YOUTH POLICY study

Report of the Youth Strategy Working Party
to the Christchurch City Council

julie macdonald

Community Relations Unit

Christchurch City Council

July 1998

Christchurch City Council

Youth Policy Study

Report of the Youth Strategy Working Party
to the Christchurch City Council

CHRISTCHURCH
THE GARDEN CITY
The city that shines

Julie Macdonald

Community Relations Unit

Christchurch City Council

July 1998

�falx Youth Strategy Working Party

✠ Councillors:

Garry Moore (Chairperson)

Mayor Vicki Buck

Graham Condon

Ishwar Ganda

Alister James

Lesley Keast

Barbara Stewart

Carole Anderton

✠ Staff:

Dave Hinman

Julie Macdonald

Lyn Campbell

Brigid Lenihan

Julie Myers

Robyn Moore

✠ Community Representatives:

Association of Canterbury Youth Groups - Juliette Adlam

New Zealand Association of Adolescent Health and Development - Dr Sue Bagshaw

Canterbury Youth Workers Collective - John Harrington, Vicki Morrison and Sonia Tinirau

Recreation providers - Warren Lidstone (YMCA)

Christchurch Youth Council - Yani Johanson, Ana Su'a-Hawkins, Wayne Cosgrove, Jonathan Ching, Ara Tai Rakena, Lisa Julian, Anna Patterson, Phillip Turner

Christchurch Community Law Centre - Jane Roseveare

Pacific Island Executive Council - Mele Piukala Tahaafe

Canterbury University Students' Association - Tiffany Page

✠ Acknowledgements

The Youth Strategy Working Party would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Christchurch City Council Youth Policy Study and the development of the Policy itself. In particular, we are grateful to:

◊ the young people, community agencies and government organisations who contributed their time, energy and ideas to this project

◊ staff from the LACSU Community Services Section and the Environmental Policy and Planning Unit of the Christchurch City Council for collating the statistical information in this report

◊ Stephanie Kelly for doing such a great job with the young people's focus groups

◊ Jacob Luamanuvae for creating the beautiful artwork for this document

✠ Table of Contents

✠ Appendices   28

✵ 1. Executive Summary

In 1996 the Council decided to develop a Youth Strategy to further develop and direct the Council's existing commitment to young people. In 1997 a Youth Strategy Working Group was convened to oversee the development of the Youth Strategy. This group assisted Council staff in defining the scope and nature of the consultation process. The Working Party decided that the Council should consult with young people, community groups and government organisations.

The purpose of this consultation was to find out what the main issues are for Christchurch young people (aged 13-25 years), how these could be addressed and what the City Council's role should be in addressing them. The consultation was carried out from September 1997 to February 1998. The main recommendations from the consultation can be summarised as follows:

✳ That the City Council should work towards developing a city where:

◊ Young people and their contributions are valued

◊ The diversity of young people is recognised and celebrated

◊ Young people are included in decision making

◊ Young people have access to the information and resources required to meet their needs in the areas of:

> ◊ Health, safety and wellbeing
>
> ◊ Physical environment and design
>
> ◊ Entertainment and recreation
>
> ◊ Education and training
>
> ◊ Employment
>
> ◊ Family

✳ In working towards these outcomes the Christchurch City Council should have the following roles:

◊ To ensure that young people are taken into account in the Council's activities

◊ To advocate on behalf of, and with, young people

◊ To resource, provide and support services for young people in partnership with other agencies where appropriate

◊ To be a co-ordinator, with the community, of activities which provide for young people

The Working Party incorporated these recommended roles and activities into a draft *Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy* (which became part of the larger *Draft Report of the Youth Strategy Working Party*). This draft was circulated to Community Boards and Study participants for comment and then an amended version was recommended to the Council for adoption (through the Community Services Standing Committee). The Council accepted the *Report of the Youth Strategy Working Party*. The Council amended the title of the one page draft *Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy* to *Christchurch City Council Youth Policy* and agreed it should replace the 1992 Youth Policy (see page 27 for a full size copy of the Policy).

Christchurch City Council Youth Policy

The Christchurch City Council is committed to developing, supporting and promoting initiatives
which positively contribute to the safety and wellbeing of young people, their families and communities.

Outcomes:
The Christchurch City Council will work towards developing a city where:

❈ Young people's views and contributions to their families and their communities are valued

❈ Young people are cherished and their diversity is recognised, acknowledged and celebrated

❈ The views of young people are sought and taken into account in the development of the Council's policies and activities

❈ Young people have access to the information and resources required to meet their needs in the areas of:

        ❈ Health, safety and wellbeing
        ❈ Physical environment and design
        ❈ Entertainment and recreation
        ❈ Education and training
        ❈ Employment
        ❈ Family

Scope:
All Christchurch people aged 13-25 years, recognising that there are varying needs within this age group.

Roles:
In working towards these outcomes the Christchurch City Council will have the following roles:

❈ To ensure that the views and needs of young people are taken into account in Council activities

❈ To advocate on behalf of, and with, young people

❈ To resource, provide and support services for young people in partnership with other agencies where appropriate

❈ To be a co-ordinator, with the community, of activities which provide for young people

Note: An action plan for this document will be developed annually for implementation.

2. Introduction and Background

The City Council has extensive involvement in community issues. This involvement is increasingly directed by the Community Development and Social Wellbeing Policy (adopted by the Council in 1997 - see Appendix I). This Policy articulates the Council's intentions regarding its roles in promoting social objectives.

In 1992 the Council adopted a Youth Policy which set out the Council's commitment to young people and determined the direction of work carried out by Council officers on youth issues (see Appendix II). Until the present time, the main roles of the Council have been co-ordinating and supporting community groups working with young people, and advocating to policy makers on youth issues. The Council is also involved in providing library and employment services. In 1996 the Council decided to further promote the interests of young people by employing a Youth Advocate (this followed the appointment of a Children's Advocate in 1995) and developing a Youth Strategy. The purpose of developing a Youth Strategy was to further develop and direct the Council's existing commitment to young people. The Council agreed that the development of the Youth Strategy would follow three phases; development, consultation and implementation. The Youth Advocate (appointed in February 1998) will have the responsibility of overseeing the implementation of the Youth Strategy.

❖ Youth Strategy in a Wider Context

In establishing the specific roles the City Council should fulfil with regard to youth issues it is important to acknowledge the large number of initiatives already in place to promote the interests of young people. These range from the employment of a Youth Law Worker with the Christchurch Community Law Centre and a Co-ordinator of the Canterbury Youth Workers' Collective to the development of the new Health and Physical Well-being Curriculum soon to be implemented in schools. A significant amount of research into the experiences and needs of young people has also been carried out. Two recent examples of this are research by the Office of the Commissioner for Children

on awareness of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child[1] and research by Healthlink South on youth mental health[2].

In working towards the development of a Youth Strategy the City Council decided to work within this wide context of existing community and government activity to determine its own specific role. This is so existing initiatives are acknowledged and supported and also so a realistic idea of the Council's functions can be determined and put in place. Statistical information from the Census and other sources is also available to guide future developments (see Appendix III for a brief overview). This consideration of the Council's role in a wider community context guided the development of the Youth Strategy.

This document sets out the findings of the consultation process and summarises the roles that participants recommend that the Council plays in addressing the issues raised. It also describes the roles and activities the Council has agreed to undertake by adopting the Christchurch Council Youth Policy (1998).

---

[1] Aiomanu, K. & Campbell, J. (1997). *Is it rhetoric or reality? - The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child: A Christchurch Perspective*. 6A Incorporated Charitable Trust and the Commissioner for Children (Draft).

[2] Moore, R. (1997). *Youth mental health promotion including suicide prevention - a public health perspective*. Public Health Service. Healthlink South.

✠ 3. Development of the Youth Strategy Study

In 1997 a Working Party was formed of City Councillors, Christchurch Youth Councillors, Council officers and representatives from community agencies knowledgable in youth issues. This group developed the structure of the consultation process which would be undertaken to form the Youth Strategy Study. The group decided that the Council should consult with:

◊ Young people (aged 13-25 years)[3]
◊ Community groups
◊ Government organisations

The purpose of this consultation was to find out what the main issues are for Christchurch young people, how these could be addressed and what the City Council's role should be in addressing them.

The Working Party also decided to seek information about the roles relating to young people which are currently being fulfilled by community and government organisations.

The Working Party met in small groups to determine the scope of the Youth Strategy Consultation. It decided that the consultation should cover six main areas which were defined as follows:

---

[3] The 13-25 years age range was chosen to fit (at the lower end) with the Council's Strategy for Children and (at the upper end) with guidelines provided by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and other bodies.

Health, safety and wellbeing

> Physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing including basic needs being met.

Physical environment and design

> The perception of the environment as well as the physical environment itself.

Entertainment

> What you do outside work/education. Entertainment is seen as being fairly passive and recreation as active.

Education and training

> 'Institutions of social and academic learning', including a broad spectrum of school, peers, family and training opportunities.

Employment

> Is generally for money, but also includes voluntary work or bartering. It relates to later career opportunities and gives signals about what is valued and what is not. Unemployment is a negative word - society makes judgements about skills, discipline and lack of a 'work ethic'.

Family

> Encompasses many different family structures. Families are influenced by social pressures, culture, gangs and socio-economic factors.

The Working Party acknowledged that there would be significant overlap in the issues raised under each of these headings.

⌘ 4. Consultation Process[4]

⌘ Young People

A researcher was contracted to carry out focus group interviews with groups of young people aged 13-25 years. The purpose of this was to gain ideas from a range of young people rather than to try and obtain a representative sample of opinions. The researcher facilitated a discussion with each group about the main issues for young people and what they saw as the Council's role in addressing these (see Appendix IV).

Interviews were carried out between December 1997 and February 1998. They were typically one and a half hours in length and the interviewer used a dictaphone to record the discussion which was later transcribed. Participants in the focus groups were each given a double movie pass as a gesture of thanks for their contribution.

The following groups took part in the consultation process:

◊ Actionworks clients

◊ CCS (formerly Crippled Children's Society)

◊ Christchurch Youth Council

◊ GLADYS (Gay, Lesbian Advocacy Youth Services)

◊ Junior and senior secondary school students

◊ Pacific Island Youth Council

◊ Secondary school students with English as a Second Language

◊ Tertiary students (University of Canterbury)

◊ TOPs course students (YMCA)

◊ Youth Service Corps members (Youth and Cultural Development Society)

---

[4] In this context the term 'consultation' refers to seeking community views rather than to fulfilling any statutory requirement. The Council adopted a *Seeking Community Views Policy* in December 1997.

⌘ Community Groups

The following community groups were approached by the Community Adviser - Youth to take part in an informal interview. These groups all have a co-ordinating or overview function. The response rate was good although some groups chose not to participate (groups marked with * took part).

◊ Association of Canterbury Youth Groups*

◊ Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce*

◊ Canterbury Youth Workers Collective*

◊ Child and Family Support Network*

◊ Christchurch Safer Community Council*

◊ Community Employment Initiatives Group*

◊ Council of Christian Social Services

◊ Council of Social Services*

◊ Disabled Persons' Assembly*

◊ Ecumenical Youth Leaders' Group*

◊ Ethnic Council

◊ New Zealand Association of Adolescent Health and Development*

◊ New Zealand Council of Trade Unions

◊ Pacific Island Executive Council[5]

◊ Refugee and New Migrants Forum

◊ Secondary School Counsellors*

◊ Secondary Schools' Principals Association

◊ Te Runaka Ki Otautahi O Kai Tahu

◊ Te Runanga O Nga Maata Waka

◊ Welfare Rights Network Forum

◊ Youth at risk networking group

◊ Youth Mental Health Networking and Liaison Group*

---

[5] The Pacific Island Executive Council preferred to delegate responsibility for responding to the Pacific Island Youth Council (see Young People under Consultation Process).

Interviews were carried out by the Community Adviser - Youth between September and November 1997 (See the interview schedule in Appendix V). The areas covered in the interview depended on the interest areas of the group participating and on the time available. Each group was given the opportunity to focus on areas of particular relevance to its activities. The Community Adviser - Youth explained the consultation process and the purpose of developing a Youth Strategy before the interview began. Interviews took between one and three hours and were recorded in note form by the interviewer (and in one case by a member of the group being interviewed). The roles of the participating community agencies in addressing the issues raised in the interview are summarised in Appendix VI.

⌘ Government Organisations

The following government organisations were sent a letter explaining the Youth Strategy process and a copy of the Youth Strategy Questionnaire to complete in September 1997 (groups marked with * took part) (see Appendix VII).

◊ Alcohol Advisory Council of New Zealand*

◊ Career Service

◊ Children, Young Persons and Their Families Service*

◊ Community Employment Group*

◊ Community Funding Agency

◊ Creative New Zealand

◊ Crown Public Health

◊ Department of Conservation

◊ Department of Corrections*

◊ Department of Internal Affairs*

◊ Education and Training Support Agency*

◊ Health and Disability Commissioner*

◊ Hillary Commission for Sport, Fitness and Leisure*

◊ Housing New Zealand

◊ Human Rights Commission*

◊ Income Support Service*

◊ Inland Revenue Department

◊ Ministry for the Environment*

◊ Ministry of Education*

◊ Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs

◊ Ministry of Youth Affairs

◊ New Qualifications Authority

◊ New Zealand Employment Service

◊ Office of the Commissioner for Children*

◊ Police*

◊ Race Relations Office

◊ Southern Regional Health*

◊ Te Puni Kokiri

◊ Transit New Zealand

A reminder letter was sent to those organisations which had not replied in December 1997. Some of these organisations indicated that their work was not sufficiently relevant to youth issues in Christchurch to enable them to take part. The roles of the participating government organisations in addressing the issues covered in the questionnaire are summarised in Appendix VIII.

✠ 5. Overview of the Consultation

The following section is a brief summary of the consultation with community agencies, government organisations and young people. The full summary of responses is attached as Appendix IX. The roles of the participating community and government organisations are described in Appendix VI and Appendix VIII respectively.

An explanation of the meaning of each heading (as established by the Working Party) is given at the start of each section. It is acknowledged that many issues overlap two or more headings and the six sections should be read together to gain an overall picture of the consultation.

✠ Health, safety and wellbeing

The Working Party members defined this as physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. They included basic needs being met (including safety) as part of wellbeing.

✠ What are the health safety and wellbeing issues for young people?

✤ *Attitudes toward and understanding of young people*

✤ *Basic needs not met*

✤ *Crime*

✤ *Drug and alcohol issues*

✤ *Funding - not enough or misdirected*

✤ *Mental health*

✤ *Pressures on young people*

✤ *School/education issues*

✤ *Unsafe places and behaviours*

✤ *Unstable families*

✠ How could these issues be addressed?

✂ *Challenge some current policies*

✂ *Co-ordination*

✂ *Education and change in attitude*

✂ *Funding*

✂ *New services*

✠ What issues affect the access young people have to services related to health, safety and wellbeing?

✂ *Cost*

✂ *Issues about existing services*

✂ *Knowledge*

✂ *Physical access*

✠ How could access to health, safety and wellbeing services be improved?

✂ *Schools*

✂ *Transport*

✂ *Where young people are/ appropriateness*

✠ What role should the Christchurch City Council have in addressing the issues raised about health safety and wellbeing?

✂ *Encourage community providers*

✂ *Ensure Council events are appropriate for young people*

✂ *Facilitate, co-ordinate and provide an overview*

✂ *Provide leadership*

✂ *Research and advocate*

✂ *Resource/ provide*

✠ Physical environment and design

The Working Party members defined this as including the perception of the environment as well as the physical environment itself.

✠ What are the physical environment and design issues for young people?

✤ *Places for young people*

✤ *Conflict between different age groups*

✤ *Planning issues*

✤ *Safety*

✠ How could these issues be addressed?

✤ *Co-ordination*

✤ *New services*

✤ *Safety/ education*

✤ *Take young people into account in decision making*

✠ What issues affect the access young people have to aspects of the physical environment?

✤ *Mobility*

✤ *Self*

✠ How could access to aspects of the physical environment be improved?

✤ *Transport*

✠ What role should the Christchurch City Council have in addressing the issues raised about the physical environment?

✤ *Provide resources and advocate*

✤ *Take young people's views into account when planning*

✠ Entertainment and recreation

The Working Party members defined this as 'what you do outside work/education'. They see entertainment as being fairly passive and recreation as active.

✠ What are the entertainment and recreation issues for young people?

✄ Appropriateness

✄ Gaps in services

✄ Lack of resources

✠ How could these issues be addressed?

✄ More opportunities

✄ Publicity

✄ Resources

✠ What role should the Christchurch City Council have in addressing the issues raised about entertainment and recreation?

✄ Facilitate youth input and access

✄ Liaise with commercial providers

✄ Provide information

✄ Provide services

✠ Education and training

The Working Party members defined this topic as involving 'institutions of social and academic learning', including a broad spectrum of school, peers, family and training opportunities.

✠ What are the education and training issues for young people?

✿ *Attitudes of young people*

✿ *Attitudes towards young people*

✿ *Employment*

✿ *Home environment*

✿ *Income*

✿ *Relevant and sufficient education and training*

✿ *Truancy and suspension*

✠ How could these issues be addressed?

✿ *Links to employment*

✿ *More opportunities and resources*

✿ *Schools to change*

✠ What issues affect the access young people have to education and training opportunities?

✿ *Cost*

✿ *Decreasing choices*

✿ *Family*

✿ *Self*

✠ How could access to education and training services be improved?

Systems better geared to meeting needs

✠ What role should the Christchurch City Council have in addressing the issues raised about education and training?

❈ *Advocate*

❈ *Co-ordinate*

❈ *Involve young people*

❈ *Provide?*

❈ *Role model*

✠ Employment

The Working Party members defined employment as generally being for money, but also included voluntary work or bartering. It relates to later career opportunities and gives signals about what is valued and what is not. Unemployment was mentioned as being a negative word - society makes judgements about skills, discipline and lack of a 'work ethic'.

✠ What are the employment issues for young people?

❋ *Barriers to employment*

❋ *Economic development*

❋ *Expectations*

❋ *Income and the Employment Contracts Act*

❋ *Lack of work ethic*

❋ *Links with education*

❋ *Not enough jobs*

❋ *Training for employment*

❋ *Voluntary work - what is work?*

✠ How could these issues be addressed?

❋ *Address relationship between education and employment*

❋ *Increased opportunities*

❋ *Prevent exploitation*

✠ What issues affect the access young people have to employment opportunities?

✠ *Basic needs not met*

✠ *Changes to work*

✠ *Information*

✠ *Personal issues*

✠ *Physical access issues*

✠ How could access to employment opportunities be improved?

✠ *Education*

✠ *Employment promoted for people with disabilities*

✠ *More opportunities*

✠ *Support young people*

✠ What role should the Christchurch City Council have in addressing the issues raised about employment?

✠ *Advocate*

✠ *Facilitate*

✠ *Resource*

✠ *Role model*

✠ *Value young people*

✠ Family

The Working Party members defined this topic as encompassing many different family structures. They saw families being influenced by social pressures, culture, gangs and socio-economic factors.

✠ What are the family issues for young people?

✻ *Abuse*

✻ *Basic needs*

✻ *Pressures on families*

✠ How could these issues be addressed?

✻ *Community support*

✻ *Initiatives which support families being together*

✻ *More resources and services*

✻ *Parenting*

✻ *Schools*

✠ What role should the Christchurch City Council have in addressing the issues raised about family?

✻ *Advocate*

✻ *Encourage community and families*

✻ *Facilitate/co-ordinate*

✻ *Provide*

✻ *Support*

✠ 6. Recommendations for the Council from the Consultation

The information collected during the consultation process was presented to the Working Party in February 1998. A sub-group of the Working Party then developed a one page *Draft Youth Policy and Strategy* taking into account the main recommendations from the consultation material. These recommendations relate to the main outcomes participants hoped could be achieved for Christchurch young people and the roles the participants considered appropriate for the Council in achieving these outcomes.

✠ Outcomes

There are five main outcomes which describe the kind of city the participants in the consultation want to see for Christchurch young people. They had views not only about what the city should try to achieve, but also the activities which could enable them to be achieved.

✠ Young people's views and contributions to their families and their communities are valued

       Examples from the consultation:

◊ Young people are encouraged and supported to seek help when they need it.

◊ Young people have access to adequate income

◊ Young people and youth activities are welcomed in the central city

✠ Young people are cherished and their diversity is recognised, acknowledged and celebrated

       Examples from the consultation:

◊ Schools value all kinds of ability and interest

◊ Youth services are culturally appropriate

◊ Young people with disabilities are actively catered for by youth services

✠ The views of young people are sought and taken into account in the development of the Council's policies and activities

       Examples from the consultation:

◊ Young people are involved in planning events

◊ Young people are consulted when new services are developed

✠ Young people have access to the information and resources required to meet their needs in the areas of:

✄ Health, safety and wellbeing

✄ Physical environment and design

✄ Entertainment and recreation

✄ Education and training

✄ Employment

✄ Family

Examples from the consultation:

◊ Schools develop better reference points for young people with problems

◊ There are adequate transport services for young people

◊ Young people are protected in employment situations

✠ **Roles**

There are four main roles which are commonly recommended to the Council in the consultation material. These roles are entirely in keeping with the Youth Policy adopted by the Council in 1992. They are (in general terms):

✠ To ensure that the views and needs of young people are taken into account in the Council's activities

Examples from the consultation:

◊ Consult with young people on planning issues which affect them (such as the use of public space)

◊ Involve young people in planning on youth related services (such as the skateboard park and entertainment opportunities)

✠ To advocate on behalf of, and with, young people

Examples from the consultation:

◊ Lobby central government on youth issues (such as the minimum wage and the provision of alternative schooling)

◊ Work with Christchurch youth service providers (including schools and employment services) to ensure they meet the needs of young people

⌗ To resource, provide and support services for young people in partnership with other agencies where appropriate

Examples from the consultation:

◊ Ensure entertainment and recreation services are available and accessible to young people

◊ Fund and encourage initiatives which meet the needs of young people (such as youth work agencies, courses for parents and young people and youth events)

⌗ To be a co-ordinator, with the community, of activities which provide for young people

Examples from the consultation:

◊ Facilitate forums to promote a co-ordinated approach to youth issues

◊ Provide links between the various sectors working with young people (such as social service agencies, schools and businesses)

⌗ Final Policy

The *Draft Report of the Youth Strategy Working Party* was distributed for feedback from participants and Community Boards in April 1998. This feedback was taken into account in the final *Youth Policy and Strategy* recommended to the Council for adoption in June 1998. The Council accepted the *Report of the Youth Strategy Working Party* containing the one page *Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy* and thanked the Working Party members for their contribution to this project. The Council amended the title of the one page *Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy* document to *Christchurch City Council Youth Policy* and agreed it should replace the 1992 Youth Policy. This one page policy is now published in *Report of the Youth Strategy Working Party* (this document) entitled *Christchurch City Council Youth Policy Study* (see next page).

