

Chairperson and Committee Members
STRATEGY & PLANNING COMMITTEE

2 FEBRUARY 2017

Meeting Status: **Public**

Purpose of Report: For Decision

YOUTH ACTION PLAN 2016 - 2018

PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1 This Report seeks the Committee's endorsement of the *Kāpiti Youth Action Plan 2016 – 2018 (Action Plan)*. It seeks a commitment to work in partnership with the Youth Council to achieve the goals of the Action Plan.

DELEGATION

- 2 The Committee has the delegation to consider this matter under Section B.1 of the Governance Structure and Delegations.

BACKGROUND

- 3 The Action Plan outlines the joint commitments the Council and the Youth Council propose to make to young people in the District aged 12 – 24 years of age until 2018. These commitments respond to the key findings raised in the Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey 2015/16 (Youth Survey).
- 4 The Youth Survey captured the experiences and opinions of over 15 percent of the youth population aged between 12 – 24 years.
- 5 The key findings of the Youth Survey were that:
 - young people feel connected to whanau, family and their community.
 - those in secondary school feel engaged and successful at school.
 - young people feel happy at home and positive about their future.
 - young people are working or want to work.
 - young people's financial support defines what opportunities they can access.
 - some young people are unsupported, face many barriers and are unsure about their future.
 - young people continue to struggle with transport options.
- 6 The Youth Council will discuss findings of the Youth Survey in a workshop prior to the Strategy and Planning Committee meeting on 2 February 2017.
- 7 The role of the Youth Council is to advocate for young people's needs to the Council and deliver their commitments under the Action Plan.

ISSUES AND OPTIONS

Issues

- 8 The Action Plan seeks to improve the quality of life for young people living in the District. It also seeks benefits through increased youth participation in decision-making in core Council business.
- 9 The Action Plan outlines the commitments the Council and the Youth Council will make to address issues raised in the Youth Survey. It provides actions for the financial year 2016/17 to progress towards the goals of the Action Plan.
- 10 The goals of the Action Plan are:
 - GOAL 1: Communities which are safe for and supportive of our diverse youth communities
 - GOAL 2: A Council which values and listens to its young people
 - GOAL 3: A District which has youth friendly spaces and places
 - GOAL 4: A District where there is lots for young people to do
 - GOAL 5: A District which supports strong positive youth development
- 11 To ensure the Youth Council is supported to fulfil its role and achieve tasks under the Action Plan, the Council will continue to:
 - provide a Councillor as a support person and champion for the Youth Council.
 - provide a 20 hour programme support staff member.
 - keep the Youth Council updated with information about Council priorities and initiatives of relevance to young people.
 - ensure a budget for the Youth Council to meet basic administrative costs.
- 12 The Action Plan contributes to Council's vision of a vibrant, diverse and thriving Kāpiti. It contributes specifically to the Long Term Plan 2015 outcomes of strong partnership, democracy through community participation and resilient community.
- 13 The Action Plan focuses on actions to be undertaken solely by the Council and Youth Council. It does not involve or consider direct actions by central government or non-government organisations on youth development, youth health or other youth related outcomes in the District.
- 14 The Youth Council manages the content, advancement and structure of the Action Plan in partnership with the Council. Any suggested changes by the Committee will need to go to the Youth Council for discussion and further action.
- 15 It is intended that the Action Plan will be reviewed in 2018 in line with the Long Term Plan.

Option 1

- 16 The Youth Action Plan is endorsed by Council and the Council and Youth Council work together to achieve the goals of the Action Plan.

Option 2

- 17 The Council does not endorse Youth Action Plan and recommends changes to the Action Plan.

CONSIDERATIONS

Policy considerations

- 18 The Youth Action Plan 2016 - 2018 replaces the Youth2U Action Plan 2011.

Legal considerations

- 19 There are no legal considerations related to this matter.

Financial considerations

- 20 Projects under the Action Plan will be funded from the existing Youth Support budget, totalling \$70,000 per annum. Administrative support for the Youth Council is funded from other existing budgets.

Tāngata whenua considerations

- 21 The Youth Council has a partnership with the rangatahi māori group Te Puawaitanga o Ngā Kakano. Ngā Kakano members were involved in the Youth Survey and engaged in the development of the Action Plan.
- 22 The Youth Council will present the Action Plan to Te Whakaminenga o Kāpiti once the Action Plan has been endorsed by Council.

SIGNIFICANCE AND ENGAGEMENT

Degree of significance

- 23 This matter has a low level of significance under Council policy.

Consultation already undertaken

- 24 The Action Plan is a response to the key findings of the Youth Survey.
- 25 The survey captured the voices of over 15 percent of the youth population aged between 12 – 24 years. Most of the survey respondents were aged between 12 – 18 years of age. The survey respondents were representative of young people across the district.
- 26 The Action Plan has been developed as a youth led project. A team of Youth Council members representing the diversity of the group led the development of the Action Plan.
- 27 The Action Plan also incorporates young people's experiences and opinions that were not captured through the Youth Survey. In particular, young people aged 18- 24 years were not well represented in the Youth Survey and engaged subsequently through focus groups and interviews.

Engagement planning

- 28 Engagement is focused on informing the community about the Action Plan.

