

Piki Amokura

Herea ki te amokura | Woven beyond greatness

Waikirikiri Selwyn Youth Strategy 2024-2034

DRAFT



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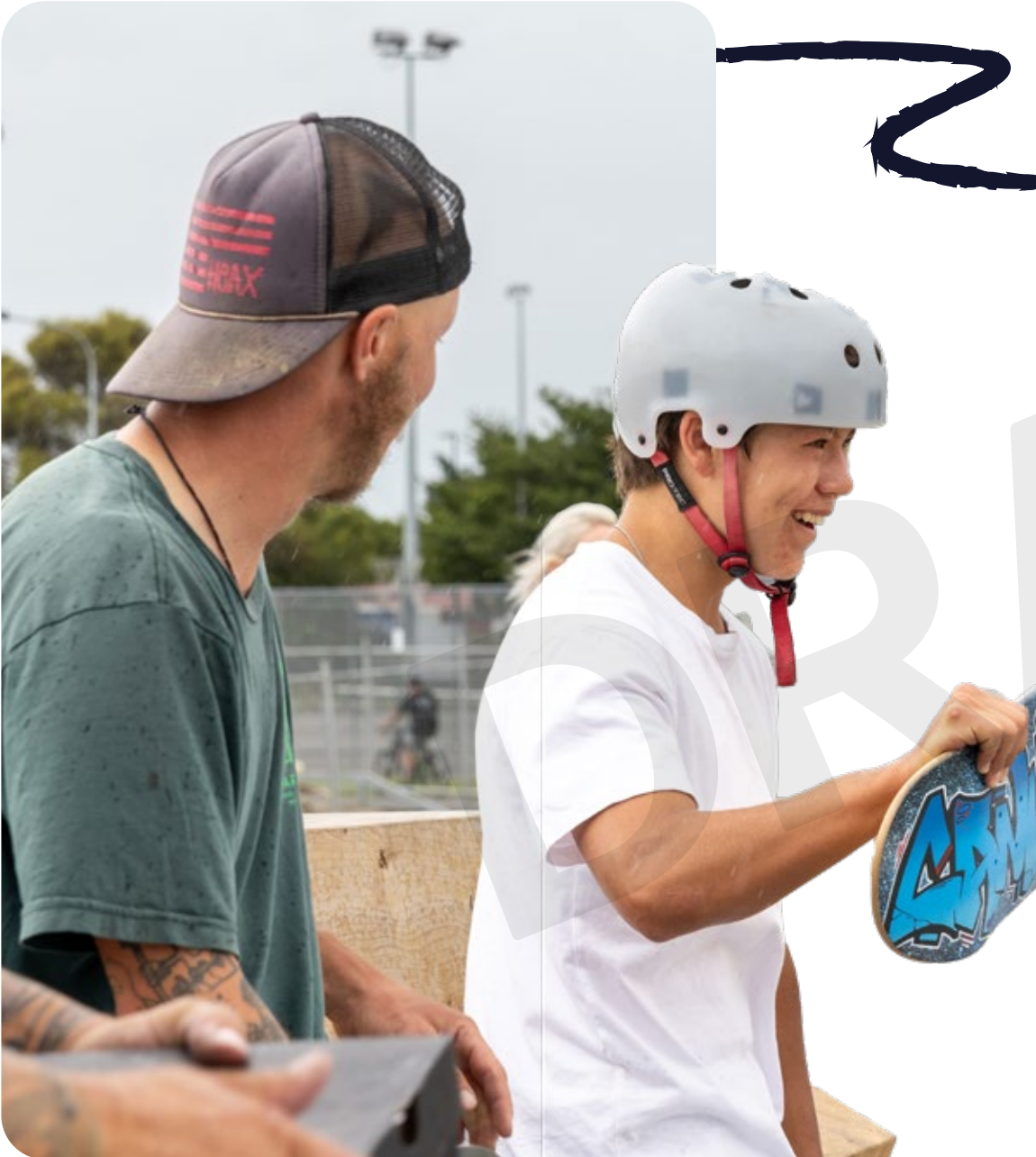


The naming of Piki Amokura

In essence, Piki Amokura recognises our young people as leaders, architects of their future, embodying both the legacy of the past and the promise of the future.

The name combines “piki”, referring to a feather plume — a decorative feather worn on the head — and “amokura”, a term used for a leader or chief. Both words denote prestige and leadership, encapsulating the essence of young people as future leaders and guiding figures.


The name Piki Amokura was developed for this strategy by Te Pou Mataaho, the Council’s iwi Māori partnerships and capability team.



Kupu Whakataki Introduction

Piki Amokura is a strategy for Waikirikiri Selwyn's young people aged 12–24 years. It creates an opportunity to help shape our district to be a great place for young people and their whānau to call home; to empower our young people to navigate challenges, embrace opportunities, and shape a resilient future by fostering connections and collaboration within communities, and partnering with others. Piki Amokura provides a path forward to build a better Waikirikiri Selwyn for all.

Piki Amokura sits within the Council's long-term strategic framework, Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn, which responds to and prepares for the changes ahead by setting the vision and direction for the district. One of its outcomes is to make Waikirikiri Selwyn a great place to call home. Young people are integral to the vision.



This strategy document is the initial stage of a two-stage approach. The first stage establishes the direction and clarifies Council's role and responsibilities. The second stage involves planning collaboratively with a broad range of stakeholders to facilitate, advocate, enable, or shape actions that advance the vision.