The Christchurch City Council is committed to developing, supporting and promoting initiatives which positively contribute to the safety and wellbeing of young people, their families and communities.

OUTCOMES:

The Christchurch City Council will work towards developing a city where:

○ Young people's views and contributions to their families and their communities are valued

○ Young people are cherished and their diversity is recognised, acknowledged and celebrated

○ The views of young people are sought and taken into account in the development of the Council's policies and activities

○ Young people have access to the information and resources required to meet their needs in the areas of:

  □ Health, safety and wellbeing
  □ Physical environment and design
  □ Entertainment and recreation
  □ Education and training
  □ Employment
  □ Family

SCOPE:

All Christchurch people aged 13-25 years, recognising that there are varying needs within this age group.

ROLES:

In working towards these outcomes the Christchurch City Council will have the following roles:

○ To ensure that the views and needs of young people are taken into account in Council activities

○ To advocate on behalf of, and with, young people

○ To resource, provide and support services for young people in partnership with other agencies where appropriate

○ To be a coordinator, with the community, of activities which provide for young people

Note: An action plan for this document will be developed annually for implementation

✠ Appendices

✠ Appendix I: Christchurch City Council

Community Development and Social Wellbeing Policy

CD Policy on this page

INSERT

⌘ Appendix II: Christchurch City Council

Youth Policy (1992)

✠ Principles

The following are the principles guiding the implementation of this policy for young people. The age definition of this policy refers to the 11-24 years age group. This has been influenced by the Children Young Persons and their Families Act and the age parameters applicable to the Unemployment Benefit for youth.

1. A Youth Policy provides an opportunity for the Council to be responsive to the needs of young people. This responsiveness is in accordance with the Council's Mission Statement which refers to:

    (a) reflect responsiveness to local needs:

    (b) provide advocacy for the total community, and an expression of local identity; and

    (c) enhance the local environment

2. In addressing the needs of young people, the Council will act in a manner sensitive to the aspirations of young people of all ethnic and cultural groups, and those with special needs.

3. In addressing and identifying youth needs, the Council should work with the community, those working with young people and young people themselves.

✠ Policy objectives

1. To ensure the views and opinions of youth from a diversity of cultural, social and economic backgrounds are sought on a regular basis, and in particular on major issues of joint interest.

Explanation

Young people make up almost 25% of the city's population. As a group, their needs and expectations are different from other sectors of the population. Ensuring that Council services address the needs of youth requires a conscious effort to identify concerns and issues.

Current and Possible Future Involvement

Consultation with young people presently takes place through:

◊ The Council's involvement with and support of the Christchurch Youth Council
◊ Council staff liaising with youth organisations
◊ Youth Council representatives on the Council's Cultural and Social Services Committee
◊ Liaison with those working with youth at risk

Future means for increasing youth consultation could include such possibilities as:

◊ Youth representatives or consultative groups working with Community Boards
◊ The encouragement of youth representatives on to Community Centre Management Committees

2. Where possible to provide facilities and resources to encourage the development of positive programmes and activities which meet the current social, cultural and recreational needs of young people.

Explanation

The Council is a major provider of facilities, and services which contribute towards meeting the recreational, social and cultural needs of residents. It also contributes

resources to community initiatives which complement the Council's own activities. This objective is to ensure youth needs are taken into account when starting new programmes or assessing funding priorities. Providing positive opportunities for young people will benefit the country as a whole.

Current and Possible Future Involvement

Current involvement includes such things as:

◊ Advisory services provided by Council staff

◊ Various Council parks, stadiums, swimming complexes and community centres

◊ Grants to young people by Community Boards to attend Outward Bound type courses

◊ Grants through community funding schemes and Community Board discretionary funds

◊ Funding and administering of school holiday programmes

◊ Providing rent free accommodation for the Youth Resource Centre

◊ The community van

◊ Council support of Youth Council initiatives

Future possibilities could include such things as:

◊ Working with schools to increase the use of school facilities by the community outside school hours

◊ Encouraging the development of youth programmes by reducing fees charged for facility hire to youth organisations

◊ Making available low cost rental housing to groups working with youth with special needs eg. at risk youth trapped by economic circumstances in alternative care accommodation

3. To make every endeavour to provide Council services and facilities which are accessible to young people regardless of their circumstances.

Explanation

In the provision of services, facilities and resources, the Council must be mindful that some young people are often excluded because of their personal or social circumstances. Young people, because of a disability, their economic situation or ethnic group, may find themselves excluded from the mainstream of existing opportunities. This objective requires the Council to take these, and other factors, into consideration when establishing programmes and expenditure priorities.

Current and Possible Future Involvement

Accessibility to Council services and facilities is presently encouraged by:

◊ Greater standardised youth discounts

◊ The inclusion of young people who are unemployed, full time students or unwaged in youth discounts to ensure accessibility to facilities and activities

4. To encourage co-ordination in the development and provision of programmes and services for youth.

Explanation

Many agencies, including statutory, non-statutory, voluntary and private are involved in providing and resourcing youth activities and services.

While the Council is also a provider, it is also well placed to encourage and facilitate the efficient and effective use of existing resources. This objective suggests that the Council should act to ensure that any duplication in services and funding to youth is reduced and that such services and funding is equitably distributed across the city.

Current and Possible Future Involvement

Current co-ordination taken place through such things as:

◊ Council staff liaising and supporting the Canterbury Youth Work Training Forum

◊ Council Staff liaising with Youth Organisations and sharing information with such groups

◊ The development of a Youth Resource Booklet

Future possibilities for co-ordination could include:

◊ A one-off Youth Worker Forum. Follow up reports could then be sent to participants and to Council. An evaluation by participants could determine the need for ongoing forums

◊ A newsletter to youth organisations in Christchurch

✠ Conclusion

A Youth Policy is a commitment by the Council to the young people of the city. It is an acknowledgment that young people are a significant and valuable part of the community with specific and identifiable needs.

Research reveals that as a group, the needs of young people are significant and have future implications for the well-being of the city. A Youth Policy provides a framework for future work in attempting to address these needs.

Alistair Graham

Leisure and Neighbourhoods Support Manager

✠ Appendix III: Profile of Young People in Christchurch

INSERT MAP

✠ Introduction

The data presented below place the consultation material in the context of some general issues facing young people in Christchurch. They also provide a demographic profile of young people in the city.

Data informing this section came from the 1996 Census of Population and Dwellings, the Annual Report of the Christchurch Police Youth Aid Section, the Ministry of Education and Southern Regional Health's Locality Profile for Christchurch.

In most cases the data cover young people aged from 13 to 25 years. Where it is more appropriate the data cover different age ranges. In these cases, the age ranges have been specified.

The data highlight some significant issues about the availability and applicability of statistics about young people. In some cases age related data are not able to be used as they provide little information about the lives of young people. This is especially the case with Census data looking at family and household type. As respondents were not asked for their relationships to others in the household, it is impossible to tell from the Census breakdowns whether, for example, 'a couple with dependent children' includes young people living with their parents and siblings or whether the young person is themselves part of a couple.

✠ Demographic Profile of Young People in Christchurch

The following data cover young people aged between 13 and 25 years who were usually resident in Christchurch city territorial local authority at the time of the 1996 Census of Population and Dwellings[6] (see map on previous page).

---

[6] Statistics New Zealand. (1997). *1996 Census of Populations and Dwellings*.

⚔ Gender Breakdowns

The gender breakdown amongst young people in Christchurch follows a similar pattern to the Christchurch city totals. Fifty one percent of 13 to 25 year olds in Christchurch are male, compared with 48.4% for the city as a whole (1996 data).

⚔ Ethnicity

Seventy seven percent of Christchurch young people classify themselves as European, with 9.5% being New Zealand Maori and 2.5% classifying themselves as Pacific Islands people. Seven percent for Christchurch young people categorise themselves as Asian. These figures differ slightly from the Christchurch city totals, where 86% of the population are European, 7% are Maori, 2% are Pacific Islands people and 4.1% are Asian.

The Maori and Pacific Islands ethnic groups are slightly over-represented among young people, whereas the European population is under-represented. It may be that young people are over-represented among the Asian ethnic group with the presence of young students in the city for study purposes.

Ethnicity of Christchurch People
Aged 13 - 25 Years

Pacific Islands 3%
Asian 7%
Other 4%
Maori 10%
European 76%
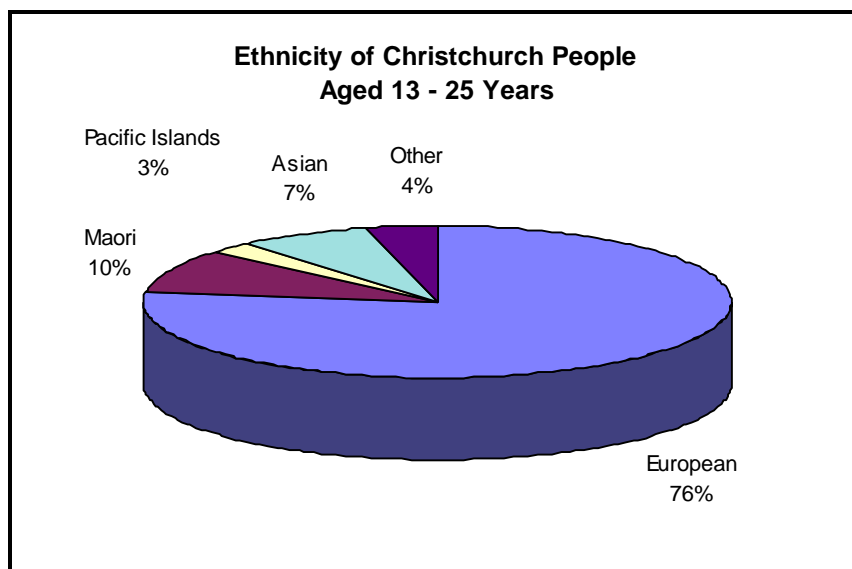
⚜ Living Arrangements[7]

Many (33 030) Christchurch young people live with their parents and 26 982 live with siblings. Some (3603) young people are living with dependent children and 9819 are living with a partner/spouse. Nine hundred and sixty three young people were living alone at the time of the 1996 Census.

Living Arrangements of Christchurch People Aged 13 - 25 Years
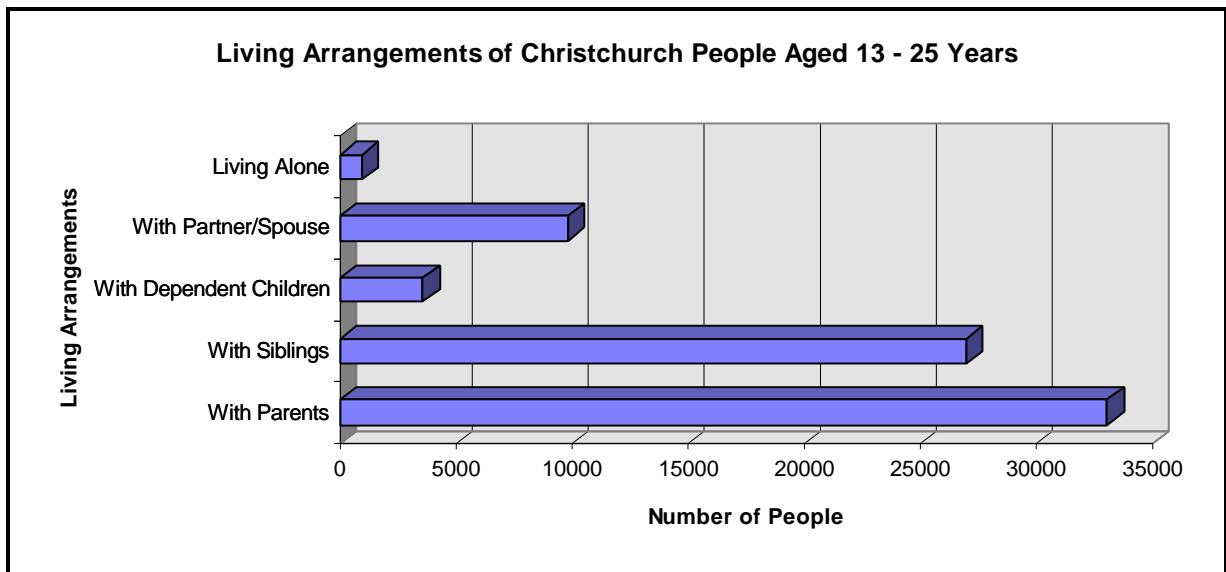
⚜ Household Composition

Sixteen percent of young people live in households of unrelated people, mostly in flatting arrangements. Fourteen percent live in households with a partner and other related or unrelated people. Twelve percent of young people live in one family households of one parent and children.

---

[7] Some double counting occurs within this section as respondents may belong to more than one category. For this reason percentages have not been calculated.

Household Composition for Christchurch People Aged 13 - 25 Years

(Horizontal bar chart)

Y-axis label: **Household Types**

- One Family (Parent/s and Children): ~12%
- Partner and/or Other Related or Unrelated: ~14%
- Unrelated People: ~16%

X-axis: 0% to 16%, labelled **Percentages**
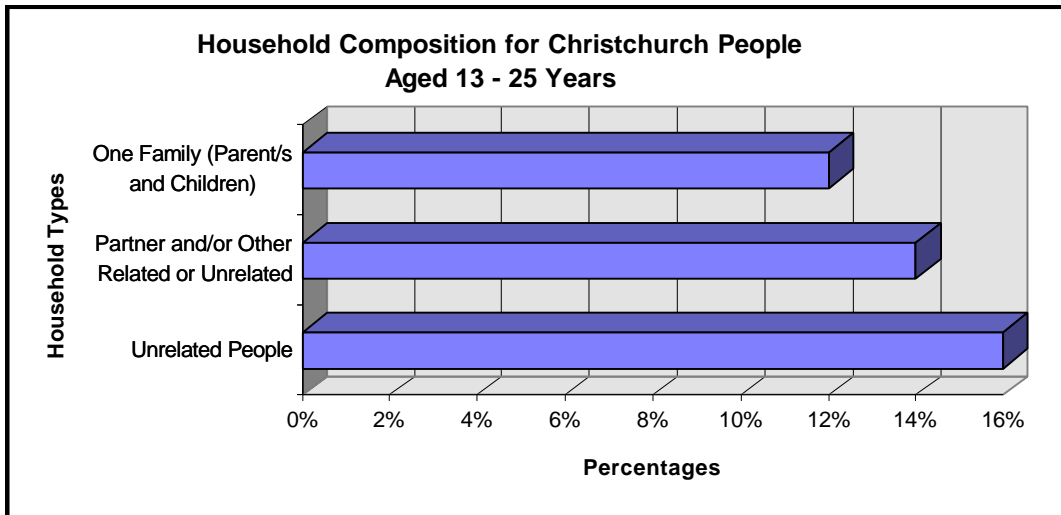
✖ Total Family Income

Nineteen percent of young people do not specify their family's income level. Thirteen percent report living in families with total incomes of under $20 000 per annum. Another 19% report that they live in a families with total incomes of more than $70 000.

✖ Personal Income[8]

Most young people with personal income are on fairly limited incomes. Fifty one percent of young people have personal incomes of less than $10 000 per annum. Nine percent of these have no personal income. Thirty five percent are earning between $15 000 and $30 000 per annum. Only 4% are earning over $30 000.

---

[8] These data cover young people aged between 15 and 25 years and include New Zealand Income Support Service benefit payments and Inland Revenue Department payments.

Personal Income of Christchurch People Aged 13 - 25 Years

> $30 000 pa
4%

$15 000 - $30 000 pa
35%

< $10 000pa
52%

No Personal Income
9%

⚔ Income Sources[9]

Income Sources of Christchurch People Aged 13 - 25 Years

Income Source:
- ACC
- Invalids Benefit
- Sickness Benefit
- DPB
- Inc from Interest/Invstmnts
- Student Allow ance
- Unemployment Benefit
- Income Paid By Employer

Number of People (0 – 45000)
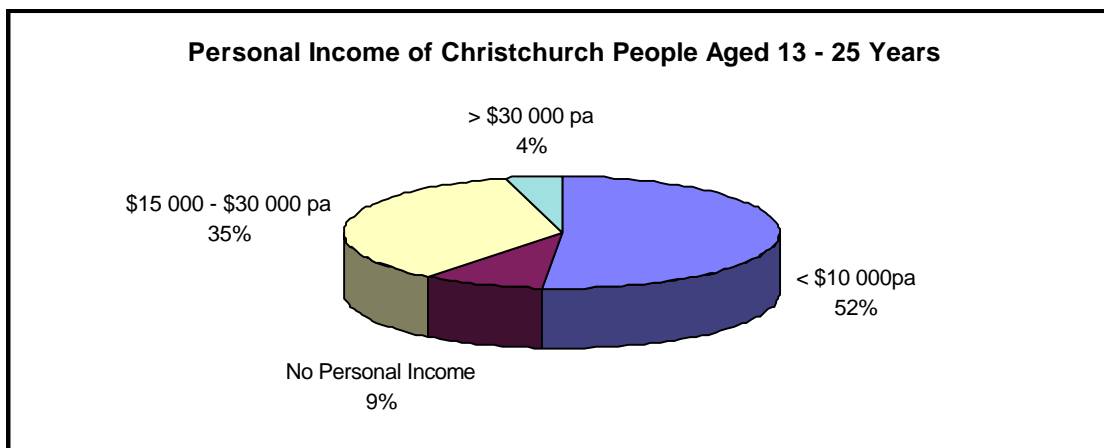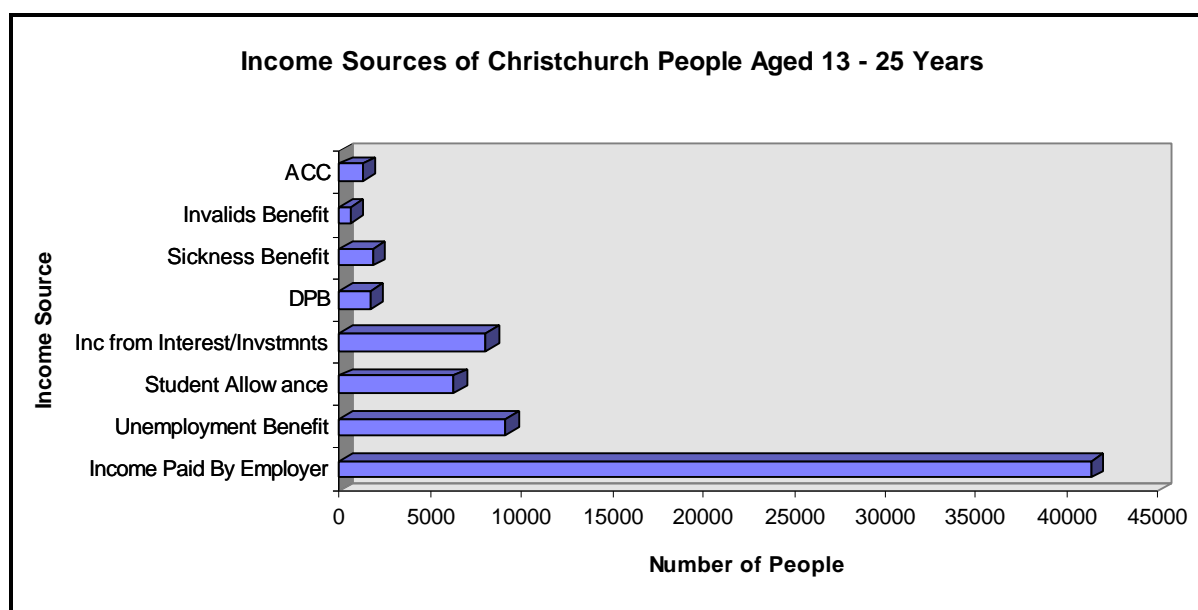
Most (41 343) young people who have an income source derive this income from wages paid by an employer. The next most common income source for young people is the Unemployment Benefit (according to the Census 9129 are in receipt of this benefit). In line with non-labourforce

[9] These data cover young people aged between 15 and 25 years. Some respondents will have been double counted as they belong to more than one category and for this reason data are not broken down into percentages.

figures, 6240 young people receive a Student Allowance and 8007 receive income from interest and other investments. Only 1722 young people receive income from the Domestic Purposes Benefit. Some young people have health problems significant enough to warrant seeking their income from assistance designated for those in ill health. Most (1776) of these are on the shorter term Sickness Benefit, while another 567 are on the longer term Invalids Benefit and 1281 receive ACC payments.

