



YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Supporting information for the Consultation Document on the
Rangitikei District Council's Draft Annual Plan 2016/17

March 31, 2016
RANGITIKEI DISTRICT COUNCIL

Rangitikei District Council Youth Policy (adopted 2012)

Policy Intent

To create a family-friendly District that is a great place to raise a family, where children and young people are valued for their contribution to the community and are given an experience of childhood and adolescence that they will want for their own children in due course.

Within the Council's Policy framework, this intent sits under the key strategic intent "to support social participation and cohesion".

The Council will implement this policy primarily through:

Community Leadership Group of Activities

Council will encourage youth participation in its various public consultations including Community Committees and Boards¹.

Community and Leisure Assets Group of Activities

Council will ensure that it seeks the views of young people as one of the main stakeholder groups when it programmes future upgrades to its community and leisure assets.

Community Well-being Group of Activities

Council will support a Youth Action Plan that delivers the following levels of service in the Economic development and District promotion and Community partnerships activities:

- Opportunities for young people to be actively involved in partnerships that secure better quality and more efficient services for young people in the community
- Opportunities for collaboration and support/facilitate inclusive partnerships to deliver better quality and more efficient services for young people in the community
- Initiatives that develop and deliver events, activities and projects to enliven the towns and District that are organised by and target young people
- Initiatives that develop and deliver events, activities and projects organised by and targeting young people designed to enliven the towns and District
- At least an annual opportunity for community organisations to apply for funding under the various grant schemes administered by the Council

¹ Council recognises that some groups are more disadvantaged than others in being readily able to participate in council processes. Council's intent is to gain a broad engagement of local youth (including Māori youth) – inside and outside the education sector, and across the 15-24 age bracket.

Marton Youth One Stop Shop Project Description

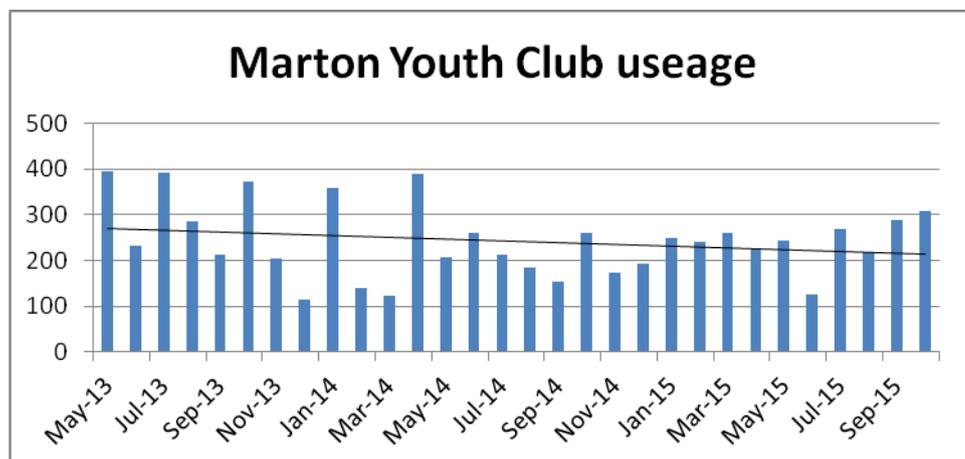
The initiative is to establish a pilot scheme in the Marton Youth Club to create a youth development service hub for young people.

We have been running after-school and school holiday programmes at the Youth Club for almost 4 years and the impact on our town and our young people has been amazing. We want to continue this service, and to extend this with a range of health, well-being and lifestyle support services for young people. The Youth Club will provide the meeting place for agencies and young people in 'their' space. Particularly, we are looking for day-time services for young parents and other young adults not in employment, education or training. These will focus on support, advice and career planning/job seeking. These services have been identified as a crucial gap in service provision in the town through our desk and survey research.

The requirement is for a youth services coordinator to develop the facility to meet this potential and then to continue to maintain and extend services in close consultation with local young people.

What has already been accomplished?

