



Council Workshop

AGENDA

Notice of Workshop Te Pānui o te Hui:

A Council Workshop will be held on:

Date: Tuesday 2 September 2025
Time: 10.30 am - 12.00 pm
Venue: The Camellia Chamber, Level 2, Civic Offices,
53 Hereford Street, Christchurch
Open session will be livestreamed
<https://councillive.ccc.govt.nz/meeting-calendar/>

Membership Ngā Mema

| | |
|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chairperson | Mayor Phil Mauger |
| Deputy Chairperson | Deputy Mayor Pauline Cotter |
| Members | Councillor Kelly Barber |
| | Councillor Melanie Coker |
| | Councillor Celeste Donovan |
| | Councillor Tyrone Fields |
| | Councillor James Gough |
| | Councillor Tyla Harrison-Hunt |
| | Councillor Victoria Henstock |
| | Councillor Yani Johanson |
| | Councillor Aaron Keown |
| | Councillor Sam MacDonald |
| | Councillor Jake McLellan |
| | Councillor Andrei Moore |
| | Councillor Mark Peters |
| | Councillor Tim Scandrett |
| | Councillor Sara Templeton |

29 August 2025

Principal Advisor

Mary Richardson

Chief Executive

Tel: 941 8999

mary.richardson@ccc.govt.nz

The open session will be livestreamed on Council website.

Note: This forum has no decision-making powers and is purely for information sharing.

To find upcoming meetings, watch a recording after the meeting date, or view copies of meeting Agendas and Notes, go to:

<https://www.ccc.govt.nz/the-council/meetings-agendas-and-minutes/>



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10:30am – 10:50am

*[Presenters: John Filsell - Unit Head Community Support and Partnerships Unit
Claire Phillips - Manager Community Planning and Projects Team]*

| | |
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| 3. Update on CWTP Activated Sludge Plant Project | 19 |
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10:50am – 11:10am

[Presenters: Thomas Fietzko Senior Project Manager, Gavin Hutchison Head of Three Waters]

| | |
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| 4. Items Closed to the Public | 29 |
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1. Apologies Ngā Whakapāha

Apologies will be recorded at the meeting.

2. Community Support and Partnerships Unit Activity Report Feb-July 2025


Reference Te Tohutoro: 25/1496267

Presenter(s) Te Kaipāhō : John Filsell - Unit Head Community Support and Partnerships Unit
Claire Phillips - Manager Community Planning and Projects Team

1. Detail Te Whakamahuki

| | |
|--|---|
| Purpose and Origin of the Information Session | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The purpose of this information session is to update Council on the activities and projects undertaken by the Community Support and Partnerships Unit for the period of February- June 2025.This report is staff generated |
| Timing | This information session is expected to last for 20 minutes. |
| Outcome sought | <ul style="list-style-type: none">That the Council receives the information in the Community Support and Partnership Unit Activity information session. |
| ELT Consideration | <ul style="list-style-type: none">This has not been considered by ELT. |
| Next steps | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The next unit report will be due in February 2026. |

Attachments Ngā Tāpirihanga

| No. | Title | Reference | Page |
|---|---|------------|------|
| A  | Activity Report Community Support and Partnerships Unit Feb - July 2025 | 25/1659946 | 6 |

Signatories Ngā Kaiwaitohu

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Author | Claire Phillips - Manager Community Planning & Projects |
| Approved By | John Filsell - Head of Community Support and Partnerships Andrew Rutledge - General Manager Citizens and Community |

COMMUNITY SUPPORT AND PARTNERSHIPS UNIT

BIANNUAL REPORT

February 2025 - July 2025



Rainbox Rangatahi Mural on Worchester Street

Executive Summary

The Community Partnerships and Support Unit strengthens economic productivity by fostering connected communities that support local entrepreneurship, increase workforce participation, and reduce reliance on public services. Volunteer contributions—valued at over \$83 million in Christchurch—enhance infrastructure, accelerate crisis recovery, and attract long-term investment. Global evidence shows that preventative community initiatives reduce costs across healthcare, policing, and social services.

In 2024/25, the Strengthening Communities Fund enabled nearly 2.9 million volunteer hours, equivalent to 1,390 full-time roles. Community facilities and programs are measurable assets that deliver good return on investment.

By empowering communities to lead in areas like emergency response, graffiti management, and social cohesion, the unit ensures faster recovery to shocks and sustainable economic resilience. Strategic investment in community capacity is not only socially vital—it is a smart financial investment.



Former Refugee Steering Group meeting

CONTENT

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[City Safety](#)

[Social issues](#)

[Civil Defence](#)

[Community Grant Funding](#)

SNAPSHOT

BIANNUAL REPORT

February 2025 - July 2025

Key highlights



33
Community Events



104 public forums, 92 topics
81 deputations, 51 topics



91 %
Community Facility
Activation Rate





10% ↑
Public Influence on decision making
[Christchurch Residents Survey](#)
[Programme 2024/25](#)

Strengthening Communities
Funds 24/25 generated
volunteer contributions
valued at approx.

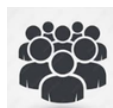
 **2.9 Mil hours**

equal to

 **1390 FTE**
 **\$83 Mil**



65
Civil Defence
Education sessions



72
Civil Defence Community Group
Response Plans

Emerging Priorities



Tsunami threat response



Homelessness



Local community development
and community resilience
working in partnership to
prepare and respond.

TE TANGATA: PEOPLE

We actively promote a culture of equity by valuing diversity and fostering inclusion across communities and generations.

OBJECTIVE ONE

Develop and enhance relationships with tangata whenua via mana whenua and Te Hononga

- Raised awareness of migrant, ethnic and cultural communities on how to honour the Te Tiriti o Waitangi in their own language through a **treaty training delivered by Tangata Tiriti**. A Partnership with Red Cross, Welcoming Communities and Multicultural Advisor.
- Strengthened open relationships between Waipapa board and rehua management and board, through facilitating a **welcome onto the marae**.



Te Tiriti o Waitangi workshop for newcomers - June 2025

OBJECTIVE TWO

Build and nurture relationships with Pacific communities.