✠ **Labourforce Status**[10]
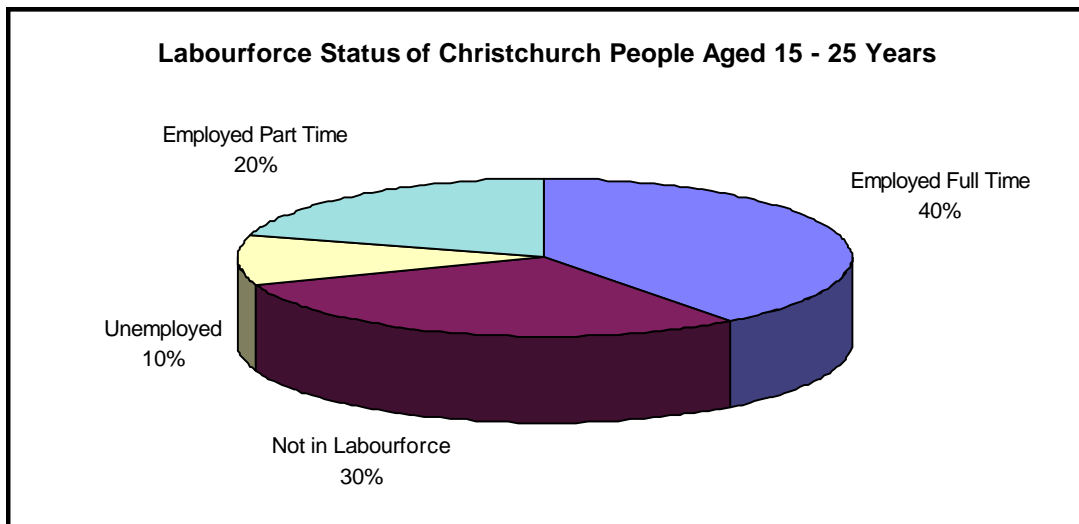
Thirty nine percent of young people aged between 15 and 25 years are employed full time. Another 29% are not in the labourforce. Many of these young people are students engaged in secondary and tertiary education. Ten percent are considered unemployed and actively seeking work. Another 20% are employed part time.

---

[10] These data describe Christchurch young people aged between 15 and 25 years. The labourforce consists of people aged 15 years and over who regularly work for one or more hours per week for financial gain or as an unpaid worker in a family business. Also included are people who are unemployed and actively seeking either full or part time work.

⌘ Highest Qualification Gained[11]

Nineteen percent of those aged between 15 and 25 years do not have any qualifications. (However, this includes students who were in the process of completing their qualifications at the time of the Census). Almost half (48%) of Christchurch young people have a school qualification (School Certificate, Sixth Form Certificate or Higher School Certificate). According to Ministry of Education records, 17% of school leavers in 1996 left without any formal qualifications[12].

At 1 July 1997, there were 20 663 students aged between 13 and 25 years enrolled in Christchurch schools.

⌘ Health

Between 1984 and 1993 hospital discharge rates for Christchurch young people remained reasonably constant, and are comparable to those of the overall Southern Region[13].

Young men aged between 13 and 24 years are more than twice as likely as young women to die. Between 1984 and 1993, there were an average of thirteen young women's deaths per year in Christchurch compared to 37 young men's deaths. This translates to a combined death rate of 97.6 per 100,000 people. Motor vehicle accidents contributed to 40% of young people's deaths in Christchurch City in this period. Suicides and self-inflicted injuries contributed to 25%[14] of deaths. There was a trend toward increasing youth suicide rates in Christchurch City over the period from 1984 and 1993[15].

---

[11] These data describe Christchurch young people aged between 15 and 25 years.

[12] This information was provided by the Ministry of Education in a personal communication in 1997.

[13] Southern Regional Health Authority. 1996. *Locality Profile - Draft*. Southern Regional Health Authority Dunedin.

[14] Suicide and self-inflicted injuries contributed to 29% of deaths of young men during this period, compared to 14% of deaths of young women.

[15] Southern Regional Health Authority. 1996. *Locality Profile - Draft*. Southern Regional Health Authority Dunedin.

According to the Christchurch Police homicide contributed to only 2% of the deaths of young people in Christchurch City between 1984 and 1993.

Average Mortality By Sex of Christchurch People Aged 13 - 24 Years

Females

Males
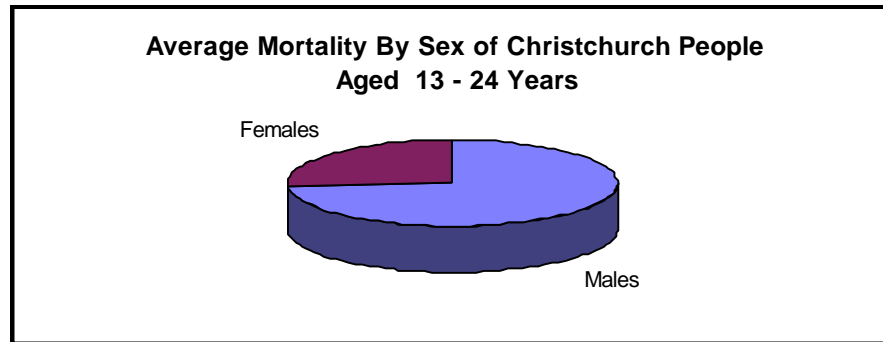
Suicide is the second most common cause of death amongst young New Zealanders aged between 15 to 24 years[16]. Statistics show that the youth suicide rate has increased over the last twenty years and is continuing to climb, with New Zealand now having one of the highest youth suicide rates in the world. New Zealand youth aged 15 to 24 years are over-represented in suicide statistics compared to all other age groups. For instance, in 1994, youth suicide deaths represented 26.8% (137) of total suicide deaths while this age group comprised only 15.6% of the total population[17]. Young males continue to commit suicide at a much higher rate than females, with the latter representing 22% of all youth suicide deaths in 1995[18].

---

[16] The highest cause of death is vehicle accidents.

[17] Ministry of Youth Affairs, Ministry of Health and Te Puni Kokiri August 1997 *An Approach for Action: Phase Two in the Development of a National Strategy to Help Prevent Youth Suicide in New Zealand.*

[18] New Zealand Health Information Service 1997 *Youth Suicide in New Zealand: Summary of Statistics to 1995.*

Suicides of Christchurch People Aged 15 - 24 Years

Females
22%

Males
78%
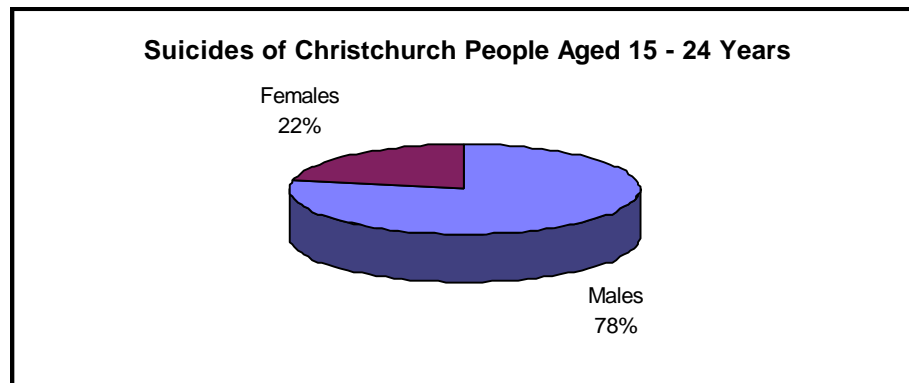
The presence of serious mental health problems has been found to be associated with suicide attempts amongst young people in New Zealand. A study[19] has recently been completed by the Canterbury Suicide Project on the extent of psychiatric illness among young people making serious suicide attempts. In the month preceding a serious suicide attempt, 89% of 13 to 24 year olds in the study had at least one mental disorder compared to 31% of control subjects.

There are few recently collected statistics available about the health status of young people in the city although some organisations, such as the 198 Youth Health Centre, do collect information about youth heath issues. Most (73%) of the young people using this service between May and December 1997 came from least advantaged backgrounds (that is, residential areas identified by the Southern Regional Health Authority's Health Equity Quotients as being predominantly of lower socio-economic status[20]). Between October and December 1997, Centre users were predominantly female (72%). In line with the ethnic distribution of young people in the city, users were also predominantly European (78%), although proportions of Maori (9%) and Pacific Islands youth reflected citywide youth ethnic breakdowns. Looking at presenting issues[21], many (37%) young people sought contraceptive advice. Forty seven percent sought general medical advice and treatment. Thirty eight percent sought assistance for what could be

---

[19] Reported in Canterbury Suicide Project. Bulletin No. 11 August 1997.

[20] Southern Regional Health Authority 1996 *Locality Profile - Draft* Southern Regional Health Authority Dunedin.

[21] Clients may have given more than one reason for presenting at the Centre, thus resulting in percentage totals of over 100.

classed as mental health issues ranging from alcohol and drug issues and anxiety/depression to abuse, suicide and psychiatric problems.

✠ Justice

Infomation avaialable about justice issues tends to focus on the small percentage of young people who come to the attention of the Police.It is obvious from the figures below, however, that the vast majority of young people in Christchurch never have this type of involvement in the justice system.

According to the Police Youth Aid Section Annual Report for 1996-1997 there were a total of 1148 appearances in the Youth Court in Christchurch by young offenders[22]. This was a slight reduction on last year where there were 1341 total appearances. The Youth Aid Section has adopted a policy of identifying recidivist offenders and pushing for custodial sentences where appropriate. The Youth Court has been backing the police, resulting in 12 young people being sentenced to terms of imprisonment ranging from between two months and life imprisonment. According to the head of the Police Youth Aid Section, Sergeant Chris Roper, a small group of hard core recidivist offenders are responsible for a huge amount of youth crime in Christchurch. Sergeant Roper recently reported that if 54 hard core young offenders were taken out of circulation in the city, then youth crime in Christchurch would "slump dramatically" [23]. The Police have noted a strong link between family background and criminal behaviour. Most (42) of these young people come from families immersed in crime, drug and alcohol addictions.

---

[22] It is important to remember that these data cover total appearances. Individual youth offenders may have made more than one appearance in the Youth Court.

[23] *The Christchurch Mail. (19 January1997). City Has 54 Hard-Core Youth Crims*. p.1.

✠ Appendix IV: Focus Group Discussions with Young People

⌘ Focus Groups Format

At the beginning of each focus group interview the interviewer described the background to the research and talked about how the views of young people would contribute to the development of the Youth Strategy.

The interviewer outlined the six broad topics (health, safety and wellbeing, physical environment and design, entertainment and recreation, education and training, employment and family).

The interviewer facilitated discussion around each category, prompting responses from the participants about (for example) their health, safety and wellbeing issues and ways they thought these could be addressed.

✠ **Appendix V: Interview Schedule for Community Agencies**

✠ Interview Schedule for Community Agencies

✠ Health, safety and wellbeing

The first topic is health, safety and wellbeing. The Working Party defined this as physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. They included basic needs being met (including safety) as part of wellbeing.

1) In your experience what are the health, safety and wellbeing issues for Christchurch young people?

2) What initiatives do you know of which promote the health, safety and wellbeing of young people?

3) What further initiatives are needed?

4) Are the Christchurch initiatives which promote health, safety and wellbeing appropriate for young people?

5) What sort of information do young people need to address their health, safety and wellbeing issues?

5a) How could this information best be made available to them?

6) What issues affect young people's access to services related to health, safety and wellbeing?

6a) How could access be improved?

7) How can young people participate in decisions that affect their health, safety and wellbeing?

8) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about health, safety and wellbeing of young people?

✠ Employment

The Working Party defined employment as generally being for money, but also included voluntary work or bartering. It relates to later career opportunities and gives signals about what is valued and what is not. Unemployment was mentioned as being a negative word - society makes judgements about skills, discipline and lack of a 'work ethic'.

1) What are the employment issues for Christchurch young people?

1a) Are these issues different for different young people? If so, how?

2) What employment opportunities are there for Christchurch young people?

2a) What further initiatives are needed?

3) What issues affect young people's access to employment opportunities?

3a) How could access be improved?

4) How could young people participate in decisions about the provision of employment opportunities?

5) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about employment opportunities for Christchurch young people?

⌘ Physical environment and design

The Working Party defined this as including the perception of the environment as well as the physical environment itself.

1) What are the physical environment and design issues for Christchurch young people?

1a) Are these issues different for different young people? If so, how?

1b) How could these issues be addressed?

2) What issues affect young people's access to aspects of the physical environment (for example public spaces, transport, location of services)?

2a) How could access be improved?

3) How could young people participate in decisions about their physical environment?

4) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about the physical environment and design?

⌘ Entertainment and recreation

The Working Party defined this as 'what you do outside work/education.' They see entertainment as being fairly passive and recreation as active.

1) What are the entertainment and recreation issues for Christchurch young people?

1a) Are these issues different for different young people? If so, how?

2) What entertainment and recreation opportunities are there for Christchurch young people?

2a) What further initiatives are needed?

3) Are Christchurch entertainment and recreation opportunities for young people appropriate for young people?

4) What issues affect young people's access to entertainment and recreation opportunities?

4a) How could access be improved?

5) How could young people participate in decisions about the provision of entertainment and recreation opportunities?

6) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about entertainment and recreation opportunities for Christchurch for Christchurch young people?

⌘ Education and training

The Working Party defined this topic as involving 'institutions of social and academic learning', including a broad spectrum of schools, peers, family, training opportunities etc.

1) What are the education and training issues for Christchurch young people?
Are these issues different for different young people? If so, how?

2) What education and training opportunities are there for Christchurch young people?
What further initiatives are needed?

3) Are Christchurch education and training opportunities appropriate for young people?

4) What issues affect young people's access to education and training opportunities?
How could access be improved?

5) How could young people participate in decisions about the provision of education and training opportunities?

6) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about education and training opportunities for Christchurch young people?

✖ Family

The Working Party defined this topic as encompassing many different family structures. They saw families being influenced by social pressures, culture, gangs and socio-economic factors.

The questions about this topic are far more general than for the other topics. This is because the relationships young people have with family are closely connected to who they are, and are highly individual. Please give any general responses you feel able to which comment on the issues young people have in being part of (or not being part of) a family.

1) What are the family issues for Christchurch young people?

1a) Are these issues different for different young people? If so, how?

2) What Christchurch initiatives are supportive of young people and their families?

2a) What further supportive initiatives need to be developed?

3) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about young people and families?

✖ Conclusion

1) What is the role of your organisation in addressing the issues you have raised today?

⌘ Appendix VI: Roles of Participating Community Agencies

✠ Roles of Community Agencies

At the end of the community agency interviews participants were asked to describe the role of their group in addressing the issues they had raised during the interview (see Appendix V). The responses reflect the differences between groups which work solely on youth issues (for example youth mental health or youth work) and those which have a broader focus (for example employment or disability issues). The following responses give an incomplete but useful indication of the diversity of community activity surrounding youth issues in Christchurch.

✠ Association of Canterbury Youth Groups

◊ Co-ordinate uniformed groups (eg. Guides and Scouts) to promote communication

◊ Lobby on issues of concern

◊ Possibility of combining training opportunities (and joint funding applications) to enable the best use of available resources

✠ Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce

◊ Support business and promote business success. Important to this is a healthy community, keeping young people well satisfied and making sure there are activities for young people

◊ Liaise with the Canterbury Development Corporation on employment issues

◊ Working hard to protect good things and enhance the community

✠ Canterbury Youth Workers' Collective

◊ Ensure that youth work is carried out in a planned and efficient way by co-ordinating relevant skills training

◊ Meet monthly to support and share information with other youth workers

◊ Provide networking opportunities for skills, information and resources

◊ Provide advocacy on behalf of youth and youth workers

◊ Aim to improve the average length of service of youth workers through stress management, support, social activities and professional advice

◊ Foster the credibility of youth work as a profession

✠ Child and Family Services

◊ Co-ordinate and make sure child and family services (Level 1) are not doubling up

◊ Meet monthly to provide support for members

◊ Potential for a more political role in the future

✠ Christchurch Safer Community Council

◊ 'Watch dog' role for the Christchurch City Council and other large agencies

◊ Provide independent advocacy and challenge to government on youth issues

◊ Promote discussion on issues through forums

◊ Play small funding role (mostly evaluations) to strengthen organisations

✠ Community Employment Initiatives Group

◊ Work with young people directly and indirectly through the 17 member organisations

◊ Lobby on employment issues (from a community perspective)

◊ Work in co-operation instead of apart

◊ Community agencies working in partnership with government

✠ Council of Social Services

◊ Provide facilitation, co-ordination and an overview of issues

◊ Support agencies delivering services for young people (for example provide information and link groups together)

◊ Provide networking opportunities

◊ Advocate to central and local government on major issues

◊ COSS would like to do more on the issues identified

❈ Disabled Persons' Assembly

◊ Advocate locally and nationally on issues of concern (DPA is currently contracted to work with young people)

◊ Provide training for consumers

❈ Ecumenical Youth Leaders' Group

◊ Support and co-ordinate regional organisers of mainly church based youth groups

❈ New Zealand Association of Adolescent Health and Development

◊ Provide networking and educative opportunities for people involved in youth health issues (defining health very broadly)

◊ Lobbying government and other decision makers on youth health issues

❈ Secondary Schools Counsellors

◊ Support School Counsellors

◊ Focus on issues for 'at risk' young people (due to limited energy and resources)

❈ Youth Mental Health Forum

◊ Encourage the co-ordination of youth mental health services/ agencies

◊ Encourage communication among all agencies within Christchurch working with young people

◊ Provide youth mental health workers with the opportunity to liaise with others

◊ Provide an opportunity to heighten awareness of the significant issues affecting the mental health of young people in Christchurch

◊ Advocate for young people/ young people's issues by lobbying relevant parties where advocacy is seen to be appropriate.

✠ Appendix VII: Questionnaire for

Government Organisations

✠ Youth Strategy Questionnaire

Please work your way through the questionnaire and answer as many questions as you can. For the strategy study 'young people' refers to all those aged 13-25 years. If you refer to a particular group of young people (for example, age group or ethnic group) please note this in your comments.

The name and position of the person filling in this form:

Organisation:

Contact address:

Contact phone number:

I give my permission for the following comments to be incorporated in the Christchurch City Council's strategy study and final youth strategy document. I accept that I will have the opportunity to comment on the whole draft strategy before it is presented to Council.

Name:

Signed:

1) Health, safety and wellbeing

The working group members defined this as physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. They included basic needs being met (including safety) as part of wellbeing.

a) In your experience, what issues/factors affect the health, safety and wellbeing of Christchurch young people?

b) Does your department have a role in promoting the health, safety and wellbeing of Christchurch young people?

c) How is this role determined? (for example, is there a legislative framework? Does your department have the opportunity to prioritise young people's interests and issues?).

d) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about health, safety and wellbeing (for young people)?

(Please attach any further answers or relevant material)

2) Physical environment and design

According to the working group this includes any issue impacting on the interaction of young people with the physical environment (including perceptions of the environment).

a) In your experience, what are the physical environment and design issues which affect Christchurch young people?

b) Does your department have a role in physical environment and design issues which affect Christchurch young people?

c) How is this role determined? (for example, is there a legislative framework? Does your department have the opportunity to prioritise young people's interests and issues?).

d) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about physical environment and design (for young people)?

(Please attach any further answers or relevant material)

3) Entertainment and recreation

The working group members defined this as 'what you do outside work/education'. They see entertainment as being fairly passive and recreation as active.

a) In your experience, what are the entertainment and recreation issues for Christchurch young people?

b) Does your department have a role in providing entertainment and recreation for Christchurch young people?

c) How is this role determined? (for example, is there a legislative framework? Does your department have the opportunity to prioritise young people's interests and issues?).

d) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about entertainment and recreation (for young people)?

(Please attach any further answers or relevant material)

4) Education and training

The working group defined this topic as involving 'institutions of social and academic learning' including the influences of school, peers and family.

a) In your experience, what are the education and training issues for Christchurch young people?

b) Does your department have a role in providing education and training for Christchurch young people?

c) How is this role determined? (for example, is there a legislative framework? Does your department have the opportunity to prioritise young people's interests and issues?).

d) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about education and training (for young people)?

(Please attach any further answers or relevant material)

5) Employment

The working group defined employment as generally being for money, but also included voluntary work or bartering. It refers to later career opportunities and gives signals about what is valued and what is not. Unemployment was mentioned as being a negative word - society makes judgements about skills, discipline and lack of a 'work ethic'.

a) In your experience, what are the employment issues for Christchurch young people?

b) Does your department have a role in employment issues for Christchurch young people?

c) How is this role determined? (for example, is there a legislative framework? Does your department have the opportunity to prioritise young people's interests and issues?).

d) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about employment (for young people)?

(Please attach any further answers or relevant material)

6) Family

The working group members defined this topic as encompassing many different family structures. They say families are affected by social pressures, culture and socio-economic factors.

a) In your experience, what are the family issues for Christchurch young people?

b) Does your department have a role in the family issues which affect Christchurch young people?

c) How is this role determined? (for example, is there a legislative framework? Does your department have the opportunity to prioritise young people's interests and issues?).

d) What do you think the City Council's role should be in addressing the issues you have raised about family (for young people)?

(Please attach any further answers or relevant material)

7) Relationship with the Christchurch City Council

a) What relationship (if any) do you currently have with the Christchurch City Council with regard to the youth issues you have raised? (please give details).

b) What future relationship (if any) would you like to develop with the City Council with regard to these youth issues? (please give details).

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire.

⌘ Appendix VIII: Roles of Participating

Government Organisations

✠ Roles of Government Organisations

The government organisations which participated in the survey were asked to describe the role of their organisation in each of the six areas highlighted in the questionnaire (see Appendix VII for the specific questions). Participants responded only to questions relating to relevant topics for their organisation. The answered are detailed here under these headings followed by any general comments the organisation may have made about its role.

