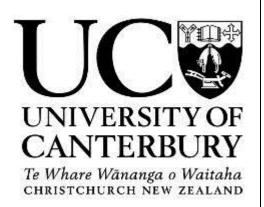
COMMUNITY FACILITIES IN POST EARTHQUAKE GOVERNORS BAY





GEOG309: Research Methods in Geography.

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OCTOBER 2014.

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY.

This report provides an analysis of what facilities and services Governors Bay residents would use and value in the future.

Research Question

'What do Governors Bay residents want and need in terms of community facilities and services?

Aims and Objectives

This study aimed to find out what the priorities for residents of Governors Bay are in terms of what facilities and services they would like to see provided for the township in the future.

An additional aim was to identify areas in Governors Bay which could feasibly house potential future facilities.

The objective was to communicate with residents through questionnaires and focus groups in order to establish a better understanding of the importance of specific facilities and services.

Context for Research

Governors Bay is a geographically and perceptually isolated community which consists of 873 people and 324 households (Statistics New Zealand, 2013). It is located on Banks Peninsula near the head of the Lyttelton Harbour and is connected to Christchurch by three roads, all of which were temporarily blocked during the 2011 earthquake aftermath. The loss of community facilities and services due to the earthquake has meant that residents have lost both social gathering places and places that are rich in heritage.

Summary of Method

Multiple methods were employed for the carrying out of this study. Quantitative data was gathered from census findings and a community profile report carried out by the Christchurch City Council. A community partner supplied information from a meeting which demonstrated what facilities and services the Governors Bay Community Association believed to be priorities.

Additionally, a survey was distributed to every house in Governors Bay. After the surveys had been collected a focus group was held in the local school which consisted of interested survey respondents.

Key Findings

After careful analysis, it is evident that an overwhelming number of responding residents greatly miss having access to the jetty and would like to see the jetty fixed and access returned. Another priority expressed by residents was the potential for Governors Bay to have a new community hall or multi-use building. Additional priorities pointed out by respondents include having the local swimming pool heated and the return of the Environment Canterbury run bus service.

Limitations

Limitations which could potentially hinder the projects' results include the survey response rate which was 15 percent and meant that the results may not reflect the opinions of the entire Governors Bay population. Additionally, placement and location of drop-boxes and wording of certain questions in the survey could have potentially hindered the project.

Further Research and Recommendations

Looking forward, the next step should be focusing on further involvement from the community. Reaching a higher number of residents will provide a more representative sample for future studies and will broaden understanding of the most beneficial services and facilities and ways in which these can be provided. Closer collaboration between the Governors Bay Community Association and residents is needed, to ensure that people can voice their perspective regarding the future of their town.

2. INTRODUCTION.

Residents in Governors Bay have lost many key facilities and services due to damage caused by the 2011 earthquake sequence. Currently Governors Bay has one primary school, a hotel, a café, a swimming pool, walking and biking tracks, a community run bus service, a couple of small heritage buildings and a jetty which is not accessible as it needs to be repaired. Before the 2011 earthquake the community also had access to a community hall, Saint Cuthbert's church, Allandale hall, a preschool, a public bus service and the jetty.

The Governors Bay Community Association provides support within the small, tight-knit community and shares essential information to residents (Christchurch City Council, 2014). In response to the loss of facilities and services after the earthquake, the Association is interested in developing a plan for the preferred location of new facilities and finding out the opinions and preferences of residents in regards to what facilities and services they would use and value in the future.

An overarching aim for the project was to investigate what it is that Governors Bay residents want and need in terms of community facilities and services. An additional aim was to identify areas in Governors Bay which could feasibly house potential future facilities.

The objective was to communicate with residents through questionnaires and focus groups in order to establish a better understanding of the importance of specific facilities and services. The project was centred on the research question 'What do Governors Bay residents want and need in terms of community facilities and services?'

