



Christchurch City Council Draft Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan April 2008

Draft Plan proposes two new libraries

Two new libraries are proposed for Christchurch under the Draft Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan. These will be built in Aranui and Belfast. A replacement library is also proposed for Halswell.

Belfast and Halswell are the two areas identified in the Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy (UDS) where significant population growth is forecast in the next few years. New libraries are proposed to meet growing and changing community needs.

While Hornby falls within the South West Area Plan, the more intense growth is expected to be in the Halswell area. However, the Draft Plan recognises the need to investigate any opportunities for development in line with the UDS.

Aranui is an area of the city where there is a recognised gap in the library network, and where a neighbourhood library has for some time been considered important to stimulate lifelong learning and leisure activities within the community.

The size of the current Central Library building restricts the opportunities for the development of customer services which would enhance customer experiences and allow Central Library to fulfill its role as the metropolitan library for the City and region. The Draft Plan supports exploring development options for a new Central Library in time for consideration for funding as part of the 2012-2022 Long Term Council Community Plan (LTCCP).

These future developments look to ensure best use and enhancement of the city's network, while ensuring a diverse range of library services are delivered city-wide.

It is proposed to retain the library service at Bishopdale but review its location in the retail precinct, as the library will require major work within the next decade, and to evaluate the future role of Redwood Library following the opening of a new library at Belfast.

The Draft Plan also considers the need to monitor the use and service provision at the South Christchurch, New Brighton and Parklands libraries to ensure these libraries evolve with changing community needs.

The Plan supports the continuation of the Mobile Library service to fill network gaps in the areas where a library building is not sustainable, as well as investigating self-help service delivery options, such as library kiosks.

At Fendalton, the Draft Plan supports the library operating seven days – aligning the business with other large suburban libraries of a similar size – and developing a café to create a destination for the whole family to enjoy.

The Plan calls for the evaluation of service provision at Little River, with consideration being given to possible non-building based service delivery in the area, and to assess the need for an alternative, larger building for Sumner Library, should opportunities become available.





Framework to guide development

The Draft Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan is a framework to guide the future development of the Christchurch City Libraries network through to 2025.

Christchurch City has a proud history of investing in libraries; the city having a network of 19 facilities which provide a customer-driven, value-for-money and technologically advanced service for residents and ratepayers.

The Draft Plan looks to grow the network by tailoring any future development, network configuration or extension of services to better meet changing community needs, address growth and create focal points for community learning and leisure activities.

Through the Draft Plan, Council recognises the importance of libraries in providing social hubs in the community and the need to ensure future development reflects the cultural diversity of the community and the advances in digital information and communication technology.

The four features of the provision of library services are to provide library facilities which are community focal points, reflecting and responding to local needs; accessibility across the network to a mix of library services and facilities, including non-building based provision; maximum efficiency and effectiveness of facilities; and the optimisation of partnership opportunities with other agencies and/or services.

Partnerships have been identified as key to the development of Christchurch's library network.

These include the possible co-location with Council Service Centres, leisure and community facilities, and partnerships with educational institutes, retail complexes, neighbouring territorial authorities or rest home complexes.

Initial consideration to be given to opportunities for future enhancement of services at Shirley, Linwood, Hornby or Papanui.

The Draft Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan will be regularly reviewed to address city growth and changes in priorities. These reviews will coincide with the timing for funding within the Council's LTCCP and Annual Plan cycles.

Future Vision

"Public libraries engage, inspire and inform citizens and help build strong communities. Kia āwhina te hunga ora, ki te hāngaia o ratou ake āo.

Public libraries of the future, building on the foundations laid down over many years of service, are the repositories of recorded knowledge and information about our cultural heritage. They encourage the joy of reading for pleasure, recreation, discovery and lifelong learning and develop and supply services and content that meets the needs of information users in the digital age.

As a significant conduit through which information from government and democratic organisations flows to the people of New Zealand, they play a major role in the development of socially cohesive, informed and inclusive communities, in which a sense of partnership between libraries and cultural partners flourishes.