Piki Amokura is a living document with planning and delivery both ongoing and adaptive. This approach enables us to take advantage of new opportunities and celebrate as actions are completed.

Measurable and specific actions will be a feature of planning and delivery and will align with the strategic priorities and Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn. Reporting on the progress on the strategy is written into the Council's Long-Term Plan 2024–2034 as a significant activity. This will keep a focus on ensuring progress is made.

Te whakatakoto i te tūāpapa Setting the scene

In today's rapidly evolving world, young people are navigating an increasingly complex local, national, and global landscape. Young people are having to be savvier than ever often in a world where they are some of the most impacted; navigating instability caused by increasing cost of living and less security of housing, global geopolitical conflicts, misinformation, and dis-information spread by social media, and the developing online world. Ensuring the next generation can thrive in an uncertain future requires an understanding of these multifaceted challenges.

Waikirikiri Selwyn has experienced rapid and transformative population growth in the last 20 years; in particular, the district's population of young people has grown substantially and is increasingly becoming more multicultural compared to the wider population.

Piki Amokura and Te Tiriti o Waitangi

Ngāi Tahu have resided in the district for over 40 generations. The principle hapū, Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki and Ngāi Tūāhuriri, hold the mana in this district. The two hapū are acknowledged as the primary kaitiaki, stewards and puna mātauraka, the traditional knowledge holders, on behalf of Ngāi Tahu, for the district.

The Council acknowledges Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki and Ngāi Tūāhuriri as mana whenua and that the two hapū are represented formally by Te Taumutu Rūnanga and Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri Rūnanga. It also recognises mana whenua's role as the customary tribal authority over land, water, and environment in this district. The expression of these relationships is set out in the various iwi management plans and relationship agreements with Council and other entities.

The Council recognises its role as a partner with mana whenua through Te Tiriti o Waitangi and any direct relationship agreements with rūnaka.

As a partner of Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Council has a responsibility to the district's young Māori people. While Council only collected demographic data in some engagements, we can see that 15% of postcard survey respondents identified as Māori. This percentage is higher compared with the overall Māori population in Waikirikiri Selwyn (9%) and the Māori student population in schools (12%).

Despite Council's best efforts, we did not gain strong enough understanding about the lived experience of Māori in Waikirikiri Selwyn, or mana whenua's priorities for their young Māori people. Māori and indigenous people across the globe who have experienced colonisation encounter inequity in all aspects of their lives which leads to poorer wellbeing outcomes overall. For this reason, we have left space in this strategy for collaboration with mana whenua to pursue their aspirations and dreams for young Māori people.

Achieving equitable outcomes for Māori by supporting Māori to develop excellent, innovative solutions for the communities they know, care about, and understand deeply, is crucial. We have heard that mana whenua wants a community that celebrates te ao Māori and supports young Māori people to achieve their aspirations and dreams. Council wants to work together with mana whenua and Māori living in the district to achieve this and build a more inclusive community that celebrates Māori identity. We know that what is good for young Māori people is good for the wider community so an investment in our young Māori people is an investment in Waikirikiri Selwyn as a whole.



Next Steps

Council's role

As a territorial local authority, Council has a statutory responsibility for promoting the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of communities in the present and for the future. This provides focus for Council in working alongside the many local community groups, service providers, organisations, and entities who possess unique knowledge and expertise and who are already working within our communities.

Council does not aim to duplicate the work of community nor deliver services in core areas that are the domain of central government or community organisations. Council plans its activity guided by seven archetypes that include:

- Community leader to bring people together around a shared vision for the district
- Integrator to bring people together within the community to make meaningful change
- Shaper to shape the look and feel of the district through planning, rating, and regulatory function
- Service provider to provide and commission community services that improve social, economic, environmental, and cultural outcomes
- Infrastructure provider to provide reliable public infrastructure for communities
- Promoter and Advocate to represent the district externally to advocate for what the community needs and to attract appropriate investment
- Enabler to use the Council's financial resources to enable activities within the district that might not otherwise occur.

You can read more about these and the key roles in the Appendix on [page xx](#)



Action planning and measures

The strategy is a two-stage process with this document being the first stage. The next stage involves planning collaboratively with stakeholders to facilitate, advocate, enable, or shape actions that advance the vision. Piki Amokura is a living strategy with planning and delivery both ongoing and adaptive to new opportunities.

The overall success of the strategy will use three measures from Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn (WKTFS) and three population level measures. Additional measures will be developed for specific actions during the action planning. The high-level measures are:

1. rating of quality of life (WKTFS measure)
2. rating of Waikirikiri Selwyn as a place to live (WKTFS measure)
3. rating of sense of community (WKTFS measure)
4. increase in school attendance (showing engagement in compulsory education)
5. reduction in NEET (young people not in employment, education or training) rate
6. increase in number of youth voters (showing community and civic participation).

STRATEGY MAP

STRATEGY VISION

Herea ki te amokura | Woven beyond greatness
Waikirikiri Selwyn is a great place for young people to call home



Piki Amokura Strategy Map

VISION — Waikirikiri Selwyn is a great place to live through all stages of life.

MISSION — To empower young people within a supportive ecosystem to navigate challenges, embrace opportunities, and shape a resilient future.

OUTCOMES

I have what I need to succeed.

Waikirikiri Selwyn is a fun place for me to grow up.

I am safe, valued, accepted and can contribute to my community

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

Nurture our young people's potential.

Grow opportunities to make every day an adventure.