Firstly, the report will highlight relevant existing literature which has contributed to a better understanding of how to effectively carry out the research project. Secondly the methods which were employed in the study will be described. Additionally, results will be discussed and the implications and limitations will be analysed in the discussion.

3. LITERATURE REVIEW.

3.1 BUILT ENVIRONMENTS AND SOCIAL COHESION.

Research indicates built environments can have influence on social cohesion. In a UK study, conducted by Dempsey (2008) several factors were discovered to be influencers of social cohesiveness. Three significant associations were found to be important; having a sense of community, feeling safe in the environment and having a sense of attachment to places that are well maintained. Improvement to the built environment must be constant to ensure existing infrastructure is well maintained. Although this research is useful, it is important to note, as the author does that social cohesion is a somewhat imprecise term, as it holds many definitions, and can be understood in differing ways in the literature leading to difficulty when conducting background research.

3.2 DEMOGRAPHIC OF USERS OF PUBLIC SERVICES AND FACILITIES.

Existing research has identified a gap in the provision of community amenities, facilities and services, expressing that these should be more accessible and more appealing to wider demographics. Studies from both Howard & Crompton (1984) and Ziersch, Osborne, & Baum (2011) suggest that age, income and other factors, such as length of residency, are related to participation in community groups and recreation activities. It was found that higher income was related to greater use of facilities while lower income was related to non-use (Howard & Crompton, 1984). It is furthermore evident that people with higher levels of education are more likely to participate in a local group as well as people who are not in the paid labour force. Additionally women are more likely than men to participate in local groups and also the presence of children in a household is strongly linked to participation. Another finding is that residents who have lived in their area for ten or more years are significantly more likely to participate in local groups than residents who have lived in their area for three years or less. Residents living in the most advantageous areas represent the greatest local group involvement while residents in the least advantageous areas have the least involvement (Ziersch, Osborne & Baum, 2011).

3.3 PLACE ATTACHMENT AND SENSE OF BELONGING.

Humans will often develop attachment to places - both built and natural environments. It is not only about having an attachment to certain environments but also homes and communities. As a result of this, the concept 'place attachment' was created and refers to the emotional bond between people and places. This multidimensional approach is used in urban development and planning to ensure that environments are being made which society can benefit from. Environmental psychologists and human geographers have been researching these concepts over the decades with some scholars using place based theories to explain these ideas and others discussing the emotional relationship between people and places. Bell (2001) writes that social networks can be encouraged using the environment. Designing spaces where people can meet and socialise in areas that are nicely designed and have a nice environment seem to be excellent at building social networks and cohesion within the community.

3.4 THE NEW OREGON MODEL.

The New Oregon Model is a pathway tool used for a process called 'community visioning'. Visioning is a process through which a community envisions the future it wants to work towards and then plans how to achieve this state. The model originated in Oregon, and consists of five basic steps; a community profile, trend statement, vision statement and an action plan (Green, Haines & Halebsky, 2010), along with maintenance and re-evaluation (Ames, 2010). Collectively, these steps assist in creating a better idea of what the future holds for communities. This template has been used for guiding the process of visioning facilities and services wanted and needed by the residents of Governors Bay.

4. METHODOLOGY.

The current study aimed to gain a rounded picture of Governors Bay as a study area through the use of qualitative and quantitative data. This mixed method approach utilised both primary, and secondary data in the hope of gaining a representative sample of what Governors Bay residents would like to see in terms of facilities and services.

Firstly, relevant demographic data from the 2013 census was gathered. The data looked at age, income, education level and relationship status, as per the literature review these are relevant when looking at community facility usage. This was used to provide our research with an understanding of the demographic composition of the township; giving us a community profile to cover the first stage of the New Oregon Model.

Further secondary data was provided by the Governors Bay Community Association. The data looked at which services and facilities were considered to be important by the members in order to tentatively approach prioritisation. Although this data looked only at the views of the association and was therefore not representative of the entire community, it made a useful guide for formulating what should be addressed in our questionnaire.