✠ Alcohol Advisory Council (ALAC)

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ One of ALAC's targets for 1997 - 2000 is to reduce the level of binge drinking amongst young people in New Zealand. This has a direct effect on health and safety. ALAC also aims to reduce alcohol related harm across New Zealand.

Physical environment and design

◊ No direct role but issues around Host Responsibility in licensed premises have an indirect effect on the physical environment.

Family

◊ ALAC only has a role if alcohol plays a significant part. This may include advocating for the provision of family-aware services.

General

◊ The role set out in the ALAC Act is "to promote moderation in alcohol use and reduce alcohol related harm". Alcohol and young people is identified as one of eight major project areas. Budget and projects are approved by the ALAC Council and the Cabinet Minister with responsibility for ALAC. The ALAC Council comprises five members appointed by the Director General of Health with approval from the Cabinet Minister.

⚝ Children, Young Persons' and Their Families Service (CYPFS)

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ Statutory child protection, youth justice and adoption. CYPFS deals mainly with those issues requiring statutory intervention.

Education and training

◊ Only role is with those in CYPFS care and in trying to access schooling for them.

Family

◊ The role of CYPFS is determined by legislation

⚝ Community Corrections

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ Within the prison system, the aim is to provide "humane containment" which aspires to protect the health and safety of offenders.

Education and training

◊ Community Corrections has a limited role with a part-time remedial reading tutor who also assists with driver licensing and career advice etc.

Employment

◊ Community Corrections only has a role in employment with regard to offending. If employment is an issue then the Department would use existing networks/liaison with Employment Services or Actionworks etc. to meet this need.

Family

◊ The Department has a mandated role with the young person but not with the family as such. During the preparation of pre-sentence reports for the Court and the administration of the community-based sentences the department often contacts and sometimes works with families as well as the individual. However the practice tends toward problem-solving on an individual level. Many young offenders are disassociated and alienated from family/whanau networks.

✠ Community Employment Group - Department of Labour

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ No direct role except as a funder of community groups which provide assistance and positive activities for young people in regard to employment opportunities.

Education

◊ Community Employment Group has an indirect role in education by funding community groups to provide services.

Employment

◊ It is the role of the Community Employment Group to increase opportunities and address issues affecting unemployment among young people. This is largely achieved through supporting community agencies in Christchurch.

Family

◊ No direct role but the Community Employment Group staff are aware that family issues often need to be addressed before any positive employment outcomes can be created. The role of the Community Employment Group is to fund community groups to increase employment opportunities and increase employment.

General

◊ Decisions within the Community Employment Group are made in Wellington. There is an opportunity for the Christchurch department to prioritise client groups. Currently the priority groups are Maori, Pacific Island people, women, rural and urban disadvantaged people. Young people fit into each of these priority groups.

✠ Department of Internal Affairs

Health, safety and well being

◊ The Department of Internal Affairs has, as one of its strategic priority areas, to provide "support for community and voluntary organisations to increase their effectiveness in meeting the needs of at-risk youth, ethnic and other groups". The Department administers government funds for these organisations who provide

services to youth through Community Organisations Grants, Lottery Youth Community Project Worker Scheme and the Youth Worker Training Scheme.

◊ The Department specifically provide support, information and developmental advice to youth workers and their agencies at local, regional and national levels (see below under General).

Entertainment and recreation

◊ Only role is as a funder and resource for groups providing entertainment and recreation opportunities.

Education and training

◊ The Department funds agencies working in this area and works with agencies to increase their capacity to deliver to young people.

Employment

◊ The Department of Internal Affairs funds and supports community agencies working in this area.

Family

◊ The Department of Internal Affairs has a funding and information resource role as well as a capacity building role with community organisations.

General

◊ Government purchases the services of the Department of Internal Affairs.

◊ Needs assessments are undertaken at national and local levels to monitor the needs and issues facing youth and to assist in the distribution of some funds. Other funds are distributed by publicly and politically appointed committee members (eg COGs, Lottery Youth) who bring their local knowledge to bear in prioritising young people's needs.

⌖ Education and Training Support Agency (ETSA)

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ ETSA purchases life skills courses as part of the Training Opportunities Programme and Commissioned Youth Action (funded by NZES). These courses include modules

on nutrition, personal wellbeing, fitness, etc tailored to individual needs. All other Training Opportunities courses include learner support promoting health, safety and wellbeing.

Education and training

◊ See above. ETSA also promotes training in the workplace linked to the National Qualifications Framework (Skill NZ) for young (and older) people.

Employment

◊ Training Opportunities Programmes are focused on skills development for work. ETSA purchase work based training programmes. Skill NZ's work fosters employment and training.

General

◊ ETSA is a Crown entity established under the Education Act, 1989. It reports directly to the Minister of Education through its Board. Young people are a target group set nationally for Training Opportunities Programmes.

⛨ Health and Disability Commissioner

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ See below for a full description of The Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights. Right 1(3) of the Code states that every consumer has the right to be provided with services that take into account the needs, values and beliefs of different cultural, religious, social and ethnic groups, including the needs, values and beliefs of Maori. Right 4(4) of the Code states that consumers have the right to have services provided in a manner that minimises the potential harm to, and optimises the quality of their life. This involves taking an holistic view of the consumer's needs in order to achieve the best possible outcome in the circumstances.

General

◊ The Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights gives rights to all consumers when they are receiving a health and disability service.

◊ The Code of Rights is established as a regulation under the Health and Disability Commissioner Act 1994, and its application is determined by that Act. The duties and obligations in the Code apply to all providers of health and disability services. The Code provides that consumers have the right to:

- be treated with respect

- be free from discrimination or exploitation

- receive services which respect their dignity and independence

- be communicated with effectively

- be fully informed

- make informed choices

- take the appropriate support person or persons and

- complain about any aspect of the service they receive, and have their complaint taken seriously

◊ The Commissioner is charged with the role of promoting and protecting the rights of health and disability services consumers and, to that end, facilitating the fair, simple, speedy and efficient resolution of complaints relating to the infringements of those rights.

⚑ Hillary Commission

General

◊ The Hillary Commission did not respond directly to the questionnaire but instead sent a copy of 'Moving through Sport' (1997). This document notes that the principal function of the Hillary Commission is "to develop and encourage sport, fitness and leisure". 'Moving though Sport' addresses (amongst other issues) "the role of sport in the education and development of young people" and "the place of sport within the Health and Physical education curriculum".

◊ Further information about the role of the Hillary Commission in addressing the areas identified in the Christchurch City Council's Youth Strategy Study is available in Moving through Sport', Hillary Commission, 1997.

✠ Human Rights Commission

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ The Human Rights Commission investigates complaints of discrimination and harassment in education, employment and public places and promotes human rights for young people through schools, TOPs etc.

Physical environment and design

◊ Promotion and monitoring of access for young people with disabilities. For example supporting accessible bus transport provision.

Education

◊ The role of the Human Rights Commission is limited to education about human rights.

Employment

◊ The Human Rights Commission takes complaints of discrimination in employment.

General

◊ The role of the Human Rights Commission is determined by the Human Rights Act 1993 and the Commission's Strategic Plan.

✠ Income Support

Health, safety and well being

◊ See below under General.

Education and training

◊ In the form of local Income Support Initiatives like 'Smartstart' (Canterbury wide).

Employment

◊ Indirectly with customised service delivery and the 'Compass Programme'. Facilitate and direct customers to training, goal setting, lifeskills and future work.

General

◊ The Department of Social Welfare's agreement with government is set out in "From Welfare to Well Being". This document articulates the Department's vision and

direction. Income Support is responsible for providing customised service and specialist teams which administer the Independent Youth Benefit alongside the Special Education Service. The National Strengthening Families Project is being jointly implemented by the Department of Social Welfare and the Ministries of Health and Education. This is an initiative which has been progressively implemented around the country and has been in progress in the Canterbury area over the last few months. It involves agencies working together and with their respective sectors to improve co-ordination of services in an effort to achieve more positive outcomes for families at risk. This will involve 120 agency and community groups from throughout the region.

◊ The fourth edition (1997) of 'From Welfare to Wellbeing' is called 'Wellbeing for our children and young people'. Income Support is one of the areas of activity undertaken by the Department to fulfil the 'From Welfare to Wellbeing' vision.

⊞ Ministry for the Environment

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ Indirect involvement in these issues.

Physical environment and design

◊ The Ministry has a role in ensuring that the Christchurch City Council's and Canterbury Regional Council's resource management is consistent with the purposes of the Resource Management Act. The Ministry also has a role in producing national environmental standards and national policy statements. The needs and interest of young people, however, are not prioritised as they are assumed to be the same as everyone else.

Education and training

◊ Involved in the development of local and national environmental education programme. The Ministry is regularly invited to lecture to University and Polytechnic classes and also provides resources for teachers and pupils. The Ministry is also involved in the development of a national qualification framework for resource managers and in increasing environmental awareness.

General

◊ The role of the Ministry for the Environment is determined through the Resource Management Act. The purpose of the Act is the promotion of sustainable management of natural and physical resources. See comments under Physical environment and design for specific activity.

⚙ **Ministry of Education**

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ Indirect involvement through the education system (see under General below).

Physical environment and design

◊ Provision of school property and facilities.

Education and training

◊ The Ministry's role is as funder and regulator.

General

◊ Legislative requirement through the National Education Guidelines and National Administrative Guidelines. These Guidelines are a mandatory part of every school's charter with government. This charter includes a requirement to provide a safe physical and emotional environment and to follow the Curriculum Framework.

◊ The Ministry's role is to provide a legislative and regulatory framework. Meeting the needs of young people is delegated to the Boards of Trustees. Education Act funding is provided on a formula basis to individual schools who have the responsibility and requirement to meet the education needs of all students.

◊ Funder of schools and the Career Education Service. The National Education Guidelines require each school to ensure the career guidance and counselling needs of students are met.

✠ Office of the Commissioner for Children

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ The Commissioner's Office has a role under Section 411 of the Children, Young Persons and their Families Act, 1989. The Commissioner for Children is the statutory advocate for children.

Physical environment and design

◊ The Commissioner's Office has a role limited to monitoring safe practices in terms of its statutory obligations.

Education and training

◊ Providing information on national programmes and initiatives (on issues such as bullying and suicide).

Family

◊ Development of a national forum in March 1998 called Fathering the Future.

General

◊ The Officer of the Commissioner for Children is guided fundamentally by the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (ratified by New Zealand in 1989). The Commissioner for Children is the statutory advocate for children under Section 411 of the Children, Young Persons and their Families Act, 1989.

✠ Police

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ A limited role through the Youth Aid Section when dealing with young offenders. The Police Youth Education Service plays the main role with the 'DARE' programme and the 'Keep Ourselves Safe' programme in schools.

Physical environment and design

◊ The Police do have a role through the Christchurch Safer Community Council.

Entertainment and recreation

◊ A limited role. Youth Aid staff have been involved on camps for 'at risk' young people.

Education and training

◊ The Police Youth Education Service is actively involved in Christchurch schools.

Employment

◊ The Police have no direct role but Youth Aid staff are occasionally involved in attempts to assist young offenders into jobs and/or training.

Family

◊ Police Youth Aid staff visit the homes of young offenders and attend Youth Justice Family Group Conferences for young offenders. They also attend some Care and Protection Family Group Conferences and are presently actively involved in the 'Strengthening Families' protocol.

General

◊ The Children Young Persons and Their Families Act, 1989 is the legislative framework that guides the Police. The Police are increasingly becoming aware of the need to deal with youth at risk and young offenders in a meaningful way. Additional resources have been put into the youth area.

Southern Regional Health

Health, safety and wellbeing

◊ Southern Regional Health provides funding for the wellbeing of young people. For example:

- a primary care service for at risk young people: Youth Health Centres
- public health nurse service to schools including contraception clinics
- health promotion aimed at young people
- co-ordinating services for young people.

Physical environment and design

◊ Southern Regional Health promotes access to all as an ideal and purchase specialised services for people with disabilities and therefore have physical environment and design issues.

Education and training

◊ Southern Regional Health purchases:

- health education and promotion

- some education and information provision in regards to health and disability

Employment

◊ Only through analysis of health needs eg pointing out that health of young people is strongly dependent on high employment.

Family

◊ Southern Regional Health has a role with family issues particularly through:

-Purchasing services, including co-ordinated care services for families at risk of poor health outcomes (in need of additional care and support)

- Participation in strengthening families project

- Funding for sexual and reproductive health services

- Funding for child and family health support services

- Funding for primary care and well child services eg Plunket

- Purchase support mechanisms/people, information, services for young people with disabilities

✠ Appendix IX: Summary of the

Youth Strategy Consultation

✠ Introduction

This section is a summary of the consultation with community agencies, government organisations and young people. (See Appendices IV-VIII for details about the consultation method). 'Who said what' is indicated in brackets after each comment and the key to these is on the next page. The information has been presented together rather than in three separate sections. This is to enable all the views on each topic to be read and understood together. The brief comments from young people tend to illustrate and add to the statements of community and government organisations.

An explanation of the meaning of the heading (as established by the Working Party) is given at the start of each section. It is acknowledged that many issues overlap two or more headings and the six sections should be read together to gain an overall picture of the consultation.

Key:

Young People:

yCCS = CCS (formerly Crippled Children's Society), **yCncl** = Christchurch Youth Council, **yCorps** = Youth Service Corps, **yEmpl** = Actionworks clients, **yESL** = Secondary School Students with English as a Second Language, **yGLADYS** = GLADYS (Gay, Lesbian Advocacy Youth Services), **yJunSec** = Junior Secondary School Students (Form 4), **yPICncl** = Pacific Island Youth Council, **ySenSec** = Senior Secondary School Students, **yTOP** = YMCA TOPs course, **yUni** = University Students.

Community agencies:

ACYG = Association of Canterbury Youth Groups, **CECC** = Canterbury Employers' Chamber of Commerce, **CEIG** = Community Employment Initiatives Group, **ChdFam** = Child and Family Services, **COSS** = Council of Social Services, **CYWC** = Canterbury Youth Workers' Collective, **DPA** = Disabled Persons' Assembly, **EcuYth** = Ecumenical Youth Leaders' Group, **NZAAHD** = New Zealand Association of Adolescent Health and Development, **SaferCC** = Christchurch Safer Community Council, **YMHF** = Youth Mental Health Forum, **SchCouns** = Secondary Schools Counsellors.

Government organisations:

ALAC = Alcohol and Liquor Advisory Council, **CEG** = Community Employment Group, **ComChn** = Office of Commissioner for Children, **ComCorr** = Community Corrections, **CYPFS** = Children, Young Persons' and their Families Service, **DIA** = Department of Internal Affairs, **ETSA** = Education and Training Support Agency, **H&DCom** = Health and Disability Commissioner, **Hillary** = Hillary Commission, **HRCom** = Human Rights Commission, **IncSup** = Income Support Services, **MinEnv** = Ministry for the Environment, **MinEd** = Ministry of Education, **Police** = Police, **SRH** = Southern Regional Health.

❋ Health, Safety and Wellbeing

The Working Party members defined this topic as physical, mental, social, emotional and spiritual wellbeing. They included basic needs being met (including safety) as part of wellbeing.

❋ WHAT ARE THE HEALTH SAFETY AND WELLBEING ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

�StAttitudes toward and understanding of young people

◊ Lack of understanding and tolerance of young people (CYWC, SchCouns)

◊ View that young people are 'toxic' (SaferCC)

◊ Identifying and dealing with developmental issues (EcuYth)

◊ Young people are disenfranchised in Christchurch (ComCorr)

◊ Racism (CEIG)

◊ Young people are put down and talked down to (yEmpl). Adults (including parents) do not respect young people and sometimes act like they're not there (yJunSec)

◊ Adults may understand the problems of young people but young people still feel powerless to address these problems (yEmpl)

✗ Basic needs not met

◊ General health needs including access to a healthy environment (air and water) (CECC, ChdFam, MinEnv)

◊ Adequate housing - impact of restructuring of Housing New Zealand and of substandard housing on health (YMHF, COSS, ChdFam, ETSA, MinEnv, SRH). Overcrowding (yPICncl). The cost of flatting and private boarding is very high (yEmpl)

◊ Poverty and the impact of low income (HRCom, SRH, CEG, yPICncl). Lack of resources to get out (YMHF, ChdFam)

◊ Almost impossible to get an Independent Youth Benefit until the age of 18 (ySenSec)

◊ Impossible to flat (because of cost) unless you quit school and get a job (ySenSec)

◊ Structural injustice (YMHF, ChdFam)

◊ Adequate and sufficient food (COSS, ChdFam, ETSA)

◊ Access to general medical care including free dental care (yEmpl) and help to deal with sexual health issues (SaferCC, DPA, CYWC, SchCouns, ChdFam). Impact of unaddressed health and wellbeing issues (DPA). Access to good quality, affordable health care (MinEnv) (SRH, ALAC)

◊ High electricity charges and poor people being controlled by Power Manager (ChdFam)

◊ Physical, mental and sexual abuse (ETSA, HRCom)

◊ Income limits access to most resources (eg. camps, clubs) (ChdFam)

◊ Many people have major debt (SaferCC, ChdFam)

◊ Debt due to high electricity costs (ChdFam)

✂ *Crime*

◊ Young people who are not occupied may be at risk of becoming involved in crime (SchCouns)

◊ Young people in trouble are not just from troubled backgrounds (EcuYth)

◊ Increasing number of young adolescents involved in sexual offending (SaferCC)

◊ Lack of rehabilitation services to deal with young people who offend (SaferCC)

◊ Young people are often misinformed by older ones; they think they "can't be touched" (CYWC)

◊ Increase in youth offending in suburban centres but decrease in the central city (DIA)

◊ Dishonesty, drug related offences, anti-social behaviour and violence highest in New Zealand (DIA)

◊ Young offenders being dealt with in "adult" jail. Huge risk of "contamination" of young people by older, more experienced criminals if this continues. Need for a "Youth Prison" and specialist programmes, both in prison and in the community, which address youth issues (ComCorr)

✂ *Drug and alcohol issues*

◊ Young people have many drug and alcohol issues which need to be addressed (EcuYth, SaferCC, YMHF, CYWC, ChdFam, ETSA, DIA, HRCom) (and so do parents) (HRCom)

◊ Lack of access to drug and alcohol prevention/intervention (ComChn, MinEd, DIA, yCncl)

◊ Lack of access to respite care and appropriate social services (DIA, ALAC, yCncl)

◊ Lack of drug and alcohol residential service (SchCouns)

◊ Binge drinking is the biggest substance abuse issue. Binge drinking is 'normal' in weekends but its extent is exaggerated in adult perception (NZAAHD)

◊ General goal of stopping alcohol use is not viable (NZAAHD)

◊ Adult perception is that young people are all drinking heavily - this not true (NZAAHD)

◊ Alcohol has links to other things (eg. unwanted sexual activity and assault) and is symptomatic of other problems (NZAAHD)

◊ Problem with glue sniffers in Latimer Square (yUni)

◊ Whole societal attitudes about alcohol need to be challenged (NZAAHD)

◊ Cigarette smoking is due to stress and being down (average $10-$40 per week) (yCorps). Young people turn to alcohol, drugs and cigarettes to cope with depression and being down (yEmpl)

✤ *Funding - not enough or misdirected*

◊ Funding tends to go to the ambulance at the bottom of the cliff (COSS)

◊ Policies are not aimed at long term interventions (ChdFam)

◊ Community Funding Agency funding is very focused on vocational services for young people with disabilities. Child & Family funds youth services but none in disability area (CCS is funded for a daily activity programme) (DPA)

◊ Services which do exist are becoming more difficult to pay for because bed nights are being reduced (NZAAHD)

◊ Reduction of Government funding for services (ChdFam)

✤ *Mental health*

◊ Social isolation; young people with disabilities are not in teams and are not invited to go out (DPA)

◊ According to the Census 22% of young people with a disability have been diagnosed with mental health difficulties (DPA)

◊ Undiagnosed depression plus grief and loss issues (ChdFam)

◊ Depression is a key issue (yPICncl, yCorps, yEmpl, ySenSec); the worst time is "waking up, especially Mondays, when everything gets to you" (yTOP). "The day of

the week doesn't matter because when you're on the dole every day is the same" (yEmpl). Being bored and having no money also leads to depression (yTOP, yCorps, yEmpl)

◊ Cultural conflict between traditional values and current New Zealand identities (YMHF)

◊ Self esteem and belonging - negative stuff from school (yEmpl) and home - young people wanting acceptance (EcuYth)

◊ Lack of confidence (yESL)

◊ Negative body image (YMHF, yPICncl)

◊ Access to appropriate mental health services (ComChn) which are culturally appropriate (DIA)

◊ Identity and meaning - knowing where you come from and a sense of hope for the future (EcuYth, ChdFam). Lack of future leading to teenage pregnancy and young male suicide (SRH)

◊ High suicide rate (yPICncl)

◊ Lack of focus on resources/strategies for youth suicide prevention (ComChn)

✖ *Pressures on young people*

◊ Expectations of society reflected in media images (which don't show consequences) (EcuYth, YMHF, ChdFam)

◊ Pressure to succeed (yPICncl)

◊ Peer group pressure (ChdFam, ComChn, CEG, yEmpl) eg. to have the right labels (yTOP)

◊ Children become adults very early when looking after younger siblings (SaferCC)

◊ Pressure for Pacific Island young people to reconcile two cultures (yPICncl)

✖ *School/education issues*

◊ Students are not treated well in schools - there is an excessive use of rules, manipulation and humiliation (YMHF, CYWC, ChdFam)

◊ Huge range of incomes in schools (ChdFam)

◊ Difficulties for young people aged 14 and 15 years who don't fit into school - can get no income but hard to get back into school (YMHF)

◊ Unfair suspensions (YMHF). Suspension and expulsion situations highlight the need for youth oriented advisory and advocacy services which are accessible and culturally appropriate. Maori and PI are over-represented in these statistics (DIA)

◊ Not enough early intervention (YMHF)

◊ Contraction of the Special Education Service - students not being picked up (ChdFam)

◊ The new health curriculum is still not in schools (YMHF)

◊ Tests to get into schools - failing right from the start (YMHF)

◊ Lack of support for school leavers (YMHF)

◊ School counsellors are out of their depth in trying to cope with sexuality issues with young people with disabilities. It would be better to have support groups and trained adults (who also have disabilities) providing this help (DPA)

◊ Disinterest and alienation in/from school (ETSA, CEG)

◊ School bullying (ComChn)

◊ Access to relevant education, training and employment. Access and attendance (MinEnv, ETSA, SRH, CEG, ALAC)

◊ School Counsellors are often perceived in a negative light (YMHF)

⚜ *Unsafe places and behaviours*

◊ Safety and security on the street, in parks and open spaces (CYWC, SchCouns, COSS, CECC, MinEnv, yESL)

◊ Safety in the city, and in Linwood, at night (yEmpl)

◊ Safety in the central city (ySenSec) and by the Colombo Street bridge (yESL), especially for women (yUni)

◊ Safety in homes and in Police custody (CYWC)

◊ Sometimes young people get harassed by the Police because their faces are already known. Police are rude and judgemental (yCorps). One person went to the Police station after being mugged recently. He was bleeding but left the station after waiting one hour without being approached (yEmpl)

◊ Holidays can be an unsafe time at home (SchCouns)

◊ Minority groups impact on others and are seen as threatening. Young people feel threatened (CECC)

◊ Adolescents take risks - they need boundaries (SaferCC)

◊ There are many 'at risk' young people (CYPFS)

◊ Sexual promiscuity (MinEd)

◊ Problem with skinheads in the city who like to antagonise groups of young Pacific Island men (although we can see that the Pacific Island men may also be seen as threatening) (yPICncl)

�֎ *Unstable families*

◊ Breakdown of families (Police) and unstable family environment (CEG)

◊ Lack of positive adult role models (Police)

◊ Poor parental control and guidance (MinEd) and parents (especially fathers) not accepting their responsibilities (Police)

◊ Multiple crises at home (DIA)

◊ Employment of care givers (SRH)

◊ Parents (who live separately) arguing about money and access and saying awful things about each other to the kids (yJunSec)

◊ It is inconvenient and difficult to move between two home (yJunSec)

✖ *Other*

◊ Co-ordination of services (YMHF)

◊ Youth workers are restricted by increasing regulations around health and safety (EcuYth)

◊ Agencies have problems attracting appropriate people (ChdFam)

✠ HOW ARE THESE ISSUES DIFFERENT FOR DIFFERENT YOUNG PEOPLE?