In providing free access to information to all members of their communities, they strengthen the public good, are trusted and well regarded as an essential component of the economic and social infrastructure and provide for the creative replenishment of the human spirit."

Local Government New Zealand, LIANZA, National Library of New Zealand (2006) Public Libraries of New Zealand: a strategic framework 2006 to 2016. Wellington: Local Government New Zealand, LIANZA, National Library of New Zealand



Partnering for success

Partnerships have been identified as important in the development of the Christchurch City Libraries network. A strong emphasis will be placed on working in collaboration with key stakeholders to ensure both development of the network and future libraries are built in accessible locations for the community.

The first new partnership opportunity to be pursued will be with the proposed development of a new neighbourhood library in Aranui. Possible partners would include other Council service providers and/or external partners, such as the schools. Christchurch City Council already has successful joint use libraries in partnerships at Upper Riccarton Community and School Library and Akaroa Library.

At Shirley, a potential partner is the owner of The Palms. The library is located within the mall precinct and Council will look to optimise partnership opportunities in the relocation and upgrading of this facility.

Significant growth in community library network

Christchurch City Libraries began in 2005 to plan for library facility provision during the next 20 years, following the completion of its 10-year development programme.

This had seen new libraries built at Papanui, New Brighton, Fendalton, South Christchurch, Parklands and Upper Riccarton; a total refurbishment of Shirley after fire damage; establishment of three co-located learning centres at South Christchurch, Parklands and Upper Riccarton libraries; major upgrades at Central and Sumner libraries; and the addition of four Banks Peninsula libraries into the network.

During this time, there was also significant growth in community use of Christchurch's libraries - 75% of Christchurch residents are now a member of the library network. In 2006 - 2007, the number of items borrowed from Christchurch City Libraries topped six million or 17.5 issues per capita.

The same will apply with the enhancement of services at Linwood, Hornby and Papanui, where the existing libraries are located within retail precincts.

Partnerships will be assessed based on agreed criteria, suitability of site and ensuring each development provides long-term benefits and a proven ability to meet community needs.

The Draft Plan also suggests investigating options for alternative uses of voluntary library facilities and delivery of services. This includes the re-use of the Council-owned facility for a different Council role, shared use of the facility by the library and other Council/community users, divestment of the facility with services delivered elsewhere, such as rest homes, and toy libraries.

