

Draft Christchurch City Three Year Plan - Questions and Answers about the consultation process

Q. Why a Three Year Plan?

The Council and Government recently agreed to delay Christchurch City Council's Long Term Plan until 2015 so an earthquake recovery cost-sharing method could be worked out together. A Long Term Plan looks at the next decade but at this stage in the Christchurch rebuild we need a more appropriate planning mechanism with more immediate goals. We are still following all the principles laid down in the Local Government Act as they apply to any New Zealand local authority.

Q. When can I make a submission?

A. Submissions on the draft Three Year Plan may be made between Saturday 16 March and 5pm Friday 19 April 2013.

Q. Where do I get a submission form?

A. Submission forms are available in the summary document being delivered to all homes in Christchurch, in the full draft plan, online at www.ccc.govt.nz/haveyoursay and at the open days and community drop-in sessions.

Q. What if I don't want to include my details on my submission?

A. No anonymous submissions will be accepted.

The Local Government Act 2002 requires the Council to make all written submissions available to the public. This requirement is subject to the provisions of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987.

Anyone wishing to withhold any information of a private or personal nature from their submission should first discuss this with the Assistant Council Secretary, phone 03 941 8999.

Q. Can I speak to my submission?

A. Public hearings before the Councillors will be held in May. This is not a requirement, but a five-to-10 minute slot will be allocated to those submitters who ask for speaking rights. With limited time available, we're encouraging like-minded residents to join together to make a supporting submission on the same subject and nominate a spokesperson to speak for them.

Q. What are supporting submission forms?

A. We have a supporting submission form if you want to support someone else making a submission or show how many people support your submission. These forms are available online at www.ccc.govt.nz/haveyoursay or at open days and community drop-in sessions or on request.

Q. What happens next?

A. For now, the draft plan is just that: a set of proposals for our city's future. We want to hear what you think about it. You can make a submission from now until 5pm on Friday 19 April. If you wish, you can speak in support of your submission at public hearings held before the Councillors in May.

All submissions will then be considered at a Council meeting between June 24 and 26. If you get their support, your suggestion or change may appear in the final version of the Three Year Plan that is released in late July.