

**✦ 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.