

Submission ID	Notes	Comments - please be as specific as possible to help us understand your views
1215		this is unnecessary, the gardens are well set out and perfectly functional as they stand and do not require an upgrade. A waste of rate payer money.
1264		A. I do not support the removal of the three trees intended to be felled - they have a magnificent presence, and do not prevent viewpaths in any significant way. The trees should be retained. B. Work in connection with the Gallery building (toilets, etc) should only be carried out insofar that they support the reversion of the Gallery to art gallery use. (see attached)
1354		I would like to give my comments and feedback on the spatial plan and botanic gardens in general. The gardens are one of the "Garden City" highlights and I think the spacial plan is excellent. However there is only so much "space". Thanks to our forfathers insight we get to enjoy this wonderful facility. With so much "space" available in the red zone should we not be planning for botanic garden Mark 2... For the next generation. It could take some of the pressure off the existing facility which with increased population and turisum will become a commerical hub leaving BG2 (botanic gardens 2) a new restful Haven. Part of the Avon loop between bardadous and Fitzgerald Ave could be an ideal place for BG2. Back to the existing plan....are there any plans to inprove the access road to the carpark it has stood the test of time but as a first impression it is looking unkept an tired. Thanks for the opertunity to have my say.
1358		As an inner city resident I visit the gardens regularly - at least once a fortnight. While I am generally supportive of plans for the gardens, I think the council needs to concentrate on the basics first. This jewel in the city crown is looking distinctly tarnished. My grandmother Gladys Reading worked in the greenhouses in the 1920s and features in the display about gardens' staff in the visitors' centre. Gladys would turn in her grave if she could see the poor maintenance in the gardens today. Weeds are a common in both planted areas and lawns. It looks as if the council has either cut back on maintenance to save money or simply doesn't have sufficient staff to do the job properly. This should be addressed before any other upgrading is undertaken. I support the need for decent toilet facilities - even the newer ones in the visitor centre are inadequate at busy times and others are well over due for replacement. I support the need for a bridge to the visitor centre. The provision of wheel chairs at the centre is an excellent service, but it presupposes users can walk from the car park to the centre to access them.
1389		I've had a good look at the plans for the botanical gardens and would just like to raise a couple of concerns. 1) what sort of time frame are we looking at - the Gardens & play area are incredibly well used throughout the year. To make them inaccessible for long periods of time would be extremely inconsiderate especially when you consider how unique the gardens are to all ages & cultures. It took months for the bridge alongside Christs College leading to the Gardens to be repaired & my concern is we will be facing the same scenario. 2) Has car parking been addressed? The car park is already grossly inadequate for the amount of people coming to Hagley Park in peak season and, once upgraded, one can only presume that numbers will increase. 3) Please please please don't cut down too many of those gorgeous huge trees - they add such uniqueness to Hagley and many overseas people comment on how amazing they are. Thanks
1397		I have over my lifetime visited the botanic gardens on a regular basis and have always found it of value. There is something of of interest for everyone no matter what age. I am particularly interested in the children's garden development, as myself as a child, and later my children have found the Botanic Gardens a magical place, full of places to discover and things to see. Indeed for many generations the botanic gardens have been central to family gatherings and hold fond memories. I commend the staff of the gardens and our council for keeping it running so well and so open for the enjoyment of the public and visitors alike. I feel that part of our cities healing has been that, with so many of our known icons gone, that the Botanic Gardens has been there... the real heart of our Garden City. I also love that the many paths are well tended and mostly wheelchair accessible (great for when moving an elderly relative around). There are some things I would like to see into the future.... if and when time and money allows. - A walk-through temperate edible food forest & garden - More use of organic methods (and I do know this increases cost and can take a bit more time and you may already be using some... but I hate the "scorched earth" around the trees and would much rather see dense mulch or plantings.

1475		<p>The Botanic Gardens are a source of contentment & interest to us. We enjoy almost weekly visits to</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * the park-like areas of lawns & large trees (particularly deciduous trees that show colour in autumn) * the perennial border area * the old rose garden by the hospital * the wooded paths along the Avon River on the Riccarton Av side & NW corner * the seasonal changes in the flower gardens, shrubs & trees * the small groups of people visiting - (not large tour parties) (love the kids) <p>We would like:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * more parking (numerous times we have gone away because of lack of parks) * more labelling of trees, shrubs & flowers <p>We don't want</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * parking used by Christ College students * more vehicles in the garden so support the new Visitor Centre Bridge as long as it does not increase vehicle numbers
1476		<p>Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft spatial plan.</p> <p>I have read the plan in full and am in support of it. It is as strategic plan for the future and I was particularly pleased to see the following within the plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • shelters and additional toilet facilities • the new bridges from the hospital grounds and the Hagley Park carpark area • the conservatory developments • the recognition of complementing the wider Avon River plantings that are underway.
1477		<p>What what what?? Please tell me I'm reading this map all wrong. Part of the charm of the existing conservatories is that they are separate ... and have their own special history & wonderful benefactors.</p> <p>Why after we have lost so much already would we want to demolish? the alpine, cacti, fernery & begonia (Not now!) buildings. The plants are looking good, the people are enjoying strolling about so why fix what's not broken.</p> <p>The new shop/cafe/education building is quite enough new construction for this decade ... if not century. Could it be that whatever the public say ... the decisions have already been made & I guess this development provides jobs. Trump would be impressed. Not me.</p>
1545		<p>I volunteer as a guide and also with simple gardening tasks in CBG. As a volunteer and regular visitor my concern is the failure of CCC to invest in ongoing maintenance. The heart of a garden is the plants and how well those are cared for...big capital developments are secondary.</p> <p>I have visited many Botanic Gardens in Europe and Australasia. Christchurch has a fantastic legacy left by previous generations in a superb location (try getting to Auckland Bot. Gdns!)</p> <p>It is obvious though, that vital staff have been cut over time and the Gardens are showing the signs of this. If it continues positive feedback will decline and there will be fewer visitors as people become aware of the decline in maintenance and will go elsewhere...no matter what money is spent on capital developments.</p>
1680		<p>I would like to comment on the proposal to build a new conservatory. The most treasured and enjoyed features in the Botanic Gardens are the plants: the trees and shrubs, the gardens, and the lawns. There are already numerous built structures in the gardens and care should be taken not to encroach on to open spaces and garden vistas with new buildings. As a general principle new buildings should not exceed the size of buildings they replace. On the spatial plan three indicative 'envelopes' are shown for the new conservatory. Two of these spaces would encroach on lawns and trees and add an intrusive and major built structure into what is presently a place where trees, birds, flowers, and open space can be enjoyed adjacent to the ever popular rose garden. My submission is that there is only one place that the new conservatory can go, and that is to the north and adjacent to the Cuninghame conservatory so that the intrusion of built structures into the gardens landscape is kept to a minimum.</p>
1689		<p>LEAVE THE BOTANIC GARDENS ALONE!!</p> <p>Obviously someone with lots of time on their hands planned this. Leave the Gardens alone ... they are a place of solitude and beauty now so why change?</p>

1708		<p>Please do not remove the Fernery! Such a kiwi style building! Don't want a new complex, enough buildings in the garden.</p> <p>Too much natives plants on river banks will block the view</p> <p>We want to keep the heritage rose garden!</p> <p>Keep the plants around the Fernery Lake, bulbs, schrubs, ferns, Cypress, Palms, so beautiful in summer-autumn! Too much natives, we want something different than the rest of the city</p> <p>Playground sounds great</p> <p>New water bodies sounds great</p> <p>More toilets is good</p> <p>Should be more artwork</p>
1709		I think this plan is truly changing the character of the garden. Not enough open lawns, too many pathways (and straight!) too much native plants
1758	<i>Attachment 1</i>	<p>5. There needs to be more carparking.</p> <p>2. Prefer b location to a location for this.</p>
1822		<p>1. GENERAL OBSERVATION:</p> <p>(i) There appear to be too many proposed shelters - 6 in total is excessively intrusive;</p> <p>(ii) Why is it proposed to remove the macrocarpa - such a popular and much-loved climbing tree?</p> <p>(iii) Is there evidence that new conservatory buildings are justified east of the Rose Garden?</p> <p>2. SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS / QUERIES:</p> <p>(i) Is the proposed water body west of the playground due to the area being subject to flooding?</p> <p>(ii) What facilities are envisaged within the proposed shelters?</p> <p>(iii) Is there a building renevelope restriction on the size of new structures so that buildings do not "overpower" Botanic Gardens?</p> <p>(iv) Is it proposed to create a new water body on the western side of the river gateway in the woodland / DHB area?</p> <p>(v) What are the river gateway areas intended to display and / or are there more detailed plans yet to be exhibited?</p> <p>3. COMMENTS:</p> <p>(i) My concern is that the Botanic Gardens do not become too pre-occupied with introducing active or structured activities which demand increasing numbers of buildings</p> <p>(ii) What is planned for enhancing the Jurassic area in the BG's northwest sector?</p>
1823		<p>Thank you for the opportunity to "walk through" the proposals with the curator</p> <p>Suggestions for children's play area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Varied coloured plastic equipment looks scruffy - What about a maze? - plants or semi "see-through" elements e.g. metal stakes spaced apart but not able to be penetrated but children can be seen - Plantings that children can run through/round <p>RETAIN historic elements - buildings and garden areas such as rose garden, maple/hydrangeas grove, rhododendron walk, herbaceous border, lime walk, the large trees near the entrance that children play "inside" and the large multi-branched trees nearer the visitor centre - they are wondrous and fun</p>