✖ *Age differences*

◊ Development of identity and issues affecting development are strongly affected by age (EcuYth, SchCouns)

✖ *Appropriateness of targeting and service delivery*

◊ How well a young person is suited to the school system (ACYG)

◊ Accommodation by schools of different learning styles (ACYG)

◊ Limited access to services by young people and community groups (ChdFam)

❈ *Different interests*

◊ Young people have a wide range of interests. Some groups (eg. Skate boarders) tend to be unpopular (SchCouns)

◊ Drinking is not a very popular activity for Pacific Island young people (yPICncl)

❈ *Socio-economic status*

◊ According to the study by Professor Fergusson study 3-5% of young people have really dysfunctional families. It is possible to predict which young people are at high risk (NZAAHD)

◊ The high incidence of suicide amongst middle to upper income young people (ChdFam)

◊ Socio-economic (income) factors including access to cars, transport, living situation (CEIG, ChdFam)

◊ Crime is committed throughout the socio-economic levels but because 'white collar' crime is more invisible it looks as though lower socio economic groups commit more (CEIG)

❈ HOW COULD THESE ISSUES BE ADDRESSED?

❈ *Challenge some current policies*

◊ The proposed Code of Social Responsibility will be bad news for young people (CEIG)

◊ Undo the changes which came into effect on 1 January 1998. There should be measures in place to allow young people to be supported away from their parents where needed (CEIG)

◊ Challenge structural injustice - the state is still basing analysis on paternalistic model of 'the family' (ChdFam)

❈ *Co-ordination*

◊ Still short of an effective facilitative structure which links all these structures together to provide good co-ordination (CECC)

◊ Holidays not co-ordinated now with university holidays so we can't get volunteers for camps and programmes (EcuYth)

◊ Need more inter-service collaborations - not sure schools are the best place for further service development (ChdFam)

◊ Wrap around services for youth at risk (co-ordination of youth work programmes not competition) (COSS)

�֍ *Education and change in attitude*

◊ Promotion of community feeling - young people need to feel the community is theirs (COSS)

◊ Implementation of new health syllabus - teachers also modelling good stuff (NZAAHD)

◊ Support for parents and families at a Parent Support Centre (NZAAHD)

◊ Parent education on youth issues (eg. drug and alcohol issues) (NZAAHD)

◊ Co-ordinator to set up parents groups in schools (NZAAHD)

◊ "Parents need to be more accepting of where we're at" (ySenSec)

◊ "Adults should give us more respect" (yJunSec)

◊ More education for young people on mental health issues (and education about what is really needed) (CYWC)

◊ Sex education; young people need good information (CYWC) although this must be culturally appropriate and include a spiritual element (yPICncl)

◊ Information about sexual health services could be provided through schools, posters, radio, Youth Employment, advertising in the square and on buses (yCncl)

◊ Youth Mediation Initiative should be promoted as an opportunity to train up young people (yCncl)

◊ Education on cigarettes, alcohol and marijuana in schools (yUni)

◊ There should be an 0800 health hotline for young people (yCorps)

◊ Need to take into account needs, values and beliefs of different cultural, religious, social and ethnic groups (H&DCom)

✼ *Funding*

◊ Fund early intervention not just the 'ambulance at the bottom of the cliff'. Agencies geared to rehabilitation and prevention are just as important as those dealing with existing problems (COSS, ChdFam)

◊ Wrap around services for youth at risk (co-ordination of youth work programmes not competition) (COSS)

◊ Proper funding which recognises real need (ChdFam)

◊ Better funding of youth workers (yCncl)

◊ Better resourcing of the 198 Youth Health Centre (yEmpl) and similar services which need to include Pacific Island workers (yPICncl)

✼ *New services*

◊ Holiday activities for young people aged 13-16 years (COSS)

◊ Programmes in schools to stress the existence of community (COSS)

◊ Safe recreation places where young people can hang out eg. Jellie Park. Not to be organised, just to *be* (SchCouns)

◊ Programmes for young people with disabilities (DPA)

◊ Drug and alcohol services especially for young people (NZAAHD, yCncl) with mental health problems (dual diagnosis) (CEIG, SchCouns)

◊ Detox and drug and alcohol rehabilitation centre for young people which also deals with personal health and emotional health issues (yCncl)

◊ Address gap in mental health services for young people aged 18-25 (CYWC, NZAAHD)

◊ A specialist youth centre with young people who can counsel, advise and relate to young people (yEmpl)

◊ Appropriate follow-up eg. after diagnosis or being told at high risk (CYWC)

◊ Appropriate assessment (CYWC)

◊ More transitional housing that allows people with disabilities (aged 17 and 18 years and over) to move towards independent living (DPA)

◊ Respite care (DPA)

◊ Residential programmes for young people - short term, long term and in a crisis (DPA, CYWC, NZAAHD, SchCouns)

◊ Safe and reasonable inner city housing for young people (NZAAHD)

◊ Safe house for young people (yUni)

◊ 24 hour kiosk in the square where people can go and be safe "A kiosk is pointless if it is not open 24 hours" (yCncl, yUni)

◊ More uniformed and visible Police in the central city on weekend nights (ySenSec)

◊ City Mission street profile (ChdFam). Street workers around on Friday and Saturday nights (yCncl, yUni)

◊ More suburban youth centres (SchCouns)

◊ More appropriate initiatives for Pacific Island young people (YMHF)

◊ Social workers (not just counsellors) in schools (YMHF)

◊ Solutions have to be creative eg. young people, children of addicts - how give up? (ChdFam)

◊ Special taxi service with sensitive staff for people with disabilities (yCCS)

◊ Subsidised travel for volunteers who work with people with disabilities (yCCS)

◊ Free programmes that assist with giving up smoking (yEmpl)

◊ Cheap phone card (yJunSec)

❈ *Other*

◊ Get rid of Datura in Port Hills (SchCouns)

◊ Good role models (young) (NZAAHD)

◊ Lower the smoking age as well as the cost of cigarettes (yTOP)

◊ We need a community that is accepting of difference (SaferCC, DPA)

✠ WHAT INITIATIVES ARE THERE AT PRESENT WHICH PROMOTE THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF YOUNG PEOPLE?

"There are many many organisations doing good work with young people" (CEIG)

❖198 Youth Health Centre ❖4YP ❖Actionworks ❖Aranui Sports Academy ❖Asthma Society ❖Bullying/non-violence programmes ❖Camps (through church based organisations) ❖Cancer Society ❖Canterbury Youth Workers Collective ❖Christchurch City Council ❖Christchurch Youth Council ❖College of Education ❖Christchurch City Council pools and recreation

programmes ❖General Practitioners ❖Christchurch City Council vans ❖Youth Education Service ❖Project between 198 and NZPC (working with young people involved in exchanging sex for favours) ❖Youth and Cultural Development Society ❖Diabetes Youth ❖Youth workers ❖Employment programmes in schools ❖Facilities like QEII, privately and publicly owned, which make special concession to groups and therefore encourage group activities ❖FADE ❖All the social service agencies ❖Hebron Young Parents Programme ❖Lots of government and non-government agencies assisting in the transition between school and work (eg. New Zealand Employment Service, Education and Training Support Agency, Income Support, ACC, Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs, Te Puni Kokiri, Careers Service) ❖Youth Mental Health Forum ❖Many sports clubs and societies ❖Police Education Unit ❖Police Youth Aid ❖FPA Peer Education ❖Primetime ❖SADD (Students Against Driving Drunk) ❖Hoon Hay Youth Centre ❖School Guidance Counsellors ❖Student support initiatives in schools ❖Truancy workers ❖Youth and Family Unit at Princess Margaret Hospital ❖Youth centres ❖Youth Speciality Service ❖Youthline ❖Youth work agencies ❖Alcohol Helpline - 12% callers are young people ❖Social workers in schools

⬙ ARE EXISTING INITIATIVES APPROPRIATE?

◊ Important to have variety as young people are not all the same (CEIG)

◊ Yes, Jellie Park [4YP] events are appropriate for some young people (SchCouns)

◊ Most start from perceived need but can move from this to existing for their own sake (COSS)

◊ Models can dominate; 'we know what's best' rather than starting from issues or problems (COSS)

◊ Young people are on the fringes of Council events (SchCouns)

◊ Some services are not culturally sensitive enough (yCncl)

◊ Maybe Pacific Island young people don't use some services because they are not in touch with issues relevant to young people (yPICncl)

✠ WHAT ISSUES AFFECT THE ACCESS YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE TO SERVICES RELATED TO HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING?

✿ *Cost*

◊ High costs combined with a lack of money (CYWC, NZAAHD, SchCouns)

◊ Inability to afford membership to organisations (NZAAHD)

◊ Inconsistency of bus charges (yCCS)

◊ Existing taxi-chit service for people with disabilities is very limited; entitlement is only half price up to $10 (yCCS)

◊ Not enough free services for physical and emotional health (yCncl)

◊ No cheap dental service available (yCorps)

✿ *Issues about existing services*

◊ Services aren't able to cater for dual diagnosis (CYWC)

◊ Waiting lists; more important for young people because their issues are always urgent! (CYWC)

◊ Existing services don't have money to advertise sufficiently (CEIG)

◊ Difficulties of making proactive move (COSS)

◊ Unknown environment - unwelcoming place etc. (COSS)

◊ Appropriate environment - gender, culture, location (eg. Youth Speciality Service is inappropriately located at Sunnyside Hospital) (CEIG, CYWC, yCorps)

◊ Youth Specialty Service is only for those under 18 years (yCorps)

◊ Services need to be where young people are (YMHF, ChdFam)

◊ Large pool of young people outside the school system who are difficult to reach (NZAAHD)

◊ Services which are not (youth) culturally appropriate (CYWC, ChdFam)

◊ Bus drivers are rude and don't deal well with young people including young mothers (yCCS)

◊ The 198 Youth Health Centre doesn't have any Polynesian workers (yCorps)

◊ There are insufficient social services (CEIG)

◊ There is no physiotherapist especially for young people (yCorps)

✼ *Knowledge*

◊ Knowledge - awareness of what support there is (CYWC, NZAAHD, COSS, CECC, yCorps, yESL)

◊ Don't see own need (CEIG, COSS, CECC)

◊ Perception of mental health (seen as crazy/unstable if go to Counsellor). The more specialised the service the worse the label (CYWC, NZAAHD)

◊ Unrealistic expectations (ChdFam)

✼ *Physical access*

◊ Lack of transport - limited bus services (COSS, yCCS). Not enough buses running on many routes, especially Templeton to city and back (yCCS)

◊ Bus drivers often refuse to believe we are young and charge full fare (yCCS)

◊ Location - can't physically get there (CYWC, SchCouns)

◊ Transport - access to things and having the right gear (eg. boots) (ChdFam)

◊ Mobility an issue. Only Mum and Dad available for transport if can't afford taxi or if unable to access wheelchair accessible bus (DPA)

✼ *Other*

◊ Young people complain about dark unsafe places but this is where they go! (SchCouns)

◊ Impact of Income Support Service changes (NZAAHD)

◊ No privacy at school - young people 'get a hard time' if they have any problems (ChdFam)

✠ HOW COULD ACCESS TO HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING SERVICES BE IMPROVED?

✼ *Schools*

◊ Schools need easier referral points for young people with problems (COSS)

◊ Address stigma issues - train all teachers in mental health (NZAAHD)

◊ Truancy Services (needs to deal with young people between schools - this is a national issue) (NZAAHD)

◊ Alternative learning opportunities (NZAAHD)

◊ Educate schools/ school counsellors about youth services (CYWC)

◊ Make sure that social workers in schools schemes develop an appropriate environment for young people (ChdFam)

❆ *Transport*

◊ More buses to improve transport options (CYWC, SchCouns)

◊ Taxi chits for young people (CYWC)

◊ There should be specific youth discounts eg. A student card for young people aged 12 years to university age (yCCS)

❆ *Where young people are/ appropriateness*

◊ Improved by having local services (within a walk or bike) (SchCouns)

◊ Young people go to malls - could link in with this (SchCouns)

◊ Mobile services eg. health bus - attached to youth centres (coming into town is a big issue) (CYWC)

◊ The Youth Health Centre should expand (ySenSec)

◊ Raising profile so it becomes acceptable to use health services (CYWC)

◊ More accurate information (YMHF) and look at ways of getting messages across (CEIG, yCncl)

◊ Structuring services to accommodate youth (YMHF)

◊ Appropriate workers (especially culturally) (YMHF)

◊ Make sure youth services are accessible (eg. phone often engaged or answer phone at Youthline) (yCncl)

◊ Language should be appropriate (should be in several languages) (YMHF)

◊ Kids talking to kids or other appropriate 'front people'(YMHF)

◊ Hours (YMHF, yCncl)

◊ Income Support and other government departments need to be more sensitive to young people (ySenSec)

❆ *Other*

◊ Get 'greypower' on side - grandparents care (ChdFam)

◊ More networking/working together (YMHF)

◊ Improve basic provision of income (NZAAHD)

◊ Address problems created by the Privacy Act (ChdFam)

◊ Lower medical costs and just charge part charges on prescriptions (yTOP)

◊ Ensuring young people have access to information which educates them about the Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights (H&DCom)

✠ HOW COULD YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS ABOUT THEIR HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING?

✖ *Consult with directly*

◊ Young people need to be directly consulted on issues and decisions that affect them (CEIG, DPA, YMHF, CYWC, NZAAHD, SchCouns, COSS, CECC, ChdFam) Suggestions for how to do this:

- Access young people's opinions by going to 'where they are' (CYWC, COSS) and linking into young people's networks (eg. Youth Council (CEIG, YMHF, CECC), School Councils (SchCouns), youth forums (YMHF, CYWC, CECC) or youth workers' networks (CYWC)

- Focus groups (NZAAHD)

- Newspapers and 0800 numbers (YMHF, CECC)

- Recognise diversity (DPA, CYWC)

- Recognise own role in consultation process - make sure own credibility is established (ChdFam)

◊ Make sure to follow up on young people's input - make it meaningful (ChdFam)

◊ Provide services which are accepting of young people and are non-judgemental (ChdFam, COSS)

✠ WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL HAVE IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUES RAISED ABOUT HEALTH SAFETY AND WELLBEING?

✖ *Encourage community providers*

◊ Encourage and support events that already happen (YMHF) including church groups (yPICncl) and youth workers (ETSA)

◊ Make workable policies (eg. health and safety compliance for community organisations) (EcuYth)

◊ Support and publicise self-defence classes for women (yPICncl)

◊ Support workshops (not just when something bad happens) (yPICncl)

◊ Encourage and support motivation workshops for young Pacific Island people (by young Pacific Island role models) (yPICncl)

◊ Help run sex education workshops run by skilled trained people (yPICncl)

✖ *Ensure Council events are appropriate for young people*

◊ Youth festival and youth events alongside adult events (YMHF)

◊ Host responsibility in Council run events (EcuYth, NZAAHD)

◊ Where Council has responsibilities (eg. through Resource Consents) ensure internal processes facilitate the development of services for youth (SRH)

◊ Address transport issues in conjunction with the Canterbury Regional Council (ALAC)

◊ Provide for TOPs students to be classified as students for travel (ETSA)

✖ *Facilitate, co-ordinate and provide an overview*

◊ Provide an overview and information about what services are needed (YMHF, NZAAHD, COSS, CECC, ChdFam)

◊ Consult with young people (CEIG, NZAAHD, EcuYth, COSS, CECC, ChdFam, DIA)

◊ Facilitate and progress multi-agency responses to the issues affecting children and young people (ComChn, MinEd, SRH, ComCorr, CEG)

◊ Facilitate and link groups (EcuYth, COSS, CECC, ChdFam, DIA)

◊ Facilitate change through public forums to highlight issues (ComCorr)

◊ Facilitate involvement of businesses in service provision (eg. housing partnerships, entertainment) (COSS, SchCouns)

◊ Find a funding body for additional life skills courses in Christchurch (ETSA)

◊ Stronger links with schools (ALAC)

◊ Not direct service provision (COSS)

�֎ *Provide leadership*

◊ Generating 'spirit' in the whole community (YMHF)

◊ Become more representative of diversity - model the processes and structures wanted (CEIG, DPA)

◊ Value young people - lead by example (YMHF)

◊ Educate people about racism issues including positive media (yPICncl)

◊ Encourage cultural awareness (yPICncl)

✖ *Research and advocate*

◊ Advocate in young people's interests (CEIG, NZAAHD, SchCouns, ChdFam, CYPFS) and ensure their issues are dealt with in an holistic manner (eg. across boundaries of health, welfare, employment, education) (YMHF)

◊ Provide a structured and resourced child and youth advocacy service (ComChn)

◊ Challenge and advocate to government on youth issues (eg. welfare issues, benefits) (CEIG, NZAAHD, SchCouns, ChdFam, ComCorr)

◊ Ensure young people have access to information which educates them about the Code of Health and Disability Services Consumers' Rights (H&DCom)

◊ Raise the profile of young people (YMHF)

◊ Provide feedback so people know what's happening (CECC)

◊ Investigate specific issues and needs for rangatahi Maori in consultation with Manawhenua and urban Maori authorities (ETSA)

◊ Support the return of the caravan in the square or similar function (CYWC)

◊ Acknowledge sexuality issues are important for young people (yGLADYS)

◊ Lobby central government on issue of banning cigarettes and alcohol or legalise marijuana (restrictions should remain for under 18 years) (yUni)

✖ *Resource/ provide*

◊ Respond to local needs at ward level (SchCouns)

◊ Resource and fund community initiatives (YMHF, NZAAHD, SchCouns, COSS, CECC, ChdFam, Police, CEG) and support pilots and new ideas (NZAAHD). Be the lead agency promoting service development (ALAC)

◊ To ensure young people are living in healthy environment - air, water, etc. These are wider issues for everyone (CECC, SRH)

◊ Provide specific youth funding for young people with disabilities (DPA)

◊ Forums for young people such as the Youth Council (CECC)

◊ Make sure the issues raised impact on Council strategic planning and allocation of resources (ComChn)

◊ Provide suitable, reasonably priced and safe housing available for young people (yCCS)

◊ Provide a place for a short time-out from family (yCCS)

◊ Provide a secure 'depot' for young people in the central city (yUni)

◊ Work to 'gear up' the Police to cope better (yEmpl)

◊ Help fund a Pacific Island Youthline (yPICncl)

◊ Help fund and promote buddy or mentor systems for young people as a way for young people to link up with positive role models (yPICncl)

◊ Support or fund Icebreakers (yGLADYS)

◊ Promote positive education to address underage drinking and smoking (yGLADYS)

✄ *Other*

◊ The Council does not necessarily need to own problems by having a Youth Advocate (CEIG)

❈ Physical Environment and Design

The Working Party members defined this as including the perception of the environment as well as the physical environment itself.

