

**YOUTH COUNCIL MEETING**

# **ORDER PAPER**

**TUESDAY, 17 SEPTEMBER 2019, 5PM**

**TAIHAPE AREA SCHOOL, STAFF ROOM  
26 HUIA ST, TAIHAPE**

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**Chair** - Erika Charleigh Elers

**Deputy Chair** - Kathryn Ellajoy Atkinson Fleming

**Membership**

Caryse Clark, Charly Skey Ward-Berry, Hunter van der Jagt,  
Makayla Faalogo Ifo Vaa, Paige Thompson, Reihania Hemi,  
Anaru Hawira and Samantha Bradley

**Please Note:** Items in this agenda may be subject to amendments or withdrawal at the meeting. It is recommended therefore that items not be reported upon until after adoption by the Youth Council. Reporters who do not attend the meeting are requested to seek confirmation of the agenda material or proceedings of the meeting from the Chief Executive prior to any media reports being filed.

*Making this place home.*



# Rangitikei District Council

## Youth Council Meeting

Agenda – Tuesday 17 September 2019 – 5:00 p.m.

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The quorum for the Council is 5 plus an elected member.

Council's Standing Orders (adopted 3 November 2016) 10.2 provide: The quorum for Council committees and sub-committees is as for Council, i.e. half the number of members if the number of members (including vacancies) is even or a majority if the number of members is odd.

## **1 Welcome**

## **2 Youth Council Prayer**

## **3 Public Forum**

## **4 Apologies/Leave of Absence**

## **5 Members' conflict of interest**

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda.

## **6 Confirmation of order of business**

That, taking into account the explanation provided why the item is not on the meeting agenda and why the discussion of the item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting, ..... be dealt with as a late item at this meeting.

## **7 Confirmation of Minutes**

The minutes from the Rangitikei Youth Council meeting held 20 August 2019 are attached.

File ref: 3-CT-19-3

### **Recommendation:**

That the minutes of the Rangitikei Youth Council meeting held on 20 August 2019 [as amended/without amendment] be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

## **8 Chair's Report**

A report will be tabled at the meeting.

### **Recommendation:**

That the 'Chair's Report' to the 17 September 2019 Rangitikei Youth Council meeting be received.

## **9 Council decisions August 2019**

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 4-EN-12-9

### **Recommendation:**

That the memorandum 'Council Decisions August 2019' to the 17 September Rangitikei Youth Council meeting be received.

## **10 Central Governments Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy**

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 4-EN-12-9

### **Recommendation:**

That the memorandum 'Central Governments Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy' to the 17 September 2019 Rangitikei Youth Council meeting be received.

## **11 Engagement opportunities with Central Government September 2019**

A memorandum is attached.

File ref: 4-EN-12-9

### **Recommendation:**

That the memorandum 'Engagement opportunities with Central Government September 2019' to the 17 September 2019 Rangitikei Youth Council meeting be received.

## **12 Youth Week 2020**

Ara Taiohi has set the dates for Youth Week next year, 9-17 May 2020. Youth Week is a nationwide festival of events organised by young New Zealanders to celebrate the talents, passion and success of local young people.

Ara Taiohi has set the theme "E korero ana mātou. E whakarongo ana koutou? | We're speaking. Are you listening?"

The Rangitikei Youth Awards evening event will be held during this month. Youth Council may like to start considering how to incorporate the Youth Week theme into the Youth Awards.

## **13 Late Items**

As agreed to in item 6



## **14 Next Meeting**

15 October 2019 5.00 pm, Marton Council Chambers.

## **15 Meeting Closed**

# Attachment 1



# Rangitikei District Council

## Youth Council Meeting

Minutes – Tuesday 20 August 2019 – 5:00 PM

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**Present:** Kathryn Fleming  
Caryse Clark  
Hunter van der Jagt  
Makayla Vaa  
Reihania Hemi  
Anaru Hawira

**In attendance:** His Worship the Mayor Andy Watson  
Michael Andrews  
Michelle Fannin, Taihape Community Board Chair  
Nardia Gower – Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi/Youth

**Tabled Documents:** Item 8 Deputy Chair's Report August 2019.  
Item 11 Local Body Elections  
Item 15 Voice Box – District Youth Voice

## 1 Welcome

The Deputy Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting with special thanks to Mr McMillian and Taihape Area School for allowing the use of their facility. A special mention and congratulations was made to his Worship the Mayor on being unopposed in the upcoming Local Body Election.

## 2 Youth Council Prayer

Anaru read the Youth Council Prayer

## 3 Public Forum

Nil

## 4 Apologies/Leave of Absence

That the apology for the absence of Erika Elers, Charly Ward-Berry, Samantha Bradley, Paige Thompson and Cr Cath Ash be received.

Hunter / Anaru. Carried

## 5 Members' conflict of interest

Members were reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of items on this agenda, of which there were none.

## 6 Confirmation of order of business

There was no scheduled change to the order of business and not late item raised,

## 7 Confirmation of Minutes

**Resolved minute number**

**19/RYC/024**

**File Ref**

**3-CT-19-3**

That the minutes of the Rangitikei Youth Council meeting held on 23 July 2019 without amendment be taken as read and verified as an accurate and correct record of the meeting.

Hunter / Caryse. Carried

## 8 Chair's Report

The Deputy Chair read her tabled report. No questions were raised.

**Resolved minute number**                      **19/RYC/025**                      **File Ref**

That the 'Chair's Report' to the 20 August 2019 Rangitikei Youth Council meeting be received.

Kathryn / Reihania. Carried

## 9 Rangitikei District Council Class 4 (Pokies) Venue Policy and TAB venue Policy Review

Youth Council members discussed the questions posed in the agenda with the following comments and answers:

Gambling and advertising of gambling should be kept away from children and youth. The Youth Council supports the reduction of gambling advertising and endorses increased education of the dangers of gambling and the identifying of problem gambling.

- What could Council include or change in their Policies to reduce gambling harm?  
*No advice was given for changes or adaptations to the policies.*
- For a venue to obtain an operating license should they have to be located a certain distance from schools and early child education facilities?  
*That for new business to obtain a license, a limit on their proximity to a school or early childhood centre should be imposed. An exact distance was not settled however, the notion of not being in eye sight of such facilities was mentioned.*
- What effects have you seen from gambling within the community?  
*Some Youth Council members noted seeing children left in cars or outside venues while parents gambled, and noted seeing addiction that grows over time.*
- If so what enables youth to gamble in the Rangitikei?  
*No Youth Council member was aware of any other youth gambling*

## 10 Central Government's Online Gambling Consultation

The Youth Council had a robust discussion on the consultation. Ms Gower elaborated on aspects of the discussion document as required.

**Resolved minute number**                      **19/RYC/026**                      **File Ref**

That the 'Quick read Online Gambling in NZ Discussion Document' and the 'online submission form for consultation on Online Gambling in NZ' to the 20 August Rangitikei Youth Council meeting be received.

Hunter / Makayla. Carried

**Resolved minute number**                      **19/RYC/027**                      **File Ref**

That the Rangitikei Youth Council delegate the Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi to submit, online, the following agreed to submission responses on behalf the Rangitikei Youth Council.

