

Chairperson and Committee Members

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

30 AUGUST 2011

Meeting Status : Public

Purpose of Report: For Information

UPDATE ON YOUTH ACTION PLAN

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This report provides an update on the 2011/12 activities under the *Yth2U Youth Action Plan: A Plan of Action for Kāpiti Coast Youth (Action Plan)* and includes the proposed work plan for the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council's activities for 2012/13.

SIGNIFICANCE OF DECISION

- 2 The Council's significance policy is not triggered.

BACKGROUND

Youth Action Plan

- 3 In June 2011 the Council endorsed the Action Plan. The Action Plan seeks to improve the quality of life for young people living in the District. It also seeks benefits for Council and the District through increased youth participation in decision-making in core Council business.
- 4 The Action Plan outlines the commitments the Council and the Youth Council have made on addressing the issues raised in the Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey 2010. The Action Plan contributes to Community Outcome Six and Seven of the Long Term Plan:

Outcome 6: 'The District is a place that works for young people'

Outcome 7: 'The District has a strong, healthy, safe and involved community.'
- 5 The Action Plan outlines five goals for the period 2011 – 2015.
 - Communities which are safe for and supportive of youth
 - A Council which values and listens to its youth
 - A District which has youth friendly spaces and places
 - A District where there is lots for young people to do
 - A District which supports strong positive youth development

Kāpiti Coast Youth Council

- 6 The current Youth Council membership was finalised in May 2012. It has a youth membership which changes during the calendar year due to other commitments, young people leaving the District and other factors. The current Youth Council is comprised of members who have been involved in the implementation of the Action Plan over the past year and new members who were recruited in May 2012.
- 7 There are currently 21 Youth Council members. The group is between 14 and 20 years of age and includes young people:
 - attending the District's three colleges
 - attending Kura Kaupapa
 - in training and attending tertiary education institutions
 - seeking work.
- 8 The Council has continued to work in partnership with the new Youth Council to deliver the Action Plan activities in 2011/12. As a part of their orientation camp for new members, the Youth Council undertook an evaluation of Action Plan activities for 2011/12 and drafted a work programme with Council staff for 2012/13.

CONSIDERATIONS

- 9 The Action Plan details the Youth Council and Council's contribution to action areas across a range of Council activities including: social wellbeing, leisure and open spaces, community facilities, transport and democratic services. Actions relating to other groups within Council have been discussed with these groups.
- 10 The Action Plan was developed as a youth led project with the role of Council as an advisor to the process. The current Youth Council are committed to the overall goals and aims of the Action Plan and have drafted the 2012/13 work programme.
- 11 The Youth Council manages the content, advancement and structure of the Action Plan in partnership with the Council. Any suggested changes to the annual work programme by the Committee will need to go to the Youth Council for discussion and further action.

12 The following tables provide a summary of the aims, outcomes for 2011/12 and proposed work programme for 2012/13;

GOAL 1: Communities which are safe for and supportive of youth		
Aim	Highlights 2011/12	Work Programme 12/13 (Draft)
<p>Young people volunteering and get involved in their community</p> <p>Better intergenerational understanding between adults and young people</p> <p>Less negative stereotypes of young people in the community and local media</p> <p>Young people feeling safe</p> <p>Good and safe public transport options around the District</p>	<p>A youth led mural project was established. Two murals have been completed at Kaitawa reserve and Ōtaki skate park.</p> <p>Thirteen Youth Council columns were published in the Kapiti Observer on a range of topics to inform the public on youth voices and needs.</p> <p>Presentations were made to the Kāpiti youth worker network about the Action Plan and Youth Centre idea.</p> <p>A project for youth living 'over the tracks' in Paraparaumu was implemented which included focus groups, Councillors field trip, mural development and youth events.</p> <p>The ThinkBIG project gained outcomes in youth volunteering, and intergenerational and community involvement.</p>	<p>Continue the mural project with a focus on Maclean Park and Ōtaki. A 'Graffiti the Future' art project will end with an exhibition in Arts Trail and a mural in Ōtaki.</p> <p>Work with the Older Persons Council to hold a networking breakfast and facebook training session.</p> <p>Develop additional intergenerational projects.</p> <p>Re-visit the Youth Council column.</p> <p>Support the establishment of the outreach KYS clinic in Ōtaki.</p>