❈ WHAT ARE THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT AND DESIGN ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

❈ *Places for young people*

◊ Areas where it is appropriate to behave 'youthfully' (SRH)

◊ Places for young people to go (CYWC)

◊ The city is not necessarily welcoming for young people (ALAC)

◊ Safe (ie open areas) and accessible community recreational resources (CYWC, EcuYth, COSS, CECC, ComChn, DIA, SRH) especially available at weekends (CEG)

◊ Availability of green space within and outside Christchurch (CEG, MinEnv)

◊ Access for all people of varying abilities to amenities that are close by (SRH)

◊ Not enough facilities for skateboarding (Police) roller blading and basketball (DIA, yCncl, ySenSec)

❈ *Conflict between different age groups*

◊ The needs of young people and adults may be in conflict (CYWC, COSS)

◊ Young people are often not welcome in public spaces. They are seen as an intimidating 'gang' (eg. skateboarders). The message is that the city is not for young people (EcuYth, CYWC) . "Why isn't it OK to skate in empty spaces?" (CYWC)

❈ *Planning issues*

◊ Quality of design in the built environment (MinEnv)

◊ Quality of air and water, waterways, recreation areas, wilderness areas, contamination of land and water (MinEnv)

◊ Attention to planning and zoning issues especially when considering access for people with disabilities to community facilities (SRH). The Arts Centre and most central city shops have lots of stairs and not many ramps. You have to go a long way to find a ramp or a safe place to turn around (yCCS)

◊ Ability to adapt personal living environments with minimal conflict with planning/permit issues (SRH)

◊ Public transport (Canterbury Regional Council) - it's good to see low floor buses but there are still some problems with this (DPA, yCCS)

◊ The Square is badly designed (yUni)

�kh *Safety*

◊ Safe environment - lighting and movement (CEG, SRH). "There are too many dark roads and alleys" (yCorps)

◊ Cycle safety and provision of cycle ways (HRCom)

◊ It is dangerous to be in the inner city (EcuYth, CYWC, yUni) (because of drunken adults (EcuYth))

◊ Traffic safety including bikes and skateboards (COSS)

◊ Suburban bus stops are badly lit and often situated near bushes (yCncl)

◊ "People are still being attacked by homies ... young people get off the buses before the square just to avoid the homies. It's good that the Doghouse is gone because that's where the homies hung out" (ySenSec)

◊ Skinheads are only a problem towards big groups and gay people (ySenSec)

◊ Little street kids outside Venus on Sunday nights are not safe there (ySenSec)

✿ *Other*

◊ Alcohol is served to underage young people at Council events (EcuYth)

❈ HOW ARE THESE ISSUES DIFFERENT FOR DIFFERENT YOUNG PEOPLE?

◊ Some young people are deprived of space in their living environment (COSS)

◊ Some don't have freedom because of safety issues (COSS)

◊ Age is an important factor- young people who are 20 have much greater access (CECC)

◊ The different interests of young people determine the kinds of issues they have with the physical environment (CECC)

◊ Disability (SRH, DPA, yCCS)

✠ HOW COULD THESE ISSUES BE ADDRESSED?

✂ *Co-ordination*

◊ Schools could do more if there was increased co-ordination of activities between schools (across suburbs) (CECC)

✂ *New services*

◊ Skateboarding place in the central city (NZAAHD, yTOP) as planned on Moorhouse Ave (yCncl)

◊ Maybe boarders and bladers allowed on streets especially where this is a transport issue (yCncl)

◊ More recreation/fun places developed in response to young people's wishes (CECC)

◊ Spaces for young people (YMHF, CYWC)

◊ Underage venues are a good idea (but they take away the things that make young people want to go there!) (EcuYth)

◊ Venues for concerts and subsidised attendance (EcuYth)

◊ Well lit parks and maintained facilities (YMHF)

◊ Central monorail (yJunSec)

✂ *Safety/ education*

◊ Make public spaces safe - the community has to undertake this responsibility (COSS)

◊ Education (COSS)

◊ Police security cameras are a good initiative (EcuYth)

◊ Safe and well lit bus stops (yCncl, yTOP)

◊ Safe places in the central city and safe places to wait for the bus (yTOP)

◊ "Skinheads should be banned" (yTOP)

◊ Keep the Police kiosk in the square (ySenSec)

✂ *Take young people into account in decision making*

◊ Take youth culture into account when planning (EcuYth, CYWC, yTOP)

◊ Find some really easy solutions to things by consulting appropriately (eg. Low floor buses) (DPA)

◊ Making sure young people's views are taken into account in the formulation of planning proposals and any evaluative process (ComChn, yTOP)

✠ WHAT ISSUES AFFECT THE ACCESS YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE TO ASPECTS OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT?

✠ *Mobility*

◊ Transport (EcuYth, CYWC, COSS, CECC) and money to pay for transport (COSS, yJunSec)

◊ Poor co-ordination of bus times in and out of the square. Bus timetables make it very difficult to get to school on time (yJunSec)

◊ Many suburban buses run only hourly or two hourly (eg. Rangiora), particularly outside rush hours (yCncl)

◊ "The 3.30pm bus to Southshore never comes" (yJunSec)

◊ It is difficult to get home if out late (yCorps, yEmpl, ySenSec, yJunSec) - buses aren't running and can't ring parents because they'll refuse or judge (yTOP)

◊ Weekend buses are infrequent and irregular. Morning buses are too late during the weekends. Raves finish between 5am and 8am and there is no way to get home (ySenSec)

◊ Monthly bus passes don't seem to apply to all bus companies (ySenSec)

◊ Drinking and driving, although this is being addressed by young people. It is important to have commercial initiatives to allow young people to get around (CECC)

◊ With an electric wheelchair in a wheelchair-accessible bus two seats need to be folded down instead of one. Assistance is necessary each time but bus drivers are not very helpful (yCCS)

◊ Some nice bus drivers but some are grumpy to young people (yCncl, yEmpl). Young people often get the impression that the bus drivers don't believe they're entitled to youth fare (yJunSec) (even if they have identification) (yTOP)

◊ Some routes (eg. Halswell) don't have wheelchair accessible buses and people in wheelchairs can't use the older buses at all (yCCS)

◊ Disabilities (especially wheelchairs) (ACYG)

◊ Physical access eg. gates on paths (ACYG)

◊ Buses cost too much (yCncl, yTOP, yJunSec)

✤ *Self*

◊ Own physical and mental health (COSS)

◊ Perception of threat impacts on access (CECC)

❈ HOW COULD ACCESS TO ASPECTS OF THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT BE IMPROVED?

✤ *Transport*

◊ Bus drivers should be more sensitive to people with disabilities (yCCS) and to young people in general (yTOP) (some young bus drivers would be nice) (yCncl)

◊ Youth rates on buses for tertiary students (yEmpl) or all young people up to 25 (yCncl)

◊ Bus fares should be cheaper (yTOP, yJunSec)

◊ Improved access to transport (including late buses) (CYWC, yCCS, yTOP, yCorps, yEmpl, ySenSec, yJunSec). "24 hour buses or at least buses after 11pm so we don't get stuck" (in Wellington the trains run to 3am or 5am. This could be supplemented with youth workers who walk you from a kiosk to the bus (yCncl))

◊ Community vans being made more accessible to community groups (CYWC)

◊ Vans that pick up young people in town at night and take them home (yCorps)

◊ Young people should have access to taxi cards (ySenSec)

◊ The time available on transfer tickets should be longer (yJunSec)

✤ *Other*

◊ Youth discount card (not just for young people at school) (CYWC)

◊ Locally based opportunities (eg. clubs around interest groups) (COSS)

◊ Gates on paths etc. (for physical access) (ACYG)

◊ A central safe drop-in place (as an alternative to the Police kiosk) (yCorps)

❈ HOW COULD YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS ABOUT THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT?

✤ *Consult with young people*

◊ Ask them; consult directly (COSS)

◊ Through the Youth Council, youth forums; ask for youth input through media, canvas views on relevant issues to involve young people (CECC)

◊ Ask for impromptu feedback and take into account what is said (EcuYth)

�womethite *Education*

◊ Educate young people that the environment is their responsibility to care for (COSS)

✠ WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL HAVE IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUES RAISED ABOUT THE PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT?

✠ *Provide resources and advocate*

◊ Provide spaces for young people (EcuYth, COSS) which are safe and welcoming (CYWC, CECC)

◊ Upgrade city parks and include more full basketball courts. (yCncl)

◊ Provide programmes (such as 4YP) and promote young people's access to these (CYWC, CEG)

◊ Serious consideration to providing more skateboarding facilities in a safe environment (Police, yUni)

◊ Commit funds to purchase and promoting development of areas of recreational value (MinEnv)

◊ Work with providers to provide accessible public transport to young people with disabilities (HRCom)

◊ Lead role in addressing the issues raised (CEG)

◊ Advocate on youth issues (ComChn)

◊ Subsidise car parking for more churches and provide more parking (yPICncl)

◊ Help beautify and provide better services in areas which need them (yPICncl)

◊ Make cycle ways easier and more visible and promote cycling and car pooling (yUni)

◊ Work with city clubs to organise a late night shuttle service home from these venues (yCorps)

◊ Long term roading strategy to include provision for cycle ways (HRCom)

�֍ *Take young people's views into account when planning*

◊ Ensure young people are widely consulted in planning (EcuYth, COSS)

◊ Make sure youth issues impact on Council strategic planning and allocation of resources (ComChn)

◊ Consult with young people in the preparation of plans determining values that are important to them and incorporating these into the plan (MinEnv)

◊ Policy for resourcing, planning, zoning and community. People with disabilities need to be supported in policy, not restricted (SRH)

◊ Shop assistants and young people with disabilities could work with the Christchurch City Council to decide which shops are suitable for people with disabilities and publicise this information (yCCS)

✖ *Other*

◊ Murals by young people to stop tagging (CYWC)

◊ Take all cars out of the central city and restrict traffic on Colombo St (yUni)

❈ Entertainment and Recreation

The Working Party members defined this as 'what you do outside work/education'. They see entertainment as being fairly passive and recreation as active.

❈ WHAT ARE THE ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

❈ *Appropriateness*

◊ There are some places and opportunities for young people but are they safe and accessible? (ACYG)

◊ Rich kids drinking at Classical Sparks and other Summertimes events (ACYG)

◊ There are often adults at sports clubs "behaving like louts". Young people see this and perpetuate this behaviour (CECC)

◊ Lack of supervision in some circumstances (YMHF)

◊ Sometimes events are culturally inappropriate (this includes youth culture) (YMHF)

◊ Young people just want to hang out and there is no need for programmed activities as a generation ago (EcuYth)

◊ Most clubs have too much emphasis on alcohol (ySenSec)

◊ Entertainment and recreation tend to be mainstreamed - people with disabilities cannot always enjoy entertainment the way most people can (eg. people with a sensory disability) (SRH)

◊ The opportunities which do exist are very good and Council is doing well, especially Summertimes (Police, ALAC). The problem is one of motivation for some young people (Police)

◊ "Everything the Council does is for tourists" (yCorps)

◊ "New Brighton sucks and is dying". "The Pier sucks" (yJunSec)

❈ *Gaps in services*

◊ Gap in free services for young people aged 13-16 years of age (CYWC, COSS)

◊ Lots of bands only go to Wellington or Auckland (ySenSec)

◊ Gap in meaningful entertainment for young people aged 13-19. They still "hang around McDonalds". The 'Colombo St crawl' epitomises the lack of meaningful activity (CECC)

◊ Lack of non-risky (but still attractive) entertainment opportunities for young people under 20 years (EcuYth, ACYG, yCCS)

◊ Young people have increasingly sophisticated tastes and higher expectations (this is a feature of our consumer society) (COSS)

◊ Youth suicide rates are high; "no wonder, we're all bored shitless" (yCCS)

◊ There are not many organised opportunities for young people "so you have to do your own stuff" (ySenSec)

◊ "Everything that's organised is either too expensive or it sucks" (ySenSec)

✄ *Lack of resources*

◊ Cost; many young people don't have money (YMHF, ACYG, ComChn, CEG, MinEd, DIA)

◊ Some places too expensive (eg. TimeOut) (yCorps, ySenSec, yJunSec). (We) can't afford to go to bars in town but would like to (yEmpl)

◊ Most recreation opportunities are in the central city (eg. Snooker) (CYWC)

◊ The cost of hiring recreation equipment is very high (CYWC)

◊ Lack of resources for recreation (YMHF)

◊ Lack of information as Summertimes events and other opportunities are not widely advertised (YMHF)

✠ HOW ARE THESE ISSUES DIFFERENT FOR DIFFERENT YOUNG PEOPLE?

◊ Young people from lower socio-economic areas/ families are affected more by cost (YMHF, ACYG)

◊ Age is a key factor - there is less for young people under 20 to do (EcuYth, YMHF, CYWC, ACYG, COSS, CECC)

◊ Young people have different interests- some are easier than others to cater for (eg. pool, bands, Lipsync) (CYWC)

❈ HOW COULD THESE ISSUES BE ADDRESSED?

❈ *More opportunities*

◊ Need specific opportunities for the younger age group before they start accessing opportunities for older ones (CECC)

◊ Opportunities for bands (CYWC, yCCS)

◊ Music! (yCncl)

◊ Rockschool (CYWC)

◊ Suburban based entertainment opportunities (YMHF, CYWC) including movie theatres and pool rooms (yCorps)

◊ Organised bus outings around recreational opportunities like beach volleyball and ice skating (ySenSec)

◊ Need cheap, accessible outdoor properly organised activities for young people (DIA, HRCom, yCCS) which promote co-operation and increase confidence (DIA)

◊ Safe recreation and entertainment opportunities which are drug and alcohol free (ComChn, CEG, yCCS) and held in well-lit accessible (by bus) places (yCCS)

◊ Maybe need more safe activities for 'at risk' youth (CYPFS)

◊ Youth centres (YMHF)

◊ More open festivals eg. skateboarding and blading displays (although this appeals to a limited group (yCncl)), skateboard ramps and blading areas (ySenSec). More basketball half and full courts in central places (yCorps, ySenSec, yJunSec). More outdoor festivals at night, and in the daytime, which have alcohol available (or at least do not ban drinking). An example of good entertainment is the Smokefree Rockquest (yEmpl)

◊ A 'QEII' in the centre of town (yJunSec)

◊ Outdoor raves (yEmpl)

◊ More cultural festivals to promote multiculturalism (yCorps)

◊ More cheap or free festivals and recreation options to help with depression and motivation (yEmpl)

◊ Another new skateboard park either at Victoria Square or Latimer Square or a whole new designated area (yCorps)

◊ Places (including Victoria Square) to skateboard (yJunSec)

◊ Demonstrations like the ETA basketball where people can get involved. Sporting clubs could promote this in public places like the new Sports Stadium (yCncl)

◊ More clubs that allow young people and maybe a club for 15-20 year olds but with alcohol ("controlled drinking" because clubs without alcohol aren't really appealing) (yTOP)

◊ More concerts aimed at all groups (yUni)

◊ More cheap markets (yCorps)

◊ More indoor and outdoor 24 hour raves (we would pay $15 every two or three weeks) (yCorps)

◊ Cheap places where young people can gather to keep them off the streets (yCorps)

◊ More beach activities like beach volleyball, horse rides and kayaking (free or cheap) (yEmpl)

◊ Improve New Brighton by providing more shops, cafes and a swimming pool. Improve Sumner and New Brighton by providing beach volleyball and a place to hire cycles, boogie boards (yEmpl), fishing rods and roller blades (yJunSec)

◊ More parks with rugby and soccer posts and good playgrounds, mountain bike tracks near the city, mini golf places that are cool and cheap, entertainment parks like Rainbow's End and the museum upgraded (yJunSec)

✼ *Publicity*

◊ Publicity to let young people know what is out there (ACYG, yCncl)

◊ Co-operation from schools in getting information out there (ACYG)

✼ *Resources*

◊ Funding (YMHF)

◊ Resource pool for equipment (YMHF) and cheap equipment for hire (CYWC)

◊ More transport is needed including later buses at weekends (YMHF). Low cost/ subsidised activities (YMHF)

◊ Recognise youth organisations for discounts (YMHF)

◊ Cheap (ySenSec) and accessible gyms (yEmpl)

⌗ WHAT ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE AT PRESENT?

❖Licensed premises for 20 years and over ❖Lots of sports facilities ❖Concerts in park ❖Wizards ❖Time Out ❖Natural Spaces ❖There are a lot of initiatives but lots of young people are unmotivated ❖Youth movements ❖Arts centre ❖Theatre sports ❖Sporting infrastructure is really good ❖Picture theatres ❖Malls ❖Lipsync ❖4YP ❖Bands at Brighton ❖Fireworks ❖Public facilities eg. mountain biking tracks ❖Summertimes ❖Entertainment in the square ❖Young people hanging out together - this is what they want to do - programme less important than whether friends are there. They are doing what adults do but in different places and in different ways (eg. not pubs, bars, dinner parties) ❖Suburban sports teams ❖School Rockfest ❖Youth Centres ❖Youth initiatives ❖Holiday programmes ❖KiwiAble programme is really good but is specifically recreation ❖Free concerts ❖KiwiAble Leisure Card ❖Pacific Island festivals ❖Good bars and cafes in the city ❖Youth and Cultural Development Society ❖Cafes and clubs like Rattlesnakes, Dan's, Caffeinds and Java ❖Beaches ❖Raves ❖Movies ❖Social sport - volleyball and beach volleyball

⌗ ARE EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES APPROPRIATE?

◊ "Providers can only go so far." If young people want to go drag racing then they will regardless of whether other opportunities are available. A lot depends on society - what's in, trends, who they mix with (ACYG)

◊ Christchurch City Council entertainment should be better controlled (CECC) and alcohol-free; "a family night doesn't need beer sponsorship" (CYWC)

◊ Lots of activities which are run commercially (eg. Grand Prix) are too expensive (YMHF, CYWC, yCCS)

◊ Places like QEII are not geared up well for young people - they're boring, expensive and not very accessible (yCCS)

✠ **WHAT ISSUES AFFECT THE ACCESS YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE TO ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES?**

◊ Transport (YMHF, CYWC, ACYG)

◊ Money (YMHF, yCCS, yCncl); "raves are still too expensive" (ySenSec)

◊ Parents don't teach young people to do nature things (eg. walks) (COSS)

✠ **HOW COULD ACCESS TO ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES BE IMPROVED?**

◊ Appropriate advertising (CYWC)

◊ Where they are (CYWC) - opportunities available in suburbs (YMHF)

◊ Reduce cost/subsidise (YMHF, yCCS) eg. 4YP events need to be kept to a low cost (yCncl)

◊ More transport (YMHF)

◊ Movie ratings could be changed as there is a big gap between PG or M and R16 movies (yCCS)

✠ **HOW COULD YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS ABOUT ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES?**

❈ *Consultation*

◊ Youth Council (ACYG, COSS)

◊ Direct involvement of a range of young people and providers (including youth workers) (CYWC, ACYG, COSS)

◊ Contact with young people through existing clubs and associations (CECC)

✠ **WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL HAVE IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUES RAISED ABOUT ENTERTAINMENT AND RECREATION?**

❈ *Facilitate youth input and access*

◊ Consult and ask young people (YMHF, CYWC, ACYG, COSS)

◊ Consult with youth workers (ACYG)

◊ Young people running things (YMHF, CYWC)

◊ Council needs to ensure fair access and provision for people with disabilities (SRH)

◊ Continue to monitor young people's views about events and alcohol provision and promotion (ALAC)

✺ *Liaise with commercial providers*

◊ Intermediary between businesses and young people (COSS)

◊ Assist in facilitation of commercial entities more attuned to young people 13-19 years (CECC)

◊ Directly promote and work with the business community to provide facilities and programmes for young people (HRCom, yPICncl)

◊ Promote performance opportunities for young people (yPICncl)

◊ Arrange bus tickets for longer than four hours - across bus companies (CYWC)

◊ Encourage development of more transport services (YMHF, CYWC)

✺ *Provide information*

◊ Let young people know what's going on (ACYG)

◊ Advertise appropriately for young people (CYWC)

◊ Provide a Mayor's publicity page for youth groups (as for sports) (ACYG)

◊ Continue to raise awareness of the needs of young people (ALAC)

◊ Provide information about funding for cultural groups (yPICncl)

✺ *Provide services*

◊ Well controlled public entertainment initiatives (CECC, ChdFam)

◊ Fund youth centres in suburbs (running entertainment nights and providing a place to hang out) (EcuYth, CYWC, DIA) and sports complexes (DIA, yPICncl)

◊ Youthfest for young people aged 13-20 years (CYWC, yCCS)

◊ Alcohol-free Summertimes events (ChdFam)

◊ Providing safe, user-friendly and appropriate opportunities (EcuYth, YMHF, CEG, ALAC, HRCom) specifically for young people (HRCom, yPICncl)

◊ More activities for 12-15 years in the school holidays (yCCS)

◊ Discount card (not just for young people at school) (YMHF, CYWC)

◊ Fund and support existing services and activities and encourage local activities (YMHF, ACYG, COSS, yPICncl)

◊ Some targeting of assistance for low socio-economic communities (MinEd). Local sports clubs could be supported through grants for equipment and programmes focusing specifically on young people at risk (DIA)

◊ Same role as at present (Police)

◊ Identification of gaps, filling gaps and encouraging others to do so too (CYPFS)

◊ Library disability card and Internet access should be continued (yCCS)

◊ Better books, more modern music and CD-ROMs in the library (yCCS)

◊ Make City Council facilities available free for youth activities to promote community (yPICncl)

✻ Education and Training

The Working Party members defined this topic as involving 'institutions of social and academic learning', including a broad spectrum of school, peers, family and training opportunities.

