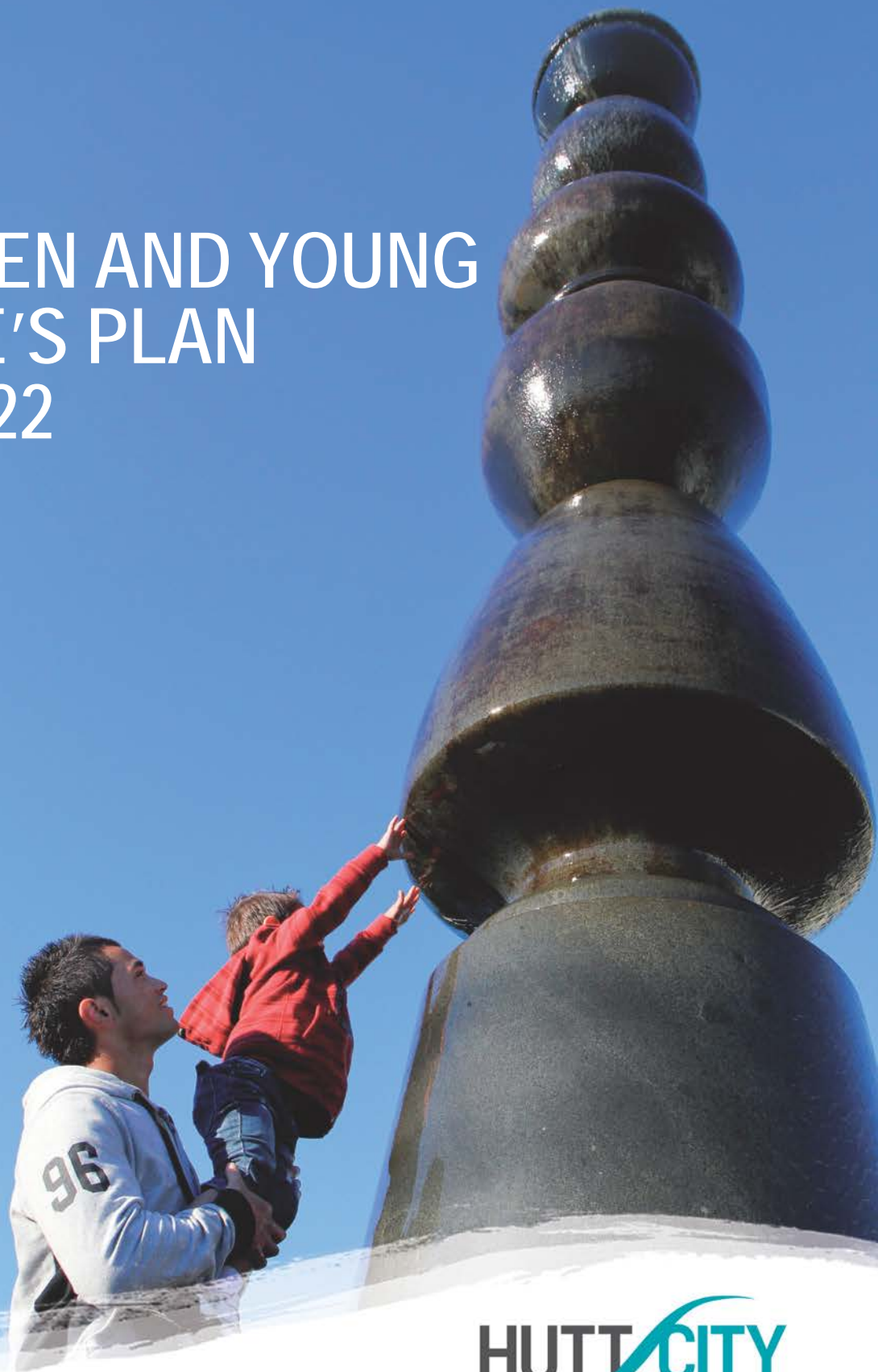


CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S PLAN 2012-2022



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1. INTRODUCTION

Hutt City Council is committed to ensuring that Hutt City is a great place to live, work, and play into the future. Over the next 10 to 20 years, Hutt City will feel the effects of issues such as population change, social deprivation, and changes to the way economic growth and development is achieved that can only be addressed by long-term planning towards a common vision.

Council is already working towards this goal with its Integrated Vision, which looks at the strengths of each area of Hutt City and how they can be harnessed to achieve positive outcomes for the community.

Council is also working on an Urban Growth Strategy, which will look at what kind of economic growth and development is likely and desirable for Hutt City in the next 10 to 20 years, and how to plan for the challenges that will face the city in the future.

Children and young people are an important part of this vision and need to be seen as an asset in helping communities achieve their full potential. Today's children and young people will be important drivers of growth and development in Hutt City in the future, and the Children and Young People's Plan seeks to provide a framework that will help guide Council and the community in supporting them to achieve their potential and make positive contributions to their communities.

Looking to the future (next 10- 20 years)

The 2006 census shows 36.6% of Hutt City's population is aged between 0-24. While Hutt City is projected to grow slightly over the next twenty years, the number of children and young people aged 0-24 is expected to decline and by 2031, they will represent around 31.7% of the population. The ethnic composition of Hutt City is also expected to change in the next ten years. While Europeans will continue to make up the majority of the population, their numbers will decrease. The numbers of Maori, Pacific Island, and Asian populations is expected to increase. These groups will also have a lower median age than the European population, meaning Hutt City's children and young people will be more ethnically diverse than in the past¹.