Build inclusive connected communities.

Schooling

- Waikirikiri Selwyn has a variety of easy-to-access compulsory schooling options to meet young people's education needs.
- Schools have the tools to meet the growing needs of Young People in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Vocational Education and Training

- Young people are aware of and connected to vocational education and training opportunities in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Employment

- There are a range of job opportunities for young people at all career levels to meet the growing demand in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Services

- Services for young people in Waikirikiri Selwyn meet demand.

Transport

- Transport is safe, accessible, and appealing to young people in Waikirikiri Selwyn.
- Young people feel safe using public transport, and footpath and cycleway network.
- Waikirikiri Selwyn's footpaths and cycleways have connecting routes.

Activities and spaces

- Young people can easily access a variety of activities in Waikirikiri Selwyn.
- Young people have safe spaces and places to go where they can express themselves and spend time with their friends.

Relationships

- Young people have easy-to-access opportunities to meaningfully engage, connect, participate and contribute as part of Waikirikiri Selwyn's communities.
- Adults have easy-to-access opportunities to meaningfully engage, connect, pass on knowledge and contribute to Young People's lives in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

I am safe, supported, and valued to be Māori.

My voice is important, and I can influence what happens in my community.

Waikirikiri Selwyn is built for my future and the futures of my kids and grandkids.

Build a community that celebrates te ao Māori and supports our young Māori people to achieve their aspirations and dreams.

Ensure every voice counts.

Be brave today for a better tomorrow.

Cultural Needs

- Young Māori people have equitable access and opportunities to celebrate and live te ao Māori.
- Young Māori people experience improved wellbeing outcomes and greater equity.
- Our community supports young Māori people and celebrates te ao Māori.

Engagement

- Young people can easily participate in Waikirikiri Selwyn's decision making.
- Young people feel their views and the needs of future generations are represented in decision-making.

Narrative

- Young people are in control of their own narrative in Waikirikiri Selwyn.
- Narrative is focussed on young people's value in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Climate Change

- Take big actions/steps to address climate change.
- Take big actions/steps to prepare for climate change.
- We promote what is being done to address/prepare for climate change.

Environment

- Support environmentally positive initiatives and opportunities for young people to participate in across Waikirikiri Selwyn.
- Improve environment and biodiversity conditions in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Housing

- There is enough variety in Waikirikiri Selwyn's housing stock to meet young people's housing needs.

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I have what I need to succeed.

This strategy will...

nurture our young people's potential.

by improving equitable access to:

- schooling
- vocational training
- employment
- services
- transport

“

“Doing whatever it takes for young people to succeed”. — Māori, Rural⁷, 30–39 yrs.

“Ellesmere college has been the guinea pig school for a while for new school programmes or education changes, but the problem is that there are not any other schools out here so if the change in the system doesn't work for you as a student, you don't have any other options other than to stick around and for your education to suffer” — Rural, 15–19 yrs.

“To understand the opportunities they can get beyond the “standard told” from and within education.” — Māori and Pākehā, Ōtautahi Christchurch, 20–24 yrs.

“So, I'm actually going uni this year. I'm not sure if I would come back home after I finish uni or go somewhere else, I'm going to study science at Otago and it's really good for that”. — Rural, 15–19 yrs.

“I would want to come back after I have studied/got my career underway because its where my family lives and where I grew up.” — Rural, 15–19 yrs.

“For how big Rolly is there are not a lot of job opportunities. Retail jobs are in high demand. Because every kid under the sun is trying to get one retail job, it means that the kid that needs it most may not necessarily get it. Employers prioritise the kids who already have experience instead of giving the kids who need the experience a chance”. — Mana Whenua⁸, 20–24 yrs

”

“

“Employers forget this is our first job and we don’t necessarily know how to do stuff. They have expectations and don’t teach or explain to us how to do what they want.” — Urban⁹, 15–19 yrs.

“They cancelled the school busses and Darfield only has one bus a day on average, so now all the kids who go to city schools are on the bus and there is no room for workers. I often now drive to Rolleston which is a 30-minute drive and then catch the bus from there, but fuel is really expensive, and if you work an extra 10 minutes and miss the bus to Rolleston, you won’t be getting home until really late. The lack of transport makes me want to move to West Melton.”
— Rural, 20–24 yrs.

“I’m about to start studying in Christchurch. But I’m a bit nervous but I don’t mind buses so hopefully it’ll feel great experience.... my mum was talking about it, she said you have to leave 5o’clock in the morning so the bus that goes into town. Then you can commute from Lincoln to town (Ōtautahi Christchurch). And that’s quite early, my first class isn’t until 10:30. So I still have to leave early, its gonna take 5 hours to get from here to city.” — Rural, young adult.

“My Tāua has to get up at 5am every day to drop me off at the bus by 6am on the dot. it takes me 2 hours on the bus to get to school. I have to catch the bus from Leeston to Riccarton to get to my kura kaupapa school. I have to take 3 busses to get to school in the morning. It’s \$8 for one way from Leeston.” — Māori, Mana Whenua, 15–19 yrs.

“I only bike on the footpaths because drivers on the road are not safe. Biking on the road is scary.” — Urban, 15–19 yrs.

“Footpaths are really dark. I wouldn’t feel safe walking down my own street at nighttime.” — Urban, 15–19 yrs.

“Side of the motorway is not well lit - I am worried about not being seen on the side of the motorway.” — Urban, 15–19 yrs.