✻ WHAT ARE THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

✣ *Attitudes of young people*

◊ Some young people don't want to be there (CYWC)

◊ No hope - know there will be no job (CYWC, yCorps)

◊ How to meet the needs of those who aren't there to learn? (CYWC)

✣ *Attitudes towards young people*

◊ "The education system is geared to *telling* young people and not involving them in decision making." Schools are impersonal and oppressive. They are bad places to learn and are closed to communities (CYWC)

◊ Awareness and education - 'disability awareness' - acceptance into recreation groups and education facilities (DPA)

◊ Acceptance of people with disabilities (SRH)

◊ Very few schools know their responsibilities to young people regarding sexual harassment policies (eg. young people called 'fag' all the time). Responsibility is put on the student to deal with this behaviour (yGLADYS)

◊ "Teachers at high school are like the Police" (yCorps)

◊ Young people are humiliated by teachers. "Teachers don't care...teaching is supposed to be a caring profession but teachers just seem to be there for the money" (yEmpl)

◊ Guidance counsellors are not welcoming and are generally too old (yEmpl)

✣ *Employment*

◊ Schools are a holding pen for employment services (ChdFam)

◊ There are not enough part time jobs (YMHF)

◊ Youth rates and kids getting less than the minimum wage (YMHF)

◊ Sexual harassment (YMHF)

◊ Not adequate liaison between schools and employment options - you get out of school and you don't know what to do or where to go (yCncl, yGLADYS)

✾ *Home environment*

◊ Being able to learn if in a dysfunctional family (COSS)

◊ Ability of schools to deal with young people with bad home and community environment (CECC)

◊ What's going on in the rest of life (CYWC, ACYG)

◊ Interaction with family is important (EcuYth)

◊ Unrealistic expectations of families eg. "stay at school and you will get training or employment" (ETSA)

✾ *Income*

◊ Changes to Training Benefit for 16 and 17 year olds (YMHF, CYWC, COSS, ETSA, ComCorr)

◊ Accommodation in the city (for young people from out of town) which is priced OK (COSS)

◊ Cost in skilling young people (ACYG)

◊ Financial access (ALAC, yTOP)

◊ Funding (SRH)

✾ *Relevant and sufficient education and training*

◊ Ensuring students can have their expectations about education articulated and then met through the performance of schools and other providers (MinEd)

◊ Access to sufficient choice (SRH, yTOP)

◊ Mainstream education is quite well served but note the uneven roll distribution between schools (ALAC)

◊ Overall the city is very well served (especially secondary schools) (CECC)

◊ Meaningful activity (SRH)

◊ Education relevant to young people's needs eg. Aranui Academy (YMHF, CYWC, COSS, SRH, yTOP, yEmpl)

◊ Needs to be enough skills training (CYWC, ACYG, yEmpl). Ought to be able to get back to apprenticeships and on the job training which is connected to what they're doing (EcuYth)

◊ Big issues, like the relevant education at the moment (base education) (CECC)

◊ Probably not enough for young people who don't see school as relevant (COSS)

◊ Taking different learning styles into account (CYWC, CEG)

◊ Pass/fail aspect in school; young people are either in or out (EcuYth)

◊ Curriculum dominates social needs (ChdFam)

◊ Need to deal with the whole young person (not just school stuff) (ChdFam)

◊ Schools push academic activity and sport but don't try to build self esteem (yGLADYS)

◊ Secondary teachers just throw the information at you. Teachers concentrate on the top students and if you're not one of them you get thrown out of class. Only the bright students get guidance, the rest don't (yCorps)

◊ Schools are too inflexible (YMHF)

◊ Schools have to respond to welfare issues because school is a major part of life (ChdFam)

◊ Access to education; 24% of young people with congenital disabilities do not get qualifications. There are barriers to getting education even when a disability is physical. Young people can then not be matched with employment opportunities (DPA)

◊ Special units have put lots of emphasis on physical skills. Vocational training for what? This is despite the technological advances which mean young people with disabilities *can* achieve (DPA)

◊ Private training institutions are not monitored (YMHF). Some youth suicides from training courses; there is an issue about resourcing courses appropriately (EcuYth)

◊ Fewer opportunities for non-mainstream and post-secondary young people who do not go on to tertiary study (ALAC)

◊ Can't generalise about school environment or family as many young people have one supportive teacher (DPA)

◊ The kind of sex education offered is often inappropriate (yGLADYS)

◊ Some schools offer limited curriculum due to staffing shortages (yGLADYS)

◊ Training as future leaders (generally and in different organisations) (ACYG)

◊ Recreation education; what is available and how to access what is available (HRCom)

✖ *Truancy and suspension*

◊ Not much available for young people 19 years and over once they have 'failed' (EcuYth)

◊ Suspensions/expulsions (YMHF)

◊ Truancy (YMHF, CYPFS, DIA, ComCorr)

◊ Many young people lack stable schooling (DIA)

✖ *Other*

◊ Transport (ACYG, SRH)

◊ Driver safety, defensive driving (HRCom)

◊ The longer people stay in education means young people postpone hitting real world expectations (EcuYth)

◊ Linkage issues for families, schools, businesses and communities (CECC)

◊ Patch protection (CECC)

◊ Lack of adequate resourcing (CECC)

◊ Cost of accommodating students at tertiary institutions eg. deaf. Budget doesn't allow (DPA)

◊ Consumers of education and training are powerless (YMHF)

✖ HOW ARE THESE ISSUES DIFFERENT FOR DIFFERENT YOUNG PEOPLE?

✖ *Accessibility*

◊ Locality (ACYG)

◊ Cost; Polytech costs x, better course costs y (ACYG)

✖ *Culture*

◊ Cultural differences (YMHF, ACYG)

◊ Gender differences are not accounted for (YMHF)

✖ *Home environment*

◊ Socio-economic status (COSS)

◊ Home and family environment (COSS)

◊ Major issues of social inequity and education resources; stratification and the inequality this brings (CECC)

◊ Family support; how this is reflected in their school life (CECC)

✖ *Stage of development*

◊ Different developmental rates are not accounted for (YMHF)

◊ Age (COSS). Younger school students sometimes have more restrictions placed on them (eg. being able to use parks during school time) (yJunSec)

⊞ **HOW COULD THESE ISSUES BE ADDRESSED?**

✖ *Links to employment*

◊ Youth Action criteria need to change (CYWC)

◊ Training that meets the needs of young people (YMHF)

◊ By a shift in attitude. At present there seems to be a confusion between education and vocational training. There is more to education than getting a job (COSS)

◊ Teaching life skills (COSS)

◊ NZES Actionworks getting out to schools (yCncl)

✖ *More opportunities and resources*

◊ Sometimes getting expert or skilled people to help with courses costs money - it would be good to have some help with this, especially as some subjects (such as First Aid) require skilled trainers (ACYG)

◊ More education alternatives (YMHF, CYWC, yCCS, yCorps)

◊ More training courses (CYWC)

◊ Another Youth Education Service (CYWC)

◊ Need to ensure we build appropriate social fabric by better cross-sectoral and community communication (CECC)

◊ Need for after school curricular activities for youth from low income families (DIA)

◊ After school one to one tutoring groups with cheaper rates for young people who want and need it (yCCS)

◊ Sporting and tutoring opportunities need to be better with more times and access to more than just counselling (yCCS)

◊ More outdoor education and camps etc. (yJunSec)

� *Schools to change*

◊ Cater for different learning styles (CYWC)

◊ Schools need to value all kinds of ability (CYWC) and interest (yGLADYS)

◊ Better organisation so people with disabilities don't have to take PE and sit on the side and watch (yCCS)

◊ Teacher education; they need to know how to deal with what's going on for individuals (CYWC, yGLADYS) including students with learning disabilities (yCncl, yGLADYS)

◊ Schools that are culturally sensitive (CYWC)

◊ Provide appropriate alternatives to suspensions (YMHF)

◊ Cheap access to learning musical instruments (yCCS)

◊ Schools need to be more accessible to young mothers, possibly even a school in the city geared especially for them (yCncl)

◊ There should be Teacher Aides for secondary school (yCncl)

◊ Better guidance counselling associated with schools (yCncl) which is accessible so the onus isn't on students (yGLADYS)

◊ More options like the Aranui Sports Academy and alternatives to traditional schooling (yGLADYS): "Get real, [traditional schooling] doesn't suit everyone" (yCncl)

◊ Schools to provide better sex education which is fun, accessible and acknowledges diversity (yGLADYS)

◊ Promotion of peer education, especially for boys (yGLADYS)

◊ Young people with special needs in schools need programmes (COSS)

◊ Accessing services for young people with problems eg. Special Education Service is under resourced (COSS)

◊ More "cool, practical" subjects like life skills, budgeting, putting together a CV and computer training (yEmpl)

◊ Teachers need to be trained how to use computers (yEmpl)

✠ *Other*

◊ Re-introduce zoning (YMHF)

◊ Carefully! There has to be an even spread - not more money for visible, rich people or vice versa (or for just one culture) ACYG)

◊ Improved student engagement with and commitment to learning (MinEd),

◊ Cultural integration (all) and celebration of cultural diversity of city and ways can add value through cultural diversity. It is young people who can lead us into this (CECC)

◊ Student income should be available before age 18 years (yCCS)

◊ Young people need more career role models who are culturally sensitive and positive (yCncl)

✠ WHAT EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE AT PRESENT?

❖Leadership courses ❖Self esteem courses ❖Excellent education and training opportunities; as good as anywhere ❖Aranui Academy ❖Alternatives ❖Youth Education Service ❖TOPs ❖ Range of private and state schools ❖ Tertiary opportunities ❖Ministry of Youth Affairs initiatives ❖Community training eg. Guides/ Scouts ❖Church groups ❖Sport groups

✠ ARE EXISTING OPPORTUNITIES APPROPRIATE?

◊ Not all and not forever; they need to change as needs change (COSS)

◊ Not for all young people; they don't account for different learning styles, developmental or cultural differences (YMHF)

◊ Some opportunities are in unsafe environments (YMHF)

✠ WHAT ISSUES AFFECT THE ACCESS YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES?

✠ *Cost*

◊ Financial; many young people are reluctant to take student loans (COSS)

◊ The cost of education (YMHF) including school fees, calculators, exam fees and 'labels' to be able to keep up with everyone else (yTOP)

◊ Tertiary education is too expensive (yEmpl)

◊ Income Support won't fund many training choices (yEmpl)

✠ *Decreasing choices*

◊ Training Benefit; if young people are forced to participate there will be rise in crime (CYWC)

◊ New Zealand Employment Service criteria (YMHF)

◊ Shift in government perspective - contracting out and generally withdrawing services to schools (COSS)

✠ *Family*

◊ Family circumstances (COSS)

◊ Family requirements and demands (YMHF)

✠ *Self*

◊ Emotional state at the time (YMHF)

◊ Young people feeling pointless when there is no job at the end of training (YMHF)

◊ Readiness to learn (YMHF)

◊ Relationship with learning institution (YMHF)

✠ *Other*

◊ Too much importance on university education (COSS)

◊ Cultural appropriateness of opportunities (CYWC)

◊ Transport (YMHF)

◊ Not enough good career counselling at school (yEmpl)

✠ HOW COULD ACCESS TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING SERVICES BE IMPROVED?

Systems better geared to meeting needs

◊ More social services for young people in need (COSS)

◊ Education and Social Welfare to co-ordinate better; "getting their act together" (COSS)

◊ Provide good information for young people so they know how to relate to opportunities available (YMHF, CECC). This should be done through schools (yCncl)

◊ The system should be more holistic (CYWC)

◊ Institutions need to be accountable to communities (which feel powerless to challenge) (CYWC)

◊ Flexible criteria/standards (YMHF)

◊ School should be practical about meeting the needs of young people eg. child care (YMHF)

◊ Student loans available for part time courses; even small loans for books (yEmpl)

✠ HOW COULD YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS ABOUT EDUCATION AND TRAINING?

Involvement of young people

◊ Student representatives on school Boards of Trustees (COSS)

◊ School Councils and Youth Council (ACYG)

◊ Be consulted on matters of policy development (YMHF, ACYG, COSS) in safe and appropriate ways (YMHF)

✠ WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL HAVE IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUES RAISED ABOUT EDUCATION AND TRAINING?

✠ *Advocate*

◊ Promote teacher training (CYWC)

◊ Lobby and challenge the management model of schools (CYWC, yUni)

◊ Encourage schools to teach more social skills, social responsibility and civil rights (yUni)

◊ Lobby on issues such as Training Benefit (CYWC)

◊ To have current information for Council and the community regarding the specific training and education needs for rangatahi Maori, via iwi, hapu and whanau (ETSA)

◊ Have an awareness of the lack of training available for students in 'the gap' (IncSup)

◊ Need for more literacy and numeracy courses and more facilities for students not coping in the school system to have time out or an alternative to the school system eg. like pilot programme run by YES age group 12-14 year olds (IncSup)

◊ Help educate people about disabilities so we are not stigmatised (yCCS)

◊ Promote sexual harassment policies in schools (yGLADYS)

� *Co-ordinate*

◊ Help link different decision makers (ACYG, COSS)

◊ Co-ordinate and facilitate (ACYG)

◊ Co-ordinate different organisations to visit schools and training courses (cohesive approach) (YMHF)

◊ Make sure opportunities are well publicised (COSS, yUni)

◊ Close liaison with schools, PTE's etc. to make sure young people know what is available (HRCom)

✦ *Involve young people*

◊ Involve young people with adults (COSS)

✦ *Provide?*

◊ Not service delivery (COSS, Police); this is a central government responsibility (CEG)

◊ Access and provide tutors for training (volunteers) and keep a database of trainers (ACYG)

◊ Provide a venue for training young people or leaders at only a small cost (ACYG)

◊ Provide life skills training (eg. parenting) in high schools (CYWC)

◊ Council does have responsibility as a provider in this area because the city will see the fallout if the school system is unsuccessful (CYWC)

◊ Administrative support (YMHF)

◊ Free training for those working with young people (eg. learning styles with schools) (CYWC)

◊ Provide funding for training and information about where to apply (YMHF, CYWC, ACYG)

◊ Encourage community education initiatives targeted at young people (ComChn)

◊ Develop peer educators who could operate from Council facilities (ComChn)

◊ Educate ratepayers, parents and other whanau about realistic expectations of and for young people (ETSA)

◊ Raise awareness of environmental issues (MinEnv)

◊ Help organise youth-friendly speakers about issues relevant to young people [with disabilities] such as peer pressure, employment issues, drugs and alcohol; we don't want to be spoken to like children (yCCS)

◊ Support someone to go around schools as a Pacific Island Guidance Counsellor addressing time management, goal setting and training (a role the Ministry of Pacific Island Affairs used to fulfil) (yPICncl)

◊ Help run camps which focus on employment and education issues (yPICncl)

◊ Help organise school term study groups (although this might be difficult) (yPICncl)

◊ Provide more funding for schools (yUni)

◊ Help run job-related skills courses within schools (like one Employment Services used to run) (yPICncl) and help students make the transition from school to employment or further education (yGLADYS)

◊ On the job training of resource managers (MinEnv)

✣ *Role model*

◊ The Christchurch City Council should lead by example (YMHF, COSS)

◊ People on Council to role model and challenge schools to take disability issues into account (DPA)

✠ Employment

The Working Party members defined employment as generally being for money, but also included voluntary work or bartering. It relates to later career opportunities and gives signals about what is valued and what is not. Unemployment was mentioned as being a negative word - society makes judgements about skills, discipline and lack of a 'work ethic'.

✠ WHAT ARE THE EMPLOYMENT ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

✠ *Barriers to employment*

◊ Young people require experience to get a job (CYWC, yEmpl). "People just laugh at you if you're young without experience" (yEmpl)

◊ Young people lose the Accommodation Supplement if they get work (ChdFam)

◊ No incentives to get the limited jobs that do exist (ChdFam)

◊ Lack of skills (YMHF)

◊ Lack of role models (intergenerational unemployment) (CEIG)

◊ There are many "unemployable" young people who do not show up in statistics because they are in technical training. "This is not treating young people well" (EcuYth)

◊ The criteria for Youth Action and for Task Force Green are too restrictive. Many young people are motivated, but don't fit the criteria (they have to become victims first) (CEIG)

◊ Young people often don't know what's out there (CEIG, yGLADYS, yCorps)

◊ Support (SRH)

◊ Relevance (SRH)

◊ Lack of transport (SRH, CEG)

◊ Flexibility (SRH)

◊ "Doing voluntary work would help but you're not allowed to do voluntary work full time while on the dole" (yEmpl)

◊ Finding part-time work is difficult for young people (yESL)

◊ Unable to work on Student Visa (yESL)

✼ *Economic development*

◊ Making sure we manage sustainable economic growth and don't lose young people to other cities because we can't offer jobs. Good balanced economy and long term economic growth (CECC)

✼ *Expectations*

◊ Young people have unrealistic expectations of employment (CEIG, YMHF)

◊ Once young people become aware of realistic expectations they lose hope (CEIG)

◊ Pressure (unrealistic expectations) to conform to 'traditional' values associated with employment eg. 'decide on one career and work 40 hours per week every week' (ETSA)

◊ "No hope" (IncSup) or "motivation when you feel you're being knocked back" (yEmpl)

◊ Community perceptions of young people (SRH)

✼ *Income and the Employment Contracts Act*

◊ Youth rates should only be for a limited time (six months) as they exploit young people (COSS)

◊ Youth rates are too low (CYWC, HRCom, Police, SRH, yUni, yCorps, yEmpl, yESL). "Youth rates suck" (yTOP)

◊ Young people trying to get educated on a low income; they can't break the cycle (CYWC)

◊ Youth rates are exploitative (YMHF)

◊ Young people are underpaid, ripped off and exploited. The Warehouse pays about $4 per hour, Pak 'n' Save about $5 per hour and McDonalds about $7 per hour (yCncl)

◊ Being paid less than what may get on a benefit (IncSup)

◊ Youth rates are less than the Benefit (Police) and so encourage young people into a Benefit trap (YMHF)

◊ Under the Employment Contracts Act young people are very vulnerable (CYWC, COSS, ComCorr, HRCom)

◊ There is no incentive to work under the Employment Contracts Act with youth rates (ChdFam)

◊ Young workers are being given the message that they are not 'worth' very much (Police)

◊ Poor conditions and low wages (ComCorr, CEG)

◊ Pressure of having to take huge student loans to get training (IncSup, yUni)

◊ 'Work for the dole' scheme does not sound very positive (yCncl)

✂ *Lack of work ethic*

◊ Young people need a work ethic (EcuYth, YMHF, CECC)

◊ It is important for young people to learn to understand work ethos (this is a two way communication) (CECC)

✂ *Links with education*

◊ The interface between education and employment to ensure expectations are clear (CEIG, CECC)

◊ Educational structure. There are some opportunities for training but schools are inflexible about allowing this to happen (CEIG)

◊ Gap between what education provides and job readiness (CEIG)

◊ Confusion about roles of schools, education and training for work (ETSA)

✂ *Not enough jobs*

◊ Not enough jobs (CEIG, YMHF, COSS, Police, DIA, ComCorr, ALAC, HRCom, yCCS, yCncl, yTOP, yEmpl) especially for those with no or low qualifications (ALAC, CYPFS) or who are under 15 years (yCCS)

◊ There aren't jobs for graduates although their expectations are high (EcuYth)

◊ Not enough jobs and a depressed labour market (CEIG)

◊ Gap between the skills young people have and opportunities (CEIG)

◊ "Unemployment is a huge issue" (CYWC)

◊ Lots of places will only hire young people once they're 21 (yTOP)

✂ *Training for employment*

◊ Lack of apprenticeships as the concept is eroding (EcuYth, YMHF)

◊ There will be a shortage of trades and a huge swing to professional information technology (EcuYth)

◊ Lack of opportunities in preparation for employment (CEG)

✳ *Voluntary work - what is work?*

◊ Lack of recognition for voluntary services (voluntary service is not recognised as valuable work experience) (CYWC)

◊ Questions about what is defined as work (CYWC)

◊ Would welcome working voluntarily for work experience (yTOP)

✠ HOW ARE THESE ISSUES DIFFERENT FOR DIFFERENT YOUNG PEOPLE?

◊ Different for Maori and Pacific Island young people (EcuYth, YMHF)

◊ Families where parents are working (EcuYth)

◊ Huge issue for young people who don't move from school or training to work. "Society has given them nothing and they don't owe anything" (EcuYth)

◊ Skilled versus unskilled young people (YMHF)

◊ 'Class' issues (YMHF)

◊ Poverty (YMHF)

✠ HOW COULD THESE ISSUES BE ADDRESSED?

✳ *Address relationship between education and employment*

◊ Work is still needed on the links between education and training and between training and employment (EcuYth)

◊ Clarification of the boundary between the youth employment programme (Actionworks) and Workbridge (DPA)

◊ Emphasis on quality of learning (EcuYth)

◊ Co-ordination of courses (CYWC)

◊ Provide a good tertiary infrastructure and put as much emphasis on non-university as university (CECC)

◊ Make sure all courses start at same time (Jan or July) (in line with TOPs) (CEIG)

✳ *Increased opportunities*

◊ Provide ways for young people to give back to the community (eg. working with younger children) (CYWC)

◊ Apprenticeships schemes (YMHF)

◊ Employers should offer a bonus system as an incentive for work (yEmpl)

◊ Need some emphasis on Community Task Force with some places allocated for young people (CEIG)

◊ More life skills courses (CEIG)

◊ Make sure there is access to affordable technology (CEIG)

◊ Curriculum Vitae service to support young people (CYWC)

◊ More careers guidance (CEIG)

◊ Providing mobile services that go to where young people are (YMHF)

◊ "We need help to find part-time work. We have to just check the newspaper or knock on doors in the neighbourhood, offering to do odd jobs" (yJunSec)

�serv *Prevent exploitation*

◊ Someone to act as a watchdog for employers who exploit young people (CYWC)

◊ Make sure additional opportunities are paid positions to avoid issues of exploitation (CYWC)

◊ Need more education about the rights of employed young people. This could be provided though Actionworks or the Youth Law Worker (CYWC)

◊ Employer education (YMHF)

◊ Lobbying against the Employment Contracts Act (YMHF)

◊ Young people could provide a voice to trade unions (but if youth rates go up will young people be hired?) (yCncl)

✠ WHAT EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES ARE THERE AT PRESENT?

