
Te Pae Pūkari Youth Advisory Committee

AGENDA

Notice of Meeting:

An ordinary meeting of the Te Pae Pūkari Youth Advisory Committee will be held on:

Date: **Wednesday 1 December 2021**

Time: **4.30pm**

Venue: **Held by Audio/Video Link**

Under the provisions of Alert Level 2 members of the public who wish to attend the meeting may request to do so via audio/video link. Please contact the Committee & Hearings Advisor simone.gordon@ccc.govt.nz. Please note that numbers are limited.

Membership

Chairperson	Councillor Anne Galloway
Deputy Chairperson	Councillor Jake McLellan
Members	Councillor Melanie Coker
	Councillor Yani Johanson
	Selwyn Gamble
	Mia Sutherland
	Micah Heath

26 November 2021

Principal Advisor

John Filsell
Head of Community Support,
Governance & Partnerships
Tel: 941 8303

Simone Gordon
Committee and Hearings Advisor
941 6527
simone.gordon@ccc.govt.nz
www.ccc.govt.nz

Note: The reports contained within this agenda are for consideration and should not be construed as Council policy unless and until adopted. If you require further information relating to any reports, please contact the person named on the report.

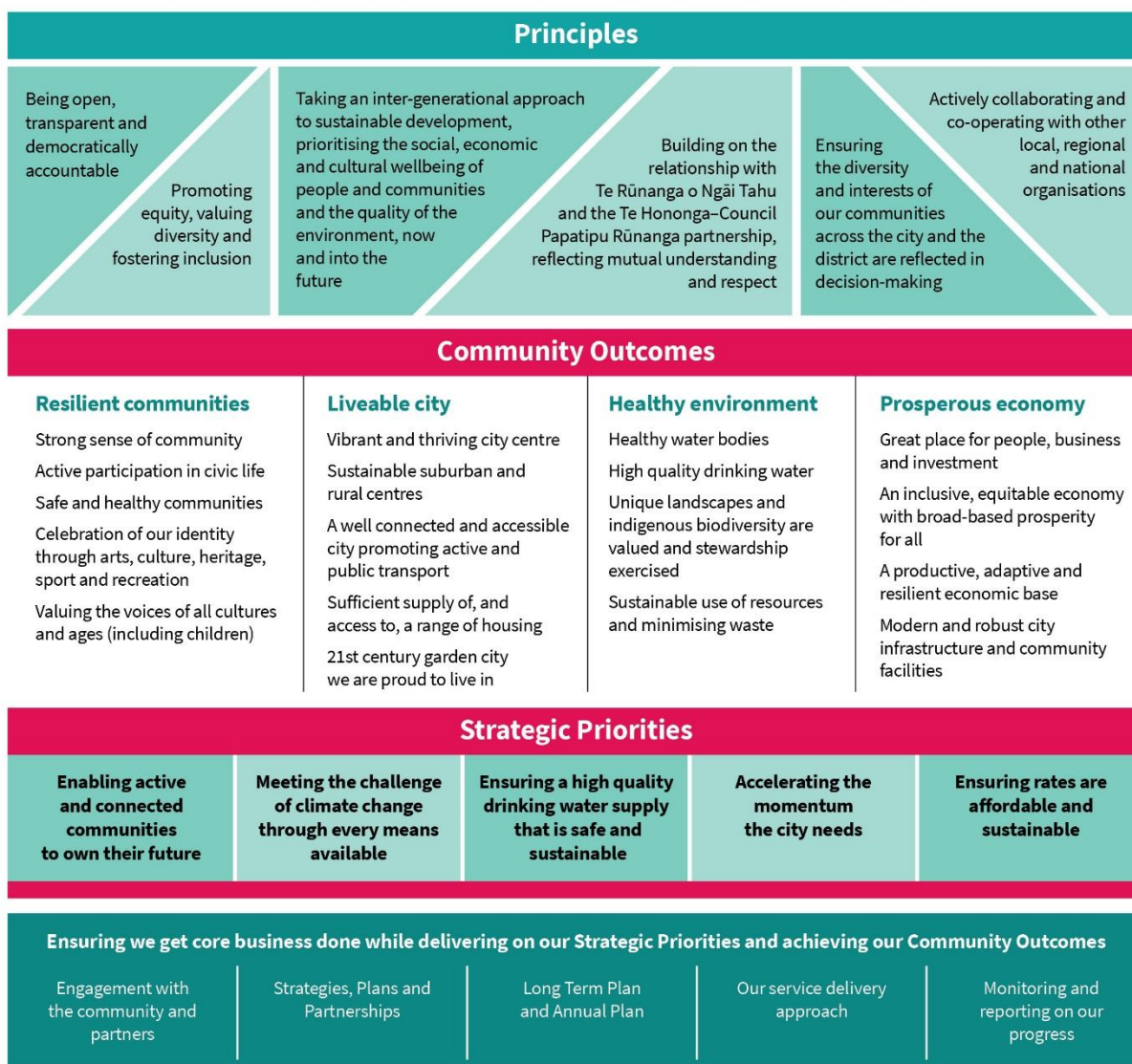
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Ōtautahi–Christchurch is a city of opportunity for all

Open to new ideas, new people and new ways of doing things – a city where anything is possible



TE PAE PŪKARI YOUTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NGĀ ĀRAHINA MAHINGA TERMS OF REFERENCE

Chair	Councillor Galloway
Deputy Chair	Councillor McLellan
Membership	Councillor Coker Councillor Johanson Micah Heath - Young Person Representative (Ngāi Tahu) <i>Vacant</i> - Young Person Representative (Ngāi Tahu) Mia Sutherland - Young Person Representative (Christchurch Youth Council) Selwyn Gamble - Young Person Representative (Pacific Youth Leadership and Transformation Council)
Quorum	Half of the members if the number of members (including vacancies) is even, or a majority of members if the number of members (including vacancies) is odd. Must be one external and one elected member present.
Meeting Cycle	Quarterly
Reports To	Council

Areas of Focus

The purpose of Te Pae Pūkari is to consider issues of particular relevance to young people, as well as to create an internal pathway for youth voices on Council issues.

Te Pae Pūkari aims to:

- Promote positive youth development
- Involve young people in civic matters
- Provide a point of engagement for the youth sector with Council
- Simplify the process of collaboration with youth organisations and groups
- Build capacity within the youth sector to actively participate in civic life
- Collaborate with key youth organisations and groups

This Committee will be the formal medium through which the MOU between Council and the Christchurch Youth Council is reported to Council.

Te Pae Pūkari / Youth Advisory Committee

Ways of Working

Te Pae Pūkari is a new committee of the Council. As such, members and prospective members feel it important to emphasise the value in establishing how Te Pae Pūkari works together. The following values and statements are a starting point and can be featured on each agenda.

Draft Values:

Te Pae Pūkari:

- Upholds and values Te Tiriti o Waitangi and works in a bi-cultural manner
- Respects and values different cultures and diversity
- Advocates, supports and strives for a stronger voice for young people
- Is inclusive and encourages people to participate where possible
- Is collaborative and encourages groups to work together
- Is underpinned by mindfulness and respect of people, purpose and property
- Is empowering and supportive
- Is safe and ethical for everyone
- Is continuously improved
- Prioritises participation by young people

Te Pae Pūkari members and staff meeting:

For any Te Pae Pūkari related discussion or meeting whether face to face or via audio visual technology involving young people there is a requirement that the young people and Councillors/Staff are accompanied.

Involvement of External Parties:

During meetings open to the public external groups, young people and the wider community are encouraged to be present and join discussions on relevant topics. They may be invited to the table whilst relevant topics are discussed.

The Chairperson will be conscious of the fact that there is the potential for committee members who are young people to require additional time and opportunity to seek information from external parties to allow them to best consider how they will vote. The Chairperson will allow additional time for this to occur.

During publically excluded sessions the Chairperson and the Committee will take into consideration the decision-making needs of committee members who are young people whilst resolving who can remain in the meeting.

Other ways of working:

- Notable agenda items and key decisions will be shared through social media as well as email without prejudice to Council's legal and procedural obligations.
- Information will be shared with each member of the Committee in a timely manner, a minimum of 2 clear working days prior.
- Members will consider all available information and viewpoints including but not limited to the views of young people.
- The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will hand over the running of the meeting to a committee member who is a young person in order to build capacity in the youth sector; but will retain the overall responsibilities of Chairperson including that standing orders are followed. Note: This will include pre and post meeting responsibilities.
- From time to time the Chairperson may seek the approval of Te Pae Pūkari to suspend standing orders for a portion of any meeting.
- Members are expected to make a commitment to upskilling in youth participation and ethics / boundaries when working with young people, and, upskilling to the operation of a legally constituted Council Committee meeting under the requirements of LGOIMA and standing orders.
- Committee members who are young people are entitled to a Koha of \$50.00 for attendance at each meeting, a Koha of \$50.00 is also available to the young person who is supporting the external member at the meeting in a manner consistent with the Ways of Working, in order to cover costs.

