

Community Workshops Report

Report prepared by Academic Consulting Ltd on behalf of the

Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA)

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Canterbury Earthquake
Recovery Authority

 **academic**consulting

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Introduction

Eight community workshops were held; one each in the communities of Lyttelton, Kaiapoi, Rangiora, and Lincoln (largely attended by residents local to those communities), and two each at Addington Events Centre and Ngā Hau e Whā Marae (attended by people from across different suburbs).

Workshops focused on the five Recovery Strategy categories: Community Wellbeing, Culture and Heritage, Built Environment, Economy, and Natural Environment.

At the workshops, groups of people focused on each category in terms of desired outcomes, what needs to happen, and barriers. There was also sometimes discussion in terms of relative priority and timeframes. Data gathered included brainstorm and/or consensus views from each group. In addition, groups or individuals could add “post-it notes” of ideas in relation to three general questions: advice to CERA, five-year vision, and new opportunities for improving Canterbury. These often related to the category they were discussing, or ranged widely across many topics.

Feedback summaries were analysed according to the Recovery Strategy five-category framework. “Built Environment” generated the most data followed by “Community Wellbeing”. For all categories, key issues are outlined including desired outcomes and any suggestions made on how to achieve these. “Other aspects” cover areas with less data. Barriers to achieving the desired outcomes are summarised. Where there was discussion of *why* a given aspect was important, this is also noted. In addition, differences between communities – where evident in the community workshop data – are highlighted.

Community Workshop Details

Date	Time	Venue
Thursday 14 July	7–9pm	Addington Events Centre, Jack Hinton Drive, Christchurch
Friday 15 July	7–9pm	Nga Hau e Wha Marae, Pages Road, Christchurch
Saturday 16 July	10am–12pm	Nga Hau e Wha Marae, Pages Road, Christchurch
Saturday 16 July	2–4pm	Lyttelton Recreation Centre, Winchester Street, Lyttelton
Sunday 17 July	11am–1pm	Lincoln Event Centre, North Belt, Lincoln
Sunday 17 July	3–5pm	Addington Events Centre, Jack Hinton Drive, Christchurch
Monday 18 July	3–5pm	Chervier Centre, Victoria Street, Rangiora
Monday 18 July	7–9pm	Kaiapoi North School, Williams Street, Kaiapoi

1 Community Wellbeing

1.1 Local community

- “Community” was largely interpreted as neighbourhoods/suburbs, rather than the city
- “Local” is important; new sense of community/neighbourhood from earthquakes should be built on
- Decentralised city means people can walk to work, school, recreation; each community has a “heart”
- But also need to plan community development as a whole, including transport, reciprocity between central city and network of villages/communities
- Focus on damaged suburbs, not just CBD
- “Transition town” ideas, local food production, neighbourhood watch

1.2 Housing

- Warm, affordable homes for all crucial for community
- Needs to be integrated: Subdivisions are being planned without local shops, schools, health centres
- Integrated city-wide housing plan needed so no isolated satellite towns, or green zone next to empty red zones
- Need clear consistent process for house repairs, honest tradespeople, and affordable legal advice
- Control land values; build sympathetically with environment, eco-efficient green technologies
- New houses/areas allocated for displaced people
- Could be world leaders in healthy, safe, energy-efficient housing

1.3 Schools/education

- Schools are central to the communities they serve; need to be in right places for relocated communities
- Opportunity for innovative ways of schooling, age and size ranges, diversity
- Share school facilities with communities; wider use for community courses, night classes
- Support schools if numbers are down through rebuilds so don't lose staff
- Aim for equality of schooling, not some seen as “better”
- Need good schools in Eastern suburbs
- Adult education, improved access to tertiary level, Adult Reading Assistance scheme