The questionnaire aimed to gain insight into ways in which the community utilised facilities and services before the earthquake, in comparison to how they do today, and their thoughts and feelings associated with facilities and services for the future. The questionnaire employed a mix of both open and closed questions, allowing the freedom of using numerical quantitative data, and qualitative data. An additional benefit of the open questions was that it gave scope for the data to capture relevant information that may have been overlooked by outside researchers.

By distributing the questionnaire through rural delivery mail service to 320 Governors Bay households it was hoped that the sample would be representative of the population. Participants were informed what the questionnaire was for, who it was run by and what the end result would be and particularly that it was anonymous. However mention that the questionnaire was for the use of the Community Association was neglected which may have influenced the response rate. Interested respondents were offered the choice of dropping the surveys at one of two local locations, She Chocolate, and The Governors Bay Hotel, or filling it in online. To gain a better response to the

questionnaire, it was advertised in the Governors Bay school newsletter. Although methods such as face-to-face interviews or delivering the survey by hand were discussed due to high response rates, it was decided that these methods were inefficient in terms of time. Delivering the surveys by mail ensured the sample consisted of Governors Bay residents.

Survey results were collated in an excel file, with quantitative data being interpreted visually in graphs and tables before being statistically analysed. Additionally, data was looked at in a Chi-square analysis, to further analyse the data and to find out if there is a relationship between residents' age and how often residents made use of community facilities before the 2011 earthquake.

Those who were interested in contributing further to the study were given the opportunity to express their wish to participate in a focus group. Candidates were sent an email including details of when and where it would be run. The site chosen for the focus groups was the staff room of the local school this was as it would be convenient for residents and easily recognisable. The six participants signed a consent form and were told all responses would be kept anonymous. The focus group allowed further engagement with the community and facilitated a more in depth discussion. Being run in a format that allowed the participants scope for guiding the discussion meant that the results of the session indicated what was most important for those involved in the discussion. Notes were taken during the session to be analysed in terms of key themes of the discussion.

5. RESULTS.

5.1 Community profile data

Community profile data was utilized which portrayed various important demographics regarding Governors Bay residents. It depicted that Governors Bay is predominantly European, with 96.4 percent of the population identifying as such, and the median age is 46.7 years. It furthermore revealed the median annual income was approximately \$41,100 and that 34.5 percent of people aged over fifteen have a Bachelor's degree or higher (Statistics New Zealand, 2013).

5.2 Identifying locations for potential future facilities

Two locations for potential future facilities were identified with the help of a community partner. Near the centre of Governors Bay is a local outdoor swimming pool which has spare land next to it which previously was home to the community hall (Figure 1). The area would be ideal for a new hall, multiuse building or other needed facility as it is very accessible by the majority of the town and is located near the school which means that school children could easily access it for school assemblies. Another potential location identified was some spare, grass-covered land near to the fire station, which is situated a little less centrally than the swimming pool, but would still be quite accessible (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Identified sites for potential future facilities. (Image adapted from: https://www.google.co.nz/maps/@-43.6238454,172.6486686,18z .)

5.3 Response rate

48 surveys were received completed yielding a response rate of 15%. The option of completing the survey online or returning a physical copy showed that people preferred the online option as higher response rates were recorded.