Note: At the 10 December 2020 Council meeting the Council resolved the following:

1. Delegate to the Te Pae Pūkari / Youth Advisory Committee the ability to appoint up to four external members being young people recommended by Te Rūnanga Ngāi Tahu (two members), The Christchurch Youth Council Incorporated (one member) and Pacific Youth Leadership and Transformation Council (one member), for the remainder of the term. This is conditional on the Youth Advisory Committee following the appointment process detailed in section 3.8 of this report.

Part A	Matters Requiring a Council Decision
Part B	Reports for Information
Part C	Decisions Under Delegation

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Karakia Tīmatanga

1. Apologies Ngā Whakapāha

At the close of the agenda no apologies had been received.

2. Declarations of Interest Ngā Whakapuaki Aronga

Members are reminded of the need to be vigilant and to stand aside from decision making when a conflict arises between their role as an elected representative and any private or other external interest they might have.

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes Te Whakaāe o te hui o mua

That the minutes of the Te Pae Pīkari Youth Advisory Committee meeting held on [Thursday, 2 September 2021](#) be confirmed (refer page 8).

4. Public Forum Te Huinga Whānui

A period of up to 30 minutes will be available for people to speak for up to five minutes on any issue that is not the subject of a separate hearings process.

4.1 Connected

Employment Liaison Advisor, Atama Moore will speak on behalf of Connected to see if there is opportunity for collaboration in the youth space. Connected is a government service that assists in areas of training, education and employment.

5. Deputations by Appointment Ngā Huinga Whakaritenga

Deputations may be heard on a matter or matters covered by a report on this agenda and approved by the Chairperson.

There were no deputations by appointment at the time the agenda was prepared.

6. Presentation of Petitions Ngā Pākikitanga

There were no petitions received at the time the agenda was prepared.

Te Pae Pūkari Youth Advisory Committee OPEN MINUTES

Date: Thursday 2 September 2021
Time: 4.35pm
Venue: Held by Audio/Visual Link

Present

Chairperson	Councillor Anne Galloway
Deputy Chairperson	Councillor Melanie Coker
Members	Councillor Yani Johanson
	Member Selwyn Gamble
	Member Mia Sutherland
	Member Micah Heath

Principal Advisor

John Filsell
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Part A Matters Requiring a Council Decision

Part B Reports for Information

Part C Decisions Under Delegation

Karakia Timatanga: Delivered by Selwyn Gamble.

The agenda was dealt with in the following order.

Following the karakia, Chairperson Councillor Galloway handed over chairing of the meeting to Member Gamble.

1. Apologies Ngā Whakapāha

Part C

Committee Resolved YTAC/2021/00005

That the apologies received from Jake McLellan be accepted.

Councillor Galloway/Councillor Coker

Carried

2. Declarations of Interest Ngā Whakapuaki Aronga

Part B

There were no declarations of interest recorded.

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes Te Whakaāe o te hui o mua

Part C

Committee Resolved YTAC/2021/00006

That the minutes of the Te Pae Pūkari Youth Advisory Committee meeting held on Thursday, 1 July 2021 be confirmed.

Councillor Galloway/Member Gamble

Carried

4. Public Forum Te Huinga Whānui

Part B

4.1 Sport Canterbury

Adam Gard'ner and Shani Clark addressed the Committee on behalf of Sport Canterbury. Their presentation focused on various play and play related systems, inhibitors and enablers of play and the future of active recreation.

Their presentation discussed how a vibrant, active childhood plays an integral role in children's upbringing and enhancing wellbeing. They addressed the future of active recreation, noting it is a huge space which needs to incorporate the youth voice and leadership by actively engaging with youth. They were interested in future opportunities for collaboration work between Sport

Canterbury and the Council, with youth audits of Council owned recreation facilities as a potential area of alignment.

Attachments

A Sport Canterbury Presentation

5. Deputations by Appointment Ngā Huinga Whakaritenga

Part B

There were no deputations by appointment.

6. Presentation of Petitions Ngā Pākikitanga

Part B

There was no presentation of petitions.

7. Progress Update on Strengthening Communities Strategy Refresh

Committee Comment

1. Claire Appleby Phillips, Principal Community Partnerships and Planning Advisor, provided a presentation on the Strengthening Communities Strategy Refresh, renamed the Ōtautahi Christchurch Community Strategy. The strategy reflects the Council's ongoing commitment to work with the many diverse organisations, groups and people to build inclusive, safe and resilient communities. The presentation noted that Christchurch has experienced significant change since the previous strategy was developed in 2007.

The strategy is due to go out for public consultation on Friday 10 September 2021. The presentation noted that youth make up a significant portion of the population and as such, their engagement and feedback is important in developing the final strategy. The Committee discussed different ways to capture youth feedback, such as social media advertising, school presentations and the Committee's young people representatives encouraging participation amongst their networks.

2. Following consultation, community feedback will be considered by a Hearings Panel. It was suggested during the meeting that young people should be appointed to the Hearings Panel. Council staff provided advice, noting that while possible, it is not usual practice to have external hearings panel membership and a recommendation would need to go to Council for a decision. Staff advised that if a young person representative was put on the hearings panel, then other sectors of the community could reasonably be expected to also be represented. It was further noted that panel members are required to remain fair and impartial when considering submissions, and that should young people be appointed to a panel, that this would prohibit them from making a submission of their own.

The Committee considered the feedback and were of the view that although this would be giving one group representation on the panel, that youth representation can cover all cross-sectors of the community and their perspectives can be relevant to everybody. A debate was then initiated. The Committee all spoke favourably on the proposal and unanimously agreed to put forward a motion to Council to have one young person representative on the Hearings Panel. This person in the Committee's view would be sourced from the Committee membership.

Attachments

- A 7. Progress Update on Strengthening Communities Strategy Refresh Presentation

Officer Recommendations Ngā Tūtohu

That Te Pae Pūkari Youth Advisory Committee:

1. Receive the information in the Strengthening Communities Strategy Refresh Report
2. Request that staff work with the youth sector to develop submissions on the draft Strategy.

Committee Resolved YTAC/2021/00007

Part C

That Te Pae Pūkari Youth Advisory Committee:

1. Receive the information in the Strengthening Communities Strategy Refresh Report
2. Request that staff work with the youth sector to develop submissions on the draft Strategy.

Member Sutherland/Member Heath

Carried

Committee Resolved YTAC/2021/00008

Part A

That the Council:

3. Put a young person on the Hearings Panel considering the Ōtautahi Christchurch Community Strategy.

Member Sutherland/Member Heath

Carried

Meeting concluded at 6:29pm.

CONFIRMED THIS 1ST DAY OF DECEMBER 2021.

COUNCILLOR ANNE GALLOWAY
CHAIRPERSON

7. Youth Audit Tool - Future Actions

Reference Te Tohutoro: 21/1050644

Report of Te Pou Matua: Joshua Wharton, Community, Partnerships & Planning Advisor,
Joshua.Warton@ccc.govt.nz

General Manager Mary Richardson, GM Citizens & Community,

Pouwhakarae: Mary.Richardson@ccc.govt.nz

1. Purpose of the Report Te Pūtake Pūrongo

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to recommend that Te Pae Pūkari support a formal trial of the Youth Audit Tool comprising three audits on relevant Council facility and/or public realm projects that are at the planning/design stage, to be completed prior to 30 June 2023.
- 1.2 This report has been written following direction from Te Pae Pūkari based on a presentation from Rerenga Awa on the emerging positive feedback from asset owners, project managers and the youth sector on a number of no-cost youth audits undertaken as a developmental exercise over the past six months.
- 1.3 The Youth Audit Tool is an asset created by the youth sector of Christchurch, and offers a low-cost, robust methodology for capturing youth voice in the development of places and spaces around the city.
- 1.4 The decision in this report is of low significance in relation to the Christchurch City Council's Significance and Engagement Policy. The level of significance was determined by evaluating the community impact, possible risks & benefits, the capacity of Council to carry out the decision and whether or not the decision could be easily reversed. Young People, as well as Rerenga Awa and staff from various Council units were consulted with about this project, and are all in support of it progressing to a formal trial.