1.4 Inclusive communities

- Consider children, youth, older people, disabled people
- Engage Māori and Pacific communities; less “middle-class white thinking”
- Less inequity and socio-economic disadvantage
- Activities/arts/sports for all, not just the wealthy
- Think how residents fit into community as they age; over-60s developments can reduce ability for interconnection
- Total mobility access
- Democratic elections for ECAN; clear role for community boards
- People to participate in decisions which affect their communities

1.5 Health

- Accessible, affordable, local health services, including mental health, in-home elder/disability care services
- Transform into integrated local health care centres
- Counselling support services for stress and anxiety related health issues, domestic violence
- Reduce antidepressant/alcohol use
- Help parents support children post-earthquake

1.6 Community facilities and processes

- Share non-commercial spaces/events; better community centres in all areas; paid community workers
- Community hubs for people to meet, noticeboards, markets, community BBQs
- Youth clubs, parents clubs, over 60s
- Many and varied places for spiritual or community worship/meditation
- Impromptu community facilities that have sprung up could be developed as “one-stop shops” with government department support services
- Well-designed communities that help community interaction
- Less emphasis on shopping malls/retailing; more on recreation and quality of community life
- Community engagement processes like Share an Idea and these CERA group discussions
- Central city should have affordable meeting spaces for community groups

1.7 Other aspects

Natural environment important for community wellbeing

- “Garden City” identity, reinvigorate natural features like Avon River and Travis wetlands
- East could be first green sustainable area, swampland, bird sanctuary; transform Bexley into wetland reserve
- Wetlands as tourist attraction
- Clean waterways, more green space, community gardens, diversity of farming (not all dairy), sustainable eco-city
- Longer term Avon River should be fully dredged, banks stabilised and formed

Employment

- Plenty of jobs for all with rebuilding; utilise collective community skills; employ local tradespeople
- Increase training relevant to needs
- Genuine long-standing employment opportunities needed, especially in Eastern suburbs
- Use Canterbury people and resources

Communication

- Mailbox flyers, householders, not just Internet
- Regular neighbourhood get-togethers for information from government and services

1.8 Barriers

Barriers to rebuilding

- Ongoing aftershocks
- Red zone communities being abandoned; depopulation
- Lack of resources, money, insurance, skilled tradespeople
- Insufficient information & advocacy; indecision over land
- Powerful vested interests, including property developers
- Bureaucratic systems for permissions/insurance
- Rushing to replace rather than creative rethinking; risk of poor planning, poor design
- Decisions behind closed doors

Barriers to broader community wellbeing

- Volunteers burnt out
- Apathy/community inertia so business dominates
- Parochialism/competition between areas
- Community wellbeing not a priority for EQC, CERA, CCC; need to understand community engagement principles
- Need to restore democracy in Christchurch

1.9 Why is community wellbeing important?

- Community wellbeing is about making good from such destruction; rebuild can make everyone’s lives better
- Contributes to quality of life, safety, pride and hope
- Community stability necessary for economic development and productivity; creates tourism and immigration
- Good housing = healthier people
- Sustainable practices conserve resources, chance to do it better for the planet and for future generations
- Less social and economic cost from negative social issues
- Well-engaged communities look after themselves

1.10 Community variance

Addington and Marae

- Unlike other categories, the community workshops in Addington and the Pages Road Marae presented some issues specific to the Eastern suburbs communities
- More comments on inequality and socio-economic disadvantage than in other workshops, and the need to rectify these in the major rebuilds that are required
- Eastern suburbs revitalisation to rebuild a “dying community”, retain young families, and generate employment (Marae)
- Maintain the social/economic mix of the “special Brighton community” (Marae)
- Shirley Boys and Avonside schools to be on new sites with the new houses from the red zone around them (Addington)
- Fewer subdivisions of “houses all the same” like Northwood (Addington)