Questions	Response
<b>Open thoughts, interests and concerns</b> <i>If New Zealanders are gambling online, what matters most to you?</i>	<i>Rated from 1 to 5 (5= very important and 1 =not very important)</i>
Consistent regulation of all online gambling and consistency between online and traditional (land-based) gambling	5
Operators of online gambling pay for harm associated with their products	5
Operators of online gambling return benefits to communities	5
Access to a variety of gambling products	3
Minimising online gambling-related harm	5
Comment on reason for responses:	
<b>Minimising harm from online gambling</b> <i>Which of the following options do you prefer? You can select more than one option.</i>	
<b>OPTION 1: Education and influence (PARTIAL STATUS QUO)</b> Educate public on potential dangers and harms of online gambling and influence operators to comply	Yes
<b>OPTION 2: Gambling harm reduction services</b> Industry funds online gambling problem gambling services	Yes
<b>OPTION 3: Gambling industry and individual self-regulation (PARTIAL</b>	Yes

<b>STATUS QUO)</b> Gambling industry and individual self-regulates harmful online gambling behaviour	
<b>OPTION 4: Prohibition or tight control of gambling-related advertising (PARTIAL STATUS QUO)</b> Prohibition or tight control of online gambling-related advertising	Yes
<b>OPTION 5: Government regulates industry conduct</b> Government regulates industry conduct of harmful online gambling behaviour	No Comment
<b>OPTION 6: Regulator enforcement powers</b> Regulators get powers to enforce law and licence conditions relating to online gambling	No
Comment on reason for responses:	We propose that advertising the harm of gambling to the community at large, including youth would assist in harm prevention. With regard to regulators an option not in the discussion document, is for independent regulators rather than industry or government.
<b>Online gambling operators and products</b> Which of the following options do you prefer? You can select more than one option.	
<b>OPTION 1 (STATUS QUO) Lotto and TAB offer existing gambling products</b>  <u>Operators:</u> Lotto and TAB  <u>Products:</u> Online lotteries, racing and sports betting etc	No
<b>OPTION 2 Extend gambling products</b> Lotto and TAB may offer  <u>Operators:</u> Lotto and TAB  <u>Products:</u> online lotteries, racing and sports betting etc, plus new varieties of online gambling products	Yes
<b>OPTION 3 Licensing of domestic operators</b>  <u>Operators:</u> any NZ charitable or NZ commercial operation	Yes



<u>Products:</u> eg. online casino-type products or any online gambling product	
<b>OPTION 4 Choose your preferred option:</b>  <u>Operators:</u> any NZ or overseas commercial or charitable operation  <u>Products:</u> eg. online casino-type products or any online gambling	<del>Licensing of domestic operators</del>  <b>OR</b>  <del>Licensing overseas operators</del>  <b>OR</b>  Licensing both domestic and overseas operators
Comment on reason for responses:	If the public are already using offshore websites for a larger range of gambling entertainment then the market for it exists. By regulating and licensing the operators it should result in keeping people within New Zealand safer from gambling harm as well as increase the financial contribution to the community.
Do you think New Zealanders should be prohibited or restricted from accessing online gambling websites and applications that are not licensed under the New Zealand regime?	Yes
Comment on reason for responses:	We propose that only licensed operators should be able to be accessed within New Zealand. We have concerns over how effective the proposed methods of restriction will be such as bank restrictions on credit card use and Geoblocking. Compliance and enforcement costs for prohibition we believe would be high and difficult to impose
<b>Do you support any of the following tools?</b>	
Gamblers could self-exclude themselves from using particular gambling operators or products (if this function was offered by the operator)	Yes
Restricting credit card use on gambling sites (either blocking their use on websites not licensed in New Zealand or banning their use entirely)	Yes
Restricting use of free public wifi to exclude online gambling websites	Yes
Prohibiting New Zealanders (and those residing in or visiting New Zealand) from	Yes

visiting unauthorised online gambling sites based overseas or domestically	
Geoblocking unauthorised websites (meaning they couldn't be accessed from New Zealand without a Virtual Private Network/VPN).	Yes
Comment on reason for responses:	Using Geoblocking as tool will be effective for a some users however, obtaining a VPN is very easy for many people
<b>Should New Zealand-based gambling operators have different rules/expectations/requirements than overseas-based gambling operators?</b>	No
Comment on reason for responses:	
<b>Other issues and opportunities</b> <i>How should gambling regulators respond to online gaming with gambling-like elements? You can select more than one option.</i>	
Influence online game makers to not include gambling-like elements in future games	Yes
Require warnings about to be placed on online games including gambling-like elements	Yes
Ban games which demonstrate the characteristics of gambling	No
Comment on reason for responses:	
Do you think class 3 operators should be able to run their lotteries online or via phone	Yes
<b>Your closing thoughts, interests and concerns</b> <i>Did we miss any key options or impacts?</i>	
Did we make any wrong assumptions to get our initial assessment wrong somehow?	No comment
Is there anything missing from this document or anything else you'd like to say?	No Comment
Please provide any evidence you have to support you views	No Comment

Hunter / Reihania. Carried

## 11 Local Body Elections 2019

The Youth Council noted the comments in the memorandum and discussed the voting process. His Worship the Mayor explained that the number of vacancies on a Community Board or for a ward equals the number of votes that a voter can make i.e. The Northern ward has 3 vacancies, the voting papers will have all 4 nominees listed, a voter can vote for up to 3 candidates, but can opt to vote for less. Voting for more than the available number of vacancies would make the vote invalid.

**Resolved minute number**                      **19/RYC/028**                      **File Ref**

That the memorandum 'Local Body Elections' to the Rangitikei Youth council on 20 August 2019 be received.

Makayla / Anaru. Carried

## 12 Rangitikei Youth Council Logo

The Youth Council approved the final design and requested that hoodies with the logo are produced for Youth Council members.

## 13 Te Wiki o Te Reo Maori / Maori Language Week 2019

The Youth Council noted the commentary in the agenda.

**Resolved minute number**                      **19/RYC/029**                      **File Ref**

That the Rangitikei Youth Council agree to participate in Te Wiki o Te Reo Maori 2019 by creating short films highlighting the correct pronunciation of place names throughout the district.

Hunter / Reihania. Carried

## 14 Marton Memorial Hall Playground and Play Trail

The Rangitikei Youth Council fully endorse the proposed Playground and Play trail Concept, noting that a large swing and spinner by the skate-park would be well used equipment, supporting play for youth that don't skate but enjoy the area.

## 15 Voice Box – District Youth Voice

Ms Gower spoke to the tabled memorandum, noting that additional work is underway involving external agencies to produce a risk management and support system to sit alongside Voice Box. The Youth Council added to the participation rules 'No Swearing'.

**Resolved minute number** 19/RYC/030 **File Ref** 4-EN-12-1

That the memorandum 'Voice Box – District Youth Voice' to the 20 August 2019 Rangitīkei Youth Council meeting be received.