- Harvest season has begun at the **Pacific gardens**, with matua (elders), Te Aratai College and Linwood Avenue School students gathering taro leaves, cabbage, potatoes, spring onions, garlic, tomatoes, silverbeet, and beetroot. Participants also prepared traditional Pacific foods such as palusami, lusipi, and 'otai, celebrating cultural knowledge and community connection. The gardens were recently recognised with **Waitai Pride and Edible Sustainable Garden Awards** for their contribution to sustainability and wellbeing.
- A **talanoa** was also held with Council staff who completed **Pacific engagement training** (Yavu, Kapasa, and Train the Trainer), providing space for reflection and shared learning. Further in-person training is scheduled late August.
- **Vanuatu Tree Planting Event** held in July at Rutland Reserve, to celebrate Language, Culture, and Climate Action. **300 native trees** planted, over 215 participants. This initiative honoured past Bislama Week milestones and created a living cultural space, fostering intergenerational pride and climate awareness.

OBJECTIVE THREE

Continue to build on the relationships and achievements developed with multi-ethnic and multicultural communities through the Multicultural Strategy - Our Future Together.

- Staff are investigating the reinstatement of the **Intercultural Assembly**. Its purpose is to strengthen intercultural dialogue and understanding, offer cultural communities a space to raise concerns, contribute to decision-making and build partnerships.

OBJECTIVE FOUR

Harness the strengths of diverse communities and address issues of social exclusion.

- Supported the preparation and advertising of the **51 Threads Connection Exhibition** during Unity Week in March, a moving tribute to the events of 15th of March. Through the delicate arts of calligraphy and embroidery, stories are told with chosen words or phrases rendered in Arabic calligraphy and hand-embroidered on fabric. Participants, honouring the memory of loved ones lost in the tragic attacks, use this moving medium to express their grief and remembrance five years on.



51 Threads Connection Exhibition - March 2025

OBJECTIVE FIVE

Support groups involved in providing access to arts, culture, heritage, recreation and those who care for the environment.

- Supported the **Akaroa French Festival** Committee in understanding their Council funding contract, liaised with legal and events teams to propose amendments, and identified the need for paid professionals due to the event's scale.
- Council staff planning to transition **Culture Galore 2026** from Ilam to the Multicultural Centre. Staff are supporting the committee to take greater ownership and ensure smooth transition.

What people are telling us

"Great insights and tips to better understand the funding process and ensure your groups applications is successful" - Participant of Waimāero Funding hui

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February 2025 - July 2025



Waitai Pride and Edible Garden Awards Feb 2025 - Pacific - Linwood Community Garden

OBJECTIVE SIX

Facilitate and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

- Improved awareness of **local funding opportunities** and community mental health support through leading the coordination of bi-monthly Waimāero community liaison meetings. There were guest speakers from staff at Rāta Foundation, Te Tumu Waiora and Avonhead Community Trust.
- Recruited and supervised **two interns**: one from Ara Institute of Technology Broadcasting School who created impact stories and videos to showcase Council-funded third sector work; and one from the University of Canterbury who built a multicultural contact database and mapped NGO roles for emergency response coordination.



Waimāero Funding Hui - March 2025

OBJECTIVE SEVEN

Work with others to reduce loneliness and social isolation, with particular focus on intergenerational approaches.

- Increasing advocacy and engagement in consultation processes for **older people in Waihoru** i.e. with community boards and other consultation processes e.g. ECAN. Raised awareness of the World Health Organisation "eight domains" and Age Friendly Cities Initiative to decision makers. A partnership with **Age Friendly Aotearoa**.

TE WHENUA: PLACE

We support and help build connections between communities and their places and spaces to foster a sense of local identity, shared experience and stewardship.

OBJECTIVE ONE

Support the activation and kiatiakitanga of public places and spaces.

- Supported **Children's Day** celebration, a free city-wide event, attended by estimated 14,000 people. It was a huge success, from 40 interactive stalls with bouncy castles, pony rides, and a BBQ. Council staff ensured event would happen within budget and in a safe environment.



Childrens Day 2025

- Organised the **Community Service Awards** in April, from marketing, updating websites, updating staff of participating community boards. Reviewed applications, promoted and acknowledged volunteer participation.
- Supporting the Shoreline Youth Trust Bays Skate Park and Village Green & Library Youth Pilot Project.** Assisting with proposal development, coordinating library input, securing facilities funding, and establishing an MOU.
- Collaborated with the Nomads AFC to Pilot a **Mini Kicks Programme** for years 2-3, and supporting with funding. Supported the upgrade of the changerooms at Tullet Park through Better off Funding.
- The vibrant **Hello Hornby** event was held in March, run by a dedicated committee of volunteers with support of Hornby Community Care Trust. It attracted hundreds of community members, with entertainment, free activities and a baking competition. Council staff have supported this for years, providing planning advice and resources on the day. Now they are able to step back as it is self-sufficient.
- Supporting the **Multicultural Centre Trust** in recruiting new members, HR matters, staff appraisals, training in financial administration and funding.

OBJECTIVE TWO

Work with new and changing communities in both rural and urban areas to build a sense of belonging.

- Completion of a **Welcoming Communities Stocktake report** which gathered insights and data about the experiences, needs and gaps faced by newcomers in Christchurch.
- Completion of a **Welcome Action Plan** which provides a clear roadmap for how Christchurch can become a more welcoming and inclusive community. This was informed by the Stocktake report.
- Facilitating partnerships with organisations to deliver 14 **Welcoming Communities Week** activities for newcomers in September.
- Council staff initiated and supported the planning and delivery of the **Welcome Dinner Event** in partnership with Purapurawhetu and Share Kai. Council promoted the event directly to newcomer communities. The event focused on inviting refugees who want to connect with locals in a meaningful way. These are held at the Multicultural Centre at least 3 times per year.



