes sense, and will be the preferred future model. Facilities are fit for purpose for the community it serves.
- Hub Assumptions: Integration of Community Hubs will occur at existing Library facilities. Existing recreation building facilities do not have space to house libraries.

### Multicultural Strategy (2017-2021)

- Each one of us made a journey or has ancestors who did, to make New Zealand home — by waka, by ship or by plane. It is that journey that we all have in common, and it is one of the foundation stones of our nation
- There is a story behind each of those journeys — what brought us or our ancestors to settle here. It is in sharing those stories that enables us to build understanding and enduring relationships. And it is the culmination of those stories that adds another chapter to our history as a nation.
- Ōtautahi Christchurch is an inclusive multicultural and multilingual city that honours Te Tiriti o Waitangi and values our environment— a city where all people belong.
- The goals and actions build on the work already undertaken by the community, Council and its partners to celebrate the diversity of all cultures, faiths and ethnicities in this city.
- Ōtautahi/Christchurch is a multicultural city. The Council wants to lead the city in the benefits of a multicultural society and becoming a place where everybody is respected and accepted.
- Some people experience challenges from living in a diverse society including: Uncertainty about how to communicate and connect with people from different cultures. Social isolation for some within diverse communities. Difficulty accessing information and services and participating in public decisions.
- The Multicultural Strategy outlines the steps the Council will take. The Strategy links to the following Council's community outcomes: Cultural and ethnic diversity is valued and celebrated. Arts and culture thrive in Ōtautahi/Christchurch. People have strong social networks. People are actively involved in their communities and local issues. Ōtautahi/Christchurch is recognised as a great place to work, live, visit, invest and do business.
- The Multicultural Strategy will build on the Council's current approach which includes: Promoting the diversity of cultures and languages in the city through its libraries. Celebrating cultures through local and citywide cultural events promoting the diversity of Ōtautahi/Christchurch people. Funding that supports diverse communities' social connections, cultural celebrations, and reduce barriers to participation in all aspects of city life. Promoting diversity in the workplace by providing diversity training to its employees. Empowering communities through community development work.
- The principles that guide the implementation of the Multicultural Strategy are: Everyone in Ōtautahi/Christchurch has cultural and linguistic heritage to celebrate. Authentic relationships between the Council and communities are essential for the Strategy's success. Communities can best identify their needs, aspirations and the responses needed. The Council will take action with the community. Communities and individuals cannot be reduced to labels or stereotypes. Within a community there will be a variety of cultural practices, traditions and ways of being. Individual identity is made up of many different elements, of which culture and language are two.
- Strategy Goals: 1. The Christchurch City Council is an inclusive and diverse organisation which reflects, understands and responds to the diversity of individuals and communities it serves. 2. All communities have equitable access to Council services and resources. 3. All residents are able to participate in Council decision-making. 4. Christchurch is a city of cultural vibrancy, diversity, inclusion and connection.
- The Council has a leadership role to encourage all residents to celebrate the benefits of a diverse society and to overcome the challenges.



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## Strengthening Communities Strategy (2007)

