

**JOB DESCRIPTION**  
**March 2026**

**Title & Reporting Relationships**

**Position Title:** **Senior Advisor Connected Communities  
Climate Action and Connected Communities Team, Customer and  
Community Group.**

**Grade:** SP 17

**Reports to:** Team Leader, Connected Communities

**Direct / Indirect  
Reports:** Nil

**Purpose of the  
Group and the  
Position:** **The Customer and Community Group**, comprises:  
Communication Engagement and Events; Climate Action and Connected  
Communities; Aquatics Facilities; Libraries; Parks, Open Space and  
Environment; and Environmental Standards.

The Customer and Community Group is responsible for a significant portion of Councils' customer interactions, every day as people choose to use our facilities, services and programmes at swimming pools, libraries, museums, halls, parks, sports fields, ecological reserves, and events. This group connects communities to the services we deliver in supporting the everyday lives of residents and visitors to the district.

The Senior Connected Communities Advisor leads complex, partnership-based community development mahi across Kāpiti to co-design solutions and deliver equitable, community outcomes. The role provides strategic advice to elected members and leaders, stewards community investment to agreed outcomes, strengthens internal coordination, mentors advisors, and leads high-quality engagement and projects that enhance social connection, wellbeing and inclusion.

**Internal  
Customers:** This role is responsible for establishing and maintaining effective, co-operative, and professional working relationships with all stakeholders including:

- Climate Action and Connected Communities Team
- Wider Customer and Community Group
- Communication and Engagement Team
- Economic Development Team
- Strategy Team
- Governance Team
- Elected Members
- And other staff from across Council

**External  
Customers:**

- For purpose organisations, community groups, and individuals
- Community and social sector leaders

- Mana whenua

## KEY RESPONSIBILITIES AND OUTCOMES

In the current local government environment, Council must be well positioned and supported to meet the current and future needs of our communities for good quality local infrastructure, local public services, and performance of regulatory functions in a way that is cost-effective for businesses and residents. The Council needs to be ready for, and respond appropriately to, changes in external operating environments (such as shifts in government policy), which in turn influences how we do things. The Council is working to be well-positioned not only to see what is coming but also to take opportunities to influence the shape of these externally driven changes.

We require all staff to demonstrate behaviours that underscore our commitment to build and maintain an organisation that is acknowledged and respected for being:

- Caring – we understand our customers’ needs, share information and work as a team;
- Dynamic – we bring a can-do attitude to make it happen; and
- Effective – we get it right and deliver consistent, value for money services.

Staff will be aware of political sensitivities, support equal employment opportunities, and demonstrate an understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi within the context of a local authority.

## Functional Key Requirements

- Lead complex community development mahi requiring cross-sector collaboration, with confident navigation of political contexts.
- Provide strategic advice on community needs and contribute to the development and review of Council and Group strategies and plans.
- Build, maintain and steward strategic relationships across community groups, NGOs, mana whenua partners and regional networks.
- Broker partnerships that enable community-led solutions and improve equity of outcomes.
- Steward best practice community investment (such as funding partnerships, contracts for service, multi-year and annual grant rounds) to deliver agreed outcomes, ensuring transparent processes and clear accountability.
- Strengthen internal networks so Council can respond to social issues with a coordinated approach.
- Lead high-quality engagement and co-design processes, tailored to the significance and context of each initiative.
- Facilitate high-impact projects that enhance social connection, wellbeing and inclusion.
- Identify emerging social issues (place-based and communities of interest) affecting Kāpiti and lead cross-sector workshops/wānanga to build shared understanding and joint action plans.
- Provide mentoring and subject-matter guidance to Connected Communities Advisors to support delivery of key projects and strategic outcomes.
- Support the Connected Communities Advisors delivering Council advisory groups so voices are heard early in strategy, planning and decision-making and political context is well navigated.
- Develop clear and concise reports that synthesise evidence, community feedback and options.