Promote Welcoming Communities - May 2025

- Assisted **5 Residents Associations** to reinvigorize them, (Ilam and Upper Riccarton), address struggling membership numbers (Somerfield), close groups (Lower Cashmere) and to update on the waste water treatment plan rebuild progress (Burwood and Linwood).



Hello Hornby 2025

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OBJECTIVE THREE

Support the activation and kiatiakitanga of public places and spaces.

- Supported youth activation of the **Matatiki pools** with a **Youth Pool Party** for its first birthday. A partnership with Youth and Cultural Development (YCD), attracting 250+ attendees, with food, prizes, braiding, and poolside entertainment. This fostered a sense of belonging and local pride. Future events planned in Hornby and Riccarton.
- Facilitating a biannual hui reconnecting **11 community managed facilities** with council together after a 3-year gap, to provide peer support and coordination.
- Increased **activation of Matuku Takotako** through enabling "**Fuse Youth**" to secure a sole occupancy agreement for the use of the Pariroa Room as a youth space through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) and working with CCC facilities, libraries and other users.
- Redeveloping New Brighton and the mall** area through contributing to internal project group initiatives including the Village Green, the Harris Family Development of the Pierside Mall, installation of a light and a Marine Parade master plan.
- Increasing **Pest Plant Control** through a 2 year project led by the Opāwaho Heathcote River Network Incorporated, partnering with CCC Three Waters, biodiversity staff and parks; facilitated Better off Funds Discussions.
- Helped the Papanui Toc H Athletic Club to secure \$150,000 from the Capital Endowment Fund, to **restore and reopen the Buzz Jones All Weather Track** after vandalism.
- Supported the **Smith Street Gardens to remain open**, with administration, recruitment and funding.
- Supporting the **Huritini Student Council** with the **Bike Trail Project** with resources and advice in Halswell.



Life in Vacant Spaces - New Brighton Mall - art works project 2025

What people are telling us

"I enjoyed rediscovering their awa/river and learning a bit of the river's and city's history. Beautiful day and great company" **Walking festival participant.**

"I had no idea of the depth of the connections in Lyttleton" **Walking Festival participant.**

"...It holds so much potential to become a tūrangawaewae (a place to stand, belong) for all cultures to meet, celebrate, and weave something new together. May it continue to grow as a place of manaakitanga (hospitality), where the power and beauty of human diversity can be honoured and uplifted every day!" **participant at the Te Tiriti o Waitangi workshop for newcomers.**

"I like connecting with people and want our city to feel welcoming to diverse communities" **Participant of the Welcoming Dinner.**

TE MAHI: PARTICIPATION

Residents and groups in the wider community are socially and actively engaged and are able to initiate, influence and make decisions that affect their lives.

OBJECTIVE ONE

Empower and equip residents and groups to participate in decisions affecting their neighbourhoods.

- Facilitated consultation to install **Spencerville basketball hoops**, with the Residents Association.
- Supporting the **decision making process to reopen Allandale Hall** in collaboration with Allandale Reserve Committee and Governors Bay Community Association. This involved making a deputation, working with Parks on toilet closures and water quality, sharing hall usage data, facilitating meetings, and updating the committee. This resulted in a positive outcome to repair and reopen the hall.
- Completed the third and final working group hui in July, to discuss the **Shirley Community Reserve** proposal. Submitted a decision report to the Waipapa community board for September.
- Facilitated a community meeting with residents to provide an update on the Environment Court decision of the **Port Link site**, explain the rationale and why CCC cannot appeal to the high court. Presented on the District Plan 20 and the Landscape Plan for the Esplanade Reserve.



Vanuatu Bislama language week, 300 native trees planted

- Provided meaningful decision making by Multicultural Advisory Group through advising the Multicultural Community Development Advisor in the assessments of the **multicultural related SCF funding applications**.
- Facilitated public forums** on topics including community infrastructure and safety, youth and education, environmental and recreation projects, mental health and emergency preparedness, and local governance and planning.
- Facilitated deputations** on transport and safety, urban development, land use, urban forest planting plans, and board appointment.

OBJECTIVE TWO

Increase general understanding of Councils decision making processes and support people to have their say.

- In June and July, we worked with the **Electoral Commission team** to develop an outreach programme for **Pasifika communities**. Throughout August and September 2025, the campaign will be delivered to schools, parent groups, public service groups, matua groups, churches, and sports and cultural groups. It will highlight democratic participation, the role of local government, and how to vote. The Commission has provided translated resources in multiple Pacific languages. With past participation as low as 1%, we aim to inspire more Pacific peoples to take action and have their voices heard.
- Promoted local elections and civic participation in the March and June **multicultural newsletters**.

OBJECTIVE THREE

Provide well informed support and advice to staff and elected members for effective decision making and community engagement.

- Raised the voices of youth in Whakarangapō Lyttelton** through a youth hui, generating information on issues to be overcome and possible solutions. Many relevant local organisations and schools participated.
- Supported the **New Brighton Safety Partnership** to ensure **liquor ban areas** were clearly identified with signage to address street drinking.
- Assisted with Advocacy efforts including letters to the CE, Police and Industry raising key local safety concerns resulting in formal responses, Senior Police attending their upcoming meeting and their commitment to record liquor ban related interactions.

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OBJECTIVE FOUR

Increase volunteering opportunities across the council and wider community and support the organisations providing such opportunities.

- Newcomers have more awareness of volunteering opportunities and ways to connect, through attending a **Newcomers Volunteering Expo** in February. Council staff organised the expo in partnership with Volunteering Canterbury. 13 organisations contributed, from Community Law to the Electoral Commission. Great conversations were had between newcomers and organisations needing volunteers. Newcomers felt welcomed and informed.



Wycla Skate Park Engagement with schools - May 2025

- This year's cabinet beautification project is set to flourish with Enable, Chorus, one.nz and the Councils 2W network maintenance team lift station all partaking with their cabinets. One Telco company stated, "since the transformation of 10 of our cabinets last year, they have remained graffiti-free resulting in an estimated saving of over \$25,000 in cleaning costs". Eighty cabinets have been designated to paid Artists and voluntary students to transform in spring this year.