In December 2011 Nathan Kane of HYPE Academy Ltd volunteered to look after the Marton Youth Club. On the 1st June 2012 Nathan was appointed as the Youth Club Coordinator. The Youth Club is open most schooldays between 3-5 pm and on Saturdays between 10am and 3 pm. On average, 20 young people attend each session (the age range is generally at the younger end of the target group of 8-15 with most attendees being in the 8-12 age range). Attendees are 70% male and 80% identify as Maori. We have seen an increase in Pacific youth using this facility as well as more families integrate in to our community with seasonal employment secured at our local meat works.



NOTE: High usage in April, July and September 2013 and April 2014 equate to school holiday programmes funded through MYD. If the effect of these high points are discounted, then usage has remained remarkably even over the period in question.

In the youth priority area there are four key aims:

- Youth employment
- Youth activities
- Youth projects (assets and facilities)
- Youth leadership forums

More Statistics

The facility is also used by a number of other agencies, as a space to meet formally and informally.

Group Name	Age	% Gender	% Ethnicity
Marton Community Garden	8+	70% Females	?
Brain Injury Association	45+	50/50	30% Maori
Alzheimer's Group	60+	50/50	?
Autism Wanganui/Marton	Varies	50/50	?
Marton Community Committee	50+	50/50	10% Maori
Jig Saw - Young Mothers Group	16+	100% Female	?
Rangitikei Shearing Association	20+	50/50	80% Maori
One off adhoc meetings/expo's/events (e.g. Youth Leadership Forum planning meetings, Marton's Got Talent, Rangitikei's Got Talent)	Varies	Varies	Varies

The recent addition of an informal, relaxed interview room provides the opportunity for local services to meet one-to-one with their clients in a safe, youth space. It is hoped to be able to provide more tailored facilities as more services use the Youth Club.

Referrals

Although the Youth Club was not primarily established as a referral/service space, Nathan and his team have established a good track record of working with at-risk and disadvantaged young people and supporting them to become re-engaged in school, or assisted into employment and connected and supported by the relevant social service agencies. Particular examples are:

1. Open communication and support with the local Attendance Service advisor and Rangitikei College (Alternative Education Unit). In particular attending disciplinary hearings with the Principal, Board members, staff, student and whanau.
2. Referrals to Youth Services for youth aged 16-17 years old seeking employment and financial support.
3. Adhoc referrals to the Marton Counselling service and/or Te Kotuku Haurora. Staff have also met with youth at the Youth Club and discussed options moving forward for youth/whanau.
4. Liaising with local employers/staff, i.e. Speirs Foods Ltd for casual/on call or holiday work for students.
5. Assisting youth to prepare CV's, give them advice on career paths, job search and interview techniques.
6. Connecting youth to local sports clubs and encouraging participation.
7. Empowering and providing opportunities to enter the local talent shows i.e. Martons Got Talent or join Marton Players Theatre drama group.
8. Encouraging youth to engage and participate in local community events. This includes but not limited to taking an active role in helping out at the event. E.g. Sound and/or stage crew, performing, manning a stall, assisting with promotion of various up and coming youth club activities etc.
9. Adhoc Referrals to the Marton Budget Service, Marton Barber, Salvation Army, ICT Hub and Library.

Agencies which are supporting this project are:

- Attendance Services
- Rangitikei District Council Library Services
- Hype Academy
- Sport Whanganui
- Work And Income Youth Services
- Te Kotuku Hauora Ltd
- Jigsaw Whanganui
- Land-Based Training
- Marton And Surrounds Ict Hub
- Bulls And District Community Trust

Background

The Marton Community Development project undertook a youth survey, "Your View", in late 2010 involving over 300 young people from Marton and the surrounding area. The overwhelming feedback was that young people lacked "something to do" and that they wanted youth focussed activities to be available locally. In particular, they wanted a youth space that provided them with somewhere to go, and a base to do activities. As a result, the Youth Club was opened in April 2011 in the Pavilion in Centennial Park and moved to its current base in the old Centennial Park Bowling Club rooms and grounds on 10 July 2012.