Kaiapoi

- Emphasis on physical rebuild as related to community well-being, focusing on housing, need for decisions on land and zoning, infrastructure repair, and transport (e.g., rail commuting to ChCh)
- Want a central town hall, sporting facilities, and a “lovely new rebuilt town” as the “gateway to North Canterbury”
- Clean-up of the Kaiapoi River, development for recreation as “we are the River Town”
- Also discussed: subdivision for residential growth to the north and west of Kaiapoi; airport noise over the area; a new park at Smith St for rugby, bowls, BMX/skating; and activities for young people

Lincoln and Rangiora

- Mention access to and from Christchurch: traffic jams waste time, public transport could be cheaper
- Rangiora had discussion of broader “determinants of health” listed as housing, smoking (opportunity for ChCh to be smoke-free city), alcohol, and recreation. Feel their community spirit is “alive and well”
- Sporting facilities needed especially for young people

Lyttelton

- Some emphasis on health services; health centre needs to be fixed
- GPs need support; need for good mental health and elderly services; new functional hospital
- Wall around Lyttelton Main school needs to be rebuilt to make it safer
- Develop a sustainable food supply in Lyttelton

2 Culture and Heritage

2.1 Re-localise

- Design arts/culture and sports for each community, means “I can have fun in my own suburb”
- But need to coordinate across the CBD, suburbs and wider Canterbury
- Grass-roots arts, culture and sport to encourage youth involvement
- Community education, and multiple use community facilities

2.2 Multiple use facilities

- Multi-use facilities, rebuilt or new according to a clear plan
- Shared spaces for arts/culture/recreation e.g., art expo in a recreational venue
- “Learn to share” and build on the enforced collaboration post-earthquake e.g., CSO with choirs; rugby/league/ soccer in new stadium
- Spaces for teaching as well as performing; artist co-ops
- All-weather venues, covered stadiums for night matches/events
- Facilitated by regional/local agency or network to provide “one-stop shop” for collaboration/ coordination
- Accessible by public transport

2.3 Key buildings, including heritage

- Both cathedrals important, with calls for restoration/rebuild
- Arts Centre a high priority, at least for the activities that went on there, such as Dux de Lux, markets, Court Theatre, CSO
- World-class sports venue to replace QEII and AMI, maybe at Wigram Airbase
- Create a style guide to maintain ambience; cohesion but still chances for creative/design flair
- Possibly keep facades, or re-use mouldings/masonry; don’t just clear sites
- Remnants of our history to be turned into art; ruins as monuments/memorials
- “No pseudo-heritage.” Art Gallery as template for new buildings, good design, safe

2.4 Natural heritage important

- Plans should include access to natural heritage, with access to rivers, estuary, wetlands; Lyttelton harbour for outdoor recreation and sport
- Riverside greenbelt recreation area with workout stations, cycleways
- “Garden city” is part of heritage, culture and recreation
- Good for tourism, people’s health and wellbeing, identity

2.5 Ensure safety

- Multiple night-time activities besides bars; less drunkenness
- Safe and well-lit areas for walking to events
- Good transport links, including affordable parking, disability access, safe bus shelters
- Heritage buildings and cultural/recreational venues must be earthquake-safe and environmentally safe (sustainable, eco-friendly)

2.6 Other aspects

- *CBD*: Calls for the CBD to be a “people space”, not just offices/commerce; more emphasis on arts and culture. Pop-up sites for arts/cultural events while rebuilding
- *Equity*: Disadvantaged communities miss out because day-to-day life too hard
- *Faith*: Multi-cultural, multi-faith community now; respectfully consider diverse needs and places of worship appropriate for diversity

2.7 Barriers

- Lack of funding and investment, as emphasis on more “basic” areas than arts/culture/sports in recovery efforts
- Insurance problems
- Organisations not working together
- Wish for a “quick fix”; not seeking consensus on design choices or input from communities on their needs
- Scepticism about viability and value of heritage restoration
- Voluntary community groups need financial and expert assistance to rebuild arts and sports facilities
- Politicians and people who say “No”

