Feasibility Study Report for Youth Initiative

Prepared for Kāpiti Coast District Council

August 2013

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Executive Summary

The Kāpiti Coast District Council, in partnership with the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council, identified the need for a youth centre in the south of District (from Waikanae to Paekākāriki). In the 2012 Long Term Plan, the Council resolved to bring forward the development of youth centre from 2022/23 to 2014/15 (year 3).

An advisory group was established by the Council to investigate the feasibility of the initiative. This group recommended the scope of the study be broadened to allow exploration of a wider range of models, including a youth centre, which could meet the purpose of the initiative. The feasibility study examines a range of options including a youth centre option that meet the purpose of the initiative.

The purpose of the initiative is to provide open access space/s where young people have the opportunity to:

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

These three elements are reflected visually in the document as:

| SPACE | ACTIVITIES | STAFF |
| To be... | To do... | To support... |
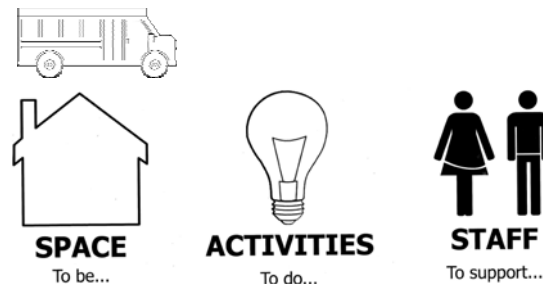
The youth initiative is underpinned with a youth development approach to be delivered by youth workers. This helps to transform a social and recreational opportunity into something which better supports young people's social and personal development.

The key components of the feasibility study are:

- a profile of young people in the designated area[1];
- a profile of current provision of social and recreational services for young people developed through surveys, interviews and focus groups with clubs, groups and individuals including young people;
- analysis of gaps, barriers and opportunities in relation to social and recreational opportunities;
- an examination of models of good practice in youth work, youth development and youth centres including an international/national literature review;

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[1] The designated area are those communities in the south of the District; from Paekākāriki to Waikanae.

- community and youth consultation on activities, ideas and options through surveys, interviews and focus groups with organisations and individuals including young people; and
- findings, considerations and recommendations.

For communities south of the District, about 14% of all residents are young people aged 12 to 24 years. The largest proportion of young people in the south of the District is aged 12 to 17 years (62%). 18% of young people in the Kāpiti District reside in Paraparaumu central. The percentage of young people living in the District in the future is forecast to be of a similar proportion.

Around 150 social and recreation organisations service the south of the District, including clubs and faith-based groups. One hundred and twenty eight of these organisations participated in a survey for this study. Approximately 40% of these have programmes which include membership of young people between the ages of 13 to 21. Sports are the main activity available and engaged in by young people. The study suggests young people would be involved in more activities if their wider interests were catered to, and if free and low cost activities were available. The study determined that a youth initiative would not duplicate any existing services or organisations. Instead it could draw on existing resources and knowledge.

The study identified young people's need for a space or spaces they can 'call their own', where they do not need to spend money and they can 'do their own thing'. While many young people are involved in organised and structured activities (around one third of young people surveyed), they also indicated they need places to be where they can initiate and lead their own activities, as well as 'just hang'. International research has identified spaces where young people can 'hang out', socialise and feel a sense of belonging to as being critical to youth development.

The youth initiative is underpinned with a youth development approach delivered by youth workers. This helps to transform a social and recreational opportunity into something which better supports young people's social and personal development. In particular, the voluntary engagement of young people has a major influence on the way youth work is carried out for any chosen option. The study provides a set of recommendations for effective youth work within a youth development approach including: involving young people as co-creators, not as service receivers and employing qualified youth workers.

Drawing on existing international and national models as well as local consultation, three options were developed and assessed:

- **Option 1 – Clubs-based** would provide programming through existing organisations. No youth worker is assigned, instead youth work training would be provided. A coordination role would be required. Funding would be directed to supporting existing organisations and their engagement with young people. This option was developed as a result of interest from some stakeholders for a model which provided better access for young people into existing club activities with support.

- **Option 2 - Mobile service** is the provision of a mobile service which could have a physically mobile space attached (i.e. bus). It involves 'detached' youth workers

engaging with young people through activities and events in the community. It would draw on existing organisations and their spaces (as in Option 1) and activities would also take place in public spaces.

- **Option 3 - Outward focused centre** is based on a modified youth centre model. Youth workers would provide programming in a central youth space and other community spaces. There is opportunity for events and activities to be held beyond the physical space in partnership with existing organisations as well as inviting the community 'inwards' to provide services to young people in the central space.

The options were assessed against a range of criteria including:

a) potential for youth ownership; space/s where young people can gather and be themselves where they feel a sense of ownership;
b) ability to provide unstructured and structured activities which contribute to young people's development;
c) ability to provide good youth worker support under a youth development approach;
d) ability to be community connected;
e) being open to all young people aged 13 – 21 from Paekākāriki to Waikanae;
f) being easily accessible in terms of physical accessibility, affordability and youth friendly for a diverse range of youth cultures;
g) being cost effective and sustainable;
h) being culturally inclusive and reflect the Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations; and
i) not duplicating existing services for young people.

As a result of this assessment, Option 3 best meets the youth initiative criteria. It does not replicate existing activities or services in the community, but draws on involving community groups and organisations within a central facility and through taking activities and events out into the community. This option best provides youth workers and young people with the opportunity to develop relationships with each other and the wider community. It also provides a central safe location where young people can access resources and youth workers on a regular basis. Option 3 was also the model most preferred by young people in focus groups.

On comparison of strengths, limitations, meeting the youth initiative criteria, youth development findings and young people's views of the three options, it is recommended the Council establishes a single physical space, stand-alone centre and engages with young people in the development of this space. Crucial to its success is that the model is outward focused, engaging with existing groups and the wider community.

1 Introduction

Choosing Futures: the community's vision for the Kāpiti Coast District describes the seven outcome areas the community has developed. These include two outcomes pertinent to youth people:

- 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 including $1 million capital budget in the 2009 Community Plan for the development of a youth hub in 2022/23.

In 2011-12, the Kāpiti Coast District Council and the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council investigated the need for youth friendly spaces in the District in conjunction with youth development opportunities. The need for these was identified in the 2010 Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey. The Youth Council also undertook initial research on what a youth centre is and what it can do. They 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 a youth centre to 2014/15. 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.

An Advisory Group made up of Council and community members was established in September 2012 to provide advice to the Council on the findings and recommendations of the study. Details of the membership of this group and the terms of reference can be found in Appendix 1. This group recommended widening the scope of the project to allow for consideration of other options than a single space youth centre. As a result, the purpose of the initiative and the feasibility study brief were broadened. The feasibility study brief is found in Appendix 2.

2 Purpose of the Feasibility Study

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.

These three elements are reflected visually in the document as:

The feasibility study examines three options that could meet the purpose of the initiative as outlined above. It compares a single location youth centre option with other options; it makes recommendation on a preferred option after assessing the options against the following criteria:

a) potential for youth ownership; space/s where young people can gather and be themselves where they feel a sense of ownership ;
b) ability to provide unstructured and structured activities which contribute to young people's development;
c) ability to provide good youth worker support under a youth development approach;
d) ability to be community connected;
e) being open to all young people aged 13 – 21 from Paekākāriki to Waikanae;
f) being easily accessible in terms of physical accessibility, affordability and youth friendly for a diverse range of youth cultures;
g) being cost effective and sustainable;
h) being culturally inclusive and reflect the Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations; and
i) not duplicating existing services for young people.

Structure of the Report

The feasibility study first sets the picture of the current provision of structured activities provided in the designated area and findings related to young people's social and recreational needs. Key points to consider in developing a youth initiative underpinned by a youth development approach and youth work is provided and recommendations are made. The literature review, online search, interviews with staff and users of youth centres around New Zealand and local stakeholders are embedded throughout the body of the report to provide context, further information and discussion of particular areas. Young people's thoughts and opinions on a preferred option are provided and analysis of each option contains a section on the response from the focus groups. The options are outlined and then discussed in terms of how each meets the youth initiative criteria. Recommendations are provided at the end of the report. Appendices provide further information, particularly on the methodology, research participants and data.

3 Methodology

Investigation into the types of models and issues related to a youth initiative drew on international, national and local information. The study addressed 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 these? What are the gaps and barriers? What are the opportunities?

- What can we learn from other communities and from overseas about youth centres and youth projects which meet the purpose of our initiative?

- What are the most effective options for our community? How do the options 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 (Paekākāriki – Waikanae)?

Key components of the study were:

- a profile of young people in the designated area;
- a profile of current provision of social and recreational services for young people developed through surveys, interviews and focus groups with clubs, groups and individuals including young people;
- analysis of gaps, barriers and opportunities in relation to social and recreational opportunities;
- an examination of models of good practice in youth work, youth development and youth centres including an international/national literature review; and
- community and youth consultation on activities, ideas and options through surveys, interviews and focus groups with organisations and individuals including young people.

An extensive literature search drew on articles and online information discussing youth centres, spaces and models, urban space design, young people and belonging, and youth engagement and participation in activities.

A local youth profile was developed which uses statistical information, both national and local, to build a picture of young people on the Kāpiti Coast (Appendix 3). Information captured in the 2010 Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey[2] was also used to build the profile.

The profile presents the geographic, demographic, social and economic characteristics of the communities that will be serviced by the youth initiative. It also informed the questions of the surveys, interviews and focus groups and provided a broad context for this study.

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[2] Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey 2012, Kāpiti Coast District Council

Extensive local consultation was undertaken. This included:

- interviews with 26 people/organisations working with young people;
- survey of 154 social and recreational organisations;
- survey of 1,447 young people; and
- 12 youth focus groups.

Face-to-face interviews were conducted with managers and employers of a variety of youth centres and youth development organisations/programmes, predominantly in the Wellington region. Interviews with key stakeholders in the local community and leaders of church-based youth groups were also undertaken. A list of local stakeholder interviewees and youth centre/youth development organisations interviewed is provided in Appendix 4.

A survey of social and recreational organisations servicing the south of the District (the 'clubs' survey) was conducted to establish a stocktake of organisations, their activities, facilities, membership costs and participation by young people aged 13 to 21. This group included organisations such as sports clubs, dance studios and church youth groups. Responses were mainly collected via an online survey tool (Survey Monkey), while some responses were collected over the phone and face-to-face, and then input into Survey Monkey. A summary of the results is at Appendix 5.

A survey of young people aged 13-21 years in the south of the District was conducted to develop an understanding of:

- what activities young people are involved with;
- where and how they spend their time;
- barriers to participation in activities; and
- what they would like to see in their community in relation to their interests and hobbies.

A summary of the youth survey results is at Appendix 7. The survey was distributed to young people at Kāpiti College, Paraparaumu College, training institutes, polytechnic and tertiary institutes and to young people both in and out of work. The majority of respondents were from the two colleges (n=1227). This is reflective of the demographics of young people who reside in the south of the District. Smaller groups of young people in polytechnic, university and in training (n=109), those working (n=54) and young people who doing 'something else' (n=42) participated in the survey. The respondents either completed the survey online or filled out a paper version of the survey. The survey is likely to have captured young people who are literate and interested in sharing their views and opinions. Young people with literacy challenges and see little value in responding to surveys are unlikely to be captured in this survey.

As a quantitative research tool, a survey does not always provide explanations or context for particular responses. Therefore, twelve focus groups were conducted with a diverse range of local young people. A summary of focus group findings is at Appendix 8. These provided a rich description and understanding about why particular responses were given and what they mean for young people. The process of discussion helped identify key issues and concerns in relation to the topic. While there are benefits to group discussions with young people, there are some limitations. In some instances a 'leader' in a group may influence the views of others and/or participants may say what they

believe others (including the facilitator) expect them to talk about, rather than their own opinion. The facilitator aimed to ensure these issues were addressed. Focus group participants were provided with a meal and a small gift in recognition of their time. All interviews and focus groups were conducted in accordance to clear ethical guidelines, outlining the participants' rights in relation to the interviews, transcripts and information.

While information was collected on ethnicity from both surveys, there was no significant data provided to conduct analysis on separate ethnic groups. Just over 200 young people who responded to the youth survey indicated their ethnicity as 'Māori'. There was little difference in the responses from Māori to other groups. Two focus groups were held exclusively with rangatahi from local iwi.

4   Current Provisions for Young People

This section looks at the current provision of social and recreational opportunities available for young people through organisations. It provides some key information to assist with recognising any potential implications to be considered for the proposed youth initiative.   It identifies current structured activities and interests/hobbies young people are involved in by examining the key findings from two surveys undertaken:

- the clubs survey undertaken with 128 recreational and social organisations[3]; and
- the survey of 1,447 young people aged 14 – 22 years who lived or attended College in the south of the District (excluding Ōtaki ward).

Information from focus groups held is also used to inform this section.

Young people's involvement in structured and non structured activity

Overall most young people were involved in organised activity – 61% (n=872) compared with 38% (n=543) who weren't. Young people were most likely to participate in sport than any other structured recreational activity. Forty percent of young people surveyed (n=570) stated they were involved in outdoor sports and 19% (n=278) participated in indoor activities. Arts/music and church youth group activities were popular, particularly among college aged young people. It is noted that other non-sporting and recreational organisations involved with young people provide limited social and recreational activities.

In the survey, young people were asked to name three hobbies/interests they participated in. The following activities are the most popular:

- gaming and computing (379 young people, 26% of survey participants);
- socialising, youth group, social media and hanging out with friends (287 young people, 20% of survey participants); and
- performing arts (237 young people, 17% of survey participants).

This section identifies implications and considerations relating to the survey findings and the proposed youth initiative:

- As Church Youth Group activities are popular among young people, faith-based youth group leaders and youth pastors were interviewed to gather information on current activity and future plans for youth groups in the area. There was support from them for the youth initiative and interest in a youth centre model.

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[3] Organisations were separated into two groups: those with more than 30% participation of young people (aged 13 to 21) and those who had less than 30% participation by young people. There are 51 organisations that indicated they had more than 30% participation of young people in the original survey. However, a follow up question to these organisations asking for the total number of members an organisation had and the number of young people involved, revealed that of the twenty-seven that responded, 14 actually had less than 30% young people participating; therefore, the numbers based on the original survey, may actually be less.

- There is no duplication foreseen with church youth groups. Half of those interviewed stated they would benefit from having a free and accessible space available to their group for events or weekly use.

- The youth initiative would not be duplicating activities provided by organisations/clubs, instead, there is the opportunity to engage with and draw on their expertise.

- Youth services providers in the south of the District, including those providing health, social services and targeted youth services were interviewed. There is no duplication foreseen with these services as they provide limited provision of social or recreational activities, as this is beyond their scope of their work.

- Addressing barriers identified in the survey such as cost, and appropriate activities that covered hobbies and interest not already catered for, would potentially enhance access and interest of young people.

Time and timing: young people's and organisation's schedules

Analysis of the survey data suggests that young people already involved in structured activities are most likely to be engaged and busy. These young people may be engaged in competition or advanced levels of their activity, requiring more time commitment. Young people, particularly those aged 15 and over indicated having enough time was a barrier when committing to a club or organisation. Reasons for this may include increased study commitments or added responsibilities of part time employment, leaving less spare time for recreation and structured activity.

Information from the survey showed that:

- The majority of clubs and associations only run activities during the school term, not during the holidays.
- Some clubs, associations and organisations indicated that they would like more young people engaged in their activity.

This section identifies implications and considerations relating to the survey findings and the proposed youth initiative:

- The timing of activities offered will impact involvement by young people. There may be a need for extended programmes to be run during the school holiday through a youth initiative.

Opportunities for partnerships and the use of facilities

Of the 128 clubs, associations and organisations surveyed:

- only 16 (or 12.5%) owned their facility where activities took place;
- eight of these organisations used their facility at least 80% or more of the time; and
- the other half indicated their facility was used less than 50% of the time.

Overall, organisations surveyed indicated they would consider using a dedicated youth space for their activities. However, most clubs that took part in the survey indicated they do not have the space available to host a youth initiative. Further investigation would be needed to better understand this issue.

Feedback from focus groups suggests that young people would not feel comfortable in facilities that catered for a specific type of activity as it also attracts a specific type of young person. For example, the skate park is specifically designed for skateboarders and excludes other young people who do not fit within that peer group.

Approximately one third of young people who participated in the youth survey indicated they would access a youth friendly free space if it was available, another third indicated 'maybe' and the remainder said they would not do so.

This section identifies implications and considerations relating to the survey findings and the proposed youth initiative:

- Consideration would be needed to ensure spaces where youth initiative activities are taking place are those that young people felt comfortable in and have a sense of ownership over.

Finding out about activities

A question in the survey asked 'If you wanted to try a new activity or group, how would you find out if it was available in your area?'.

Generally, young people learnt about activities both by searching for them (online) and receiving information passively (from friends and school notices) – Figure 2. In fact most young people went to their peers to seek out information about a new activity – 63% asked a friend, 50% used Google, 40% used Facebook.
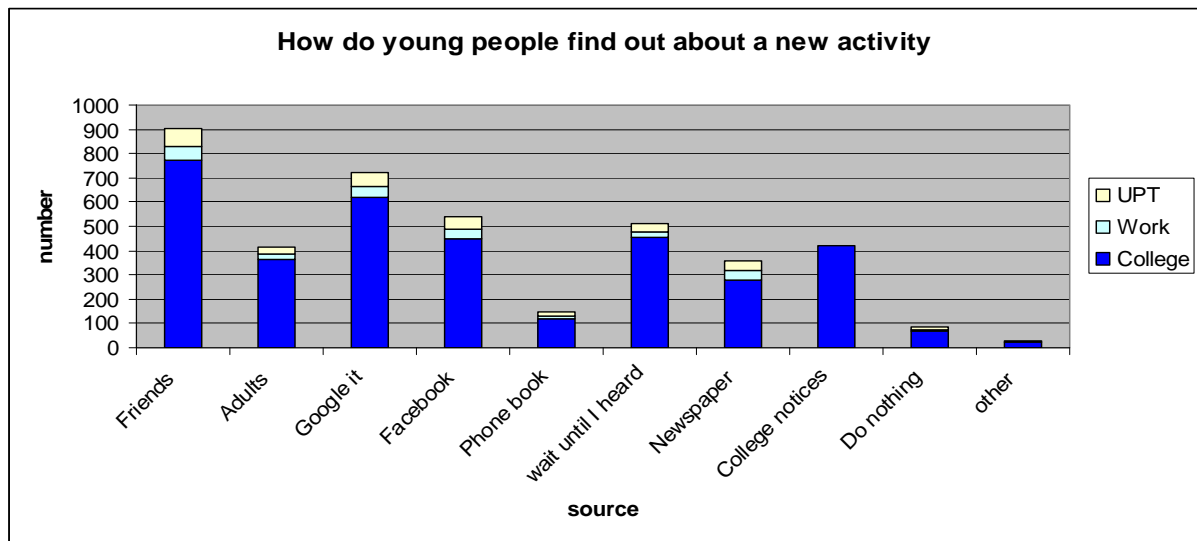

Figure 2

The results from the survey show that many young people do not actively seek information about a group or activity they are interested in, but become aware of this through receiving information through school notices or hearing about it some other way.

About 40% of respondents of the survey attending college said they would wait until they heard about an activity from peers or learnt of it through school notices. 40% of young people outside of college indicated they would seek information from the newspaper.

This section identifies implications and considerations relating to the survey findings and the proposed youth initiative:

- Online communication is key when engaging with young people. More traditional methods such as newspapers are also important and especially to connect with young people not in college.

- Any youth initiative will require a strong communication strategy, ensuring both a web presence, and communicating information through a variety of avenues, particularly as many young people rely on their friends for information.

- The selected model will need to be easily accessible (in terms of venues/location and transport) to many young people.

Barriers to participation in organised activity

As noted previously 38% (n=543) did not participate in organised activity. For those that did, 82% (n=872) said that there were barriers preventing them from being involved in more activities.

The main reasons given are outlined in the following table.

Top responses for non-participation:			Top responses for no further participation:		
Reason	*Number*	*%*	*Reason*	*Number*	*%*
There aren't any clubs for their hobbies and interests	201	37%	I don't have enough time	400	46%
I don't have enough time	188	35%	There aren't any clubs for their hobbies and interests	223	25%
It's not my scene	132	27%	I have other responsibilities	199	22%
Costs too much	111	20%	Costs too much	195	22%

Cost is one of the key factors young people cited as prohibiting them from engaging in (more or) any structured activities. Membership costs and costs associated with activities ranged from $10 to $350 per term, the average was about $60 per school term.

Approximately 25% of organisations indicated associated costs were up to $100, while a further 25% said they were more than $200. Of the organisations that had 30% or more young people involved in their activities, 56% noted they had some financial provision to assist young people in meeting costs.

95% of organisations/clubs surveyed noted their participants were dropped off by parents[4]. The involvement of family members, both siblings (79%) and parents (71%) was seen by organisations as a key reason for young people's participation. Approximately 67% of organisations indicated young people began the activity as a young child, further suggesting commitment by parents from an early age.

It is noted that parental support (as adult participants of a club, volunteers, transport and financial supporters) is very important in securing young people's participation in organised activities.

Over 70% of organisations/clubs surveyed suggested a 'change in life circumstances' was the main reason young people discontinue an activity with them. Around 60% of organisations thought it was because young people 'decided it wasn't for them' and a similar number indicated it was because young people move.

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[4] Other methods that young people used to get to activities, according to the organisations surveyed, was by walking (51%) or by bike/driving themselves (44%). Focus groups with young people highlighted that walking and biking are the main ways young people got around the area.

This section identifies implications and considerations relating to the survey findings and the proposed youth initiative:

- Free or cheap activities will be attractive to young people who have little personal income and are reliant on parent's financial support.

- Youth workers employed under the youth initiative could help young people manage change of life circumstances to help them stay engaged or get engaged in activities.

- Not all young people have parents who are able to support them to participate in activities (this may relate to cost and/or transport). Parental support for the youth initiative needs to be considered and explored.

Recommendations from Section 4

Drawing on the findings from this section of the feasibility study, it is recommended that the youth initiative:

- engage with and draw on the expertise of existing organisations to ensure its activities do not duplicate existing services;
- seeks opportunities for partnerships with clubs and other community organisations;
- provides free and low cost programming to overcome the financial barriers many young people face;
- provides structured and unstructured activities that cover young people's hobbies and interests not already catered for;
- investigates extended programming opportunities over secondary school holiday periods;
- ensures timing of programmes meets the needs of young people;
- has a strong communication strategy;
- seeks to engage parents; and
- seeks to address transport issues for young people.

