



Mahere tautāwhi hapori

Community support plan

We want a strong and connected community, where diversity is celebrated.

For-purpose organisations are strong and resilient when they have stable governance, appropriate funding, volunteer support, and time to build relationships and learn from others. We understand that communities are best placed to identify, understand, and develop solutions to meet their own needs. We will promote community wellbeing through transparent and fair access to funding and support. A community-led development approach underpins our work.

Nine community centres provide places for people to meet and take part in community activities. Each of these centres has a different operational model and meets different needs. Caccia Birch provides a place for communities to meet, and Hancock Community House is a central hub for community services.

We want community facilities to respond to community needs. We will support community centres and facilities to promote community wellbeing. We will support community initiatives and aspirations for better community outcomes, including through kai security, place-based development, events, and emerging needs.

Provide and support community centres, Youth Space, and Hancock Community House

What will this mean?

There are suitable and accessible places for city communities to gather and take part in activities. Hancock Community House provides affordable accommodation and shared facilities for for-purpose organisations. A new multicultural centre is planned and developed with city communities.

Specific actions

- Support the Management Committee to operate Hancock Community House
- Support and manage community centres and facilities in accordance with identified communities needs
- Operate Caccia Birch as a community facility for hire
- Provide services and programmes for young people through Youth Space

New or one-off actions

- Review the delivery model of community centres (year 1)
- Plan and develop a multicultural centre within the Civic Administration Building (year 1)
- Report on property options, and potential next steps, to respond to the needs of the Roslyn community (year 1)
- Plan and develop an expansion of the Pasifika Centre (year 2)
- Plan and develop a community library hub in Awapuni (years 4 and 5)
[See [Library plan](#)]
- Incorporate the Enabling Good Lives principles in planning for community places
- Apply community facility guidelines to inform decision-making about existing and proposed community facilities

Ka aha mātou?

What will we do?

Provide public toilets throughout the city

What will this mean?

There are clean, accessible and gender-neutral (where practicable) public toilets provided throughout the city within parks, reserves, the City Library, public buildings and sports pavilions. Some accessible toilets are available at all times of the day and night. There is one fully accessible accredited Changing Places bathroom in the central city.

Specific actions

- Provide gender-neutral and accessible toilets throughout the city

New or one-off actions

- Incorporate the Enabling Good Lives principles in planning for the public toilets
- Include a Changing Places bathroom in the Awapuni library and community hub (year 5)
[See [City Library plan](#)]

Support for-purpose organisations and communities of interest, and deliver programmes to promote community wellbeing

What will this mean?

Local communities and communities of interest have the support they need to develop and deliver initiatives to meet their needs. For-purpose organisations have the resources they need to promote community wellbeing. Programmes supporting community wellbeing have Council support and involvement.

Specific actions

- Support communities and for-purpose organisations through a community-led development approach
- Provide funding to for-purpose organisations, local communities, and communities of interest through:
 - Community Development Small Grants Fund
 - Community-led Initiatives Fund
 - Occupancy of Council-owned property subsidy
 - Strategic Priority Grants (including support for sector-leadership)
 - Subsidy of community facility development costs
 [See [Biodiversity and Manawatū River plan](#)]
- Deliver the Welcoming Communities programme
- Take part in interagency initiatives to promote community wellbeing
- Provide support to for-purpose groups and organisations through:
 - Community Training Fund
- Run a Civic Awards programme that reflects city diversity
- Support young people and youth initiatives through:
 - Youth Council initiatives fund
 - Youth Council Scholarships
 - Youth leadership programmes
- Participate in the World Health Organization's (WHO's) Age-friendly Cities and Communities programme
- Provide support to individuals experiencing hardship through the Mayoral Relief Fund
- Support a Companion Card scheme for disabled people to access ticketed activities and events

New or one-off actions

- Develop a Youth Wellbeing Action Plan, including a reference group, annual youth wellbeing forum, and a quick-response youth development fund (years 1-3)
- Provide an annual report on youth wellbeing (from year 1)
- Provide funding support to Bunnythorpe community initiatives (from year 1)
- Support and encourage community gardens, and food security and resilience (from year 1)