Most of the 0-24 population lives in the Wainuiomata, Northern, and Eastern wards, which are also areas with high levels of deprivation (low median incomes, high levels of government assistance, high numbers of one parent families) compared to other wards in the city and the Wellington region.

Areas with higher levels of deprivation, such as Naenae, Taita and Epuni, are also those projected to experience some population growth in the period up to 2031. Growth in population and households in Naenae North for example could exacerbate deprivation in the area.

Children and young people in these areas are more likely to have lower education outcomes (leading to lower employment outcomes), and this section of the population is expected to grow faster than populations of young people in other wards. More needs to be done to assist these young people to reach their full potential.

What Population Change Means for Children and Young People

¹ Source: See Appendix 1

The population of New Zealand is getting older. As the 'baby boomer' generation looks to retire in the next 20 years, the number of people aged 65+ is expected to double, with similar trends expected to take place in Hutt City. How services are funded and delivered will have to change significantly to meet the needs of this growing demographic. This means there is a risk of children and young people being overlooked when it comes to determining what services to fund and deliver, and how to go about it.

The growing multicultural composition of Hutt City means that the types of services provided, and the way they are delivered needs to be relevant and appropriate to a more ethnically diverse population.

Children and young people need to be more involved in decision-making processes to ensure that their needs are met in light of these trends.

Meeting the Needs of Children in Hutt City

Hutt City is already seen as a good place for families to bring up children. However, some children living in areas of high deprivation, particularly in the eastern and northern suburbs, risk missing out on the foundations they need to become happy and productive adults later in life. Research^{2 3 4} shows that for children in deprived circumstances to have the best chances of successfully transitioning to adolescence and adulthood, assistance has to be given at the earliest possible opportunities.

Central government and a number of non-government groups have taken a renewed approach to poverty and poor outcomes for children recently. The government's Green Paper for Vulnerable Children stressed the need to find community-based solutions, promote better information sharing and coordination among agencies that deal with children, and put measures in place for government agencies to place children at the centre of their decision-making. The Every Child Counts group also favours child-centred decision-making, while stating that children need to be free of poverty and be given good foundations early on life for New Zealand to be economically successful in the future. Recently, the Expert Advisory Group on Solutions to Child Poverty has identified early childhood education as one of the best ways to mitigate the effects of child poverty and ensure good outcomes later on in life.

While most of the issues facing children in New Zealand today are the responsibility of parents, families, communities, non-government organisations, and central government, local government has a role to play in using the knowledge of their communities to advocate on behalf of children, and facilitate those who work closely with them.

Retaining and Attracting Young People in Hutt City

² The Green Paper for Vulnerable Children - Every Child Thrives, Belongs, Achieves, New Zealand Government 2011, pp3-5

³ Working Paper no.3: What causes child poverty? What are the consequences? An economic perspective, Expert Advisory Group on Solutions to Child Poverty, August 2012

⁴ Dickerson A. and Popli G, Persistent poverty and children's cognitive development – evidence from the UK Millennium Cohort Study, ESRC, 2012

Growth in the proportion of people aged over 65 will also carry labour force implications. In 2006 in Hutt City there were 14.2 young people (15-24) entering the job market for every 10 older people (55-64) leaving it. That number is reducing (13.6 for every 10 were entering in 2009) and it is expected that this trend will continue for the next twenty years, placing young, skilled workers in high demand.

The retention of skilled young people in Hutt City is already an issue, and this problem is set to increase when other centres attempt to attract young people to fill their workforce shortages. Hutt City needs to become a more vibrant, attractive place for young people to live, work, and play to cope with these future trends.

What Council can do

Hutt City Council has been carrying out youth development activities for around 15 years, and in many cases this has involved working with other organisations in the community to achieve common goals. Council offers a number of services and events that involve children, and we are currently looking at ways we can partner with groups that work directly with children to facilitate better coordination and information sharing. Part of this could be through supporting communities' own initiatives that cater for the wellbeing of, or include the input of children and young people. Council can also play a role in advocating the needs of children in Hutt City to central government and non-government organisations.

Examples of Council initiatives that have benefitted children and young people are highlighted throughout this document.

Naenae Computer Clubhouse

The Naenae Computer Clubhouse is an after-school learning centre equipped with computers, design software, a digital recording studio, and robotics equipment. Modelled on clubhouses found overseas, young people are able to work on projects that interest them to build skills and increase their confidence, using equipment they may not have otherwise had access to. Hutt City Council and other sponsors of the Naenae Clubhouse are looking into expanding the model to other parts of Hutt City.

2. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Children and Young People's Plan is to guide Hutt City Council's commitment and approach to youth development, as well as provide a framework for achieving its goals in this area.

3. VISION

The Children and Young People's Plan vision is:

"A city where children and young people have the best opportunity to thrive, reach their full potential, and make positive contributions to their communities"

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The CYPP has been developed in line with the principles of the Ministry of Youth Development's Youth Development Strategy Aotearoa. Its six key principles are that youth development:

- is shaped by the 'big picture'

- is about young people being connected
- is based on a consistent strengths-based approach
- happens through quality relationships
- is triggered when young people fully participate
- needs good information

The CYPP has also been influenced by the results of the 2010 Hutt Valley Youth Survey and a joint MYD/HCC survey in 2012 about how young people in Hutt City get information, help, and advice. The 2010 survey found that young people in the Hutt Valley rated drugs, alcohol, and a lack of things to do as the most important issues to them, while respondents in the 2012 survey indicated they sought information, help, and advice from people they held trusted relationships with.