❖Actionworks ❖Subsidy incentives from Government (through Actionworks/NZES and Christchurch City Council partnership) ❖Many youth-focused community groups are primarily involved in employment issues ❖Actionworks ❖ Youth Ace ❖Employment in Schools programme ❖Smart Start ❖Future Workers pilot at Papanui ❖Youth Works ❖Pitcaithly House ❖Conservation Corps (Ministry of Youth Affairs) ❖Youth Service Corps (Ministry of Youth Affairs) ❖Commissioned Youth Action Training ❖Non traditional opportunities ❖Roadshow ❖Academy week for 4th formers

✠ ARE THESE INITIATIVES APPROPRIATE?

◊ Opportunities are not always appropriate but funding restrictions determine the structure of courses (CEIG)

✠ WHAT ISSUES AFFECT THE ACCESS YOUNG PEOPLE HAVE TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES?

✤ *Basic needs not met*

◊ Intergenerational unemployment (getting polarisation of workers and second generation non-workers) (CECC)

◊ Family issues and the involvement of parents (CEIG, YMHF)

◊ Health and housing (CEIG)

◊ Sufficient money (CEIG, YMHF, CYWC)

✤ *Changes to work*

◊ The casualisation of the workforce has bridged a gap for young people and allowed them to get a foot in the door (CECC)

◊ The flexibility of the workforce means that people move around more and this provides young people with more opportunities (CECC)

◊ The ability to access real opportunities when there are lots of 'pretend' jobs (YMHF)

✤ *Information*

◊ Lack of information about what's available and about work itself (CYWC)

◊ Sometimes too much information or information not available at the right time ("only want it when it's about me") (CEIG)

◊ Lots of employers seem to keep jobs in-house, so it depends on who you know (yCncl)

✤ *Personal issues*

◊ Motivation (CYWC)

◊ Lack of appropriate qualifications and experience (YMHF, CYWC)

◊ Alcohol and drug issues (YMHF)

◊ Personal choice (CEIG)

◊ Isolation (CEIG)

❈ *Physical access issues*

◊ Getting to Actionworks in the city as some young people won't come in (CYWC)

◊ Transport (YMHF)

◊ Drivers Licence process is too long and hard (YMHF)

❈ *Other*

◊ Some structural issues - providing sustainable economic growth (CECC)

❊ HOW COULD ACCESS TO EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES BE IMPROVED?

❈ *Education*

◊ Encouraging employers to look beyond their preconceptions about unemployed young people (COSS)

◊ Encourage employers to have social responsibility (COSS)

◊ Promote Actionworks (CEIG)

◊ Make sure information is where young people are (CEIG, yCncl)

◊ The PEP team model (of FPA) could be used more (CEIG)

◊ The Careers service should do some refocussing to become more innovative and effective (CECC)

◊ Education on the process you go through to get employment(CEIG)

❈ *Employment promoted for people with disabilities*

◊ Employment should be promoted (not tokenism) and needs to be proactive because some people have not achieved in education. "Tokenism is OK for a while, as long as disability is on the agenda" (DPA)

❈ *More opportunities*

◊ Provide different opportunities, especially in manual work (COSS)

◊ A youth barter system or market (yCncl)

◊ Youth Enterprise scheme where young people are encouraged to develop and market their own products (yCncl)

✖ *Support young people*

◊ Follow-up young people once they are in jobs (the way Workbridge operates) (CYWC)

◊ Strengthen young people's networks before they need it (CEIG)

◊ Make work experience paid and/or recognised in some way (CYWC)

◊ Co-ordination between Actionworks and youth services (eg. Youth and Cultural Development Society) (yCorps)

✠ HOW COULD YOUNG PEOPLE PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS ABOUT EMPLOYMENT?

◊ Give them the vote! Let's make Christchurch the first city in New Zealand to give youth their own vote on issues concerning youth (CEIG, YMHF)

◊ Through the Christchurch Youth Council (CEIG)

◊ Creating an environment in which to ask questions (CEIG)

◊ Go places where young people are so they can give feedback on youth services (CEIG)

✠ WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL HAVE IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUES RAISED ABOUT EMPLOYMENT?

✖ *Advocate*

◊ Keep an employers' blacklist and lobby on exploitation issues (CYWC)

◊ Lobby government to change youth rates (yTOP)

◊ Formulate local policy (from local information) and feed it into national policy (CEIG)

◊ Lobby and education functions (CEIG, yUni)

◊ Follow up issues as they arise; this would solve lots of problems later (CYWC)

◊ Promote awareness by providing more information at schools (IncSup)

✖ *Facilitate*

◊ Facilitate and support (COSS)

◊ Provide facilitation between existing agencies to ensure that information is shared (CECC)

◊ Work collaboratively with government agencies, employers and all interested parties including Manawhenua, Maata Waka groups and Maori organisations (ETSA)

◊ Promote links with the Employers Federation to support young people in employment (CYWC)

✄ *Resource*

◊ Council's role is to support employment opportunities and see that they happen (COSS, yUni)

◊ Work with Community Corrections to help facilitate work for young people (yCorps)

◊ Look for employment for young people to keep them busy (yEmpl)

◊ Set up employment projects to give young people more choice (yPICncl, yUni)

◊ Central government responsibility but commend existing work (CEG)

◊ Curriculum Vitae and personal development service; young people could be trained to offer this to others (CYWC)

◊ Continue to provide good programmes ie Actionworks (Police, DIA, ComCorr, HRCom)

◊ Make Actionworks more accessible, moveable and mobile (CYWC)

◊ Resource in the widest sense (CEIG)

◊ Resource politically risky things that government departments can't risk (CEIG)

◊ Bit more proactive eg. address the issues of Pacific Island young people hitting the streets (CEIG)

◊ Provide scholarships for Pacific Island and Maori young people to go to University (CEIG)

◊ Let go of being a provider and give funding out to the community to provide (CEIG)

◊ Help get information out to young people about their income entitlements (yPICncl)

✄ *Role model*

◊ Lead by example; have a good employment policy and employ young people (CEIG, COSS)

◊ Council could get young unemployed people to organise and work at its festivals (yEmpl)

◊ Council has a responsibility to provide a good model eg. employment cadetships (be an EEO employer) (DPA)

◊ There is a need to provide inclusive policy and programmes where appropriate (SRH)

� *Value young people*

◊ Raise the profile of young people (YMHF)

◊ Openly promote and value young people (YMHF)

◊ Consult regularly (CEIG, YMHF)

◊ Ensure a provider environment that is supportive of sustainable economic growth (CECC)

◊ Ensure the macro environment is positive for the establishment of work/employment enterprises; low rates, cheap infrastructural costs (MinEd)

◊ Look at what's going on for young people and what's going on in wider society (CEIG)

✠ Family

The Working Party members defined this topic as encompassing many different family structures. They saw families being influenced by social pressures, culture, gangs and socio-economic factors.

✠ WHAT ARE THE FAMILY ISSUES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE?

✿ *Abuse*

◊ Feeling safe (ChdFam)

◊ Violence and sexual abuse (YMHF)

◊ Abusive families (CYWC, yUni)

✿ *Basic needs*

◊ Poverty and unemployment (HRCom)

◊ High levels of economic hardship and social disadvantage have produced a correspondingly high rate of dysfunction in families which see young people exposed to abuse (in all forms) from violence, addition, poverty, etc. (ComCorr)

◊ Health, education, employment and justice (CYWC, SchCouns)

◊ Homelessness (YMHF)

◊ Young offenders generally come from low income families (Police)

◊ Low income which is related to poor housing, transient housing and thus transient schooling (SRH)

◊ Lack of money coming into families (CEG)

◊ Young people need to be part of functional families which have "love, acceptance, security, group membership, recognition of individual qualities and promote independence and responsibility" (from an address by Professor Whitfield to the 1997 Independent Schools Conference) (CECC)

◊ It is difficult to see how young people can cope with becoming parents if they don't have basic things like jobs or secure homes (yEmpl)

✿ *Pressures on families*

◊ Recognise and value diversity - there shouldn't be stigma towards families on benefits or solo parents (COSS)

◊ Family breakdown (CYPFS)

◊ Pressures on single parent families (IncSup)

◊ Getting along with both parents when they aren't living together is difficult. "It's easy to go off the rails" (yCorps)

◊ Affluence of society forces a gap between the 'haves' and 'have nots' (YMHF)

◊ Lack of values in media influences (YMHF)

◊ Discourse of dependency and failure (COSS)

◊ Poverty; not having enough resources (money, housing) (EcuYth, YMHF, ACYG, SchCouns)

◊ Family pressures including the employment of self or parents (EcuYth, ACYG, SchCouns)

◊ Unemployment (YMHF)

◊ Lots of young people have two unemployed parents. They have no hope, no expectations and don't know anything else (ACYG)

◊ Lack of resources from Government (YMHF)

◊ Lots of young people have to babysit and take their brothers and sisters with them when they go out (CYWC)

◊ Families lack quality time together (SchCouns)

◊ Families falling apart (EcuYth)

◊ Many young people don't get their needs met through families (YMHF)

◊ Parents with appropriate use of authority (ChdFam)

◊ Lack of parenting skills (YMHF, SchCouns) including appropriate use of authority (ChdFam)

◊ Sometimes young people turn away because their parents' way of educating isn't appropriate (yCorps)

◊ Lack of role models (YMHF)

◊ Lack of support and community support (YMHF, CYWC)

◊ Communication with family is difficult (yCorps)

◊ Fatherless families (YMHF)

◊ Many young offenders have become alienated from their families through family dysfunction and their own acting-out behaviour (ComCorr)

◊ Most young offenders are from solo parent homes or homes where there is a 'new partner' on the scene (Police)

◊ Absentee parents (HRCom)

◊ "For Pacific Island young people our problems begin in the home". These are generational and family based. "It's very difficult for young people to reconcile the cultures" (yPICncl)

◊ Parental expectations are difficult to cope with (yCorps)

◊ "Sometimes we just need some space" (yESL)

⌘ *Other*

◊ What is family anyway? (YMHF)

◊ Cultural differences amongst families (YMHF)

◊ School issues affect family and vice versa (ACYG)

⌘ HOW ARE THESE ISSUES DIFFERENT FOR DIFFERENT YOUNG PEOPLE?

◊ Young people from families on benefits (COSS)

◊ Separation of some young people and their families eg. Samoan families deal with problems but Pakeha families don't have the same community support (CYWC)

◊ Urban Maori have issues around a "lack of connectedness" (YMHF)

⌘ HOW COULD THESE ISSUES BE ADDRESSED?

⌘ *Community support*

◊ Need more of a community structure in Christchurch. People don't support each other and are isolated (ACYG)

◊ More community support groups and programmes (YMHF)

◊ Support for women's refuges (yUni)

◊ Need a different way of socialising boys (CYWC)

⌘ *Initiatives which support families being together*

◊ Need to make it easier for families to stick together (and find out why families breakdown) (COSS)

◊ Need for family counselling and support (out of school) (SchCouns)

◊ Access to entertainment in the suburbs and city (YMHF)

◊ Really need to be more supportive of parents of young people (as this is getting harder) (EcuYth)

✄ *More resources and services*

◊ Better resourcing of existing services (ACYG)

◊ More resourcing for early intervention programmes (EcuYth)

◊ Residential drug and alcohol service (YMHF)

◊ Safe houses and safe areas for young people (YMHF)

◊ Need to have ways for young people to find out where to go eg. depressed young people (ACYG)

◊ Adequate emotional support for young people provided in youth friendly ways eg. Youthline and Youth Mediation (yCncl)

✄ *Parenting*

◊ Need to promote positive parenting (CEIG, SchCouns, COSS)

◊ Need drop-in or phone support for parents (SchCouns)

◊ Programmes for parents are important (EcuYth, YMHF, CYWC) (but how to get appropriate parents there?) (EcuYth)

◊ Support the GAIN programme; there is only one programme like this (but we still have issue of getting people there). Most teenagers want to make it work (EcuYth)

◊ "Our parents grew up in the 1960s and are too scared to let us out. There should be parent education classes to inform parents what's happened in the last 30 years. Parents just set standards and it is up to us to just live by them" (yCCS)

◊ Parents need education about what life is like for young people. Pacific Island parents need to know about youth culture in New Zealand (yCorps)

✄ *Schools*

◊ Social workers attached to schools (SchCouns)

◊ Youth workers in schools as contact people for parents (EcuYth)

◊ Peer support groups (YMHF)

✠ WHAT INITIATIVES ARE THERE AT PRESENT WHICH SUPPORT YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES?

❖Various social services ❖Presbyterian Support Services ❖Services for families at risk ❖Free events such as Summertimes ❖Activities that encourage families to be together ❖Positive parenting course - Papanui/Shirley ❖School Counsellors ❖Free events in the park - Fireworks, Summertimes (an important factor here is cost) ❖Services are there - access is the issue ❖GAIN ❖Project Early ❖Early Start ❖198 Youth Health Centre ❖Some schools are very supportive ❖CYPFS ❖Canterbury Youth Workers Collective ❖Churches and youth groups ❖Family Group Movement ❖Lots of support from solo parents who want to be involved

✠ WHAT ROLE SHOULD THE CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL HAVE IN ADDRESSING THE ISSUES RAISED ABOUT FAMILY?

✄ *Advocate*

◊ Advocate to central government on issues where central government policies have an impact on young people and families (COSS, ComCorr) eg. health, education and welfare (YMHF)

◊ Advocate support for beneficial programmes (COSS)

◊ Facilitate change through publicity forums which highlight these issues (SRH)

◊ Ensure minimal or absence of discrimination against the whole family of a young person with a disability. Families with members who have disabilities often experience the same issues as the individual. Housing and planning issues need to be appropriate as does transport and recreation (SRH)

◊ More awareness of services available for young people dealing with family issues (CEG)

◊ Promote awareness of family violence (yUni)

◊ Promote positive media about family issues (yCorps)

◊ Promote media (TV) messages for parents about accepting where young people are at (ySenSec)

◊ Think of ways to work with young people on the issue of being allowed to choose which parent to live with (yJunSec)

�ख *Encourage community and families*

◊ More community (rather than club) use of facilities (ACYG)

◊ Council to encourage pride in local communities (eg. each house could have a tree to look after) (SchCouns)

◊ Development of family friendly services and facilities (ComChn)

◊ Keep doing redevelopments (SchCouns)

◊ Encourage development and maintenance of neighbourhood watch (ACYG)

◊ Encourage families in all respects (EcuYth, YMHF, CYWC) eg. the GAIN programme (EcuYth). Encourage education about what constitutes a family, and particularly about male roles (yGLADYS)

◊ Investigate and examine local issues and encourage local initiatives to meet the needs of young people (ComCorr)

◊ Council should be a role model (EcuYth, CYWC) (eg. control of alcohol at Summertimes events) (CYWC)

◊ Role modelling/mentoring (by key people) (IncSup)

✖ *Facilitate/co-ordinate*

◊ Facilitate community activities (COSS)

◊ Co-ordinate community based services (eg. Creches and safe activities) (SchCouns)

◊ Co-ordinate activities that work (YMHF)

◊ Facilitate family focused forums or surveys eg. 'fathering the future' and 'mental health needs of children and young people' (ComChn).

✖ *Provide*

◊ Support and resource community activities (YMHF, COSS). "Who else is going to do it?" (SchCouns)

◊ Fund widespread parenting course and support groups. Seminars on adolescence for parents run from local community libraries so access is easy and user friendly (DIA). Parent education to better inform parents about sex education and drug education so

that parents aren't afraid (yCCS). Seminars (maybe with schools) with parents and teenagers to help bridge gaps in understanding (yGLADYS)

◊ Continue with present strategies eg. Christchurch City Council/ Police youth programme, school field workers and strengthening families (Police, CYPFS)

◊ The Mayor's Welfare Fund (which is currently limited to $500 per school) should be increased (SchCouns)

◊ Fund suburban based as well as big events (ACYG)

◊ Youth festival (YMHF, ACYG)

◊ Holiday programmes and subsidies for young people who live out of town (ACYG)

◊ Inform children and young people about their rights (yCCS)

✂ *Support*

◊ Keep encouraging community initiatives (EcuYth)

◊ Support for the Commissioner for Children's 'Fathers' project (EcuYth)

◊ Support for programmes for men's parenting, self esteem for men and more funding for leisure activities for young people (IncSup)

◊ Support young people to develop in their own way (yGLADYS)

⊠ Appendix X: Feedback on the

Draft Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy

✠ Feedback on the Draft Youth Policy and Strategy

Once the Draft Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy had been agreed to by the Working Party it was circulated (as part of the *Draft Report of the Youth Strategy Working Party*). This draft was circulated to Community Boards, all Council Units and to participating groups and organisations for their feedback. They were particularly asked for their feedback on the one page Draft Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy (below). The following is a summary of feedback about the one page Draft Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy and comments about the consultation process and overall project.

Draft Christchurch Youth Policy and Strategy

The Christchurch City Council is committed to developing, supporting and promoting initiatives which positively contribute to the wellbeing of young people, their families and communities.

Outcomes:
The Christchurch City Council will work towards developing a city where:

✠ Young people's views and contributions to their families and their communities are valued

✠ The diversity of young people is recognised, acknowledged and celebrated

✠ The views of young people are sought and taken into account in the development of the Council's policies and activities

✠ Young people have access to the information and resources required to meet their needs in the areas of:

    ✄ Health, safety and wellbeing
    ✄ Physical environment and design
    ✄ Entertainment and recreation
    ✄ Education and training
    ✄ Employment
    ✄ Family

Scope:
All Christchurch young people aged 13-25 years

Roles:
In working towards these outcomes the Christchurch City Council will have the following roles:

✠ To ensure that the views and needs of young people are taken into account in Council activities

✠ To advocate on behalf of, and with, young people

✠ To resource, provide and support services for young people in partnership with other agencies

✠ Co-ordinate activities which provide for young people

> Note: An action plan for this document will be developed annually for implementation.

✠ Burwood Pegasus Community Board

◊ Under roles amend to read:

"Resource, provide and support services for young people, their parents and caregivers in partnership with other agencies".

◊ Strongly support the Draft Policy and Strategy.

◊ Believe the document should be kept in the simple format shown in the Draft.

◊ Support the proposed age range (13-25 years).

✠ Riccarton Wigram Community Board

◊ Whilst the (government) definition of "youth" is 13-25 years of age the Board recognises that "needs" within these broad age group are quite different. Thus when developing the 'strategy', the differing needs of the following age groups: 13-15, 16-19, 20-25 years should be acknowledged.

◊ The Policy and Strategy is simple and succinct and provides a useful benchmark for local initiatives undertaken and/or supported by Community Boards.

◊ Endorse the policy outcomes and wish to reinforce the 'education and training' component.

◊ Like the way the annual action plan allows for flexibility.

◊ Support the roles and outcomes (and went on to give some examples of activities undertaken by this Community Board).

✠ Hagley Ferrymead Community Board

◊ Suggest adding a further point under Outcomes to read:

"Young people will find the city a safe place to be, a city that is safe both physically and mentally".

◊ Strongly support the Youth Policy and Strategy.

◊ Support the scope (13-25 years).

✠ Fendalton Waimari Community Board

◊ Support the draft Policy and Strategy.

✠ Spreydon Heathcote Community Board

◊ Lack of explanation about how the policy was developed from the research.

◊ Very little strategic direction and the Community Board suggests extending the consultation.

◊ Lack of principals used to develop the policy.

◊ Appendix III is too narrow.

◊ Add a section on government funded agencies and community groups including boundaries of responsibility for youth between government departments, non-government organisations and the Council.

◊ Include information about positive health, safety and wellbeing initiatives.

◊ There needs to be an explicit statement about how the age range decided upon - this Board sees youth as being divided into 13-17 years and 18-25 years.

◊ The Community Board commends the Working Party on its efforts and particularly the work done with young people.

✠ Health and Disability Commissioner

◊ Add specific reference to the Code of Health and Disability Service Consumers' Rights.

◊ Commend the achievement of conducting such comprehensive consultation.

✠ Canterbury Public Library

◊ Mention that libraries have a reasonably big stake in service delivery to young people both in terms of information and recreation/ entertainment.

◊ Great report - lots of useful information.

✠ Christchurch Youth Council

◊ Add the word 'cherish' to point two of the outcomes.

◊ Like the one page simple format.

✠ Canterbury Youth Workers' Collective

◊ The age of definition is changed to 11-19 years.

◊ Easy to read/ user friendly.

◊ Like the wide consultation.

◊ Pleased that a strategy has been initiated.

❈ 4YP Advisory Committee (community agencies representatives and Council staff)

◊ Change the age range to 12-19 years.

◊ Change the wording of the fourth point under roles (about co-ordination). Council should not assume it is the primary co-ordinator on youth issues.

◊ Like the annual implementation plan which allows flexibility to change outcomes.

❈ Education and Training Support Agency

◊ Pleased to see partnership with other agencies included.

◊ May be useful to include more analysis of the information.

❈ Ministry of Education

◊ The co-ordination role could be disempowering of others and instead suggest:

"In partnership with others, assist with the co-ordination of activities which provide for young people".

◊ Like its clarity, conciseness, comprehensiveness and the challenge it presents.