- Strong communities give people a sense of belonging and encourage them to take part in the social, cultural, economic and political life of the city. By strengthening our communities, all members actively participate and contribute to the well-being of Christchurch.
- This participation and the support that such communities can offer in times of stress, promote the well-being of individuals and families/whanau. This strategy incorporates community group grants review and the community facilities plan.
- The Strengthening Communities Strategy is a framework to guide the Council's work with community organisations, which in turn work in a range of ways to help develop strong communities. A number of processes and disciplines can be used in working with and for communities to enhance their strength. These processes include the provision of community services, community capacity building, community development, community activism and advocacy.
- Council recognises it plays a critical role in promoting the social, cultural, environmental and economic well-being of our communities; ensuring fair and equitable access city-wide to services and resources.
- Importantly, the Strategy strengthens communities through the provision of services, community development and community advocacy.
- The Strategy identifies the Council's key challenges to building stronger communities as: An ageing population. Increasing cultural and ethnic diversity. Differing levels of disadvantage between population groups. The complexity of factors which contribute to social exclusion, such as poverty, poor health, mobility problems, lack of education and employment opportunities, and discrimination.
- Community facilities are focal points in the wider community which play a critical role through the hosting of activities to social wellbeing. They are places for people to meet, play and learn, fulfilling a wide variety of social, educational and recreational needs.
- It is envisaged the Council's ownership of community facilities should be focused on facilities which serve suburban needs. This can be accomplished through the development of a network of multi-functional suburban facilities that are distributed evenly across the city. In some circumstances, Council will support the provision of facilities at the neighbourhood scale, particularly where they meet significant social needs.
- Other factors affecting the extent to which people contribute and feel they belong to communities include low levels of disposable income; physical disabilities; poor communication skills, including English and literacy abilities; discrimination; low self-esteem; emotional or health problems; pressure and stress; the quality of local community facilities and public space; and the level of communication and understanding between different groups.
- The Council contributes to building strong communities by: providing facilities such as libraries, recreation centres and community halls.
- Community facilities refer to the space available for communities' activities to take place that meet their needs.
- Community facilities are not simply buildings. They are focal points for activities to occur that contribute to social wellbeing.
- Meeting communities' needs through community facilities: social, cultural, recreational & educational.
- The Council employs a range of different models for the management of its community facilities including: managed directly by Council staff, eg. Riccarton Community Centre; contracted management to a third party, eg. Shirley Community Centre; leases space to third parties, eg. Fendalton Playcentre; a combination of models, eg. Parklands Community Centre.
- Council support helps to sustain a flourishing community and voluntary sector and rich informal networks. It also enables effective wider community participation in local decision-making. Council support builds resilient, resourceful and ultimately, self-sustainable communities to which all residents feel they belong.
- The Council is committed to working alongside community organisations to enhance their long-term capacity to implement projects, programmes and services to improve community wellbeing.
- For many people, a sense of connection to and involvement in their local community provides a positive sense of identity and belonging, and support in times of stress.
- Community connections are enhanced through the local knowledge of and relationship between the community boards and community organisations. These relationships are key to achieving this goal.
- ...entering into partnerships with community groups to manage facilities on behalf of the Council, and supporting the concept of "living buildings" by having a staff presence to enhance accessibility, eg. Avebury House.
- Over time it is envisaged that Council ownership of community facilities should be focused more on modern, multi-purpose facilities that serve suburban needs.
- The Council plans to: ensure Council community facilities are distributed evenly across the city, ensure the design and location of community facilities maximises accessibility, including disabled access and proximity to public transport, ensure the design of new facilities enhances sustainability through good urban design and flexibility which accommodates a mix of uses and activities.



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## Strengthening Communities Strategy (2007) - cont'd

- Goal 8: Improving basic life skills so that all residents can participate fully in society. The Council recognises that improving the skills and knowledge of Christchurch people is critical to both economic growth and creating a strong, inclusive society.
- [Council] plans to collaborate with other stakeholders to support community-based initiatives to build the basic life skills that enable people participate in the social and economic life of the city, and for which suitable government support is not available.
- The basic life skills that enable residents of all ages to participate include the following:  
Budgeting and other daily living skills, the ability to use information and communications technology, running a healthy household, parenting skills, basic language skills for migrants and refugees, communication and conflict resolution, early childhood education.
- It is recognised that on many occasions these learning opportunities also provide the means to improve individual's confidence and aspirations. This contributes to breaking down social isolation and can lead people on to other opportunities for increased participation in all areas of education and employment.
- Council affirms its responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2002 to promote social, cultural, economic and environmental wellbeing.
- Over time it is envisaged that Council ownership of community facilities should be focused more on facilities that serve suburban needs. This will be achieved through the development of a network of multi-functional suburban facilities that are distributed equally across the city.
- Community Outcomes describe the kind of society, communities, environment and economy that the people of our communities want to live in. They are the things which reflect what communities consider are important for their wellbeing. The people of Christchurch have identified 9 Community Outcomes:  
1. A Safe City, 2. A City of Inclusive and Diverse Communities, 3. A City of People who Value and Protect the Natural Environment, 4. A City of Lifelong Learning, 5. An Attractive and Well-designed City, 6. A Well-Governed City, 7. A Prosperous City, 8. A Healthy City, 9. A City for Recreation, Fun and Creativity.
- Social Exclusion: describes marginalisation from an adequate quality of life, including employment, income, social networks such as family, neighbourhood and communities, and decision-making.
- Social Inclusion: is the process by which efforts are made to ensure that people of all sectors of society, regardless of their experiences and circumstances, can achieve an adequate quality of life, including employment, income, social networks such as family, neighbourhood and communities, and decision-making.
- Social Isolation: refers to the exclusion of individuals or groups from full participation in the various communities where they live, work or create.
- Council will consider investing in a facility when: there is local demand and an identifiable community need that is supported by research, it will complement rather than compete with other existing community facilities, it complements future growth and takes account of changing demographics (as highlighted, by the Urban Development Strategy), facilities should therefore be situated close to major transport routes and community focal points, and the facility has intrinsic value (eg. heritage, cultural).
- Council will consider divestment of a facility when: the facility if not meeting community needs, there are other facilities available in the area that meet community demands, it is underutilised, the facility design is no longer meeting community needs, there is demand for an alternative use for the land or buildings. Selling the facility and using the sale proceeds for investment in other community facilities.