Before and after, Enable cabinet, 178 St Asaph St.

What people are telling us

"Thanks for running a very informative and inspirational hui" **Lyttelton Information Centre Manager at the Youth hui.**

"Thank you for organising to have someone on site with chai, coffee and delicious food. I particularly appreciated that" **Community organisation rep from the volunteering expo.**

TE TAKATŪ: PREPAREDNESS

People feel safe in their communities and neighbourhoods and work together to understand, adapt and thrive in the context of change and disruption.

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OBJECTIVE ONE

Work with communities to prepare and respond to emergencies and also increase climate resilience and adaptation action.

- Supporting to **activate the area outside Linwood Baptist Church** to improve service access and provide a safe space. Identifying sustainable solutions to local food insecurity.
- Supported the development of the **Richmond CDEM response plan guide**, in collaboration with We are Richmond, Avon Sports Hub, Delta Trust, Riverlution and Avebury House.
- Coordinated and improved the **Bryndwr Banter – Autumn 2025 edition**; currently supporting tproduction due to volunteer shortages. This **newsletter** helps bring together stories, updates and events. It has increased connections, participation in events and trust in council.
- Assisted the Belfast community to get **rain water tanks** for their Area Emergency Response Plan.



CDEM EOC Foundation and CIMS workshop with Pacific community March 2025



Whakaraupō Emergency Hub Collective Meeting March 2025 - Walkie Talkie Location Discussion

OBJECTIVE TWO

Support the capacity of the community and voluntary sector to understand, plan, adapt and respond to risk, disruption and change.

- Supported the **5 year strategic planning of the Bromley Community Centre Board**, advising on areas of good and sustainable governance practices, informed by community feedback.
- Established a **internal unit working group on climate resilience**, collaborating across council and externally. Key actions include:
 - A **workshop with board staff and councillors** on the impacts of climate change, and risks and vulnerabilities and actions, with potential for wider community roll out.
 - Inclusion of climate risks and vulnerabilities in the 2025 **community profiles and council board webpages**.
 - Developed a climate resilience ecosystem illustration to Clarify the **units role in climate resilience** and how we interact with other units of council.
- Formed a **cross-council unit food resilience working group** to track actions, create partnerships and align efforts with the **Food Resilience Policy**. Working with external stakeholders to do the same.
- Co-developing The **Multicultural Sector Emergency Preparedness Plan** with the Welfare Coordinator to ensure that diverse ethnic communities are actively engaged, supported, and resilient in the face of emergencies through inclusive planning and culturally responsive welfare services.



Governors Bay Emergency Hub Open Day May 2025

OBJECTIVE THREE

Support neighbourhood and city-wide initiatives aimed at increasing a sense of neighbourliness.

- Strengthened relationships with **Christchurch South Community Patrol** by connecting them safety training providers, enhancing public de-escalation skills.
- Led a partnership with Envirohub and CCC Smart Cities, to develop a **public online local food system map**. It is aimed to promote access to local food and initiatives, such as food markets, coops, community gardens, farmers, food foraging locations and food related organisations across Ōtautahi.
- Responded to **antisocial behaviour concerns at Spencerville Beach** by supporting advocacy efforts, helping clarify council limitations and guiding future action.



Ngāti Wheke Emergency Response Day July 2025



Community Emergency Response Hui May 2025

IMPACT STORIES

BIANNUAL REPORT

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Bridging Academia and Community Impact

BACKGROUND

In 2025, Christchurch City Council (CCC) partnered with final-year students from the University of Canterbury's Bachelor of Youth and Community Leadership programme to deliver a hands-on capstone experience. The initiative aimed to connect academic learning with real-world community development.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

CCC's Community Support and Partnerships Team coordinated the collaboration, inviting staff from Libraries, Parks, and Community Development to submit project briefs. These were presented to students on 31 March at Civic, following a "Council 101" session introducing CCC's structure and priorities.

COUNCIL ROLE

Students were grouped into small teams and assigned to projects aligned with their interests. From 27 April to 26 May, they dedicated three hours per week to working alongside Council staff, contributing fresh ideas and energy to community-focused initiatives.

The partnership culminated in a celebration and presentation event at the UC Campus on 26 May, where students showcased their work and reflected on their learning journey.

OUTCOMES

Students gained practical experience in civic engagement and community leadership. CCC teams benefited from innovative input and strengthened ties with UC. The final event celebrated shared impact and future potential.

REFLECTIONS

This collaboration demonstrated the value of cross-sector partnerships in fostering leadership, innovation, and community connection. By investing in student-led projects, CCC helped shape future leaders while advancing its own community goals.



CCC and UC Capstone Collaboration March 2025



Reviving Local Connection Through the Akaroa Information Centre

BACKGROUND

When the original Akaroa Information Centre closed, the community quickly recognised a gap in local information sharing—particularly for tourists, visitors, and newcomers. In response, a local community group initiated efforts to re-establish a centre, identifying an underutilised Council office space as a potential location.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Local residents formed a community group to revive the Akaroa Information Centre. They identified the need, rallied support, proposed the use of a vacant Council space, and mobilised volunteers to bring the vision to life. Their proactive approach laid the foundation for a centre that reflects local values and meets real community needs.

COUNCIL ROLE

Staff worked alongside the community group to facilitate lease arrangements, develop systems and processes, conduct funding assessments, and survey staff prior to the lease transition.

OUTCOMES

The new centre is now run by 25 volunteers and one part-time paid coordinator, with Council providing ongoing funding support. The centre has become a vital hub, with the busiest day seeing 98 people access its services. It has eased pressure on local businesses and organisations, who previously filled the gap in visitor information. Beyond its practical benefits, the centre has fostered strong social connections—particularly among older adult volunteers—creating a sense of purpose and community engagement.

REFLECTIONS

Due to its success, the initial trial has been extended for 12 months, and volunteers are currently upskilling in preparation for the busy summer season.