5 Youth Work and Youth Development

A Youth Development Approach

Ensuring a foundation firmly grounded in best practice youth development is essential to the development of the initiative. Positive youth development has been described as "a framework that guides communities in the way they organise services, opportunities and supports so that young people can develop to their full potential" (Hamilton, Hamilton & Pittman 2004).

Interviews with youth workers and managers in New Zealand as well as national and international literature provided a rich basis of information for this section and recommendations relating to youth work and youth development. For the youth initiative to be based in a youth development approach, it needs to ensure:

- opportunities are provided for young people to experiment in a safe environment and to develop positive social values;

- activities promote young people's self-understanding, self-worth, and a sense of belonging and resiliency;

- programmes involve young people as partners rather than clients

- programmes and activities engage with families, schools and communities; and

- that it is responsive to the needs of young Māori and opportunities to reconnect young Māori with their whakapapa links are sought.

Professional Youth Work

"Youth work is the development of a relationship between a youth worker and a young person through connecting with young people where young people are empowered, including the choice to engage for as long as agreed and that supports their holistic, positive development as rangatahi that contribute to themselves, their whanau, community and world".
(Code of Ethics for Youth Work in Aotearoa New Zealand 2011)

While there is a well recognised Code of Ethics for youth work in New Zealand, there is no established professional body. The youth centres and youth development programmes investigated ranged from those which employed qualified youth workers to those in which youth work was not well defined and staff were not youth work trained or experienced.

Voluntary nature of youth engagement

The voluntary engagement of young people has a major influence on the way youth work is carried out and is an important aspect to consider. It contributes to the following challenges for youth workers, whether centre-based or detached:

- creating attractive environment/s to which young people want to come and programmes they choose to participate in;

- having a team of paid and unpaid staff so they can provide range of activities that are fun and through which young people can learn and achieve; and

- ensuring the relationship between youth workers and young people and among young people themselves is open, trusting, supportive and mutually respectful.

Centre-based work

In New Zealand and other western countries, youth work is most commonly offered through open access youth centres. However it is important to recognise that not all youth centres are youth development focused. There was a wide range of diversity amongst the range of facilities called 'youth centres' or 'youth spaces' in which interviews were held. These ranged from:

- those facilities focused on recreational outcomes where staff focus on provided fun activities to keep young people occupied inside the facility (recreation and inward focused); to

- those facilities focused on youth development outcomes which use magnet activities to engage young people in the facility and out in the community for youth development purposes (youth development and outward focused).

Detached youth work

Detached youth work involves going to where young people gather, and takes place in localities such as schools and on the street. The detached youth work model was widely used in New Zealand in 1980s. Some of the key concerns about the detached youth worker scheme are still relevant today. These include:

- a lack of clarity about what detached youth work involves for worker and agency;

- poor support for detached youth workers when working in isolation;

- challenges for young people seeking out a youth worker (rather than being found somewhere by a youth worker); and

- the ad hoc nature of detached youth work (Department of Internal Affairs 1984).

Detached youth workers must create a routine and persona that allows young people to find and approach them. Most commonly, programmes are implemented to draw young people into contact with the worker and quality of the programme determines how long contact is sustained. The main place detached youth work is found in New Zealand is in secondary schools where youth workers can readily connect with young people and have a base from which to work. One of the challenges facing detached youth workers is a lack of a physical space which can act as a sanctuary for young people who do not engage through programming.

Further information about youth development and youth work is in Appendix 6.

Recommendations from Section 5

It is recommended that any model developed under the youth initiative:

- is outward focused, engaging with communities, iwi and organisations which young people access;
- works from a youth development approach not purely as a recreational asset;
- provides pathways for young people to develop in a range of activities and roles;
- involves young people as co-creators, not consumers or service receivers;
- provides some 'hang out' space/time as well as unstructured and structured activities;
- includes a mix of short, medium (regular) and long term programming; and
- programmes are constantly evaluated and adapted.

It is recommended that youth workers employed under the youth initiative:

- are qualified in youth work or a similar field;
- are supported with professional development pathways ;
- have regular supervision; and
- work within the parameters of the Code of Ethics for Youth Workers.

It is recommended that any detached youth work model has:

- an associated place/s which is accessible to young people where the youth worker is available on a regular basis;
- an organisation which has a strong understanding of youth work to provide managerial support; and
- more than one youth worker.

6 Key Considerations for Option Selection

The section provides key points for consideration in the development of the youth initiative. It draws on findings from literature, other research, focus groups and interviews.

The youth initiative provides opportunities for engagement with the wider community

This includes collaborating with existing groups young people currently engage with such as church youth groups, recreational organisations and youth services. Interviews with youth development organisations and youth centres show that outward focused projects which actively engage with their community are more likely to succeed and have greater youth development outcomes. Local stakeholders were supportive of the development of a youth initiative. The majority of local social and recreational organisations surveyed were interested in engaging with the proposed youth initiative. Engagement with the community will:

- encourage participation and buy in from key stakeholders (including organisations, parents and young people);

- ensure the initiative has positive benefits for other community organisations and services; and

- help optimise community support for the initiative including potential sponsorship and volunteer help.

A New Zealand report on youth work (Martin 2006) noted as one of the key findings that schools should be recognised as an important context for youth work. Youth workers employed under the youth initiative need to connect with our educational institutions, including colleges and some programming could occur at these sites. Many youth centres in New Zealand now employ youth workers who provide regular sessions at their local colleges.

The youth initiative provides access to activities that are not currently available in the community

It should also provide programming that caters for the different needs and interests of young people. The surveys show young people would like more provision of different activities to support their social and recreation needs than is currently provided by organisations in the south of the District. The voluntary nature of young people's participation in the youth initiative means programming must be structured around enthusiasms, interests and concerns of young people who are involved or may become involved if it's attractive enough. No programme will meet the needs of more than a segment of a given youth population and the youth initiative will require a mix of short, medium (regular) and long term programming to cater to a wide range of young people. The provision of different activities, offered at different times will ensure it fills a gap in the provision of activities to support the social and recreation needs of young people and help the initiative avoid being accessed only by a select group/s of young people.

The youth initiative is targeted at young people aged 13 years to 21 years

Focus groups participants made it clear that 'young people' did not want to be where there were 'little kids'. The term 'youth' often deterred older young people from participating in events that were promoted as 'youth' specific events, and the term 'youth centre' also holds similar connotations as being for 'little kids'. Interviews with youth development organisations and youth centres showed that effective programming often required targeted activities for the different needs of young people in this age range. The core age range who will utilise the initiative is aged 13 – 17 years. This reflects the demographics which show that largest proportion of young people in the District are aged 12 – 17 years (62 % of young people in the District). A Kāpiti based youth initiative is unlikely to engage young people over 18 years unless activities are focused on their interests such as developing their aspirations, future planning and opportunities in employment and training.

Discussions with those who manage and are involved with different youth initiatives provided insight into the demographics of young people who may access the youth initiative. Trying to provide an initiative that caters to all young people was considered unfeasible, as not all young people would participate, not because they do not want to, but because they 'do not need to' as they are happy, socially aware and already engaged in activities.

"...A youth centre is for those young people in the middle, which is the majority of kids – they are not at-risk and they are not top of the class/totally engaged ones – they are doing the teen thing and at times they can fall off the edge if they don't have supports in place... more than family." (Manager of a youth centre)

The youth initiative needs to consider where young people are and are not in their leisure time

The youth survey and focus groups provide important information about where young people spend their leisure time and where they feel safe and unsafe. The initiative needs to consider how to engage and have a presence in some of these spaces. Feeling unsafe in particular spaces such as the train station and walking around after dark needs addressing, especially if the initiative includes activities that take place (or conclude) in the evening. Almost every focus group indicated they did not feel safe walking around Kāpiti at night (unless in groups or intoxicated). Findings also show that outdoor spaces such as local beaches and rivers are utilised by young people in the summer months. The locations of activities and how young people get to and from activities are key to its success.

The location/s of the initiative as a 'neutral' place is important to young people. The Coastlands area was identified as a key place where young people felt was 'neutral'; where anyone from anywhere can go and 'hang out there'. Young people felt many other community facilities and locations had a territoriality about them which meant it was owned by geographical community or community of interest (e.g. skateboarders).

The youth initiative needs to involve young people in decision making to ensure youth ownership

Interviews with youth development organisations and youth centres show that having effective youth participation in decision making is crucial in the success of any youth initiative. Effective youth participation is about creating opportunities for young people to be involved in influencing, shaping, designing and contributing to the development of services and programmes (Ministry of Youth Development 2009). By using youth participation you are more likely to get it right the first time and avoid wasting time and money on services young people don't want to use. All options have the challenge of 'ownership' and 'buy-in' by young people. Without the support and involvement of young people, any option will fail. Consideration needs to be given as to how the chosen option will involve young people more in further planning, development and implementation.

7 What young people want

Any youth initiative option must reflect the needs and wants of the young people in the community. This section outlines the key findings from focus groups in terms of young people's preferences and draws on international literature on young people, activity and urban spaces. The three key findings related to what young people preferred:

- there was a strong need for a young people specific space;

- half of young people surveyed want a place(s) where they can do their hobbies/interests with other young people; and

- free classes, workshops and access to free equipment were also desired.

A clear message from focus groups was a need/ want for a place that:

- is unique to young people;

- provides access to free or low cost activities; and

- has opportunities and spaces that are not available to them otherwise.

Young people also indicated they would like more events that are specific to 'young adults' and some were enthusiastic about delivering these with a youth worker.

These discussions reflect key concepts emerging in international literature pertaining to young people, activity and urban spaces. Discussions explore how social spaces and places provide a context for identity development (Henderson & King 1999), particularly as public spaces are crucial sites for youth development, providing opportunities for "developing social competence, including independence and interdependence" (Skelton & Gough 2013). Central to much of the reviewed literature is the desire and need by young people for spaces to 'hang out' where they feel safe, can socialise, feel they belong and have ownership over (Skelton & Gough 2013). There is also discussion relating to the importance of a 'third space' (Oldfield), a space which is not school, work or home. It provides a safe respite from the demands of those areas, and allows (young) people an opportunity to be themselves. This is something young people in the focus groups particularly highlighted they would like to see a provision for.

8 Options for a Youth Initiative

Three options have been developed for consideration, including a single space youth centre. Option development drew on information provided from interviews with those in the youth development field, local consultation and discussions with young people. This section provides an outline of each option and discussion on how it meets the youth initiative criteria. The strengths and limitations of each option are considered and the options are compared.
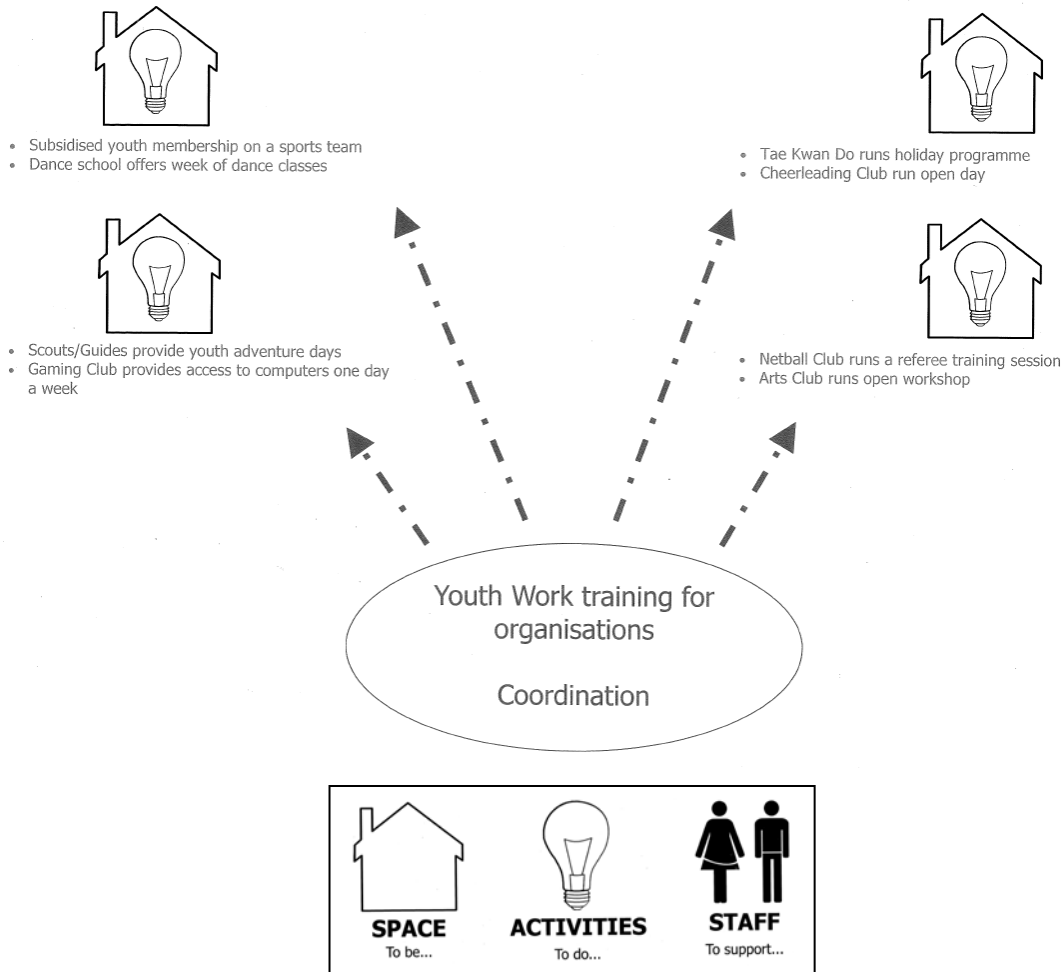
The following provides a brief synopsis of each option:

- **Option 1 - Clubs based** would provide programming through existing organisations. No youth worker is assigned, instead youth work training would be provided. A coordination role would be required. Funding would be directed to supporting existing organisations and their engagement with young people. This option was developed as a result of interest from some stakeholders for a model which provided better access for young people into existing club activities with support.

- **Option 2 - Mobile service** is the provision of a mobile service which could have a physically mobile space attached (i.e. bus). It involves 'detached' youth workers engaging with young people through activities and events in the community. It would draw on existing organisations and their spaces (as in Option 1) and activities would also take place in public spaces.

- **Option 3 - Outward focused centre** is based on modified youth centre model. Youth workers would provide programming in a central youth space and other community spaces. There is opportunity for events and activities to be held beyond the physical space in partnership with existing organisations as well as inviting the community 'inwards' to provide services to young people in the central space.

The options were assessed against a range of criteria from the feasibility study brief including:

a) potential for youth ownership; space/s where young people can gather and be themselves where they feel a sense of ownership;
b) ability to provide unstructured and structured activities which contribute to young people's development;
c) ability to provide good youth worker support under a youth development approach;
d) ability to be community connected;
e) being open to all young people aged 13 – 21 from Paekākāriki to Waikanae;
f) being easily accessible in terms of physical accessibility, affordability and youth friendly for a diverse range of youth cultures;
g) being cost effective and sustainable;
h) being culturally inclusive and reflect the Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations; and
i) not duplicating existing services for young people.

a. Option 1: Clubs Based

- Subsidised youth membership on a sports team
- Dance school offers week of dance classes

- Tae Kwan Do runs holiday programme
- Cheerleading Club run open day

- Scouts/Guides provide youth adventure days
- Gaming Club provides access to computers one day a week

- Netball Club runs a referee training session
- Arts Club runs open workshop

Youth Work training for organisations

Coordination

SPACE
To be...

ACTIVITIES
To do...

STAFF
To support...

Option 1 draws on the concept of utilising existing resources available in the south of the District. Existing clubs and groups would provide programming to fulfil the needs of the initiative. There is no youth worker assigned to this option instead youth work training would be provided to existing recreational organisations that engage, or want to engage with young people.

A coordination role would be required. Funding could be directed to supporting existing organisations and their engagement with young people; this is an option that has been suggested by some key stakeholders and members of the community.

How does Option 1 respond to the Youth Initiative Criteria?

a) Potential for youth ownership

There is likely to be limited youth participation in decision making in this option as social and recreational organisations are adult led. Twenty seven organisations in the clubs survey stated adults ran their activities and eight organisations included activities run by young people. While activities may be run by young people in coaching and teaching type roles, the decision making which determines the programme delivered to young people is predominantly adult driven. Providing training and mentoring in youth participation in decision making for organisations involved in the youth initiative may help them to increase young people's participation in programme development and delivery.

The absence of a space or spaces that young people can easily access and have ownership over is a further limitation of this option. However, some organisations may be willing to collaborate on making their facility (studio/gym/club) youth friendly and accessible to young people on a regular basis.

b) Ability to provide a range of activities

The range of activities offered in this option is limited as it relies on the activities offered by existing organisations. The gap identified in the youth survey that many young people felt their activities/hobbies are not provided for by social and recreational organisations in the District is not addressed. Young people who are interested in existing activities provided by clubs will benefit more than those who want prefer to engage in activities not currently provided by clubs. This is both reflected in the youth survey and through focus group discussions. This limitation could be mitigated by exploring ways of providing a broad range of activities (e.g. drawing on resources from outside the area) and making them available to young people. However, this requires co-ordinating venues, possibly transport and does not address the possibility of ongoing provision of an activity.

c) Ability to provide good youth work under a youth development approach

As this option provides youth worker training to clubs and organisations rather than actual youth workers, youth worker support is limited. While youth work training can be provided, it is important to recognise that youth work is a profession and there is a fundamental difference between a youth worker and someone who has received some youth work training. It is also not the role or focus of a club/coach to support and mentor a young person through personal changes in their life, and this reflects the difference between the role of a youth worker and coach/leader.

Good youth workers run programmes of activities that engage young people and provide gateways to achievement. When asked about pathways for development for young people, competing (64%), becoming a leader (53%) and teaching others (60%) were the main responses. While these may have some aspects of youth development associated with them, youth development is not the primary focus of social and recreational organisations. Focus group members were particularly concerned with this issue, one group questioning whether someone trained in youth work at a club might be more concerned with the recreational activity they provide, than with youth work/young people.

It also raises questions about how young people would access those staff who are given youth worker training outside of structured activity sessions. A concern raised by young people that only those who participated in specific activities run by existing social and recreation organisations might have access to the designated person with youth work training. For example, one group stated they would not want to go to a rugby club to see a youth worker.

d) Ability to be community connected

Social and recreational organisations indicated they would like more young people involved in their activities. Responses to the youth survey also suggest that young people are willing to, and would like to try new activities (particularly if they are free). This option would allow for coordination of activities and could respond to workshop requests by young people in the range of activity currently provided across different organisations. It also reduces the risk of duplicating existing activities in the community and draws on knowledge and resources that are already available.

e) Ability to be open to all young people 13 – 21 years in the south of the District

The research associated with this study suggests young people over the age of 15 are less involved with activities outside of school than those in the 13 to 14 year old age group. Organisations were also primarily focused on secondary school student's schedules. This option is most likely to attract young people between the ages of 13 to 15, who are interested in structured activities that are readily available in the community. Young people who are outside of this age range, particularly those not at secondary school, may be excluded because of timing, accessibility and a lack of interest in participating in structured club activities. There may also be challenges to running activities for young people during the 'off seasons' of some organisations.

f) Could be easily accessed

Consideration would need to be given as to how to mitigate issues organisations and young people have identified as barriers to participating in social and recreational club activities. These include accessing organisations (transport issues, particularly if they are not supported by parents), cost and motivation (commitment). The physical location of different club facilities in a wide range of communities could be beneficial for those young people from those communities but transport is likely to be an issue for the wider youth population residing in other locations. Club facilities are also likely to be less accessible to those who are not associated with the club (through their own or family membership).

While the cost of programming run by clubs would be partly or fully subsidised to ensure young people can access free or cheap activities, young people who wish to continue an activity after engaging in a 'taster' through the youth initiative may be prohibited from doing so because of costs, whether fees and/or equipment related. How they are supported to attend and participate needs to be considered. This relates to developing funding streams to support particular activities, with clear criteria established to determine and assess which organisations receive funds.

One facility visited as a part of the feasibility study was a drop in youth space which is provided in an unused space in a sports clubs. The activity which occurs there is not associated with the club and it is primarily a space for young people to 'hang out'. Staff have noticed more young men access the space than young women. This may be partly as a result of the youth space being physically connected to a club predominantly used by men as well as the drop in nature of the activity. The youth space is also restricted in its operation due to its location beside the clubrooms e.g. there are certain times/days when young people cannot utilise the premises due to club activities and functions.

g) Be cost effective and sustainable

A youth initiative that involves supporting activities that are already available in the area may have costs associated with it particularly to ensure good coordination of activity across the organisations involved and low or free cost of programming for young people. Further investigation would be required if this option is selected.

h) Be culturally inclusive and reflect the Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations

This would be hard to achieve unless organisations have an existing commitment to Treaty obligations and being culturally inclusive.

Youth worker training provided could include a Treaty of Waitangi module which is currently delivered in certificate and degree level youth work training.
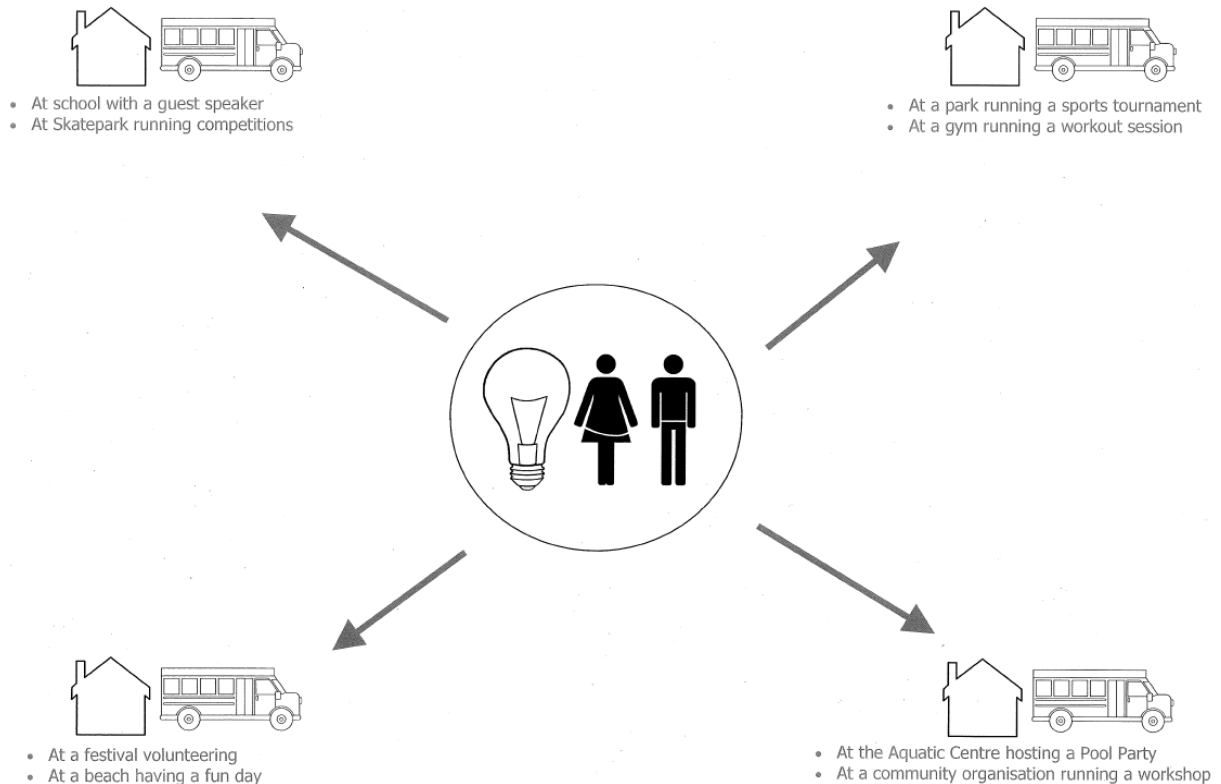
Young people's views on Option 1

In addition to the points already discussed, young people raised other concerns. Focus group members felt that this option was spread geographically and demographically, separating young people and activities, rather than drawing them together. It was highlighted that young people like to be in the same spaces as their friends, but because they all had different interests, they would be in different places, not necessarily together. There were also comments that this option may have a limited lifespan. One-off activities might generate initial interest but if there is no continuity, or other opportunities, participation would wane.