Hunter / Makayla. Carried

**Resolved minute number** 19/RYC/031 **File Ref** 4-EN-12-1

That the Rangitīkei Youth Council agree to the Participation Rules as amended at the 20 August 2019 meeting.

Reihania / Anaru. Carried

**Resolved minute number** 19/RYC/032 **File Ref** 4-EN-12-1

That the Rangitīkei Youth Council agree to the Elevator Pitch as without amendment at the 20 August 2019 meeting.

Hunter / Anaru. Carried

## 16 Late Items

Nil

## 17 Next Meeting

24 September 2019, 5.00 pm, Taihape Area School Staffroom, Taihape

## 18 Meeting Closed

The meeting closed at 7:09pm

**Confirmed/Chair:** \_\_\_\_\_

Date:

# Attachment 2

# Memorandum

To: Rangitikei Youth Council

From: Nardia Gower – Strategic Advisor for Youth / Kaihautū Rangatahi

Date: 10 September 2019

Subject: **Council Decisions August 2019**

File: 4-EN-12-9

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## Youth Council's card of appreciation for Festival for the Future

Council formally received the thank you card from the Youth Council acknowledging the investment made by council in sending youth to Festival for the Future 2019. Cr Cath Ash, who holds the Youth Portfolio, made special mention of the gratitude expressed and endorsed the worthwhile investment in developing the potential and aspirations of the youth that attended.

## Youth Council Terms of Reference - amendments

The terms of reference for the Youth Council adopted by Council at its meeting on 29 November 2018 are attached **Appendix 1**. Three amendments were proposed for consideration by Council:

- 1 As a committee of Council, the quorum for the Youth Council should include at least one Elected Member.
- 2 It would normally be disestablished at the time of each triennial election.<sup>1</sup> Given that membership of the Youth Council is normally limited to two years, it is preferable not to introduce a disruption to this process. This follows the approach already adopted for the rural water supply management sub-committees and Te Roopu Ahi Kaa.
- 3 Currently the Youth Council's advocacy is limited to making recommendations to Council. This principle acknowledges that it is Council which makes submissions to central government and other external organisations on behalf of the Rangitikei community. However, there will be instances when the Youth Council wishes to make a submission on a topic and the Council does not: in such circumstances, Council may consider it appropriate for Council to delegate approval for the Youth Council to make such a submission.

Councils agreed to these amendments. The carried resolutions follow:

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<sup>1</sup> Clause 30(7), Schedule 7, Local Government Act 2002: A committee, subcommittee, or other subordinate decisionmaking body is, unless the local authority resolves otherwise, deemed to be discharged on the coming into office of the members of the local authority elected or appointed at, or following, the triennial general election of members next after the appointment of the committee, subcommittee, or other subordinate decision-making body.

#### **19/RDC/218**

That the quorum for the Youth Council requires one Elected Member of the Council to be present.  
and

That, in terms of clause 30(7), Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002, the Rangitikei Youth Council is not discharged at each triennial election of local government.

#### **19/RDC/219**

That the Youth Council, when delegated by the Council, may make submissions to central government and other external bodies (with any such submissions being included in the next available Council Order Paper for endorsement).

#### **Youth Council's submission to Central Government's Survey on Online Gambling.**

At its meeting on 20 August 2019, the Youth Council developed a response to the Government's survey on online gambling. Following the above resolution **19/RDC/219**, Council agreed to endorse Youth Councils response. The carried resolution follows:

#### **19/RDC/220**

That the proposed submission by the Youth Council to the Government's survey about online gambling be approved.

#### **Recommendation**

That the memorandum 'Council Decisions August 2019' to the 17 September Rangitikei Youth Council meeting be received.

Nardia Gower  
Strategic Advisor for Youth / Kaihautū Rangatahi

# *Appendix 1*



Introduction	The Rangitikei District Council (RDC) recognises the importance of obtaining the views of young people in Rangitikei and providing a forum for obtaining advice about matters that impact youth. These Terms of Reference provide the RDC Youth Council with the terms for its operation.
Purpose Reason Youth Council exists / intended result aim/goal	<p>The purpose of the Youth Council is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen engagement between Rangitikei District Council and young people and build young people's knowledge of Community, Council and Central Government processes to enable them to participate in community decision-making processes.</li> <li>• Assist and advise the Rangitikei District Council on how it can be: a District full of opportunities that empower young people; a District that inspires young people; and a District that uses meaningful engagement to gain insight into the needs of young people.</li> <li>• Develop the skills and capabilities of its members as leaders within our community.</li> <li>• Encourage youth participation in civic affairs and provide a youth perspective into District issues, policies and future planning.</li> <li>• Create tangible positive outcomes your youth and wider community.</li> </ul>
Key Tasks	<p>The Youth Council and its members are expected to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Attend the training day or weekend</li> <li>• Attend as many 6 weekly Youth Council meetings as possible and at least one Committee meeting and one full Council meeting.</li> <li>• Actively participate in Youth Council meetings and get involved in activities outside of the meeting.</li> <li>• Share information, learnings with other young people in the community.</li> <li>• Listen to youth in the community and feedback views and ideas to Youth Council.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate on Youth Issues, putting forward positive solutions for Council consideration <u>and, when delegated<sup>1</sup>, make submissions to central government and other external bodies.</u></li> <li>Help plan, promote and run Youth Week with councils Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi.</li> <li>Organise, plan and facilitate two annual youth events in the district.</li> </ul>
Role Expected behaviour	<p>The Youth Council and its members are expected to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Constructive advice</b> on Rangitikei District Council policies, strategies and services from a youth perspective and where possible identifying evidence and solutions, whilst taking into account the wider needs, issues and views of young people in Rangitikei.</li> <li><b>Clear communication</b> with Rangitikei District Council and a broad range of young people from the community to increase information flow and build both Council and youth knowledge.</li> <li><b>Proactive engagement</b> in Council decision-making and civic life through existing and innovative means.</li> </ul>
Membership	<p><b>Member Criteria</b></p> <p>The Youth Council will include up to 11 members, including one Chairperson and one Deputy Chair. This group will embrace diversity and will ideally be broadly representative of the different cultures, genders, geographical residents and other various groups within the Rangitikei youth population.</p> <p>Criteria for the Youth Council are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To be between the ages of 13-24.</li> <li>To affiliate to the Rangitikei District</li> <li>To be committed to making a contribution of consequence.</li> <li>To collectively have the broad range of skills, experiences and perspectives required for the group to fulfil its purpose.</li> </ul> <p><b>Role Descriptions</b></p> <p>The role of Members, Chair, Deputy, Alumni, the Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi and Elected Members/Councillors are outlined in the 'Role Description' document.</p> <p><b>Term of Appointment</b></p> <p>The standard term of appointment will be two years from date of appointment. Members may have their membership extended for additional terms if requested by the member. Extended terms of appointment must be approved by both the Chair and the Deputy of the Youth Council in consultation with the Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi. <u>The Youth Council is not discharged at each triennial election for local government.</u></p>