1831		<p>This is in no particular order.</p> <p>Creating a Gondwana area & having a special place for Canterbury plants is excellent.</p> <p>Replacing the conservatories except Cunningham (what about a special fernery?) possibly do two or more levels - smaller footprint & have a bigger area for displaying specialist plants also more space for offices/workplaces etc..</p> <p>Updating the children's playground & having a pavillion/classroom a needed space.</p> <p>Toilets (both) are outdated & need replacing sometime.</p> <p>New bridge for vehicle access for deliveries and a walking part especially those people using wheelchairs & pushchairs is another improvement.</p> <p>Realigning the path from the bridge nr Peace Bell to path paralell to Information/shop and Ilex Cafe is good.</p> <p>Please keep Heritage Rose collection usually more resitant to pests & diseases plus often have scents too.</p> <p>Rare & endangered plants keep them scattered throughout the gardens hopefully unlabelled less likely to get stolen.</p> <p>I like the idea of the Canterbury river margin section.</p> <p>Magnetic Observatory/Weather station i think the idea of reinstating historic features for a particular display boards with lots of information would be more user-friendly bring it all more together.</p> <p>Eveleyn Couzins memorial gate - if in the wrong place could it be moved or altered to reuse the seating nearby or put where ever? If not that what about the plaque?</p> <p>I like keeping the old Tearooms/Cafe an really excellent idea to be reused for an extra venue for hire? Or something else?</p>
1852		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Make sure all notable trees have a PROPER PLAQUE before them setting out the tree's history, who and when planted etc as well as information about the tree type etc plus a index map showing their locations. 2. Ensure the "woodlands" character of the area south of the Avon and adjoining the hospital, is further enhanced by "infill" planting and replacement where necessary of large deciduous trees with under tree flowers. PATHS need attention. 3. Needs a clear hierarchy of paths i.e. main sealed, secondary metalled? 4. Support proposals - get on with it!!
1867		<p>I think that having the conservatory complex on the lawn next to the rose gardens would be too intrusive on that lovely open area. Having it near the lakes behind Cunningham House would be much better. I'm concerned about the removal of Fowekai House. Is it to be acceptable to the public with its unique collection of plants.</p>
1868		<p>I have mixed feelings about the plan concerning the Botanic Gardens. Some of the facilities should be retained e.g The Cafe Restaurant, The bunting on the River Avon. Over all I support the plan. Examples are New Conservey, Pavillon, changing rooms and the proposed shelter. The proposed Conservancy complex will attract visitors and the Central Lawn setting same thing which will interest you as the proposed Bridges could get more visitors and tourists to the Gardens.</p> <p>Would you note I have read the Spatel report in the Central Library, made available for those who have an interest in the Botanical Gardens.</p>
1869		<p>Take care with what is to be done. All these grand plans sound very expensive. Would it not be better to spend more money on employing more gardeners - the gardens used to be beautiful but are not so now. -</p> <p>The lake next to the kiosk is terrible, the first thing you see as you come into the gardens.</p> <p>The kiosk should go back to being a tea house as the new Visitors Centre is far too small.</p> <p>Cutting down trees seems to be a favourite pastime of the CCC - remember this is a BOTANIC GARDEN and trees take hundreds of years to grow.</p> <p>Do children really need an outdoor classroom being outdoors is surely enough. You should be allowing money for employing and training gardeners - this is an important part of our future</p>
1870		<p>I am very upset about the possibility of the Atlas Ceder and the large Macrocarpa trees on your list to be removed. I work on the caterpillar giving tours and have done for the last 7 years and visitors from all around the world and New Zealand are thrilled by the size of these 2 trees. The area down beside the river across from the lake with all the new planting is also noted by most. I have to say that maybe some of the people making these decisions perhaps need to come and quietly listen to the comments of our overseas visitors on these and other tours through the fabulous Christchurch Botanic Gardens. (The best in the world I tell people) and by the end of the tour you would be amazed how many agree with me.</p>
1871		<p>This all sounds impressive but what has happened and is happening to the Rose Garden. For years these have drawn crowds. NO MENTION is made of this. No maintainence has been done here for some time and a lot of the same (iceberg) roses not good varieties as in the past are being planted. Oamaru has a much better Rose Garden than us now. Do we not employ gardeners only maintainence people for lawn & trees. I visited in January and was very disappointed in the lack of care. IF we the ratepayers are going to pay for all these paths, bridges, lawns we do expect qualified Nurserymen to look after what is left of our plants.</p> <p>Taking trees out and not replacing so that we do not walk on the grass is not user friendly and trees are give out Carbon Dioxide to help with our pollution.</p> <p>We have big IDEAS but in a low wage economy can we afford these.</p>

1879		<p>I work as a Caterpillar Driver driving foreign tourists and New Zealanders around the Botanic Gardens on a daily basis. I have read the public spatial plan form and would like to give my feedback as below.</p> <p>In driving people around the Botanic Gardens up to six times a day, one gets a feel for what is unusual and special in the gardens from the fresh eyes of the public and tourists. I stop the caterpillar ride at the Tropical House and offer the option of taking people through the Fragrance Garden as part of the tour. I find that 80% of the people take up this offer, the others usually head straight into the Rose Gardens. I have noted lately that some of the plants in the Fragrance Gardens haven't been replaced when they have diseased or died and I assume that this may mean that the garden isn't to be continued. I suggest that this garden be retained for the following points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Fragrance has a special way of bringing people into the present, reminding them of special incidents or people in the past. I see travelers shoulders relax as they smell the fragrances, share knowledge and smile; * I've taken blind people through the gardens, some on the Caterpillar and some have wandered past on the roadway with sighted companions. I've suggested they try the garden and they're delighted to go through, having no idea that the garden was right beside the main walkway; * Locals are amazed to find this area and want to know why it's not labelled; * For the children, it's a wonderful learning experience. They pick the leaves and try and identify the fragrance. Who knows what a treat like this can mean to a child who previously had no interest in gardens, but suddenly find the smell and touch is something they can identify with. It's fun watching them clutching handfuls of different leaves and holding them up to their noses with huge smiles on their faces. <p>Rather than remove the garden, could I suggest that a sign be placed beside the main pathway advising people of the Fragrance Garden? Perhaps place signs beside the plants encouraging people to take a leaf, or smell a flower? If there is a medicinal or practical use of the plant, a sign placed to highlight the use.</p> <p>Tourists comment that the Botanic Gardens are the best they've seen in the world (including Kew Gardens). They say that to climb the trees and pick the leaves is unique. They say how lucky we are to be able to do this in our gardens.</p> <p>Another comment from a lot of the tourists is the size of the trees in the gardens. Trees that they thought were big at home, they see here much taller and wider. For example the Macrocarpa which is just a shrub in its native land of Northern California. In reading the plan I understand that the Macrocarpa tree is to be removed (NP on the plan). If I have this correct, I find this incredibly disheartening. Anyone visiting the gardens on a warm day, or even not so warm, will see young and old climbing up the tree getting photos taken. Surely a designer can incorporate such a majestic tree into a plan rather than remove it?</p> <p>I would like to offer to take the designers around the Gardens, as tourists on the caterpillar, so they can experience firsthand as our visitors do and rediscover the importance and significance of each area of these special gardens.</p>
1900		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It is very distressing to see that the magnificent copper beech tree (which is pictured on the cover of your Spatial Plan leaflet) appears to be sacrificed for a large building! Gardens are for plants NOT buildings. This tree is a treasure - PLEASE DO NOT FELL IT! 2. It appears that the trees in the riverside car-parking area are to be removed. These are beautiful and valuable shade trees, a habitat for birds and they add so much to this entrance to the Gardens. They should remain. 3. Why is the Evelyn Couzins Memorial Gateway to be removed? It is an important feature in the history of the Gardens and frames a beautiful vista. 4. Very large areas set aside for Canterbury plants may mean that other areas of interest are sacrificed. Diversity is important.
1903	<i>Attachment 2</i>	<p>Thank you for this opportunity to provide feedback on the final revised Christchurch Botanic Gardens Spatial Plan, February 2017. My feedback relates mainly to the Visitor Centre Bridge, part of Project 31, vehicle circulation and traffic management. It also touches on opportunities for the use of public art and reimagining Christchurch's internationally recognised Garden City status. It is based on my experiences and observations during visits to the Gardens on a frequent (almost daily) basis.</p> <p>1. VISITOR CENTRE BRIDGE It is virtually impossible for anyone to stroll through Christchurch's Botanic Gardens without at some point, having to make way for heavy vehicles, utility trucks, maintenance or delivery vans, even private cars, occasionally at the behest of a horn! (see images 1, 2 in attachment)</p> <p>The decision to build the major new CBG complex without a vehicle access bridge from Armagh Street was a mistake. It means the Botanic Gardens is routinely used as a series of road links for motorised traffic. This is inappropriate, it is unsafe, and it is debilitating in what should be a pedestrian precinct. It is the antithesis of an enjoyable garden experience. Just as cycles are banned from the inner garden sanctuary, so too should motorized vehicles. There must be zero tolerance of vehicles, other than for approved exceptional or circumspect needs. (see images 3, 4 in attachment)</p> <p>That is why -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * The highest priority should be given to eliminating all vehicle and pedestrian conflicts from Christchurch Botanic Gardens by constructing, in the first instance, a vehicle-only access bridge between Armagh Street carpark into the CBG Complex yard; and * This bridge should be prioritised for inclusion in the Council's 2018 LTCP, with costs for its design and construction allocated to years 2018/2019.

