

How an impact assessment process engaged communities in recovery planning







Land Use Recovery Plan (LURP)



- A spatial plan for greater Christchurch
- · Rebuilding communities
- Enable housing and business recovery
- Natural hazards
- Collaborative multi-agency partnership



Stephen: Necessity – convoluted history of implementing the Urban Development Strategy through Proposed Change 1. Greater Christchurch needed a spatial plan to provide certainty for business, infrastructure providers, developers, the community and participants in the recovery.

Key components

Promotes intensification of existing urban areas.

Supply of greenfield

Housing growth areas in response to transitional housing demand.

Maintains and re-emphasises the focus on 'Key Activity Centres' as economic and social hubs across the region.

Maintains commitments to strategic and sustainable transport networks.

The process of preparing the LURP moved at speed – needed input from a the diverse range of community members. IA process was extremely positive, instigated by Ecan I was new to ECan and bought a fresh perspective, and needed input from a wide range of people very quickly. Unique circumstances post earthquake that needed a participatory approach to act fast, not just a long term plan, but immediate actions that would see results 'on the ground' in the form of new houses, community facilities, relocated businesses and the like.

The Recovery Strategy states: "To integrate activities, connect the components of recovery, and implement the goals of this Strategy, the preparation of Recovery Plans will use impact assessment methodologies and tools, such as the Integrated Recovery Planning Guide."

Integrated Assessments

The impact assessment is the process of examining the potential implications of proposal with particular emphasis on the unanticipated impacts.

The assessments, carried out by Environment Canterbury and the Canterbury District Health Board, aimed to assist with and also to be a check on the content of the Plan, providing recommendations to strengthen and improve the Plan.



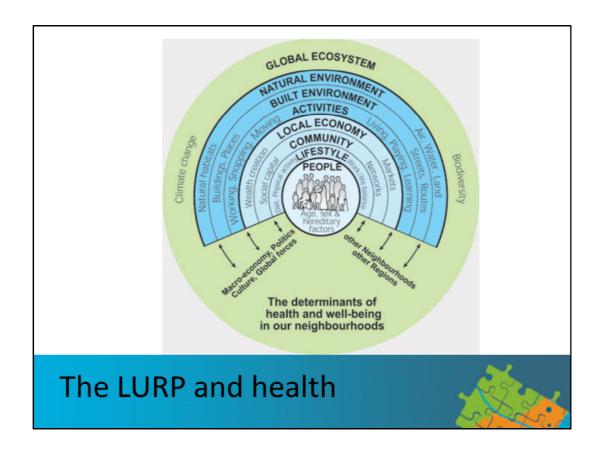
(Stephen) The impact assessment is the process of examining the potential implications of proposal for the natural environment, for people, their health and wellbeing, and their social, cultural and economic activities and values - with particular emphasis on the unanticipated impacts.

This analysis is then used to modify plans and to inform final decisions about proposals.

To evaluate early in the plan development process how well the Plan met identified sustainability and well-being criteria.

Requirement for the Assessment plan

Experience in the UK and Australia: why was it a good idea? Why health?



Jane) People's health and wellbeing, where we live, work and play is influenced directly and indirectly by the surrounding environment. Health is not defined merely by the absence of disease but how and where we live our lives. Good health and wellbeing are critical for strong, resilient communities and also bring greater economic, cultural and social benefits. So when the CDHB heard there was to be new Land Use Plan for Canterbury, we were interested, we wanted to be involved because the relationship between types of developments, the amount of greenspace available, the transport links, the effects on water and air quality to name a few, will impact on our health.

The CDHB is part of the Canterbury Health In All Policies Partnership Partnership (CHIAPP) is an arrangement between four partner organisations (ECan, CCC, Ngai Tahu and CDHB) to work together to ensure that health and wellbeing are embedded into the partners' policy and project development.

CHIAPP has experience undertaking integrated assessments of plans.

CHIAPP representatives were involved in designing the three-part assessment process that would provide a framework for LURP writers to assess the plan in terms of well-being and sustainability concerns.

Background / aim of impact assessment

Squarely a sustainability assessment tool:

- Four pillars: social, cultural, economic and environmental
- Reflects intergenerational and intra-generational equity
- Assessment criteria assembled from review of the four capital assets
- References 'top lines' (aspirational or recovery levels) as well as 'bottom lines' (safe minima)
- 'Scores' proposal with reference to top and bottom lines



(jane) The CDHB has been involved in a long series of integrated assessment and we have generally adapted a method created by Sadler and Ward. We look into the issues relating to the four wellbeing pillars, consider the short and long term effects for all in society and we create a series of criteria based on these to analyse the plan. In the analysis we look both at the ideal outcomes and determine our bottomlines, and use this to rank the plan

Based on Sadler and Ward's 2008 Framework Approach to Sustainability Appraisal.