## Personal Key Results

- Demonstrate commitment to organisational values through behaviour that is consistent with our caring, dynamic and effective approach to customer service.
- Establish and maintain effective and efficient working relationships with all stakeholders.
- Contribute collaboratively, positively, and effectively to the operation of the team, the Group, and the organisation as a whole.
- Take responsibility for your own self-development to enhance skills and knowledge applicable to current and future positions.
- Exhibit behavior which is consistent with the understanding of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and its application for the Council.

### **Health and Safety**

All employees have a responsibility to work towards keeping a safe and healthy work environment by following all safe work methods, identifying work place risks and hazards and using appropriate safety equipment. This includes but is not exclusive to demonstration of the following:

- Taking all reasonable steps to ensure your own safety at work, and that no action or inaction of yours while at work causes harm to any person or the environment;
- Reporting any risks and/or hazards you become aware of in the workplace;
- Observing all safety policies, procedures and precautions, including wearing and using the protective clothing and equipment;
- Notifying your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor immediately if you have an accident/incident/near miss at work and completing the required forms within 24 hours;
- Notifying your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor within 24 hours of filing any ACC claim for a work related accident or gradual process injury, and provide your manager/Group Manager/H&S Advisor with copies of relevant medical information specific to your claim; and
- Complying with all policies and procedures that are in place.

At the discretion of the Council, as part of a rehabilitation programme, you may be required to return to work to undertake such alternative duties as are available and are as reasonably within your capability and level of fitness as determined in consultation with a registered medical practitioner.

### **Essential Skills, Knowledge and Experience**

- Tertiary qualification in a relevant discipline (e.g., community development, social policy, public administration) or equivalent experience.
- 10+ years' relevant experience in community development and strategic advice in local/central government or the community sector, including leading complex initiatives and partnerships.
- Demonstrated expertise in engagement and co-design, with the ability to tailor approaches to the significance and context of the work.
- Strong relationship management and facilitation skills across diverse stakeholders, including community groups, NGOs, mana whenua, central government agencies and elected members.
- High-level communication (plain-English writing, briefings, reports, presentations) with the ability to synthesise complex issues into clear options and recommendations.
- Proven project management capability, including planning, delivery, and risk/benefits tracking across multiple workstreams.
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi: understanding of obligations in local government; confidence engaging in tikanga Māori settings; and a commitment to inclusive practice that values diversity.
- Political acumen, sound judgement and collaboration, with a values-led, customer-centred working style.
- Effective interpersonal skills and a demonstrated commitment to excellent customer service when working with a wide range of internal and external stakeholders.

- High-level analytical, conceptual and problem-solving skills.
- Strong time management and organisational skills, with the ability to prioritise and meet deadlines.
- Financial literacy and relevant experience with budget/financial management.
- Digital fluency and the ability to learn new systems and processes
- Current and valid NZ driver's licence.

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

From time to time, the position holder may be required to perform other duties in conjunction with the role and which are reasonably within their experience and capabilities.

#### **Te Tiriti o Waitangi**

Kapiti Coast District Council has a responsibility to contribute to meeting obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Meeting our commitment to Te Tiriti will contribute towards creating an organisation that is grounded, dynamic and resilient and supports our organizational values of being Caring, Dynamic and Effective in how we work.

Staff will contribute to the promotion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the involvement of Māori within the decision-making process for matters related to and important to them within the Council management processes and procedures.

Inclusion of Te Tiriti o Waitangi within all aspects of the role and its outcomes is necessary, while ensuring the engagement processes include appropriate mechanisms to meet the needs and aspirations of our hapori Māori, informed by our mana whenua partners – in an appropriate and safe manner.

To give effect to our responsibilities and achieve our respective outcomes – Tiriti training will be appropriate and organised through Te Rōpū Hononga ā-Iwi / Iwi Partnerships Group.

#### **Civil Defence, Emergency Management and Business Continuity Duties**

All staff of Kāpiti Coast District Council may be required to undertake Civil Defence and/or Emergency Management duties in the event of an emergency. (Training will be given as appropriate.) Staff will also be required to assist with maintaining business continuity in the event of a disruption to Council business and/or the impact of a pandemic by undertaking duties in accordance with how the Council responds to the interruption.