<sup>1</sup> Council will normally approve such a delegation when it is not making a submission itself on the topic of interest to the Youth Council.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A Youth Council membership will cease if that Member resigns or: turns 25 during their membership (regardless of completing a two year term)</li> <li>• does not work proactively during any one calendar year review period, or</li> <li>• behaves in a way that violates the Code of Conduct or is otherwise seen, in the opinion of the Youth Council or Rangitikei District Council, as detrimental to the effective operation of the Youth Council</li> </ul> <p>A Youth Council membership will be re-evaluated if the Member:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• moves out of Rangitikei District boundaries</li> <li>• misses more than three consecutive meetings without apology or 3 meetings within one year.</li> </ul> <p>A performance meeting of the Chair, and/or Deputy, and the Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi with the Youth Council Member will take place to assess that Member's appointment. The Member's ongoing membership is at the discretion of the Chair and Deputy and will be reviewed annually – accounting for the Member's two year term, age, work over a calendar year and behaviour.</p> <p>If a Youth Council Member resigns or ceases to be a member, a replacement will be sought through the process for selecting new members outlined below.</p> <p><b>Selection Process</b></p> <p>Rangitikei District Council will call for nominations of 13-24 year olds from within the District's boundaries via a number of different media and networks. Young people interested in being a Youth Council member will complete an application form. Youth councillors will be selected, not elected.</p> <p>Nominations may also be received from the Rangitikei District Mayor and Councillors.</p> <p>Youth Councillors are to demonstrate good group connections, and skills and qualities that will benefit the Youth Council.</p> <p><b>Initial Establishment</b></p> <p>After having called for nominations and a given application period, the Strategy and Community Planning Team will shortlist applicants for interviewing. The interview panel will consist of members from the Strategy and Community Planning Team, an Elected Member/Councillor and a representative nominated by Te Roopu Ahi Kaa.</p> <p><b>New Appointments</b></p> <p>After having called for nominations and a given application period, the Youth Council will shortlist applicants for interviewing. The interview</p>
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	<p>panel will consist of the Youth Council Chair, Deputy Chair and a Strategy and Community Planning Team member and/or an Elected Member/Councillor and/or a representative nominated by Te Roopu Ahi Kaa.</p> <p><b>Selecting Chair and Deputy</b> The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson will be appointed annually by ballot vote of the Youth Council members.</p> <p><b>Replacement of Vacancies</b> Should vacancies arise, the Youth Council may recruit from previously shortlisted applicants to bring the full number of members back to 11.</p> <p><b>Alumni</b> Members who have served the length of their term or have ceased to be members of the Youth Council may choose to continue supporting the Youth Council as an Alumni member. Alumni are not members of the Youth Council and cannot vote or set agenda items or tasks for the Youth Council. Criteria to serve as an Alumni:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have been a proactive member of the Youth Council.</li> <li>• Has the support of the Chair and Deputy to participate as an Alumni.</li> <li>• Has not violated the Code of Conduct or been removed from the Youth Council.</li> </ul> <p>The role of the Alumni is outlined in the 'Role Description' document.</p>
Principles	<p>The Rangitikei District Council and the Youth Council will embrace the principles of positive youth development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengths-based approach: Recognition of the strengths and assets of the Youth Council.</li> <li>• Respectful relationship: Quality relationships between members and Rangitikei District Council that are supportive, respectful and challenging.</li> <li>• Meaningful contribution: The Youth Council is empowered to give authentic advice and develop meaningful actions.</li> <li>• Informed decisions: Effective research, evaluation, information gathering and sharing is important for good decision making for the Youth Council and Rangitikei District Council.</li> </ul>
Operation	<p><b>Training for members</b> In return for their commitment, Rangitikei District Council will provide members with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A training and team building day or weekend.</li> <li>• An induction explaining the Council's functions and processes and the role of the Youth Council.</li> <li>• Training or resources as necessary to fulfil their roles as a Youth Council member. For example, Chairing, contributing at meetings, understanding the role of local government, and presentation skills as needed or on request.</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Opportunities to attend conferences/seminars and be a youth representative on various working groups/project teams.</li> </ul> <p><b>Frequency of meetings</b> The Youth Council will meet once every 6 weeks with additional meetings to be arranged if and when required.</p> <p><b>Communication</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting minutes to be taken and distributed;</li> <li>• Members to receive meeting agenda at least a week prior to the meeting;</li> <li>• Agenda items to be received by the Chair for inclusion two weeks prior to the meeting (which is one week prior to agenda being sent out);</li> <li>• Minutes to be distributed electronically to all members within two week of the meeting, with hardcopies made available at each meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Council Support</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council will provide secretarial services and a meeting venue.</li> <li>• All members will receive an induction package and information explaining the Council's function and the role of the Youth Council.</li> <li>• The Youth Council may invite Elected Members and Council staff to provide information at meetings.</li> <li>• There is no remuneration payable to members of the Youth Council.</li> <li>• Council's Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi will be lead support to Youth Council.</li> <li>• Youth Council will be appointed one RDC Councillor.</li> </ul> <p><b>Quorum</b> Half of the current number of members, not including vacancies, must be present for the group to have a quorum, which is the minimum number of members necessary to conduct the business on that group or for the meeting to go ahead. <u>In addition, an elected member of the Council must be present.</u> Any less than half the group, <del>and</del> the meeting will not go ahead.</p> <p><b>Decision making</b> Decisions will be made by a simple majority vote (a majority of those presenting and voting).</p> <p><b>Support funds to enable participation</b> Members will be provided travel costs incurred for each meeting attended outside of their residential town.</p> <p><b>Conflict Resolution</b></p>
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	<p>Should conflict occur, the Chair/Deputy Chair and group will work with the Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi to resolve the conflict. If there are any concerns, members should raise them:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• with the Chair of Youth Council, if concerns are about other members</li> <li>• with the Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi, if concerns are about the Chair of Youth Council.</li> </ul> <p><b>Conflict of Interest</b></p> <p>Members will be asked to complete a conflict of interest form when they join the Youth Council and at the beginning of each year they sit on the group. The Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi will be responsible for providing members with a conflict of interest form as part of new member induction packs and to all members at the beginning of each year.</p> <p>Members are also expected to notify the Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi of any new or emerging conflicts of interest at the start of each meeting.</p> <p>For the purpose of the Youth Council, conflicts of interest are deemed to occur where a member advises on work-streams that impact on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• money or other resources the member has invested outside Council;</li> <li>• the member's family, or;</li> <li>• official positions the member holds on groups or bodies outside of Council.</li> </ul>
Scope	<p><b>Reporting and Accountability</b></p> <p>The Youth Council will report to the appropriate Council committee every six months (or as the need arises), outlining work undertaken with Council staff, the group's achievements and any issues it wishes the Council to consider further.</p> <p>The names and details of all members of the group and minutes of the groups meeting will be available on the RDC Council website and TRYB website.</p> <p>Success stories/updates will be promoted as appropriate through a range of media, including but not limited to: Rangitikei Line, RDC Council website, TRYB website and social media platforms.</p>
Review	<p><b>The Terms of Reference</b></p> <p>These Terms of Reference will be reviewed annually. Any suggestions for changes will need to be an agenda item for a Youth Council meeting. All changes to the Terms of Reference will be subject to the approval of the Strategic and Community Planning Manager, and if necessary/appropriate the Policy/Planning Committee.</p> <p><b>Youth Council Performance</b></p>