Creating the criteria

Assessment criteria are assembled from:

- Stocktake of capital assets
- Guiding principles from related plans
- · Key issues that have been identified
- Integrated Recovery Planning Guide to ensure wellness issues (the determinants of health are covered)
- Criteria from previous integrated assessments



Jane: In order to create the criteria, first a **stocktake of the capital assets** are made. This is a list of key topics concerning the area for the **Economic, Environmental, Social and Cultural areas**. These are **cross-referenced** against the **guiding principles** from related plans.

For the LURP – it was CDHB. CCC, Ecan and CERA staff.

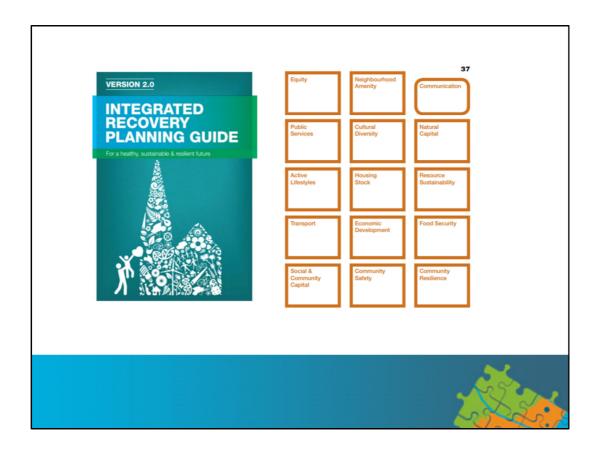
We looked at The Recovery Strategy, Economic Recovery Plan, draft Natural Environment Programme and Social Recovery Programme 2 The Greater Christchurch Urban Development Strategy (UDS) 2 Civil Defence Emergency Management Recovery Framework 2 2 Health Promotion and Sustainability through Environmental Design 2 Christchurch City Council Sustainability Policy 2 Iwi Management Plans 2 Regional and district plans 2 Canterbury Water Management Strategy Zone Implementation Programmes)

Also looked at the **Key Issues** that have been identified in Consultation documents and in **any technical reports**.

This involved crafting 37 criteria developed from an agreed set of desired outcomes under each of the four well-beings.

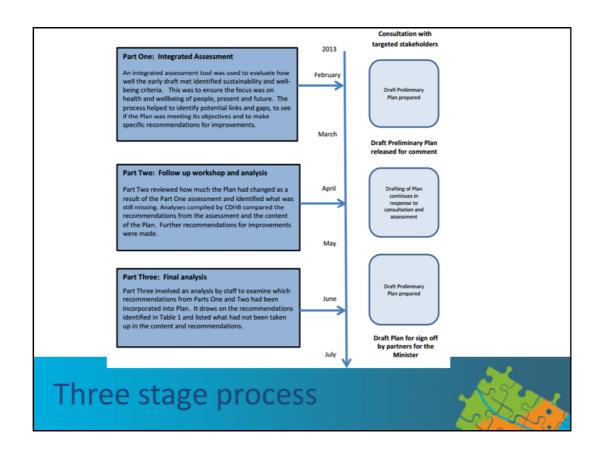
Social Cultural Administrative infrastructure Sense of place and time Physical health of the community Mental health of the community Connected developments Whakapapa Schools and social infrastructure **Cultural diversity** Diversity of arts, culture and events **Employment opportunities** Housing choices Identity and shared experiences **Environmental Economic** Waterways and ecological diversity · Appropriately placed and functioning **Green buildings** strategic infrastructure and corridors Mahinga kai Consolidated utilised infrastructure Kaitiakitanga Productive land Capital– public/ private/ Ngāi Tahu Land – safe, unconstrained, protected **Parks and reserves Housing stock Skilled workforce** · Business and space opportunities Key topics to address

This was our starting point - the asset classes that underpin the assessment.



Immediately after the earthquakes Community and Public Health, along with ECan, CCC and UDS staff developed an integrated recovery planning guide after the earthquakes to assist with planning. Its aim is integrate thinking across multiple perspectives and a range of disciplines. There are a series of a questions for each topic and these are used to prompt people's thinking.

Dr Anna Stevenson will be presenting on the IRPG tomorrow at 11am This guide is great to use as a cross reference for the criteria to ensure that there are no gaps.



(Jane)

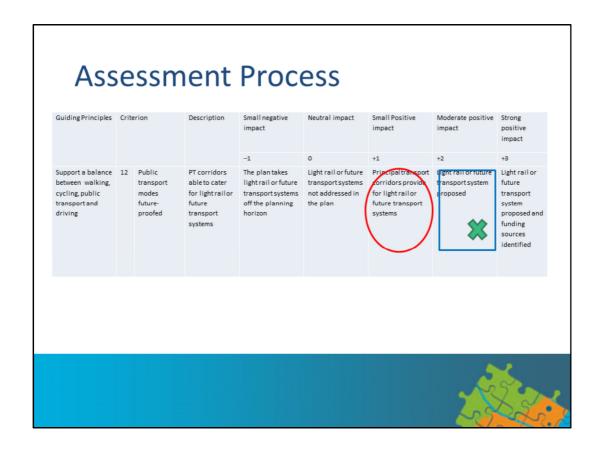
Jane: Once the criteria are created and revised by the partners, workshops are held with people who have a professional interest in the fields. We have had a mix of social scientists, planners, landscape architects, leaders of charities, business representatives, iwi reps.