“Youth want easy way to access help for mental health, transportation costing less money, ubers, buses, taxis, etc” — Māori, Urban, 10–14 yrs.

“Youth need cheaper healthcare” — Pākehā, Rural, 20–24 yrs.

“Young people should have free Mental health, fitness and career coaches” — Asian, Urban, 30–39 yrs.

“Putting youth first means ensuring that their needs are being met that allow their cups to be filled. Making sure that their mental health is doing ok before reprimanding them for anything. So really finding out what is going on for them personally that may affect their pathway to making decisions.” — Pākehā, Urban, 30–39 yrs.

”

I have what I need to succeed.
Nurture our young people's potential.

Kuraka Schooling

Goals

- Waikirikiri Selwyn has a variety of easy-to-access compulsory schooling options to meet young people's education needs.
- Schools have the tools to meet the growing needs of Young People in Waikirikiri Selwyn.



We heard young people want to be well prepared for their adult lives; to be equipped with the tools to confidently respond to whatever life presents them and to be invested in right from when they start school through to their careers. However, we have some hurdles to overcome before we achieve this aspiration. Since 2016 school attendance in Waikirikiri Selwyn has been falling. In 2023, only 58.6% of the district's young people attended school more than 90% of the time¹⁰. Our young people need to attend and be engaged in school to set them up for their lives. To achieve this our schools need the tools, the right settings, and the best people to provide the best quality education to our young people.

We heard young people don't want to attend school in overcrowded classes. Our existing schools need to expand to provide the best possible learning environments for our growing population. Rolleston College and Lincoln High School are close to full capacity with 1574 and 1361¹¹ students respectively. 5 out of the 12 most populated primary schools in Aotearoa are in Lincoln and Rolleston, each with a current roll of over 700 students¹². Additionally, a further 3,500 young people are projected to reside in Rolleston in the next 15 years. To meet this demand all our schools in Rolleston and Lincoln need to grow. This means more classrooms, more teachers, and more space for our young people.

Darfield High School has a roll of 775 students and Ellesmere has over 500 students¹³ and are also close to capacity. These schools cater to our rural young people from year 7–13. In 2019, the government announced they would upgrade Ellesmere College school buildings, with an estimated completion date in 2025. The Minister for Education at the time stated *"All but two of the school's buildings are temporary relocatable classrooms and have experienced significant wear and tear. That's not good enough and we are fixing it."*¹⁴ However, in May 2023, the project was put on hold¹⁵.

Students from Ellesmere College told us they frequently felt cold in classrooms, the windows were damp, some walls mouldy and they felt forgotten about by the government as the rebuild of their school has been continually delayed. They told us this made them not want to attend school. They also told us that because they lived rurally, they had no other choice of school other than Ellesmere College.

We also heard from our young Māori people there were no kura kaupapa options in the district. Kura Kaupapa are state schools where education is in te reo and based on te ao Māori values. We heard that it takes 2 hours for our young Māori people living near Te Pā o Moki at Taumutu get to kura kaupapa on the bus.

In addition to these barriers, inequity for young Māori people has a large impact on their education. Low attendance in school disproportionately impacts Māori and Pasifika young people¹⁶ and low-decile school¹⁷. In term 4 2023, 39.8% of Māori and 36.8% of Pasifika students attended school more than 90% of the time¹⁸ compared to 58.7% of Pākehā and 61.1% of Asian students. A recent study found mental health and anxiety challenges, bullying, a young person not having enough sleep, lack of transport, having to work to support their whānau, or not having resources such as lunch, shoes or school uniform were barriers to young people attending school¹⁹.

Fewer Māori learners in Aotearoa feel able to see the relevance of school to their future²⁰ has led to flow on impacts in attendance and young people's achievement in NCEA, ultimately restricting access to further training, education or higher paying jobs. In 2020 only 66.1% of Māori school leavers had achieved NCEA level 2 or above, compared to 80.8% of all school leavers²¹. Research shows that to be successful within the school system, young Māori often have to overcome others low expectations and negative stereotypes. In school environments where Māori culture and values were explicitly celebrated and modelled, young Māori were more likely to attain higher qualifications than in school environments where this was not the case²². In particular, young Māori who attended schools where learning was predominantly in te reo Māori were more likely to attain NCEA qualifications (50.9%) than those who attended schools predominantly in English (32.1%).

Our young people need options for their education close to home, so if a school is not quite the right fit for their learning needs, they have alternative options and choices to continue their education. Our school environments need to celebrate and build up our young people in schools which are warm, dry and have reasonable class sizes. We understand investing in our young people is investing in our future which is why it's a priority for us to have a range of high-quality education options for our young people. Education provision is the prerogative of the Ministry of Education, so it is Council's responsibility to use its leverage to ensure our goals are met.





I have what I need to succeed.
Nurture our young people's potential.

Whakakuku Umaka Vocational Training

Goals

Young people are aware of and connected to vocational education and training opportunities in Waikirikiri Selwyn.



We heard young people want to be able to upskill within the district. They want opportunities to explore career paths, to learn about themselves to grow into their future careers, and they would like to do this close to their support networks. However, despite our young population we are not retaining our young people. Between 2013 and 2018, Waikirikiri Selwyn had a net migration loss of 27% of young people aged 20–24, and a further 26% loss between 2018 and 2023²³. This means that 27% of the total population of people aged 15–19 in 2013 had moved away by 2018²⁴, and similarly 26% between 2018 and 2023.

