

Napier **YOUTH STRATEGY**

Te Rautaki Taiohi o Ahuriri

2018-2023



NAPIER
CITY COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera o Ahuriri

STRATEGY SUMMARY - *Te Aronga*

VISION

Full potential, full participation

OBJECTIVES

Healthy & Safe

Leadership

Education

Employment

Community

Fun

Young people are thriving

Young people participate and achieve their goals

Young people are engaged in education

Young people have job opportunities

Young people get involved

Young people have fun

VISION - *Te Tirohanga*

Youth achieve their full potential and participate fully.
Full potential, full participation.

OBJECTIVES - *Ngā Whāinga*

This strategy prioritises six key objectives. These objectives build on from the Youth Services Plan 2012¹ and have been further shaped by the Napier Youth Council².

1. **Healthy and safe** - Young people are thriving in all aspects of their lives, are well supported and know how to get help
2. **Leadership** - Young people have opportunities to participate and achieve their goals
3. **Education** - Young people are engaged in education and every young person has options for learning
4. **Employment** - Young people are ready to work, know what they want to do and how to get there
5. **Community** - Young people know how to get involved in their community
6. **Fun** - Young people have access to a range of activities and are able to have fun

¹ The Napier City Council Youth Services Plan 2012 is the implementation plan identifying the key focus areas from the Youth Policy 2010. A new plan will be developed in 2019.

² Napier Youth Council is made up of up to 20 young people aged between 12 and 24. Each year, they set their work plan which involves projects, events and liaising with Council. As well as leading programmes themselves, they also get involved in a range of other community activities.





WHY HAVE A STRATEGY?

- *Te Pūtake*

Council is committed to fostering youth development

Napier City Council's vision is for Napier to be a vibrant and sustainable city for all. Through this strategy, we recognise young people are an important part of achieving this vision.

Napier offers a range of activities and opportunities for young people. The purpose of this strategy is to recognise the needs of young people and encourage youth development through services, facilities, and activities delivered by Napier City Council.

Young people are those aged between 12-24 years³. While this strategy focuses on all young people, it acknowledges that one size does not fit all.

³ As defined by the Ministry of Youth Development.

WHO ARE OUR YOUTH?

- *Ngā Taiohi*

Data from Statistics New Zealand, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Development, Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment & Hawke's Bay District Health Board.



Napier has a population of 57,240.



Napier youth are largely based in the Nelson Park (34%) and Taradale wards (34%).



9,291 or 16% of the Napier population are youth aged between 12 and 24 years.



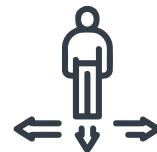
Napier has a higher proportion of European and Māori compared to New Zealand



Napier has 39 schools including three intermediate, six high schools, one kura kaupapa, two Māori Girls Colleges and a teenage parents' school.



Napier has a higher percentage of youth achieving NCEA Level 1 and 2 than the national average, but a lower average in achieving NCEA Level 3 or higher.



Youth in Napier are more likely than youth across the country to not be engaged in employment, education or training.



Napier youth have some health risk factors higher than the New Zealand average, including teenage pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, suicide rate and diagnosed mental health disorders e.g. anxiety, depression and smoking.



Napier has a higher than national average of sole parent benefits for under 25s, unemployment, and involvement with the justice system.



EIT is the tertiary provider for Hawke's Bay and offers over 130 qualifications from certificate to postgraduate level.



A large number of young people from Napier leave for work, study, travel or other reasons and are not likely to return until later in life.



The average annual median earnings from wages and salaries for youth in Napier is \$23,451 which is close to the national average.



POSITIVE OUTCOMES FOR YOUTH - *Ngā Painga*

Strategic links

The Napier Youth Strategy links to a number of national, regional and local policies, strategies and plans. Collaboration between organisations will help achieve better outcomes for youth.

National guidance is provided in the Ministry of Youth Development's Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa⁵. It identifies how society can support young people to develop the skills and attitudes they need to take part positively in society, now and in the future. The six principles are:

- Youth development is shaped by the 'big picture' including wider social and economic contexts and cultural values
- Youth development is about young people being connected
- Youth development is based on a consistent strengths-based approach
- Youth development happens through quality relationships
- Youth development is triggered when young people fully participate
- Youth development needs good information

In combination, these principles contribute to the desired result of positive youth development, where young people gain a sense of contributing something of value to society, feeling connected to others and to society, belief that they have choices about their future, and feeling positive and comfortable with their own identity. We will refer to these principles in planning the delivery of our strategy.

⁵ Ministry of Youth Development: Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa 2002: <http://www.myd.govt.nz/resources-and-reports/publications/youth-development-strategy-aotearoa.html>

WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE SAY

- *Ngā Whakaaro*

We asked a range of people to help inform this strategy including students, young professionals and parents of young people.

Some of the issues raised:

Being healthy & safe

- Things that support mental health wellbeing.
- Young people want safe youth spaces and activities and events that are alcohol & drug free.
- They want access to self-defence classes for all.

Employment

- Young people want more jobs and work experience opportunities; they want to be employed.

Education

- Young people want more advice and support around education and pathways to employment.
- A large proportion of young people don't know what they want to do after finishing school.
- They would also like access to life skill courses.

Leadership

- Young people want leadership opportunities such as conferences and mentoring.





Fun

- Young people want more free or low cost activities.
- A range of activities which cater to different interests and age groups.
- Wet weather options.
- Balancing online with face to face activity.

Community

- Make it easy to do stuff.
- Make it cool to get involved.
- Recognise when young people get involved.
- Youth find connecting with volunteer opportunities difficult.

Access to information

- More marketing and promotion of opportunities to get involved, particularly around leadership, employment and community activities e.g. volunteering.

Environment

- Young people care about our environment.

WHAT YOUTH WANT

- Free wifi
- Good transport
- Low cost activities and events
- Easy access to information

HOW WILL WE DO THIS?

- *Te Anga Whakamua*

Strategy implementation and review

An annual action plan will be developed by Napier City Council and the Napier Youth Council to address the issues and achieve the strategy objectives.

The Youth Council is a diverse group of young people aged between 12 and 24 years with varying backgrounds and interests, who are selected through an interview process. Each year, The Youth Council set their work plan, which includes projects, events and liaising with Council. As well as leading programmes themselves, they also get involved in a range of other community activities. The Youth Council will be instrumental in the planning and delivery of this strategy.

This strategy will be reviewed every five years or at an appropriate alternative time. The action plan will be monitored and re-assessed annually, reviewing priorities, actions and emerging trends and issues. An online youth survey will also be conducted annually. Key stakeholders will be involved to ensure alignment with other youth strategies and to identify opportunities for working together.