People were targeted who understood the issues and trends and who had experience and knowledge in a broad range of areas of interest in social (government and non-government organisations), cultural, environmental, architectural, transport, economic and land use and communications. They were respected members of professional institutes, non-government organisations or recognised in their field.

Three stage process – one full day workshop, an evening session and a desk top analysis The full day workshop analysed a series of criteria to rank the plan and then the participants ranked the plan itself.

A series of recommendations were given to the Plan writers.

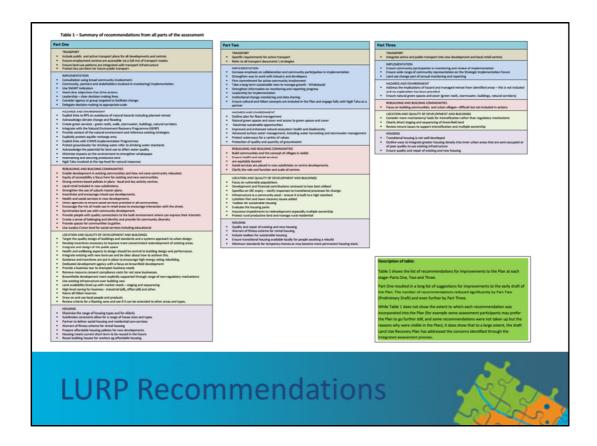
Once the preliminary draft was released to the public, we held another follow up workshop where we analysed how the plan had changed as a result of the first workshop and identified further recommendations.



The impact assessment workshops are focused on refining the assessment criteria and the ranking of individual criterion. In the workshops participants have the opportunity to give feedback on the wording of the critiera checking whether the description and the scale are correct.

The participants are then asked to set their bottom lines (what is the bare minimum they expect the Plan to achieve), this is demonstrated by the red circle; and what is the top line – the ideal that they expect the plan to achieve is demonstrated by the blue box. The participants then rank how well they think that the plan has achieved.

The conversations are captured at the workshops are critically important. It is important that the plan writers hear the conversations about criteria and why that particular criterion is important. Recommendations for Plan improvements are made and reported back on.



Stephen: this is impossible to read – but I just wanted to include a visual representation of the summary of recommendations from the Land Use Recovery Plan – the first workshop resulted in a long list of recommendations seen in part one on the left, there was a second workshop, and the number of recommendations had decreased. In the final iteration of the Plan, the Assessment working group made a short list of recommendations. This was a desk-top exercise. The summary shown here shows that to a large extent the draft Plan has addressed concerns identified through the integrated assessment process.

The Integrated Assessment was a success because:

- Working on an pre-consultation draft gave a greater opportunity to introduce new ideas.
- Using pre-established criteria enabled a range of experts to meaningfully contribute to discussions and build consensus.
- Providing written feedback to the Plan writers gave them more time to understand the recommendations, this meant there was a greater chance of the recommendations being implemented.



Stephen -The great majority of people involved with the IA, including the LURP authors, valued their involvement in the IA and felt that it resulted in improvements to the draft LURP, including increased scope. Furthermore, an increasing proportion of recommendations were included in the LURP at each stage of the IA, and a LURP author reported that these changes may have been missed had it not been for the IA. This success was all the more remarkable given that the IA was carried out under significant time pressure. It is therefore concluded that it is appropriate to use IA methodology again to assess future plans or policies.

Promoting the exchange of ideas amongst influential people from a range of fields. Especially, promoting improvements to the LURP amongst people who will be involved with its implementation, and promoting public health ideas to an influential audience. ② Giving workshop participants a sense of ownership over the LURP. ② Improving the quality of the submissions made by the organisations of workshop participants. ② Building capacity to carry out IAs. ② Maintaining an on-going constructive relationship between CDHB, ECAN and Christchurch City Council. ② Promoting the use of IA methodology.

Lessons learnt

- Allow time for the process
- Provide summary of recommendations at each workshop
- · Let the group develop criteria
- · Consistent wording of criteria to rank the plan
- · Have feedback loops

http://www.cph.co.nz/Files/EvaluationIAofLURP.pdf http://cera.govt.nz/sites/default/files/common/integrated-assessment-for-the-draft-lurp-june-2013.pdf



Stephen



Stephen

The integrated assessments would not have occurred without the great relationships that have been created between the Canterbury District Health Board, Environment Canterbury and the Christchurch City Council through the Canterbury Health In All Policies Partnership (CHIAPP).

Let's work together

Stephen