We heard from young people they plan on moving away from Waikirikiri Selwyn because the training available in the district is in agriculture or farming and they want to pursue a different path. Some young people said they want to stay in Canterbury or in the South Island to remain close to whānau. Some plan to commute to Ōtautahi Christchurch City, but many plan on moving to Ōtautahi Christchurch or Dunedin. Young people who planned to move also said that cities had easier access to transport and activities, which was an additional reason for their relocation.

Currently, Lincoln University is the only tertiary institution available in Waikirikiri Selwyn and is a specialist land-based university²⁵. This coupled with our strong primary sector and Crown Research Institutes makes Waikirikiri Selwyn home to some of the most cutting-edge research in the farming and agriculture sectors. We want to build on this strength to drive innovation and productivity in our district and diversify our sectors using the knowledge our institutions and businesses already hold, making Waikirikiri Selwyn a leader in vocational education and training for agritech, clean energy, and digital technologies sectors²⁶.

Waikirikiri Selwyn is also unique as our agriculture sector encompasses the whole of the value chain from paddock to plate. Māori whakapapa to the land and have a unique relationship where whenua Māori is sacred and inalienable. As such, Māori have a pivotal role to play in the development of the food and fibre sector. In 2018, the Māori agriculture, forestry and fishing asset base was worth \$23 billion²⁷. With the diversification and strengthening of our primary sectors, the supporting

industries within the supply chain will also grow providing pivotal education to employment opportunities.

We have an opportunity to invest in our young people to attain this vision. By facilitating strong relationships and links between our educators and industries, we can enable these sectors to develop a future-ready workforce. Selwyn's Māori population is much younger than the rest of the population. The 2022 Administrative Census showed that 36% of Waikirikiri Selwyn's Māori population were aged under 15 years, with a further 24% aged 15 to 29. By comparison, these proportions were both 21% and 17% respectively across the entire population. This younger Māori demographic provides a key workforce opportunity for Waikirikiri Selwyn, which could help to offset the increase in retirements among Selwyn's ageing population. Career pathways and training for young people could help alleviate current and upcoming skills shortages in Waikirikiri Selwyn. We want our young people to access learning and training opportunities which lead directly to a career in Waikirikiri Selwyn, building both our local economy and retaining our young people²⁸.

For young people who may not want to work in these sectors, we have an additional opportunity to bring alternative options to the district. In 2024, 6.1% of young people aged 15–24 in Waikirikiri Selwyn were not in employment, education, or training ("NEET"). This increased from 4.8% in 2023. While lower than the national average, the current economic conditions in Aotearoa are likely to see NEETs increase in the district and across the country²⁹. Māori also remain over-represented amongst NEETs³⁰ and lower levels of qualifications leads to both inequality of opportunity and inequity of outcomes for Māori.

By building relationships with tertiary and vocational education providers, we can enable the provision of a range of education and training opportunities which are accessible to young people in Waikirikiri Selwyn. This is not only beneficial to our young people, but also to our communities and our economy³¹.

I have what I need to succeed.
Nurture our young people's potential.

Mahi Employment

Goals

There are a range of job opportunities for young people at all career levels to meet the growing demand in Waikirikiri Selwyn.



In greater Ōtautahi Christchurch, 62.4% of young people aged 15–24 are employed³², compared to other working-age populations with between 80%–89% employed³³. Across Aotearoa, unemployment rose to 4% in March 2024, with half of this increase being young people aged 15–24³⁴. Due to the current economic conditions, the number of unemployed young people is likely to increase³⁵.

We heard young people have difficulty entering the workforce due to high demand for entry-level full-time jobs, and part-time after-school jobs. In particular, young people highlighted the limited number of hospitality and retail positions and the high competition for these roles when vacancies arise. We heard young people want more job opportunities close to home but are having to look for these outside Waikirikir Selwyn³⁶.

Having diverse job opportunities starts with having diverse businesses. Globally there is growing demand for products that come with genuine indigenous stories. The Selwyn Economic and Social Context report highlights there are opportunities to embrace te ao Māori in the economy. National data shows that Māori businesses are highly innovative. This innovation has matched the increasing interest from trade partners in buying New Zealand goods with authentic indigenous backgrounds. From 2017 to 2022, export sales by Māori authorities went up by 18%, and exports by other Māori businesses grew by 55%, totalling over \$1 billion investment to Aotearoa's economy annually. Embracing this diversity can foster innovation and Māori business models offer lessons, including an intergenerational focus³⁷ ultimately increasing job opportunities for young people in innovative and resilient industries.

We want Waikirikir Selwyn to be a place where businesses come to flourish. We want a resilient and diverse economy that provides a range of jobs suitable for young people. We want our employers to be equipped with the tools to confidently nurture our young people through their first jobs and into careers. We have an opportunity as Council to support our businesses to do this and to put the district on the map as a destination for business³⁸.

I have what I need to succeed.
Nurture our young people's potential.

Ratoka Oraka Wellbeing Services

Goals

There are a range of job opportunities for young people at all career levels to meet the growing demand in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

While reported rates of life satisfaction, family wellbeing, and health are relatively strong in Aotearoa, young people and Māori experience lower rates than others. In the 2023 New Zealand Health Survey 80.5% of Māori participants reported high life satisfaction compared to 84% of European and Pasifika participants and 78% of Māori reported high family wellbeing compared to 83% of European and Pasifika participants. In addition, Māori are less likely to report good-excellent health (79%) compared to European participants (88%)³⁹.