	<p>The Chair, Deputy Chair and Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi will review the performance of the Youth Council annually. The review will evaluate the Youth Councils performance against its purpose and agreed work plan. The Chair and Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi will feed this back to the Youth Council and the Policy/Planning Committee.</p>
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## Youth Council Role Descriptions

### Members

Youth Council members are expected to:

- be prepared for meetings, turn up before the start of each meeting and consider issues with an open mind;
- actively participate in Youth Council meetings and contribute to the actions agreed to;
- provide apologies in advance when attendance at a meeting is not possible
- pass minutes at meetings;
- establish, maintain and make the most of existing relationships with other groups around the District;
- actively promote the work of the Rangitikei District Youth Council and relevant information to their networks;
- bring youth issues and opportunities to the Youth Council and assist the Rangitikei District Council to canvass youth views;
- not take individual issues to Youth Council that can be dealt with via general enquiries to the Rangitikei District Council Customer Service Centre;
- comply with the Code of Conduct.

### Youth Council Chair and Deputy Chair

Members of the Youth Council will elect a Chair and Deputy Chair. The Chair is expected to:

- encourage open communication where all members can effectively contribute;
- work with Youth Council members and Council's Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi to compile meeting agendas;
- manage Youth Council meetings to enable considered yet efficient decision making;
- Sign off minutes;

- work with Youth Council members and Council's Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi to develop, complete and implement the group's annual work plan;
- be the spokesperson and contact point with Rangitikei District Council for Youth Council and represent the views and recommendations of the group;
- work with Council's Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi to review the contribution of Youth Council members at the yearly review and raise any concerns.

The Deputy Chair is expected to:

- support the Chair in their role and functions;
- act in place of the Chair if the Chair is unavailable or has a conflict of interest.

### **Alumni**

Alumni are former members of the Youth Council that can remain connected and involved in the work of Rangitikei Youth Council. An Alumni is not a member. An Alumni's role is to:

- Establish, maintain and make the most of existing relationships with groups around the district;
- Actively promote the work of the Youth Council & Rangitikei District Council to their networks;
- Use their experience and skills to support the projects and actions of the Youth Council;
- Comply with the Code of Conduct.

### **The Council's Strategic Advisor**

Council's Strategic Advisor for Rangatahi assigned to the Youth Council is not a member. They are expected to:

- provide administration, support and promotion of the group. This will include the induction of new members, recording meeting minutes and following up on action points to report back to the Youth Council;
- work with the Chair/Deputy Chair to set the meeting agenda;
- work with the Chair/Deputy Chair to track attendance and review the contribution of Youth Council members at the yearly review;
- work with the Chair/Deputy Chair to manage risks, conflicts and ceasing membership;
- work across Council business activities and committees to help them effectively engage the Youth Council in the development and implementation of policy, strategy, planning and service delivery in the district;
- liaise with other Council staff around presentations and the development of projects, plans, etc.;
- liaise with families for minors and ensuring the safety of minors in relation to Youth Council business.



**The Elected Member(s) / Councillor(s) and Te Roopu Ahi Kaa (TRAK)  
Representative**

Any Councillor or TRAK representative participating in Youth Council meetings is not a member. The Councillor or TRAK representative's role is to:

- act as a liaison and information conduit between the Council/TRAK and the Youth Council conveying, if necessary, the concerns of the Youth Council;
- provide, in conjunction with staff, information, advice and an explanation of the Council's political process and agreed Council policy where required and requested by the Youth Council;
- listen and consider the opinions and recommendations of the Youth Council.

# Attachment 3

# Memorandum

To: Rangitikei Youth Council

From: Nardia Gower – Strategic Advisor for Youth / Kaihautū Rangatahi

Date: 10 September 2019

Subject: **Central Governments Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy**

File: 4-EN-12-9

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The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy, launched on 29 August 2019, sets out a shared understanding of what's important for child and youth wellbeing, what government is doing, and how others can help.

The purpose of the Strategy is to:

- Set out a framework to improve child and youth wellbeing that can be used by anyone.
- Drive government policy in a unified and holistic way
- Outline the policies the Government intends to implement
- Harness public support and community action
- Increase political and public sector accountability for improving wellbeing
- Improve wellbeing outcomes for Māori children and young people

The easy read version of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy is attached as **Appendix 1**. The full Strategy, the Strategy on a Page, Te Reo Summary, and Summary can be found on the following government website <https://childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz/resources/child-and-youth-wellbeing-strategy>

To be read alongside the Strategy is the Current Programme of Action which sets out the actions - policies, initiatives, programmes and plans - the Government will implement to help achieve the vision and outcomes of the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy (the Strategy). The full Current Programme of Action can be found on the following link: <https://childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz/sites/default/files/2019-08/current-programme-action-child-wellbeing-strategy-aug-2019.pdf>

The Programme of Action should align with the Framework which provides a shared understanding of what children and young people want and need for good wellbeing. It sets out what we can all do to support them to have good lives. The framework is made up of a vision, six wellbeing outcomes, and principles to guide the ongoing development and implementation of the Strategy, and indicators that measure whether we are making a difference. Families, whānau, hapū, iwi, community groups, nongovernment organisations, the philanthropic sector, business and local government all have important roles to improve child and youth wellbeing.

Of particular interest to the Rangitīkei Youth Council may be number 6 of the Frameworks Wellbeing Outcomes:

### **Children and Young People are Involved and Empowered**

This means:

- they contribute positively at home, at school and in their communities
- they exercise kaitiakitanga: care of the land and connection to nature
- they have their voices, perspectives, and opinions listened to and taken into account
- they are supported to exercise increasing autonomy as they age, and to be responsible citizens
- they and their families are supported to make healthy choices around relationships, sexual health, alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs

Indicators:

- Involvement in community
- Representation of youth voice
- Making positive choices
- Criminal offending

The government has set out their own programme of actions for the above Wellbeing Outcome **Children and Young People are Involved and Empowered** outlined in **Appendix 2** (an excerpt of the full Current Programme of Action)

The Rangitīkei Youth Council may choose to take this opportunity to brainstorm more localised 'Focus areas and Key actions' that could be recommended to schools, agencies, local council, or the community of Rangitīkei.

### **Recommendation**

That the memorandum 'Central Governments Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy' to the 17 September 2019 Rangitīkei Youth Council meeting be received.

Nardia Gower  
Strategic Advisor for Youth / Kaihautū Rangatahi

# *Appendix 1*

# The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

Easy Read



**Child and Youth  
Wellbeing**



Most children and young people in New Zealand are doing well, but some are not.



The Government has a goal to make New Zealand the best place in the world for children and young people.

The **Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy** is our plan for reaching this goal. But we need everyone's help.



The Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy is called **the Strategy** from now on.

## We want the Strategy to:



- be something that anyone can use

- help the different parts of Government work together



- explain what Government is doing to help children and young people



- get everyone on-board

- improve wellbeing for Māori children and youth.