2. Officer Recommendations Ngā Tūtohu

That Te Pae Pūkari Youth Advisory Committee:

1. Recommend that Council trial the Youth Audit Tool with three audits from Rerenga Awa across a range of Council facility and/or public realm projects at the planning and design stage to be completed prior to 30 June 2023, at a cost not exceeding \$8,000.
2. Note that the youth team leaders and a Council project representative from each audit will present back to Te Pae Pūkari on each audit in the trial. Whilst all feedback will be taken into consideration there can be no expectation that the audit feedback and recommendations will automatically be incorporated into the project.

3. Reason for Report Recommendations Ngā Take mō te Whakatau

- 3.1 The report recommendations have been formulated after a successful Department of Internal Affairs (DIA) funded developmental trial of the tool. This has provided confidence that the tool is effective and will provide young people with a meaningful way to have their voice heard on future Council projects across the city. The recommendations will allow for work done to date to be formally trialed on five projects in a "live" environment.
- 3.2 The audit fees will be used by Rerenga Awa to further develop the audit tool.

- 3.3 The recommendations represent a tangible project that can be undertaken alongside an important community sector, youth, who feel there is scope for their voice to be heard. The audits are carried out by volunteers, and will provide valuable information to staff about the youth-friendliness of a planned place or space. The feedback and results are presented in a professional report format. There is no expectation that feedback or recommendations will be undertaken, only that they are considered.
- 3.4 The recommendations will look to support three youth audits across a range of Council asset types, including Capital Projects, Libraries, Sport & Recreation, Community Facilities, and Parks. Each of these units have indicated their support.
- 3.5 The recommendations represent a planned approach to future implementation of the tool. Expanding the initial developmental work into a formal trial will give further confidence in the tool, and provide enough time to see the results of the trial audits, ahead of any future resourcing discussions.
- 3.6 The recommendations provide a new, unique, and innovative method for young people to be engaged in Council projects at an early stage of design and/or development. It will ensure that their voices are effective in influencing the outcome of a place or space, and that project managers receive their feedback at an optimal time.

4. Alternative Options Considered Ētahi atu Kōwhiringa

- 4.1 Take no action. This option is not recommended as it would be premature to discard the value of the Youth Audit Tool before the results of a formal (albeit limited) “live” trial are evaluated. There are a number of young people who have trained recently as Youth Audit Team Leaders and practitioners and keen to make a contribution. There are also number of units within Council who are interested in utilizing youth audits on their designs or plans.
- 4.2 Request that Council commission six or more Youth Audit Reports over the 2021/22 financial year. This option is not recommended as it would represent a significant commitment with only limited feedback on its functionality for Council-owned assets.

5. Detail Te Whakamahuki

- 5.1 Funded by DIA for an initial trial, Youth Audits for Te Pou Toetoe / Linwood Pool, Shirley Library, and MacFarlane Park are now complete. Feedback from Council staff and community partners have highlighted the value of input at an early stage of facility design/redesign, and that the Youth audit it is a valuable tool for obtaining youth perspectives on a project (something that has been historically difficult to obtain). They also described being very pleased with the process, and would encourage support of further audits across the city.
- 5.2 Under existing funding, plans are also in place for Youth Audits on Parakiore / Metro Sports Facility, and the Central City Bus Interchange. Both with the support of the Council Unit concerned.
- 5.3 Feedback from the youth sector, Rerenga Awa and four Council Units has demonstrated that there is merit in further developing the tool and its use through a formal “live” trial without making a long term commitment.
- 5.4 The Christchurch Youth Sector has developed this unique initiative. This sector is in support of continued utilisation of the Youth Audit Tool and see merit in an ongoing formal trial. This is primarily because Council assets are viewed as some of the most important to have youth input on.

- 5.5 Offering a formal trial of this tool at a cost not exceeding \$8,000 will allow Rerenga Awa time and resources to refine sound processes and costings, both Rerenga and Council will learn.
- 5.6 Any asset owner receiving a youth audit, will commit to providing written feedback to the youth audit team leaders within three (3) months, detailing how the feedback and recommendations have considered. This will ensure a feedback loop with the young people and constitute a robust trial.
- 5.7 Youth audits will target relevant facility and public realm projects at the planning and design stage where there is greater scope for incorporating feedback and recommendations.

6. Policy Framework Implications Ngā Hīraunga ā- Kaupapa here

Strategic Alignment Te Rautaki Tīaroaro

- 6.1 This report aligns with goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7 of the Strengthening Communities Strategy (2007).
- 6.2 This report supports the [Council's Long Term Plan \(2021 - 2031\)](#):
 - 6.2.1 Activity: Community Development and Facilities
 - Level of Service: 2.0.1.1 Support the development of strong, connected and resilient communities by supporting the provision of a sustainable network of community facilities. - 89 - 91 Facilities.
 - Level of Service: 2.3.1.1 Provide funding for projects and initiatives that build partnerships; resilient, engaged and stronger communities, empowered at a local or community of interest level.

Policy Consistency Te Whai Kaupapa here

- 6.3 The decision is consistent with Council's Plans and Policies. Specifically, the Youth Policy (1998) and Social Wellbeing Policy (2000).

Impact on Mana Whenua Ngā Whai Take Mana Whenua

- 6.4 The decision does not involve a significant decision in relation to ancestral land or a body of water or other elements of intrinsic value, therefore this decision does specifically impact Mana Whenua, their culture and traditions.

Climate Change Impact Considerations Ngā Whai Whakaaro mā te Āhuarangi

- 6.5 As a demographic, young people are strong advocates for Climate Change Action. It is likely that any flagrant activities counter to good climate practice would be identified in the subsequent Audit Reports.

Accessibility Considerations Ngā Whai Whakaaro mā te Hunga Hauā

- 6.6 The Youth Audit Check Card (Attachment A) details accessibility as one of the five pillars of Youth Relevant Design. Throughout the process, auditors will evaluate each space for its physical accessibility, cost, and connectivity to other key spaces.

7. Resource Implications Ngā Hīraunga Rauemi

Capex/Opex Ngā Utu Whakahaere

- 7.1 Cost to Implement – Not exceeding \$8,000 in Operational Expenditure over the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years.

- 7.2 Maintenance/Ongoing costs – No ongoing costs at this point. There is no automatic commitment to undertake any implementation actions, only to provide written feedback on the audit findings.
- 7.3 Funding source – Research and development operational budget set aside for this purpose.

8. Legal Implications Ngā Hīraunga ā-Ture

Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report Te Manatū Whakahaere Kaupapa

- 8.1 The statutory power to undertake the proposal derives from Council's Status and Powers in S12 (2) of the LGA 2002.

Other Legal Implications Ētahi atu Hīraunga-ā-Ture

- 8.2 There is no legal context, issue or implication relevant to this decision.
- 8.3 This report has not been reviewed and approved by the Legal Services Unit.

9. Risk Management Implications Ngā Hīraunga Tūraru

- 9.1 There is a low-level reputational risk of dissatisfaction in the youth community if asset owners choose to, or are unable to, implement young people's recommendations. This may be due to budget limitations, disagreement with the conclusions reached, or an unexpected variable. In this situation, the young people who contributed to the report may feel that their voices were not heard, or that the asset owner did not value their time.

- 9.1.1 To manage the risk listed in 9.1, Youth Audit Recipients will commit to provide feedback to the young people within two months regarding which recommendations will be implemented, and which will not, as well as rationale for each.

Attachments Ngā Tāpirihanga

No.	Title	Page
A ↓	Canterbury Youth Audit Tool - Audit Check Card	18
B ↓	ReVision Report - Shirley Library	20
C ↓	ReVision Report - MacFarlane Park	38

Additional background information may be noted in the below table:

Document Name	Location / File Link
Nil	Nil

Confirmation of Statutory Compliance Te Whakatūtuturutanga ā-Ture

Compliance with Statutory Decision-making Requirements (ss 76 - 81 Local Government Act 2002).

(a) This report contains:

- (i) sufficient information about all reasonably practicable options identified and assessed in terms of their advantages and disadvantages; and
- (ii) adequate consideration of the views and preferences of affected and interested persons bearing in mind any proposed or previous community engagement.

(b) The information reflects the level of significance of the matters covered by the report, as determined in accordance with the Council's significance and engagement policy.

Signatories Ngā Kaiwaitohu

Author	Josh Wharton - Community Partnerships & Planning Advisor
Approved By	John Filsell - Head of Community Support, Governance and Partnerships Mary Richardson - General Manager Citizens & Community

YOUTH RELEVANT DESIGN

SAFE



Youth research supports CPTED Principles

- » Well-lit
- » Open Space
- » Safe toilets and amenities
- » Covered walkways
- » High visibility
- **Appropriately Located** - Consider surrounding businesses and facilities.
- **Deliberate and safe "hanging" spaces** that are visible
- **Waiting and transition areas**
 - » Young people need to be able to safely get in/out
 - » Information on public transport available
 - » Safe, sheltered bus stops & car pick up areas

APPEALING



Socially credible - young people want to go there to connect with the space.