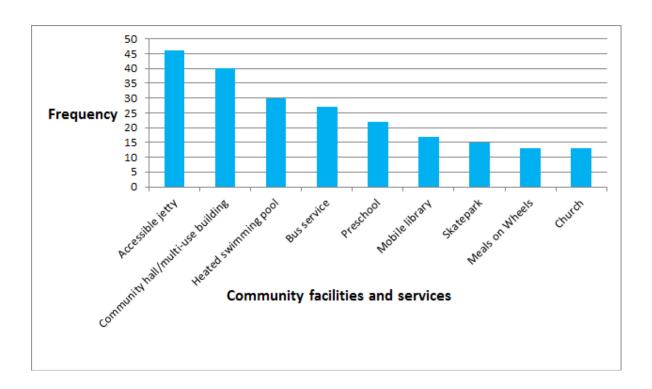


Figure 2. Facilities and services wanted by Governors Bay residents

5.4 Facilities and services in Governors Bay

The data showed that the majority of respondents considered the 'accessible jetty' to be a facility that was important to the community (refer to Figure 1). In addition, the idea of a 'community hall/multi-use building' was the second most wanted facility. This is important to the research because although many of the respondents considered the jetty to be the most important facility in Governors Bay, a community hall would have a multi-functional purpose compared to the jetty being an iconic feature of the neighbourhood.

This graph shows that the top four results were regarded to be facilities and services that would benefit the entire community instead of one specific population.

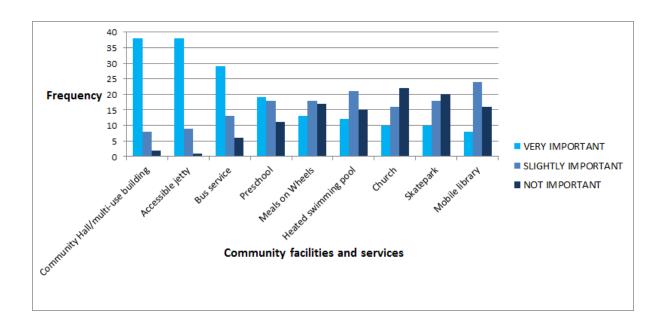


Figure 3. Rated Importance of services and facilities in Governors Bay

5.5 Services and facilities importance in Governors Bay

The majority of respondents consider having an accessible jetty and a community hall to be very important for Governors Bay. Compared to figure 1, it is interesting to note that the importance factor has caused the 'community hall/multi-use building' to become equal with the jetty. This could mean that although the jetty is seen as iconic to the area, the importance of having a facility that is able to serve more than one purpose is considered to be valuable.

Additionally, the importance of a bus service was rated third meaning that the residents would value better public transport between Christchurch and Governors Bay. Previously, Environment Canterbury approved a public service between the township and Christchurch in January 2011. The bus made 12 return trips daily and ran 7 days a week. However, the 2011 February earthquake caused the bus to be terminated by the Christchurch City Council and has never been brought back to the community. There is has been a volunteer bus operating by the Governors Bay Community Transport Trust but it is possible that respondents would like the public bus to return to the community.

	Built community services and facilities		Natural community services and facilities	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Daily	3	6	23	48
Weekly	18	38	20	42
Monthly	18	38	5	10
Annually	6	13	0	0
Never	3	6	0	0

Table 1. Reported usage frequency of built and natural community facilities and services before the 2011 Christchurch earthquake

5.6 Frequency usage of built and natural facilities

The reported frequency of usage of the built and natural community facilities that exist within the area before the 2011 earthquake sequence are displayed in table 1. Results show that respondents mainly utilized the built facilities on a weekly and monthly basis. However, the natural facilities and services was shown to be more utilized with the most frequent usage being daily and no one selecting the annual or never option. Overall, the results show that people do use the existing facilities and services within the community and that the respondents value the opportunity to have these options.

5.7 Additional survey findings

An overwhelming majority of survey respondents discussed missing the jetty. Additional ideas were expressed in the survey, such as the implementation of a community garden, maintenance on walking and cycle tracks, repairing of swimming pool toilets, more services for elderly, a voluntary library, implementation of speed bumps and cameras, and a possible farmer's market.

5.8 Chi-square analysis of age and facility use

A Chi-square analysis was carried out to determine whether age was related to how often residents made use of community facilities before the 2011 earthquake. The returned value was found to be significant, as it was a value that had a probability of less than 0.05. This indicates that there is a significant difference between the observed frequencies and the expected frequencies, which is unlikely to be caused by sampling error. From these results it can be inferred that usage of community facilities before the 2011 earthquake varied depending on the age of the person.