The Council likewise recognises the staff member's need to ensure their family's needs are adequately catered for.

#### **Performance Review**

Performance in this position will be assessed in terms of an agreed performance plan.

## JD APPENDIX - GENERIC ORGANISATIONAL COMPETENCIES

<b>Leadership</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All employees of the Council are expected to be leaders in supporting the Council's vision, role modelling the delivery of consistent high customer service levels to internal and external customers and championing Council values.</li> <li>• Leaders are expected to actively contribute to achieving the Council's aspirations with respect to the relationships with Te Āti Awa ki Whakarongotai, Ngāti Toa Rangatira and Ngā Hapū o Ōtaki; and be willing and able to provide thought leadership and quality advice to enable our elected members to make good decisions.</li> <li>• <b>People Leaders</b> are expected to: effectively build and maintain an engaged, healthy, thriving and high performing team; ensure their people are current in their knowledge of legislation and training is available to keep pace with best practice.</li> <li>• Ensure people policy and practices are consistently observed and implemented and opportunities exist for ongoing professional growth and development; ensure their people are consistently working collaboratively with other Council teams in the delivery of operational and strategic outputs; effectively manage day to day work output and timeframes; schedule and conduct regular team meetings to enable opportunities for team members to be informed and up to date in their areas and those areas that cross over with other teams.</li> <li>• Ensure individual team member performance is monitored, reviewed with appropriate and timely feedback, and written performance reviews are formally completed in a timely manner; ensure adequate provision of backup/cover for team members; establish an effective performance culture within their team, including ongoing performance appraisals with clear performance indicators and consistent standards.</li> <li>• Team Leaders/Supervisors/Managers are accountable for the leadership, support and coaching of their team members, the fostering of a teamwork approach to the delivery of both the team and the Group's outputs, and the identification of training and development as appropriate; enable, create and encourage linkages across the Council and the region for the benefit of all, the delivery of work programmes and the achievement of strategic priorities; embed strong leadership within their team and across the wider Council leadership group that drives increased diversity, engagement, capability and performance.</li> </ul>
<b>Legislative Compliance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep up to date with legislation/amended legislative frameworks and be able to demonstrate the application of such changes (in work and or communicate them to others).</li> </ul>
<b>Project Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectively manage assigned projects to ensure on time and within budget, monitor and report regularly to manage risk and provide updates to key stakeholders.</li> <li>• Ensure documentation is current, available as required and is prepared using Council standard templates/documentation.</li> <li>• Ensure Council processes and procedures are complied with.</li> </ul>

<b>Customer Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain a professional, courteous, and helpful attitude to all customers (internal and external) ensuring communication is accurate, succinct and in a manner which promotes customer service excellence and demonstrates organizational values.</li> <li>• Always maintain confidentiality.</li> </ul>
<b>Teamwork</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate willingly and positively in the orientation, training and support of new staff in specific areas, providing coaching/buddy support as required.</li> <li>• Provide a contribution to or participate in any projects and initiatives within the Group/organisation where required and the opportunity arises.</li> <li>• Participate in initiatives and contribute suggestions as to improvements and/or efficiencies to enable ongoing quality improvement.</li> <li>• Demonstrate a collaborative working style and participate as a member of the team undertaking all tasks maintaining positive working relationships with other staff members and internal and external customers.</li> </ul>
<b>Financial Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure all financial activity is conducted in accord with current policy and procedures.</li> <li>• Ensure you work within your financial delegation.</li> </ul>
<b>Monitoring and Reporting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure any written reports are produced using Council standard templates and are provided within the required Peer Review timeframes.</li> <li>• Review, monitor and report on activity or projects as required by the manager.</li> </ul>
<b>Relationship Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Build and maintain effective professional working relationship with all key stakeholders.</li> <li>• Build and maintain effective working relationships with other council staff members based on a collaborative, collegial and cooperative working style.</li> </ul>
<b>Information Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Take responsibility for ensuring Council information is stored with the appropriate accessibility in the designated systems, using processes and tools as described in the current Information Management Policy.</li> </ul>