Young people were particularly concerned with the absence of youth 'ownership' and a youth owned space in this option. Activities were less likely to be youth initiated, youth owned or led, and may not be specifically for young people. They felt the option focused on 'doing stuff', being involved in activities and not really focused on young people doing 'their own thing'. There was a concern that a youth specific space where young people have ownership is not provided for in this option.

b. Option 2: Mobile Service

This option involves detached youth workers engaging with young people through activities and events in the community, particularly in spaces where young people already are. This option has two versions.
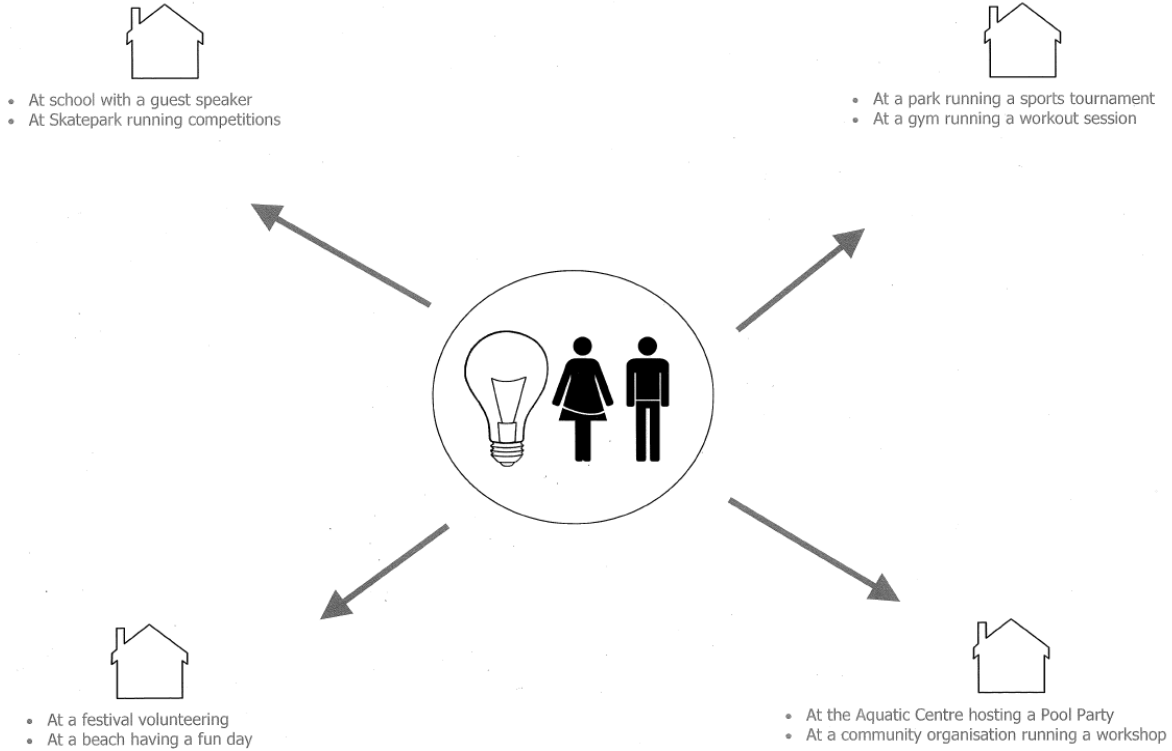

Version A: Mobile Service with a movable space (bus)

- At school with a guest speaker
- At Skatepark running competitions

- At a park running a sports tournament
- At a gym running a workout session

- At a festival volunteering
- At a beach having a fun day

- At the Aquatic Centre hosting a Pool Party
- At a community organisation running a workshop

Version A includes a physically mobile space such as a bus that would 'park up' at the location of an event and could also go to other locations where young people gather such as a skate park. The mobile space would not provide transport for young people to get to event/ activity but rather act as a space to be engaged in as a part of the activity. The vehicle could include computers, a television screen, a coffee machine, library, and a place to talk with a youth worker.

Similar mobile spaces are popular in large Australian cities as outreach services and in areas where young people are geographically spread out in the United Kingdom. There is no similar model in New Zealand.

Version B: Mobile Service without a movable space

- At school with a guest speaker
- At Skatepark running competitions

- At a park running a sports tournament
- At a gym running a workout session

- At a festival volunteering
- At a beach having a fun day

- At the Aquatic Centre hosting a Pool Party
- At a community organisation running a workshop

Version B does not include a physically mobile space (i.e. bus). It would access existing outdoor and indoor spaces to run activities for young people. A vehicle would be needed to transport equipment to different locations.

A mobile service like this was initiated late last year in Nelson to provide events in different locations around the city. This service has a large truck for transporting equipment (such as staging, generators and recreational resources) to the event location. Marquees are used for sheltering computers and gaming equipment and to create spaces for young

How does Option 2 respond to the Youth Initiative Criteria?

a) Potential for youth ownership

A sense of youth ownership could be developed more easily when activities are run with spaces where young people already 'hang out' in the south of the District. Focus groups commented that some of these places are 'owned' by sub-groups of young people and the territoriality young people experience would need addressing. A mechanism for youth participation in decision making would also need to be established to ensure programming and implementation had youth input and buy-in. 'The Truck' mobile youth service in Nelson provides events management training for young people so they can get involved in running the events.

b) Ability to provide a range of activities

The range of activities offered in this option could be diverse in terms of content; engaging in a wide range of spaces and with different organisations. Good promotion is key to its success as programming is not offered in a central space and young people would need to know what and where things are happening ahead of time.

This option is more limited in offering a range of long term programmes for young people due to the nature of a mobile service and the challenges of transport and weather considerations. Activities in spaces where young people are present (such as a beach, river or park) would be feasible in summer, but would present more challenges in winter. The programme would need to respond to seasonal weather changes and provide more in the summer months in public spaces. In addition, a mobile service could fill the gap in provision of structured activities for young people over the summer holiday period. Winter programming would be more limited and likely to depend on community indoors spaces which may have less youth connection. There are few indoor spaces in the District that young people find attractive and access in winter months. Some young people were looking forward to the new Aquatic Centre as a space they could access with their friends.

c) Ability to provide good youth work under a youth development approach

Mobile services tend to be more event focused than youth development focused and youth work opportunities are likely to be limited for this model. Youth workers organising mobile youth events often find their time being spent on the necessary tasks of event management with activities run in a multitude of locations, each of which has its own specific event and risk requirements rather than on youth work roles. Relationship building with young people is critical to youth work. While this option may strengthen relationships with the owners of spaces/places and community organisations, the youth worker's ability to build relationships with young people is limited. The following steps could help mitigate this; providing several youth workers at any one event, ensuring youth workers have time regularly built into their schedules to engage outside of events (detached youth work provision) and providing a small space for the youth workers to work from and interact with young people.

Those who work or have worked with a youth mobile service model describe their roles as requiring events management and physical strength to set up for events in different venues. A heavy vehicle license is also a requirement for youth workers operating a mobile service, whether the vehicle is operating as an equipment transporter or mobile youth space. Unlike hosting an event in a single space where doors can be shut and clean up done the following day, a mobile transporter model results in youth workers working long hours after events. Youth workers with a combination of these skills and abilities could be challenging to find.

Young people in the focus groups were attracted to the activities that were used as examples, such as pool party, skate park competition or a beach fun day. However, most young people felt the focus was primarily on one-off events and provided little continuity.

d) Ability to be community connected

Option 2 has the potential to engage with organisations and events in the community and create opportunities for young people to participate in. This may include providing a youth-friendly presence at community events young people may previously felt were irrelevant to them, or providing a 'break out' or 'safe' space at an activity/event run by another organisation. By working with existing groups, this option could have benefits for community organisations seeking to increase their engagement with young people.

As outlined in the previous sections, Coastlands is considered by young people to be a central neutral place for them to 'hang out' in Kāpiti. Collaboration with the Mall management to include events and activities could be initiated by the youth worker. There are various projects in Australia that have undertaken this with some success, including the employment of a part-time youth worker and provision of an office space in some shopping centres[5]. Whether there would be 'buy in' by relevant stakeholders for this (including young people) would need to be explored.

e) Ability to be open to all young people 13 – 21 years in the south of the District

As with Option 1, Option 2 may attract 13 and 14 year olds in the community. The focus groups made up of young people over the age of 15 felt that youth specific events are aimed at 'little kids' or would attract children even if they were promoted to older young people. Activities held in outdoor and public spaces are not easily controlled in terms of the participant age group. Activities may attract children which would work to deter young people aged 15 years and older attending. There was concern about how events would be managed to focus on young adults and to avoid 'little kids' coming to them. Focus group participants were keen to have events that catered for and were specific to their needs rather than those of 'little kids'.

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[5] The concept of 'rights of passage' was used to emphasise a co-operative use of public space by Westfield management in the Midland Gate Shopping Centre in Western Australia and in the Shire of Sutherland, New South Wales. Young people were seen as legitimate users of public space, rather than problems to be dealt with. The project involves sporting activities such as basketball and skateboarding and hands on multimedia programmes supported by a youth consultation committee.

In order to engage with young people over 15 and those no longer at secondary school, a plan would need to be developed to seek out the spaces older young people engage with and develop activities in partnership with organisations working with this age group including training providers and tertiary education providers. This option would need to target activities in specific places for specific audiences at specific times of the day.

It is also worth noting that evaluating and capturing numbers of young people who engage with and participate in this option is more difficult. This could be relevant for seeking funding and reporting on the success of the youth initiative.

f) Could be easily accessed

This option has benefits for those young people who may find it difficult to access a centralised location but may limit young people living further away from the location of an event. Events held where young people are already present will mitigate any transport challenges while those held in other community locations would need transport issues to be addressed. Discussion of Option 2 with focus groups reflected an enthusiasm for a bus or vehicle to take them to events both in and outside the community. Many of the focus groups found the idea of a bus as a form of transport to take them to events and activities more attractive than a mobile space (bus parked at an event as a youth space). Further investigation would be needed to identify if this is something that would be beneficial to include in the development of the youth initiative in the future.

The territoriality young people experience in some places would need addressing if events are to attract young people outside of that geographical community. For example, an event held in Marine Gardens is likely to attract young people who live in that community and attend Kāpiti College rather than young people who attend Paraparaumu College. Young people outside of Kāpiti College are likely to see Marine Gardens as a Kāpiti College territory (focus group). Addressing and overcoming territoriality could however have benefits for young people across the communities.

g) Be cost effective and sustainable

Depending on the level of service this option provides, there may be substantial costs to delivery. Version A (mobile space) would have significantly more capital costs due to the need to purchase and fit out a mobile space. Version B (no mobile space) may have lower capital costs than Version B but it is important to recognise that capital costs are likely to still be significant depending on resource purchase (i.e. sound equipment, staging, marquees) and the type of transporter required to shift equipment around. Staffing would be a significant operating cost with the recommendation that a number of staff are required to ensure good event management and youth work can occur at activities. Further investigation would be required if this option is selected.

h) Be culturally inclusive and reflect the Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations

Underlying governance framework and values could be developed with these criteria in mind. Working with organisations and in locations where iwi and different ethnic groups feel ownership would support this.
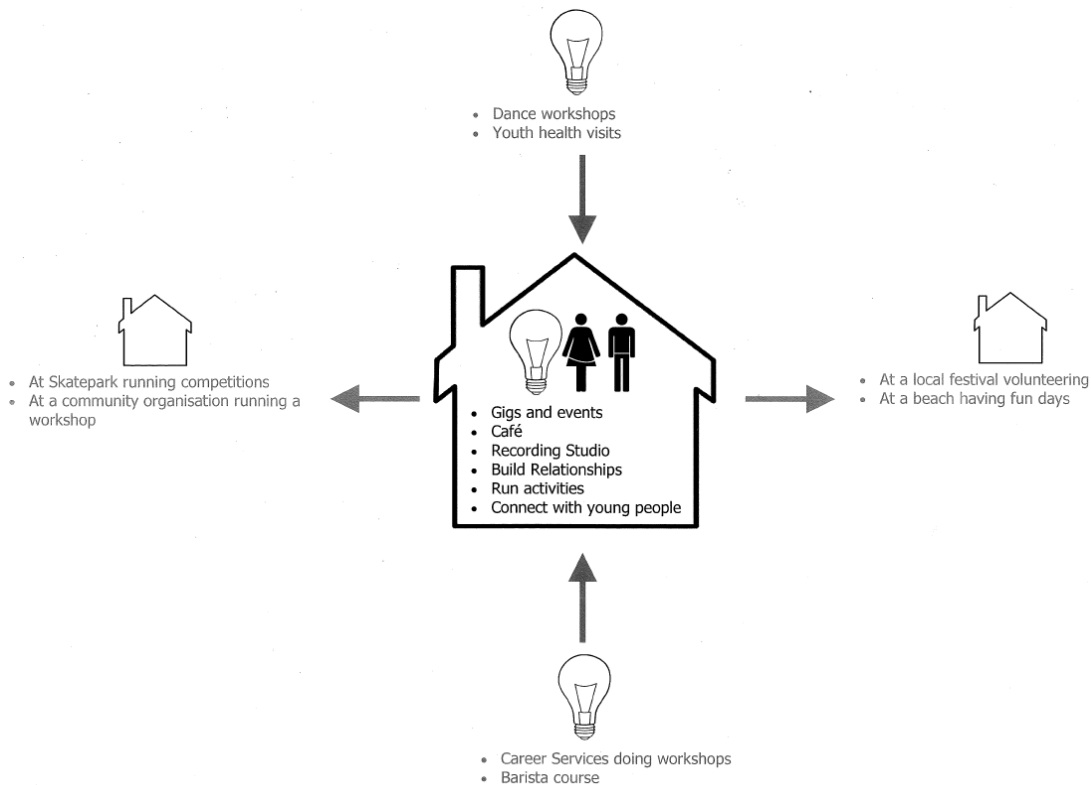
Young people's views on Option 2

Option 2, while having some appeal in providing a 'youth presence' at events, raised many questions and limitations. Young people felt a bus as transport rather than as a youth space was more important to them in Option 2 A. Young people had limited enthusiasm for Option 2 B (without a mobile space). Focus group members were concerned with practical aspects of the vehicle including that the space would be too small to hold more than a limited number of people ("you couldn't hold a gig on the bus") and the types of activities would also be restricted ("couldn't do dancing or have a jam session"). There was some appeal in the concept that a mobile space could go to where a young person was but also concern at the need to ''go chasing a bus all over town'' if they needed to access the youth worker or youth space.

Continuity and stability were also issues the focus groups raised. As with the Option 1, there may be many 'one-off' events but opportunities for ongoing involvement in activities was limited. There was also concern as to how young people would know where a mobile physical space/ activity would be located. The importance of stability for parents was raised, as was the fact that some young people would still need a form of transport to get to wherever the bus/event was located.

The importance of a 'neutral space' continued to be highlighted in this option. One focus group suggested that wherever the mobile space went, it would be utilised only by young people in that area (if it went to Kaitawa, then Kaitawa people would use it), causing less inclusivity rather than breaking down barriers. There was some discussion about whether a mobile space could be 'captured' by particular groups because it was so small, further resulting in exclusivity. Another focus group indicated a mobile space could be a 'temporary' solution to the absence of a youth space, with a participant suggesting it implied "we can't afford a space, so we'll come to you".

c. Option 3: Outward Focused Centre

- Dance workshops
- Youth health visits

- At Skatepark running competitions
- At a community organisation running a workshop

- Gigs and events
- Café
- Recording Studio
- Build Relationships
- Run activities
- Connect with young people

- At a local festival volunteering
- At a beach having fun days

- Career Services doing workshops
- Barista course

Option 3 is based on modified youth centre model; an outward focused centre in one fixed geographic location for young people. It would provide youth workers running programming in the youth space and other community spaces.

This option provides opportunities for 'outwards' activity. Events and activities would be held beyond the physical space in partnership with existing organisations as well as inviting the community 'inwards' to provide services, experiences and opportunities to young people in the central physical space.

Young people are attracted to 'magnet activities' in youth centres; free and fun things to do and the opportunity to socialise and connect with peers. A key characteristic of a youth centre is the variety of activities available for young people. These magnet activities form the basis for entry into more structured activities with youth workers where learning, support, mentoring, and positive youth development outcomes occur.

Many of the youth centres interviewed commented that their success and good participation levels were as a result of:

- a diverse programme, responsive to changing youth needs and interests;

- being based on the principles of youth development;

- employing youth workers under the Youth Work Code of Ethics;

- having a youth friendly facility with key components which attract young people;

- youth workers working from their 'youth centre' base and in the community;

- having a strong relationship with other organisations;

- providing programmes out of need and demand as determined by young people; and

- involving young people in governance and operations of the centre.

Limitations and challenges faced by some youth centres included:

- consistent and sustainable funding issues;

- managing volunteers;

- being in an inappropriate location;

- public relations, particularly with neighbouring businesses; and

- security of facilities.

Three ideas were considered in relation to where a space could be located:

- a youth space located with an existing shared community facility (e.g. the Community Centre or library);

- a youth space connected with an existing youth service (e.g. youth training services or youth health); or

- a stand-\alone physical space for young people.

How does Option 3 respond to the Youth Initiative Criteria?

a) Potential for youth ownership

A youth centre set up with good youth participation in decision making processes can go a long way in ensuring youth ownership of the space and its activities in and outside of that space. Involving young people right from the beginning in the establishment of a youth centre would help young people to develop connection and ownership in the space and its activities. This includes things like naming of the youth centre, determining look and feel and fit out requirements of a youth space. Many youth centres utilise older young people as mentors and volunteers in their space to build youth ownership. Establishing pathways for young people to develop their engagement in a youth centre is another way youth centres build youth participation and buy-in. For example, a Wellington based youth centre commented that a young person may initially come along to 'play' on computers, youth workers then engage with them, find out their interests and connect them to other activities in the youth centre and beyond. As a young person builds their relationship with the youth centre and its youth workers, there is more potential for youth participation in decision making to occur.

Youth ownership does not happen overnight. Youth centre managers interviewed highlighted the importance of understanding that it takes time for a youth centre to become part of the local youth culture. Uptake in participation by young people may initially be low in numbers, but as the space and programmes become part of their community and lives, numbers increase. Young people also noted that it would take time to build up participation. They suggested that over a generation of young people (who are year 9 now), within three to five years, the space will gain status and 'older' young people could be given responsibilities. Responsiveness to trends in young people's interests is also significant in the success of this option.

Youth centres can face issues and decreasing numbers when a certain group of young people develop 'ownership' of the space at the exclusion of other young people. This happens more commonly in drop-in centres where there is minimum programming to attract a wide range of young people. Youth centre managers interviewed avoid what they refer to as 'being captured' by one or two groups of young people through strategic planning of opening hours, timetabling and programmes offered. Some centres offer specific activities for different ages, interest groups or genders on different days. The provision of different spaces in a physical building also enables different groups and activities to be present at the same time. A combination of structured and unstructured activities helps to cater to the multiple needs of young people.

b) Ability to provide a range of activities

Unstructured and structured activities are both essential in an effective youth centre. Some of the structured activities in New Zealand youth centres include workshops, programmes and events for a wide range of activities from sports to arts activities. Youth centres also offer opportunities for unstructured activities such as online gaming, socializing, club meetings, computer use, café spaces and places for young people to meet and undertake activities on their own (such as basketball half courts, music practice rooms).

Youth centres which lack any structured activities or skill development programmes (i.e. youth drop in centres) often have poor outcomes and may even promote antisocial behaviours amongst young people (Ministry of Youth Development 2010). However unstructured activities still play an important part in a youth centre when youth workers provide supervision and support throughout and there is a 'pathway' through to structured activities. Option 3 would need to ensure a balance between unstructured and structured activities as well as offer a range of pathways to other opportunities for young people.

Option 3 is primarily an indoor space, although internationally there are models that combine indoor and outdoor elements. Depending on the locality of this option and the environment it is located in, this may also be a consideration.

Several youth centre managers commented that unstructured activity and 'hang out' café times were important in provided initial access for young people to the youth centre. They emphasized that youth workers would engage with young people during these times and support them to 'pathway' through to other opportunities in the youth centre including structured activities and programmes. Outcomes for young people are improved when they engage in structured activities at the youth centres.

c) Ability to provide good youth work under a youth development approach

For Option 3 to be successful, a good practical base with a youth development approach delivered by trained youth workers is needed for it to meet this criterion. The aims/ objectives and practice model of a youth centre are significant in determining the success of youth work and reaching youth development outcomes. Some of the youth centres investigated were focused on providing fun activities for young people to do without a youth development basis to their purpose. Those centres were primarily youth entertainment spaces with recreation/ social facilities for young people and those employed within them were not youth workers and were focused on facility management rather than youth development goals.

Managing appropriate behaviour in a youth development approach is important for any chosen option. Other youth centres establish peer responsibilities, behaviour codes and have minimal charges associated with using some equipment (i.e. a recording studio). Young people in focus groups were concerned with the importance of respect (each other/and the space), often discussing ways of monitoring the space and equipment, costs, and being drug/alcohol free.