5.9 Focus group findings

The focus group was invaluable in allowing residents a further voice. Prepared questions aimed to maintain the flow of conversation during the evening (see Appendix 2). The opening question focused on what members believed had changed in Governors Bay after the earthquake. Focus group members discussed that the loss of facilities such as the preschool and Allandale hall has negatively impacted them as they could no longer rely on and engage with these services. The preschool in particular was missed as it was a loss to the local economy, and disrupted social relations between parents. In response to the next question, asking what is keeping focus group members from moving to other areas, members responded saying the view, the large section sizes, the natural leisure facilities and the sense of community and freedom. Thirdly, participants were asked about how and if their daily activities have changed due to the earthquake, participants mentioned that initially after the earthquake the community was united further than usual, and that the main difficulty was lack of public transport between Christchurch and Governors Bay for a period. In response to the fourth question, about where leisure activities are performed, participants mentioned that due to Christchurch losing the Central Business District and several other facilities there was less to draw them to the city besides work. However there were some services such as 'Learn to Swim' that could not be accessed in the township, participants acknowledged although this was a frustration they were aware of the potential lack of services when they chose to live in Governors Bay. Finally the focus group was concluded with a question around what they felt were the three most important facilities for Governors Bay, for the most part this aligned well with the questionnaire data with the jetty and community hall, being highly valued. The preschool was also considered important, differing somewhat from the questionnaire.

The discussion also involved the loss of facilities in general, such as a petrol station and other shops, to other areas around Banks Peninsula and Christchurch. On top of these facilities being lost, the earthquake further disrupted facilities and services for the area. The preschool which was located at Allandale Hall was closed due to earthquake damage, with the participants feeling this was a major loss to the community. Furthermore, all participants in the focus group were united in wanting the jetty to be restored because of its iconic identity and sentimental value. There was an agreement that Governors Bay is a place of comfort and tranquillity with people feeling that it was far enough from Christchurch to be an oasis but close enough to a city.

6. DISCUSSION.

The results point to several facilities and services which are of interest to Governors Bay residents. Priorities highlighted have been the re-establishment of the jetty and the potential for the community to have a hall or multipurpose building. Furthermore, respondents expressed an interest in a heated swimming pool and to have the bus service, which was briefly running before the 2011 earthquake, re-established so residents can access public transport between the bay and Christchurch.

These results are significant as they emphasised an interest expressed by Governors Bay residents in having facilities and services that they can use and value. During the focus group participants wearily mentioned that Governors Bay has a history of losing important and valued facilities and services, such as a petrol station and shop. This worry was further extended to losing the well-loved jetty and Allandale Hall, which has been marked for demolition since the earthquake.

The chi-square analysis revealed that community facility usage before the 2011 earthquake varied depending on the age of the resident. This mirrors studies that have suggested age, income and other factors such as length of resiliency are related to involvement within the community. This result could be considered when and if the Governors Bay community has the opportunity to re-establish its jetty and built a new hall or multi-use building. This is especially relevant in regards to a new hall or multi-use building. Catering to a wider range of age-groups could both strengthen social connectedness and the sense of community.

One pattern that is evident throughout this research is the facilities and services the Governor's Bay community would like in their township. As figure two demonstrates, the jetty is a facility of extreme importance for the community with over 45 individuals showing their support for it. The significance of the jetty is also seen in figure three, where it is shown to be 'VERY IMPORTANT' in relation to the many other facilities and services wanted in the township.