Akaroa Information Centre Trial May 2025

[To watch the video, click here](#)

IMPACT STORIES

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Empowering Refugee voices: A Story of Connection, Advocacy and Visibility

BACKGROUND

captures a year-long collaboration between the Council and a former refugee-led steering group. This partnership fostered leadership, visibility, and advocacy, enabling refugee communities to engage meaningfully in civic life.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

With Council secretarial support, the group formalised into a Committee, held regular meetings, and received training on local decision-making. Strategic upskilling included a World Refugee Day trip to Wellington, where members connected with Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment (MBIE) staff and organisations like Changemakers and Placemakers, and explored education and lobbying opportunities.

COUNCIL ROLE

Beyond logistics, the Council supported leadership development and social integration. It also helped plan a community gathering on 8 August, creating space for dialogue and strengthening collective identity.

OUTCOMES

Key outcomes included increased visibility and influence. The group presented their agenda to the Council on 18 June and later to MBIE stakeholders on 6 August. Their coordinated gathering deepened community ties and marked a milestone in civic advocacy.

REFLECTIONS

This journey highlights the transformative power of collaboration. By supporting refugee-led initiatives, the Council helped cultivate confident leaders and inclusive civic participation, setting a foundation for long-term capacity building.



Former Refugee Steering Group hui



Emergency Response Planning Session with St Luke's Samoan AOG Church

BACKGROUND

Recognising the importance of Pacific communities being well-prepared for emergencies, a Civil Defence Emergency Response Planning session was held in June at Christ City Church. The initiative focused on building local capability and resilience using the Coordinated Incident Management System (CIMS) and Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) principles.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Over 40 members of the St Luke's Samoan Assembly of God Church attended, including youth, young adults, elders, and families. Participants learned about setting up a community emergency hub, the key functions of a response during a disaster, and what resources are needed to support their neighbourhood in times of crisis.

COUNCIL ROLE

The Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Resilience Team and Pacific Community Liaison Advisor, facilitated the session and continues to support Pacific faith communities in emergency preparedness. The collaboration highlights Council's commitment to empowering community-led resilience.

OUTCOMES

The evening session ended with kai and talanoa, where members reflected on the importance of preparedness. Church leader Afi Tusa said, "It was an amazing session. I was stoked to see our members so engaged—it was more than I expected".

REFLECTIONS

The church community is now working to gather the necessary resources to set up a well-equipped emergency hub and plans to participate in further CIMS training with CDEM, building a stronger, safer, and more connected Pacific community in Ōtautahi.



St Luke's Samoan Church - Emergency Preparedness Planning June 2025

CITY SAFETY

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ENHANCING COMMUNITY SAFETY THROUGH STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

In response to growing concerns around homelessness, youth antisocial behaviour, and overall community wellbeing, the Community Support and Partnership Unit at Christchurch City Council (CCC) has taken a proactive and collaborative approach to safety. Over the past six months, the Unit has spearheaded a series of initiatives aimed at creating safer, more inclusive environments across the city.

STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN SAFETY

In early 2024, CCC allocated nearly \$2 million from the government's Better Off support package to fund a comprehensive safety programme. This funding was directed toward high-impact initiatives developed in consultation with social service providers, businesses, Police, and the Ministry of Social Development. The focus was on addressing immediate safety concerns while laying the groundwork for long-term community resilience. The focus was on addressing immediate safety concerns while laying the groundwork for long-term community resilience.

KEY INITIATIVES AND PARTNERSHIPS

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT AND OUTREACH



Recognising youth as key to community safety, CCC partnered with Youth and Cultural Development to launch a **mobile Youth Work Project**. With **\$750,000 over three years**, youth workers are deployed to city "hot spots" to provide support, diversion activities, and conflict resolution. Other youth-focused initiatives include mobile and place-based programs led by Governance teams in Waitai, Waipuna, and Waipapa.



YCD - Outreach programme

<https://ycd.co.nz/outreach-project/>

HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING SUPPORT



To address homelessness, CCC funded two outreach positions through the Christchurch City Mission, focusing on housing connections and support services to reduce street homelessness and related safety concerns. The Outreach service responds to complaints, Council reports, and engages proactively with the growing homeless community. The team works closely with the Council Safety Advisor, balancing empathy and compliance. Based on input from the City Mission and social housing agencies, homelessness is increasing, with Hybris complaints consistently highlighting individuals needing support or causing public concern.

<https://www.citymission.org.nz/homelessness-and-housing>

INNER CITY SAFETY PATROLS



Council's funding for the Christchurch Central Business Association's City Ambassadors (CCBA) ended in mid-2025, with CCBA now self-funding. These patrols maintain a visible presence, deter antisocial behaviour, and reassure residents and visitors, working closely with Police, City Mission Outreach, and other agencies. Police Beat teams also play a key role in reducing inner-city issues, collaborating with City Ambassadors and City Mission Outreach. The Inner-City Collective Action Group meets every five weeks to address crime and antisocial issues, involving Council (including Libraries Social Inclusion Advisor), Police, City Mission, Corrections, CCBA, Housing First, and others like YCD and Mental Health services as needed.

SMART TECHNOLOGY FOR SAFER SPACES



Council Real Time Operations and the City Safety Advisor are working together to meet regularly and develop clearer guidelines for the public applying for CCTV camera placement in identified areas. Current work focuses on projects in the inner city (CBD and around Te Kaha Stadium) and suburban areas like New Brighton.

COMMUNITY-LED SAFETY PROJECTS

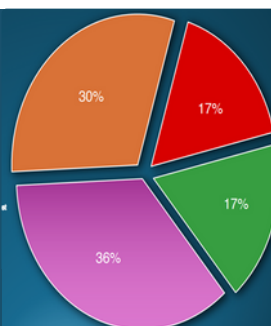
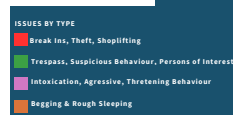


In the city's east, \$200,000 was allocated to support community safety and cohesion initiatives in New Brighton, Woolston, and Eastgate. These locally driven projects are tailored to each suburb's needs, fostering ownership and sustainability. The New Brighton ward team and City Safety Advisor helped establish the New Brighton Safety Group, which includes local business reps, Police, City Mission Outreach, MSD, other faith-aligned social agencies, and local politicians and their representatives.