Youth workers are key to the success of a youth centre focused on youth development outcomes. Youth centre managers highlighted the importance of employing qualified and effective youth workers. Many noted that staff not employed as a youth workers in a facility (such as sound technicians and volunteers) must also work from a youth development approach.

A strong relationship with other youth services is also essential in meeting this criterion. A clear referral process to other agencies is required when young people engaged in the youth centre require counselling or other support outside of the youth work role.

d) Ability to be community connected

This option requires the involvement of organisations and groups being engaged with young people through three different ways; organisations by coming into the space to do something with young people (inward focused), youth workers doing activities in organisation's space (outward focused) and partnering with organisations to do activities in other spaces (outward focused).

Youth centres which are inward focused are limited in their connection to their community by their physical space. This is a common model in New Zealand. These youth centres may bring some organisations into their space to run activities with young people (like a dance school) or provide an outreach service (like careers advisor or health nurse) but don't generally seek to create partnerships with other organisations outside of their physical location. This limits their ability to connect with opportunities out in the community, and with a wider range of organisations.

In general, local stakeholders felt Option 3 would have benefits and opportunities for young people they worked with (as would Option 1 & 2). Many social and recreational organisations and church youth groups said they would be interested in accessing a youth space[6]. However, there were some concerns and advice that:

- the model needed to be based in a youth development framework;

- that a youth centre needed to be carefully developed; and

- the project should not be operated by Council.

Research from Canada suggests that a minimum of three significant links with the community is critical in the success of a youth centre (Youth Centres Canada 2013). For Option 3 to capture the full potential of being a community resource, engagement with community needs to be both into the youth space and out in the community. Centres around New Zealand based on a similar model as Option 3 also hire out the youth space during 'down times' thus creating a stream of revenue. Some of the ways outward focused youth centres engage with their wider community include: helping out with community events, partnering with organisations to deliver programmes in their location (e.g. schools, clubs and youth groups), running mobile events with another organisation to help bolster their relationship with young people.

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[6] Approximately one third of the recreational/ social organisations surveyed indicated they would access a youth friendly free space if it was available, another third indicated 'maybe' and the remainder said they would not do so. Half of the church youth groups interviewed stated they would benefit from having a free and accessible space available to their group for events or weekly use.

This option offers both opportunities and challenges for wider community involvement and acceptance. A central youth space creates a focal point where young people can be seen and located in the community. Managed well, youth centres can help to break down stereotypes of young people in communities and develop positive relationships between young people and the general public. However, some youth centres struggle to be accepted by their communities and are labelled as trouble spots with negative youth incidents in a community being seen as the fault of the centre. Some focus groups felt their presence, when in groups with their peers, was viewed negatively by other members of the community. Some mentioned they were perceived as 'causing trouble', not just in Coastlands, but in other public places where they met as groups. These negative perceptions of young people would impact in Option 3 and need to be addressed in the development and ongoing management of a youth centre.

Having a central location which allows the public to see the youth centre balanced with youth ownership and the ability of the youth centre to function as young people require is key. Good management in terms of public relations with neighbouring businesses/activities, and developing policies to respond to certain behaviours which are viewed as undesirable (e.g. smoking, littering) by the public is essential.

e) Ability to be open to all young people 13 – 21 years in the south of the District

Youth centres provide an open access or a universal service for all young people as opposed to a targeted service/ programme for a few young people (Ministry of Youth Development 2010). While not targeting 'at risk' young people, the youth space would not exclude them. However, youth centre managers interviewed highlighted the importance of focusing on target groups in the universal definition of 'youth' and then developing magnet programmes in response to that group's specific interests and needs. This acknowledges the difference in need/ interest within the age range, gender, ethnicity and youth sub-cultural groups.

Depending on programmes management, Option 3 has the potential to engage a wide demographic range of young people who vary in age, gender, ethnicity and interest. The target demographic may be between 13 to 17 years of age, with older young people possibly taking on roles of responsibility. However, programmes and activities that provide skill development (such as interview techniques/ specific skill training) could be offered, and may attract a wider range of young people.

Youth centres may also attract more young men than young women. This is particularly true for youth centres focused on providing drop-in times rather than a programme of structured and unstructured activities. Several youth centre managers commented that having programmes and spaces designed by and for young women were important in youth centres as is having female youth work staff and volunteers.

f) Could be easily accessed

The location of a youth centre has a huge impact on its ability to get young people through the door. Youth centre managers interviewed highlighted that youth centres are most likely to gain youth attendance when they are located in a town centre, in close proximity to central public transport hubs and close to a route where young people travel regularly (i.e. to and from college). For a youth space under Option 3 to be successful, it should be within easy walking distance of Coastlands and the train station. As discussed earlier, young people identified the Coastlands area as a central neutral place for them. By locating a youth centre near this area, the youth initiative reduces issues of territoriality. Young people also raised issues of feeling stereotyped by adults in Coastlands (i.e. being viewed as 'shoplifters'). A youth centre located in the town centre would require a public relations plan in order to shift any negative youth stereotypes. Also discussed earlier, all focus groups felt unsafe walking around the Kāpiti District at night and many felt unsafe in the Paraparaumu train station after dark. How young people leave a central youth centre and make their way home, in particular accessing the train station after dark, would need addressing if activities are held in the evening. Activities held in other venues and public spaces would need to address the same access issues discussed under Option 2.

Young people from Waikanae and Paekākāriki may have more limited access in the weekends to a central youth space than those living closer to Paraparaumu. Young people from Waikanae and Paekākāriki in the focus groups commented that any central space is best placed near the Paraparaumu train station. College students from these communities felt they would access a youth centre after school if it was near the train station. Some commented that they spend their weekends around Paraparaumu and the Coastlands vicinity and would utilise a youth centre in this area, while others were less likely to do so in the weekend unless a special event was occurring. Having a good mobile outreach programme and locating any youth centre near the Paraparaumu train station would help to minimise barriers for those young people from communities outside of Paraparaumu.

g) Be cost effective and sustainable

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. The cost of establishing Option 3 has not changed from this. Building leases in close proximity to the Paraparaumu town centre are on average $60,000 – 70,000. The cost of purchasing a building would be significantly higher. If a short term space was secured for a youth centre to operate from, there would need to be allowance for further capital expenditure if the youth centre was to be relocated to a more permanent location at a later stage. Operational costs would need to encompass activity which occurs inside and outside of the central space (including community and mobile programming). Further investigation would be required if either version of this option is selected.

h) Be culturally inclusive and reflect the Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations

Underlying governance framework and values could be developed with these criteria in mind. Employing Māori youth worker/s and utilising a kaupapa Māori model alongside an international youth development model would help support this.

Young people's views on Option 3

Of the three options, young people were most enthusiastic about Option 3. Young people's needs and wants, as highlighted by those who responded to the youth survey and participated in the focus groups, are reflected in Option 3. It was viewed as a space that could be youth owned with the support of youth workers, where young people could initiate and 'do their own thing', not just be 'occupied' by structured activities. Stability was identified as a key for young people in terms of knowing where something and someone is on a regular basis and were attracted to the stability offered by a central youth space.

Young people liked the idea of having a centralised physical space for them to be, with opportunities to engage with other groups and organisations in the community (both within the physical space and outside it); a two way relationship. They also liked the idea of having activities that went to the community (for those who might not be able to get to the centre, or going to places where young people are (e.g. at the skate park, running a beach volleyball competition, etc). There was also some discussion about the advantages of having a 'bus' that transported young people to events in and outside of the District.

Focus groups suggested a central youth space could be fitted out with a cafe, a dance studio, a recording studio, a stage for gigs, computers and free Wi-Fi, a space to hang out with friends and spaces to try new things. Further research with young people around this option would be required to determine the specifications of a physical space. Some focus group members liked the idea of going to space where activities could be running, and having the option of trying them out. Being cost-free was also important to young people although a number of groups said they would be willing to pay a reasonable cost at a youth (led and run) café in the building. They also suggested a nominal fee for access to some equipment (such as a recording studio or musical instruments), would encourage respect for those items.

Young people's preferred option for the configuration of a physical space is a standalone building. The key points made by the focus groups with regard to the configuration of a physical space and why a standalone physical space was their preferred option is outlined on the following page.

Possible configurations of a physical space	Young people's thoughts
A youth space located with an existing shared community facility (e.g. the Community Centre or library)	• Concerns that if in a shared space, young people would be bound by the constraints of (older) other people. • No ownership by young people. • Limitations on young people's behaviour (concerns that adults might disapprove of their loudness and just behaving like young people). • If it's shared with adults then it is adults who decide things. • Most focus group members did not like the idea of a shared space with the library – this was not a space they used. • Too many constraints (rules about being quiet/ certain behaviour). • Time constraints in regards to opening hours and access. • Not suitable for youth related activities.
A youth space connected with an existing youth service (e.g. youth training services or youth health)	• Some felt there would be a stigma associated to having a youth space attached with a health service and were concerned about privacy; others thought there would be benefits and that shame/embarrassment could be managed. • A youth space should be about being fun and not so serious (like a counselling service), but should be a place where you can find out about those things. • Some young people stated that having a strong relationship with other services was important (being able to connect with and have access to) but not in the same building. • Some stated being in walking distance to other services would be useful.
A standalone physical space for young people	• Stronger youth ownership possible. • If it's by itself, young people have more say in it. • The other options bring restrictions - people telling us what to do, certain look and feel of the place. • We need our own space; everything in Kāpiti is for adults. • Means less restrictions – we can do more like run things at night time, no 'take your hoodie' off rules. • People will respect it more because it's theirs. • Young people will be attracted to something just designed for young people. • We don't have anything just for young people here.

9 A Comparative Overview of Three Options

The table below highlights how each option compares in terms of meeting the youth initiative criteria. How each option stacks up against each criterion is expanded further in following section. Criteria (i) is not covered in this analysis as none of the options duplicate services that already exist. Currently, there are no services, organisations or activities that meet the youth initiative criteria. Each option would draw on and engage with existing services in different ways.

Youth Initiative Criteria	Option 1: Club Based	Option 2: Mobile Service	Option 3: Outward Focused Centre
a) Potential for youth ownership	🟥 Red	🟧 Orange	🟩 Green
b) Ability to provide a wide range of activities	🟧 Orange	🟧 Orange	🟩 Green
c) Ability to provide good youth worker support under a youth development approach	🟥 Red	🟧 Orange	🟩 Green
d) Ability to be community connected	🟩 Green	🟩 Green	🟩 Green
e) Open to all young people aged 13 – 21 in the south of the District	🟧 Orange	🟧 Orange	🟧 Orange
f) Could be easily accessible	🟧 Orange	🟩 Green	🟩 Green
g) Be cost effective and sustainable	🟨 Yellow	🟨 Yellow	🟨 Yellow
h) Reflect the Council's Treaty of Waitangi obligations	🟧 Orange	🟩 Green	🟩 Green
i) Not duplicate existing services for young people	🟩 Green	🟩 Green	🟩 Green

Does not meet criterion	🟥 Red
Some challenges to overcome to meet criterion	🟧 Orange
Strong likelihood of meeting this criterion	🟩 Green
Further investigation is required	🟨 Yellow

Comparison of Strengths and Benefits		
Option 1: Clubs Based	**Option 2: Mobile Service**	**Option 3: Outward Focused Centre**
Draws on existing community resources	Draws on existing community resources	Draws on existing community resources
Minimises possibilities of replication of activities	Ability to engage with young people where they already are	Reflects the wants of young people
Encourages organisations to develop awareness and skills in supporting youth development	Able to provide a 'youth presence' at community events and help build intergenerational understanding	Enables access to youth workers both within a physical space and out in the community
Young people may benefit from additional funding into an organisation they are already involved with	Able to provide activities and events in wide range of communities	Develops relationships in physical location and beyond with young people and organisations
Supports organisations to develop their youth membership	Could cater to young people across the whole District, including Otāki	Able to have the same benefits of Option 2 if outward focus is put into action
	Provides youth workers who can move around the District running activities	Provides stability for young people (and their parents)
	Provides resources for events which other organisations could access	Enables young people to 'be themselves'
		Activities more easily able to be youth initiated and youth led
		Centres on strong youth development model(s) and principles

Comparison of Limitations and Barriers		
Option 1: Club Based	**Option 2: Mobile Service**	**Option 3: Outward Focused Centre**
Young people who have an interest in a particular activity will benefit Activities may tend to be 'one offs' with limited ongoing support Locations may be difficult to access Limited access to a youth worker Limited opportunities to develop relationships Transport, cost and timing could continue to be issues No physical space for young people to meet with a youth worker or each other Not youth initiated or youth led Likely to attract a younger age range (13 and 14 year olds)	Risk and event management Need for youth workers with additional skill sets Risk of 'capturing' by specific groups needs to be managed Lacking stability Many activities will be weather dependent Youth worker/s tied up with event management rather than doing youth work Limited physical space for young people to meet with a youth worker or each other Could be difficult to ensure youth initiated or youth led activities Could exclude young people in the 'older' age bracket who believe events are for 'little kids'. Determining participation numbers and evaluating the 'service' could be problematic	Requires a physical space Initial uptake may be low Negative associations with 'youth centres' Risk of being 'captured' by specific groups Need for strong public relations plan Could exclude young people living outside of Paraparaumu depending on location

10 Conclusion and Recommendations

The feasibility study has examined research, information and contexts relevant to the establishment of a youth initiative in the south of the Kāpiti Coast District. It has determined that existing services and organisations provide activity options for some young people in the District, but do not provide spaces/places where young people can be themselves, engage in both structured and unstructured activities, and access a youth worker. None of the three options discussed would duplicate existing services and organisations, but have the opportunity to engage with and draw on these, connecting young people and the wider community.

The three options presented for the youth initiative were:

- **Option 1 - clubs based** utilising existing resources, mainly in recreational clubs and the provision of youth work training is provided to staff;

- **Option 2 - mobile service** involving detached youth workers engaging with young people through activities and events in the community, particularly in spaces where young people already are; and

- **Option 3 - outward focused centre** based on modified youth centre model. Youth workers would provide programming in a central youth space and activities would be delivered beyond the physical space in other places in the community.

In considering the options in the context of international, national and local research (including the views of young people), the first two models did not sufficiently meet the criteria established for a youth initiative. The third model best meets the youth initiative criteria and also reflects the views of young people who were involved in the research; in particular, that young people in the District strongly desire a space where they can be themselves and have ownership over. Options that include a physical space and provide access to free activities and equipment were preferred by young people who participated in the research focus groups. A central location (such as near Coastlands or the railway station) was indicated as important for a physical model, as was a dedicated, standalone youth space (that is not shared with other facilities). Drawing on these aspects, and ensuring the youth initiative is based on a strong youth development model is significant in the development of the recommendation of a physical, standalone space, involving inward and outward activities delivered by youth workers.

The key recommendation from this feasibility study is that the Council establishes a standalone physical youth space for the youth initiative.

It is also recommended that:

- the youth space model is outward focused, engaging with communities, iwi and organisations which young people access;

- young people are heavily involved in the development of the youth space and the delivery of operations once it is established from determining the look, feel, name and fit out of the space through to providing the ideas and trends for programmes, services and other activities which the youth space would provide;

- qualified youth workers are employed for the project and the guidelines for implementation of the Code of Ethics for Youth Work in New Zealand are put into practice; and

- the youth development approach underpinning the youth space is aligned with a kaupapa Māori approach and uses both an internationally recognised model partnered with a Māori models outlined in this study.

It is also recommended that further investigation conducted:

- into the requirements of young people in the youth space;

- into the most appropriate governance model for the youth space; and

- into appropriate buildings which are available for lease/ sale in order to determine final costs.

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Appendix 1 - Terms of reference and membership of the Advisory Group

Background

In 2010, the Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey captured the views of over 10% of our youth population. The findings showed that, while young people generally feel connected with their community, they are frustrated by lack of activities and spaces for youth in the District.

After the survey the Youth Council and the Council developed the Youth2U Youth Action Plan that included Goal 3: a District which has youth friendly spaces and places, with the aim to investigate the development of youth centres in the district.

In response to Youth Council representation and initial investigations by the Youth Council, the Council has approved the development of a youth centre in the 2012-32 Long Term Plan. It includes capital funding of $650,000 in year 2014/15 with six months of debt servicing costs of $19,000 and $193,000 for annual operating costs. The full text from the Long Term Plan is at Attachment 1.

Purpose of the initiative

The purpose[7] of this initiative is to provide open access space or spaces where young people 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; and
- access the support of youth workers in their lives.

This initiative is not intended to provide formal training or health and social services for young people nor duplicate existing youth services. However it is important that this initiative links in closely with the community and existing services.

What is a youth centre?

In the Long Term Plan the focus is on establishing a youth centre, described by the Ministry of Youth Development as follows:

> Youth centres provide open access or a universal service for all young people as opposed to a targeted service/ programme for a few young people. At minimum youth centres have a physical space in a fixed geographic location that youth can use.

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[7] This purpose is underpinned by the principles of the government's national Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa. Youth development means growing and developing the skills and attitudes young people need to take part in society, now and in the future. Youth development is supporting young people to achieve their potential. It includes young people gaining a:
- sense of contributing something of value to society
- feeling of connectedness to others and to society
- belief that they have choices about their future
- feeling of being positive and comfortable with their own identity.

Youth centres provide opportunities for young people to develop their physical, social, emotional, and cognitive abilities and to experience achievement, leadership, enjoyment, friendship, and recognition.

Feasibility

To progress this initiative as part of the Long Term Plan, the Council is undertaking a feasibility study that will examine options in relation to the purpose including the establishment, location, operation, management and funding of a youth centre. This will be done within the context of existing youth services and existing organised activities for young people such as those provided by clubs or churches.

The feasibility study is scheduled to be undertaken in the 2012/13 Financial Year. Preferred options will be reported back to the Council before June 2013. The Council has applied to Lotteries for funding for the study. The outcome of the application will be known in November 2011. Council staff have already commenced work on the feasibility study.

This initiative is of interest to a wide range of people and groups in the community and it will be important to keep them informed of progress on a regular basis.

Purpose of the group

The Advisory Group has been established for the following purposes:

1. to provide advice that will assist the Council to make decisions about the establishment of a youth centre (as per the 2012-32 Long Term Plan); and

2. to provide advice on stakeholder engagement about the initiative.

Scope of the group:

The Advisory Group will have the responsibility to provide advice on:

- the brief developed for the feasibility study[8]. This study will examine the range of options that meet the purpose of the initiative as outlined above and will include location/s, building/s, functions, range of activities, relationships with existing services and agencies, funding, delivery, operation, staffing and management;

- the findings and recommendations of the feasibility study including preferred option/s; and

- a stakeholder management plan and communication plan for the project.

The Advisory Group will be provided with technical support to review and consider the scope and findings of the feasibility study. This may include the provision of external expert advice.

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[8] Note that a feasibility study brief has already been submitted as part of the Lotteries funding application. This does not constitute the full brief as referred to in this Terms of Reference but forms the basis for that brief

Term

The Advisory Group will operate until June 2013. Continuation will then be reviewed. Advisory Group members are appointed at the Council's discretion.

Membership

The Advisory group will be made up of representatives from:

- the Council

- the Youth Council

- iwi

- the community focusing on individuals with an interest in young people in the District and covering expertise in youth development, communications and marketing, project management, community sector .

The Youth Centre Advisory Committee is chaired by Tony Kane (Principal, Kapiti College) and attended by the Mayor Jenny Rowan, Councillor Penny Gaylor and Youth Council members. Other members of the group are; Jeremy Neeve (Youth Quest), Jan Bolwell (Arts and Dance representative), Sharon Gilman (Deputy Principal, Paraparaumu College), Mike Tahere (Police), Lawrence Kirby (Kapiti Impact Trust and Paraparaumu Family Church), Jennie Gutry (communications specialist).

Procedures

The Advisory Group will meet as necessary up to June 2013.

The Chair will be appointed from within the Group.

The Group will provide a written report to the Council in response to the feasibility study recommendations. The report can provide a range of advice from members.

Any decisions on how the initiative is progressed rests with the Council.

The Council will:

- provide all secretariat support to the Group including organisation of agenda and minutes;

- reimburse Group members' travel costs arising from participation in the Group; and

- provide project management support to advance necessary technical work and follow-up between meetings actions.

Minutes from the group will be provided to the Council's Senior Leadership Team. Verbal updates from the Group will be provided to the Council's Environment and Community Development Committee by the Council representatives on the Group.

ATTACHMENT 1: Extract from Kāpiti Coast District Council's 2012-32 Long Term Plan (p162)

Supporting Social Wellbeing Activity: Youth Centre

In 2010, the Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey captured the views of over 10% of our youth population. The findings showed that, while young people generally feel connected with their community, they are frustrated by lack of activities and spaces for youth in the District. In response to this the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council has investigated the need for a youth centre.

Young people and communities need safe and successful places for youth to gather and be themselves. Most urban communities in New Zealand have a community youth centre. On the Kāpiti Coast young people do not have many options for places they can call their own outside of organised clubs.

The focus of a youth centre would be recreation, youth participation, informal training and skill development opportunities and youth development. Young people also need help to make a satisfactory transition to adult life. Youth workers are the key to a successful youth centre. They provide a different way for young people to get support and services which can help them.

The Kāpiti Coast Youth Council has identified Paraparaumu as a good location for a youth centre – somewhere near the railway station for good access. It could provide:
- events where young people can express themselves through music and performance;
- informal social recreation;
- café to socialise and train (for example, barista, management);
- workshops to develop their skills and talents in a range of areas;
- space where young musicians can rehearse and access equipment at low cost;
- computer area for internet access and homework clubs;
- youth leadership and involvement in the management and operation of the centre; and
- referrals to youth health and social services where needed.

A youth centre in Paraparaumu could serve the communities to the south and north to Waikanae, however there is a need to consider a youth centre service in Ōtaki. This would be investigated separately to ensure it met the unique needs of youth in Ōtaki.

The development of a central youth centre in Paraparaumu requires funding for the initial establishment and ongoing operational funding. Councils commonly fund initial setups and provide operational funding to ensure sustainability.

Discussions have begun in the community about the establishment of a charitable trust to drive this initiative. This model allows funding to be accessed from areas which Council cannot access. This includes government and philanthropic funding, sponsorships and partnerships with agencies and private sector industries, government and in-kind donations from local businesses. In the Long Term Plan the Youth Centre has been brought forward from 2022/23 to 2014/15 (year 3). Provision has been made for a capital cost of $650,000 with six months of debt servicing costs of $19,000 and $193,000 for annual operating costs.