Publicity

- 29 A youth friendly version of the Action Plan will be published and promoted to young people through social media and will be available on the Council website. This will provide young people with a clear message of how the Council and the Youth Council are responding to the key findings from the Youth Survey.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 30 That the Committee endorses the *Youth Action Plan 2016-2018* attached as Appendix 1 to Report SP-17-101.

Report prepared by	Approved for submission	Approved for submission
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ATTACHMENT

Appendix 1: Youth Action Plan 2016-2018

APPENDIX 1**YOUTH ACTION PLAN 2016 – 2018**

The Action Plan outlines the joint commitments the Council and the Youth Council make to young people in the District aged 12 – 24 years of age. The Action Plan seeks to improve the quality of life for young people living in the District. It also seeks benefits for the District through increased youth participation in decision-making in core Council business.

The goals for 2016 – 2018 are:

GOAL 1: Communities which are safe for and supportive of our diverse youth communities

GOAL 2: A Council which values and listens to its young people

GOAL 3: A District which has youth friendly spaces and places

GOAL 4: A District where there is lots for young people to do

GOAL 5: A District which supports strong positive youth development

The Youth Council manages the content, advancement and structure of the Action Plan in partnership with the Council. Each year the Youth Council direct their programme of work to progress towards the overall outcomes and goals of the Action Plan.

The Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey 2015/16 and other information sourced by the Youth Council informs the goals and aims of the Action Plan. The Youth Survey captured the views of over 15% of our youth population. A majority of survey respondents were secondary school aged and additional information was sourced from young people aged 19 – 24 through other research projects and focus groups.

The key findings of the Kāpiti Coast Youth Survey 2015/16

- young people feel connected to whanau, family and their community
- those in secondary school feel engaged and successful at school
- young people feel happy at home and positive about their future.
- young people are working or want to work
- young people's financial support defines what opportunities they can access
- some young people are unsupported, face many barriers and are unsure about their future.
- young people continue to struggle with transport options.

Goals and Aims**GOAL 1: Communities which are safe for and supportive of our diverse youth communities**

Young people want safe and healthy communities which respect and include young people. Communities where adults and young people respect each other, where cultural diversity is celebrated.

The Youth Council aims to:

- Encourage initiatives that provide opportunities for young people to volunteer
- Support community initiatives which strengthen young people's cultural identities
- Increase options for young people to access safe lifestyles
- Increase young people's feeling of safety in the District

Council aims are to:

- Make sure the spaces, places and routes young people use are safe and accessible
- Advocate for good and safe public transport which meets the needs of young people
- Encourage organisations working with young people to work together
- Promote positive youth development stories in the District

GOAL 2: A Council which values and listens to its young people

Local government decisions have a significant impact on young people and their lives and young people want to contribute to decision-making. Good youth participation in Council decision-making processes can improve the quality of services received by young people now and in the future.

The Youth Council aims to:

- Keep young people informed about our work through a range of methods
- Ensure consultation is inclusive of the wide diversity of young people in the District
- Connect with community organisations and schools to stay in touch with young people's needs and interests
- Advocate for young people's needs through formal and informal Council processes

Council aims to:

- Ensure good communication is maintained between the youth council and Council
- Continue to resource and support the Youth Council to ensure its sustainability and effectiveness
- Provide opportunities for young people to have their say on key council projects and decision-making which affects young people's lives

GOAL 3: A District which has youth friendly spaces and places

Community places and spaces such parks, pools and beaches are important for young people. The development of the youth centre and its mobile services will provide youth development opportunities for young people across the District. The youth centre will provide a second 'home' for young people and activities held in community places will strengthen young people's connection to them.

The Youth Council aims to:

- Continue to actively prioritise the establishment of the Youth Development and mobile services
- Ensure young people are able to have a say on changes to community spaces
- Identify places where young people are seen as an issue and develop projects to build community

Council aims to:

- Support mobile activities of the Youth Development Centre delivered in our parks and open spaces
- Improve the accessibility of public spaces to young people
- Strengthen young people's interest in our indoor and outdoor community spaces

GOAL 4: A District where there is lots for young people to do

Young people want meaningful activities to engage in. They want paid employment and need help to find work at times. They want to get creative and try new things. Cost is a barrier for many young people and low cost and free opportunities are needed.

The Youth Council aims to:

- Support community activities for young people which are free and accessible to all young people
- Facilitate activities to celebrate National Youth Week on an annual basis
- Provide and support community projects which engage young people in learning and expressing themselves through creative means

Council aims to:

- Support Youth Council initiatives which showcase young people's skills and talents
- Ensure young people are involved in consultation on recreational, art and cultural facilities in the District
- Increase the number of free and low cost activities for young people to do in Council places and spaces

GOAL 5: A District which supports strong positive youth development

Young people need lots of help as they face the issues, challenges and opportunities of growing up. Positive youth development is a process which we can contribute to, helping young people reach their full potential.

The Youth Council aims to:

- Support the youth development activities delivered through the Youth Development Centre
- Advocate for the Council to contribute more to young people's employment journey
- Partner with other youth organisations to pursue youth development goals for young people

Council aims to:

- Advocate to central government for appropriate resourcing for youth needs in the District
- Work with government and non-government organisations to ensure good provision of services for young people across the district
- Support the development of skilled people to work with young people

Other documents that have informed this Action Plan include:

- Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa (Ministry of Youth Development) 2002
- State of the Nation (Salvation Army) 2016
- Social Report 2016 (Ministry of Social Development)