CHRISTCHURCH ALCOHOL HARM PARTNERSHIP



This group replaced the Christchurch Alcohol Action Plan and meets approximately every five weeks. Members include Police, Te Whatu Ora, and Council, all with statutory roles in alcohol licensing and harm reduction. Recent focus has supported the LAP project, explored safety protocols in bars and clubs, connected with other alcohol harm groups, and backed a future alcohol harm forum led by Te Whatu Ora.



Christchurch Central Business Association Safety Teams (CCBA)

CONCLUSION

The success of these initiatives is rooted in CCC's commitment to collaborative governance. The Community Support and Partnership Unit works closely with NGOs, government agencies, and community groups to ensure that safety strategies are inclusive, responsive, and data-informed. Regular feedback loops and community consultations help refine priorities and ensure alignment with local needs.

SOCIAL ISSUES

BIANNUAL REPORT

February 2025 - July 2025

HOUSING INSECURITY AND HOMELESSNESS



Third sector organisations such as the Christchurch City Mission and housing advocacy groups have reported a **sustained increase in demand for emergency accommodation** and transitional housing. Rising living costs and limited affordable housing stock have exacerbated homelessness, particularly among youth and older adults.

[2,018 people living without shelter](#), in temporary accommodation, or in overcrowded housing, an increase of 18% since 2018.

Emergency housing grants have tightened from [606 in Q4 2023 to only 141 in Q4 2024](#).

21,356 people are living in dwellings that are either sometimes [\(19,196\) or always damp \(2160\) damp \(Oct 2024\)](#).

[In 2024–2025, Christchurch saw the highest rent increases in NZ](#), with many households spending over 40% of income on housing.

[6,639 people \(4.6% of the population\) live in crowded dwellings](#).

Outreach teams funded by CCC have played a vital role in connecting individuals with support service.

ECONOMIC HARDSHIP AND FOOD INSECURITY



Food banks and budgeting services have seen a surge in demand, reflecting broader economic pressures. Many households continue to struggle with inflation and stagnant wages.

Almost half of renters (48%) are spending [40% to 50% of their income on rent](#).

54% of respondents said they don't have enough saved up to pay a large, unexpected bill [\(Quality of Life 2024\)](#).

VIOLENCE



Number of police proceedings of **violent crime has increased** by [2.1%](#), from a 7.9% low in 2024 Q2, to 10%.

Oranga Tamariki reports show Christchurch has **above-average rates of child protection notifications**, particularly in high-deprivation areas.

Christchurch Police recorded a [15% increase in family harm callouts](#) between 2021 and 2024.

MENTAL HEALTH AND SOCIAL ISOLATION



Mental health remains a top concern, especially among migrants, seniors, and those living alone. Community groups have noted a rise in anxiety, depression, and social withdrawal.

[28% of residents report experiencing stress most or all of the time](#).

[Methamphetamine remains the most consumed drug in Christchurch](#), with usage rising in Q1 2025 to 2,376 g/capita/week. The city also ranks third nationally for MDMA consumption, averaging over 300 mg/day per 1,000 people—equivalent to approximately 124 grams daily.

Initiatives promoting peer support, cultural connection, and community events have been essential in addressing these challenges.

YOUTH DISENGAGEMENT AND SAFETY



Youth-focused organisations have highlighted growing concerns around disengagement from education and employment, leading to increased vulnerability to antisocial behaviour.

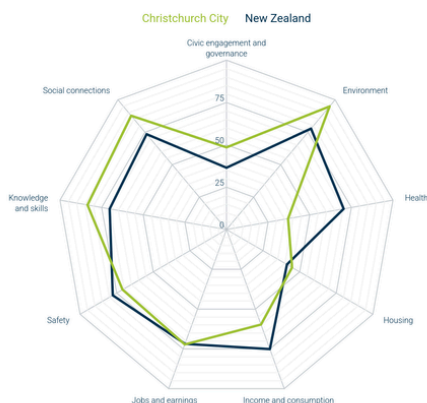
[In 2023, 16.7% of Christchurch students left school without achieving NCEA Level 1 or higher](#).

In high-deprivation areas of Christchurch, youth Not in Education, Employment, or Training (NEET) exceed [12%](#), compared to a national average of around 9%.

The deployment of mobile youth workers in partnership with CCC has helped mitigate risks in key areas, offering mentorship and safe spaces for young people.

WELLBEING RADAR 2024

Wellbeing radar
2024



WELLBEING RADAR 2024

[Christchurch City compared to New Zealand](#)



Outperforming

Civic engagement and governance, environment, housing, knowledge and skills and social connections.



Underperforming

Health, income and consumption and safety.

CIVIL DEFENCE

BIANNUAL REPORT

February 2025 - July 2025

Christchurch Ready: Tsunami Planning and Civil Defence's Year of Impact

The Community Development Advisors (CDA's) have partnered with the Civil Defence Community Resilience Coordinators (CRC's) to strengthen tsunami preparedness through the establishment of a Tsunami Project Steering Group in Nov 2024, overseeing the update of the evacuation zones, the change to the tsunami sirens, the new tsunami signage as well as the tsunami planning.

Evacuation zone

This group is leading the transition to a simplified, nationally consistent evacuation zone, following a national review by NEMA and GNS Science. The current zones, set in 2019/20, are outdated and complex. The new approach introduces a single evacuation zone making emergency messaging clearer and more effective. Christchurch is planning to update its zones ahead of the national compliance deadline in July 2031.

Alert Systems

Tsunami Sirens will be upgraded, with new sirens replacing the existing network in areas where digital alerts may be less effective, supported by new signage and response planning.

Community resilience and community development

The partnership between the CRC's and the CDA's are taking a whole of council approach to strengthen tsunami preparedness. This involves collaboration with other Council teams like Communications, Engagement and Coastal Hazard Adaptation Planning. This collaboration was established in Nov 2024.