GOAL 2: A Council which values and listens to its youth		
Aim	Highlights 2011/12	Work Programme 12/13 (Draft)
<p>Young people know what the Youth Council is and connect with it</p> <p>Youth Council has diverse youth representation</p> <p>Youth Council provides youth voice and consultation on a range of topics</p> <p>Good communication between Youth Council and the Council</p> <p>Council supports Youth Council with resource to ensure its sustainability and effectiveness</p>	<p>Youth Council has built strong facebook profile as a key communication tool. Council is using this to inform and consult with young people.</p> <p>A stronger Ōtaki subcommittee has meant Districtwide projects have more Ōtaki youth involvement and are better targeted to their needs.</p> <p>Young people were informed and consulted in the review of the Long Term Plan and relevant Council projects including; pools, parks and libraries.</p> <p>The Youth Council has presented several times to the Environment and Community Development Committee. All the District's Community Boards have one or more presentations by the Youth Council.</p> <p>The Council sponsored a group of Youth Council members to attend the Youth in Local Government Conference.</p> <p>The Mayor mentored a Youth Council member under Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Rangatahi Youth Leadership Programme.</p>	<p>Continue to build facebook as an easy medium for Council and wider community including employers to engage with youth.</p> <p>Continue Ōtaki subcommittee as a branch of the Youth Council to ensure Youth Council projects meet the needs in this community.</p> <p>Continue regular Youth Council presentations and invitations to Council and community Boards to ensure ongoing communication.</p> <p>Increase Youth Council profile with youth and the wider community.</p>

GOAL 3: A District which has youth friendly spaces and places		
Aim	Highlights 2011/12	Work Programme 12/13 (Draft)
<p>Need for youth centres is investigated</p> <p>Public places where young people are seen as an issue are identified and project to build community initiated</p> <p>Strengthen youth interest in and relevance of our indoor and outdoor Council spaces</p> <p>Improve the accessibility of public spaces to young people</p>	<p>Youth Council and Council have undertaken an initial study on youth centre feasibility.</p> <p>Council has undertaken a community facilities stock take which included considering the needs of young people.</p> <p>Open Spaces team have worked closely with the Youth Council to improve youth components to parks.</p> <p>Youth2ULive events have taken place in a wide variety of Council spaces including libraries, parks and pools.</p> <p>Youth Council has met with a number of community stakeholders about youth issues and the youth centre concept.</p>	<p>Undertake comprehensive youth centre feasibility review and involve the Youth Council in this project as well as other key stakeholders.</p> <p>Continue to work with Open Space, Property and Library teams to improve young people's use of parks and Council spaces.</p> <p>Undertake Youth2ULive events during the summer which end with YouthFest event.</p> <p>Work with community organisations which provide social and recreational opportunities for young people.</p> <p>Increase Youth Council facebook page profile as a community networking space for young people and organisations offering opportunities for youth.</p>

GOAL 4: A District where there is lots for young people to do		
Aim	Highlights 2011/12	Work Programme 12/13 (Draft)
<p>An annual YouthFest event is held to celebrate young people's diversity, skills and talents</p> <p>Youth Week is promoted through the District</p> <p>Young people are involved in consultation on recreational, art and culture facilities around the District</p> <p>There are number of free and low cost activities for young people to do in Council places and spaces</p>	<p>YouthFest 2012 was highly successful with over 2500 people attending.</p> <p>Over 40 youth2U Live events have been run across the District which engaged with hundreds of young people as volunteers, participants and leaders.</p> <p>The Ōtaki subcommittee of the Youth Council has delivered a Ōtaki youth programme under Youth2U Live which has attracted up to 50 youth on a weekly basis.</p> <p>Youth Week 2012 was promoted by the Youth Council and included Youth2U Dollars (formerly \$300ships).</p>	<p>Deliver YouthFest 2013 and integrate the event into wider Council, Youth Council and community opportunities.</p> <p>Continue Ōtaki subcommittee weekly meetings and implementation of an Ōtaki programme including the mural project.</p> <p>YouthWeek 2013 is promoted and opportunities to connect YouthWeek messages and existing Youth Council projects are maximised.</p> <p>Youth2ULive continues with youth development activities primarily over the summer period for young people.</p>