At arms length but within arms reach -

Young people want to connect with the wider community as well as purpose built youth space, however they prefer spaces which are slightly separated.

Engaging - young people want to be engaged in the space

Involving - young people are far more likely to use space which has had their input, involvement and investment throughout the design and concept stages

ACCESSIBLE



Physically accessible - good disability access is essential. Strong connectivity with good public transport can not be underestimated.

Reasonably priced - activities, services and goods on offer should be affordable for young people. Low cost food options close at hand.

Connectivity to key youth spaces such as public libraries, malls, sport facilities, community centres.

RESOURCED



Easy access to relevant social services and support functions such as youth workers and medical professionals.

- » **Free Wifi** - or internet access.
- » **Low cost** or free pricing structures.
- » **Multi-use** functional spaces with more than one purpose that are well-used
- » **Appropriate amenities** for what the space will be used for

YOUTH FRIENDLY



Vibrant and Alive - a tidy, contemporary and colourful space that reflects young people and their subcultures.

Welcoming staff specifically trained to deal with young people (strong preference for Youth Workers over security guards).

Embraces Young People - a place where young people feel they are wanted and valued.

Prioritises Youth Participation - a space that includes young people as much as possible in the development.

YOUTH RELEVANT DESIGN

Youth Voice Canterbury is leading an exciting initiative called ReVision, an initiative seeking to create tangible ways for local young people to have their say on places and spaces in their communities.

ReVision is a social enterprise, consisting of a set of tools including a Youth Friendly Space Audit and the Youth Relevant Design Check Card.

This card here is the **Youth Relevant Design Check Card**. This is intended for planners, designers, architects, and anyone creating a place or space young people will use. This has come from both literatures, and from talking to young people in Canterbury. What has been developed are our 5 Factors in Youth Relevant Design.

YOUTH VOICE CANTERBURY - WHO ARE WE?

Youth Voice Canterbury is a network of young people and youth participation groups from around the Canterbury region supported to have a voice, develop their leadership and get involved in decision-making.

We aim to connect young people with opportunities to get involved, develop the youth voice and champion youth participation. ReVision is one tangible pathway for young people to get involved in shaping their communities and advocate on behalf of their peers.



RESEARCH FIRST

For further information on the ReVision Initiative, 5 Factors of Youth Relevant Design, or to ask about a Youth Friendly Spaces Audit, head to www.youthvoicecanterbury.org.nz/revision or email youthvoicecanterbury@gmail.com



Youth Friendly Spaces Audit Report

Shirley Library

WEDNESDAY 21st JULY



Team Leader

1. Beth Walters

Item 7

Attachment B



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1. Executive Summary

This report is based on data gathered on the 7th of July 2021 and 10th July 2021 at Shirley Library. Using the Youth Relevant Design Check Card and Youth Friendly Spaces Audit, young people audited the Shirley Library on its safety, appeal, accessibility, resourcing, and youth-friendliness.

The Shirley Library performed below average, in the Youth Friendly Spaces Audit, scoring a total of 64.5% and producing a Net Promoter Score of -50.

The youth auditors really liked how the space was calm and somewhere they could come and relax in. The young people also liked how friendly the staff were. The areas young people thought could be improved and gave feedback on was the vibrancy and appeal of the space, the youth corner itself, how they felt generally in the space, and the resourcing.

The youth space was a key area the young people identified as needing change. Specifically, they wanted to see this space moved to a different area of the library. They felt like the youth space was an afterthought lacking youth input. Some other suggestions were implementing comfier chairs and beanbags. They wanted to see more artwork, colour, culture and vibrancy around the library. Young people wanted to feel included in decision making on clubs and activities for them and suggested providing different avenues for them to continue to do this. With this, they also wished to see a greater circulation of young adult books and the Shirley Library to be better resourced with activities and clubs for them.

Overall, the recommendations on behalf of the youth auditors are:

- Rethink the location of the current Youth Space
- Increase resourcing (clubs, books and activities)
- Make the space more vibrant
- Include young people in processes and decisions
- Increase safety

2. Introduction

Spaces that are youth-friendly are important, if you get a space right for young people often you have it right for everyone. This Youth Friendly Spaces Audit report is an appraisal of the Shirley Library's youth-friendliness, with data gathered over two audits. This has been completed by an independent youth audit team leader and covers the five factors of Youth Relevant Design including safety, appeal, accessible, well-resourced and youth friendly. Robust engagement has taken place with a team of young people, also referred to in this report as youth auditors, who have developed a range of feedback and recommendations for this space. On 7 July 2021 and 10 July 2021, a team of youth auditors, led by team leader Beth Walters, completed a Youth Friendly Spaces Audit on the Shirley Library.

The audit was completed by 6 diverse auditors ranging in age from 12 to 18. The feedback in this report was collated across two audits in the evening on Wednesday 7 July 2021 and mid-day on Saturday 10 July). The two audits are completed at distinctly different times to capture a more robust sense of how youth-friendly the space is, for instance, daytime compared to at night, or when it's busy and when it's quiet.

This report will tell you how youth-friendly a space is and provides a Net Promoter Score of youth-friendliness. It also includes detailed feedback from young people about what they like about the space, what changes they would like to see, general feedback, and recommendations.

3. Methodology

The Youth Friendly Spaces Audit was conducted by a team leader who led a team of young people through the Shirley Library and audited the space against a set of Youth Relevant Design Principles.

The audits were conducted at:

- Wednesday 7th July, 4pm- 6pm
- Saturday 10th July, 11am – 12pm

3.1 Quantitative Feedback

During both audits, each youth auditor completed a Youth Friendly Spaces Scorecard. As they assessed the space, the young people were asked to think about the facility under the following banners:

- **Transport Options**
This looks at whether there are bike stands, a bus stop within 100 metres, bus links to other key spaces young people use, and whether the bikes stand, the path to the road and car park are well-lit.
- **Location**
This is assessing whether the space is close to other places the young person already hangs out, whether the entrance is well-lit and well sign-posted, and if there are accessibility ramps (where required).
- **Atmosphere**
This looks at things that make an appealing atmosphere such as music playing, soft spaces to relax that aren't 'in the way', colour, art, plant life, safe spaces to leave belongings, charging ports, and friendly staff greeting you on arrival.
- **Cost**
This refers to whether there is free admission and discounts with student ID, discounted admission on certain days or times, and free WIFI.

- **Bathrooms**

Spaces are scored on whether there are gender-neutral bathrooms, showers, disability bathrooms and disability showers (if applicable).

- **Support**

This looks at whether there are bike stands, a bus stop within 100 metres, bus links to other key spaces young people use, and whether the bikes stand, the path to the road and car park are well-lit.

Each of these banners includes questions that require either a yes, no, or not applicable answer. As the auditors walk into the space, they keep an eye out for the things suggested on the scorecard and record whether they are provided (if applicable). The results for each section look at how many 'yes' answers there are for each section out of all of the 'yes' and 'no' answers, thus producing a percentage for how well that area scored.

Alongside a score in each of these areas, the audit will also produce a Net Promoter Score. For this, every young person provides a rating for 'how likely would you be to recommend this space to a friend?'. The scale is from 0, not very likely, to 10, extremely likely. Scores between 0-6 are called 'detractors', while scores of 9-10 are called "promoters". Any rating that is 7 and 8 are neutral and not taken into consideration. The percentage of detractors are detracted from the percentage of promoters providing a number that is your net promoter score. Any number over 0 is a good Net Promoter Score because it means there were more promoters than detractors.

3.2 Qualitative Feedback

As well as providing youth-friendly scores, the Youth Friendly Spaces Audit also gathers qualitative feedback in the form of recommendations and anecdotal feedback. At the end of the audit, the audit team leader runs a small focus group with all of the auditors, asking them for feedback about the space against the 5 Factors of Youth Relevant Design which are:

- **Safety**

Any space that young people frequent should be safe, and when you get it right for them, you've probably got it right for everyone.

- **Appeal**

A space is going to be more appealing and successful when people want to use it for its intended



purpose.

- **Accessible**

Any space needs to be accessible – all young people should be able to use it, even if their circumstances are different.

- **Well-Resourced**

A space that is well-resourced with young people in mind is one that will be well-used.

- **Youth-Friendly**

You can tell a youth-friendly space by the feeling you get when you walk in – young people are wanted here.