## Community Wellbeing Research Review (2008)

- There is and will increasingly continue to be diversity in the older population. There are variations in health status, independence and activity levels of older people and there is growing ethnic diversity.
- Older people are increasingly likely to have specific social and cultural needs, such as access to peer groups or religious facilities that are not currently catered for among elderly care services.
- The literature identified that participating in their community is important to older people, and a large proportion feel a sense of community in their local neighbourhood.
- Council research identified that key issues for older people are transport accessibility and safety, social isolation, access and awareness of community activities, affordable housing, access to shops and services, and health and safety issues.
- The major issues facing refugees and new migrant communities center around effective participation in society at all levels and fair and equal access to services to which they are entitled. Refugee communities also face issues associated with their previous trauma and poverty.
- Council research identified that those most likely to be disadvantaged fall into ten main categories that include women, single parents, families with children, refugees, Maori and Pacific Islanders, mental health patients and people on limited incomes.



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## Community Wellbeing Research Review (2008) - cont'd

- The literature suggests that the Council should consider: 1. initiatives to improve the public's understanding of local government and their capacity to participate effectively; 2. better communication with the public, and more transparent local government processes and ways of working, to improve public perceptions of, and trust in, local authorities; 3. well managed and marketed involvement and participation initiatives to ensure they present as little a burden as possible, whilst providing clear outcomes and benefits for individuals and the community. This would include making best use of social networks and associations; 4. tailoring engagement to meet the specific needs of different groups in society, particularly those from minority and under-represented groups; 5. a range of techniques used to engage citizens and communities in decision making and service delivery. Because participation initiatives can reinforce existing patterns of social exclusion and disadvantage, different participation methods are necessary to reach different citizen groups.

- The number of key themes emerged from the scan of the literature on child-friendly communities and other research on child well-being and local government. These included the importance of: 1. Creating and extending community linkages and partnerships; 2. Catering for diversity - the needs, abilities and interests of children and young people vary widely with age, gender, culture and life opportunity. The developmental stages that children and young people go through have different, and sometimes conflicting, implications for what constitutes a stimulating and safe built and social environment. There are also significant gender differences in the use of space; 3. Improving information and data to better inform policy makers and the public, including child-generated indicators; 4. Ensuring essential services and facilities are available and accessible, including schools, child care, health services, and recreational facilities; 5. Investing in early childhood education (and ensuring it is accessible to children from low income households); 6. Providing child and family-friendly facilities and services; 7. Partnerships with key groups, including government agencies, local councils, developers, families, planners and children and young people.

- They also highlight that children who are raised in poorer socio-economic circumstances face a greater struggle to secure outcomes comparable with those achieved by the population as a whole. Māori and Pacific children also have a higher likelihood of poor outcomes, particularly when they also have low standards of living.

- An extensive body of research evidence indicates that family functioning and circumstances have a significant impact on the well-being of family members, and on the successful functioning of society and the economy.

- Many disabled people experience a cycle of deprivation. Disabled people are over-represented in lower-paid occupations, and are likely to have fewer financial and family resources than the general population. This economic disadvantage is compounded by the financial cost of disability. As a group, disabled people generally have poorer general health status, and poor access to support services and other arrangements that might allow them to move from a marginalised position in society.

- Many disabled people are unable to reach their potential or participate fully in the community because of the barriers they face in doing things that most New Zealanders take for granted. The barriers range from the purely physical, to the attitudinal.

- Facilities in specific areas of the city that have been identified as in need of further investigation include: Acheson Avenue facility in Shirley; Edgware community centre feasibility; Linwood youth-focused facility; Collingwood House in New Brighton; Heathcote community centre; Richmond community centre; Bromley community centre feasibility.