## Māori Wellbeing



**Te Tiriti** o Waitangi (the Treaty of Waitangi) is an important part of the Strategy.

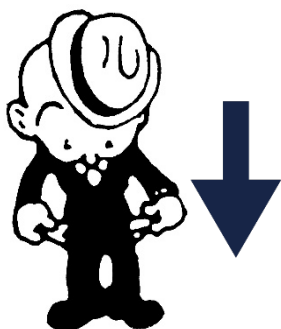
Te Tiriti means changing the way we do things to make sure that:



- the way we run things works for Māori
- more Māori have what they need to help other Māori
- when we think about Māori children and young people, we also think about their whānau, hapū and iwi.



## Greatest needs first



The Strategy aims to make things better for the children and young people who need it most.

This includes work to:

- cut down the number of children and young people living in poverty
- help the children and young people Oranga Tamariki worries about
- help stop family and sexual violence
- make sure children and young people who need extra help with learning and mental health get it.



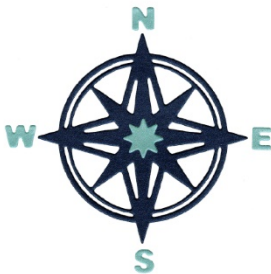
The Strategy will have worked when all children and young people have what they need to be well.

## The Strategy is made up of:



### **A Goal**

For New Zealand to be the best place in the world for children and young people.



### **9 Guides**

These guides keep us in line with what New Zealanders have said is important.



### **6 Wellbeing Outcomes**

These are 6 things that all children and young people need for their wellbeing.

### **A Current Programme of Action**

This lists all the things that Government is doing to improve the wellbeing of children and young people.



**Let's have a closer look at the different parts of the Strategy.**

## **The 9 Guides are:**



1. Children and young people are taonga: this means precious.



2. Māori are tangata whenua (meaning the first people of New Zealand) and the Māori-Crown relationship is foundational.



3. Children and young people's rights need to be respected and upheld.

4. All children and young people deserve to live a good life.



5. To build wellbeing we need to see the person as a whole. This includes thinking about their lifestyle, relationships, culture and community.



6. Children and young people's wellbeing is tied up in their family and whānau's wellbeing.



7. Change needs action by all of us.

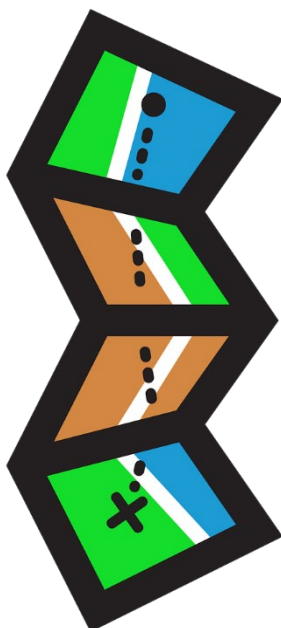
8. Actions must deliver results.

9. Early support is needed.



These 9 guides remind us what is important.

Following them will make sure that what we do builds the wellbeing of all children and young people.



## The Strategy has 6 Wellbeing Outcomes



These are 6 things we all want for all children and young people:

1. They are loved, safe and nurtured
2. They have what they need
3. They are happy and healthy
4. They are learning and developing
5. They are accepted, respected and connected
6. They are involved and empowered



Let's look at each of these outcomes on their own and what the government is doing to help.



## 1. Children and young people are loved, safe and nurtured

This means:



- they feel loved and cared for
- they have family, whānau and homes that are loving, safe and good to grow up in



- they are safe from harm
- they are able to spend time with their parents, family and whānau



For this outcome, Government is giving more help to families and whānau, and working to stop abuse.

The Government is also working to make State care better.



## 2. Children and young people have what they need

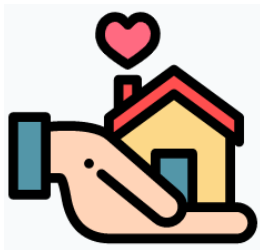
This means:



- those who look after them have enough to give them a good life
- they have good food to eat
- they live in homes that are warm and dry
- those who look after them have what they need to get good jobs



For this outcome Government is working on making jobs and pay better.



The Government is also helping families with costs and with making the houses they live in better.





### 3. Children and young people are happy and healthy

This means:



- they have the best possible health, starting before birth
- they believe in themselves and are able to bounce back if things go wrong
- they have good mental wellbeing and are able to get better again if they are harmed
- they have chances to play and be creative
- The areas they spend time in are clean and healthy, and stay that way

For this outcome, Government is changing the way it helps people having a baby or who have young children.

Government is also doing more to help children and young people's mental health.

## 4. Children and young people are learning and developing



This means:

- Schools and other places of learning help them to learn and succeed
- they learn what they need to know to get by in life
- they can get where they want to go in education, volunteering, work, and business
- they have what they need to pass through the different stages of life



For this outcome, Government is making large changes to the education system. This includes early childhood, primary and secondary schools, and higher.



These changes will improve fairness so no-one misses out on learning.

## 5. Children and young people are accepted, respected and connected

This means:



- they are valued at home, school, in the community and online
- they feel manaakitanga: this means kindness, respect and care for others



- they live free from racism and discrimination
- they have stable and healthy relationships



- they are connected to their culture, language, beliefs and identity

For this outcome, Government is helping children and young people feel they belong and are connected to their culture.



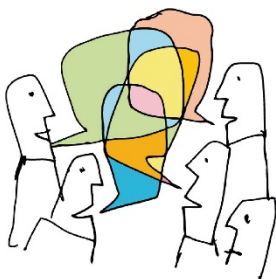
This includes getting rid of racism and discrimination.

## 6. Children and young people are involved and empowered



This means:

- they help at home, at school and in their communities
- they exercise kaitiakitanga: this means they care for the land and feel connected to nature
- they are listened to and those making decisions think about what they say
- they have the help they need to grow into adults, make their own decisions and be responsible
- they and their families are helped to make healthy choices



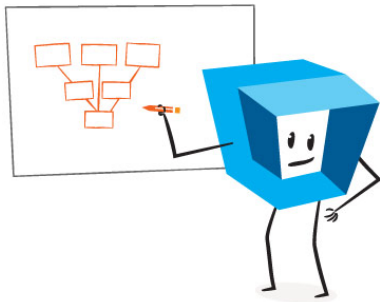
For this outcome Government is helping children and young people to have their say and make good decisions.

## Next Steps



Government has a plan for what it can do to help children and young people in the 6 outcomes.

We call this the **Programme of Current Action**.



The Strategy's goal is to make New Zealand the best place in the world to be a child or young person.

To reach this goal **we need everyone's help**.



## What you can do to help



Most New Zealanders already help by supporting children and young people in their day-to-day life.

Those who work with children and young people can help by:

- using the Strategy to plan
- asking what children and young people think, and using what they say to make changes
- looking for ways to join up with others working with children and young people



## More Information



Our website has stories about how people from all over New Zealand are helping achieve our goal.

The website also has a copy of the full Strategy and the Current Programme of Action.