2.8 Why is culture and heritage important?

- Arts, culture, churches, and sports provide purpose for people to come together, sense of community
- People need places to express themselves, learn who they are, heal and be strengthened after traumatic events
- Encourages people to return or stay; good for future generations
- “Society needs culture to function”
- Tourism generates revenue; make Christchurch a top place for culture and performing arts, international sporting or cultural events in world-class venues
- Rebuilding skills (both of heritage buildings and community networks) make us resilient for future challenges

2.9 Community variance

Lyttelton

- Culture portrays “our distinctive Lyttelton community personality and grittiness”
- Have an established creative community (arts/culture/literary); social gathering places of distinctive pubs and cafes; and village heritage (including cottages that householders need help to restore)
- Restore Lyttelton venues for music/theatre/performance
- Celebrate heritage in a planned museum/maritime history
- Develop unique values of a harbour town, including improved access to hills, harbour, and port
- Embrace the harbour setting for all of ChCh, economic and tourism value, recreation (fishing, yachting, swimming)
- Better collaboration between the Port Company, CCC, and community

Kaiapoi

- Recognise Waimak festivals, closer bonds between Waimak and city cultural groups
- Transport systems that encourage commuting
- Acknowledge lost heritage in greater Christchurch (Selwyn and Waimak); do better job of Kaiapoi historic walkway
- Purpose-built art gallery attached to public library; tertiary education centre attached to high school; better sports access for children
- Christchurch City, with the Cathedral etc., is the cultural/heritage hub, but also plan local venues to avoid high cost of parking and travel to city venues
- Kaiapoi needs a “proper town hall/performing arts venue similar to Rangiora”

Rangiora

- One of the only workshops that mentioned Māori culture and heritage; new design should take account of Māori identity in the area and “bring Māori heritage into the way we use land”
- Need comprehensive plan for heritage legacy of the whole Canterbury region
- Venue planning should take into account where people are living

Lincoln

- Workshop focused on Christchurch City culture and heritage; noted long travel time to city venues
- Have an earthquake-inspired photo exhibition for non-professionals in local areas

3 Built Environment

3.1 Buildings

- Integrated buildings/green spaces; quality style and design; low-rise, human-scale, energy-efficient
- Central city living – brings life into city; trees, lighting; courtyards, lanes, boulevards; specialist shops; precincts
- Better building codes and cohesive planning. Wooden buildings; technological building advances; warm homes
- Abandon areas with ongoing liquefaction; do Geotech analysis then location selection
- Mixed use; retail on ground floor; higher density residential but people-friendly
- Resilient structures like Art Gallery give hope; iconic buildings to replace heritage
- Learn from past mistakes (ugly Square; tilt slab buildings)
- Allow containers/temp buildings to be used for next 3 yrs
- Consider natural environment in building design/layout

3.2 Transport

- Roads repaired, work 3 shifts, 24/7 to complete; more qualified engineers; helpers from community
- Smooth traffic flow; well-planned across ChCh; separation of cars from other modes
- Integrated, affordable, efficient public transport, with safe central hubs
- Efficient bus system; trams; single ticketing; parking hubs on perimeter
- Free transport for ChCh ratepayers
- Cycle-friendly, bike hire, storage; cycleways separate from vehicles
- Pedestrian-friendly, walkways along river; tree-lined transport routes
- Disability-friendly city; transport mobility access
- Integrate with suburb planning, wider Canterbury, KiwiRail/commuter rail including east-west Darfield to Brighton; 5yrs: light rail to city centre

3.3 Infrastructure

- World-leading infrastructure plan
- Cooperation on repairs of water/sewerage/roading to reduce costs
- Underground electric, phone and Internet cables; free Wi-Fi
- Incentivise green building/energy efficiency
- Plastic not clay pipes for sewers; stormwater treatment at source; sewerage system doesn't rely on outfall to sea; rivers/estuaries cleaned up
- 5yrs: Solar power for street lighting; wind and wave power sites. Charging points for electric bikes/cars