Council will support the advancement of children and young people in Hutt City through:

- Advocating on their behalf to central government with a particular emphasis on:
 - successful transition from child to young person to adult
 - access to quality health care
 - reducing barriers to services and opportunities
- Working collaboratively with government and non-government agencies
- Maintaining an open approach that will embrace relevant new ideas and developments for implementation.
- Encouraging and enabling children and young people to participate in council strategy and policy development and decision making
- Actively working to support children and young people to have a voice in the community, tell their stories and celebrate the positive aspects of children and young people in our community
- Provide recreational, educational and cultural activities, events and services for children and young people
- Provide where possible opportunities for children and young people to play a key role in the development and delivery of projects and activities

5. DEFINITION OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Ministry of Youth Development defines young people as those between the ages of 12-24, and this is the definition used by the CYPP. Other definitions exist, such as the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child, which defines children as aged between 0 and 18. However, there is increasing recognition of the need to create policies that take into account the transitions from childhood into adolescence, and adolescence into adulthood, which is a key part of the CYPP.

With this in mind, children are defined as those aged between 0 and 11, while young people are those aged between 12 and 24.

6. ENGAGEMENT WITH THE COMMUNITY

The CYPP recognises that to achieve its youth development goals, Hutt City Council must work in partnership with central government, the community, stakeholder organisations, and young people to

achieve the best possible results in our city over the next 10 to 20 years. Some of the initiatives needed to address the issues facing young people today fall outside of the role of local government or require funding that cannot be met through Council budgets alone. Most importantly, any youth development work carried out by Hutt City Council needs to be accepted and supported by the community to be successful. For these reasons, engagement with the community before and during the development of the CYPP has been a priority.

Officers strived to involve the community in the CYPP from very early on in the policy development process, guided by Council's Community Engagement Strategy. Council officers recruited a CYPP project team made up of three members of Youth Infusion to assist with organising engagement meetings with stakeholders, reviewing the draft CYPP, and reporting back to the wider youth council on the development of the policy.

Engagement with young people on the CYPP took place through a number of sector area meetings held across council wards. These workshops were run by members of ARA Future, a group of young community board members who represent most wards across Hutt City.

Council officers and the CYPP team also held stakeholder group workshops throughout May, June, and August 2012, where over 30 community and stakeholder groups were asked about their aspirations for children and young people into the future, what is working for children and young people now, and how to achieve a common vision for young people in Hutt City.

7. KEY AREAS: 0-11 YEAR OLDS

This section outlines a framework for children in Hutt City, and uses the same five key areas as for 12-24 year olds. The issues and actions in each area were developed through community and stakeholder engagement using a SWOT analysis. Each key area lists the strengths and weaknesses of issues regarding children currently in Hutt City. Opportunities and threats look at what could be done in the future to improve outcomes for children, and what barriers might have to be overcome first.

Kiwisport Programme

The Kiwisport Programme is an initiative launched by the Government in 2009. The Kiwisport Regional Partnership Fund provides funding for sporting programmes for primary and secondary schools, and Hutt City Council has been selected by Sport Wellington to run programmes in the city. The Kiwisport Project Leader assists schools in booking instructors for a range of programmes including swimming instruction, football in schools, and Get Set Go – which is designed to help children make choices about their physical activity and sport participation. One of Kiwisport's main focuses is to provide school aged children with basic or fundamental skills that provide a grounding for all physical activity.

Safety	
Description: This covers issues such as road and cycle safety, protection from harm and abuse, as well as keeping children safe through the provision of structured, supervised activities.	
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Community facilities for after-school and holiday activities – libraries, pools, Naenae Clubhouse ▪ Parks that are generally safe, allow for natural surveillance, well lit ▪ Neighbourhood Support and various security patrols around the city ▪ School zones around schools providing road safety ▪ Naenae policing team has produced positive outcomes since its inception 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Some parks can be unsafe ▪ Child abuse/domestic violence ▪ Lack of supervision at community facilities if children are not there for a structured programme. ▪ Supervised activities such as holiday programmes and pools can be cost-prohibitive. Some children are left to themselves and can get into unsafe situations. ▪ A high percentage of recently released sex offenders reside in Hutt City ▪ Cycling on roads can be dangerous for children ▪ Gangs and intimidation ▪ High percentage of liquor outlets and gaming machines ▪ Lack of water safety education
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Library and other community spaces (such as the civic square) could be used to offer more structured, supervised activities, possibly run by community groups. ▪ Push for the completion of the Hutt River Trail and promote it as a safe place for children to cycle. ▪ Support parent education as a way to address child abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of funding ▪ Lack of political will ▪ An uncoordinated approach
Goal: A safer Hutt City for children	
Recommended Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Make spaces in council facilities and community houses more available and/or known to community groups to run supervised activities for children ▪ Promote the Hutt River Trail as a safe, family-friendly place for children to cycle 	

Museum Learning Programmes

Every year the Dowse and Petone Settlers Museum work with over 8,500 school-aged children to take part in a range of learning activities. These include offering art therapy sessions to local schools, developing visual literacy with ESOL students, and hosting school groups from across the region to learn about Wellington's early settlers. Museum staff have also arranged with the Learning Connection a free bus service for schools in the Naenae/Taita areas to allow students to visit the museums at low cost. Museums also run art workshops in Wainuiomata schools under contract with the Ministry of Education. Hutt City's museums make sure that every experience is different and geared to fit the individual needs of school groups. Making children feel welcomed and valued in museums is the main goal.