This focus group produces a lot of valuable feedback straight from the mouth of young people, which informs our recommendations later in the report. As well as the focus group, young people also have the option to give their own feedback through the scorecard which asks:

- What do you like about this space?
- Do you think this space is designed to be used by young people?
- What would you change about this space that is easy to do?
- What would you change about this space if you could do anything?

4. Findings

4.1 Audit Scorecards

AUDIT #1: Wednesday 7th July, 4pm – 6pm

SECTIONS:

SCORES:

Transport Options	50%
Location	75%
Atmosphere	68%
Cost	67%
Bathroom	35%
Support	93%
TOTAL	65%
NET PROMOTER SCORE	-50



AUDIT#2: Saturday 10th July, 11am – 12pm

SECTIONS:

SCORES:

Transport Options	43%
Location	90%
Atmosphere	60%
Cost	67%
Bathroom	40%
Support	87%
TOTAL	64%
NET PROMOTER SCORE	-50

TOTAL:

64.5%

NET PROMOTOR SCORE:

-50

4.2 Scorecard Feedback

Each youth auditor completes a scorecard twice at two distinctly different times. During the audits, they are asked to write down what they like about the space, if they thought the space was designed to be used by young people, what they would change that is easy to do, and what they would change if they could change anything at all. Below is a summary of their feedback.

4.2.1 What do you like about this space?

The most common theme that came through the scorecard regarding what people liked was that the Shirley Library was a space that was a quiet and calm place to spend time in.

“It has safe places and a place to sit and talk” - Youth Auditor, aged 15

Rangatahi also appreciated that they could come and choose to read from a range of books and that the library offered different places to sit. The youth auditors felt that the staff were friendly and that they had the option to relax by themselves or with the staff and/or friends.

4.2.2 Do you think this space is designed to be used by young people?

There was not a consensus between the auditors as to whether they thought this space was designed to be used by young people. Some of the auditors thought it was because of its simplicity and inclusion of a kid's section. However, one common theme that the auditors mentioned was that there were more options for kids such as kids' books and games, that were not also available for youth. A couple of auditors both said that they couldn't decide as it felt like it was designed for both adults and kids, not youth. One auditor on their scorecard wrote,

“I don't because it feels like the space was built for adults and it was an afterthought to add space for youth” - Youth Auditor, age 12.

4.2.3 What would you change about this space that is easy to do?

Almost all of the youth auditors thought that the Shirley Library, which they feel is currently a blank canvas, would be more youth-friendly if there was more artwork on the walls and around the place. This was by far the most common change that the auditors wanted to see. One auditor even suggested artwork on the outside of the building, which you would be able to see as you approach the Shirley Library. They felt that this would be an easy change to make and suggested engaging with local youth to collaborate with famous artists to create new pieces for the Library. Another young person acknowledged that relaxing music could make the environment more ambient. Some other simple changes suggested were, free water, more charging ports, an Xbox in the youth space and a little garden. One auditor said that these changes would create an overall “better vibe.” These things should be considered to make the space more youth friendly.

4.2.4 What would you change about this space if you could change anything?

While the above feedback focuses on what young people would want to change that is easy, the below feedback is based on what the young people would change if they could change anything at all.

A common theme was that young people would really love to see some more activities for youth. Young people don't want to have a space that is at the back corner of the library. A young person suggested that they would change the layout to be more obvious where the youth space was and would make it larger. Another auditor really wanted to have a space that was at the heart of the library and was slightly removed at the same time. Young people were also perplexed as to why the PlayStation was right next to the children's books and felt that the PlayStation along with the accompanying bean bags should be moved into the young adult area. Another common recommendation that young people felt would make the place livelier would be to add more plants and greenery. Not only would this create a “better vibe” as one auditor said, but the young people felt that it would make the Shirley Library feel even more homely.

4.3 Focus Group Feedback

Auditors also had the opportunity to discuss the five key youth relevant design ideas; safety, appeal, accessibility, resourcing and whether they thought the Shirley Library was youth friendly. This conversation was facilitated by the Team Leader and the answers were transcribed.

4.3.1 Safety

The crux of this point is that any space that young people frequent should be safe, and when you get it right for them you've probably got it right for everyone.

The first audit took place in the evening between the hours of 4pm and 6pm. The youth arrived when it was still light and left when it was dark. When asked whether the Shirley Library felt like a safe place, one young person said, "it can be a safe place if you need to get away from stuff and read a book." Another young person mentioned that they felt safer in the space when there were less people around. When asked how they felt on arrival, one young person highlighted how they felt like they weren't meant to be there as they couldn't see anyone their age. Young people generally felt safe arriving at the Shirley Library as many were familiar with the route to get there; it was only when they had to leave when it was dark that they felt unsafe. One young person expressed that they felt safe as a whole because they had a car and a license and had done army training so didn't really have a problem with safety. However, everyone else who left either by public transport or foot/bike expressed feeling unsafe. A couple of young people highlighted how dark the mall and library car park were and this increased how unsafe they felt leaving the Library.

A suggestion made to make the space feel safer was to increase lighting outside the Shirley Library and in the surrounding car parks. On a positive note though, the young people highlighted that the librarians were always very friendly and that they felt comfortable to approach them if they ever felt unsafe and/or needed to express concern.

4.3.2 Appeal

A space is more appealing when young people are able to be engaged in the space.

During the focus groups, the young people expressed that they liked coming to the library as it was close to places that they were familiar with and usually went to such as the Palms Mall, school and home. Another thing that the young people expressed was that it was a great place to come and experience some peace and downtime. One young person said that they liked to come to the Shirley Library as they didn't have many friends to hang out with on the weekend and it was close to their house.

Although some young people expressed positive things about the appeal of the Library, some auditors felt that the youth area was uninviting and made them feel closed off from others in the



Library. One young person stated that “the only vibrant thing about the library was the book covers.

Young people said to improve this the Library could provide a more vibrant space, with art on the walls, more colour, comfier chairs, more clubs for the youth, plants to make it feel homely and for the PlayStation and beanbags to be moved into the youth space away from the children’s areas. Young people wanted a space that felt like it was designed by youth and for youth and for it to feel connected to the Library and rather than being “put into the back of the corner.”. However, they also stated the importance of having a separate space as well. One young person said that “they didn’t even know the magazine room existed until they did the audit” and suggested that they would prefer to have the magazine space as the youth space as they felt safer there.

The appeal of the Library to young people could significantly and easily change with some of these ideas.

4.3.3 Accessibility

Any space needs to be accessible, which includes disability access, physical movement to and around the space, and affordability to engage with the space.

Any space needs to be accessible, which includes disability access, physical movement to and around the space, and affordability to engage with the space.
The young people expressed that getting to and from the library by public transport was relatively easy. However, they felt that the Library could be better sign posted. The young people commented that it was in close proximity to places they usually accessed such as the mall, bus routes and school.

For those that biked, the consensus was that there weren’t enough bike stands (only one) and the bike stands that were present were not modern bike stands that ensure your bike is safer. They expressed that the round arch ones that are currently located at the entrance of the library, make it easier to steal bikes. They suggested simply updating these bike stands.

The young people felt that there could be more toilets available for users in the library and also some gender neutral options that weren’t the disabled toilets. They would recommend providing more toilets and more inclusive options like at Tūranga Library. They also highlighted that there were no showers to use and therefore adding showers to the library could be considered.

4.3.4 Well-Resourced

A space that is well-resourced with young people in mind is a space that will be well-used.

A space that is well-resourced with young people in mind is a space that will be well-used. Young people expressed that they felt that there was good information about other services, however, felt that information about the 'youth clubs' could be better advertised and more easily accessible.

The young people said that the staff were friendly, nice and that they are "not scary and won't bite". They specifically expressed that some of the staff felt more relatable as they were closer in age.

Young people liked that there were computers available and that there was a PlayStation that anyone could use. However, they suggested that there needed to be a greater choice of video games. Some of the young people suggested that there could be more activities for young people, such as, colouring, crafts, sing star, board games, and more events. Some of the young people expressed that they would like to see a drawing/sketching club, a colouring club and a LGBTQ club. To promote this, young people felt that there needed to be better advertising and posters so that it was easier to access these resources. A simple suggestion was to make a registration form, so if you wanted to create a club or join one you could register to be involved.

The suggestion of more chairs and comfy places to sit such as more bean bags etc. was also raised again within this discussion around resourcing. This highlights a strong consensus that the Shirley Library should have more places for both young people and all library users to sit.

In terms of books, young people were in agreement that there needed to be more new books circulating in from other libraries and more books for them as young adults.