3.4 Insurance issues

- Assessments complete; rebuild/repair underway
- Home/building owners know when buildings will be rebuilt/repared
- 1-2yrs: Use overseas expertise; 5yrs: more qualified local staff
- Fair deal for uninsured home owners in red zone

3.5 Recreational/community facilities

- Christchurch Central safe for all ages; arts and leisure; anti-crime design
- Green spaces in CBD: Garden City; safe family fun, tourism
- Use of red zones for recreational areas
- 1-2yrs: Buy community land for community use
- Build sports facilities; central library; local markets; pools/sports facilities on South and East side; cycling/walking tracks up in the Port Hills

3.6 City planning

- Long-term plan; sound financial planning
- Shorten admin processes, consents; community input ongoing

3.7 Sustainability

- World-leading environmental design; sustainable infrastructure
- Energy self-reliance, insulation, stormwater capture, local food production, pure Canterbury water
- 1-2yrs: Community-agreed vision and plan; trusted leadership

3.8 Why is the built environment important?

- Safer and more resilient city
- “Communities will die if plans for residential rebuild not in place quickly”
- We love the city and want to see it rebuilt in style
- Retain and attract residents, visitors, businesses
- Opportunity to define who we are; be proud of city
- ChCh is about people not buildings – the people’s voice is important
- Peak oil; need to be less dependent on non-renewable resources
- People who walk/cycle are healthier; obesity is growing – need alternatives to cars
- Crucial to future generations if they are to remain in ChCh
- Places where people walk/cycle are more attractive neighbourhoods, meaning better house prices
- Walkers get to know each other, creates communities
- Point of difference – eco-city
- Previous way of living unsustainable
- Healthier city = healthier productive people
- Walk the talk “100% Pure NZ”

3.9 Barriers

- Enormity of task unprecedented
- Building code 3604 redone – it failed the city
- Choosing cheapest construction methods
- Entrenched bureaucratic and financial interests; council bylaws; red tape
- Too much power in hands of developers
- Insurance companies attitudes and not paying out
- Labour and skills shortages, especially tradespeople
- Leave rail corridors/plans to build later, too expensive now
- Quick fix versus long-term solutions
- Need to change people’s perceptions of public transport; love of the car
- Elected leaders not listening to citizens
- Over-conservative; “old thinking”
- Land ownership – unrealistic to want green space everywhere
- More earthquakes; high standards needed so no further damage
- Lack of funding/time to build
- Consultation fatigue
- Low quality thinking, i.e., “We can’t do that ... Won’t work ... don’t have enough money”
- Former city/district plans not now appropriate
- CCC barriers to sustainability, e.g., consents for solar panels, log burners, composting toilets
- Health benefits of cycling/walking not taken into account when costing roads
- Priority of CBD versus suburbs
- Lack of communication between departments

3.10 Community variance

Marae

- Aranui Community Hall to be attractive community centre; shops round Breezes/Pages Road built up again as community hub, local convenience
- Revitalised Eastern suburbs – new subdivisions on safe land

Lyttelton

- Build art/cultural precinct on Norwich Quay; Port Company to get heavy traffic off Quay
- Enhanced, sustainable port town/waterfront with integrated town centre and transport would foster tourism, business, enhance port's long-term viability and retain people with easy access to ChCh employment
- 5yrs: Remaining Lyttelton built heritage saved/enhanced; incorporate historic materials into new buildings
- Build "quirky, eccentric buildings"; maximise sun, green space; Lyttelton people engaged in re-building process
- Coherent plan, using ideas put together by locals; fragmented land holdings a problem; tricky to integrate Lyttelton rebuild with CBD rebuild
- Sculpture park/venue to replace Godley House
- Easier access from ferry to bus; Sumner-Lyttelton road needs to re-open; blast out loose rock while road closed