The website is:

[www.childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz](http://www.childyouthwellbeing.govt.nz)

# *Appendix 2*





#### **This means:**

- they contribute positively at home, at school and in their communities
- they exercise kaitiakitanga: connection and care of the land and nature
- they have their voices, perspectives and opinions listened to and taken into account
- they are supported to increase autonomy as they age and to be responsible citizens
- they and their families are supported to make healthy and informed choices around relationships, sexual health, alcohol, tobacco and other drugs.

#### **Focus areas and key actions**

##### **Increase child and youth voice and participation**

- A Youth Plan is being developed to ensure youth voice is heard and acted on across government. Government is also running a Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey to improve knowledge about young people's health and wellbeing, and launching a Youth Voice Project, to look at innovative ways to connect young people into government policy decisions and outcomes.

##### **Advocate for children and young people's rights**

- This includes building public service competency and capability in children's rights and implementing the Child Impact Assessment Tool across government.
- Government is also strengthening independent oversight of Oranga Tamariki and strengthening the system for advocacy on behalf of children and by children.

##### **Encourage positive choices and contributions**

- Youth justice initiatives will provide greater support for young people detained in custody. Government is implementing Paiheretia te Muka Tāngata, which uses a Whānau Ora approach to support Māori in the Corrections system.
- Budget 2019 funding will increase services to support children and young people with concerning or harmful sexual behaviours.

# INCREASE CHILD AND YOUTH VOICE AND PARTICIPATION

Action	Description
Youth Plan	<p>This plan will ensure youth voice is heard and acted on across government, to drive the development of policy alongside young people and enable change.</p> <p>Focus population groups include Māori and Pacific young people, disabled young people, young women, rainbow youth, young people from ethnic communities, and rural young people.</p>
Lead Agency	Ministry for Youth Development
Timeframe	From 2019

Action	Description
Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey– WhatAboutMe?	<p>The Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey will collect data from 14,000 young New Zealanders and will provide information on what it is like to be a young person in New Zealand.</p> <p>The survey builds on the Youth 2000 survey series. It will survey young people aged 12 to 18 from a stratified national sample of secondary schools (and other providers) and from youth service providers.</p> <p>Data from the survey will improve knowledge about young people’s health and wellbeing, and will help inform progress on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy over time.</p>
Lead Agency	Ministry of Social Development
Timeframe	From 2019

Action	Description
Youth Voice Project	This project explores ways to build meaningful, two-way communication channels between young people and the Government. It will look at innovative ways to begin connecting young people into government policy decisions and outcomes.
Lead Agency	Ministry for Youth Development
Timeframe	From 2019

## Supporting actions

### Strengthening a youth voice in policy

- A range of measures is being adopted to increase youth voice in decision-making. These include:
- Youth Advisory Group for the Minister of Education: Government implemented the Group to enable young people to have their say and have more influence on the education system and issues that affect them.
- Establishment of Youth Advisory Panel: The Office of Film and Literature Classification has established a Youth Advisory Panel. The panel, shared with the Police, advises on a variety of projects on classification decision-making and research, and how they affect young people.
- Establishing a youth voice in environmental policy work: The Ministry for the Environment is looking at how it communicates with youth and how it can open channels for youth to feed their views into its work programmes, with an initial focus on climate, water, and the review of the resource management system.

### Emerging work plan on civic participation

- The Office of Ethnic Communities (Department of Internal Affairs) is looking at the current state, and the barriers and opportunities around civic participation involving ethnic communities.
- This will likely focus on three components: democratic/ political processes; engagement with government, local government and council; and volunteering.

# ADVOCATE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S RIGHTS

Action	Description
<b>Build independent oversight of Oranga Tamariki system and children's issues</b>	<p>Government is strengthening independent oversight of the children's system. It is also strengthening the system for advocacy on behalf of children and by children.</p> <p>Budget 2019 provided funding for the Ministry of Social Development to establish and operate a new regulatory monitoring function for services to children under the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989. The Ministry will operate the monitoring function and report back to Ministers in mid-2020. The intention is to transfer the function to the Office of the Children's Commissioner once the function is running effectively.</p> <p>Government has also agreed the Office of the Ombudsman will provide an enhanced complaints oversight and investigations function relating to the Oranga Tamariki system.</p> <p>Changes will also ensure strong advocacy around the rights and interest of children, for children's voices to be heard by decision-makers, and for there to be avenues for children, parents/caregivers, families and whānau to raise concerns or complaints.</p>
<b>Lead Agencies</b>	Ministry of Social Development  Office of the Children's Commissioner
<b>Timeframe</b>	2019–2021

Action	Description
<b>Implement the Child Impact Assessment Tool across government</b>	The Child Impact Assessment Tool will be finalised and implemented across government agencies.
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Ministry of Social Development
<b>Timeframe</b>	From 2019

Action	Description
<b>Build public service competency and capability in children's rights</b>	As part of its work programme to implement the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Government has committed to develop training for public servants on children's rights and the Convention.
<b>Lead Agencies</b>	Ministry of Social Development  Office of the Children's Commissioner
<b>Timeframe</b>	From 2019

## ENCOURAGE POSITIVE CHOICES AND CONTRIBUTIONS

Action	Description
<b>Investment in community-based youth justice facilities</b>	<p>From 1 July 2019, 17-year-olds were included in the youth justice system in most circumstances. Alongside this, changes are planned to the way young people are detained in custody. It is a priority that as few young people as possible are remanded in youth justice facilities. New ways of managing young people waiting for their court proceedings to be finalised are being established.</p> <p>Budget 2019 provided investment in a new type of small, community-based youth justice facility, designed and operated through partnerships, including with iwi and Māori organisations. They provide a home-like environment to support rehabilitation and mirror community life, and facilitate and encourage close family and whānau connections. In current youth justice facilities, practice changes are being made to achieve some of these same objectives. Government is also working to support young people who offend into education and employment, including introducing new vocational training programmes into residences.</p>
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Oranga Tamariki
<b>Timeframe</b>	From 1 July 2019

Action	Description
<b>Paiheretia te Muka Tāngata initiative: Whānau Ora support for Māori in the Corrections system</b>	<p>Paiheretia te Muka Tāngata – Uniting the Threads of Whānau, based on the Whānau Ora approach, aims to build and maintain strong relationships between whānau and young Māori (under 30 years old) who are in the Corrections system.</p> <p>The initiative recognises the importance of whānau in improving individual wellbeing. It will be delivered through a specialist Kaiarataki Navigator workforce to support offenders and their whānau, from pre-sentence to rehabilitation and reintegration into the community.</p> <p>The initiative will begin at the Hawke's Bay Regional Prison from May 2020, with the plan to expand to the Northland Region Corrections Facility. Budget 2019 provided funding to Te Puni Kōkiri, Corrections and Ministry of Social Development to co-design and implement this initiative.</p>
<b>Lead Agencies</b>	Te Puni Kōkiri, Department of Corrections, Ministry of Social Development
<b>Timeframe</b>	Implementation from May 2020

Action	Description
<b>Increased services for children and young people with concerning/harmful sexual behaviours</b>	<p>This initiative, funded through Budget 2019, aims to increase child wellbeing through increased service capacity to meet demand for prevention, education, early intervention, assessment and treatment services for children and young people who display concerning and harmful sexual behaviours.</p> <p>This includes ensuring services (including assessments, treatments and preventative initiatives) can be delivered in a kaupapa Māori context and are suitable for those with behavioural problems, intellectual disabilities or neuro-disabilities.</p>
<b>Lead Agency</b>	Family and Sexual Violence Joint Venture
<b>Timeframe</b>	From 2019

# Attachment 4

# Memorandum

To: Rangitikei Youth Council

From: Nardia Gower – Strategic Advisor for Youth / Kaihautū Rangatahi

Date: 10 September 2019

Subject: **Engagement opportunities with Central Government September 2019**

File: 4-EN-12-9

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## Give feedback on a bill before Parliament

Before a law is passed you can give your views on it, called making a submission. This can be done online or in writing. When a bill for a new law has been drafted, it's read in Parliament. Then it's referred to a select committee who usually ask for feedback from the public.