4.3.5 Youth-Friendly

You can tell a youth-friendly space by the feeling you get when you walk in – young people feel wanted here.

Young people found that the Shirley Library did not feel youth friendly or youthful. One young person said that "it feels like an adult space and the youth space feels like an afterthought".

Whereas another young person explained that after school it sometimes felt youthful with all the students from schools however it didn't on the weekend as there were far fewer young people.

When asked if the space reflected their culture many of the young people said that it doesn't feel multicultural and that they would love to see more Te Ao Māori and Te Reo Māori around the space. One person stated that they feel comfortable in the space, but not valued.

How then can the Library make young people feel valued?

Some suggested that young people should be included in the decisions more and that there should be more of a youth voice present. One person suggested that the Library should ask some of the young people to be on a team to help with the design of the library. Overall, they wanted to be able to continue to give feedback, make suggestions on the space and have their voice heard.

Some practical suggestions were to make a young librarian club and to create a day where young people can learn how to be a librarian. Something similar to an event run for Kidsfest but for older young people. To increase the vibrancy and youth friendliness of the space the young people suggested that there be more artwork on the walls. They felt that a short-term art club could be formulated to help design and think about what to put on the walls. They thought that using New Zealand artists to collaborate with the young people could be a great idea as well.

4.3.6 General Feedback

At the end of the focus group the youth auditors were asked some final questions about what else they liked about the space, if there is anything they didn't like, or any other final suggestions or recommendations.

Overall, the young people that came along to the audits were either regular users of the Shirley Library or hadn't been many times before. Some final and general feedback that they gave was that they thought the library could provide free water for all users. They wanted to see some of the suggestions they've made be implemented and a feedback box or process put in place so that they could continue to have their say on the library.

5. Recommendations

The average net promoter score is low and suggested that young people would not recommend the space to others. Some of the below recommendations we believe would significantly improve the space. Although we have summarised five key recommendations, the young people who audited the Shirley Library have made many achievable recommendations throughout this report and therefore we would recommend considering everything within this report to make the Shirley Library better for all users, not just youth.

5.1 Rethink the location of the current youth space

The average net promoter score is low and suggested that young people would not recommend the space to others. Some of the below recommendations we believe would significantly improve the space. Although we have summarised five key recommendations, the young people who audited the Shirley Library have made many achievable recommendations throughout this report and therefore we would recommend considering everything within this report to make the Shirley Library better for all users, not just youth.

5.2 Increase resourcing (clubs, books, activities)

We would recommend that the library considers increasing the resources that they currently offer. The rangatahi would like to see an increase in the circulation of young adult books. The recommendation, therefore, is that the Shirley Library increase the number of Young Adults books available or provide clearer information on how to request books.

Rangatahi also wanted to see a more diverse range of clubs available and to be included in the running of these clubs. Recommendations to achieve this includes implementing a colouring, LGBTQ and a drawing/sketching club. It is also recommended that there are opportunities for young people to easily make new suggestions of clubs they would like to see offered or run themselves.

5.3 Make the space more vibrant

Young people want to feel connected and valued in the Shirley Library. They currently feel that the library is lacking colour and vibrancy.

We recommend considering the idea that was raised about young people collaborating with local artists to create artwork for the library. Young people also wanted to see more colour in general on the walls and suggested re-painting some of the walls a different colour. Plants and greenery would also brighten up the space and make it more homely and comfortable which is an easy implementation.

5.4 Include young people in processes and decisions

A key thing that was raised was young people felt like they didn't know how to have their say on the youth space, activities and the library in general. The first time they felt like they were able to do this was through the audit.

We recommend including young people in decisions made about the library right from conception. When young people are included in processes, they feel valued and are more likely to use the space they have had their say on. Young people expressed that they wanted to be able to continue to give their feedback and have influence.

We recommend setting up different avenues so that young people can give feedback and be involved.

5.5 Increase safety

We recommend considering how to provide better lighting options in the carpark and surrounding areas of the library so that young people and users feel safe leaving and entering the library.

Another recommendation would be providing new bike stands and better signage on the carpark and road facing fronts of the Library.

5. Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to read this Youth Friendly Spaces report and considering the above recommendations to make Shirley Library more youth friendly.

We appreciate you allowing us into your space and showing us around and answering any questions we had. From here, we are happy to meet with you to discuss any of the feedback or recommendations in this report and how you might like to act on any of the above.

Following best practice youth engagement, it is important for us to feedback to the young people who participated in the audit how their voices have been used and taken on board by the audited space. We will follow up with you three months from the date this report is sent to you to ask about how this report has been received and if there is any action to report back to the youth auditors.



Beth Walters
Youth Audit Team Leader

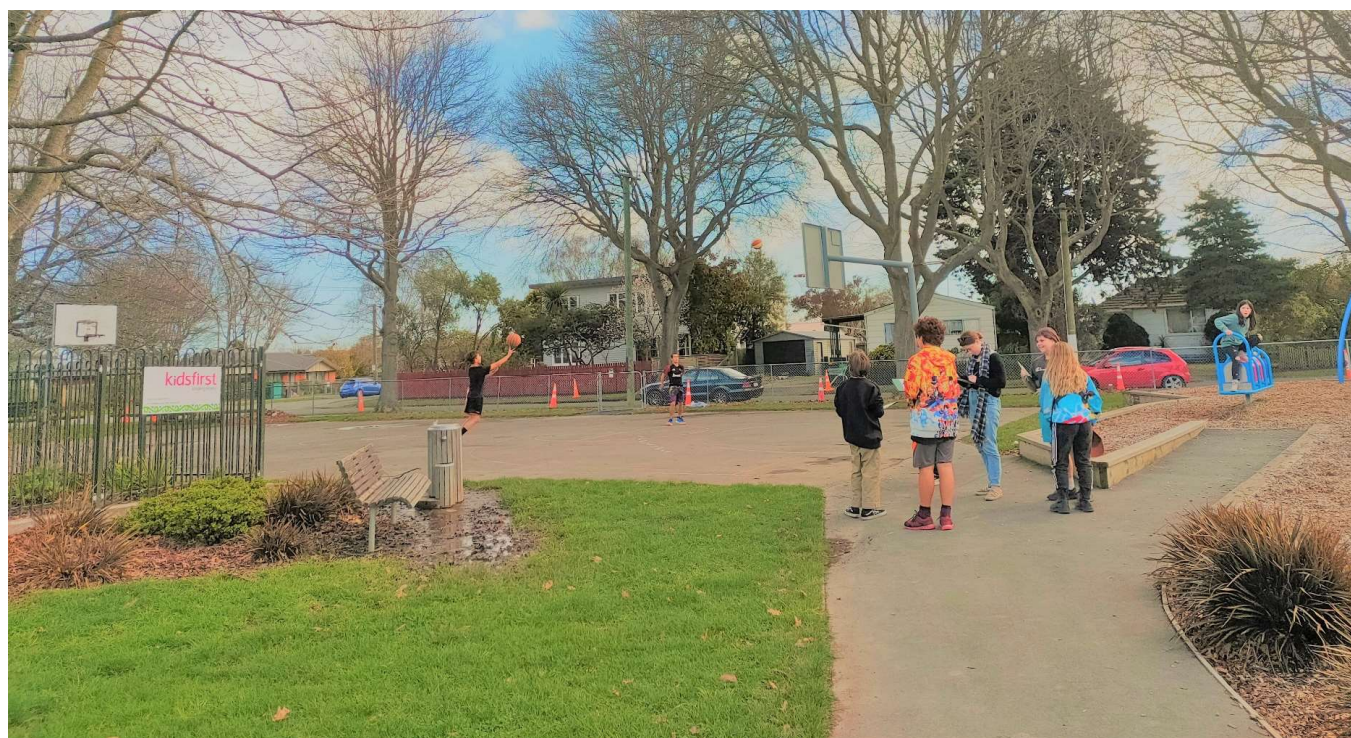
Hannah Dunlop
Project Coordinator
ReVision



Youth Friendly Spaces Audit Report

MacFarlane Park Basketball Court

SUNDAY 29th AUGUST



Team Leader

1. Andre Moneda

youth fr

Item 7

Attachment C

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1. Executive Summary

On August 3 and August 7, 2021, the MacFarlane Park Basketball Court was audited by young people on its youth-friendliness. Using the Youth Relevant Design Check Card and Youth Friendly Spaces Audit, young people audited the MacFarlane Park Basketball Court on its safety, appeal, accessibility, resourcing, and youth-friendliness.

The MacFarlane Park Basketball Court performed averagely in the Youth Friendly Spaces Audit, scoring a total of 59.5% and producing a Net Promoter Score of 0.

