



5 September 2020

Glenda Dixon

Senior Policy Planner - reporting to the Urban Development and Transport Committee

Email to: [glenda.dixon@ccc.govt.nz](mailto:glenda.dixon@ccc.govt.nz)

(Additionally Submitted via Council website)

Regarding Noise Management for the Canterbury Multi Use Arena

**Letter in support of Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce  
Submission on Noise Management for the Canterbury Multi Use Arena**

Dear Glenda,

This letter supports the Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce ('The Chamber') submission, including recommendations under section 3. a, b, and c.

Additionally, we wholeheartedly support commentary notes 4-17 with particular endorsement of points 9, 12, 15 and 16.

Our position is shaped by the financial burden faced by our members, currently operating in Level 2 for the second time. With the Wage Subsidy Extension and Resurgence Wage Subsidy now coming to an end, but the operational inefficiencies of Level 2 restrictions remaining, the hospitality sector is in dire straights.

A recent article on the Christchurch economic outlook published by RNZ states:

*"Unemployment crept up by 0.1 percent to 4.2 percent in the first quarter compared with the same time in 2019. But unemployment numbers were expected to rise, according to economic development agency ChristchurchNZ.*

*Visitor spending was also down 7.4 percent and retail spending in the central city*

*was down 3.6 percent compared with quarter one in 2019.<sup>1</sup>*

Traditional Accommodation providers are still operating with huge fixed costs and minimal income, which is steadily eroding any equity left in their businesses and a number of operators have been forced to close their doors over recent months. Life savings and families' futures have been reduced to zero.

If Christchurch wants an accommodation and hospitality sector to support events at the Canterbury Multi-Use Arena, any noise limitations placed on the stadium will only serve to limit the economic potential that is available to businesses. We strongly endorse point 12 of The Chamber's submission, noting specifically that inhabitants of the central city are attracted to a central city lifestyle, and therefore by default accept that the night-time economy, including noise, is part of the attraction.

As noted in the Economic Insights commentary published by ChristchurchNZ in the wake of the March-Jun 2020 quarterly statistics:

*"However, COVID-19 intensifies the economic challenges facing the city prior to lockdown, not least the need to effectively transition out of rebuild stimulus towards higher-value, export orientated activity **and the vulnerability of the regeneration of the central city due to insufficient economic demand to support central city viability and ongoing investment.***

*The potential of a COVID-19 driven recession locally, nationally and internationally is likely to undermine Christchurch's ability, in the short-term, to attract and grow the economic activity necessary to support regeneration and economic growth and retain and grow decent jobs."<sup>2</sup>*

## Summary

Any noise limitation restrictions placed on the Canterbury Multi-Use Arena will negatively impact Christchurch businesses by limiting the scope of events, and therefore the associated visitor dollars that could shore up an ailing Christchurch economy and keep

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.rnz.co.nz/news/business/421354/christchurch-economy-endures-covid-19-impact-but-experts-warn-of-dire-outlook>

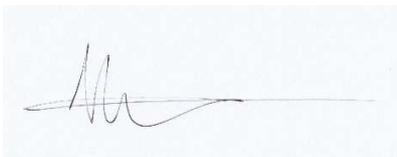
<sup>2</sup> <https://www.christchurchnz.com/about-us/economic-insights>

Cantabrians in employment.

The Canterbury Branch of Hospitality NZ appreciates the opportunity to submit a letter in support of the Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce submission.

If the opportunity presents itself throughout this process, we would welcome speaking with Council on these matters. Additionally, we request written confirmation that our letter of support has been received.

Yours Faithfully,



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### *About Hospitality New Zealand*

Hospitality New Zealand (Hospitality NZ) is a member-led, not-for profit organisation representing approximately 3,000 businesses, ranging across luxury lodges, motels, hotels, holiday parks, backpackers, country hotels, cafés, restaurants, bars, nightclubs, and off-licences.

We represent the breadth and depth of the industry. Membership of Hospitality New Zealand is voluntary, is primarily funded by member subscriptions and comprises predominantly small businesses. Through our advocacy and close working relationship with our members we speak for and represent the interests of the hospitality industry as a whole.

Regional Managers are supported by a national service team in Wellington and led by Chief Executive, Julie White. Hospitality NZ has a 118-year history of advocating on behalf of the hospitality and tourism sectors. The Canterbury Branch comprises 395 members and is led by President Peter Morrison, with the Accommodation Sector represented by Bob Pringle. Christchurch based Regional Manager - Anna Halliday, and National Business Development Manager - Amy McLellan-Minty, represent member interests in Canterbury.