		<p>It's worth noting that this bridge would arguably be an essential first step in the realisation of the CBG Spatial Plan itself, by lessening the impact of the growing number of vehicle movements associated with the proposed development and construction of the Botanic Gardens during the years to come. Regardless of whether or not a new bridge is supported, eventually funded and constructed, action should be taken now to curb the existing vehicle nuisance with:</p> <p>* A review of vehicle movements throughout the inner gardens with the aim of adopting approved protocols for traffic movements that will reduce vehicle nuisance. This survey of vehicle use might include -</p> <p>a) The appropriateness of vehicles for the task at hand in a sensitive garden environment. (The oversized truck on the left is used for CBG rubbish collection. Buggies, as depicted on the right, are used to collect garbage from the inner areas of Central Park, New York). (see images 5, 6 in attachment)</p> <p>b) Whether workers based at the CBG complex, or staff and external consultants meeting on site need to park or drive through the inner Gardens, when there are public carparks nearby? Should designated parking areas be allocated within those carparks for work-related vehicles and visits? (see images 7,8 in attachment)</p> <p>c) Whether deliveries to the CBG complex are restricted so they only occur outside popular public visiting hours? Whether this should apply to event installations and deconstructions too? Ironically even the Friends of the Gardens seem to have taken to their cars to open up the plant sales kiosk. (see images 9, 10 in attachment)</p> <p>d) Whether all vehicle use associated with the ongoing maintenance, care and development of the Gardens is undertaken in a manner that respects visitor enjoyment and experience.</p> <p>Two other points.</p> <p>* Vehicle circulation It's unclear to what extent light traffic would continue to circulate between the Tea Kiosk and the Riccarton Avenue bridge, if direct access via a bridge into the CBG complex exists. From my on-site observations, a number of the light vehicle movements through the Gardens are absolutely unnecessary and could be minimised with a designated short-stop/drop off parking zone in the adjacent Armagh Street carpark. If however it is ultimately decided that there is a convincing need for light vehicles to continue to make this journey, I suggest their movements are restricted to outside popular visiting hours.</p> <p>* The necessity for a new pedestrian bridge to access the Visitor Centre If it is agreed that the higher objective of the new access bridge is to empty the Botanic Gardens of vehicles, it's unclear why heavy vehicles and pedestrians would then be merged together in a major new bridge gateway experience, albeit separated by design elements. If the rationale is to get visitors straight into what is not so much a Visitor Centre, but primarily a retail store and cafe, the Botanic Gardens experience could start to become little more than that.</p> <p>I suggest -</p> <p>* The proposed additional pedestrian bridge linking Armagh Street carpark with the CBG Complex be deferred for the time being.</p> <p>2. PUBLIC ART IN CHRISTCHURCH'S BOTANIC GARDENS Christchurch's Botanic Gardens is a natural outdoor gallery to position public art of high quality. There is ample scope for implementing its exciting use in association with the Public Art Advisory Group and the arts community in the development of this Spatial Plan.</p> <p>When it comes to the existing heritage sculptures in the Gardens it would be worthwhile considering placing a concisely-worded interpretation panel providing brief biographical details of the individual artworks.</p> <p>3. CHRISTCHURCH'S GARDEN CITY HERITAGE I am surprised that there is no reference to Christchurch's acclaimed Garden City heritage in 2.2 Context and Significance, p.14 of the Spatial Plan. The only reference to it on p.28 of the Plan - Garden City traditions of colour and seasonal display - seems to consign the city's garden identity to outdated but quaint garden practice. This Yates Garden Guide approach lacks imagination. There can be no better opportunity to re-imagine Christchurch's Garden City brand with a modernised attitude and approach, utilising it in its widest possible sense in the renewal and revitalisation of not only Christchurch Botanic Gardens, but the city and region.</p>
1906		<p>I find the spatial plan very vague.</p> <p>Would it affect any existing plant/tree collection? I hope not!</p> <p>The spatial plan only focus on the Botanic Gardens, meanwhile there is a large increase of native planting around the city (Red zone, Port Hills, river ...). The gardens should offer a different experience for visitors instead of repeating the same things on and on!</p>
1907		<p>I would not want to see any of the Heritage buildings destroyed e.g. Townend House. Also no lovely trees removed to be replaced by others thought to be a bit different. I think the lovely kiosk should be offering at least some cabinet food so we can sit and watch children playing in the pool. I hope to see all the lovely flower beds that we are used to. Also the lovely displays in the begonia house and all the interesting plants in the Townend House</p>
1908	<i>Attachment 3</i>	<p>The Spatial plan gives much food for thought on the future of Christchurch Botanic Gardens. As a member of the Friends of the Gardens and a retired volunteer guide in the Gardens, I have spent many hours there over the last 28 years and have visited quite a number of Botanic Gardens in New Zealand and overseas. I attended on of John Clemens walks recently and I support the proposals in the Plan and am impressed by the details provided.</p>

A few thoughts ...

The Morton Arboretum in Chicago (www.mortonarb.org) has an innovative and appealing children's area.

My granddaughters from Wellington love our Botanic Gardens and climbing has a great appeal. They like to be measured against the Wollemi Pine each time. Maybe some growth statistics could be shown on the protective fence and a measuring stick attached. (How much have I grown compared to the Wollemi Pine?)

I can find no mention of the Arbor in the Children's Playground which was donated by the Friends of the Botanic Garden to provide shade for families. What is the proposal for this structure?

What a worthy project to have a Pavilion and outdoor classroom to encourage an early appreciation of plants and their vital importance to human life on this earth. The Chelsea Physic Garden was used as a resource for teaching so many curriculum subjects apart from botany. Examples include medicine, geography, history, maths, science, art and commerce.

Trees marked for possible removal

Removing trees can be a very emotional topic but as long as there are still trees of the same species left in our Gardens, the following ideas could attract positive interest, when the time does come, to remove some of the great old trees e.g. Atlas Cedar and Macrocarpa.

Maybe an event or ceremony with photos taken could be arranged to 'Farewell' such special trees with stories and history of the trees. (This chance to say goodbye and share stories, especially from staff and former staff, could help when buildings are taken down).

In the UK there have been projects to use every bit of trees, once cut. See attached pages about ONEOAK Exhibition Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh. See www.OneOak.info

Here, after the quakes, at Canterbury Museum we had the WHOLD HOUSE REUSE PROJECT in 2013 set up by REKINDLE see www.wholehouseuse.co.nz/ (This tells some of the story of the project, of a home that would have otherwise been destined for waste, being deconstructed and transformed into ... Nearly 400 objects created by reusing every single piece of 19... home in New Brighton, Christchurch which was scheduled for demolition in 201).

There will be other uses from the felled trees apart from the many uses for the timber e.g. the compost potential. If positive publicity is given it may not be such an issue to lose loved trees.

Evelyn Couzins (Mayor of Christchurch 1941 to 1945)

IF/WHEN the memorial to Evelyn Cousins is moved or removed, please ensure some recognition remains with a plaque perhaps.

Pathway Changes

Some of the proposed pathway changes were well explained by John Clemens on his walk. When I was a Guide in the Gardens, one of the joys was taking local visitors and overseas folk to explore the quieter more sheltered parts, often quite unknown to locals. So keeping some of these lesser used and possibly obscured paths, will be a welcome contrast to the proposed more open vistas on main routes.

Visitor Centre Bridges

I fully approve of a bridge for vehicles and separate one, but possibly somehow attached, for pedestrians to arrive at the new Visitor Centre from the Carpark. Lighting for night time events will be needed. This new access would seem to be top priority and also remove much vehicle traffic crossing the Gardens.

Staffing

Many of the grounds staff will no doubt be involved in the extra work this plan will bring. This could mean additional funding in the budget to enable extra help to maintain the grounds in the best possible way, especially in light of our Garden City title.

Conclusion

Many residents know and love the Gardens just as they are, but with well-considered and accurate information published over time, these new proposals should receive general acceptance and new features become loved in their time.