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; and
- 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 $1 million 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 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 (Paekākāriki – 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; and
- 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; and
  - 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; and
  - 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 Kāpiti Coast; and
  - 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 Kāpiti Coast;
  - investigation into previous failed models – local and national; and

   o investigation into successful models of youth work provision.

- Stakeholder engagement:

   o community thoughts on the initiative;
   o young people's thoughts on the initiative;
   o Long Term Plan submissions on the youth centre; and
   o 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:

   o a description of the model;
   o the strengths and benefits of the model;
   o the weaknesses/ risks of the model and how these could be managed;
   o how the model meets the criteria for the initiative;
   o how the model responds to findings of the feasibility study (profile, lessons learnt from other researched models, youth development best practice, etc.);
   o broad specifications for the model including functions, spaces, staffing and fit out/equipment with estimated costs;
   o a profile of potential users and usage rates;
   o concepts for delivery of model including preferred locations, development, fit-out and operating costs;
   o considerations for management and operation of the model; and
   o 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; and
- the cost effectiveness and predicted sustainability of the option.

Appendix 3 - A profile of young people in Kāpiti

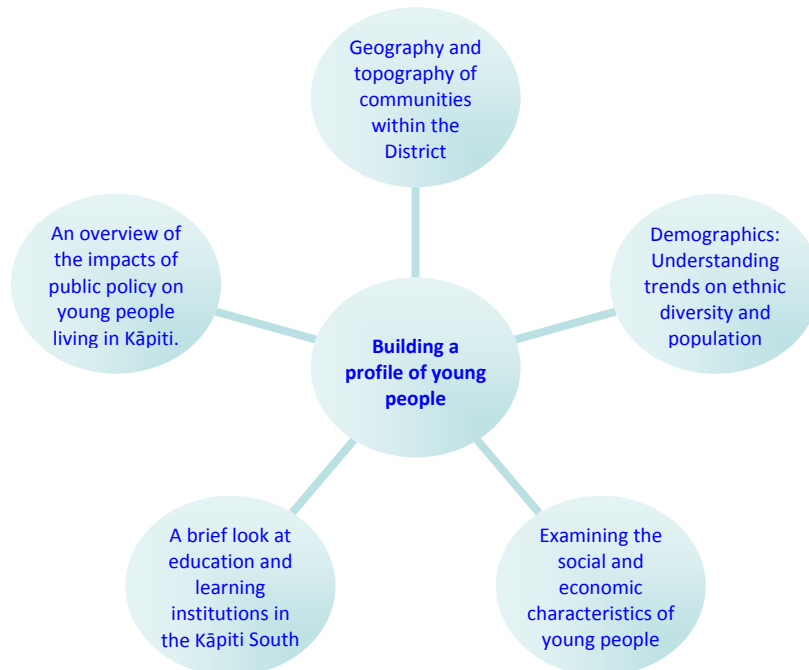Developed in May 2013

Introduction
About the profile
In 2012, the Kāpiti Coast District Council approved the development of a local youth centre. This profile has been developed as a component of the youth centre feasibility study.

The profile uses statistical information, both nationally and locally, to compare the Kāpiti Coast to the rest of the country. Local information and experiences of young people captured in the 2010 Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey are also used to help inform the profile.

What is inside the scope?

The paper presents the geographic, demographic, social and economic characteristics of the communities that will be serviced by the proposed youth centre. There are youth development principles that guide the philosophy and approach of the project. The findings in this paper are intended to add knowledge about young people in the context of effective youth development.

> The foundation to positive youth development is promoting a sense of safety, creating supportive relationships, providing opportunities to belong, providing positive social norms and opportunities for skill building.

Geography and topography of communities within the District

An overview of the impacts of public policy on young people living in Kāpiti.

Building a profile of young people

Demographics: Understanding trends on ethnic diversity and population

A brief look at education and learning institutions in the Kāpiti South

Examining the social and economic characteristics of young people

For the purpose of this profile '*Kāpiti South'* is used to describe the area units of Paekākāriki, Raumati South, Raumati Beach, Paraparaumu, Otaihanga, Waikanae and Peka Peka. '*Kāpiti North'* describes the areas of Te Horo, Ōtaki and Ōtaki Forks.

What is outside of the scope?
This profile doesn't include the following:
- criminal justice and apprehensions data.
- truancy, stand downs and expulsions rates.
- health outcome indicators such as teen mother birth rates, cigarette smoking and preventable death rates.
- alcohol consumption and drug misuse.

The geography and landscape of the Kāpiti Coast District

The Kāpiti Coast is a district that spans across 40 kilometres of coastline and covers 731 square kilometres. The Kāpiti Coast is a vista of beaches, native forest and hills with a combination of semi rural and urban living areas.

Paekākāriki is the southern gateway to the Kāpiti Coast and is about a 40 minute commute to/from the capital, Wellington. At the northern end of the District, Ōtaki is about a 50 minute commute to/from the city of Palmerston North. Both places play a significant part in influencing the mobility of the District's population as both are hubs for employment and tertiary education.

Paraparaumu is the District's administrative and commercial centre and provides a focal point for young people living in the southern part of Kāpiti[9]. Public transport services (bus and rail) are available throughout this part of the District, although it is limited in some areas.

Ōtaki is the most northern township of the Kāpiti Coast District. This community has its own special character which is influenced by its unique cultural and economic diversity. There is very limited public transport connection with Paraparaumu.

For rural parts of Kāpiti, in most cases, there is no public transport available and connectivity between townships requires travelling on State Highway One, greatly restricting active modes of transport like, walking, skating or cycling.

Young people's thoughts on transport
In 2010 a Youth Survey was carried out by the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council that captured the thoughts, opinions and experiences of young people living in District[10]. The survey identified some important themes of which, transport around the District was highlighted:

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[9] Southern part of the District includes the areas of Paekākāriki, Raumati, Paraparaumu, Otaihanga, Waikanae and Peka Peka
[10] 763 or 10% of young people completed the Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey

Young people struggle with transport around the District

The Kāpiti Coast District is complicated in terms of geography with towns being spread out and young people felt that transport services, in particular for isolated areas, lack dependability. Places which young people liked and disliked around the District were greatly influenced by their ability to get there. Places with more difficult public transport routes were placed in the 'too hard to get there' basket. Young people are an age group where transport will always be an issue as they learn to drive and discover new ways of travel. Feet can only take you so far and public transport is key for us. Bus services need to be appropriate for young people in our District giving them a range of times and routes for each area.

Source: Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey by the 2010 Kāpiti Coast Youth Council
With the support of the Wellington Boys' and Girls' Institute (BGI) and Kāpiti Coast District Council.

Demographics of the Kāpiti Coast

Who makes up the population of the Kāpiti Coast

The 2006 census data provides the most recent demographic information of the Kāpiti population. The Kāpiti Coast has the highest proportion of people aged over 60 in all of New Zealand, about 29% - Figure 1. This greatly effects the median age of the Kāpiti Coast population. The median age is 44 years compared with 36 years for New Zealand,

Figure 1
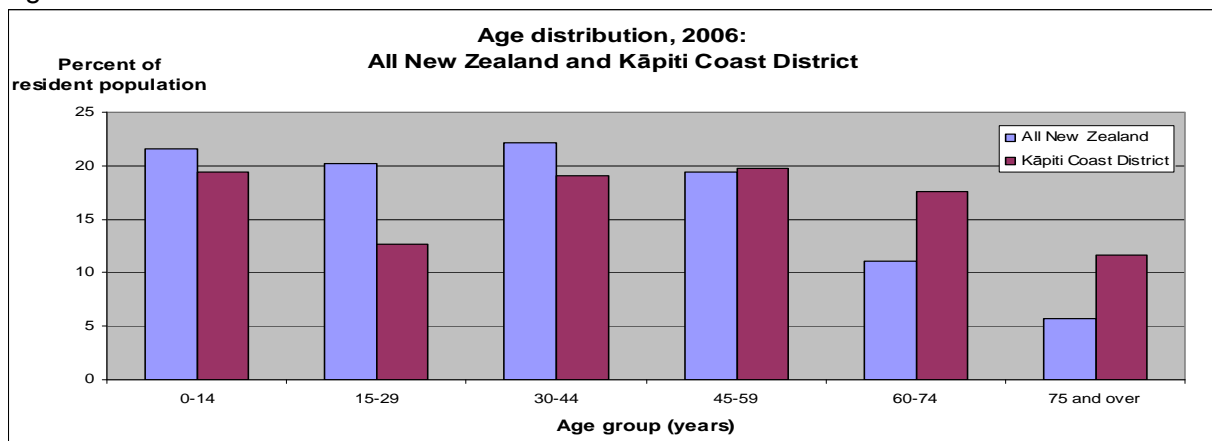
Source: Statistics New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings, 2006

Young people in Kāpiti

Young people, for this profile, are defined as people aged a 12 to 24 years. For this District, about 14% of all residents are young people. This is slightly lower than the nationally (19%). Young people make up 13.8% of the total population in Kāpiti as a whole as well as in the south of the District (Table 1).

Table 1 – Young people 12 – 24 in Kāpiti 2006

	Kāpiti	Kāpiti South*
12 to 14 years	1,998	1,650
15 to 19 years	2,772	2,319
20 to 24 years	1,611	1,341
Total	**6,381**	**5,310**
% of total population for that area	**13.8%**	**13.8%**

The largest proportion of young people in the District is between 12–17 years (62% or 3,885). This group is most likely to be attending a local secondary school and remaining in the area. For a majority of young people, early adulthood is often a time of change, for those over 18 may leave the area in pursuit of higher education, employment or a transition into parenthood.

There were only 267 24 year olds living in the Kāpiti District in 2006 (approximately 4% of all young people and 0.5% of the total population).

How ethnically diverse is Kāpiti?

Ethnic diversity and multiculturalism does more than promote acceptance and inclusiveness, it can influence the types of services delivered within a community. It also assists Government departments and other organisations to monitor social and economic implications of their policies on particular groups.

Overall, the Kāpiti Coast in not as ethnically diverse as the rest of the country. At the time of the 2006 population census, Kāpiti was home to 46,400 people; 80% of these residents identified as being New Zealand European. This is much higher than the national average of 68%. Only 12% (or 5,500 people) identified themselves as Māori and just 2% (about 900 people) identified themselves as either Asian or Pasifika peoples[11]. However the picture is quite different for young people. This is explored in more detail in the following section.

Of all the communities in Kāpiti, Ōtaki was the most ethnically and culturally diverse, followed by Paraparaumu central. Both communities also have the highest population of Asian people and Pasifika peoples.

Ethnicity and young people

Young people living in Kāpiti were more likely to identify with a greater range of ethnicities than other age groups in the District. Kāpiti's young people were still not as ethnically diverse as the national average, but had a slightly higher percentage who identified as Māori than the national average.

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[11] The 2006 census data showed that approximately 13% of residents in Kāpiti identified as New Zealanders

Figure 2
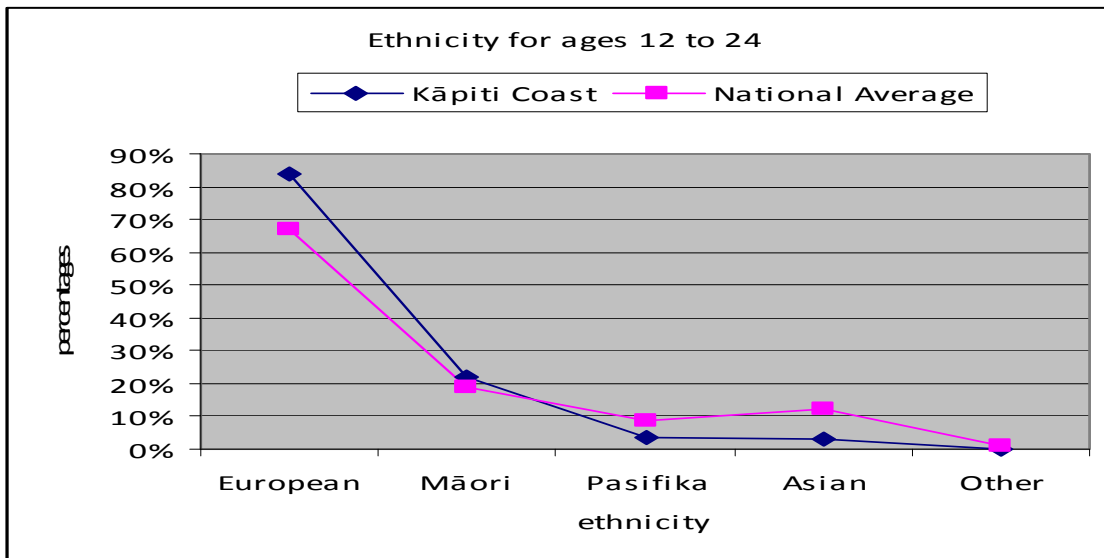
Population census data showed around 22% of young people aged 12–24 years in Kāpiti identified themselves as being of Māori descent. 84% identified themselves as European/Pākehā, while nearly 4% were Pasifika peoples. A small proportion of 3.7% did not state their ethnicity.

Table 2

	European	Māori	Pacific	Asian	Other
Total numbers	5,349	1,392	231	207	12
Percentages	83.8%	21.8%	3.6%	3.2%	0.2%

Source: Statistics New Zealand Census of Population and Dwellings, 2006

It is assumed that young people who responded to the 2006 census identified as belonging to more than one ethnic group, as totals for each ethnic group add up to more than the overall total of young people in the District.

It is important to note that the population structures for Māori and non- Māori are vastly different and this has implications on the wider Kāpiti Community. This is because Māori have comparatively youthful structures as a result of high fertility rates and lower life expectancy[12]. Figure 3 compares the age structure of Māori and non Māori.

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[12] 2010 the Social Report, Te Pūrongo tangata

Figure 3
Distribution of Māori (left) and non-Māori (right) population, by gender, 2006 – Ministry of Health
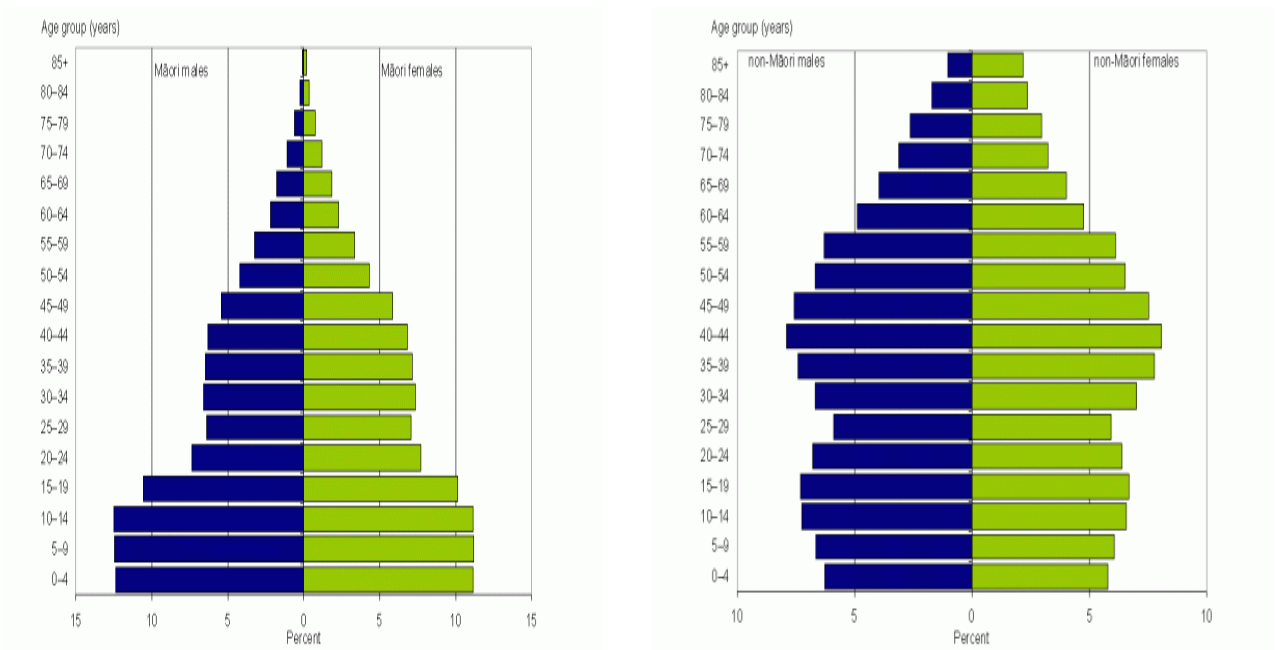
What will this mean for the Kāpiti community?
Māori communities will continue to have a youthful structure that will result in more Māori young people or rangatahi living in the District. Based on the 2006 census, the needs of an increasing rangatahi/youth population will require consideration. The challenge for local government in the future will be balancing this need with those of other sectors of the community, such as those of the District's majority ageing population.

Of particular concern is the current lack of culturally appropriate services for young people in the South of the District, in particular service delivered under kaupapa Māori principles and practices. This was formally identified in 2006 in a local services mapping report for the Ministry of Social Development. Since 2006, the only kaupapa Māori (local iwi authority) social service has been disestablished.

Where do young people live in Kāpiti?
Table 3 shows the distribution of young people in each township or area in Kāpiti.
Most young people in the Kāpiti District reside in Paraparaumu central (almost 1,200 or 18%).

Table 3 – Population of young people by area 2006

TOWNSHIP/AREA *rural areas	Total Population		Young people 12-24 years		
	Number	% of total	Number	% of pop for area	% of total pop
Paekākāriki	1,602	3.5	231	14.4	0.5
Raumati	8,016	17.4	1,245	15.5	2.6
Paraparaumu	16,137	35.0	2,430	15.5	5.2
Otaihanga	1,110	2.4	180	16.2	0.4
Waikanae	10,230	22.2	1,014	10.0	2.1
Kaitawa*	477	1.0	81	17.0	0.1
Peka Peka*	252	0.5	33	13.0	0.1
Te Horo*	675	1.5	84	12.0	0.2
Maungakotukutuku*	816	1.8	90	11.0	0.2
Ōtaki	6,876	15.9	987	14.0	2.1
total	**46,161**	**100.0**	**6,375**		**13.8**

Paraparaumu Central is the most populated living area in the District. This census area unit includes eastern Paraparaumu, an area known as 'over the tracks' that is physically disconnected with the rest of Paraparaumu area by State Highway One and the main rail trunk. This community has very limited bus public transport.

KEY
- Eastern Paraparaumu – 'over the tracks'
- State highway 1 and main rail trunk
- Arawhata Road and Makarini Street
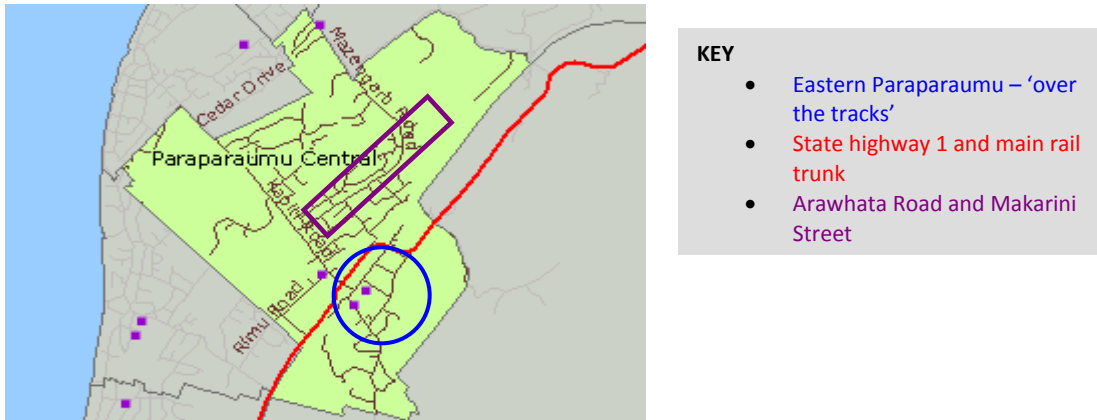
Paraparaumu Central is also the most diverse area in Kāpiti South. In particular the environs of Arawhata Road and Makarini Street have a more diverse population than other parts of the District. When looking more closely at these areas, households are more likely to be a mixture of families with dependant children and adults over 65 years and be more ethnically mixed than Kāpiti as a whole. This area also has a range of more affordable housing including a number of Housing New Zealand houses.

In Kāpiti there are about 220 Housing New Zealand houses with 108 in Paraparaumu and Paraparaumu Beach. Over half of these are located in Paraparaumu central with a majority located 'over the tracks'.

What do young people think about the communities that they live in?

The 2010 Youth Survey identifies that young people want a more youth inclusive community. The following text is taken directly from the survey and has since been a action point for the Kāpiti Coast Youth Action Plan 2011-2015

Young people want more youth inclusive communities

So young people want Kāpiti communities which include them more. They want more thought and action around their needs in the community; namely more activities and things to do for them and more places they feel at ease in where they can hang out with mates. There were some underlying trends that show young people feel that:

- Kāpiti is a place which tends to cater for older people at the exclusion often of young people
- young people are not considered in the development of facilities, programmes and general community projects
- young people are an after thought and often perhaps a nuisance to be dealt with rather than citizens of our communities.

Population projections
What will Kāpiti's population look like in the future?

Projections are a way of forecasting the District's population over the next 30 years. These projections are based on the age structure of a district, life expectancy, births, deaths and migration. While the population in Kāpiti continues to grow the growth rate has slowed more recently.

11.1.1 In 2010, the Kāpiti Coast had a population increase of around 1.0 % (or 490). In 2011 the increase was 0.7 % (or 340 residents). The District now has the largest proportion of older people in all of New Zealand, while neighbouring Porirua has the largest proportion of young people.

In 2011, Statistics New Zealand estimated the population of the Kāpiti Coast as 49,400. The District's population is forecasted to reach 50,000 in 2016, increasing to 59,400 in 2032.

How many young people will be living on the Coast in the future?

Statistics New Zealand observes that in general, areas with a high percentage of older people have a significant outflow of young adults. It is projected that the percentage of young people living in the District in the future will be of a similar proportion as currently – around 11% or 12% of the total population. In 2012 there were about 6,050 young people living in the District. This is forecast to increase to 6,426 in the year 2021.

Figure 4 shows the proportion of young people living in the Kāpiti District according to population projections, up to the year 2032.