Education, Training, and the Economy	
Description: Education is one of the most important factors in determining whether children grow up to have gainful employment and better outcomes later on in life. This area takes a focus on early childhood education, with future employment opportunities also featuring.	
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ On average, 95% of children entering primary school are reported to have participated in some form of early childhood education. ▪ Mix of good public and private schools ▪ A number of strong volunteer groups throughout the city ▪ Science and technology industries in Hutt City are expected to grow in the future 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Prior ECE participation rates in June 2012 for Maori and Pasifika were 90.9% and 90.6% respectively, compared to 97.2% and 97.5% for European and Asian children. It is not known whether this disparity is due to cost, location of services, parental choice, or culture. ▪ An aging population may lead to a skills shortage in Hutt City ▪ Current lack of employment opportunities ▪ Some high schools have poor reputations ▪ Children going to school without food or appropriate clothing ▪ Poor nutrition, which makes learning more difficult ▪ Uneven access to technology ▪ Large pockets of poverty in the city, concentrated mainly around the Housing NZ estates
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with central government and community organisations to determine how accessible ECE is in Hutt City ▪ Work with central government to facilitate its Better Public Service goals of increasing ECE participation and literacy/numeracy standards in schools. ▪ Develop a greater focus in local schools on science and technology, linking to the industries in Hutt City ▪ Encourage financial literacy and other practical life skills in schools ▪ Include children at a future stage of the upcoming school science qualification pilot 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hutt City could lose businesses/jobs ▪ Gaps in education leading to low wage work and/or continued poverty
Goal: Children have access to excellent education and the foundations to become productive members of society later in life.	
Recommended Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investigate the accessibility of early childhood education in Hutt City, particularly for Maori and Pasifika families. This could include looking at the costs/locations of centres, the possibility of using Council facilities as ECE services, ways Council could provide assistance to facilitate home-based ECE, and encouraging overall use of ECE services. ▪ Include primary schools as a second phase of the School Science Qualification Pilot scheme to get children interested in science/technology and its links to industries in Hutt City. 	

Children and Hutt City Libraries

Hutt City Libraries keep a wide range of material for children and also offer reading programmes to assist in their learning and wellbeing. The Baby Bounce and Rhymes sessions give people the chance to meet other parents, as well as share books, toys, and rhymes with their children to assist with their cognitive development. Preschool story time sessions let children aged 2-4 years mix with each other and make new friends, while after-school and evening sessions run for children over six.

Social, Wellbeing, and Culture

Description: This section recognises the need for children to have social connections to their families, peers, and the community, be in good physical and mental health, and be in touch with their own and other cultures.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The multicultural composition of Hutt City ▪ A large number of social support agencies in Hutt City ▪ Local Marae, churches, community centres, ▪ Shift to targeted government funding to children in need ▪ Lots of opportunities for sport and leisure ▪ Good public transport network allows people to stay connected/interact ▪ Events such as Tumeke Taita, Te Ra o te Raukura, Petone Carnival attract children and families 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of accessible activities during school holidays ▪ Agencies working with children can sometimes take a silo approach, leading to service gaps ▪ A lack of knowledge or poor parental capacity in some families ▪ Lack of cultural events specifically targeted to children ▪ Some lower quality housing exists in Hutt City, potentially affecting the health of children living in them.
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Festivals and events in the city could be better targeted to children and families ▪ The chance for social service agencies to partner in order to share information, better use resources, and improve outcomes for children ▪ Council planning could consider healthy housing in relation to the benefits it has for the wellbeing of children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A lack of cultural understanding/acceptance of diversity ▪ Continued 'silo' approach of service providers ▪ A growing aged population and slightly declining child and youth population could diminish intergenerational contact.
<p>Goal: All children have good health, are socially connected to their families and peers, and are able to express their culture</p>	
Recommended Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Investigate the placement of multi-lingual signage on new and redeveloped Council facilities. ▪ Support social services working together by facilitating community hubs based on the Great Start Taita model that offer targeted support, encourage holistic wellbeing, and empower communities to provide local and needs focused solutions. 	

Healthy Housing Index

Hutt City Council supported a project by the Housing and Health Research Programme, and the Building Research Association of New Zealand to develop a healthy housing index to demonstrate the links between quality housing and the health and safety of individuals and communities. A pilot study based on a sample of homes in the Hutt Valley has led to further research demonstrating the links between warm, dry homes and health improvements for the people who live in them. Council is committed to promoting healthy housing for the wellbeing residents in Hutt City, including children.