1921		<p>More money should be spent on maintaining and improving current features of the Gardens eg,. species signage, rather than spending on additional structures.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Possible shared toilets by Robert McDougall/Museum redevelopment - location identified as 1 on Spatial Plan is very poor. Visually obnoxious, and indiscreet. Current facilities should be renovated sympathetically. 2. no need to remove Evelyn Couzins Gateway. It provides visual interest and seating. 3. New conservatory complex building suggested in front of Rose Garden on Spatial Plan is a disastrous location. Would hugely compromise the area visually if fitted into existing plantings, and possibly necessitate the removal of existing plantings if large size, which is totally unacceptable and unnecessary. Location behind current conservatory building Cunningham House is better as long as it is sympathetically designed and to scale. 4. It is not necessary to extend the area devoted to the evolution of the Canterbury Plains as further planting would not fit in with existing exotic planting and would visually compromise the open aspect of the Gardens. Native plants of NZ are accessible in other NZ locations visited by tourists and known to NZ'ers. The Botanic Gardens are valued for their open aspect and the Victorian heritage of Christchurch and the existing native plantings are adequate to explain their role in Canterbury. 5. Care must be taken in expanding the childrens area as there is a danger of hard structures cluttering the existing vistas. Childrens adventure play is catered for at the Margaret Mahy playground. Children can already engage with nature in the Gardens through running, walking and playing in autumn leaves, and in the play pool. Some educational facilities might be desirable but must not compromise existing vistas and restorative values of the Gardens. 6. Gateway bridges - added access to the Gardens is needed and MUST be sympathetically designed and to scale with their locations.
1922	Christchurch and Canterbury Tourism	<p>Christchurch and Canterbury Tourism is the destination marketing agency for the city of Christchurch. We submit the following for consideration:</p> <p>INTRODUCTION: Tourism is a leading economic sector in Christchurch. Each year an estimated 1,287,154 international and 1,267,503 domestic visitors stay overnight in our city, with an estimated annual spend of international and domestic visitors to the Christchurch area is \$332 million.</p> <p>The Christchurch Botanic Gardens is the most visited free, Christchurch visitor attraction. In the Summer of 2016 there was an estimated 56,008 visitors to the Christchurch Botanic Gardens. The Botanic Gardens is rated as Christchurch visitors second best experience (behind "friendly welcoming residents").</p> <p>The CCT Visitor Insights research July- December 2016 named the Christchurch Botanic Gardens in the top three visitor attractions in Christchurch.</p> <p>"The Botanic Gardens are beautiful" "The gardens are very pretty. Lovely flowers everywhere" "Visiting your amazing gardens. So green and pretty." "The first thing I think of is the beautiful botanic gardens" "I think of visiting local attractions and natural beauty"</p> <p>JOURNEY: In order to provide a world-class, unique experience we support the establishment of a journey proposition through the Botanic Gardens. This would include the proposed unique NZ plants and sub-Antarctic plantings, Gondwana and Heritage stories– indigenous and colonial including the Ngai Tahu stories around Mahinga Kai.</p> <p>The addition of these story telling components of the Botanic Gardens experience would allow our visitors to understand more about the city pre colonisation as well as giving our visitors a uniquely New Zealand experience.</p> <p>We would encourage all access points have NZ plantings to ensure a unique welcome and experience to visitors. This would ensure there was a unique selling point in the marketing of the Gardens as a must-see attraction.</p> <p>HOURS: We would like consideration given to opening the Gardens and built attractions within the Gardens such as the conservatories for longer, especially in Summer. This would allow conference organisers to utilise the Gardens buildings for the conference and group markets for special events.</p> <p>The Christchurch Visitor Centre has received feedback from the visitors about their disappointment in the limited access to the conservatories during the current Gardens operating hours.</p> <p>EVENTS: Events held at the Gardens have been well received by residents and the visitor market. The visiting friends and relatives (VFR) visitor cohort is very high for Christchurch and the visitor experience is intertwined with the residents.</p> <p>Highlights include Botanic D'Lights, Christmas decorations, Summer weekend afternoon concerts and the current Jenny Gillies exhibition. Consideration could also be given to include live theatre to further bring the Gardens into the lives of our residents and add value to the visitor experience in summer.</p> <p>ENTRY:</p>

Armagh Street:

In the Summer of 2016, 42% of all visitors to the Gardens gained access via the Armagh Street entrance compared to 22% visitors who gained entry via Rolleston Avenue.

Therefore it is essential not only that the proposed Visitor Centre Bridge be functional for both vehicles and pedestrians, but that it also be visually attractive as it is the key entry point and feature of the Gardens to many visitors.

A well-designed pedestrian access is essential for elderly visitors and people with disabilities. The bridge would also provide necessary vehicle access to event contractors (services such as theming, audio visual, etc). The proposed joint access is key to a wide range of opportunities to improve and increase the visitor experience. It will lead to increased visitor connection with the Gardens Visitor Centre, as well as the ability to encourage the site to be used as a key visitor event site.

There also needs to be consideration given for coaches, this includes coach parking, ease of turning and access of visitors into the Gardens Visitor Centre and surrounds.

Rolleston Avenue:

To ensure a warm Christchurch and New Zealand welcome, there should be a new main entry to the Gardens from Rolleston Avenue. Consideration should be given to the correct infrastructure. This could include allowing area for a gathering space for events and/or welcome, signage (including hours) and information delivery (including multi-lingual), as well as having a prominent New Zealand native focus to ensure the Christchurch Botanic Gardens has a unique selling point from other cities. We would like consideration for this important visitor infrastructure be featured at all key entrances (Armagh St, Rolleston Ave and Riccarton Ave).

INFRASTRUCTURE:

There needs to be an increase in the number and placement of bathroom facilities provided within the grounds of the Gardens. An increase in such facilities will ensure a better experience by tour groups, especially the elderly. There should also be improved signage on where these are located. Shelters are also necessary given Christchurch's weather.

MAINTENANCE:

We are aware Council's Parks Management are addressing around immediate maintenance issues including the upkeep of the paths and garden beds at the Christchurch Botanic Gardens. This work is essential to ensure visitors can enjoy a world class gardens experience.

FUTURE RESEARCH:

We would like to encourage market research be undertaken to ensure knowledge is gained as to what visitors are wanting when they go to the gardens. This would be segmented to gain the views of visitors wanting a pleasant place to go for a short walk, to international experts on gardens and plants. This would ensure visitors individual needs are catered for in the Gardens experience as well as in surrounding infrastructure (ie information, signage, walking routes, story-telling, guided tours etc.).

1923

I am a resident of Christchurch and a mother of two adult children who have grown up in Christchurch during which time we frequented the Botanic Gardens. I have a Masters in Environmental Policy and have a sound understanding of the Statutory Planning Processes and Kaitiakitanga. I am employed as a Caterpillar Tour Guide in the gardens and I have engaged with locals and visitors throughout my garden tours.

I wish to make several comments on the Spatial Plan which is proposed for the Botanic Gardens.

I agree that it is important to ensure that the features that make the gardens unique (in terms of the collection; landscape and heritage) are not lost.

To me some of these unique features include from: the history of the planting; the choice of trees; the New Zealand Native Area; the formal and informal plantings (Amstrong lawn and the herbaceous boarder); the Archery Lawn; to intrigues such as the Benthams Cornell with the fascinating fruit. But also importantly, I love seeing the way people enjoy the gardens, from families playing in the autumn leaves to teenagers just hanging out under the trees in the spacious areas. Tourists have often commented how it is so good to see so many people just relaxing in the gardens and how beautiful the gardens are.

I am therefore concerned that some of the modifications suggested in the Spatial Plan may compromise the feeling of space and naturalness of the Gardens.

The suggested changes next to the Gondwanaland area, where playgrounds and class rooms are proposed, will I believe reduce the sense of space between the family area and the Avon River. I have often seen families, groups of teenagers and many individuals just sitting and spending time in this area. I see it as a place for people to relax and enjoy being in a natural environment. I therefore question the benefit of constructions to emulate the natural environment when the Gardens already has the New Zealand Native Area. This native area already provides such a good area for understanding our natural environment as well as how Maori lived within the forest. It has the resources of the Kawakawa, the Cabbage Trees, native flax as well as all the native bird life which lives in this area. It provides a complete ecosystem which would not be provided in the proposed educational development in the Spatial Plan I would like the proposal to redevelop the family area next to Gondwanaland to be reassessed to give higher priority to retaining open spaces and using resources the Garden already has for educational purposes.

The Spatial plans includes removal of the Macrocarpa tree opposite the Ilex Centre. Is this a safety issue? This is a very popular playground and this can be seen by how polished the trunk edifices are.

Both local and visiting children love climbing this tree and I have seen many photos taken of children beaming while sitting in the tree.

Another area which children love is the Sensory Garden. On the Caterpillar Tour we stop off at the Tropical House so that people can enjoy the Rose Garden, the Tropical House, and the Cacti, Orchid and Townsend rooms. I also encourage people to walk through the Sensory Garden This allows people to physically engage with nature. Visitors to the Gardens are so surprised to be allowed to pluck leaves off a plant and they enjoy the surprisingly different smells and touch sensations which they encounter. I find that children particularly enjoy the sensory garden and it comes across to me as a completely unique experience for them. I would like to see the Sensory Garden retained and nurtured.

The Spatial Plan suggests a revamp of the entrances to the Gardens. I agree that the entrance next to the Museum could be improved. Now that the temporary ISite has been relocated, a more informative Gateway area could enhance the experience and understanding of the Gardens. However, I do not agree that a traffic bridge is required next to the Ilex Centre. Current access for traffic, including heavy traffic, is sufficient for activities within the Gardens. From my experience, current traffic movement within the Gardens is sporadic with minimal disturbance to the ambience of the gardens.

I would like to know why it has been proposed that the Evelyn Couzins Gateway to the Archery Lawn is to be removed and the pathways realigned? I see this gateway as a heritage feature of the garden and enables the flow into the Archery Lawn.