Figure 4
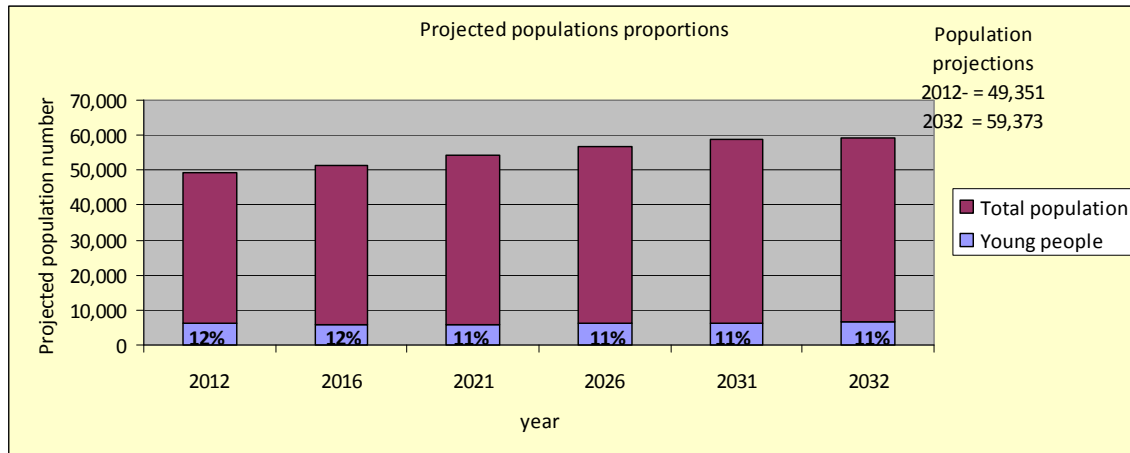
These trends suggest that Kāpiti will become less attractive as a place for young people to live, play and work in. This will have significant economic, social and cultural implications for the Kāpiti District in the future. Attracting and retaining the energy, enthusiasm and creativity of young people will need to be considered by local government, iwi, employees and the community at large. Young people are the next generation of leaders.

Social and economic wellbeing

Social and economic wellbeing is a way to describe how people in the community are faring or managing. It mainly relates to peoples standard of living. There are some 'big picture' factors that influence social and economic wellbeing of communities including the global and domestic economy, government policy, and demographic changes

Equally, there are major local factors that influence individuals or a family's socio economic wellbeing including income and employment, education, housing, social cohesion, and culture and ethnicity.

Kāpiti Coast's Deprivation ratings
The NZDep2006 Index of Deprivation is a way of measuring deprivation in communities comparatively to all of New Zealand. The Index is based on 9 variables[13] and rates socio-economic deprivation by decile levels 1 to 10 (I being the least deprived and 10 being most deprived).

Figure 5 shows the 2006 deprivation profile of the District. About 8% of the population live in the most socio-economic deprived living environments in New Zealand (deciles 9 and 10). Although poverty and hardship may not be obvious in this District, it is estimated that

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[13] 2006 NZ Dep Index of Deprivation variables include 18-64 years receiving means tested benefit, households with equalised income below threshold; not living in own home, single parent family, unemployed, lack of qualifications, below bedroom occupancy threshold, access to phone and car.

about 15% of all the District's households are experiencing some type of hardship[14]. This is based on income, tenure and number of dependants living in a household. The Ministry of Youth Development has used census data to estimate 17.5% of the Kāpiti District's 15-24 year olds are in a low income household, on par with the national average.

Figure 5
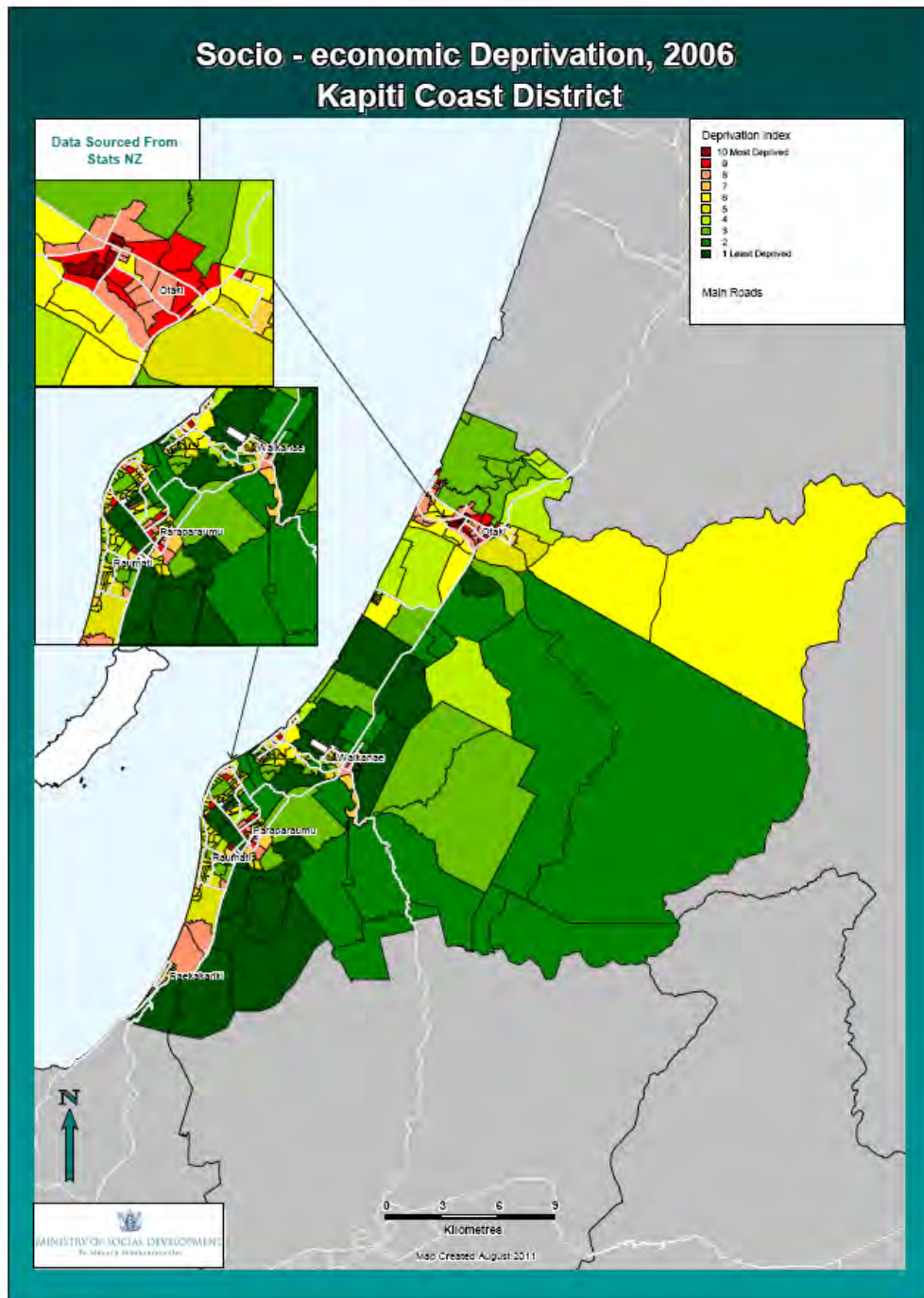
Source: Ministry of Social Development

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[14] Assessment of Affordability Impacts April 2012, Kāpiti Coast District Council

Income is the single most important factor in determining social and economic wellbeing. The interaction between employment and income can also influence living standards and health outcomes.

It is difficult to capture the household income of young people. This is because young people are at different life stages. Some may be getting financial support from their parents or caregivers, while others will be living independently.

In 2006 over half (52%) of Kāpiti Coast's young people aged 15-24 were in some form of employment. This equates to about 1,300 (or 47%) of young people aged 15-19 years and 1,000 (or 62%) of 20-24 year olds.

Unsurprisingly 15–19 year olds were over represented in $1-$10,000 personal income bracket as this age group was more likely to work on a part time basis. The majority of 20-24 year olds had personal incomes in the range of $20,000 to $35,000.

Figure 6
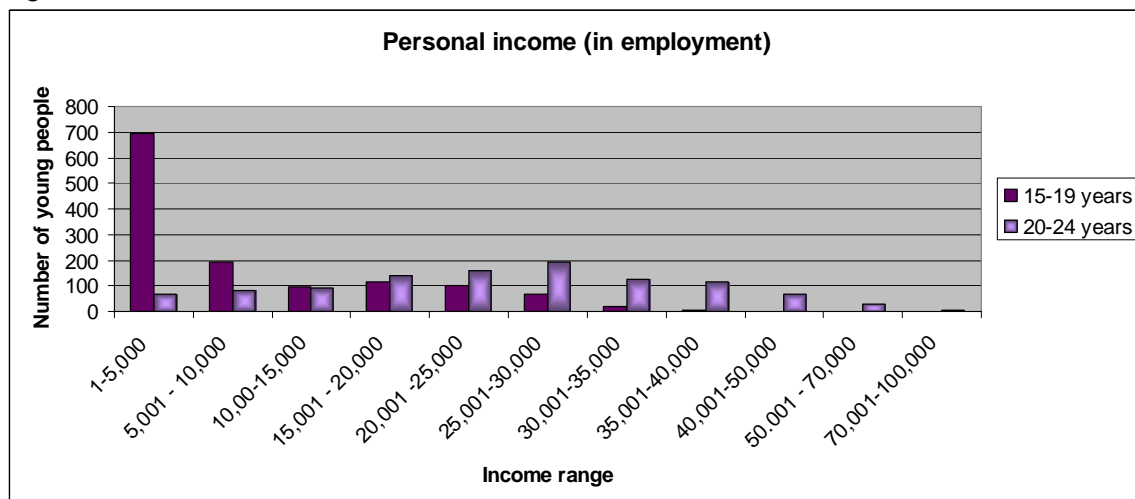
Source: 2006 census data

About 30% of employed 15 -19 year olds were working in either the retail trade or accommodation and 23% were working in food services. Construction was the next likely industry of work (11%). For 20-24 year olds the construction industry was the highest employment (17 %). Since 2006 the economic climate has changed significantly. A 2009 report on 'The impact of the recession on East Coast Youth' highlighted a number of barriers and challenges associated with the current economic environment for young people. These included that young people:

- had a higher uptake of Work and Income benefits than any other age group
- reported difficulties in competing in the labour market due to their age, skills and work experience
- reported instances of employer prejudices towards them, when laying off and recruiting, due to perceived ability to bounce back and the perception that young people don't have the work ethic

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- had moved back 'home' to save costs
- were not maximising their skills and potential

It is unknown to what extent the recession has had an impact on young people living in Kāpiti. It can be assumed that the issues mentioned in the 2009 report are likely to be similar for young people throughout New Zealand including Kāpiti.

Young people and income support
Types and levels of benefits can often be used to identify different types of financial stresses households are experiencing and gauge a particular household's ability to cope with adverse changes in circumstances.

According to the Kāpiti Coast District Community Profile[15], at the end of July 2011 around 20 young people living in Kāpiti under the age of 18 years were receiving some form of income support or supplementary benefit; half were in receipt of the Invalids Benefit.

Information from Work and Income New Zealand shows that in May 2012 649 young people were in receipt of some form of government income support – Table 5.

Table 5 – Young people on income support Kāpiti

Domestic Purposes Benefit -sole parent	Invalids Benefit	Non Beneficiary support	Sickness Benefit	Unemployment Benefit	Other	Total
225	85	55	67	172	45	649

Tenure of households that young people live in

Figure 7 shows percentages of Kāpiti households with youngest child/ren aged 12-17 years in each tenure category renting, own home with a mortgage, own home with no mortgage.

Most (62% or 3,033) households with young people (youngest children) aged between 12 and 17 years owned their home with a mortgage, 21% (1,023) of households rented and 17% (810 households) owned their home with no mortgage. Type of tenure can reduce or enhance a household's degree of financial risk and stability. For example households that own the dwelling they are living in are less likely to move around.

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[15] November 2011, Kāpiti Coast District Community Profile, for the Community Response Model Forum

Figure 7

Tenure of households with youngest aged 12-17 years

- ■ Own home with mortgage
- ■ Own home no mortgage
- □ Rent

21%
17%
62%
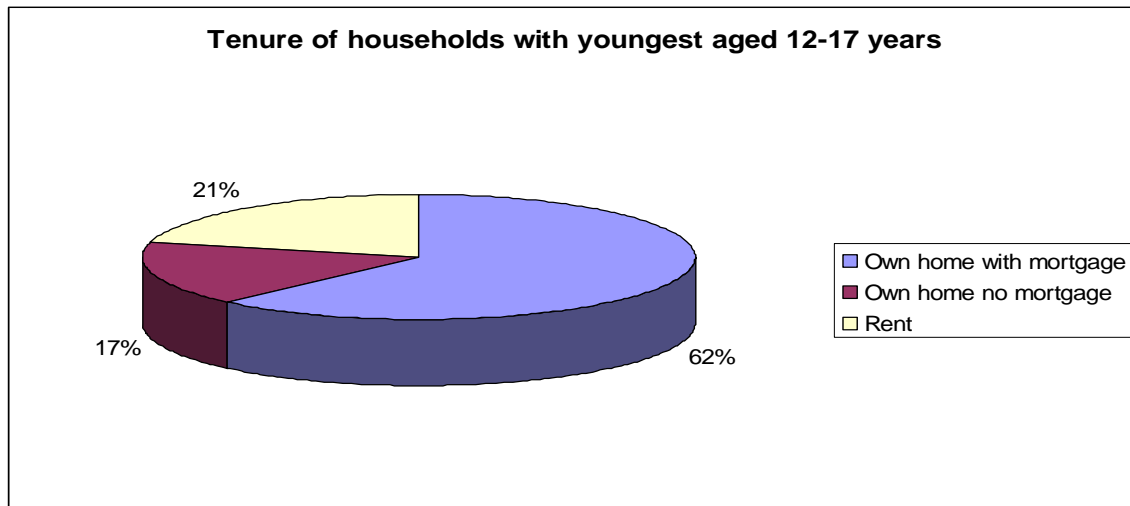
Where does homelessness fit in?

Research both nationally and internationally has identified the social issue of youth homelessness[16]. A number of factors have been identified as forerunners to homelessness, these include unemployment, lack of affordable housing, conflict with family, tenuous living conditions, attitudes towards vulnerable groups, crisis intervention and addictions/substance abuse. These adverse factors have been identified as having disproportionate impacts on young people.

Even though someone has a roof over their heads they can still be homeless. In Kāpiti, there are very few cases of absolute homelessness or people sleeping rough out on the streets. There are no accurate statistics to measure the extent of youth homelessness as they tend to be mobile and are not always visible to services, but cases of informal living arrangements such as 'couch surfing' are anecdotally reported. This is backed up by the 2006 Local Services Mapping Report[17] for Kāpiti that identified emergency housing as a priority community concern, in particular emergency housing for at risk young people.

Marital status of young people

In 2006, 530 young people living in the Kāpiti Coast were in a relationship of some kind. Very few were married. Only 6 young people aged 15 -19 and nearly 100 20-24 year olds were recorded as married. The number living in a de-facto relationship (living together as a couple) was significantly higher. Just over 100 15-19 year olds and 300 20-24 year olds recorded their partnership as de facto. A very small group of 15-19 year olds and 20-24 year olds (15 and 12 respectively) defined their relationships as a civil union partnership or not further defined.

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[16] Emergency Accommodation Scope in Porirua City, 2009, Christine Ben-Tovim
[17] Ministry of Social Development carried out a Local Services Mapping report of Kāpiti

Profile of secondary schools in Kāpiti

In 2006 there were approximately 3,300 secondary school aged children (13-17) living in the District. There are two co-education secondary schools that cater for years 9 to 13. Both these schools feature in the Wellington region's top ten of largest student enrolment numbers for 2012. Paraparaumu College is rated as the 5th largest secondary school while Kāpiti College is in 8th place.

At the northern end of the District, Ōtaki has a co-education secondary school that caters for year 7 to 13. There are also two co-education state Māori immersion schools. Both kura accommodate student levels from year 1 through to 13. The two kura have strong links to the three iwi of the District. Teachings are in te reo Māori and based on tikanga and traditional Māori values unique to this area.

The following table provides an overview of secondary schools in the District.

School	Decile rating	Roll numbers	Ethnic composition	Years	Special features
Kāpiti College Raumati Beach	8	1,102	74% NZ Pākehā 17% Māori 9% other ethnic groups	9-13	A learning urban marae is located at the College
Paraparaumu College Paraparaumu	8	1,257	82% NZ Pākehā 12% Māori 4% Asian 2% Pasifika	9-13	The District's largest secondary school
Ōtaki College Ōtaki	4	428	44% Māori 43% NZ Pākehā 6% Pasifika	7-13	Middle school and secondary school
Te Kura-a-iwi o Whakatupuranga Rua Mano Ōtaki	3	140	100% Māori	1-13	Māori immersion education
Te Kura Kaupapa Māori o Te Rito Ōtaki	3	56	100% Māori	1-13	Māori immersion education

Decile ratings are used for all schools in the country and measure the extent to which the school draws its students from low socio economic communities (1 being the most socio economically deprived and 10 being the least). This rating determines funding and services.

A small number of young people travel out of the District to attend school, though the exact number is unknown. This can be influenced by academic, sporting or religious and cultural features associated with a particular school. There is no single sex or boarding schools in the Kāpiti District. Reikorangi College was the District's only private composite secondary school and this closed in December 2009.

Other forms of education are available for young people in the District that have particular learning requirements, these include:

- Kapi Mana school specialises in special education for young people aged 5 -21 years. The school has a satellite classroom based at Raumati Beach School. This school is specifically for young people with intellectual, physical, emotional and behavioural challenges.

- He Haurahi Tamariki, teen parent unit for mothers –is an education institution for teen mothers to resume their secondary education. This school is located in Tawa and available to all young parents in the area - onsite child care is available as well as extra support.

Paraparaumu College
Paraparaumu College is the District's newest secondary school, opening its doors in 1977. The College has the largest enrollment numbers in the District and is placed the fifth largest College (enrolment numbers) in the wider Wellington region, behind Hutt Valley High School, Wellington, Tawa and Wellington Girls Colleges.

Paraparaumu College Students compare well to the national standards of achievement for NCEA levels. At the end of 2011 Paraparaumu had an 80% and over achievement rate. In 2011, approximately 1300 Paraparaumu College students achieved a NCEA level 1, 2 or 3[18].

Kāpiti College
Kāpiti College first opened in 1954 as Raumati District High school. In 1957 the school changed to its current name. The college has no zoning restrictions and draws students from communities as far south as Porirua and Paremata, placing the College as 8th largest (enrolment numbers) secondary school in the Wellington Region.

The College boasts a number of extra facilities including a college Marae with a functioning whare kai and whare nui (dinning room and meeting house). The new indoor gymnasium is also a significant facility as it is the only seated gym in Kāpiti South. Other extras include film, sound and dance studios.

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[18] Source: New Zealand Qualifications Authority, 2011 Roll based NCEA achievement percentages

Kāpiti College's roll based results for NCEA levels achievement (in 2011) was well above the national average. These results meant the College gained one of the top achievement rates in the Wellington region. In 2011 approximately 1000 students had gained an NCEA level 1, 2 or 3.

Ōtaki College
Ōtaki College is the only middle school and secondary school in the District. The co-education state school caters for years 7-13. All primary schools in the Ōtaki community end at year 6 to accommodate the transition to middle school at Ōtaki College.

The College is the most ethnically and culturally diverse College in the District as the enrollment numbers strongly reflect the demographics of the Ōtaki community. Of the nearly 500 students enrolled at the College 44% are Māori, 43% are Pākehā and 6% are Pasifika. The Education Review Office's report in 2010 stated that at Ōtaki College Māori students remain at school longer and are well supported by whanau and the wider community.

At the end of 2011 over 250 students gained an NCEA level. Māori students achieve better than Māori at comparative schools in NCEA level 1 and 2.

Immersion education
Ōtaki also has two other schools that cater for secondary aged students. Both schools are state co-education immersion education units known as kura, where lessons are taught in te reo Māori and founded in traditional Māori values. Minimal teachings are in English and only available to senior students. This is to assist with kura students' transition into mainstream tertiary education.

Although the kura in Ōtaki have very few secondary aged students when compared to other mainstream secondary schools in the District, all 12 students at Te Kura Kaupapa o te Rito passed NCEA levels 1,2 or3. This meant the kura had a 100% achievement rate. Te Kura-a-iwi o Whakatupuranga Rua Mano had 29 students gain an NCEA level in 2011.

Other education establishments
Skills training and tertiary providers are available to young people on the Kāpiti Coast. Most training providers in Kāpiti subscribe to the 'Youth Guarantee' programme, this scheme is available to school leavers aged 15-17 years who often have not gained NCEA level 1 or 2. The programme is fully funded by the Tertiary Education Commission.

Whitireia Polytechnic, Kāpiti campus offers a range of courses including outdoor education, professional cookery, beauty and hair dressing, office administration and computing and carpentry. The polytechnic also offers free one-year fulltime courses for school leavers aged 16-17. It offers a larger range of courses at its parent campus in Porirua. Studies there include; a certificate in DJ music, live sound and event production, Wakaama and Māori nursing.

Kāpiti Skills is a provider that offers training for work. It provides a 13 week course for Work and Income clients with the purpose of obtaining sustainable employment. Courses are free and offer job placement and workplace experience. Free youth training is also available for school leavers aged 15-17. For these young people the courses

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provide the opportunity to gain NCEA level1 and National Certificate in Employment skills level 1.

Trade and Commerce Wellington (Kāpiti) is a private provider that specialises in skills for work. Participants have the opportunity to gain a Certificate of Achievement in computing, retail, office administration, reception, sales and warehousing.

Te Wananga o Raukawa in Ōtaki is a Māori University of learning that offers tertiary education at certificate, diploma and under and post graduate levels. Courses are founded on traditional Māori values and tikanga. Courses range from Māori arts and design to social work and sport and exercise science.

Public policy and the affects on young people

This section takes a brief look at other factors that impact the financial and education attainment of young people, ultimately affecting life chances and overall social and economic wellbeing.

New Zealand's recent social and economic reforms have had a major impact on families', in particular young people. The global financial crisis has had significant part to play in the Government's approach to fiscal efficiency. The result has been a decrease in youth employment training and support funding. Locally there have been a number of impacts that have included the disestablishment of alternative educator Youth 2Xcel. On the flip side the Government has increased its spend on tertiary institutions. However, Māori and Pasifika young peoples' participation in tertiary institutions are very low compared to other ethnic groups.

Social welfare reform
In 2011, a welfare reform was announced, with the objective to address long term welfare dependency over the next three years. The overhaul will see some considerable changes. The most significant changes will be unemployment benefits limited to one year, an increase of earning threshold for Domestic Purpose Beneficiaries (from $80-$100 per week), cuts to benefits, tightening criteria, introducing payment cards and the expectations of employment for single parents with older children (over six).