Environment	
Description: This area refers to our natural and built environment, and how both can be accessible and enjoyed by children today and into the future.	
Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Natural amenities such as the Hutt River, beaches, the harbour, the bush ▪ Recreational facilities such as parks, reserves, and swimming pools ▪ A good public transport network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Some parks are not well equipped ▪ Potentially a 'safety culture' where children are so insulated from risks they do not develop healthy boundaries ▪ Some children cannot access community facilities such as pools due to cost
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Parks could be better equipped for children ▪ Make better use of the river for recreational activities ▪ Get thoughts from children on issues such as environmental design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Continued/increased pollution in the Hutt River, making it unsafe for swimming ▪ Pollution of reserves ▪ Funding ▪ Recreational activities/facilities that are inaccessible to some children due to cost
Goal: A natural and built environment that can be enjoyed by children today, as well as in the future	
Recommended Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Involve children and young people in the Avalon Park upgrade and future park developments. ▪ Investigate ways Council can target free/low cost pool entry to children who would be otherwise unable to access them ▪ Look at ways Council can partner with sporting groups in Hutt City to deliver recreational and physical activity programmes, based on the success of the Kiwisport Programme. 	

Recreation for Children in Hutt City

Hutt City Council owns, manages, and leases a large amount of public land that is utilised for the benefit of children. Many of the parks in Hutt City also host playgrounds, as well as groups like the Scouts, Lions, play centres, and Plunket. Council run sport fields are also used by junior players, while Avalon Park hosts the miniature train and mini-golf which appeal to children.

Growth and Development

Description: In the next twenty years, Hutt City faces changes in economic growth, an increase in the aged population, and the continuing trend towards a more multicultural city. Growth and development looks at how the needs of children in Hutt City can be heard and addressed in light of these changes.

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hutt City's reputation as a good place to bring up a family ▪ New ways to consult and engage with the public are being undertaken by Council and other groups ▪ Availability of Whanau Ora to all ethnicities ▪ A range of infant, child, family services to build on ▪ Local tertiary education providers give children the opportunity to stay in Hutt City when they reach higher education age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low economic growth in Hutt City in recent years ▪ Significant numbers of young people (18-30) are leaving Hutt City to live elsewhere ▪ Children and young people need to be more involved in decisions that affect them ▪ No Council commitment to prioritise children and young people in their decision making
Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with modern technology to help children prepare for the future – Naenae Clubhouse, Computers in Homes, the 20/20 trust, and Stepping up already work in this space. ▪ Council could work with other organisations to provide education grants/scholarships – publicise the initiative ▪ Strengthen areas/activities likely to attract families to Hutt City ▪ Change in gaming legislation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low economic growth in the future ▪ Potentially fewer resources for children and young people given the predicted increase in the aged population. ▪ Failure to attract new residents and employers to Hutt City ▪ Planning does not adequately take into account demographic changes ▪ Continued low educational outcomes for some children and young people, leading to low-paid work and/or poverty
<p>Goal: A city that takes the needs of children into account as it grows and changes</p>	
Recommended Actions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with Whanau Ora providers to promote the availability of services to all ethnicities ▪ Work in partnership with central government, non-government organisations to offer/promote scholarships or grants to promising children and young people ▪ Look at ways Council can make a commitment to considering the needs of children in relevant decision making ▪ Work on initiatives that facilitate and ensure access to technology and learning resources for children in Hutt City. 	

8. KEY AREAS: 12-24 YEAR OLDS

The key areas for the CYPP have been adapted from the four main areas of the Long Term Plan (Growth and Development, Infrastructure, Environment, Economy) to give a framework for young people that is consistent with other Council policies and plans. Engagement with young people and stakeholders was based around the following five areas:

- Safety
- Education, Training, and the Economy
- Social, Wellbeing, and Culture
- Environment
- Growth and Development

Taken from the feedback given in the community engagement process, each area in the framework addresses what is working well in Hutt City for each key area, what issues are to be addressed, and an overall goal. Each area also includes outcomes to be achieved, what is happening currently, and recommended actions to achieve the outcomes.

Safety

Description: This area covers young people feeling personally safe in their communities, as well as safety from personal injury.

What's working well in Hutt City	Issues to be addressed in Hutt City
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dedicated community and youth workers who act as role models. ▪ Increased police presence. ▪ Safer Hutt Valley (includes actions to reduce safety risks to young people) ▪ Walkwise, Maori Wardens, Neighbourhood Support, Community Patrol. ▪ Hutt Violence Free Network 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Drugs, Alcohol. ▪ Negative perceptions of safety in Hutt City by the media. ▪ Lack of neighbourhood support schemes in some areas. ▪ Negative perception of young people as part of the problem ▪ High youth representation in personal injury and road crash statistics. ▪ Gangs ▪ Isolated, out of view, inadequately lit places can be dangerous at night (esp. parks)

Goal: A safer Hutt City for young people.

Outcomes to be achieved	What is happening currently	Recommended Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Counter negative perceptions of safety in the media by encouraging positive stories involving young people in the media (similar to the 'I ♥ Hutt City' campaign). ▪ Provide resources, meetings spaces for communities to set up neighbourhood support groups. ▪ Young people are represented on the Alcohol Harm Minimisation Working Group and Safe Hutt Valley Working Group. ▪ Develop local alcohol plans with input from young people ▪ Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce – work with Council and young people to improve relationships between business owners in the CBD and young people 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council does work proactively with young people to promote positive stories through Hutt Views and other media. ▪ Council already provides resources and meetings in our communities which can be used to set up groups such as neighbourhood support. ▪ Some work has been done with the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce and Secret Level to address business owner's concerns 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hutt City Council Partners with the Ministry of Youth Development and CAYAD to develop a media campaign centred on positive stories involving young people and raises awareness of things to do in the Hutt Valley. ▪ Work with Safe Hutt Valley when they develop their youth work stream in conjunction with youth-related groups and organisations in Hutt City. ▪ Hutt City Council works with Youth Infusion, Secret Level, and the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce to develop an agreed plan to improve relationships between business owners in the CBD and young people.