Overall the Spatial Plan appears to be increasing the Social Construction footprint within the Gardens, and this includes next to the rose garden and behind the Tropical House, and the numerous shelters which are suggested. These constructions at the expense of the sense of open spaces in the gardens. I believe that the Christchurch Botanic Gardens has a great structure and this reflects our heritage as a multicultural city. I would like the Spatial Plan to focus more on enhancing the gardens within this great structure by giving a higher priority to nurturing the Flora and Fauna, as well as providing more investment in Botanic research and development to make our Botanic Gardens even more impressive. Lets not move away from the natural beauty that everyone seem to enjoy in our Gardens.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my points in this submission.

1929	<p>We applaud the council's initiative in seeking to advance the development of the 2007 Master Plan which had resulted from extensive consultation. It is very pleasing that the council decided to reopen consultation (overturning a committee recommendation to proceed with the Spatial Plan forthwith), given the enormity of disruption to Christchurch and its citizens since late 2010.</p> <p>The Spatial Plan clearly aims at bringing to life the series of projects in the Master Plan within an ordered structure. This structuring has been much needed, but the question is: how much should the gardens be changed to accommodate this thematic base which drives the Spatial Plan?</p> <p>In our view the top priority should be to raise the standards of care and maintenance of the existing gardens by putting money into funding extra gardening positions, apprenticeships, professional development and the like. This will help ensure that the former world class status of this city treasure is re-established. Please refer to a suggestion in point 7.</p> <p>Aspects of concern to us in the Spatial Plan</p> <p>1 - The proposal to place a toilet block in the corner between McDougall Art Gallery and Museum wing would deprive the entrance axis of a small but very important horticultural feature. The toilet block near the McDougall could surely be modified, upgraded inside and out, to harmonise with its surrounds and to function as an effective public facility.</p> <p>2 - The proposal to remove the Evelyn Couzins Gateway to the Archery Lawn appears to offer no aesthetic or practical benefit, diverting funds from other more important tasks or projects: this gateway has heritage values associated with it which we consider should be retained "" and enhanced, if anything.</p> <p>3 - The proposal to aggregate greenhouse buildings either in front of the rose garden or behind Townsend House building offer possible benefits, but only if placed in the area behind Townsend building. Any incursion into the other area would mean the profligate loss of significant trees and loss of important vista.</p> <p>4 - The extent of the proposed Canterbury plantings / native plantings depends very largely on whether or not existing large exotic trees are to be removed. If the natives are to exist as underplanting, judicious selection and layout of native species would be acceptable. The question of focus (seeing the trees for the woods, so to speak) would be important. An issue of balance is the extent to which native grasses are to dominate large areas - especially given their ubiquity in the landscape and in urban and suburban settings now.</p> <p>5 - Children's areas, again a matter of balance: the laudable goal of familiarising children with plants and gardens and educating them about them should not give way to the desire to provide extended 'play' areas in the gardens. The city has many play areas for children, not least the Margaret Mahy Family Playground which provides enormous scope for play.</p> <p>6 - The bridges: the material and visual character of the proposed bridges needs to be considered with great care. They are necessary, practical additions, but to prevent their being intrusions a great deal of care needs to be taken with their design.</p> <p>7 - A link to the opening statement: the visual quality and educational effectiveness of the gardens could be greatly improved by something as simple as a significant upgrade and extension of species ID signage; presently it's extremely hit and miss and very poorly designed and presented, well past the use-by date!</p> <p>[Note: A project by a senior student at Cashmere High School to design a set of plants /trees ID "plaques" for the school grounds a number of years ago proved to be very successful. I will send in a scanned image if I can locate a photo I took as the student's art teacher at the time.]</p> <p>Overall: it is imperative that in the desire to update the Botanic Gardens the existing "natural" rhythm of open spaces, close planting and "structural" large trees is not spoilt by unnecessary clutter, particularly with elements which don't have a place in a gardens of this type. To this end, our suggestion is that local urban and suburban parks (Abberley, Woodham etc) might be developed as satellites of the Botanic Gardens in which specialist plantings and groupings could be situated. The red zone itself surely also offers such opportunities in the longer term.</p>
1930	<p>It appears that there are to be a number of new water bodies proposed. it is very difficult on the plans provided to differentiate "the proposed" from "the existing" and I am wondering why there needs to be more water bodies in an area so close to the Otakaro- Avon River.</p> <p>I am concerned at the inclusion of several new "River Gateways" of varying sizes. What is their purpose, what will their effect be on the existing riverside pathways where I and many others walk our dogs (on leads) on a daily basis.</p> <p>It appears that there is an extensive Mahinga Kai proposed for development in the north west sector of the site and whilst I think that this will be a valuable addition and could become a notable point of difference for our garden, I assume that this major work and its on going maintenance will be funded by Ngai Tuahuriri and or Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu.</p> <p>I would like to think that there will be an opportunity for "ongoing engagement" as progress on implementation of the Spatial Plan proceeds.</p>

1931	<p>I found this plan difficult to decipher, but from what I could understand here are my views. That the Spatial Plan should be more concerned with botanical input instead of buildings and hard landscaping.</p> <p>Thoughts on proposed projects:</p> <p>(1) Gondwana Garden Does this take in the existing Native Garden? As this could certainly do with some restoration. It would be good to take some pointers from the brilliantly successful Australian Botanic Garden at Cranbourne, near Melbourne, in terms of design and education and adapting similar concepts for a Gondwana Garden.</p> <p>(2) Childrens Garden A natural adventurous environment including trees, plants, foliage and organic materials rather than a built environment and brightly coloured plastic play equipment</p> <p>(3) Conservatory Please retain the existing authentic Victorian Conservatory as the focus of any conservatory development. It says it all about Conservatory Heritage as well as a successful environment for Tropical plants. What is new conservatory space to be used for? Why do we need it? Please don't upstage with a contemporary building, spoiling the character of the buildings we already have!!</p> <p>(4) Bridge to Visitors Centre Why is this necessary? There is a perfectly good bridge from the car-park to the charming octagonal building which reflects the era of the Botanical Gardens. The new Visitors Centre is an ugly squat glasshouse which seems to be more about commercial interests than anything else. It seems to consist mostly of shop and cafe which has an inadequate kitchen, and toilet facilities which take up a lot of space but are also inadequate. There should have been much more space allocated to the exhibition/educational areas which is cramped and doesn't show off the excellent displays to best advantage. Altogether a badly designed building which has no aesthetic value!!</p> <p>Why is there virtually no planting around this Visitor Centre? This is a Botanic Garden, yet there is nothing but a handful of badly shaped specimen trees in a vast empty lawn. Is this for the architects ego - that he wanted the view to his poorly designed building unobstructed by plants?? Never mind that it happens to be sitting in the middle of a Botanic Garden. PLEASE NO MORE BUILDINGS - JUST GARDEN AND PLANTS</p>
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1932		<p>The gardens are already enjoyed by over one million people a year. This shows we don't need to make huge changes. It's true the gardens have changed over time but a large part of their appeal is their constancy. The stability of no drastic changes is important to the local community particularly after the Canterbury earthquakes. The gardens have been an important sanctuary.</p> <p>People need to be allowed to explore and find their own way around. Please don't put in lots more paths or cut down trees to improve sightlines and circulation. Trees can act as totems, sign posts, markers for finding one's own way.</p> <p>Intuitive, self-guided navigation through the gardens does not need we mean to have our way dictated by someone else. Part of the existing charm of the gardens is the element of self-discovery. People actually treasure the quirkiness of paths that don't necessarily connect up... where they can get a little bit 'lost'. It's not something to be fixed! It's something to be valued.</p> <p>Keep the macrocarpa tree on the path between Cunningham House and the Visitors Centre. Kids love climbing in it and enjoy simply looking up at it for its large size and shape. Trees are important as their scale reminds us all of who we are.</p> <p>Kids also love the hedge in the children's play area. Please keep this as part of the redevelopment. And please keep the open grass area around the kids' area. It's easier to keep an eye on children and avoid dodgy people covertly watching them. It is pretty obvious at the moment if someone is lurking around that should not be. Why not build any new conservatory complex on or as part of the old kiosk. It is closer to the children's area and could used to incorporate teaching.</p> <p>It would be cool if the playground could have giant plants and flower structures the kids could play on, like they were in a giant garden. Similar to the beautiful metal sculptures already present, like the big daffodil, the rose, the leaves, etc but bigger and more robustly suitable for playing on or under.</p> <p>I'm opposed to the new conservatory complex on the central lawn (site option 1) and to removal of the fernery (site option 2). Option 1 would mean loss of precious open space. Option 2 encroaches on the charm of the lakelet and the fernery is a magical place for children.</p> <p>Please don't put a boardwalk in for the lakelet next to the old visitors' centre. There is a lovely winding gravel path already. New hard landscaping, particular with unnatural straight lines, would detract from the relaxing atmosphere of the lakelet.</p> <p>I really like the idea of the dual bridge across the Avon from the Armagh Street carpark to the new visitors centre as this will reduce vehicle flow through the gardens. But I don't want trees removed from the Armagh Street carpark or a tree-unfriendly, non-permeable carpark surface such as asphalt or concrete. The tree filled carpark is a really beautiful place - it's the most beautiful carpark in town! Please don't change it. But I don't want a bridge in the native area because the existing area has a wild natural feel and a bridge would detract from it. I don't want a bridge from the hospital to the curator's garden area. There are already bridges to go over either side at Rolleston Ave and the band rotunda.</p> <p>Please keep or add introduced trees for colour/contrast with any new native planting. I love our native flora but also love the colourful diversity of deciduous trees.</p> <p>And please don't seal existing pathways. We travel primarily on hard surfaces in an urban environment and the gardens are a place where people can experience natural surfaces, grass, and a connection with the earth. We don't want to see more of the buildings! Please don't cut down the trees around the McDougall gallery. It's nice how it's nestled into greenery.</p> <p>Surely part of the gardens' mission is repeat visitors, like we've been for many years. Part of the draw is being able to go back and see things you haven't seen before. Removing trees so you can see everything detracts from this. Don't erode the present charm by making everything visible, everything obvious, telling people where to go and how to experience the space. Having distinct, unique areas of charm and interest that can be rediscovered time and time again is an existing strength of the gardens. Keep it a place that people want to keep coming back to!</p> <p>People get outside less and less in this digital age. You don't need to 'fancy up' the gardens. Yes, upgrade the playground, yes keep things maintained - but keep the magic that we've already got.</p>
2138	<i>Attachment 4</i>	
2139		<p>I consider any major revamp of our beautiful gardens to be grossly inappropriate use of money - this a time with many more urgent priorities - roads, footpaths, cycle-ways etc.</p> <p>The two bridges are ridiculous and unnecessary. There are enough as it stands.</p> <p>My ideal vision for the gardens is to not tinker with them apart from a gentle tidy-up of the beds and better labelling for more plants plus better pedestrian surfaces throughout that don't get muddy in the water.</p>
2141		<p>I love your plans for the children's garden.</p> <p>I would love to see a grand entrance to the gardens in between the museum and the Curators place. At present the gate nearest to the museum and the one that goes to the carpark have no impact whatsoever.</p>
2142	<i>Attachment 5</i>	Heritage New Zealand