Changes in Employment law
In April 2012, an increase in the adult minimum wage was introduced - an increase of 50 cents (from $13.00 the year before) to $13.50 per hour. This equates to $108 for an eight hour day or $540 (gross) for a 40 hour week. This hourly rate applies to anyone over the age of 16 years. For young people over the age of 16 who are doing recognised industry training involving at least 60 credits the hourly rate is $10.80.

The 90 day probation period was introduced in 2010, which allows employees to be dismissed without the right to claim unfair dismissal during the trial period. The law covers businesses with 19 or fewer employers. This law is likely to have the most impact on those young people who are leaving school and entering the workforce for the first time.

What has this meant for local young people?

A recent report[19] has cited that young people aged between 15 and 19 have borne the brunt of the recession and tightening of the job market. Locally the unemployment rate for young people aged 15-24 is about 393 or 13.5%. This is slightly higher than the national average of 13.3%. The Ministry of Youth Development regional facts and stats webpage shows that 11.9% of young people living on the Kāpiti Coast relied on income support from a Government benefit. This percentage was significantly higher than the national average of 8.1%.

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[19] 2012, Salvation Army,The growing divide - a state of the nation report

Kāpiti young people statistics at a glance

Other facts

- There are a number of aspects that influence the way in which we live our lives. Social, cultural, economic and the physical environment are the greatest influences on circumstance, ultimately impacting on:
  - *education;*
  - *employment and income;*
  - *health status;*
  - *living standards; and*
  - *housing conditions.*

- *Poor social and economic circumstances present the greatest threat to a child's growth and development. Parental poverty starts a chain reaction of social risk – that begins at childhood and can lead to low education attainment and in the end a pattern of unemployment and poor job security.*

- *A healthy society involves reducing educational failure and reducing the disparity of income differences. A strong and healthy community enables all citizens to play a full part in social, economic and cultural life.*

- *Alcohol dependence, illicit drug use and cigarette smoking are all closely associated with markers of social and economic disadvantage*

- *Māori youth continue to experience greater disparity in health status, lower income levels, higher unemployment and lower education than non-Māori.*

Area of interest	Youth Indicator	Kāpiti Coast	National Average
Population	Number of people	6,381	N/A
	Percentage of population	14%	19%
Education	Percentage of young people still at school at age 17	**55%**	**61%**
	Rate of school leavers enrolled in tertiary education	**55%**	**63%**
	Percentage of school leavers with NCEA level 2 (or above)	**60%**	**62%**
	Secondary students leaving with little or no formal attainment	**6%**	**5%**
Ability to transition into the labour market	Employment rate	2523 (58%)	(55%)
	Full time employment 15-19 Part time employment 15-19 Full time employment 20-24 Part time employment 20-24	21% 31% 61% 12%	21% 26% 53% 16%
	Unemployment rate	393 13.5%	13.3%

Personal Income	Weekly income Mode income: o 15-19 years $1,000-5,000 o 20-24 years 25,000-30,000	Low income households 17.5%	Low income households 17.5%
	Percent of income from Government transfers	11.9%	6.8%

Appendix 4 - List of interviews

Local Interviews

- Aotea Community Trust
- Kapiti Skills
- Kapiti Youth Support
- Youth Quest
- Whakarongotai Marae Trust
- Paraparaumu College
- Kapiti College
- Local music industry representatives
- Trade and Commerce
- JTD Solutions Ltd
- Police
- Compass Health
- The Centre Church
- The Meadows Church
- Paraparaumu Family Church
- St Patrick's Youth Ministry
- St Paul's Youth Group
- The Kapiti Lighthouse
- Waikanae Baptist Church
- Coast Community Church
- St Luke's Church

Interviews with youth centre/ youth development organisations

- Wanaka Youth Centre, Wanaka
- Rotovegas Youth Centre, Rotorua
- Tararua Community Youth Services, Dannevirke
- BGI, Wellington
- YouthSpace, Palmerston North
- Te Takere Youth Space, Levin

- Challenge 2000, Wellington
- Youthtown, Upper Hutt/ National
- Secret Level, Lower Hutt
- The Truck Youth Service, Nelson
- Zeal, Wellington
- Evolve Youth Health Service, Wellington
- Vibe, Lower Hutt
- Collusion, Upper Hutt
- The Spot Youth Centre, Masterton
- 24/7 Youth work in schools, Wellington/ National
- Carterton Events Centre – Youth Space, Carterton

Appendix 5 - Summary of findings from the social and recreational organisation survey

This survey was undertaken to find out:
- the extent of social and recreational opportunities already available for young people aged 12 to 24 on the Kāpiti Coast through organisations and clubs; and
- how clubs engage with young people including barriers and opportunities for young people.

The range of organisations surveyed included:
- sports
- arts and crafts
- dance, music, drama and theatre
- uniformed groups – e.g. Scouts, Girl Guides
- faith-based
- interests.

The survey was mainly undertaken on line through Survey Monkey, with some telephone and hard copy surveys undertaken.

The survey was divided into two depending on the nature of the organisation – whether they had more or less than 30% young people participate in the organisation's activities.

- 154 surveys sent out, 128 responses received (23 incomplete), however totals based on 128 responses:
- organisations with more than 30% young people (12-24) who participate n=51 (41.46%); and
- organisations with less than 30% young people (12-24) who participate n=72 (58.54%).

The following tables summarises information from the survey, what this means in terms of the initiative and possible areas for additional research.

Number of young people participating	What does this mean?	Areas for further consideration
Organisations 30%+ young people participate **Table below** Organisations >30% young people participate	• Approximately 50% of social and recreational organisations in Kāpiti have more than 30% of young people participating. • There is a strong sporting presence in Kāpiti. • A youth initiative has the opportunity to connect with these groups. • The initiative needs to avoid duplication.	• Identify exact numbers of young people who are involved in activities. • These organisations reflect what is already available. The Youth Survey may indicate if there are activities young people want to be involved in that are not available in the community; also if these organisations are meeting their needs/wants.

Organisations 30%+ young people participate

Type of club	No.	%
Sports	28	57.1
Visual Arts and Crafts	5	10.2
Dance/Music	12	24.5
Drama/Musical Theatre	4	8.2
Uniformed Group (eg Scouts/Girl Guides)	6	12.2
Church Youth Group	6	12.2
Hobby Group	2	4.1
Total Respondents:	**49**	

Organisations >30% young people participate

Type of club	No.	%
Sports	39	70.9
Visual Arts and Crafts	0	0
Dance/Music	14	25.5
Drama/Musical Theatre	4	7.3
Uniformed Group (eg Scouts/GirlGuides)	1	1.8
Church Youth Group	2	3.6
Hobby Group	1	1.8
Total Respondents:	**55**	

Māori involvement:	What does this mean?	Areas for further consideration
• 60% or more of the organisations had less than 10% Māori participants, 80% had less than 20%. • Only one organisation had more than 60 % Māori participation. • The Youth Profile indicates that 21% of young people in the Kāpiti District identify as Māori (this includes Otāki).	• Currently, organisations have limited numbers of Māori engaged. This may suggest that the activities currently available are not relevant to Māori young people or that there are barriers to involvement. • Consideration needs to be given as to how the needs and interests of Rangatahi are being met and how this relates to the youth initiative.	• The Youth Survey may indicate what Rangatahi are interested in and/or involved in. It may identify where they are engaged and why organisations currently have small numbers of Māori involved.
Young people as participants	**What does this mean?**	**Areas for further consideration**
• 85% of organisations required membership or enrolment, 47% allowed casual basis. • Organisations reported young people would be involved for a duration of 2 years or more. (3-5 years = 65%, 2 -3 years 44% and life time 44%. • Involvement in the organisation: 95% became involved through their friends, 84% through siblings, 79% had parents that were involved and 67% indicated that participants started as a child. (Also related to word of mouth – 93.8%). • 95% of organisations noted that their participants were dropped off by parents; 51% indicated young people walk, 44% said young people bike or drive themselves. • Term fees range from $10 to $350 per term, with the average at $60; annual fees between $100 to $350, averaging at $100.	• Activities tend to engage young people for a 'long duration' (a year or more). This requires a certain level of commitment, support, and possibly ability. • Research, and information from this survey, suggests that parental support in sporting and recreational activities is a significant factor in participation. Support can include transportation, payment of fees and associated costs, volunteering and engagement. • Opportunities to 'try out activities may be limited (23 organisations allowed for casual basis involvement) and trying out activities in an environment where others may have had long term engagement can be intimidating.	• For young people whose parents are not interested in activities, or the same activities as they are, may find it challenging to participate and to continue their engagement. • What is the role of parents in the youth initiative?

Why young people leave	What does this mean?	Areas for further consideration
• 71% indicated young people leave the organisation because of a 'change in life circumstances', 57% suggested young people decided it wasn't for them and 56% noted that one reason was young people move. 29% indicated that they leave because their peers do.	• 'Change of life circumstances' excludes the other categories (e.g. grow beyond our range, decide it's not for them) and may include parental divorce, change in peer group, a partner, school activities, etc. • While some organisations may provide the support young people require during these changes, it is not usually their role to do so.	• The Youth Survey explores why young people who have been engaged in an activity stop. • Would the opportunity to engage with a youth worker (e.g. via the initiative) be beneficial?
What may limit involvement	What does this mean?	Areas for further consideration
• Most organisations indicated that 'timing of activity' was the biggest reason. 55% believed young people did not participate because the commitment was too great and 53% said cost was a factor.	• Perhaps there are clashes with other activities young people are involved in (such as part time work, after school activities), or perhaps their parents are unable to drive them if they are working. • This information highlights the need to consider how and when a youth initiative would operate (in terms of timing). It also raises the issue of how to best engage with activities and organisations in the communities.	• The Youth Survey explores what young people do with their time outside of school/training/study and work.

Benefits for young people/youth development	What does this mean?	Areas for further consideration
• Having fun was the greatest benefit (94%), followed by increased confidence (92%), learning skills (90%) and social contact with other young people (88%). The lowest benefit ranked was community involvement (50%). • Pathways for development: Competing (64% n=30), becoming a leader (53% n= 25), teaching others (60% n = 28) • Running of activities: 34 of the organisations stated activities are run in partnership with adults and young people; 27 were run by adults; 8 had activities run by young people (what these models look like e.g. designed by adults, run by young people? Young people initiated? is not clear from the current data).	• Included in the criteria for assessing youth initiative options are the following points: *provide open access space or spaces where young people can feel ownership, where they can undertake their own social, recreational and educational pursuits* *provide opportunities for structured and unstructured activities for young people* • Some organisations may provide these opportunities, but others may need more support to do so. For some organisation, their focus/purpose is on competing or leadership, which may discourage young people from participating.	• The Youth Survey explores the reasons young people are engaged in activities and what their perceived benefits are.
Organisations	**What does this mean?**	**Areas for further consideration**
• 73% would like to have more young people participating in their programmes and activities. 34% believed that the number was about right for them. • Most activities are run during the school term (36 organisations) and during the school holidays (21). • The biggest drop in participation occurred between October and January (inclusive) with the biggest drop in January. There is some drop off in July/August.	• The survey suggests that during December-January there are limited social/recreational activities available for young people to be engaged in. What do young people who are usually engaged in these activities do? What about young people who are not involved? • What role could a youth initiative have in relation to this 'lull' time?	• How could the youth initiative contribute to and involve organisations to assist in young people's participation (where relevant)?

Space and Place	What does this mean?	Areas for further consideration
• 16 organisations have an owned facility where activities take place. 21 organisations hire or rent a space, 15 use a community owned space (e.g. community hall/field) and 3 use another organisation's space for free. • Of those who own their own space, 8 indicated that it was used 80% or more of the time. The other 8 was less than 50% (2 indicated less than 10%). • About 1/3 would access a youth friendly fee space for their activities, another third said 'maybe' and just under a third said 'no'.	• Opportunities to: Explore if those organisations with their own space are appropriate/relevant as a space within the youth initiative. Explore if organisations who hire/rent a space would rent a 'youth friendly space' and if so, what would their requirements be? How would this be perceived by the other users of the space? • Would existing spaces provide open access space or spaces where young people can feel ownership, where they can undertake their own social, recreational and educational pursuits?	
Cost	What does this mean?	Areas for further consideration
• 75% had no financial provision to assist young people in meeting costs, compared with 56% of organisations who had more than 30% young people involved who did. • Very little difference in numbers or organisations' session/membership fee/cost and associated cost between the 30+ and >30.	• For some activities, cost is not necessarily prohibitive to engagement – this information suggests that recognition of a need, and a willingness/ability to support some young people to participate in activities, encourages engagement. This may be reflected in the underlying principles of the organisation and their attitudes towards young people.	

Youth Events	What does this mean?	Areas for further consideration
• The survey identified two youth specific (high youth involvement) events held in Kāpiti: Youth Fest and Youth Week	• Would a youth initiative be involved in more youth specific events?	• Current engagement with young people explores events in the community.

Appendix 6 - Youth work and youth development

The Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa (Ministry of Youth Development 2002) provides the policy framework for a youth development approach in New Zealand. The YDSA is based on six key principles:

- Youth development is shaped by the 'big picture'.
- Youth development is about young people being connected.
- Youth development is based on a consistent strengths-based approach.
- Youth development happens through quality relationships.
- Youth development is triggered when young people fully participate.
- Youth development needs good information.

The Code of Ethics for Youth Work in New Zealand (Ara Taiohi 2011) is strategically aligned with the six principles of the YDSA. Best youth work practice fits within this framework as youth workers play a vital role in supporting young people's positive development.

Several models which support a youth development approach are used by youth workers in youth centres and youth development programming in New Zealand. For the youth initiative to work from a youth development approach aligned with a kaupapa Māori approach, it is important that an internationally recognised model is partnered with a Māori model. The models most commonly used in youth centres and youth organisations working from a youth development approach across the Wellington region are Circle of Courage (Brentro, Brokenleg, & Bockern 2002) and Whare Tapa Wha (Mason Durie 1994).

Youth workers, in partnership with young people, seek to establish positive social settings, warm supportive relationships, processes which facilitate the growth of young people, opportunities which help young people to be all they can be, and to provide a foundation for independent choice, personal autonomy and responsible behaviour. These are settings in which adults believe in young people and where young people feel safe, cared for, valued and appreciated. They create settings and processes that, if managed sensitively by skilled youth workers, can lead to the positive development and enhancement of social and emotional competence of young people.

There are distinct characteristics which sets youth work apart as different than other forms of work with young people. These characteristics define the practice of youth work:

- young people's voluntary participation;
- seeking to tip balances of power in young people's favour;
- responding to expectation that youth work will offer relaxation and fun;
- responding to young people as young people in their own right;
- working on and from young people's 'territory' - literally and all including interests, subcultures, styles and concerns, etc; and
- working via peer networks (Young 2006).

Centre – based youth work

"Effective youth centres share many of the characteristics of successful youth work. In their own right, youth centres are effective when they give young people somewhere to go, something to do, some space of their own, someone to talk to." (Ministry of Youth Development 2010)

Youth development outcomes in youth centres occur through informal and non-formal activities. That is, development takes place in conversations and unstructured background activities, but also takes in structured programmes delivered in youth centres. The core purpose of youth work is about supporting young people's social and personal development. However, the reality is that most young people become engaged with youth work because they are attracted to a youth centre and activities or opportunities offered there. Providing 'sanctuary', a safe space away from the pressures of schooling, family and the streets is also a fundamental element of successful centre based youth work. Initially young people are attracted by the opportunity to take part in activities and a space to 'hang out'. It is after this initial phase they come to realize there is more to youth work than they first thought.

Effective youth work occurs when youth workers provide gateways to achievement for young people via those activities, whether they are structured or unstructured. Many youth centre managers interviewed commented that pathways for young people were key to youth development outcomes. Their 'drop in' times were framed in this context as their youth workers engage with young people hanging out to build relationships, find out their interests, ideas and concerns and build pathways with young people from there.

Appendix 7 - Summary of findings from the youth survey

The survey was conducted as part of the feasibility study for the proposed youth initiative. 1432 young people started the survey of which 1239 completed the survey (87% completion – 193 not completed). Not all sections of the survey were completed by participants (age, gender, ethnicity, residence), which has limited full cross referencing of data. The group who undertook the survey represent approximately 26% of young people aged 12 – 24 years in the South of the District (Census 2006).

Approximately 48% of the survey respondents were male and 52% were female. A majority of the young people who participated in the survey were aged between 13 and 17 years.
The survey respondents comprised of:

- 1227 college students (86% of the survey respondents);
- 109 young people in university/polytechnic or training (UPT) (8% of the survey respondents);
- 54 young people working (4% of the survey respondents); and
- 42 doing something else, like parenting (3% of the survey respondents).

The majority of respondents reside in Paraparaumu (26%), Paraparaumu Beach (25%), Waikanae (16%) Raumati Beach (11%), Raumati South (8%), Waikanae Beach (7%), Otaihanga (3%) and Paekākāriki (3%).

The ethnic groups represented in the survey are:
- NZ European (69%)
- Maori (14%)
- Pacific Island (4%)
- Asian (3%)
- Other (11%) (included British, South African, Australian and European).

The following table show a detailed breakdown of ages and gender of respondents.

Age and Gender of those who completed the survey

	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
13 years	132	23%	119	19%	251	21%
14 years	93	16%	107	17%	200	16%
15 years	140	24%	153	24%	293	24%
16 years	109	19%	118	19%	227	19%
17 years	60	10%	88	14%	148	12%
18 years	19	3%	16	3%	35	3%
19 years	13	2%	13	2 %	26	2%
20 years	6	1%			6	0.5%
21 years	3	0.5%	6	1%	9	1%
22-24 years	9	1.5%	17	3%	26	2%
Total	**584**		**637**		**1221**	

*Please note that percentages have been rounded up

Young people who are involved in organised activities such as teams, groups and clubs

Of respondents, 65% of college students, 44% of young people at work and 37% of young people at university, polytechnic or in training (UPT) were involved in one or more organised activities in their spare time.

Note that respondents could indicate more than one activity
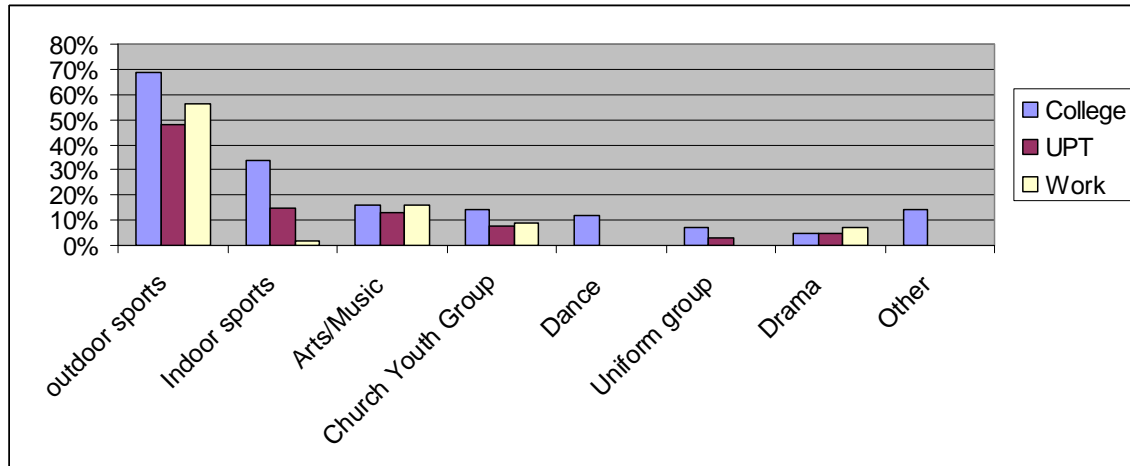
Points to ponder
Outdoor and indoor sports were main organised activity that young people participated in. The survey on social and recreational organisations (clubs survey) indicated that organisations providing sporting activities are the largest recreational group servicing the South of the District. The high percentage of young people involvement in sports may be because of the number of organisations providing this activity. Conversely, high demand may result in a high numbers of organisations.

Main reasons for participation in organised activities (*ranked)

College respondents	Working respondents	UTP respondents
I have fun (91%)	I enjoy it (87%)	I enjoy it (93%)
It keeps me fit (69%)	I get to meet new people (61.5%)	It keeps me fit (64%)
I learn new skills (61%)	It feels good (68%)	I get to hang out with my friends (59%)
I learn new things (57%)	I get to hang out with my friends (59%)	It feels good (57%)
I get to hang out with my friends (56%)	It gives me something to do (59%)	I'm good at it 55%)
	I'm good at it (57%)	I get to meet new people (55%)

Points to ponder

For young people at work and UPT, their activities provide them with opportunity to meet new people and to hang out with their friends. This may be important as being in work/UPT may have moved them from their peer group (friends may be at school, other occupations or learning institutes), their friends may be involved in the same activities.

Having fun/ enjoyment is a key motivator for participating in activities.

For respondents in college, learning new skills and things are important aspects of being involved in an activity. This is also important to consider when establishing a youth initiative (that there are opportunities to provide these things).

Learning new skills and learning new things were ranked highly by 15 year old girls. About 32% of 13 to 15 year old boys are more likely to participate in sports.

There is an approximate 30/70 split in between those who do not participate in activities (30) and those that do (70) in the 13 – 15 year age group. The split is 40/60 (no/yes) beyond this age. This may reflect study and/or work commitments, other responsibilities and possibly more independence (legally able to drive).

Why respondents who already participate in an activity do not participate in more activities (ranked):

College respondents	Working respondents	UTP respondents
I don't have the time (51.5%)	I don't have time (46%)	I don't have the time (34%)
There aren't any clubs for my hobbies and interests (29%)	Costs too much (35%)	Costs too much (34%)
I have other responsibilities (25%)	I have other responsibilities (35%)	I have other responsibilities (32%)
Costs too much (24%)	There aren't any clubs for my hobbies and interests (30%)	There aren't any clubs for my hobbies and interests (18%)

Points to ponder

The four categories listed were the most common reasons for not participating more in activities.

School work, home responsibilities, employment and other regular activities may prohibit their involvement in more organised activities.

Around 30% of respondents in the college and work category felt that there was a lack of clubs/organisations relevant to their interests.

While this group of young people may be too busy to attend regular activities, they may a) participate in activities relating to their interests that are not already catered for and b) participate in one off events for young people that a youth initiative may organise.

Girls' responses were higher for the following categories: 'parents won't let me', 'I have other responsibilities', and 'I cannot afford the equipment' (with the exception of 13 year olds, where this was balanced – this may reflect a higher number of 13 year old males responding to the survey).

