

Appendix 2: Feasibility Study Brief

The Kāpiti Coast District Council in partnership with the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council has identified the need for a youth centre in the south of District.

The aim of the feasibility study is to investigate options, including a single space youth centre which could meet the purpose of the initiative.

The purpose of the initiative is to provide open access space or spaces where young people in the south of the District have the opportunity to:

- gather and be themselves in place/s which they feel ownership over
- participate in free unstructured and structured social, recreation and educational activities which contribute to their development
- access the support of youth workers in their lives.

The feasibility study will examine a range of options that meet the purpose of the initiative as outlined above. The study includes a profile of young people in the designated area, current provision of services, gaps, barriers and opportunities, models of good practice in youth work, youth development and youth centres and community and youth consultation. It will also investigate potential location/s, building/s, functions, range of activities, relationships with existing services and agencies, funding, delivery, operation, staffing and management.

The final feasibility study will be delivered to the Council in June 2013.

The study will provide at least three options which meet the purpose of the initiative. It will compare a single location youth centre option with other options, assess the options against the criteria and make recommendations on a preferred option for the initiative.

Background

Choosing Futures: the community's vision for the Kāpiti Coast District describes the seven outcome areas the community has developed. These include:

- Community Outcome Six - the District is a place that works for young people and
- Community Outcome Seven - the District has a strong, healthy, safe and involved community.

The Kāpiti Coast District Council recognised the need for youth space by \$1million capital budget in the including in the 2009 Community Plan for the development of a youth hub in 2022-2024.

The Kāpiti Coast District Council and the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council have been investigating the need for youth friendly spaces in the District in conjunction with youth development opportunities. The need for these was identified in the 2010 Youth Survey undertaken by the Youth Council with support from the Council and the Boys and Girls Institute.

The Youth Council has undertaken initial research on what a youth centre is and what it can do by examining other youth centre models in the lower North Island including in Wellington City, Hutt City, Palmerston North and Horowhenua. They have developed a concept for the youth centre and have promoted this with the Council and the community. In particular they have used the Council's Long Term

Plan consultation process to raise awareness in the community of youth needs, promote the youth centre concept and foster community support.

Through the 2012 Long Term Plan deliberations the Council decided to bring forward the development of youth centre from 2022 to 2015/16. The 2012 Long Term Plan provides for \$650,000 capital funding in 2014/15 and operational funding to cover the cost of capital and operating costs for the out years.

In addition the Youth Council and community members have been investigating the establishment of a youth development trust that could potentially manage and operate the youth centre.

A community advisory group to the Council on the Youth Centre recommended broadening the scope of the initiative to allow for consideration of other options than a single space Youth Centre in the feasibility study. All options developed will meet the purpose of the initiative as set out in this brief.

Purpose of the Feasibility Study

The feasibility study will provide Council with the information necessary to decide the model which best fits the purpose of the initiative.

The feasibility study will address the following;

- What are the social, recreational and broad educational opportunities, programmes, services and initiatives in the District for young people? How can this initiative strengthen this? What are the gaps and barriers? What are the opportunities?
- What can we learn from other communities and from overseas about youth centre and youth projects which meet the purpose of our initiative?
- What are the most effective options for our community? How do the options which meet the criteria of the initiative? What is the best option for our community? How does a single location Youth Centre compare with other options? Is a single location Youth Centre feasible for the designated area (Paekakariki – Waikanae)?

Youth Initiative Criteria

Each option will be assessed on the following criteria;

- grounded in youth development principles and a youth development approach
- be open to all young people aged 13 – 21 years of age
- cater to young people from Waikanae to Paekakariki
- provide open access space or spaces where young people feel ownership where they can undertake their own social, recreational and educational pursuits
- provide opportunities for structured and unstructured activities for young people
- be accessible in terms of physical accessibility, affordability and youth friendly for a diverse range of youth cultures
- be culturally inclusive

- provide youth worker support for young people
- not duplicate existing services for young people
- be connected to the community and other youth services
- reflect the Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations
- be cost effective and sustainable.

Key Components of the Study

The study will comprise of:

- A profile of young people
 - Picture of general population (comparative)
 - Picture of young people in the designated area (comparative)
 - Wellbeing status of young people
 - Youth Survey 2010 results
- Best practice guidelines in youth work and youth development
 - Best practice in youth work
 - Youth development principles and best practice
 - Elements of successful youth centres
 - Elements of successful youth development programmes
- Current provision and use of services and spaces for young people
 - Snapshot of existing recreation and social programmes and services
 - Snapshot of youth development programmes for young people
 - Barriers, issues and gaps in services and spaces for young people
 - Linkages and opportunities
 - Young people's access of recreational, social and youth development opportunities on the Kapiti Coast
 - Young people's thoughts on their social and recreation needs
- Scan of national and international models
 - Snapshot of youth centres and relevant youth development initiatives nationwide
 - Investigation of successful youth centres and relevant youth development initiatives in the Wellington region
 - Investigation of youth centres in communities of comparative demographics/ population to the Kapiti Coast
 - Investigation into previous failed models – local and national
 - Investigation into successful models of youth work provision
- Stakeholder engagement
 - Community thoughts on the initiative
 - Young people's thoughts on the initiative
 - Long term plan submissions on the Youth Centre
 - Māori community thoughts on the initiative.

2) The study will make recommendations for Council to consider on options for the initiative. Each option developed will include;

- A description of the model
- The strengths and benefits of the model
- The weaknesses/ risks of the model and how these could be managed
- How the model meets the criteria for the initiative
- How the model responds to findings of the feasibility study (profile, lessons learnt from other researched models, youth development best practice etc)
- Broad specifications for the model including functions, spaces, staffing and fit out/equipment with estimated costs
- A profile of potential users and usage rates
- Concepts for delivery of model including preferred locations, development, fit-out and operating costs
- Considerations for management and operation of the model
- Young people's thoughts on the option.

3) The study will compare a single location youth centre option with other options and make recommendations on a preferred option for the initiative. The recommendation will be based on;

- the option which best meets the criteria
- the strengths and benefits of the option
- the weaknesses/ risks of the option and the ability to manage those risks
- the support from young people for the option
- the cost effectiveness and predicted sustainability of the option.