Various multi-agency, collaborative initiatives have now come together in a Marton Community Charter for Young People where the community takes positive action to create the future that it desires for its young people. With very limited resources, we have begun to reduce youth crime and improve NCEA results. The Marton Youth Club has been one of our early successes by providing a safe space for young people, with organised activities as well as "chill out" time, positive adult role models and encouragement to extend themselves. We hope it will form the cornerstone of, and be sustained by, our new model for service delivery. We are working closely with MSD to develop a community investment model for our town but we need to better demonstrate our ability to deliver.

In September 2015, the Ministry of Youth Development supported local service agencies to undertake a targeted youth engagement process, GROW Marton.

As a result of this a number of actions have been identified and referred to:

- Marton Community Charter for Young People Board
- Sport Whanganui
- Whanganui District Health Board Public Health Unit
- Marton Town Centre Plan Steering Group
- Local media and media/communications officers

The local service agencies meet as Youth Voices, and this group will continue to liaise with young people to look at the following issues raised in GROW Marton:

- i) More opportunities for input from youth
- ii) Better and more communication about what is going on by and for young people
- iii) Develop Youth Club services to meet needs of wider range of youth
- iv) Services and support for young parents

Taihape Youth One Stop Shop Project Description

Project description

The initiative is to secure after school and school holiday programmes at the Taihape Youth Hutt and to extend the pilot scheme in the Marton Youth Club to create a youth development service hub for young people in Taihape.

A youth worker will be employed by HYPE Academy who will also provide administrative support (policies, health and safety, good practice etc.) and management support and supervision.

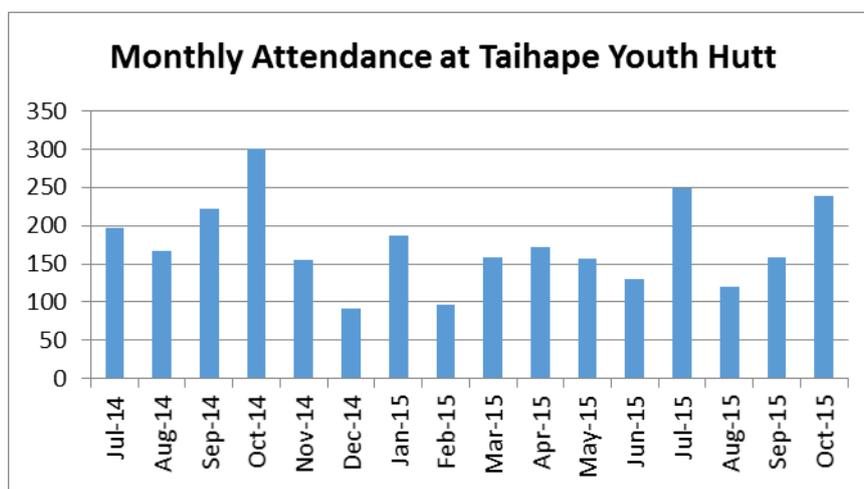
The Council will make the Supper Rooms of the Town Hall available for indoor activities.

Background

After-school programmes have been run by HYPE Academy in Taihape for the last 18 months. The Taihape Youth Hutt is open two days a week from 3pm to 5pm during term time. School holiday programmes have been run during 2014/15 with the support of the Ministry of Youth Development, Youth Partnership Fund.

The HYPE Academy is based in Marton. No local provider has been available to supply these services. A group of agencies with a youth focus is currently meeting with the aim of continuing these services in Taihape, potentially with a view of developing a youth development service hub, similar to the one being proposed as a pilot in Marton.

This programme will start to build the capacity of local people to take on the continuation of youth services in Taihape.



What has already been accomplished?

The Taihape Youth Hutt was opened in June 2014 following the successful model used in Marton for the Marton Youth Club (on a smaller scale). The service is provided by the same organisation that provides the youth club service in Marton (HYPE Academy) and has provided the young people with many of the same benefits as the Marton Youth Club (a safe space for young people, with organised activities, positive adult role models and encouragement to extend themselves).

Youth engagement

The services have focussed on two key aims:

- Youth activities
- Youth projects (assets and facilities), for example, the mural at the Town Hall