

do ■ co \_ mo ■ mo \_ n z  
inc

new zealand working party for the  
documentation and conservation  
of buildings, sites and neighbourhoods of the  
modern movement

Contact:

Dr Julia Gatley  
DO\_CO\_MO\_MO\_NZ Acting Chair  
C/- School of Architecture and Planning  
The University of Auckland  
Private Bag 92019  
Auckland 1142  
New Zealand  
P. +64-9-923 4656  
E. julia.gatley@auckland.ac.nz

8 August 2012

Mayor and City Councillors  
Christchurch City Council  
53 Hereford Street  
CHRISTCHURCH

Dear Mayor Parker and City Councillors,

**RE: RETENTION OF CHRISTCHURCH TOWN HALL**

By making provision for new facilities for the performing arts on a site other than that presently occupied by the Christchurch Town Hall, the new blueprint for the city implies the demolition of the existing Town Hall facilities.

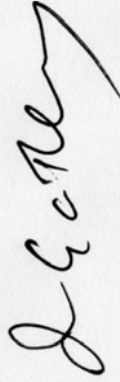
The Christchurch Town Hall, designed by Warren & Mahoney from 1966 and completed in 1972, is one of the country's finest buildings, the culmination of the kind of architecture recognised nationally as 'Christchurch School' Now, sadly, it is also an increasingly rare survivor of this important collection of distinctive buildings.

It has been suggested that the Town Hall sits on 30 metres of liquefiable material. Have these conclusions been peer reviewed? Is the liquefiable material consistent across the whole site or just a portion of it? What are the options for remediation and what are the comparative costs thereof?

Answers to these questions must be made public before any decisions about the future of the building can be made. First and foremost, this means the future of the building as a whole, not in part.

The *Press* of 2 July 2012 carries pleas for the retention of the building in full. Please accept this letter as a further such plea.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Julia Gatley

cc: Roger Sutton, CERA  
cc: Editor, *Press*