Furthermore, as is seen in both figure two and three, is the church has notably minor importance for the respondents to our questionnaire. However, the return rate of 48 out of 320 surveys, that were sent out creates limitations and restraints for the results. When analysing these it must be kept in mind that

the responses may not accurately represent all personalities in Governors Bay. In saying this, it can be seen within the results that the church is a community facility which is located on both graphs to be unimportant. This is an implication, as it will be drawn up and presented to the whole of Governors Bay and the surrounding city, yet because only certain community members contributed, the results will show outcomes that do not suit everybody.

The research question "what do Governors Bay residents want and need in terms of community facilities and services?" was met through the use of both surveys and a focus group. Invaluable insight was provided through the data gathered and views expressed of what was required and needed. A community hall was shown to hold great significance through both forms of data. Secondly the jetty, which holds sentimental value towards the community of Governors Bay, and although it is not a needed facility in term of priorities, it is a facility which the community desperately wants. The overwhelming response in favour of the jetty indicates a sense of not only emotional attachment, but place attachment which is important to preserve. The community has been able to help guide the direction and focus of the study, and further, to answer the research question.

6. LIMITATIONS.

As with any research, there is potential for limitations to hinder the research.

The first limitation was the number of questionaries' distributed verses the number of responses received. This was a limitation because the responses may not be representative to the whole of Governors Bay. Unexpectedly, the response rate towards the survey was extremely low with only 16 questionnaires being returned. This limitation was discussed and managed through the extension of the survey by two weeks. These two weeks was positive for the research as the number increased to 48.

The second limitation was a question asked on the survey. The question 'How do you feel current Governors Bay services can be improved?' had a response of people feeling that the question was ambiguous. The word 'services' resulted in some survey responders being confused because they didn't feel any services were available at the time. It would be have better to provide examples such as the maintenance of walking tracks and the community run

bus service. It is also possible that people were not aware of services available to them which could have impacted their answers.

The third limitation was the placements of the drop boxes within Governors Bay. Both of these locations were only open during specific times during the week and weekend, meaning people would have been restricted to when they dropped off the survey, causing more inconvenience. A significant reason why this conclusion was drawn was due to the response rate via the online survey. The online survey response rate was much higher than paper copies. The main conclusion was that the location and opening hours for both drop boxes were not beneficial. In hindsight, it would have been beneficial to have the drop boxes accessible 24/7, where anyone could place their surveys at any time.

7. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

This report has sought to answer the question of what facilities and services would be beneficial for Governors Bay. Research through a range of methods has been conducted to help the Governors Bay Community Association understand the needs and wants of the residents.

Despite the limitations, the research is still valuable as a starting point for creating a better Governors Bay.

The New Oregon Model states that the forth step is 'How do we get here?'. The Governors Bay Community Association will be using this research as a guide for future research by developing an action plan for the township.

The Governors Bay community requires facilities and services in the area to create a better community. A vision should be kept in mind when considering change. However, ideas about what is wanted and needed are not always going to be the same across time and re-evaluating ideas periodically would help monitor change in perspectives. The Governors Bay Community Association could assist in making this possible as having the ability to adapt to what is required will foster social and community resilience and will ultimately improve the future of the suburb.

8. ACKNOWLEGEMENTS.

We wish to express our utmost gratitude to the following people, who without their help, this project would not have been possible:

Karen Banwell - Karen acted as both our teaching assistant and one of our community partners. Karen assisted us through the research process, and gave us needed encouragement as well as advice when necessary.

Ben Taylor - Our second community partner who was sadly absent during the first half of our research project, was a great second opinion. His enthusiasm to help and encourage us was always appreciated.

We would like to extend our appreciation and gratitude towards The Governors Bay Community Association, a further thank you to the Governors Bay School, She Chocolat cafe and the Governors Bay Hotel for facilitating our research.

And finally to all the residents of Governors Bay who aided the research with their input through the questionnaires and additional involvement in the focus group.

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10. APPENDICES.

Appendix 10.1: Governors Bay Survey.