In greater Ōtautahi Christchurch, young people have significantly higher mental and emotional well-being needs than any other age group. In 2022, almost 20% of young people aged 18–24 identified they would find it hard or very hard to talk to someone if they were feeling down⁴⁰; 27.3% of young people aged 18–24 felt lonely or isolated always or most of the time⁴¹; and 84.9% of young people aged 18–24 reported feeling stressed sometimes, most of the time, or always⁴². Young people across all three of these wellbeing measurements were consistently higher than all other age groups.

The World Health Organization Wellbeing Index is a widely used tool for measuring emotional well-being. It is scored out of 25 with higher scores indicating better wellbeing. In 2022, young people aged 18–24 in greater Ōtautahi Christchurch had the lowest WHO Wellbeing Index score of any age group with a score of 13.4⁴³.

We heard the community wants well supported, resilient young people, so they can confidently handle challenges life throws their way. In particular, we heard young people in Waikirikiri Selwyn want easier access to mental health services. In Aotearoa, 23% of high school students report depressive symptoms and young people aged between 15 and 29 have the highest rates of injuries from self-harm⁴⁴. Most primary care in Aotearoa is accessed through General Practitioners (GPs), including referrals to mental health services. Young people aged 15–24 visit GPs less than any other age group across Aotearoa. Barriers to accessing GP care include cost, access to transport, apprehension about cultural safety within a western medical system, or feeling embarrassed or ashamed to ask for help. These barriers are more prominent for young people living in rural areas, Māori and Pasifika young people, and young people not in education, employment, or training⁴⁵.

Young Māori people experience higher rates of mental health distress compared to non-Māori or Pasifika (“NMP”). Despite this, they experience inequity in accessing healthcare. A recent study found young Māori people were less likely to receive preventative treatment than NMP for mental health distress and were instead more likely to be admitted to hospital. This indicates Māori experience greater barriers to accessing assessment, diagnosis, and treatment at the GP level⁴⁶. In addition, research showed Aotearoa’s health system focused on universal strategies which failed to meet the specific needs and preferences of young Māori people; indicating that when they do access treatment, it does not meet their needs⁴⁷.

In addition to the barriers young people already face across Aotearoa, Waikirikiri Selwyn has its own unique barriers. Waikirikiri Selwyn has 7 general practices. Out of the 73,334 total enrolled patients in Waikirikiri Selwyn, only 52% are enrolled in district. The remaining 48% are enrolled outside of the district, compared to Waimakariri District’s 15%. Additionally, 15% of Waikirikiri Selwyn’s population are not enrolled with a GP compared to 6%–10% in Aotearoa.

This has led to high demand for GP care in Waikirikiri Selwyn and West Ōtautahi Christchurch. Just over 10% of GPs in the district remain open for enrolment. The remaining 85% of GPs are closed or have restricted enrolment access. GPs in west Ōtautahi Christchurch are only accepting restricted enrolments with nearly 70% completely closed⁴⁸. The growth in Waikirikiri Selwyn’s population, particularly of ageing and young people, will inevitably lead to greater demand for already pressured services, meaning the district needs to start changing the local state of health care as soon as possible.

Health care is under the jurisdiction of the Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora; however, Council has an important role in advocating for sufficient service provision in our district. Council can collaborate with service providers to pave the way for affordable and accessible services to meet the unique needs of our community. We want to use this collaboration to build a case for change, bring resources and opportunities to our district to improve our young people’s wellbeing and ultimately build happier, healthier communities.



I have what I need to succeed.
Nurture our young people's potential.

Waka Transport

Goals

Transport is safe, accessible, and appealing to young people in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Young people feel safe using public transport, and footpath and cycleway network.

Waikirikiri Selwyn's footpaths and cycleways have connecting routes.

Public transport patronage in Waikirikiri Selwyn has increased year on year since 2021. In the year between October 2022 to 2023, over 240,000 patrons used busses servicing the Waikirikiri Selwyn District⁴⁹. We heard from our community they want to use public transport services but often at peak times when the services are at full capacity. This has the greatest impact on our rural communities as they only have one service per day⁵⁰ and no other available transport options than private car use.

Transport is an enabler of outcomes. It connects people with the community and provides access to services and opportunities. Lack of access to affordable transport results in social exclusion and a lack of opportunities. People who have barriers to transport take fewer trips, or take longer or less convenient trips, with both immediate and long-term effects on mental and physical wellbeing⁵¹. In Waikirikiri Selwyn young people are disadvantaged by the lack of reliable transport options especially those who are not old enough to drive or cannot afford to get a driver's licence or own and run a car. We heard this adds additional burden to parents and caregivers who have to prioritise transporting young people over work and life commitments.

Lack of access to transport perpetuates existing inequalities faced by young Māori people. Loss of land, urbanisation and gentrification have all resulted in young Māori people living further from whānau, cultural sites; making them more likely to experience transport-related social exclusion and missing out on opportunities or engagement.

One example of the cyclical impact that a lack of transport has is in driver licensing. The most common reason Māori do not hold a driver's licence is cost. Without a licence, young people struggle to gain employment; further perpetuating the cost issue. Lack of driver licences can also have wider social implications. We heard that young people living in rural areas had driven a car without holding a licence due to the lack of other available transport options. Young Māori are more likely to be injured or killed in transport-related accidents or have driven illegally prior to receiving a licence⁵².