## Social Wellbeing Policy (2000)

- The Christchurch City Council is committed to enhancing the social wellbeing of its citizens and communities.

- Outcomes: 1. People participate in community life and have [a] sense of belonging and identity. 2. Living standards are sufficient to ensure everyone can meet their immediate needs, participate in society, develop their potential and live lives they find fulfilling. 3. Economic outcomes generate and distribute sufficient wealth for all. 4. All people, no matter age, race, gender, social and economic position or abilities, have opportunities to contribute to society and develop their potential. 5. Resources are fairly distributed among citizens, communities, regions and sectors. 6. The Treaty of Waitangi is honoured. Cultural diversity is respected. 7. People and communities participate in decision making and political processes.

- Priorities: 1. engage citizens and communities; 2. enhance community participation; 3. ensure fair distribution of resources; 4. increase meaningful work; 5. reduce barriers to access; 6. reduce disparity; 7. respect the Treaty; 8. respect cultural diversity; 9. support community infrastructure.

## Children's Policy (1998)

- "promoting the healthy, happy development of children to their full potential, both now and for the future well-being of our community." Outcomes: A nurturing community, Safe environment, Equitable access to opportunities, Improving the position of least advantaged, Participation in planning and voices heard, Higher self esteem and positive world view, Improved services and resourcing, Opportunities to be heard, A future with hope.



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## Christchurch City Health & Wellbeing Profile (2012)

[https://www.healthychristchurch.org.nz/media/44655/chch\\_city\\_health\\_profile\\_2012.pdf](https://www.healthychristchurch.org.nz/media/44655/chch_city_health_profile_2012.pdf)

- The CERA wellbeing survey, which commenced in September 2012, is aimed at measuring the wellbeing of greater Christchurch residents after the earth-quakes and seeks to improve our understanding of what's really going on around us. Questions cover issues like stress, quality of life, social connectedness, satisfaction with the recovery and positive impacts people are experiencing.
- In January 2012, four Healthy Christchurch signatories: Environment Canterbury, the Canterbury District Health Board, Christchurch City Council and Partnership Health, formed the Canterbury health in all policies partnership (CHIAPP). The vision for this group is: 'we work together to ensure that health and wellbeing is embedded into our organisation's policy development, planning cycle and project development as a normal part of these processes'.
- Since the Canterbury earthquakes the focus of the Urban Development Strategy partnership has been on ensuring its key principles and strategic directions are fully integrated within recovery planning. These broad well-being objectives remain as pertinent now as they were before September 2010 and February 2011.
- The social, economic, cultural and physical environments in which people live their lives have a significant effect on their health and wellbeing. Although genetics and personal behaviour play a strong part in determining an individual's health, good health starts where we live, where we work and learn, and where we play. Improving community health requires taking a broader view of the conditions that create health and wellbeing, from how we plan and develop our urban spaces and places, to the opportunities for employment, recreation, and social connection available to all who live in them.
- During 2009-10, Healthy Christchurch facilitated a conversation with over 700 people. Individuals and groups were asked two questions under each of the six headings of the health promotion model, Te Pae Mahutonga. They were asked (1) kaha ake – what is working well for you? and (2) ngā take – what do you need or would like to see changed, in order to live a healthier life? The key findings have been summarised below.
- Te Oranga: Libraries were highly valued. English as a Second Language night classes were important to migrants.
- Mauriora: Māori felt there was a good range of Māori services in the community. Churches, community groups and childcare services were important in supporting Pacific culture. Most new migrants felt welcome in Christchurch. Some New Zealand Europeans had difficulty defining their culture, but felt very connected to the land. Some New Zealand Europeans wished to have better access to, and develop a better understanding of Māori culture. Older people wanted more contact with young people.
- Ngā Manukura: A greater diversity of role models was requested, not just sports stars. Young people in particular wanted more positive role models. All age groups and ethnicities thought youth needed greater community support. Both the young and the elderly asked for 'safe' places to engage between generations.
- Good health and wellbeing are critical for thriving communities. This means that businesses, councils and government should explicitly consider the possible health effects in their policy, planning and project implementation processes.
- A city health plan should be developed as part of the existing Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy.
- Focusing on children and young people in planning for health and wellbeing will ensure greater gains for our community's future.
- As we rebuild the City and its communities, we have a unique opportunity to enhance our community's health and wellbeing.
- Mauriora: Among indigenous peoples cultural identity is considered to be a critical prerequisite for good health. For Māori a secure cultural identity requires meaningful contact with Māori language, customs and inheritance. This requires endorsement of and cultural expression within the wider society's institutions. It is important that Māori cultural, social and economic resources are shared among all Māori. Using this model has enabled other cultures to reflect on the importance of this issue for their own wellbeing.
- Te Oranga: Good health and wellbeing is also about services (e.g. schools, good health services, recreational opportunities) and the level of decision making and ownership that they can have in relation to those services. Increasing the extent of Māori participation in society is critical to increasing health and wellbeing. This is also true for other groups in society who are excluded from societal goods such as education and employment.
- Libraries were seen by people of all ages as a key community hub: not only a place to borrow books, but also a place to connect with people, for example through knitting and young mothers clubs; to find out about what was going on, and about CCC services.
- New Zealand Europeans (Pakeha) were generally positive about the increasing diversity of New Zealand and about how this diversity makes up New Zealand's cultural identity, although they struggled to put into words their relationship to their own cultural identity. Many said that their relationship with their culture centred on their ability to access the mountains and the coast, but that Pakeha do not have a describable culture in the way that Māori do.