Education, Training, and the Economy

Description: This area looks at how the economy in Hutt City is and can be beneficial to young people, focusing specifically on education and employment.

What's working well in Hutt City	Issues to be addressed in Hutt City
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Good schools, mix of options (public, private, alternative). ▪ Weltec and proximity to Victoria and Massey Universities. ▪ Large employers like the hospital, Westfield. ▪ Emerging sci/tech industry. ▪ Youth guarantee scheme ▪ Community organisations that help young people transition from school to work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Low educational outcomes for a significant amount of young people. ▪ Lack of local job opportunities in Hutt City ▪ Criminal convictions a barrier for some young people. ▪ Cost barriers to tertiary education. ▪ Appropriateness of workforce training to available jobs. ▪ Perception that entry-level and apprenticeship opportunities have diminished ▪ Improving the quality and range of career advice ▪ More focus needed on engineering and technology ▪ More help needed for youth transitioning from school to work. ▪ Encourage having youth workers in schools/communities to support students and discourage truancy.

Goal: Young people in Hutt City are able to reach their full potential and make a positive contribution to their communities through education, training, and employment.

Outcomes to be achieved	What is happening currently	Recommended Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Utilise the Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs programme in Hutt City ▪ Facilitate groups which provide volunteering and work experience to young people. ▪ Future employment project continue work with Hutt Valley High School, WelTec and other organisations working in science/medical related fields to develop and facilitate the implementation of a school science qualification pilot. ▪ Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce – work with Council and young people to contribute to the Future Employment Project. ▪ Encourage more young people to stay in Hutt City when engaged in tertiary education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council is currently working with Hutt Valley high School and WelTec develop and facilitate the implementation of a school science qualification pilot. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council, in partnership with the Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs (MTF2J) and Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce, develops a programme of work focused on building relationships with and between employers and schools to facilitate future employment opportunities for young people in Hutt City. ▪ Involve Hutt City Chamber of Commerce in the Future Employment Project. ▪ Partner with and support organisations that keep young people engaged in education/training.

Social, Wellbeing and Culture

Description: Social Wellbeing and Culture covers issues relating to young people in the areas of health, mental health as well as the strength of families, communities and neighbourhoods in helping their young people achieve their potential.

What's working well in Hutt City	Issues to be addressed in Hutt City
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rich ethnic diversity/multiculturalism. ▪ A family-friendly city ▪ A large number of cultural events (Poly fest, Te Ra O Te Raukura, Tumeke Taita, carnivals, markets etc.). ▪ A wide range of community centres, clubs, and organisations in Hutt City where young people can be involved in constructive activities ▪ Services and centres geared to young people (such as Secret Level and Vibe) ▪ A good public transport network to keep people connected ▪ Strong arts culture at the Dowse and Jackson St ▪ Youth involved in the arts through urban art and dance (esp. at Secret Level). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Negative attitudes about Hutt City. ▪ Negative perception relayed in the media (see safety area) ▪ Lack of connection/hostility and mistrust between young and older people. ▪ Homophobia and transphobia. ▪ More work to be done to allow disabled people to fully participate in their communities. ▪ Unemployment, poverty, low educational opportunities detract from social wellbeing ▪ Barriers to accessing clinical services and information. The cost of GPs can be prohibitive. ▪ Young people (esp. in outer suburbs) can feel socially disconnected to communities ▪ High rates of teenage pregnancy

Goal: The wellbeing of young people is enhanced by embracing culture and connecting to others in the community.

Outcomes to be achieved	What is happening currently	Recommended Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joint MYD/HCC information portal for young people to get information, help, advice. ▪ Promote cultural events. ▪ Volunteer corps to create links between young and old people (student army model). ▪ Work with volunteer organisations to help find volunteering positions. ▪ Work with young people in developing and implementing events, projects and activities in the city that celebrate ethnic diversity/multiculturalism (Leisure Active, Libraries, Dowse) ▪ Street connection programs ▪ Youth Awards 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Currently working with Ministry of Youth Development on an information portal for young people to get information, help, advice ▪ Currently promote race Unity Day, celebrations specific to different communities within the city ▪ Connex Sport working with young people from low-socio economic groups ▪ Integrated Facilities Plan will provide a wide range of community centres and services in Hutt City in a way that meets the communities needs best. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council partner with volunteer organisations such as Volunteer Hutt to help find volunteering positions for young people. The group could also explore the possibility of a volunteer corps for young people. ▪ Evaluate effectiveness of existing youth centres funded by Council in terms of addressing and improving outcomes for disadvantaged and at-risk youth in the city. ▪ Work with Youth Infusion and other social organisations in the city to develop a city-wide approach to reaching vulnerable young people, particularly within high-deprivation areas.

Social Wellbeing and Culture (Continued)		
Outcomes to be achieved	What is happening currently	Recommended Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage more at-risk youth to take part in the wide range of social and cultural activities Hutt City has to offer (Secret Level, Duke of Edinburgh, Marae, music, theatre, etc.) ▪ Continue to support the wide range of community centres and services in Hutt City, playing a facilitative role to avoid overlap and duplication to allow for the most efficient use of resources. ▪ In particular support organisations and activities that reach out to vulnerable youth, e.g. Ignite Sport, Billy Graham, limited Service Volunteers. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth Infusion partner with groups to help deliver annual events, similar to YI's work on Race Unity Day. ▪ Safe Hutt Valley to support and advocate for organisations involved in building youth resilience to address mental health issues.