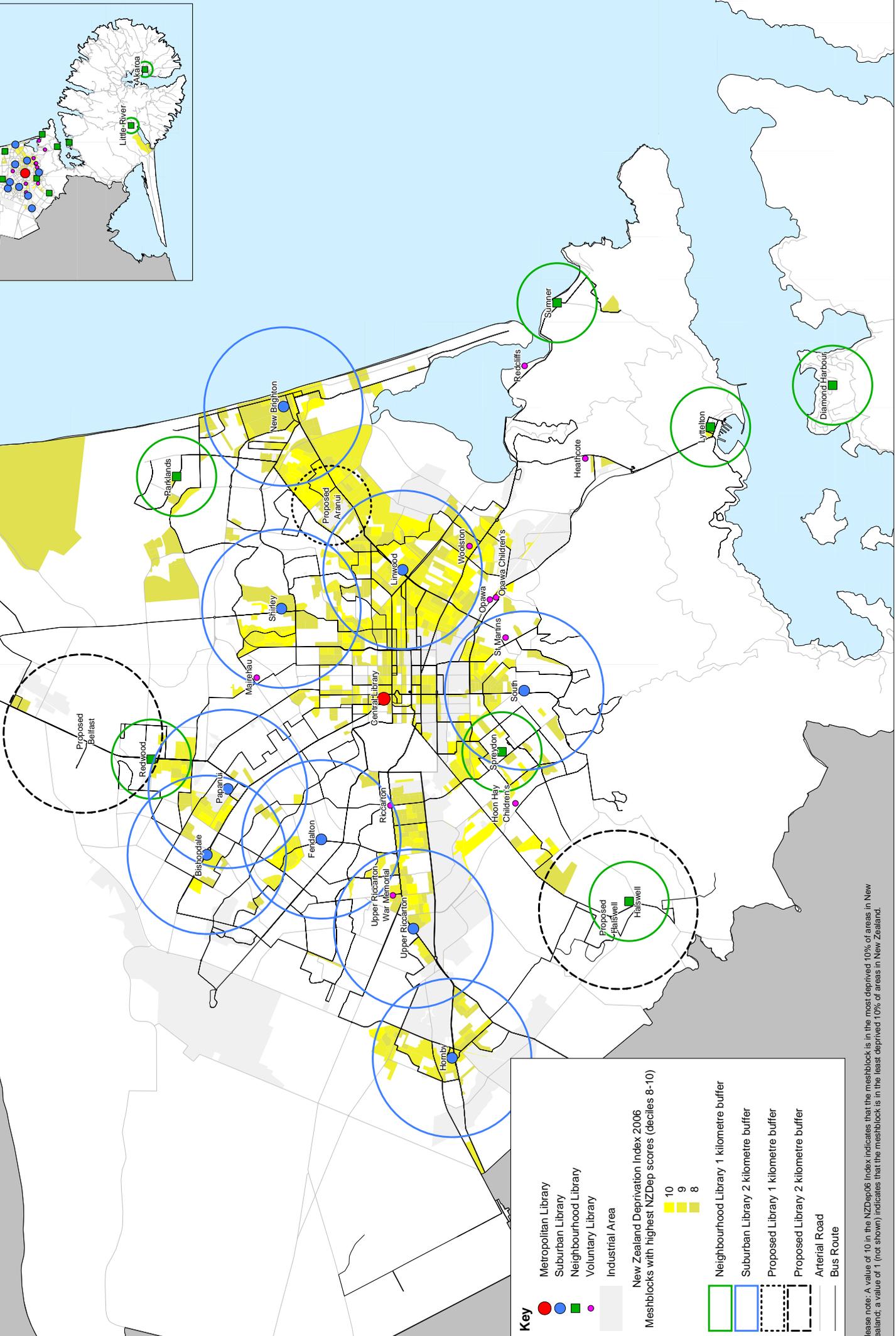
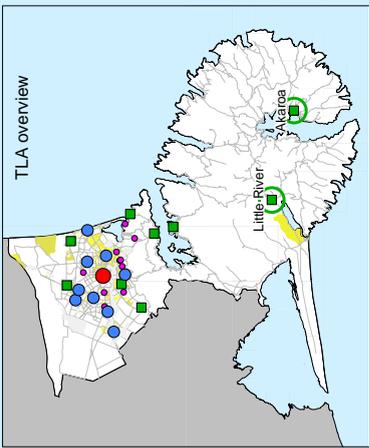
Partnership possibilities with educational or community agencies are also to be explored to develop Diamond Harbour Library.

With Christchurch's continually growing population, there was a recognised need to plan for the future to ensure there was provision to cater for the needs of these new and growing communities.

The Draft Libraries 2025 Facilities Plan guides Council's capital investment in the network and refurbishment of libraries until 2025.

The Draft Plan addresses the future shape of the network, service provision, distribution of facilities city-wide, design of facilities to accommodate changes in technology and demographics, recognition of libraries as community space, the identification of opportunities for partnership developments with other Council services, providers, developers and adjacent territorial authorities and refurbishment planning to cater for changing societal needs and trends.

Christchurch City Council Library Provision 2008, and Proposed New Developments.



Key

- Metropolitan Library
- Suburban Library
- Neighbourhood Library
- Voluntary Library
- Industrial Area

New Zealand Deprivation Index 2006
Meshblocks with highest NZDep scores (deciles 8-10)

- 10
- 9
- 8

- Neighbourhood Library 1 kilometre buffer
- Suburban Library 2 kilometre buffer
- Proposed Library 1 kilometre buffer
- Proposed Library 2 kilometre buffer
- Arterial Road
- Bus Route

Please note: A value of 10 in the NZDep06 Index indicates that the meshblock is in the most deprived 10% of areas in New Zealand; a value of 1 (not shown) indicates that the meshblock is in the least deprived 10% of areas in New Zealand.