The youth auditors really like how the space sums up the community vibe of Shirley. The basketball court is centrally connected to other places that local youth access and is surrounded by bus stops that cater for the central bus network. They enjoy using the space to spend time with friends and play sports. It currently caters for their needs but does need some work to have better practicality.

The main area young people thought could be improved and gave feedback on is the current state of the basketball courts which need cosmetic and practical upgrading for youth to enjoy. In addition, the general area around the court would benefit from more lighting, more seating around the area, an improved water fountain, and a bin nearby to accommodate the basic needs of an outdoor youth-friendly space that can be enjoyed by everyone. The space also needs to introduce

Overall, the recommendations on behalf of the youth auditors are:

- Revamp the basketball court
- Improve the amenities of the space
- Introduce new activities

2. Introduction

On 3 August 2021 and 7 August 2021, a team of youth auditors, led by team leader Andre Moneda, completed a Youth Friendly Spaces Audit on the MacFarlane Park Basketball Court. This Youth Friendly Spaces Audit report is an appraisal of the MacFarlane Park Basketball Court's youth-friendliness based on data gathered over two audits. This has been completed by two independent youth audit team leaders and covers the five factors of Youth Relevant Design including safety, appeal, accessibility, well-resourced and youth friendly. Robust engagement has taken place with a team of young people, also referred to in this report as youth auditors, who have developed a range of feedback and recommendations for this space.

The audit was completed by 6 diverse auditors ranging in age from 11 to 20. The two audits were completed in the evening on Tuesday 3rd August and in the afternoon on Saturday 7 August to capture the youth-friendliness of the space at different times. This report will tell you how youth-friendly your space is and provides you with a Net Promoter Score. It also includes detailed feedback from young people about what they like about the space, what changes they would like to see, general feedback, and recommendations.

3. Methodology

The Youth Friendly Spaces Audit was conducted by one team leader who led a team of young people through the MacFarlane Park Basketball Court and audited the space against a set of Youth Relevant Design Principles.

The audits were conducted at:

- Tuesday 3rd August 4.30pm-6pm
- Saturday 7th August, 3pm-4pm

3.1 Quantitative Feedback

During both audits, each youth auditor completed a Youth Friendly Spaces Scorecard. As they assessed the space, the young people were asked to think about the facility under the following banners:

- **Transport Options**
This looks at whether there are bike stands, a bus stop within 100 metres, bus links to other key spaces young people use, and whether the bikes stand, the path to the road and car park are well-lit.
- **Location**
This is assessing whether the space is close to other places the young person already hangs out, whether the entrance is well-lit and well sign-posted, and if there are accessibility ramps (where required).
- **Atmosphere**
This looks at things that make an appealing atmosphere such as music playing, soft spaces to relax that aren't 'in the way', colour, art, plant life, safe spaces to leave belongings, charging ports, and friendly staff greeting you on arrival.
- **Cost**
This refers to whether there is free admission and discounts with student ID, discounted admission on certain days or times, and free WIFI.
- **Bathrooms**
Spaces are scored on whether there are gender-neutral bathrooms, showers, disability bathrooms and disability showers (if applicable).
- **Support**
This looks at whether there are bike stands, a bus stop within 100 metres, bus links to other key spaces young people use, and whether the bikes stand, the path to the road and car park are well-lit.

Each of these banners includes questions that require either a yes, no, or not applicable answer. As the auditors walk into the space, they keep an eye out for the things suggested on the scorecard and record whether they are provided (if applicable). The results for each section look at how many 'yes' answers there are for each section out of all of the 'yes' and 'no' answers, thus producing a percentage for how well that area scored.

Alongside a score in each of these areas, the audit will also produce a Net Promoter Score. For this, every young person provides a rating for 'how likely would you be to recommend this space to a friend?'. The scale is from 0, not very likely, to 10, extremely likely. Scores between 0-6 are called 'detractors', while scores of 9-10 are called "promoters". Any rating that is 7 and 8 are neutral and not taken into consideration. The percentage of detractors are detracted from the percentage of promoters providing a number that is your net promoter score. Any number over 0 is a good Net Promoter Score because it means there were more promoters than detractors.

3.2 Qualitative Feedback

As well as providing youth-friendly scores, the Youth Friendly Spaces Audit also gathers qualitative feedback in the form of recommendations and anecdotal feedback. At the end of the audit, the audit team leader runs a small focus group with all of the auditors, asking them for feedback about the space against the 5 Factors of Youth Relevant Design which are:

- **Safety**
Any space that young people frequent should be safe, and when you get it right for them, you've probably got it right for everyone.
- **Appeal**
A space is going to be more appealing and successful when people want to use it for its intended purpose.
- **Accessible**
Any space needs to be accessible – all young people should be able to use it, even if their circumstances are different.
- **Well-Resourced**
A space that is well-resourced with young people in mind is one that will be well-used.
- **Youth-Friendly**
You can tell a youth-friendly space by the feeling you get when you walk in – young people are wanted here.



This focus group produces a lot of valuable feedback straight from the mouth of young people, which informs our recommendations later in the report. **As well as the focus group, young people also have the option to give their own feedback through the scorecard which asks:**

- What do you like about this space?
- Do you think this space is designed to be used by young people?
- What would you change about this space that is easy to do?
- What would you change about this space if you could do anything?

4. Findings

4.1 Audit Scorecards

AUDIT #1: Tuesday 3rd August 4.30pm – 6pm

SECTIONS:

SCORES:

Transport Options	67%
Location	67%
Atmosphere	60%
Cost	50%
Bathroom	50%
Support	67%
TOTAL	60%
NET PROMOTER SCORE	0



AUDIT#2: Saturday 7th August, 3pm – 4pm

SECTIONS:

SCORES:

Transport Options	47%
Location	58%
Atmosphere	80%
Cost	50%
Bathroom	67%
Support	50%
TOTAL	59%
NET PROMOTER SCORE	0

TOTAL: 59.5%

NET PROMOTOR SCORE: 0

4.2 Scorecard Feedback

Each youth auditor completes a scorecard twice at two distinctly different times. During the audits, they are asked to write down what they like about the space, if they thought the space was designed to be used by young people, what they would change that is easy to do, and what they would change if they could change anything at all. Below is a summary of their feedback.

4.2.1 What do you like about this space?

The most common theme that came through the scorecard regarding what people like about the space is that MacFarlane Park is easily accessible and a great place to hang with friends. One reason for this is that the park is the closest thing nearby for youth, "It's the only thing around here so it's this or nothing" and the young people felt you've got to "make the most of what you've got."

The youth auditors highlighted that they enjoy the basketball court as a way to pass time without the use of technology. The Park is there for people to use, so they use it as much as they can. They can relax at the playground or stay active and play sports.

4.2.2 Do you think this space is designed to be used by young people?

All of the auditors felt that the space is designed to be used by young people. The basketball courts prove to be a hotspot for youth to hang with their friends through sports and relaxation. The auditors also noted that the park is built for people of all ages. The playground and hoops give youth a variety of things to do while the large open space also allows youth to do numerous activities of their own choosing. On this occasion, the youth seemed to be happy with the general design, but one auditor did question, "what's the point in old people designing it if it's for young people who are using it?".

4.2.3 What would you change about this space that is easy to do?

A common change young people want to see is improving the 'life' of the basketball court. The concrete needs levelling because of constant puddles appearing during wet weather which can

cause slips and other accidents. The hoops need replacing which includes the backboards, double rim hoops, and access to the netball hoops to increase the versatility of the space. The need for a versatile court came from one young person who expressed “I used to come here to practice netball but now I don’t” because of the court only being set up for basketball. Youth also identified a need for benches as there is an insufficient amount of seating, and the bench that is currently there is inaccessible due to the leaking water fountain creating a “bog” that never dries and attracts wasps during the summer months.

Lighting also came up as there is not enough when it becomes dark. The auditors agreed that it is unsafe at late hours and lighting would significantly improve this. Signage needs to be added as well as it can be confusing for people to find the space. This could include signs by the gate to the courts or by the corner of the block.

4.2.4 What would you change about this space if you could change anything?

Better toilets, rubbish bins, and additions of other youth-friendly activities is a recommendation given out by the young people. Young people want toilets that are closer to the basketball courts as there is no clear path to the nearest toilet block, especially when it rains. They all mentioned that the toilets are not well lit, and they feel unsafe with one auditor stating, “I feel like I’m gonna die when I go in there”.