Kaiapoi

- "My house and land rebuilt": quality, robust housing rapidly deployed
- Houses cheaper to run with better insulation and incentives for solar power
- Coordinated approach/plan with Waimak and Canterbury district councils
- Community facilities restored; matters because "we need something soon, something to stop Kaiapoi slide"
- Second bridge over Kaiapoi River with cycle and pedestrian lane; look into rail service to ChCh as the rail line already exists
- Good effective communication technology, fibre optics; business park such as Rolleston
- Ensure street design not inviting to boy racers; keep heavy trucks out of residential areas
- Parks developed where housing was; outdoor and river recreation

Rangiora

- "Rangiora going forward to become a vital, viable outer town." 5yrs plan to expand Rangiora, e.g., build an airport
- Road and rail links between Christchurch and Rangiora
- Environmentally friendly homes; better waste management system
- Good clean reliable water for people as well as irrigation

4 Economy

4.1 Labour market

- Must reduce unemployment, especially of young people
- Aim to have higher than national average uptake of apprenticeships and rates of skilled young people
- Incentives/subsidies for retraining, especially to move into skills areas in demand; wage subsidies for businesses creating local jobs. “Train the locals!”
- Unemployment programmes to get people back and be part of the Canterbury rebuild
- Plan ahead for re-skilling needs of the future; on-the-job training; more engineering and geology students at University of Canterbury
- Industry development in outlying communities

4.2 Transport and infrastructure

- Planned, integrated, efficient transport system; “golden opportunity to reorganise our whole transport system” (region-wide)
- Relate transport to where people live/work now; new road system – south and west to north, east to north on the coast
- Improved road access within CBD; better road signage, traffic light coordination; public transport and bus lanes, new bus exchange; bike safety/cycle lanes
- Sustainable, 21st century, lower fossil-fuel dependence; design for “peak oil” in balance between cars, trains, etc
- Future-proof transport and infrastructure for earthquakes/risks, plus population growth
- Need to keep a central city hub, with retail, tourism, services, and entertainment all back in CBD
- All communities connected by essential networks of IT, power, transport, roads, and sewerage
- Latest environmental solutions for urban infrastructure, e.g., waste water treatment

4.3 Potential growth sectors

IT

- “Silicon Valley of the South Pacific” – build innovative high-tech, IT industry, “global centre of competence”; have \$10K seed capital grants for local start-ups (like Israel)
- Aim to have “20 technology companies with greater than \$50M revenue HQ’ed in ChCh”; large area with cheap rental and ultra-fast broadband like Silicon Valley

Reconstruction

- Become a leader in design and engineering; sell skills/technologies we develop for earthquake recovery; “get so good at building affordable, sustainable smart houses we make them for other places as well”
- Become a centre of excellence at creating infrastructure for the 21st century. Rebuild will also attract lots of skilled staff who may stay if lifestyle attractive

Tourism

- Including more ‘high-end’ tourism. Aim for bed numbers higher than pre-earthquake; full utilisation of ChCh airport
- Unique-style buildings; attractions across region e.g., Banks Peninsula; red zone to be green tourist attraction

Education sector

- New facilities for research and innovation (including related to reconstruction); combine strengths of CPIT, Lincoln, and Canterbury universities, school of medicine
- Attract international students; youth training; adult part-time training in trades and tech

4.4 Other aspects

- *Residential recovery*: Demolish dangerous homes, new land available cheaply, sufficient housing stock, new sustainable housing
- *Sustainability*: Solar panels, well-insulated homes, alternatives to cars; funding for “green building” improvements; new start allows attention on sustainability
- *Local business recovery*: Planning permissions quick and affordable; small business incentives; “dairies and chippies back open”, local restaurants
- People are committed to living and trading locally; Canterbury people supporting Canterbury businesses; incentives for investing in Canterbury
- “Investment competitions” (local and international) to choose big ideas for ChCh