In addition to more public transport, we heard young people want greater frequency of public transport, and more routes both within and out of Waikirikiri Selwyn. Out of the 7 bus services in the district, 4 run directly to Ōtautahi Christchurch City at peak times. These routes are one-way with the morning services only going in and the evening services only going out of Ōtautahi Christchurch City. The remaining 3 routes stop in Lincoln, Rolleston, Prebbleton and Burnham, with only one connecting Lincoln and Rolleston⁵³.

These services mainly cater to people who commute to Ōtautahi Christchurch City for work. We heard these services don't suit young people with commitments outside the traditional 8am-5pm workday; making them reliant on their parents to get to and from school; to attend sports, arts, or other activities; and to connect with friends.

We also heard young people don't feel safe on our roads, footpaths, cycleways, and at bus stops. Over 85% of the district's roads have posted speed limits of 80km/hr or 100km/hr⁵⁴. Since November 2018, there have been 41 fatal crashes on Waikirikiri Selwyn roads, 40 of which occurred on 80km/hr and 100km/hr roads⁵⁵, and a further 122 crashes causing serious injuries on 80km/hr and 100km/hr roads⁵⁶. We heard young people were concerned about being hit by a car, cars driving in cycleways and on footpaths, and about low visibility on 80km and 100km roads and on footpaths. Young people also raised concerns about crossing roads. We heard they want safer ways to crossroads, particularly around schools, and cycleways and footpaths that run along the full length of the road.

We want our young people to move about the district and greater Ōtautahi Christchurch safely, easily, and independently. Improving our

public transport and walking and cycling networks is not only beneficial to our young people; it benefits our communities and our environment. However, these all need to be safer and easier to access for our young people and communities to use them.

Environment Canterbury is responsible for public transport; however, Council can use its influence both as a territorial authority and a partner to the Greater Christchurch Partnership to build connections with alternative transport providers, and advocate for greater public transport provision in the district.

We're responsible for maintaining our footpaths and cycleways, but developers are responsible for building them in our neighbourhoods. Council can influence, set planning rules, and standards for developers when building these networks, improve on our existing networks, to ensure we have a well-connected and safe pedestrian and cycle network.

2

Waikirikiri Selwyn is a fun place for me to grow up.

This strategy will...

grow opportunities to make every day an adventure.

by growing Waikirikiri Selwyn's:

- Activity provision, and
- spaces

“

*“More hangout spots and things to do”
— Pākehā, Urban, 15–19 yrs.*

*“Fun things to do other than walk around”
— Māori, Pākehā, Urban, 15–19 yrs.*

“Fun stuff to do, skate parks, swimming pools, free wifi, things that aren't expensive, sports, marae, cultural events, music events, hangout places” — Māori, Pākehā, Urban, 20–24 yrs.

*“I lived in Rolleston from the age of 15–22 and got into the wrong crowd and a lot of trouble. I feel like kids now, need something to keep them out of trouble and entertained. A youth group, etc.”
— British, Ōtautahi Christchurch, 25–29 yrs.*

“More developed park areas, with comfortable seating — not just park benches or children's playgrounds. More exhibitions and events, such as music, art, and performance. Events for young people, led by young people.” — Pākehā, Urban, 20–24 yrs.

”

“

“More things/activities to do outside of school/work. Bowling, Arcade, Movie theatre, Go karting, Clip and climb, Adventure park like eg adrenaline ropes or a more intricate skate park possibly. New indoor swimming pool.” — Pākehā, Urban, 20-24 yrs.

*“Have more opportunities for volunteering; sports park (basketball, volleyball, tennis etc.); library; places that can make friends or know someone with similar interests; places with smoke-free.”
— Asian, Urban, 20-24 yrs.*

*“More sports opportunities in Selwyn especially for kids 10-16”
— Pākehā, Rural, 10-14 yrs.*

“Sports (rugby, basketball etc), time with friends, time with family, safety”— Scottish, Rural, 10-14 yrs.

“A better pool facility with water slides for all ages, sauna, steam room ice plunge pool for over 16. A designated toddler area like hammer springs/QEII etc too would be great — would remove congestion in current swimming pools. Botanic garden proposal would be amazing additionally with a pool similar to CHCH / new Brighton for family picnics.” — Pākehā, Urban.

“I don’t feel safe with adults at Te Ara Atea. Once, an adult had a go at me because me and my friends were laughing. They tried to hit me. We went to the Librarians and they called the police. The staff are really nice.” — Urban, 10-14 yrs.

“There should be accessible kapa haka groups, there are no groups in Selwyn so we have to go to Christchurch. Everything is in Christchurch.” — Māori, 15-19 yrs.”

”

Waikirikiri Selwyn is a fun place for me to grow up.
Grow opportunities to make every day a new adventure.

Kā Mahi me kā Wāhi Activities and Spaces

Goals

Young people can easily access a variety of activities in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Young people have safe spaces and places to go where they can express themselves and spend time with their friends.



433 of our survey respondents (43%) said young people need more activities and things to do to live happy lives in Waikirikiri Selwyn. Out of the 433 responses⁵⁷, 158 (36%) were about sports and physical activities such as swimming, bike riding and playing at playgrounds and parks; 124 responses (28%) were about entertainment such as movie theatres, arcades, and bowling alleys; and 92 responses (21%) were about having more places to socialise and hang out with friends⁵⁸. We heard in the few places where young people can hang out, some feel unsafe, some feel judged by adults, and others feel unable to be themselves. We heard community wants youth-friendly places and activities where our young people can safely spend time with friends and whānau and be themselves.