Future Employment Pilot: School Science Qualification Pilot

Hutt City Council is working on a future employment pilot project with WelTec and Hutt Valley High School to link school leavers with the emerging science and technology industries in the city. This is likely to initially involve industry professionals holding talks at schools about the training and career opportunities available to young people in these sectors.

Environment

Description: Environment covers the natural features and amenities of Hutt City such as the river, beaches, and the bush. It also encompasses the built environment, meaning Hutt City's buildings, infrastructure, and recreation and leisure facilities.

What's working well in Hutt City	Issues to be addressed in Hutt City
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The Hutt River ▪ Ample parks, reserves, recreational facilities. ▪ Opportunities for sport. ▪ A well-established public transport system (rail and bus) ▪ Plenty of parks/gardens ▪ Good libraries ▪ Graffiti vandalism eradication programme 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Costs of public transport prohibitive for young people. ▪ More engagement with young people needed on things like urban design/placement of facilities. ▪ Positive view of young people needed in urban design (not a group to be 'managed') ▪ Graffiti/Vandalism of the built environment ▪ Pollution stops young people using the river for recreation. ▪ Accessibility issues still present for those with disabilities. ▪ Roads need to become more cycle-friendly so more young people can get around ▪ Avalon Park is successful but other parks need to improve ▪ Cost can prohibit access to Council-run facilities.

Goal: Conserve and enhance the natural and built environment of Hutt City in a way that meets the needs of young people now and into the future.

Outcomes to be achieved	What is happening currently	Recommended Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work with GWRC to improve availability of public transport ▪ Provide open public spaces and recreational facilities that are user-friendly to young people and easily accessible at low or no cost ▪ Protect the Hutt River ▪ Involve young people in environmental planning and community gardens. ▪ Increase young people's participation in existing sports, culture and educational activities ▪ Promote healthy housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Council officers involved in the Wellington Regional Transport Forum. ▪ Council will be reviewing its Environmental Sustainability Strategy. ▪ Council officers involved in the Regional Housing Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth Infusion help to shape the advice officers give to the Wellington Regional Transport Forum and focus on cost and access to public transport for young people. ▪ Youth Infusion involved in the review of the Environmental Sustainability Strategy.

Growth and Development

Description: Growth and Development looks at what attracts young people to live and work in Hutt City, and how these things can be built on and improved to meet the needs of young people and Hutt City as a whole.

<p>What's working well in Hutt City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Families who live in Lower Hutt provide a base for young people. ▪ Wide range of sport, recreation, cultural, and social opportunities. ▪ Close enough to enjoy the different benefits of Wellington City as well as Hutt City. ▪ Emerging science and technology industries ▪ Aging infrastructure/facilities provides opportunities for redevelopment 	<p>Issues to be addressed in Hutt City</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of jobs/training opportunities causing young people to move elsewhere for opportunities. ▪ Decline of trades/entry level positions outside of retail. ▪ Struggling city centre and high street. ▪ Negative perceptions of the vibrancy/attractiveness of Hutt City. ▪ Aging population means upcoming challenges with funding services/initiatives aimed at young people. 	
<p>Goal: Young people living in Hutt City are encouraged to stay and take advantage of local opportunities, young people from other areas see Hutt City as an attractive place to live, work, and play.</p>		
Outcomes to be achieved	What is happening currently	Recommended Actions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Marketing campaign to promote Hutt City to young workers/professionals. ▪ Marketing campaign to raise awareness of choices of things to do in Hutt City ▪ Consider the implications for young people when developing the Urban Growth Strategy ▪ Future employment project continue work with Hutt Valley High School, WelTec and other organisations working in science/medical related fields to develop and facilitate the implementation of a school science qualification pilot ▪ Aligning the revision of the Aging Together Strategy with the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) ▪ Completion of Making Places projects ▪ Computer Clubhouse – extension of this concept and approach into other areas of the city 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urban Growth Strategy started. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Involve Youth Infusion in the development of the Urban Growth Strategy ▪ Work on initiatives that facilitate and ensure access to technology and learning resources for young people in Hutt City.

Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs

The Mayors' Taskforce for Jobs is a nationwide youth employment group that 90% of New Zealand Mayors belong to. It is modelled on the successful efforts of the Mayor of Otorohanga in bringing one of the highest youth unemployment rates in the country down to zero by working with businesses to identify their employment needs, and young people to deliver more appropriate training and career mentoring.

Hutt City Council is currently investigating ways it can apply this successful model to Hutt City, its employers, and young people.

9. ACHIEVING THE GOALS

Cross Divisional Steering Group

Council officers will establish a cross-divisional steering group to implement the recommendations of the 12-24 CYPP. This will involve working with Youth Infusion, external organisations, and across Council to develop a five year action plan which will:

- Prioritise the outcomes and recommendations of the CYPP
- Give timeframes to actions
- Review the plan periodically

Review of Youth Infusion

A guiding principle of the CYPP has been to extensively involve young people in the policy development process. This has been to ensure that the framework is appropriate, relevant, and applicable to young people.