Select committees are made up of members from different political parties, and:

- look at all the public submissions
- consider the evidence, and
- report back to the House its recommendations.

Free copies of these bills can be downloaded from <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>

A submission is your chance to present your views and any evidence you have. Normally submissions are in writing, but you can also ask to talk to the select committee in person.

More information about what to include in your submission and how to send in your submission can be found on <https://www.govt.nz/browse/engaging-with-government/consultations-have-your-say/give-feedback-on-a-bill-before-parliament/>

## Consultation Listings

You can give central government (and local government) feedback on their plans before they make a decision. An example of this is the survey completed by Youth Council regarding Online Gambling in New Zealand.

A list of current consultation items can be found at <https://www.govt.nz/browse/engaging-with-government/consultations-have-your-say/consultations-listing/>

## **NZ Youth Voice**

Central government has created a Facebook page, NZ Youth Voice, <https://www.facebook.com/nzyouthvoice/> as a tool to capture the voice of young people to help government agencies develop policies that impact youth. This will only be effective if large numbers of youth utilise the platform. It may be a consideration of Rangitikei Youth Council to inform other youth of the district about NZ Youth Voice. A link to the Facebook page has been added to the TRYB website.

## **The Hive**

The Hive launched 12 August 2019 to engage with New Zealand's young people and collect the thoughts, opinions and submissions on the Biodiversity Strategy, which will help to form the government's policy with regard to our natural environment.

The Hive website, <https://www.the-hive.nz/>, explains the problems we are facing, policy info, and how to submit. The website contains a downloadable, easily read document 'The Biodiversity Strategy for Dummies' attached as **Appendix 1.**

Individual Youth Council members may like to consider forming their own submission and sharing the opportunity to 'have a say' on the strategy with other people in their network. Submissions are open until the 22 September.

## **Recommendation**

That the memorandum 'Engagement opportunities with Central Government September 2019' to the 17 September 2019 Rangitikei Youth Council meeting be received.

Nardia Gower

Strategic Advisor for Youth / Kaihautū Rangatahi

# *Appendix 1*

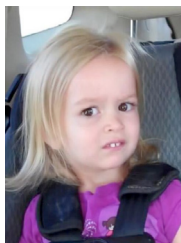




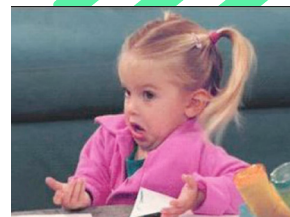
# **The Biodiversity Strategy for** **Dummies**



# Biodiversity...



what's that?!



## Biodiversity

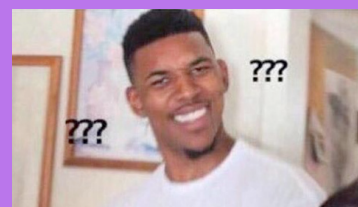
is basically a fancy way of saying



## nature

It's a way of grouping together everything within our environment including all living things and the ecosystems they live in. Biodiversity can be as small as or as large as you want it to be. The word could describe your backyard or the whole planet. **The Biodiversity Strategy describes New Zealand's biodiversity.**

## So what's a strategy?



**A strategy is basically a series of steps the government uses to make decisions.**

~ we live in a democracy ~

### These steps include:

- finding a problem
- brainstorming how the problem could be solved
- talking to and getting feedback from the people of NZ
- providing advice to the government agencies making the decision

Strategies and policies are used to pass laws, change the way things are done or to create an action plan in order to help solve a specific problem, such as loss of biodiversity.

thats you!!



# Why is biodiversity important?



Biodiversity is important because it keeps us *alive*

We rely on ecosystems to purify the air so we can **breathe properly, combat carbon emissions, clean drinking water, as well as pollinate our crops so we don't go hungry.**

breathing!!!

water!!!

food!!!

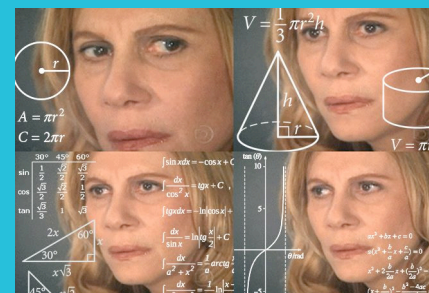


As the world's population continues to grow, so does our dependence on healthy ecosystems to provide the **essentials for our survival.**

## What will the Biodiversity Strategy do?



The aim of the biodiversity strategy is to ensure:

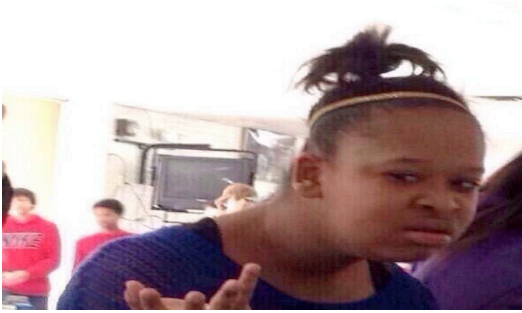


**"Nature in Aotearoa New Zealand is healthy, abundant, and thriving so current and future generations connect with nature, restore it, and are restored by it."**

The biodiversity strategy will be a clear framework for how biodiversity work will be prioritised and delivered throughout New Zealand and ensure actions are being taken to help save the **4,000 native species in New Zealand facing extinction.**

very bad

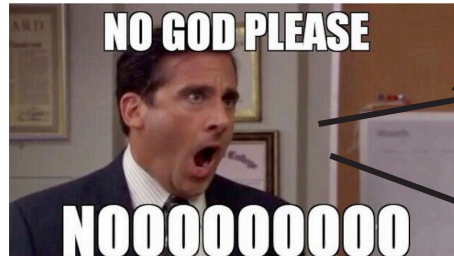
very good



## Why does this matter?

Grass is a part of New Zealand's biodiversity, if there's no grass you **won't be able to play rugby, football, lacrosse or any of the outdoor sports you know and love.**

If many of our ecosystems become extinct, our quality of air will decrease and you should care because in a few years **your dog isn't going to know why he's not breathing properly**



This could be u

oh wait it already is u



so sad how dare u let this happen

# Biodiversity is essential if we wish to survive!!