Public information and education

Over 65 public information and education sessions were delivered across schools, workplaces, and community hubs, including "Stan's Got a Plan"—a fun, practical way to teach emergency readiness.

Civil Defence also partnered with 72 community groups to develop tailored response plans, this includes work with the Pacific Community as well as the Multicultural Sector.

Upskilling of EOC staff

The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) capability also keeps going. 499 staff across council are now trained in basic EOC functions, forming a strong, flexible response network.

Christchurch-trained personnel were deployed to support Selwyn, Akaroa and Nelson/Tasman due to the recent floods. In addition to the standard EOC training offered to staff, a new series of scenario-based workshops has been launched specifically for EOC Planning personnel. These sessions are designed to enhance disaster planning capabilities, strengthen overall preparedness, and build confidence in managing large-scale emergency events. The initiative will also involve collaboration with other EOC functions to foster greater awareness, cross-functional coordination, and shared confidence across the entire EOC team when responding to complex emergencies.

What staff is telling us from EOC training

[For staff feedback please see this video](#)



65

Education sessions



72

Community Group
Response Plans



40

EOC staff
trained this year



499

EOC staff trained



5

Deployments



COMMUNITY GRANT FUNDING

BIANNUAL REPORT

February 2025 - July 2025

SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT - EMBEDDING SMARTY GRANTS PLATFORM

Awareness of new funding processes using SmartyGrants platform was successfully raised across city. Funding hui were delivered in Waitai, Waimāero, and Waihoru Community Boards, collectively attracting over 165 attendees.

The hui offered local groups valuable insights into available funding streams, supported by representatives from the Department of Internal Affairs (DIA), Rātā Foundation, Sports Canterbury, and Step Ahead Trust.

Most applicants rated the experience of completing the SmartyGrants application as neutral. This was followed by those who found it easy, then difficult, very easy, and lastly, a small number who found it very difficult (chart 3).

THE CHALLENGE

A noticeable increase in funding applications reflects this heightened awareness (see chart 1 and 2). Many groups have experienced reductions or cuts in previously stable Central Government funding. Regional funders, including Rātā Foundation, have also scaled back their funding scope due to economic pressures, intensifying demand on CCC's contestable funding schemes.

WHAT THIS MEANS

A report is planned for December to Council to address this growing demand. Also, the current application and assessment process is time-intensive for both groups and staff. By clarifying expectations and establishing clear, accessible criteria, we aim to ensure applications align more closely with Council priorities—potentially reducing the volume of submissions unlikely to succeed under the existing contestable framework.

\$ ECONOMIC BENEFIT OF VOLUNTEERS \$

SCF actuated in 2,891,134 volunteer hours in 2024/25. This equates to \$83,698 or 1,390 full-time positions at living wage.

THIRD SECTOR NEEDS

From our engagements with community groups a significant number would like support in areas regarding revenue, fundraising, and community engagement (Chart 4).

What people are telling us

Strengths of Smarty Grants

"Thank you for simplifying the process"
"Very user friendly and easy to navigate. A very positive step forward in administering the funding process"
"Very easy to apply"

A challenge of Smarty Grants

"Too wordy, seems to be repeating the same objectives"

Strengthening Communities Fund Metro/Citywide

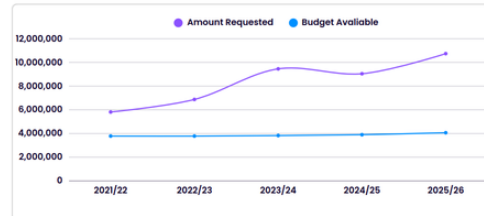


Chart 1: Amount Requested vs Budget Available SCF last 5 years

Strengthening Communities Fund Metro/Citywide

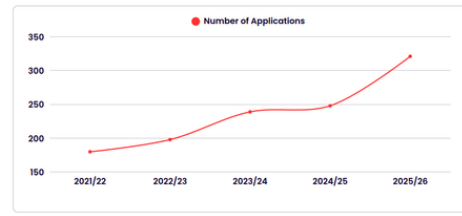


Chart 2: Number of applications SCF last 5 years

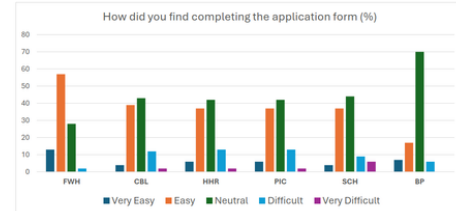


Chart 3: Feedback on Funding platform 'Smart Grants'

FWH = Fendalton, Waimari, Harwood
CBL = Coastal, Burwood, Linwood
HHR = Halswell, Hornby, Riccarton
PIC = Papanui, Innes, Central
SCH = Spreydon, Cashmere, Hillmorton
BP = Banks Peninsula

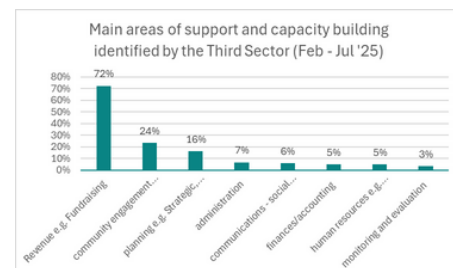


Chart 4: Areas of support the Third Sector need



3. Update on CWTP Activated Sludge Plant Project


Reference Te Tohutoro: 25/1110542

Presenter(s) Te Kaipāhō : Thomas Fietzko Senior Project Manager, Gavin Hutchison Head of Three Waters

1. Detail Te Whakamahuki

| | |
|-------------------------|---|
| Purpose and Origin | 1. The purpose of this information session is to provide the Elected Members with an update on the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant Activated Sludge Plant (ASP) project. |
| Timing | 2. This information session is expected to last for 20 minutes. |
| Outcome Sought | 3. This report provides an overview of the current status of this project and offers the opportunity to ask questions. 4. |
| ELT Consideration | In November 2021, a fire destroyed the trickling filters at the Christchurch Wastewater Treatment Plant, prompting the implementation of an interim solution that is not sustainable long-term and has ongoing impacts on community wellbeing and environmental compliance. 5. Following a robust multi-criteria analysis and acceptance of an \$85 million insurance settlement, Council resolved in September 2024 to proceed with a conventional activated sludge secondary treatment process and delegated authority to approve procurement plans. 6. |
| Next Steps | 7. Not applicable. 8. |
| Key points / Background | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The project is currently on track on time and on budget.We've gone out to tender and expect to have the contract awarded by the end of this year. 9. 10. |
| Useful Links | 11. Not applicable 12. 13. |