2143	<p>"I don't know if things will improve, if we change BUT I do know that to improve; things must change".</p> <p>I feel the "Botanic Gardens" are currently being run as a glorified park: with deteriorating horticultural standards and management/team dysfunctional. Please reassess where the cities parks are at - current standards are not acceptable. If the spatial plan gives me clarity & Vision to achieve the cities aims & aspirations for the CBG; then I am all for supporting it BUT if the spatial plan is just a red herring to the business at the botanic gardens: horticulture/education/collections/interpretation then I'd say please do the basics & do these well - which they are currently not!!</p>
2145	<p>Historic Places Canterbury welcomes the development of a spatial plan for the Botanic Gardens and the opportunity to comment on it. We support the broad principles outlined in the plan and trust that there will be future opportunities to comment on more detailed projects that result from the spatial plan.</p> <p>We recognise the importance of having an overall view and vision for the direction of the Botanic Gardens. However, we wish to stress that in our view, before any further major expenditure occurs on, for example, rebuilt conservatories, it is vital that the standards of care and maintenance of the existing gardens is raised by putting money into funding extra gardening positions, apprenticeships, professional development and the like. The visual quality and educational effectiveness of the gardens could be greatly improved by something as simple as a significant upgrade and extension of species ID signage; presently it is extremely hit-and-miss and very poorly designed and presented. Ahead of more grandiose schemes, we need these sorts of measures to ensure that the world-class status of this city treasure is re-established and maintained.</p> <p>Aspects of concern in the Spatial Plan</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It appears from the plan that it is proposed to locate new toilets in the corner between the McDougall Art Gallery and the Museum. If this is so, we consider that it is a visually intrusive location and quite inappropriate. The rather awkward conjunction of the two buildings is at present attractively disguised by planting, which nevertheless still allows glimpses of the brick wall of the McDougall. The toilet block near the McDougall could surely be modified, upgraded inside and out, to harmonise with its surrounds and to function as an effective public facility. 2. The proposal to remove the Evelyn Couzins Gateway to the Archery Lawn appears to offer no aesthetic or practical benefit, diverting funds from other more important tasks or projects. It provides a useful meeting place with seating and attractive vistas. This commemorative feature should not be removed without appropriate consultation and consideration of alternatives. 3. Of the suggested locations for new conservatory buildings, the area to the east and south of the rose garden is completely inappropriate. It is unclear whether it would be designed to fit around existing trees, or whether this location would involve removal of trees. The latter approach would be entirely unacceptable, involving the loss of trees of significant scale. On the other hand, if it is intended to fit conservatories around existing trees, this would only result in visual clutter and loss of important vistas and potential damage to root systems of the trees. The option to redesign in the area around Cunningham House is more acceptable, though design and scale would require careful consideration. 4. We are concerned at the proposed extent of plantings showing the evolution of Canterbury plants. For example the area to the south and southwest of the rose garden is shown as intended for native planting. At present this area contains a number of large and interesting exotic trees. Underplanting of this area with shade-tolerant natives would completely change the character of this area and be unacceptable. While it is desirable and appropriate for the Botanic Gardens to highlight and educate about the plants which are unique to our region it would be unfortunate if this were to be achieved at the expense of the exotic plants planted by our forebears. A great many people also want to know about the exotic species to be found in our region. The large swathes of dark green shown on the spatial plan also suggest the probability that the present park-like openness of many of those area (especially around the children's playground) could be lost. Balance will be all important. It should be remembered that the Christchurch Botanic Gardens, now over 150 years old, had its origins in the Victorian impulse to create encyclopedic collections of the world's plants for scientific and educational, as well as recreational, purposes. These original intentions are part of the garden's heritage and should not be lost sight of in an urge to emphasize local distinctiveness at the expense of a wider vision of what a botanic garden can and indeed should be. 5. We are concerned that the proposals for the children's area risk clutter, loss of vistas and increasing use of hard structures. Familiarizing children with plants and gardens and educating them is a laudable goal but careful design will be needed to avoid the dangers listed above. We recognize that the existing playground provides the useful role of drawing parents with their children to the gardens but providing extended play areas for children is not essential to the role of the Botanic gardens. The city has many play areas for children, not least the magnet which is the Margaret Mahy Family Playground, created at considerable cost. The whole of the gardens provides a natural play area with extensive lawn areas, trees to hide behind, autumn leaves to play in. We question the need or appropriateness of designing specific wilderness play areas. This is a great concept but one that could surely be met in other parks throughout the city or in a designated area of the Red Zone. 6. We support the planned location of the proposed new bridges but the material and visual character of them needs to be considered with great care; the illustrations provided in the Spatial Plan hopefully were provided as a rough guide only. <p>The feature of the Botanic Gardens which is most greatly admired is the existing "natural" rhythm of open spaces, close planting and "structural" large trees, not spoilt by unnecessary clutter. Botanic gardens aspire to meet a wide range of educational and other purposes but with a tightly confined site, there is a real danger that the key quality which makes the current gardens so appealing could be lost in the desire to meet all possible needs and aspirations. The question that has not been raised, but perhaps which should be, is have we reached a point where in order to avoid unnecessary clutter and loss of what we most value about the gardens, is it now time to develop a concept of satellite gardens which could provide the room for extended plantings on a particular theme? Already there are examples of specialized plantings such as the Heritage Rose Garden at Beverley Park, the fuchsia and iris gardens at Mona Vale and the sister-city gardens at Halswell Quarry. Certain of our heritage parks contain rare plants which could usefully be incorporated into a city-wide plant identification system. The Red Zone opens up another possibility for themed gardens and might be a more appropriate and</p>

		expansive location for gardens themed around the plants of the Canterbury Plains. These could be linked with actual remnants (Deans Bush) or restored areas e.g. Travis Swamp. Is it too far-fetched to envisage the day when visitors to the Botanic Gardens might also be able to take minibus trips to these satellite garden, so that Christchurch would truly begin to live up to its name as a Garden City.
2155	Submission on Christchurch Botanic Gardens Spatial Plan 2017	<p>My first thought was puzzlement over the title of the plan, because there is not enough space; however, I was surprised to see that the chunk out of the river loop made by Christ's College has been there since the beginning, so the Gardens have been successful with the management of the ground they do have.</p> <p>The Spatial Plan is very good, and has obviously utilised a lot of research, including Botanic Gardens overseas, and has already undergone a one round of consultation. I am not qualified to speak on mahinga kai aspects but the other subject divisions make sense. I also found the Curator's guided walk of great benefit. The Visitor Centre Bridge proposals seem logical, and I was surprised to hear that there is opposition.</p> <p>My own special interest has been in the trees, and I have spent a few summer hours trying to make an inventory of the trees listed in your brochures "Notable Trees" and "Commemorative Plantings", which may now be out of print. It was difficult to discover what the fate of these would be under the Spatial Plan. Although there is a surfeit of trees planted by successive presidents of Rotary International which do not commemorate any event other than their visits, nevertheless in total they still represent a path of "discovery" in the sense of the Plan's section of this name. It is true that some have failed, some plaques have been half-buried by tree-root subsidence, and some have been removed or transplanted during developments. I also understand that plaques are now unacceptable, and the issue with space is clear from the number planted over the river outside the traditional confines of the Gardens, such as the Bhutan Pine planted by His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama in the Pinetum. I can see my interest in these trees is out-dated, but I wonder whether they might not make another perspective on history if they were "connected" in the Plan's sense.</p>