4.5 Barriers

- More earthquakes
- Time being taken for engineers to assess/sort out zones
- Insurance/reinsurance and EQC delays
- Red tape, “faceless bureaucracy”
- Huge construction efforts may be allowed to starve other sectors
- Lack of consultation between groups including CERA, government, and CCC; lack of planning
- Lack of community voice; need “bottom-up communication”
- Bigger businesses blocking smaller traders; “greedy developers”
- People leaving; competition with rest of NZ and also Australia for skilled staff
- “Car culture”, need to convince people to use public transport

4.6 Why is the economy important?

- Brings the population back, aim for population to reach 400,000+ in 5 years; more people want to live here than leave; tourists are back
- Business prepared to sign long-term leases, commitment
- Public facilities such as pool, sports grounds, libraries, can get up and running again; healthy people are strong and resilient
- Top economies are about technology not just service industries
- Transport improvements needed as increased travel times cost business/productivity
- Decentralisation of business to mitigate future quake risk, needs better transport network to facilitate; small businesses dominate local economies in all suburbs/regions
- Young people must be involved as it is their future we are creating; need to plan for growth

4.7 Community variance

Lyttelton

- Emphasis on employment of locals including training as needed (small businesses subsidised to provide employee training; cross-industry short courses locally based)
- Tourism industry for Banks Peninsula
- Eco/sustainable emphasis; economic activity should “leave the planet in a better place as it develops”
- Community ownership (not council) of significant buildings so income generation stays in community
- Re-establishment of Lyttelton town centre

Kaiapoi

- Barrier to economic development is perception that Kaiapoi is “broken”; redevelopment could be a “prototype” for other areas; it’s smaller so can be done sooner
- Make business park visible from motorway; locate WDC head office in Kaiapoi; develop hospitality precinct, i.e., riverbank cafes; “thriving vibrant” Kaiapoi town centre

Rangiora

- Youth training
- Business and residential relocation to suburban hubs as well as rebuilding CBD
- Encouragement of satellite towns like Rangiora
- Greater connectivity between urban/rural; high-speed rail linking to ChCh; takes one hour to get from airport to Rangiora

Lincoln

- Satellite towns like Lincoln can “take advantage of the CBD being stalled”; chance for quality employers to move from CBD to Selwyn, gives people choices of lifestyle
- Rethink Lincoln town plan based on rapid growth and employment opportunities locally; less commuting = more efficient use of time

5 Natural Environment

5.1 Water quality

- A strong desire for the restoration of the “pure” chlorine-free Christchurch water
- Quake-related sewerage system damage/discharge needs to be rectified as soon as possible
- Stormwater/sewerage systems restored/enhanced according to environmental best practice; no need to use rivers for overflow
- Concern expressed about the longer-term problem of the impact of dairying and fertilisation (nitrate leaching) on waterways
- Avon and Heathcote Rivers should have clean water, supporting natural vegetation, recreation including fishing, swimming, and with wetland margins restored
- Use historical knowledge of Canterbury waterways (1840-50 map from Drainage Board Report); map stream and spring networks; waterways integrated for recreation, green corridors, active transport
- Ecological management of storing water into swales and naturally planted areas; better understanding of hydrology
- Should be safe to eat fish and shellfish from local waterways, mudflats; encourage/legislate for water conservation; monitor water quality standards
- Local authority accountability for environmental planning decisions which impact on springs/waterways, including new subdivision’s needs and improved flood protection

5.2 Sustainability

- Build in accordance with the natural environment, not to a plan that came from the UK 150 years ago
- Projected sea level rise means permanent structures should be at least 10m above current sea level
- Plan according to global guidelines for climate change and sustainable resource use; future-proof the systems; explore new technologies for water management/energy use/sustainability
- Community engagement with restoration/sustainability of own areas
- Comprehensive public transport system with fewer cars in CBD and cycleways
- Use solar, wind and tidal power, grey water systems; energy efficient building; lower or zero consent application fees for building sustainably; “quadruple bottom line”