Young people should continue to be involved in the decision-making processes that will result from Council and other organisations implementing the goals of the CYPP. For this to happen young people need to be represented at a level where they can play a key role in the decision-making within Council that will come after the CYPP.

Youth Infusion is the current model used to provide input and involvement from young people into Council decision-making. Council want to change the way Youth Infusion operates to allow for better engagement with young people on plans, policies, and decisions that affect them. The current model, youth subcommittee model, and youth advisory board model are outlined in the table below.

Council is opting to stay with the current model for Youth Infusion while initiating a review to develop a new strategic plan and terms of reference for the group. The review will look at how Youth Infusion could adopt parts of the subcommittee and advisory board models to better serve its advisory function, as well as how it could partner more effectively with Council to help deliver operational activities. This review will be completed by February-March 2013.

Model	Description
Youth Infusion (current model)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth Infusion was established in 1998 with the intention of having a representative group of young people that Council could call on to provide feedback from a youth perspective on its plans, policies, and decisions. ▪ Youth Infusion regularly makes submissions on a number of key Council documents such as the Long Term Plan. ▪ While continuing with this function, Youth Infusion has also expanded into providing operational projects within the community such as the Positive Change programme⁵. ▪ While achieving some positive outcomes, Youth Infusion's operational projects have detracted from its ability to provide feedback and advice to Council.
Youth subcommittee model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A youth subcommittee's primary purpose would be to provide a youth perspective on Council reports and decisions. ▪ Youth subcommittees operate like any other subcommittee of Council. They operate within a formal meeting structure and can make formal recommendations, ask for reports, and request answers to questions from Council. ▪ As there is a more formal structure to subcommittees, there is a possibility members could be paid for meeting attendance. ▪ Subcommittee members could also provide reports of youth development activities taking place in the community for Council to be made aware of.
Youth advisory board model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A youth advisory board model would involve a group of young people who are appointed by community boards/committees to give feedback on Council and officer reports/decisions. ▪ The advisory board would be supported by elected members and/or officers in its feedback work. ▪ An advisory board would also be tasked carrying out consultation and engagement with other young people on council plans, policies, and decisions. ▪ A youth council may still exist alongside an advisory board, whose function would be the provision of operational projects.

⁵ The Positive Change programme is an initiative developed by Youth Infusion in 2010 to encourage and facilitate positive participation by youth in the community. Projects carried out under positive change have included arts and sports initiatives. A number of youth leadership forums were also planned.

10. APPENDIX

Appendix 1 – Ethnicity in Hutt City

Ethnicity and age in Hutt City 1996 – 2021 ⁶

Ethnicity	Year	Population by age group at 30 June					Projected components of population change, five years ended 30 June					Median age
		0–14	15–39	40–64	65+	All ages	Births	Deaths	Natural increase	Net migration	Inter-ethnic mobility	
European	1996	17,600	29,500	22,100	9,700	78,900	...	...	...	...	...	34.0
	2001	17,000	26,000	23,000	9,300	75,400	...	...	...	...	...	35.6
	2006 (base)	15,800	24,500	24,400	9,700	74,400	...	...	...	...	...	37.3
	2011	15,600	23,100	25,000	10,300	74,000	5,700	2,700	3,000	-3,400	0	38.2
	2016	15,200	22,000	24,100	11,400	72,800	5,200	2,700	2,500	-3,700	0	38.9
	2021	14,700	21,700	22,500	12,400	71,300	5,000	2,800	2,200	-3,700	0	39.0
Māori	1996	5,600	6,900	2,400	300	15,200	...	...	...	...	...	21.3
	2001	6,100	6,900	3,000	300	16,300	...	...	...	...	...	21.9
	2006 (base)	6,200	7,200	3,700	500	17,600	...	...	...	...	...	22.6
	2011	6,700	7,300	4,400	700	19,100	2,500	300	2,200	-400	-300	23.1
	2016	7,000	7,500	5,000	1,000	20,400	2,400	400	2,000	-400	-300	23.9
	2021	7,100	7,900	5,300	1,300	21,600	2,300	500	1,900	-400	-300	24.9
Asian	1996	1,700	2,600	1,400	200	5,900	...	...	...	...	...	29.0
	2001	1,800	3,000	2,000	400	7,200	...	...	...	...	...	31.3
	2006 (base)	2,200	3,700	2,700	600	9,100	...	...	...	...	...	31.7
	2011	2,500	3,900	3,200	900	10,500	900	100	800	700	-100	32.9
	2016	2,900	4,000	3,500	1,400	11,900	1,000	200	800	600	-100	34.4
	2021	3,300	4,100	3,700	2,000	13,100	1,000	300	800	600	-100	36.7
Pacific	1996	3,100	3,600	1,500	200	8,500	...	...	...	...	...	21.0
	2001	3,600	4,000	1,800	300	9,700	...	...	...	...	...	21.5
	2006 (base)	3,900	4,400	2,300	400	11,000	...	...	...	...	...	22.7
	2011	4,500	4,800	2,700	500	12,400	1,700	200	1,500	100	-100	22.5
	2016	4,900	5,200	3,000	700	13,800	1,700	200	1,500	100	-100	23.0
	2021	5,300	5,700	3,400	900	15,300	1,700	300	1,500	100	-100	23.6

⁶ Tables 4e,m,a and p, http://www.stats.govt.nz/browse_for_stats/population/estimates_and_projections/subnational-ethnic-population-projections.aspx