10/6/2014

GEOG309 Survey - Google Forms

Governors Bay Community Facilities and Services Survey

We are a group of third year Geography students studying at the University of Canterbury. This questionnaire is for our Geography 309 assignment, for this project we are working with the local community to help identify community services and facilities for Governors Bay. We hope the information from this survey will provide us with an overview of what you, as residents, would like to see for the township.

see for the future of the township. All information gathered will remain anonymous. Everyone in your household is more than welcome to fill out the survey individually, as it can also be filled in online at this address http://goo.gl/3vCEkh. Collection boxes for physical copies will be provided at She Chocolat cafe and the Governors Bay Hotel and will be collected on Sunday the 7th of September. If you have any questions or concerns, please call Stephanie Fong on 0272322980. Thank you for your help with our research.

* Required

Community hall/multi-use buildi Accessible jetty Skatepark	ng		
_			
Cketenerk			
I I Skaledark			
Mobile Library			
Heated swimming pool			
Preschool			
Meals on Wheels			
Bus service			
Church			
Other:			
			acilities in tern
now important you feel they are to	the community	*	
now important you feel they are to Mark only one oval per row.	the community		
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Community Hall/multi-use building Accessible jetty Skatepark Mobile Library Heated swimming pool Preschool	the community	*	
Accessible jetty Skatepark Mobile Library Heated swimming pool Preschool Meals on Wheels	the community	*	

10/6/2014	GEOG309 Survey - Google Forms
3.	How often did you use community facilities before the 2011 earthquake? *
	Such as the tennis courts, the Community Hall, Allandale Hall, and St Cuthbert's Church.
	Mark only one oval.
	Daily
	Weekly
	Monthly
	Annually
	Never
4.	How often did you use natural facilities before the 2011 earthquake? *
	Such as biking and walking tracks and the jetty.
	Mark only one oval.
	Daily
	Weekly
	Monthly
	Annually
	Never
5.	Are there any specific Governors Bay services and facilities you have missed after the 2011 earthquakes?
	What are your reasons for this?
6.	How do you feel current Governors Bay services can be improved?
	What would make you more likely to use these services?
7	How long have you lived in Governors Bay? *
7.	now long have you lived in Governors day?

8.	Please indicate your age-group.
	Check all that apply.
	15 and under
	16-25
	26-35
	36-45
	46-55
	56-65
	66 and over
9.	A focus group will be held at the local school in mid September which will give residents the opportunity to discuss and expand on topics related to this questionnaire. If you are interested, please provide your email below and you will be contacted after surveys have been collected

Google Forms

Appendix 10.2: Focus group questions.

- 1. Personally for you, what has changed in Governors Bay since the earthquake? (How has the place become better or worse?)
- 2. What is keeping you from moving out of the community into another area?
- 3. How have your daily activities around the community changed because of the earthquake damage?
- 4. Do you perform more leisure activities in Governors Bay or in wider Christchurch? (Dog walking, biking). Why?
- 5. Personally, what are the three most important facilities and/or services that you would like to see in Governors Bay?

Appendix 10.3: Chi-Square analysis of residents' age and usage of community facilities prior to the 2011 earthquake.

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	Never	Observed	
15 & under	1	1	1	1	0		
16-25	0	3	0	0	0		
26-35	0	1	2	0	0		
36-45	0	6	4	1	1		Chi-square result:
46-55	1	4	3	0	0		3.39576E-06
56-65	1	0	5	3	0		
66 & over	0	3	3	1	1		
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annually	Never	Expected	
15 & under	0.13	0.77	0.77	0.26	0.08		
16-25	0.1	0.6	0.6	0.2	0.06		
26-35	0.1	0.57	0.57	0.19	0.06		
36-45	0.38	2.3	2.3	0.77	0.26		
46-55	0.26	1.53	1.53	0.51	0.17		
56-65	0.3	1.72	1.72	0.57	0.2		
66 & over	0.3	1.53	1.53	0.51	0.17		