



# 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 Officer for Rangitīkei, Rhianna Flaherty.

[Rhianna.Flaherty@Rangitikei.govt.nz](mailto:Rhianna.Flaherty@Rangitikei.govt.nz)

027 307 0244

Or email [welcomingcommunities@rangitikei.govt.nz](mailto:welcomingcommunities@rangitikei.govt.nz)

## 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

## Rangitikei project plan: the first 12 months

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

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

Updated 3 June 2022

Dec-21	Jan-22	Feb-22	Mar-22	Apr-22	May-22	Jun-22
					1. Achieve Stage 1 Accreditation	
2. Create a Welcoming Communities communication plan						
	3. Establish a Welcoming Communities Rangitikei Advisory Group					
	4. Complete a "stocktake" of the district					

Jul-22	Aug-22	Sept-22	Oct-22	Nov-22	Dec-22	Jan-22 onwards
5. Develop a Welcoming Plan for Rangitikei						<i>Implement Welcoming Plan...</i>

NOTE: Statuses current at 23 May 2022

## Actions

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

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 Rhianna to send you copies.

### 1. Achieve Stage 1 Accreditation

Action	Timeline/deadline	Status
1.1. Finalise Statement of Commitment	30-04-2022	Complete
1.2. Organise a ceremony to celebrate the signing of the Statement of Commitment	30-06-2022	Not done / cancelled
1.3. Complete formal application for Stage 1 Accreditation	31-05-2022	Complete

Resources:

- [Stage 1 Accreditation checklist](#)
- [SAMPLE Statement of Commitment](#)

### 2. Create a Welcoming Communities communication plan

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

### 3. Establish a Welcoming Communities Rangitikei Advisory Group

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

Resources:

- [Business database](#)
- [EXAMPLE advisory group terms of reference](#)

### 4. Complete a “stocktake” of the district

Action	Timeline/deadline	Status
4.1. Prioritise stakeholder groups	31-01-2022	Complete
4.2. Determine information to be collected during stocktake	31-01-2022	Complete
4.3. Define methods of information collection & schedule all resulting meetings	31-01-2022	Complete
4.4. Undertake all information collection	February-June	In progress
4.5. Hold regular Huis with Advisory Group	Ongoing	In progress
4.6. Collate information into a stocktake report	30-06-2022	In progress
4.7. Share stocktake report with Advisory Group & incorporate revisions	31-07-2022	To do
4.8. Present stocktake report to Te Roopu Ahi Kaa and Policy/Planning committee	31-08-2022 (meetings 08-08-2022 & 11-08-2022 respectively)	To do

Resources:

- [INZ Welcoming Communities stocktake resource](#)

NOTE: Statuses current at 23 May 2022

## Rangitikei project plan: the first 12 months

### 5. Develop a Welcoming Plan for Rangitikei

Action	Timeline/deadline	Status
5.1. Hold workshop Hui with Advisory Group to prioritise potential initiatives & select lead organisations	31-09-2022	To do
5.2. Approach lead organisations and gain buy-in	31-09-2022	To do
5.3. Draft Welcoming Plan	30-10-2022	To do
5.4. Circulate draft with lead organisations and hold feedback Huis with stakeholder groups	15-11-2022	To do
5.5. Finalise Welcoming Plan	15-12-2022	To do