Attachments Ngā Tāpirihanga

| No. | Title | Reference | Page |
|---|--|------------|------|
| A  | CWTP Activated Sludge Plant (Project Update) | 25/1624630 | 21 |

Signatories Ngā Kaiwaitohu

| | |
|-------------|---|
| Author | Thomas Fietzko - Senior Project Manager |
| Approved By | Gavin Hutchison - Head of Three Waters Brent Smith - General Manager City Infrastructure |

CWTP Activated Sludge Plant

Project Update 02/09/25

Thomas Fietzko (PM)

What have we been up to?



Cleared the site for the construction

Completed the design for the new Plant for tender purposes.

Released the tender to the shortlisted contractors

Awarded contract for the CM/CA

What is coming up?



Awarding the
Construction Contract

Site establishment

Ground improvement
work

Your New Plant



Creating a PowerPoint presentation

13 August 2025

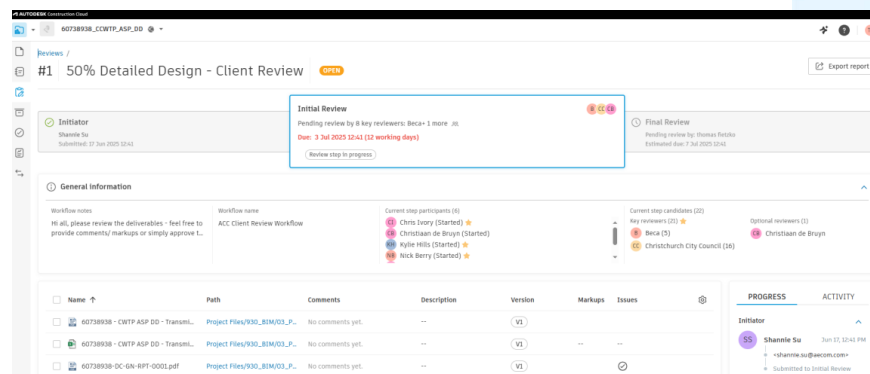
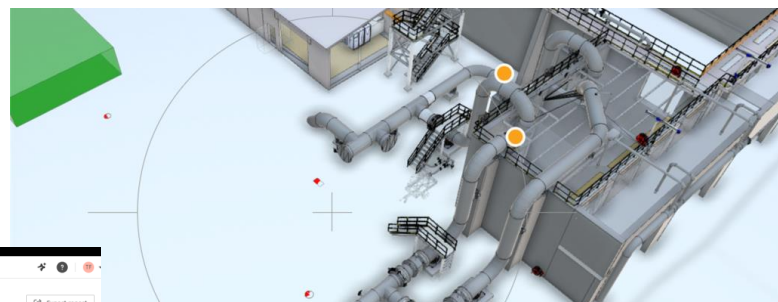
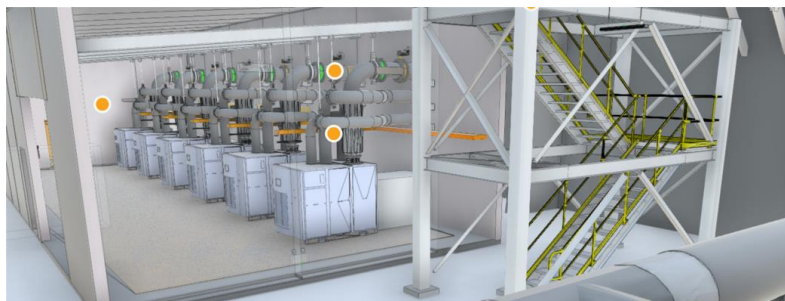
Your New Plant



CWTP Activated Sludge Plant

13 August 2025

Use of Technology for Designing



- Collaborative approach between all parties with the use of technology.
- Accelerated the design with the use of 3D Design.

What are our next steps?

- We will provide another update once the contractor is on board and work commences on site.
- We understand that the changes on site may raise questions, and we're here to share valuable insights into what you can expect. We recognise the potential impacts on the community and are committed to ensuring that you are kept informed.



Creating a PowerPoint presentation

13 August 2025

Christchurch
City Council

Thank You & Questions

4. Items Closed to the Public

The information session/workshop items noted from the next page will not be open to the public under the sections of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 (LGOIMA) outlined in the table on the following page. The full wording of the noted LGOIMA sections is found in [section 6](#) or [section 7](#) of the Act.

In the Council's view, these reasons for exclusion are not outweighed by public interest considerations in section 7(1) favouring their release.

The public can ask the Ombudsman to review this decision. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

| ITEM NO. | GENERAL SUBJECT OF EACH MATTER TO BE CONSIDERED | SECTION | SUBCLAUSE AND REASON UNDER THE ACT | PUBLIC INTEREST CONSIDERATION | POTENTIAL RELEASE REVIEW DATE AND CONDITIONS |
|----------|---|-----------------------|---|---|---|
| 5. | COMMUNITY HOUSING INITIATIVE | S7(2)(D), S7(2)(I) | PROTECTION OF HEALTH OR SAFETY OF INDIVIDUALS, CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS | AN IDEA BEING CONSIDERED IN THIS WORKSHOP MAY CAUSE CONCERN TO CURRENT INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE UNAWARE OF THE ISSUE. UNTIL THERE IS CLEAR DIRECTION TO EXPLORE THE IDEA FORWARD AND COMMUNICATION WITH THE SUBTENANTS, THIS MATTER SHOULD BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL. | 31 OCTOBER 2025 CONSULTATION WITH AFFECTED INDIVIDUALS BEING COMPLETED |