Young people who are NOT involved in organised activities such as teams, groups and clubs

Of respondents, 35% of college students, 56% of young people at work and 63% of young people at university, polytechnic or in training (UPT) were not involved in any organised activities in their spare time.

Why those respondents do NOT participate in organised activities.

College respondents	Working respondents	UTP respondents
There aren't any clubs for my interests and hobbies (40%)	I don't have the time (39%)	I don't have the time (38%)
I don't have the time (35.2%)	I have other responsibilities (38%)	There aren't any clubs for my interests and hobbies (31%)
It's not my kind of scene (26.4%)	There aren't any clubs for my interests and hobbies (31%)	Costs too much (30%)
Costs too much (19.5%)	Costs too much (22%)	I have other responsibilities (27%)

Points to ponder
Time, cost and relevance (to their hobbies/interests) are the main things that prevent young people from participating. Over 30% of respondents in all the categories felt that there was a lack of clubs/organisations relevant to their interests, in particular, college students (40%).

Respondents who do NOT participate in organised activities who have gone along to an organised activity but not continued.

Of those respondents who did not participate in organised activities, 58% of college students, 56% of young people at work and 50% of young people at university, polytechnic or in training (UPT) had gone along to an organised activity but had not continued.

Their reasons for not continuing were: (ranked)

College respondents	Working respondents	UTP respondents
Didn't like it much (63%)	Didn't like it much (43%)	Didn't like it much (43%)
Wasn't my kind of scene (26%)	Wasn't my kind of scene (29%)	Wasn't my kind of scene (21%)
I wasn't very good at it (21%)	Takes too much time (33%)	Costs too much (16%)
Takes too much time (19%)	Costs too much (18.4%)	Takes too much time (16%)

Points to ponder
The data suggests young people will try new things (to see if it's them).
Cost continues to be a factor in considering involvement in activities, particularly for girls.
Young males who are not involved in activities three main reasons were: I didn't like it much, I wasn't very good at it and none of my friends do it.
Girls who are not involved in activities indicated "there is no one I could relate to" more often than other groups.
More girls (41) than boys (17) indicated: "I feel embarrassed, shy or nervous".

Hobbies and Interests
We asked young people to write down their 'top three hobbies and interests'.

Total responses for hobbies
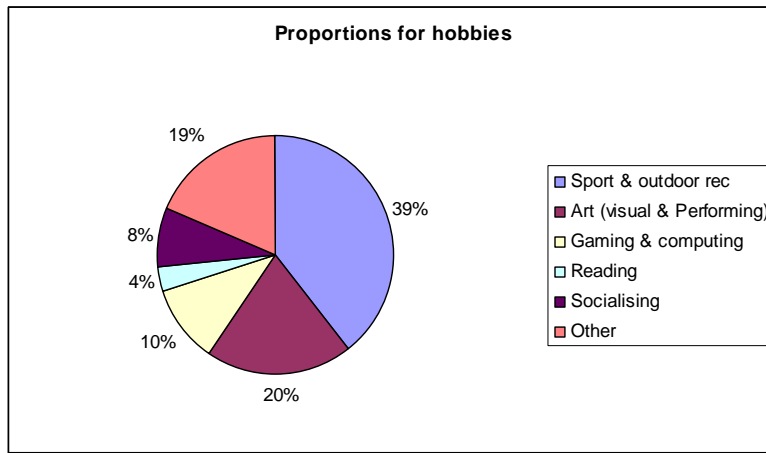
'Other' category included movies, animals, cooking and motor vehicles. In the 'sport' section, some respondents just listed 'sports'. The highest named sport was football, followed by netball, gym and rugby. The category referred to as socialising included hanging out with friends, youth group and social media. The survey does not indicate which 'hobbies' are part of 'organised activities' and which are outside of these.

Things young people would like to have in the community related to their hobbies/interests (ranked)

	College involved	College not involved	Work	UPT
Places where I can do my hobbies/ interests with other young people	62.7%	59.6%	55.1%	53.2%
Access to free equipment to help me with my hobbies/interests	55.7%	47.6%	42.9%	48.6%
Support from adults who know lots about my hobbies/interests	34.6%	25.5%	16.3%	26.6%
Support from other young people who know lots about my hobbies/interests	27.8%	20.3%	18.4%	21.1%
Free classes/workshops to try different things	48.7%	49.3%	44.9%	49.5%
Places to practice my hobbies/interests (i.e.. band practice)	45.0%	31.2%	42.9%	27.5%
Help connecting with other people with the same hobbies/interests	23.7%	24.9%	26.5%	33.9%
I need something else (please specify)	7.5%	7.2%	14.3%	9.2%
Ranking:	**1**	**2**	**3**	**4**

*Ranking indicates which categories had the largest proportion of responses, 1 = the most and white represents the fewest.

Points to ponder
All groups indicated that they would like places where they can do their hobbies/interests with other young people. Having a place or places where they can be with other young people is important to young people.

Free classes/workshops to try new things are important, as is access to free equipment for activities. Access to free equipment was more important for young people already participating in activities.

While not necessarily rated as a key reason why they do not participate in activities, cost can be prohibitive to young people who want to try something new. Other comments included access to free Wi-Fi.

Young people would like more places to practise hobbies/interests.

While there are spaces in the community that young people can utilise, these may have costs associated with them, or may not be readily available. They may also be places young people do not feel comfortable in, are difficult to access, or not on young people's 'radar'.

Young people who are working or at UPT indicated they would like help connecting with others who have the same interests.

Connecting with others was more important for those outside of college, perhaps reflecting a desire to expand networks beyond study/work environment. |

The main places young people spend time outside of their home

Young people at college spent most time out side of their house hanging out at a mates' house.
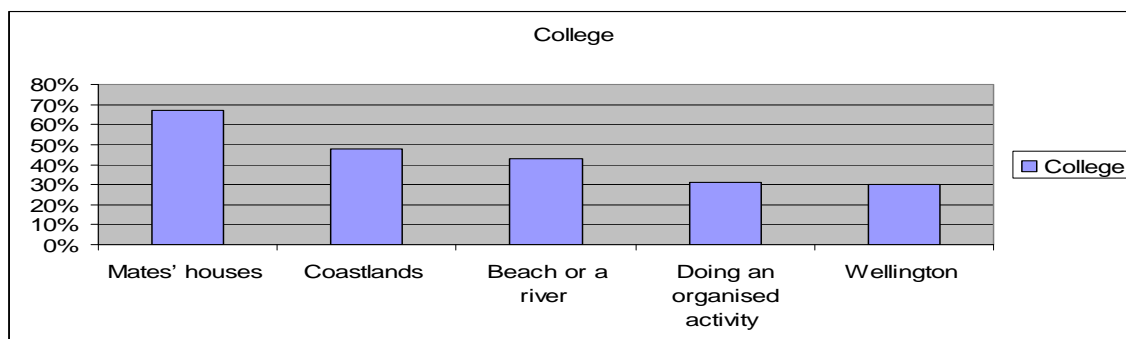
The information in the survey shows that overall more girls spent time at Coastlands than boys. Girls who participated in activities, 51% indicated they spend time at Coastlands; 51% also spend time in organised activities.

More girls went to Wellington than boys in all age categories, except 13 year olds (equal).

College respondents	Working respondents	UTP respondents
Mates' houses (67%) Coastlands (48%) Beach or a river (43%) Doing an organised activity (31%) Wellington (30%)	The top four places Working and UPT respondents spent time at were: - mate's houses - Coastlands - beach or a river - Wellington	

Points to ponder
The perception that young people in Kāpiti 'hang out' in the mall is reflected in this survey. The beach or river is a popular location for young people to be (relevant to youth initiative when considering where activities could be organised). The survey does not explain 'why' young people are spending time in these places (focus groups expand on this). What is available for young people to 'do' outside of organised activities? College aged young men (who did participated in organised activity) were most likely to spend time at: - mates' houses,   - beach/river   - organised activities.   College aged young men (who did NOT participate in organised activity) were most likely to: - do my own thing   - mates' houses   - get bored.

What young people do in the school holidays and their free time (for those working)?

(ranked)

College respondents *(what do you do in the school holidays?)*	Working respondents *(what do you do in your free time?)*	UTP respondents *(what do you do in your free time?)*
Spend time with my friends (75%)	Spend time with friends (65%)	Spend time with friends (58%)
Do my own thing (65.5%)	Do my own thing (58%)	Do my own thing (58%)
Spend time with my family (55%)	Spend time with family (46%).	Spend time with family (49%)
Go to Wellington quite a bit (37%)		Go to parties (40%)

Points to ponder
For all groups of young people, spending time with friends, family and doing their own thing, are the main activities. In the school group, going to Wellington was rated highly particularly by young women.

How young people would find out if an activity they wanted to try was available in their area?

Data	Points to ponder
Top three responses 		College	Work	UPT
---	---	---	---
Ask friends	71%	70%	70%
Google it	57%	54%	59%
Facebook it	42%	48%	47%		Young people at work and UPT ranked look in the newspaper (46% 40%) as the fourth method. College young people ranked waiting until they heard about something (38%) or heard about it through the school notices (38%) above the newspaper (25%) A youth initiative will need to consider the ways young people currently access information about activities and events. Word of mouth is the most common and internet methods popular. The newspaper is a useful medium for those outside of school.

How young people feel about themselves

Young people were asked to indicate which statements related to them. Below is a table for the college students respondents. There was limited data for the working and UTP respondents for this section.

College aged respondents

	Those involved in organised activities	Those NOT involved in organised activities	No involvement in activities		Involvement in activities	
			Boys	**Girls**	**Boys**	**Girls**
I like school	44.8%	29.5%	25.9%	33.3%	40.3%	49.3%
I do well at school	53.1%	39.5%	34.1%	45.0%	49.9%	56.4%
I want to go to Uni or Polytech when I leave school	55.5%	50.0%	42.9%	57.2%	47.8%	63.1%
I don't know what I want to do when I leave school	29.0%	28.1%	22.9%	32.8%	24.5%	32.5%
My parents are supportive	69.2%	57.4%	47.6%	67.2%	62.4%	75.9%
I get lonely	10.7%	17.3%	15.9%	18.9%	7.5%	13.8%
There is no problem paying for things for me to do	22.9%	19.6%	15.9%	23.3%	23.0%	23.0%
I have a job	25.4%	20.5%	13.5%	27.2%	20.9%	29.5%
I know where to go to get help	35.2%	22.2%	18.2%	26.1%	31.3%	39.0%
I don't get bored much	22.9%	11.6%	11.2%	12.2%	25.4%	20.6%
I have easy access to a car to get me around	27.4%	21.9%	17.6%	26.1%	23.9%	30.9%
I am a confident and outgoing person	42.2%	24.1%	14.7%	32.8%	35.8%	48.2%
I have friends	90.3%	79.0%	72.9%	85.0%	87.8%	92.4%
I like trying new things	58.5%	35.2%	28.8%	41.7%	53.7%	63.1%
After school and weekends I am busy doing things I want to do	56.6%	35.2%	27.6%	42.2%	52.8%	60.2%
None of the above	1.3%	2.8%	5.9%	0.0%	1.8%	0.8%

Points to ponder
In general, those who participate in an organised activity outside of school tended to like school and do well at it, feel their parents are supportive, have friends, like to try new things, and feel confident and outgoing more than those college aged students who do NOT participate in an organised activity. At least half the respondents in each of these categories like to try new things. Boys' responses (both involved and not involved in activities) tended to be lower than girls'. Participating in activities may contribute to more positive responses in young people, however it may also be possible that young people who are positive seek opportunities to be involved in other things (cause and effect cannot be determined, but are related). Researching literature on self-esteem/attitudes in young people and gender differences may provide further insight to this (is this average/normal or particular to Kāpiti?) Girls not involved in activities also provided more responses than boys in the same category. 75% of respondents believe paying for things is difficult. Cost will be something to consider in the youth initiative. Girls who participate in activities had the highest responses to the positive statements (in particular having friends, confidence, wanting to further their education and doing things they want to)

If you were having a problem, is there an adult you would feel OK talking with?

College respondents	Working respondents	UTP respondents
82.3% of young people at college indicated there is an adult they feel OK talking with; Of those respondents, the adult they would talk with were; A parent/caregiver 80% An adult family member 43% An adult family friend 33% A teacher 25% A counsellor 23% A coach 17% A youth worker 13%	78% of working respondents and 87% of UTP respondents indicated they have an adult they can talk with. The results were similar for young people at work and the top three responses were the same as for college aged respondents.	

Points to ponder

This is likely to reflect whom young people have access to. Young people in the District are unlikely to know what a youth worker is or have had experience talking with a youth worker as there are very few youth workers in the District. Other adults such as work colleagues were not included on the survey.

Appendix 8 - Summary of findings from focus groups

Twelve focus groups with a variety of young people aged 14 – 22 years have been conducted as a part of the Youth Initiative Feasibility Study. The focus groups covered a wide range of young people in terms of their age, ethnicity, gender, social groups, place of residence (south of the District), occupation and interests (including young people attending a training course, young mothers, college students and young people with special needs).

**Young people who participated in the focus groups (in general):**

- Spend time at: the beach, Coastlands, doing organised activities, working, study, Porirua, Wellington, their mates' houses and youth group.

- Generally get about by walking (particularly female respondents), bike, bus/train and some have access to cars

- Found that train/buses were costly and not always convenient

- Said good places to be included Paraparaumu Beach, Marine Gardens (young mothers in particular, they also spent time at the Library, while other young people did not), youth group, Coastlands, Waikanae Pools.

- Some were hopeful that the new aquatic centre would provide a space for them to be.

- Said places where they did not feel safe/were not good to go to: walking in the streets at night, Paraparaumu Railway station at night (it's dark, there are people loitering, not well lit), Kapiti Lights (because of recent history), skate park in Waikanae, the Mall (some young people did not like Coastlands), Makarini Street, and Ōtaki. The Track down Kāpiti Road and behind the airport) was also mentioned.

- Do not want to go where the 'little kids' are (those who are 12-13 and younger).

- While they liked events, did not feel events are specifically for 'young adults'. Some felt 'youth events' attracted 'little kids'.

- Some felt that the focus in Kāpiti was more for old people (Waikanae in particular); there was nothing provided for young people.

- Many focus group participants commented that they hang out at their mates' houses and Coastlands, because 'what else is there to do?' Things that are available are the movies and ten-pin bowling, but these are expensive.

- Coastlands was seen to be a 'neutral space' (not owned/taken over by particular groups). Some felt they could 'hang out' there but do not want to be where they feel a need to buy things. There was recognition of 'Mall rats' (young people who hang out at the Mall from open to closing time. They are different to older people who may 'window shop' for a few hours and then go home). Some viewed this negatively, others described themselves as Mall Rats.

Point to ponder: What places/spaces are available in our community that provide young people with a safe place to 'hang out' and be with other young people, that do not expect them to be a 'client, consumer or criminal'; and that young people feel they have ownership over?

Feedback on youth initiative ideas

Note that some of the comments reflect young people's interpretation of how the models may work

a) Clubs Based Initiative
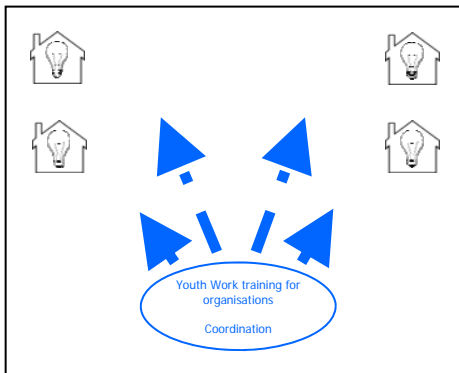
- Good to use existing resources and opportunities to learn new things such as sport.

- Could be hard to get to different activities.

- Less collaboration among groups in the community; spread demographically and geographically.

- One offs might be good, but have a limited life span – once a young person had experienced something, may not go back there; some young people could not commit to something regularly every week.

- Ongoing and associated costs prohibitive.

- No continuity (in activities)_ and also concern if an organisation had 'trained' someone in youth development, that person may a) be more interested in the activity than real youth development and b) what happens if that person leaves?

- No youth ownership – activities are not youth owned or led, not necessarily specifically for youth.

- Young people wouldn't go to a club to meet a youth worker.

- Young people want to be in the same space as their friends – friends have different sporting interests, so they wouldn't necessarily all be in the same space.

- Does not address the issue of 'space' – this model is about activities and young people want to have a place where they can do their own thing. A venue or space for young people is not addressed in this model.

- Young Māori who participated in focus groups and are involved with Kapa Haka indicated a high level of involvement is required (including regular weekend training).

- Young people who reside outside of Paraparaumu (e.g. Paekākāriki or Waikanae) will meet in Paraparaumu (Coastlands)

Points to ponder: Young people in focus groups indicated that they would definitely be interested in trying new activities, but felt that the Clubs idea does not address their desire for a space they can call their own, to do activities they want to do and initiate.

b) Mobile Service with/ without Mobile Space (Bus)
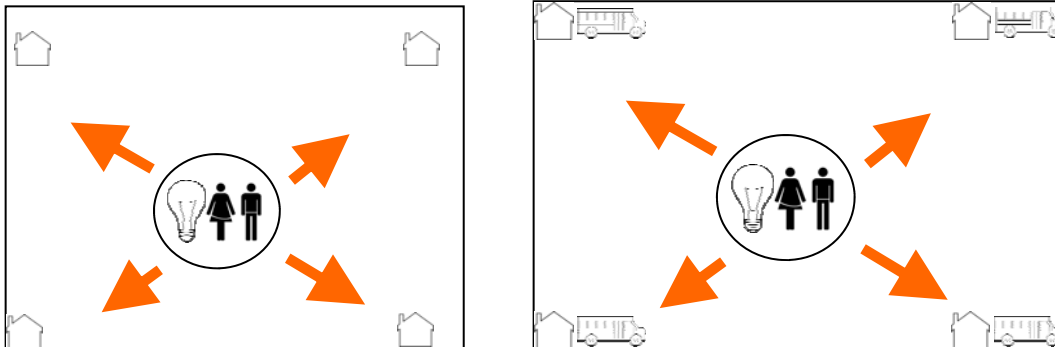
- Young people thought this would be events focused and questioned where 'gigs' might be held.

- May not be easy to get to events.

- Some young people liked the idea of a mobile space that would come to where they were in the community, or provide a youth 'presence' at a youth event.

- Many focus group participants initially interpreted the model as having a 'transport' component (to take them from one place/space to another). Having transport to get young people to different community locations of the mobile service was seen as more important than a mobile space such as a bus.

- Harder to access – you might not be in the area when it comes to e.g. Paekākāriki and miss out; don't want to have to follow the bus/van around.

- Needs to go to a 'neutral space' (like Coastlands) – if it goes to Kaitawa, then Kaitawa people will go there – it's less inclusive and young people will stick to their own areas and not mix.

- Still need transport to get to the mobile service as it moves around the District.

- No continuity, more for events (which are one offs and more for little kids).

- Easy to forget where and when it is (where would it go?)

- Great in summer, but a bit limited in winter.

- Need for stability – know that something is always available in the same place (also important for parents).

- Could be an interim solution, but it says "we can't afford a space, so we'll come to you".

- Mobile Space: Questions about size limitations – would it hold enough young people? Could you have a dance in it? Where would you go to the toilet?

Points to ponder: Focus group members were excited about the possibility of a bus/van to take them to places, both within the community and outside of it, is this a need?

c) Central Youth Space Idea
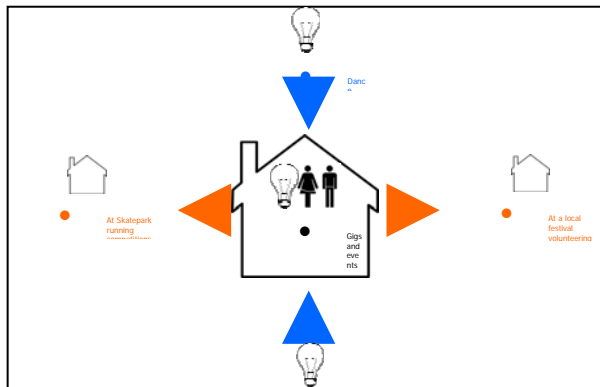
- Space owned by young people and supported by youth workers.

- Youth led, youth doing it for youth (like a youth lounge/youth café).

- Don't call it a 'youth centre' (that's for little kids), its identity needs to be built up by young people.

- A space where we can do our own thing, not just be 'occupied'.

- It would be great to have an outdoor space.

- Near Coastlands and not over the tracks.

- Young mums didn't want just 'young mums' getting together, but an opportunity to be with other young people.

- Gives stability.

- Connected to the community.

- Great to be able to try out stuff, even if you didn't like it, you could try it.

- Needs to be free, but pay for some things like café – which should be affordable.

- Young people liked the idea of having a mobile space/service connected with a physical space to provide a community presence and go to different locations/activities.

- Young people were concerned with: the importance of respect (each other/and the space), they discussed ways of monitoring the space and equipment; costs, providing good equipment and being drug/alcohol free.

- Some young people also noted that it would take time to build up. They suggested that over a generation of young people (who are year 9 now), within three to five years, the space gains status and older young people given responsibility. Different ages/groups could meet on different days or times.

- Could include a café, recording studio, dance studio, flexible space (hang out space that could be changed into a movie theatre or something else); a house with multiple spaces for different groups/activities.

- Young people liked the idea of having a centralised physical space for them to be, with opportunities to engage with other groups and organisations in the community (both within the physical space and outside it). A two way relationship.

- They also liked the idea of a physical space that went to the community (for those who might not be able to get to the centre, or going to places where young people are (e.g. at the skatepark, running a competition there; at the beach doing volleyball etc).

Thoughts around a location/ position of a youth space

- Standalone space was the most preferred option – concerns that if in a shared space, young people would be bound by the constraints of (older) other people.

Shared space – e.g. A community centre with a youth space:

- No ownership of young people.

- Limitations on young people's behaviour.

- We need our own space, everything here is for adults.

Shared space with other youth related services (e.g. health service, training services)

- Some felt there would be a stigma attached to having a youth space with a health service and were concerned about privacy; others thought that there would be benefits and that shame/embarrassment could be managed.

- A youth space should be about being fun and not so serious (like a counselling service), but should be a place where you can find out about those things.

- Some young people stated that having a strong relationship with other services was important (being able to connect with and have access to).

- Being within walking distance to other services would be useful.

Shared space with existing facilities (e.g. library model)

- Most focus group members did not like the idea of a shared space with the library – this was not a space they used/hung out in.

- Too many constraints (rules about being quiet and certain behaviour).

- Time constraints in regards to opening hours and access.

- Not suitable for youth related activities.