



# Youth Services Plan 2012

## YOUTH POLICY 2011

This plan supports the Council's Youth Policy 2011. The plan supports the following policy principles:

- We will cater for all youth, acknowledging that one size does not fit all
- Youth are a diverse group with varying needs
- It is important for youth to be well connected to others and society
- It is important for youth to have choices about their future
- Youth need to be involved in decisions that affect them, their family and their community
- Activities for youth should be affordable, accessible and available for all young people

## WHAT YOUNG PEOPLE SAY

What is important:

- Having a youth space and a range of things to do
- Access to effective advice and help from people on our side
- Opportunities to reach our potential and give to others
- Ability to **be** youth!

## WHAT COUNCIL HAS DONE SO FAR.....

Over the years, Napier City Council has provided support for the City's youth through a number of programmes, activities, events and facilities.

Current support includes:

- Youth Council
- Intercultural Youth Group
- Youth Scholarships
- Kapa Haka Festival
- Waka ama Competition
- Youth week events
- Careers Expo
- Maraenui Safety Day
- Skate Zone
- Ka Hao te Rangitahi programme
- Summer concerts
- and more....

Youth development is part of the Community Planning team's work programme and is the responsibility of the Community Development Advisor.

## SO WHAT'S THE PROBLEM?

### Jobs and Learning

When general unemployment rises, the hardest hit are young people who are often lacking experience and confidence. In Napier, around 13% of our 18-24 year olds are on a benefit. The numbers of young people (15-24) not in employment, training or education in Napier stands at 10%. Efforts to improve employment outcomes

for youth, including focusing on education and leadership development are worth focusing on.

### Stuff to do / Places to meet

Napier does boast a number of youth targeted activities, but generally they are interest specific e.g. Skate Zone, Rock Climbing, Skate Bowls, sports events etc. Young people have a range of interests, areas less catered for are technology, arts and music. A youth venue that provides different activities, programmes and social opportunities is well supported by Napier's youth.

### Negative Image

A key theme that emerged from youth workshops held in September 2011, was that youth think the community has a negative view of them – as employees and as citizens. In their view, the focus is always on the negative – youth crime, noise, street skateboarding etc. Opportunities to show youth as energetic, creative, potential fillers, future leaders, fun, clever and caring are favoured.

### "Problem Kids"

Negative behaviour from some of our youth (bullying, vandalism, etc) is perhaps an outcome of a lack of support and alternatives. There are a number of initiatives operating to support more positive outcomes for these young people, including some that Council contribute to. The problem is not 'youth' itself but a number of complex social and economic factors.

**NOW WHAT?**

Council is one of a number of parties interested in supporting our young people. There are many organisations who work with youth as their core business. With its limited resources, Council is best placed to **work collaboratively** with others, contributing to existing and new initiatives, to **facilitate** new projects with expert youth providers and to 'plug in' any gaps it sees.

Council already contributes to a number of the key enablers through activities such as safer community, emergency management, economic development, parks and recreation, tourism and so on. Council is best to prioritise its youth development efforts towards the enablers that have the *greatest ability* to create positive outcomes for youth and that have low input currently, while also continuing its current support in the other areas. Initiatives that contribute to more than one priority enabler should be given preference.

**FOCUS 2012-13**

**Learning • Jobs • Leadership**

Work will continue in all areas, but we will focus on increasing our activity to support learning, jobs and leadership development.

The plan is intended to focus on all youth, although some activities and programmes are targeted to 'youth at risk'.



**KEY ENABLERS**

**Youth...**

- will be young
- are full of potential but are sometimes limited by their circumstances
- issues are not unique to Napier
- may leave Napier anyway (Uni / OE etc)
- programmes should support "for youth by youth" model (Ministry of Youth Development)