Attachment 1



Attachment 2

Images 1, 2



Images 3, 4



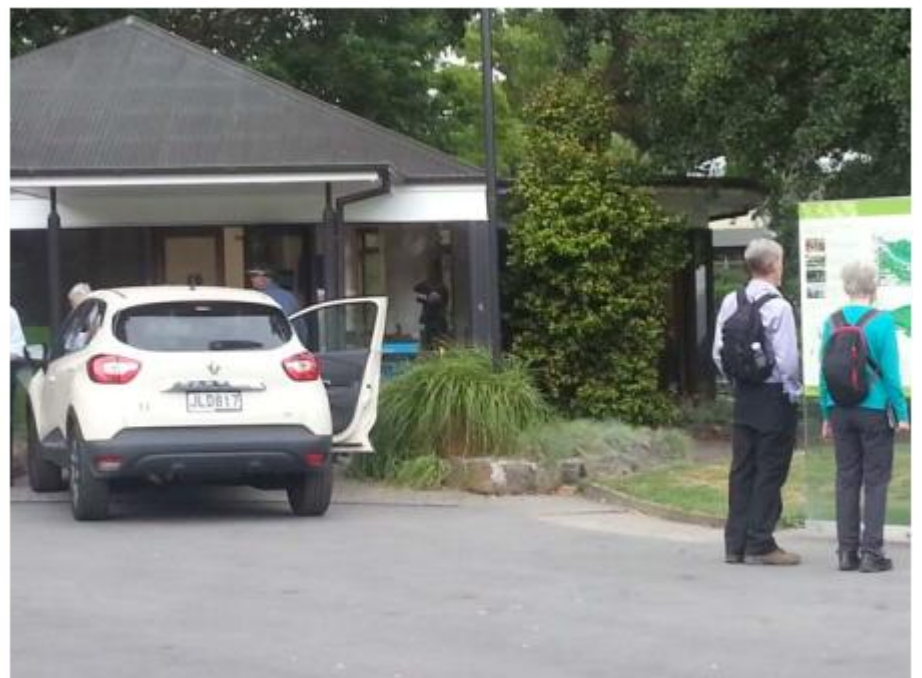
Images 5, 6



Images 7, 8



Images 9, 10



OneOak exhibition, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

Final report for the Scottish Forestry Trust

The OneOak exhibition, co-ordinated by the Sylva Foundation, was hosted by Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (RBGE) for a period of six weeks between October 12th and December 2nd. Funding was provided by the Scottish Forestry Trust to support the creation of the exhibition, its transport to the venue, and its curation.

The OneOak exhibition

The exhibition comprised educational materials (2D information panels) and interpretation of exhibits, plus music and film. 3D materials included a number of articles of fine furniture, craft items, sculpture, toys, household items on display. The exhibition filled completely the large exhibition space immediately adjacent to the main entrance to the John Hope Gateway (West Gate).



Further images: <http://www.sylva.org.uk/blog/oneoak-exhibition-at-royal-botanic-garden-edinburgh>

Private View

A private view was held on the evening of 11th October. Some 450 people were invited. Numbers attending were disappointingly low (25). The most likely cause was the weather which was very inclement. The event was opened by the Regius Keeper Dr Stephen Blackmore, followed by a short presentation by Gabriel Hemery and curator Jane King. The support of SFT was acknowledged.

Media and social interest

A press release was prepared jointly by Sylva and RBGE and circulated by RBGE by their Media Officer.

Separately, Sylva authored two articles for the forestry press: one for The Chartered Forester, and a smaller piece in Forestry & Timber News. The SFT was credited in both articles. Copies of the articles are appended.

Sylva's active website for the OneOak project, and associated social media, made the most of the exhibition. The homepage at www.OneOak.info includes an interactive 360° degree panorama of the exhibition.

During the six weeks, October to December 2012, we received unprecedented interest through our websites and social media. The **OneOak website attracted 9,249 unique visits**, and **Sylva's main website an additional 12,573** (total 21,822). The project's Facebook and Twitter accounts attracted good numbers of 'likes' and followers.

Visitor attendance

Two members of staff from Sylva and the curator spent three days interacting with visitors following its opening. Comments were extremely positive, both relating to the overall presentation of the exhibition, and its content and story.

RBGE provided visitor numbers for the entire run of the exhibition, these were: **49,608 visitors**. These do not denote actual visitors to the exhibition but given its placement immediately adjacent to the entrance, a high proportion of these visitors were exposed to it.



The exhibition was highlighted specifically in a report by *Visit Scotland* that awarded RBGE with their highest standard as a visitor attraction of **5 stars**, and they were impressed by the quality of the OneOak exhibition and found it 'fascinating and worth visiting in itself'.

Feedback from RBGE

Ian Edwards, Head of Exhibitions at RBGE, commented that the exhibition was a "triumph".

Elinor Gallant, Exhibitions Officer at RBGE said: "The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh is delighted to be the final host venue for OneOak. The story of OneOak links well with our experiences as a botanic garden and with our policy of communicating about the environment at every level. Having hosted two particularly well received drop-in sessions bringing insight to the project, back in January 2011, it made absolute sense for us to present the full exhibition, and what a finale it is. In its first 11 days the exhibition has not only proved very popular with our visitors, of all ages, but has also provoked passionately positive feedback from our staff."

OneOak Sales

The OneOak exhibition was not designed primarily as a selling event but rather an educational activity. Nonetheless a number of the larger items on display were sold on behalf of makers, and a reasonable quantity of prints and smaller wooden items sold. This was very welcome given the very considerable investment made by Sylva to the project over the last three years.

Legacy

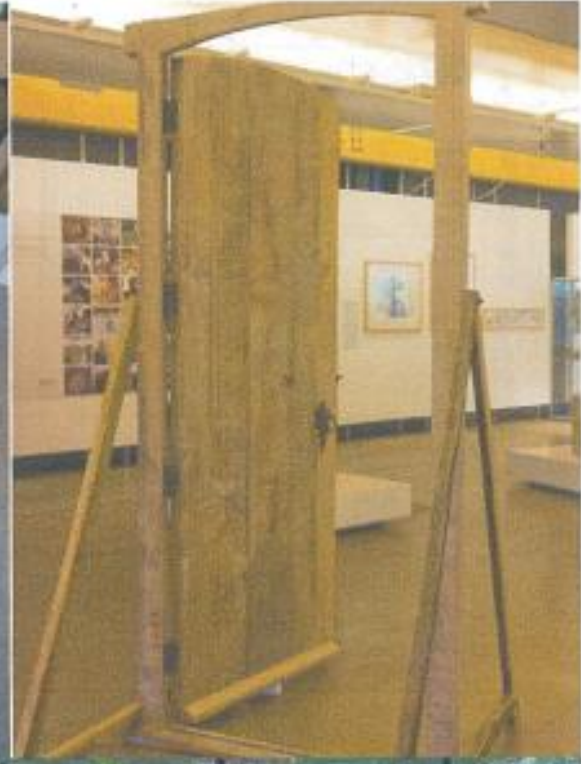
The Sylva Foundation's next major educational initiative is a celebration of John Evelyn's *Sylva* of 1664. The Sylva Foundation has supported the writing and illustration of **The New Sylva**, to be published by Bloomsbury in 2014, to celebrate the 350th Anniversary of the original work. Sylva is also planning exhibitions to accompany the book's publication, consisting of a proportion of the 200 new drawings made for the new book, together with some information panels communicating the importance of forests and of forest management to a general public audience. As a direct result of the success of the OneOak exhibition at RBGE, the Head of Exhibitions at RBGE has not only invited Sylva to launch *The New Sylva* exhibitions at RBGE, but is also co-ordinating on Sylva's behalf a series national touring exhibitions. Starting at RBGE in April 2014, the exhibitions will move on to Royal Botanic Garden at Kew, National Botanic Garden of Wales, Westonbirt Arboretum, and National Botanic Garden at Glasnevin (Ireland). Through these exhibitions we hope to reach a very wide audience and be able to communicate effectively about sustainable forest management in the 21st Century.

The educational work undertaken in the OneOak project has also been instrumental in the development of a new programme of work starting in 2013 being funded by B&Q. The concept of engaging the public in positive stories about sustainable forest management has been included in the B&Q project, which is supported by their Corporate Social Responsibility team. It is hoped that some 'mini one tree' projects will be undertaken in this work.

The OneOak finale exhibition at Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh has been significant at a number of levels. It has assisted very significantly in the delivery of Sylva's core educational objectives in bringing people closer to sustainable forest management and in using wood. It has created a lasting legacy in feeding directly in the development of two new major projects. The funding provided by the Scottish Forestry Trust and their support for the exhibition was fundamental to its success.

Dr Gabriel Hemery
Chief Executive, Sylva Foundation
7th February 2013





Christchurch City Council

Christchurch Botanic Gardens Spatial Plan Feedback Form

Please let us know your comments about the proposed Christchurch Botanic Gardens Spatial Plan.