The bins are also something that everyone said needs to be changed. Recently, the bin placed near the playground was removed in favour of a smart bin that is placed by the toilet block. Young people felt that this was the wrong call as it makes no sense for it to be far away from the social hotspot of the park. People using the area have been leaving their rubbish on the ground because of it, and young people want the bins to come back again as it makes more sense to be there. Auditors also suggest adding a half-pipe for skateboarders. They felt that not only would it add another activity for youth to enjoy but would improve the overall vibe of the space to make it even more inviting for all youth of Christchurch and would give Shirley a treasure in the area.

4.3 Focus Group Feedback

At the end of the entire audit, the youth auditors came together to for a brief focus group to discuss feedback under the 5 Factors of Youth Relevant Design.



4.3.1 Safety

The crux of this point is that any space that young people frequent should be safe, and when you get it right for them you've probably got it right for everyone.

Overall, the youth auditors feel safe when they access the MacFarlane Park basketball courts. They mentioned that during the daytime the locals do their own thing with their family and friends and tend to stay with themselves. This gives young people assurance to be themselves and feel accepted by other users as they are not seen as a nuisance. When asked if they feel welcome in the space, it was unanimous from the auditors that they do feel welcome.

However, when it gets dark the general consensus is that young people do not feel safe. They have attributed this due to the lack of lighting in this space. The closest lights are the streetlights which are not in the immediate area of the space, a small sensor light connected to the MacFarlane Park Centre, and parking lights on the other side of the Park Centre. The auditors generally came by foot to the space and adequate lighting would drastically change their future sense of safety.

A suggestion would be to add lighting by the basketball courts to increase both the accessibility and safety of the space at night.

4.3.2 Appeal

A space is more appealing when young people are able to be engaged in the space.

During the focus group, youth auditors said that the space met their needs and is appealing. One of the auditors mentioned that even though the space is simply a park, if they went without bringing anything they would still be able to enjoy their time. The main use of the space is obviously the basketball court, so they are aware they need to bring a basketball or netball to use the courts.

Despite it being an overall appealing space, the auditors noted a number of improvements that could make the space be more functional and appealing. The first improvement would be to resurface the basketball court. In its current state, young people have mentioned the impracticality that it brings. The dips leave puddles that can cause slips and accidents after a period of rain and

the trees hinder the drying process and can cause these puddles to remain for days, especially during the winter. On top of this, the trees also cause leaves to fall onto the basketball court which affects the safety and appeal of the space. The court could also be redesigned to add lines to be used for other ball sports to make the space more versatile and appealing to a wider range of youth.

Other recommendations that arose were to replace the basketball hoops with interchangeable hoops that can also be used for netball. One auditor mentioned how in the past this was possible, but these hoops were removed and can no longer be changed. Fixing the water fountain and installing benches will also help improve the appeal of the space as the water is currently leaving a puddle that never dries.

4.3.3 Accessibility

Any space needs to be accessible, which includes disability access, physical movement to and around the space, and affordability to engage with the space.

Young people commented that the space is easily accessible to the general public due to its central location in the neighbourhood and it acts as a hub for the community. The location is close to other spaces that young people go to such as The Palms Mall, Shirley Library, shops, and their homes. The space is surrounded with a number of bus stops that connect to the main lines like the Orbiter. The main comment for improvement is that the space needs more clear signage to help non-locals find their way. The auditors recommend adding signage along Acheson Avenue to help direct people to the space. Another sign could be put up by the gate on Skipton Street that leads to the basketball courts.

The recommendation of resurfacing the concrete arose again due to the concrete by the entrance of the space being prone to puddles that inhibits access. Another solution that young people came up with is to install a drain or something similar to reduce the probability and severity of puddles appearing after periods of rain.

They also raised the issue of a lack of safe spaces to leave their bikes and scooters. One auditor said that they just leave their scooter by the bushes. Even though they currently feel safe doing this, a space should still be installed to leave nothing to chance.

4.3.4 Well-Resourced

A space that is well-resourced with young people in mind is a space that will be well-used.

The youth auditors said that the space lacks some basic resources such as bins, benches, and a proper path to the toilets. As discussed above, the auditors mentioned that recently the bin that was located directly beside the playground was removed by the Council in favour of a smart bin located by the toilet blocks. The problem is that this new location is far away from the most used spaces and people think of the walk to the new location as a hassle. At the time of the audit, there was a lot of rubbish left on the ground due to the removal of the bin.

Auditors also mentioned that the toilets are far away and that there is no direct paved way to them. The most direct path is going through the grass, and this is an issue during wet weather with mud building up that can cause slipping. Once at the toilets, there is not enough lighting inside and outside. Even during daylight hours, the toilets are dark, and youth feel unsafe to use them. They are in bad condition due to their uncleanliness and general atmosphere.


Youth feel that the space is close to shops where they can access food and they do not mind the walk to these shops. However, one auditor did comment about the chip shop on Acheson Avenue closing which was frequented a lot.

4.3.5 Youth-Friendly

You can tell a youth-friendly space by the feeling you get when you walk in – young people feel wanted here.

The youth auditors talked about how MacFarlane Park and the basketball courts have a real Shirley vibe, “we are a low income kinda area and so it’s not posh”. The young people are satisfied with the atmosphere of the space. Shirley is basic but has a very community-oriented and connected vibe. Youth and other residents will always bump into people they know. The auditors commented that if any changes were to be introduced, it would have to be something that is not too fancy to keep the current vibe and fit into the image that youth love.

Changes that the youth auditors identified were to introduce a skate ramp, like a half-pipe where youth and other residents can use their skateboards and scooters to complement the basketball court and playground. For artists, auditors suggested a mural wall similar to the giant spray cans at



the Youth Space on the corner of Lichfield and Manchester Street where youth can showcase their talents and give them a canvas where they would be allowed to do so. These types of installations would enhance the space and make it more attractive and appealing while allowing youth to continue to weave well into the community and have shared interests with the other residents of Shirley.

4.3.6 General Feedback

At the end of the focus group, the youth auditors were asked some final questions about what else they liked about the space, if there is anything they didn't like, or any other final suggestions or recommendations. In general, the youth auditors have identified a number of functional and practical improvements that can be made to help Macfarlane Park be a more youth-friendly space. These changes include resurfacing the basketball court and adding extra lines, adding benches, fixing the water fountain, and returning the bin to its previous location. One youth auditor, with agreement from the others, highlighted that they are more concerned about the practicality of the spaces than how they look. The space doesn't need to look fancy; it just has to work.

5. Recommendations

5.1 Revamp the Basketball Court

This was highlighted by all of the auditors. In its current state, the court is prone to puddles and is not being used to its full potential due to the fading lines and inability to swap between the basketball hoops and netball hoops.

Changes could look like:

- Resurfacing the concrete
- Repainting the lines
- Replacing the hoops and backboard
- Adding drainage to reduce the puddles



5.2 Add Lighting to the Space

Safety is paramount to the auditors. The space drastically needs lightning to improve its overall safety and accessibility to all hours of the day, not just for youth, but all users of the space.

Changes could look like:

- Adding lights around the basketball courts
- Lighting inside and outside the bathrooms
- Lighting around the entrances of the space

5.3 Increase Signage

The space may be familiar to Shirley youth, but youth from other areas will struggle to find the space. Auditors have identified the need for signage to make the space unambiguous and easier to find.

Changes could look like:

- Signs leading to the park (Yellow arrows around posts)
- A sign located in the entrance to the basketball courts

5.4 Improve the Amenities of the Space

The auditors have mentioned the need to improve the practical resources of the space. These changes will lead to a cleaner and safer space and ensure that every aspect of the space is being used

Changes could look like:

- Adding more benches
- Fixing the water fountain
- Improving the bathroom (e.g., cleaning, lightning, dedicated pathway)
- Adding a bin closer to the space
- Adding bike and scooter stands

5.5 Introduce New Activities

The auditors would like to see new elements in the park that are youth friendly. This will increase the appeal of the space, giving youth more to do, and highlighting the unique identity of Shirley

Changes could look like:

- Adding a skate park
- Adding a half-pipe
- Adding an art wall and area for graffiti art

6. Conclusion

Thank you for taking the time to read this Youth Friendly Spaces report and considering the above recommendations to make McFarlane Park more youth friendly.

We appreciate you allowing us into your space and showing us around and answering any questions we had. From here, we are happy to meet with you to discuss any of the feedback or recommendations in this report and how you might like to act on any of the above.

Following best practice youth engagement, it is important for us to feedback to the young people who participated in the audit how their voices have been used and taken on board by the audited space. We will follow up with you three months from the date this report is sent to you to ask about how this report has been received and if there is any action to report back to the youth auditors.



Andre Moneda
Youth Audit Team Leader



Hannah Dunlop
Project Coordinator
ReVision