5.3 “Greening the city”

- Liquefacted areas should not be built on; convert to wetlands, recreational areas, parks; red zone restored to original native vegetation
- More green spaces in the central city area (including roof gardens); green corridors from the mountains to the sea
- Add green spaces to city plan; building owners to release land for green space
- The built environment should compliment the natural environment; ChCh recognised for its integration of natural elements into town and city
- Foster biodiversity with native planting, species-appropriate to sites, e.g., on hills to reduce rockfall risk
- Revival of bird life, can hear birdsong again; clean waterways filled with fish; more trees (native and exotic); community gardens, edible gardens

5.4 Other aspects

- *Air quality*: Chimneys down, so get rid of domestic fires; air pollution within WHO guidelines; audit industrial/commercial air emissions; fewer cars/diesel buses in city centre to reduce air pollution, including for cyclists; reduced light pollution
- *Coastal areas*: Clean beaches/surf; restorations of dunes; aquaculture for commercial, recreational, and tourism purposes
- *Expertise*: Include tāngata whenua in planning and implementation; bring in environmental specialists (ecologists, landscape architects, hydrologists) to work together; and experts on native planting
- *Community engagement*: Communities to be involved in restoration and custody of local natural areas; feel responsible for land and water where they live; take the lead at local level. Requires education to raise environmental awareness in community

5.5 Barriers

- Further earthquakes
- Delays in red zone residents being moved
- Competition for water, i.e., irrigation schemes
- Political emphasis on dairying because of economic returns
- Emphasis on short term versus long term value of natural resources; politics, lack of vision; Gerry Brownlee seen as less concerned about natural environment
- Pressure to reinstate land for homes; tension between need to rebuild and optimal planning/consultation
- Conflict within the community; governance tensions between CCC and others; public/private land issues
- Debate regarding native versus exotic trees

5.6 Why is the natural environment important?

- Tourism benefits in being “eco” capital of NZ, “eco-travellers”, good recreational water sports
- People want to live here/return
- Be responsible global citizens: reduce our greenhouse gas emissions and contribution to global climate change; get carbon credits; manage risk, e.g., sea level rise
- Increasing populations and increasing life expectancy yet resources are finite
- A way to build on “post-quake spirit” to establish more resilient/healthily functioning communities
- More safety with fewer cars; cycling good exercise
- Clean water and air for better health; contamination is expensive to clean up; less remediation needed when in line with natural ecosystems
- Planting improves air quality; green spaces for people to sit, relax; high-quality leisure networks; maintains “Garden City” image
- Education resource – revitalised natural environment in the east as “natural living laboratory” for education
- Important for future generations with great natural habitats to enjoy, “human scale”, quality of life

5.7 Community variance

There was little variance in workshop data in this category, with all focusing on the key areas listed.

- *Lyttelton* mentioned the need to resolve rockfall and cliff collapse hazards and landslips and the need to improve the harbour ecosystem
- *Kaiapoi* focused more on own environs, including wanting the Kaiapoi River clean of silt, the stopbanks fixed, native planting instead of willows, and improved access to the river for water sports, picnic areas, boat ramps and recreation. Wildlife reserve on Kaiapoi and Waimak could be a “big tourist attraction”
- A risk to natural environment recovery was if CERA and the Waimakariri Council were not working together
- *Marae* saw opportunity to revitalise New Brighton/eastern side of city; west-side communities could “adopt” an area of the East and help rejuvenate it. Open the first “plastic bag free” mall in NZ
- *Rangiora* wanted local bodies to bring in more sustainable environmental policies, pointing out that infrastructure was originally set up when the environment wasn’t considered so important
- *Lincoln* called for “Canterbury” – not just Christchurch – to be known as “clean, green and sustainable”