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## Christchurch City Health & Wellbeing Profile (2012) - cont'd

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- Residents stated they valued events and festivals and community facilities such as libraries and pools where community could interact. Identity was also connected with landscape and other natural values, local history, and the culture of tangata whenua.
- People wanted more multicultural events, help with understanding other cultures better, more consideration to be given to other cultures, greater respect for New Zealand's unique cultural make-up, and better support to meet neighbours. Concern was raised about some areas of the city becoming racially exclusive and about growing racism against all groups - although this latter point was made most strongly by the Asian participants.
- Art and culture: Increasing recognition is given to the importance of art and culture in the daily lives of New Zealanders. Our sense of who we are is partly dependent on our experiences of our culture and heritage. Local identity is becoming more important in a world that is becoming more international. An appreciation of the unique aspects of New Zealand's culture, including Māori culture, contributes to economic growth, social connectedness, the encouragement of cultural diversity, creative thinking and a nation's self-confidence.
- Urban design and planning: The design of urban environments influences health and wellbeing and the sustainability of communities. Good design can promote healthy behaviours, social connectedness, and an active lifestyle. A recent survey of planners undertaken for the Public Health Advisory Committee (PHAC) found that although planners were aware of the links between planning and health outcomes, only 45% said they 'always' or 'frequently' considered health and wellbeing-related issues in their daily work, and 69% said that health and wellbeing considerations had minor or no impact on final planning decisions.
- People recognised the need to become more involved in their communities, but talked about being too busy and too shy to participate. Many wanted more information about what was happening, and some wanted help to build up their communities.
- There were frequent comments on the need for more spaces for communities to get together, and for ways to involve people with 'quiet voices' who were shy or humble.
- Te Oranga - Participation in society: It is now well recognised that health cannot be separated from socioeconomic circumstances. Good health depends on the extent to which people feel part of, and able to participate in, society. This participation includes the goods and services people can rely on and the confidence with which they can access those goods and services, a good income and employment, education, or sport and recreation.
- Mauriora - Connection to community and culture: In the original Te Pae Mahutonga framework, Mauriora refers to access to te ao Māori – to Māori language, knowledge, culture, economic and social resources, and to societal domains where being Māori is facilitated rather than hindered. In the context of this City Health Profile, Mauriora also encompasses other ethnic groups having a secure sense of cultural identity founded in meaningful contact with their language, customs and cultural inheritance.
- Nga Manukura - Leadership: Leadership for the promotion of health and wellbeing in our communities needs to occur at a range of levels from leadership for the community through community role models and among peer groups. Communication, collaboration and alliances between all social leaders and groups are important.
- Working intersectorally for better health outcomes has begun in Christchurch. To achieve the level of change the community is seeking we will need to 'step it up'. To squander the opportunity offered by the earthquakes over the last year would be yet another blow to the people of Canterbury.
- Health is more than simply meeting the basic requirements of life. The World Health Organisation's definition of health says that it is 'more than the absence of disease'; it is 'a state of complete physical, social and mental well-being'.



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