- ① Special thanks to Dr John Clemens for his very informative walk and for showing us the proposed changes. He was an excellent tutor; greatly appreciated.
- ② Thanks to John Clemens for the hard copy of the CBG Spatial Plan.
- ③ Where Maori words are used with the English equivalent in brackets I'm grateful to the planners, as I'm one of those Pakeha who are completely confused by the meanings of Maori words and phrases. So thank you for your assistance.
- ④ But the Feb 2017 booklet should not be the 'FINAL REVISED' version. Our submission being made now in May 2017 should have some relevance!
- ⑤ Thanks for the information on page 2. It's good to acknowledge and publish the names of the Project Team, Partners, Authors etc.

See my further feedback on attached pages; to page ⑤ 16 items →

~~Please fold with the reply paid portion on the outside, seal and return by 5pm, Saturday 27 May 2017.~~

-
- ⑥ Why are so many of the photos very dark, poorly lit?
— especially the ones taken in CHCH.
They give the impression that our Botanic Gardens
are very gloomy. And that's misleading.
Let's have some well-lit CHCH photos, please.
- ⑦ The print is too small for me. There's plenty of
meaty stuff to read and try to understand.
But, like many older folk, I need larger, clearer
print to be able to comprehend it all.
- ⑧ The CHCH Botanic Gardens Management Plan, 2007,
is printed in the standard portrait format.
But the Spatial plan has used the landscape format of
printing documents. It is not conducive to reading,
studying & making notes. It's more of a "Coffee table" format.
We need to print public documents in the Portrait format
wherever possible, so that they are bound on the longer
side, just as normal books do and have proven to be
the best format for humans to handle & use.
- ⑨ The sketches by Helen Kerr are too pale to let
us differentiate between the lighter and darker blues.
And between the lighter & darker greens.
It does matter. Use bolder colours, please.
- ⑩ Helen Kerr's cute and artistic hand-printing on her
sketches are incomprehensible to me.
The plan should enlighten the public, not confuse
& confound us, as does that unintelligible printing.
Please use clear writing.
-

⑪ "All new toilet facilities are required to provide accessible units." (your page 26). Yes, of course
And all new toilet facilities to be Unisex - as are the toilets in the new CTC Transport Interchange on Colombo St.
That's so much safer and more dignified for our LGBTIQ folk; and for carers taking little daughters or little sons to the toilet.

⑫ The Robert McDougall Art Gallery.

12(a) Please be aware the CTC City Council which owns this beautiful 1920's building in the CTC Botanic Gardens, has NOT signed any lease for the Robert McDougall Art Gallery building.
And the Canterbury Museum may never be able to renovate all its own buildings.

Meantime, we believe that the Robert McDougall Art Gallery should once again be used for showing our glorious old, treasured art that we loved seeing in that wonderful 1920's setting.

12(b) The 3 historical photos on page 57 of the Robert McDougall Art Gallery, are interesting.
But the title "1930's, CTC Library, Louise Beamont" is puzzling. For the building, since opening in 1932, has always been our Art Gallery.

Perhaps that wording means something else. Do the photos come from the CTC Library - or wot?

⑬ I believe that Trees are more important than vistas or buildings in our CTC Botanic Gardens. CTC has plenty of magnificent views of the Southern Alps, the Port Hills, the rivers and the Pacific Ocean. But the living trees are so special in our Botanic Gardens.

Do not remove any more trees or shrubs to improve a vista.

I'm still very sad over the unannounced ~~removal~~ removal of the magical old Winter-Sweet tree (*Chimonanthus praecox*) that was nearly as old as the Mc Dougall Gallery itself. It grew facing west in front of the Art Gallery, to the north of the entrance steps.

Because the tree was sheltered from those cold easterly winds by the Gallery behind it, the sweet perfume from the *Chimonanthus* flowers wafted across the front area outside the Gallery, enchanting the visitors as we walked around.

Many people were intrigued by the warm, spicy perfume in the late afternoons, from May onwards. They ~~wondered~~ wondered where it was coming from. That was a special heart-warming experience every winter and we should have cherished it.

But by 2016 the *Chimonanthus* had completely vanished. That's a petty way of enhancing a vista, at the price of a true botanical delight. Don't do it any more, please.

⑭ I cherish ~~of~~ our beautiful CTC Botanic Gardens.

My favourite part is the romantic Heritage Rose Gardens in Hagley Park area, west of the CTC Public Hospital's new multi-storey wing. It appears that this Spatial Plan does not cover that Heritage Rose Garden and the surrounding botanic plantings, through to Riccarton Avenue.

For that, I'm grateful.

The Heritage Rose Garden has developed into a hidden jewel where fairies live and play.

So, don't disturb our fairies, please.

⑮ The best gathering place in the CTC Botanic Gardens is the 1987 first Information Centre beside the duck pond and near the old Tea Kiosk and the charming footbridge connecting the Gardens to a parking space in North Hagley Park, over the Avon.

That 1987 Information Centre is a delightful building, on a warm, human scale.

It's a lovely, inviting space.

Whereas the new white, cold, commercial building is soul-less.

We treasure the 1987 Information Centre.

Please let us use it well and protect and preserve it as a friendly place for people to share and learn about things Botanical.

⑯ I've been an active member since 1997 of the Friends of CTC Botanic Gardens Inc. It was set up to Promote, Protect and Preserve our Botanic Gardens — not to vandalise the trees for architectural designs. Keep the precious tranquility for the future. Thank you.



26 May 2017

Senior Engagement Advisor
Christchurch City Council
PO Box 73013
Christchurch Mail Centre
Attention: Tessa Zant

Dear Tessa

Heritage New Zealand Feedback - Christchurch Botanic Gardens Spatial Plan

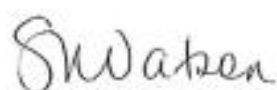
1. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft Christchurch Botanic Gardens Spatial Plan, and to be involved in the key stakeholder reference group.
2. Heritage New Zealand was involved with the Spatial Plan reference group and we understand that the Spatial Plan will sit within a hierarchical suite of documents that guide the management and development of the Botanic Gardens.
3. Heritage New Zealand's interest in the Spatial Plan is in regards to any impacts on heritage items entered on the New Zealand Heritage List, and ensuring that archaeology is appropriately managed in the implementation of the Spatial Plan.
4. The following items within the Botanic Gardens are entered on the New Zealand Heritage List:
 - Robert McDougall Art Gallery – Category 1, List no 303
 - Cunningham House - Category 2, List no. 1862
 - Tea kiosk - Category 2, List no. 3449
 - Band rotunda - Category 2, List no. 3093
 - Curators House - Category 2, List no. 1863
 - Canterbury Museum - Category 1, List no. 290
5. Heritage New Zealand considers that the design of the gardens should ensure that important heritage features such as those listed above are celebrated and provide maximum opportunities for the public to interact with and appreciate these features. A key outcome of the Spatial Plan development is to "*respect and highlight built, cultural and biological heritage,*" and Heritage New Zealand supports this approach.
6. Heritage New Zealand understands that there will be resultant projects and the work on conceptual design, refinement and implementation detail is yet to be done. Furthermore, any project outcomes will take into consideration the policies and the heritage values as identified in the *Conservation Plan for the Christchurch Botanic Gardens (2013)*.
7. Heritage New Zealand has previously made comment about new bridges and new buildings being inserted into the Botanic gardens setting, and how these changes need to be carefully considered in terms of their visual impact on the heritage items, for example by keeping view shafts and views unobstructed, particularly of Cunningham House (through feedback provided as part of the key stakeholder reference group). Various sections of the draft Spatial Plan pick up on the importance of maintaining and opening up views, including particular reference to Cunningham House. Heritage New Zealand supports this.

8. Heritage New Zealand would like to take this opportunity to ensure that the Council continues to consult us around any change related to our listed items, particularly the identified new build projects adjacent to the Robert McDougall Art Gallery, Cunningham House and the Tea kiosk.

Archaeology

9. Heritage New Zealand would also like to take this opportunity to ensure that the Council is aware of the legal requirements of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 (HNZPTA 2014) in relation to the management of archaeological sites.
10. An archaeological site is defined in the HNZPTA 2014 as:
 - (a) *any place in New Zealand, including any building or structure (or part of a building or structure), that—*
 - (i) *was associated with human activity that occurred before 1900 or is the site of the wreck of any vessel where the wreck occurred before 1900; and*
 - (ii) *provides or may provide, through investigation by archaeological methods, evidence relating to the history of New Zealand; and*
 - (b) *includes a site for which a declaration is made under section 43(1).*
11. The HNZPTA 2014 makes it unlawful for any person to modify or destroy, or cause to be modified or destroyed, the whole or any part of an archaeological site without the prior authority of Heritage New Zealand. Work that may affect an archaeological site requires an authority from Heritage New Zealand.
12. Certain projects signalled in the Spatial Plan may require an archaeological authority. Accordingly Heritage New Zealand encourages the Council to consult with the Heritage New Zealand Regional Archaeologist at as an early a stage as possible in order to ensure that any such requirements are understood and incorporated into project planning. This is advice to encourage early dialogue and again, no changes to the Spatial Plan are considered necessary.
13. Thank you for considering this feedback and if there are any queries please don't hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely



Sheila Watson
General Manager – Southern Region