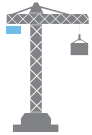


# Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre

Officially opened on 28 November 2015

**Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre** is a new library and community facility built in south-west Christchurch. It includes a library with varied spaces for a range of activities, several large meeting rooms, inclusive community spaces and a Customer Service Desk. There is also a 5,000 square metre outdoor area which includes a swimming pool. The Centre is an accessible, welcoming and inclusive community resource for all.



## Length of construction

Construction started on site on 21 July 2014 and was completed by mid-November 2015



## Project architect

Christchurch City Council Technical Services and Design Team. The lead architect was Crispin Schurr



## Project dollar amount

\$23.1 million



## Size

Situated alongside the Halswell Aquatic Centre, the building is just over 3,000 m<sup>2</sup>. This includes 1800 m<sup>2</sup> for the library and 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> for the community facilities



## Site location

341 Halswell Road, Christchurch



## How was the site chosen?

The choice of a site at 341 Halswell Road, surrounding the Halswell Aquatic Centre, was guided by the consultation findings from the south-west area plan.



## How did Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre get its name?

A community competition was run to name the new centre. 162 potential names were received with the winning name being 'Halswell Centre'. A te reo name was sourced from Tangata Whenua: Te Hāpua. This gives reference to pools of water, and a subtle reference to Waihora (Lake Ellesmere), often referred to as a 'hāpua' or coastal lagoon. The name also references the location of the complex alongside Te Tauawa-a-Maka/Nottingham Stream, an upper tributary of the Huritini/Halswell River, an important source of the lake.



## Special design features

The design has slot shapes in the exterior walls, surrounded by glass where lush vegetation will be planted. People sitting up against the windows will experience the feeling of being in an "intimate oasis"



## Special green features

The building has high natural light levels and passive solar design. Water from the roof is being used to irrigate the planting below.

119 new trees are also being planted around the facility along with substantial low planting in landscaped areas.

The centre has a high level of acoustic treatment and isolation, for user comfort.



Estimated number of litres of water in the pool

There is 450,000 litres of water in the pool.



**Total library collection size**  
45,000



**How many staff will be employed at Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre?**

43, including 20 pool staff during summer



**Public internet access computers**

20 public PCs:

- 16 free internet PCs
- 1 family history PC
- 3 children's PCs
- 30 Learning Centre PCs



**Estimated number of public computer use sessions per annum**  
66,000



Estimated number of users in the library per annum

312,293



**How many people can the community spaces fit?**

Up to 500 in various spaces, the largest of which can accommodate up to 300.

**Estimated number of library items borrowed per annum**  
275,152