GOAL 5: A District which supports strong positive youth development		
Aim	Highlights 2011/12	Work Programme 12/13 (Draft)
<p>Young peoples skills, talents and abilities are recognised and celebrated</p> <p>Council is a youth friendly employer</p> <p>Opportunities to partner with youth organisations are taken up.</p> <p>Advocate to Central Government for appropriate resourcing for youth needs in the District</p> <p>Provide youth worker training opportunities to increase</p>	<p>The \$300ship youth scholarships programme was restructured as ‘Youth2U Dollars’ and is focused on youth development outcomes and reaching young people in low socio-economic situations.</p> <p>The ThinkBIG project was developed to provide a youth led project mentoring and training programme. Twelve youth led projects are being delivered with the support of organisations such as Kāpiti Youth Support and the Safer Community Trust.</p> <p>A community forum on youth transitions was held. Local employers and businesses have engaged with the Youth Council and jobs have been posted on the Youth Council’s facebook page.</p> <p>Four youth worker training sessions were held with people working with young people.</p> <p>The Youth Council met with Minister Nathan Guy and Minister Paula Bennett to discuss youth needs in Kāpiti District.</p>	<p>Youth2U Dollars programme continues to be implemented.</p> <p>Current college awards are restructured as youth development awards which reflect the achievements of the wider youth population including young people in training and employment.</p> <p>ThinkBIG evaluation is completed and changes are implemented into the second year of delivery.</p> <p>Ongoing youth employment project continues to work with Youth Council.</p> <p>Youth worker training opportunities continue to meet the needs of the youth sector.</p>

- 13 The work programme for Action Plan activities for 2012/13 will be finalised at the full Youth Council meeting in September. It is intended that the Action Plan will be reviewed in 2015 in line with the Long Term Plan.

Financial Considerations

- 14 In 2011/12 the Action Plan was funded from the existing Social Wellbeing budget, Democratic Services budget and was supplemented with external funding from the Ministry of Youth Development, Creative Communities and the Waikanae Community Board. The Council received \$60,000 from the Ministry of Youth Development for two of the Action Plan initiatives in 2011/12; Youth2U Live and ThinkBIG.
- 15 In 2012/13 the Action Plan will be funded from existing Council budget and will be supplemented by funding from ACC and the Ministry of Youth Development. Due to the success of the Action Plan's ThinkBIG project, we have been offered \$10,000 from the Ministry of Youth Development to support another round of this project beginning. The second round of ThinkBIG will commence in February 2013.
- 16 The Waikanae Community Board also provided \$6000 supplementary funding for the Youth Council to strengthen delivery of the Youth2ULive programme in the Waikanae community. Exceptionally high volunteer involvement in the programme meant there was a \$2000 saving from this funding for the 2011/12 financial year. The Board has agreed that the under spend could be retained into the 2012/13 year to increase Youth2ULive activities during the summer months in Waikanae.
- 17 Youth2ULive will continue with funding from the Social Wellbeing budget during the summer months.
- 18 The Youth Council received \$2000 from the Creative Communities Scheme for funding for a District-wide Mural Project which sits under the Action Plan. This project sits under Goal One of the Action Plan. Two murals were completed as a result of this funding in June 2012.

Delegation

- 19 The Environment & Community Development Committee has the;
- 7.1 Authority to develop (within any wider existing strategic framework) policies and work programmes that support the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the community and provide assurance to Council that associated projects are managed efficiently, effectively and with due regard to risk.*

Consultation

- 20 To ensure the Action Plan activities continue to be responsive to youth needs, the Youth Council undertakes ongoing consultation with young people through a variety of media and methods. These include face to face discussions, surveys and facebook interaction. Each activity of the Action Plan is developed with consultation with those young people who is seeking to benefit or directly affects. For example, a skatepark development was discussed directly with users at the park and a broader youth group through facebook discussions.
- 21 The Youth Council's facebook page is highly effective in engaging with young people in the District and ensuring that the Action Plan stays responsive to the needs of young people. They have over 800 members and posts are commonly viewed by a wider group of youth. Both Youth Council projects and relevant Council information and short consultations are often posted with a positive response rate.

Policy Implications

- 22 The goals and activities in the Action Plan provide a foundation for all activities undertaken or supported by the Council which relate to youth and youth development.

Tangata Whenua Considerations

- 23 The Action Plan is underpinned by the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi. The Youth Council aims to ensure tangata whenua representation in their membership and their projects are inclusive of rangatahi Māori needs.

Publicity Considerations

- 24 The Action Plan publication continues to be promoted to young people and the wider community particularly through events and activities held in association with the Youth Council. Additional media and promotion marketing strategies will be adopted in relation to key projects for 2012/13.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 25 That the Committee notes the activities undertaken in the 2011/12 financial year included in report SP-12-665, and endorses the activities for 2012/13 and that progress on this Action Plan will be reported to the Committee on an annual basis and via the Long Term Plan review process.

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