Council is one of many that can make things better for young people

Happy and engaged young people make our communities better places



## IT'S A START - New Activity Planned 2012-13

LEARNING	JOBS	LEADERSHIP
<b>FOCUS AREAS</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Keeping kids at school</li> <li>▪ Improving literacy</li> <li>▪ Developing digital literacy / fluency</li> <li>▪ Developing lifeskills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Providing work experience opportunities</li> <li>▪ Ensuring access to careers advice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Providing leadership development opportunities</li> <li>▪ Supporting mentoring</li> <li>▪ Encouraging a wide range of youth to participate and step into leadership roles</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Support Computers in Homes programme</li> <li>▪ Investigate Computer Clubhouse</li> <li>▪ Support 'stay at school' programme/s</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Develop Council Work Experience project (job tri)</li> <li>▪ Participate in 'Youth Coalition'* and subsequent projects</li> <li>▪ Support Career Expo</li> <li>▪ Support Careers Advice programme (in youth centre)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Complete review of Youth Council and support new direction</li> <li>▪ Support youth scholarship programme</li> <li>▪ Develop and support mentoring programme (in youth centre)</li> <li>▪ Provide leadership development workshops/ opportunities for Youth Council and others</li> <li>▪ Investigate Rangitahi Leadership Programme (Mayors Taskforce for Jobs)</li> <li>▪ MYD Youth Partnership project (volunteering and civic participation)</li> </ul>
<p><b>OTHER:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Continue to support development of Youth Centre concept</li> <li>▪ Support programmes that address bullying (including cyber-bullying)</li> <li>▪ Improve Youth Week programme</li> <li>▪ Encourage youth representation on decision-making bodies such as funding committees etc</li> <li>▪ Support programme/s that encourage volunteering</li> </ul>		

\* The Youth Coalition is an initiative facilitated by the Ministry of Social Development involving government agencies, Councils, education providers, employer groups and employers to increase youth employment outcomes.

### INTO THE BRIGHT FUTURE

In line with national trends, Napier's youth population numbers will remain steady at around 18% of the City's population (est 2021). However the proportion of older people is set to grow at least 5% to 22% by 2021. It is vital we improve the education and employment outcomes for our young people, not only for their well-being, but to also ensure we have a skilled workforce in the future.

Our future youth population is likely to be made up of greater numbers of Maori and Pacific people. In order to harness our youth potential, it will be important, as it is now, to ensure activities are accessible and appealing to youth from these cultures.

### INFORMATION SOURCES:

- Youth Workshop Series August 2011
- Youth Coalition meetings August – December 2011
- Youth Centre Survey November 2011
- Statistics New Zealand
- Matthews, K & Thompson S (2011), Youth Employment Service Scoping Report. EIT Hawkes Bay
- Ministry of Youth Development: Youth Centres: Attributes of Effectiveness
- Napier City Council Youth Policy (2011)
- Napier City Council Policy for Young People (2004)
- Napier Youth Survey 2009 Results
- Tuia Prospectus 2011
- MSD SWIFFT Report (December 2011)
- Draft Feasibility Study – Youth Centre 2012 (Opus)

## Full Activity Plan 2012-13

100% engaged					
LEARNING	JOB	LEADERSHIP	BEING SAFE	FUN	GETTING INVOLVED
<b>FOCUS AREAS</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keeping kids at school</li> <li>Improving literacy</li> <li>Developing digital literacy / fluency</li> <li>Developing lifeskills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing work experience opportunities</li> <li>Ensuring access to careers advice</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing leadership development opportunities</li> <li>Supporting mentoring</li> <li>Encouraging a wide range of youth to participate and step into leadership roles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crime prevention</li> <li>Encouraging healthy lifestyles</li> <li>Dealing with bullying</li> <li>Reducing truancy</li> <li>Discouraging drug and alcohol misuse</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting events and programmes</li> <li>Developing facilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing opportunities to participate</li> <li>Providing information</li> <li>Supporting diversity</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMMES</b>					
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support Computers in Homes programme</li> <li>Investigate Computer Clubhouse</li> <li>Support 'stay at school' programme/s</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Council Work Experience project (job tri)</li> <li>Participate in 'Youth Coalition'* and subsequent projects</li> <li>Support Career Expo</li> <li>Support Careers Advice programme (in youth centre)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete review of Youth Council and support new direction</li> <li>Support youth scholarship programme</li> <li>Develop and support mentoring programme (in youth centre)</li> <li>Provide leadership development workshops/ opportunities for Youth Council and others</li> <li>Investigate Rangitahi Leadership Programme (Mayors Taskforce for Jobs)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement 'School Safe' programme</li> <li>Campus Cop</li> <li>Alcohol Strategy actions</li> <li>Safer Napier actions</li> <li>Support events/programmes that encourage health and well-being e.g. Waka ama</li> <li>Produce parent pack and other resources that promote safety</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Improve Youth Week programme</li> <li>Support development of Youth Centre</li> <li>New Year's Eve Event</li> <li>International Cultures Day</li> <li>Unity Week</li> <li>Continue support of Skate Zone</li> <li>Provision of swimming facilities and programmes</li> <li>Provision of library facilities</li> <li>Support new Youth events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facilitate Youth Council</li> <li>Provide scholarships</li> <li>Advocate for youth representation on decision-making bodies</li> <li>Support volunteering initiatives</li> <li>Facilitation Intercultural Youth Group</li> <li>Maintain Youth Website, facebook</li> <li>MYD Youth Partnership project</li> </ul>

