



Welcoming Communities Rangitīkei project plan

Introduction

Welcoming Communities is a programme coordinated by Immigration New Zealand that “puts the welcome mat out to newcomers: recent migrants, former refugees and international students.”

Communities that make newcomers feel welcome are likely to enjoy better social outcomes, and stronger economic growth.

This project plan for Rangitīkei identifies outcomes and outputs over the first 12 months beginning in November 2021.

If you have any questions about the content of this project plan, or Welcoming Communities in general, please contact the Welcoming Communities Coordinator for Rangitīkei, Aly Thompson.

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Background

Rangitīkei District Council was successful in applying to join the Welcoming Communities programme in July 2021. The programme now consists of 16 Councils and 11 regions across New Zealand. The Welcoming Communities Standard identifies eight outcome areas important to creating a welcoming and inclusive environment. These are:

1. Inclusive Leadership
2. Welcoming Communications
3. Equitable Access
4. Connected and Inclusive Communities
5. Economic Development, Business and Employment
6. Civic Engagement and Participation
7. Welcoming Public Spaces
8. Culture and Identity

Each Council prepares a Welcoming Plan that sets out the community's planned activities, that seek to deliver on the eight outcomes.

Rangitīkei project plan: the first 12 months

Councils can also apply for formal accreditation as a Welcoming Community.

Accreditation has the following four stages:

- Stage 1 — a Committed Welcoming Community
- Stage 2 — an Established Welcoming Community
- Stage 3 — an Advanced Welcoming Community
- Stage 4 — an Excelling Welcoming Community

More information about Welcoming Communities, the Welcoming Communities Standard, and accreditation can be found on Immigration New Zealand’s website.

<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/what-we-do/welcoming-communities>

Outcomes & high level timeline

Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22	Jul-22	Aug-22
	1. Achieve Stage 1 Accreditation							
	2. Create a Welcoming Communities communication plan							
	3. Establish a Welcoming Communities Rangitīkei Advisory Group							
	4. Complete a “stocktake” of the district							
						5. Develop a Welcoming Plan for Rangitikei		

Actions

The following are high level actions that will be undertaken. For more details at a task-based level, feel free contact Aly.

Deadlines stated are aspirational and do not take into account limitations from stakeholders or other external factors; therefore they are subject to change.

Please note, the linked resources are internal documents. If you don't have access, please contact Aly to send you copies.

1. Achieve Stage 1 Accreditation

Action	Timeline/deadline
1.1. Finalise Statement of Commitment	31-12-2021
1.2. Organise a ceremony to celebrate the signing of the Statement of Commitment	31-01-2022
1.3. Complete formal application for Stage 1 Accreditation	31-01-2022

2. Create a Welcoming Communities communication plan

Action	Timeline/deadline
2.1. Identify community stakeholders and categorise into groups	31-12-2021
2.2. Prepare Welcoming Communities information for different stakeholders	Ongoing
2.3. Publish Welcoming Communities information page on RDC website	31-01-2022

3. Establish a Welcoming Communities Rangitikei Advisory Group

Action	Timeline/deadline
3.1. Organise introductions with high priority stakeholders	14-01-2022
3.2. Invite representatives from stakeholder groups to self-nominate to be on Advisory Group	31-01-2022
3.3. Prepare draft terms of reference	31-01-2022
3.4. Confirm Advisory Group members	11-02-2022
3.5. Hold first Advisory Group Hui to workshop & agree terms of reference	25-02-2022

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4. Complete a “stocktake” of the district

Action	Timeline/deadline
4.1. Prioritise stakeholder groups	31-01-2022
4.2. Determine information to be collected during stocktake	31-01-2022
4.3. Define methods of information collection & schedule all resulting meetings	31-01-2022
4.4. Undertake all information collection	February-April
4.5. Hold regular Huis with Advisory Group	February-April
4.6. Collate information into a stocktake report	31-05-2022
4.7. Share stocktake report with Advisory Group	31-05-2022
4.8. Present stocktake report to Policy/Planning committee and Te Roopu Ahi Kaa	31-05-2022 (meetings 09-06-2022 & 13-06-2022 respectively)

5. Develop a Welcoming Plan for Rangitikei

Action	Timeline/deadline
5.1. Hold workshop Hui with Advisory Group to prioritise potential initiatives & select lead organisations	17-06-2022
5.2. Approach lead organisations and gain buy-in	30-06-2022
5.3. Draft Welcoming Plan	15-07-2022
5.4. Hold feedback Huis with stakeholder groups	19-08-2022
5.5. Finalise Welcoming Plan	31-08-2022