The remaining survey responses were about having free or affordable activities (65, 15%), generally fun places and things to do (48, 11%), events (45, 10%), outdoor activities (33, 7%), shopping (17, 4%), arts and culture (15, 3%), volunteering opportunities (14, 3%) and programmes and workshops (11, 2%).

We heard from young Māori people they have difficulty accessing Māori activities in Waikirikiri Selwyn. We heard young Māori people want greater connection to Māori ways of relaxing and connection, such as waka ama, kapa haka, rāraka, and mahikia kai. We heard that some young Māori people have to travel out of district to access Māori activities and that there is little sustained support for Māori activities in Waikirikiri Selwyn despite high interest. We know engaging in te ao Māori and Māori activities is good for our young Māori people's wellbeing⁵⁹, and what is good for our young Māori people is good for our wider community.

We want our young people to have fun and love living in Waikirikiri Selwyn, and to do that we heard we need to attract more diverse activities to the district. Having a range of activities available is not only beneficial for our young people, but also for our economy. In 2023, Waikirikiri Selwyn residents spent \$590 million in Ōtautahi Christchurch city⁶⁰. The lack of local access to activities, particularly entertainment and spaces to socialise in the district, causes our residents to spend more time in Ōtautahi Christchurch city, and with that, more money.

The Economic Development Strategy aims to increase and retain spend through actions⁶¹ and destination management⁶². With over 25% of Rolleston's population being under the age of 15 and a projected 64% increase of young people in Rolleston in the next 15 years, we have a unique opportunity for businesses and communities to make Rolleston a youth-inclusive town for the district, and greater Ōtautahi Christchurch. This provides opportunities for place making and putting Rolleston on the map as a destination young people want to live, and whānau want to continue to move to.

3

**I am safe, valued, accepted,
and can contribute to
my community.**

This strategy will...

build inclusive connected communities.

by:

- building inclusive, connected, intergenerational communities.

“

“Support us emotionally, mentally. Being safe and stable at school and at home. It’s like you have a strong base so when there is an earthquake the house doesn’t fall down.”

— Urban, 10–14 yrs.

“Older people and grandparents supporting us, even though they may not approve of our choices.” — Urban, 10–14 yrs.

“Having empathy and not judging them (young people), taking care of each other” — Pākehā, Pasifika, Urban, adult

“I would like to learn how to deal with life’s challenges; to have a real conversation about life and its challenges and resilience”.

— Rural, 15–19 yrs.

“I want to know about employment contracts, CV and cover letter, interview skills, tenancy agreements, budgeting skills (e.g. kiwisaver, how the bank works), organising power bill”

— Rural, 20 –24 yrs.

”

“

“Cooking! How to cook better.” — Rural, 15–19 yrs.

“I’m not saying necessarily that I would be the person to teach them, but what I do notice is that lots of, like kids and teens, they don’t have great chat. They don’t know how to interact with people... and you know like conversation skills would be a big one and general social interaction, like what’s polite... Yeah, just some social awareness and some not etiquette, so it’s probably not the right word. But yeah, just some chat.” — Rural, adult

“Woo. Definitely how to manage anxiety and their confidence and stuff like that. Just for my kids. Yes, that that definitely yeah. Self-importance and the self-confidence.” — Rural, adult

“I’d sort of want to sort of teach them about resilience and everything and to sort of be confident in themselves and also for them to stick up for themselves as well. Well, but also not to try and take and as someone gives you some sort of negative criticism, don’t sort of take it to heart or anything and just get out and put your phone down. that’s not real life. Just get out and just do these sort of things (pool party) and just hang out and have fun.” — Rural, adult

“Help us more rather than telling us “You should do this” let us take our own path and follow our own passions.” — Rural, 10–14 yrs.

“Don’t yell at us and be angry when we do something wrong. Instead talk to us about what we did wrong so we can learn from our mistake — like I do triathlons and sometimes you see parents on the sidelines just screaming at their kids” — Rural, 10–14 yrs.

“Expectations and technology means life is different for us. Technology is a big part of our life”— Urban, 15–19 yrs.”

“Don’t assume we know what you are talking about. Sometimes you assume we know everything but we don’t.” — Rural, 10–14 yrs.

I am safe, valued, accepted,
and can contribute to my community.
Building inclusive connected communities.

Kā Honoka Relationships

Goals

Young people have easy-to-access opportunities to meaningfully engage, connect, participate and contribute as part of Waikirikiri Selwyn's communities.

Adults have easy-to-access opportunities to meaningfully engage, connect, pass on knowledge and contribute to Young People's lives in Waikirikiri Selwyn.



We heard one of the best things in Waikirikiri Selwyn is our communities⁶³, but our young people don't feel like they are part of it. In 2022, less than 25% of young people aged 18–24 in greater Ōtautahi Christchurch felt a sense of community, less than any other age group⁶⁴. Young people feeling a sense of belonging is important to our community⁶⁵. We heard our young people want to feel safe, accepted, supported, and valued by their friends and whānau; and have more opportunities to be part of their communities. We heard our young people feel misunderstood by adults and want the opportunity to bridge the misunderstanding.

We also heard young people want to learn from adults, particularly skills which fall outside of traditional education. There was particular interest in building skills to help them navigate careers, the first few years of adulthood and life skills such as cooking and driving⁶⁶. Analysis of the Council's 2024 Ageing Positively Survey showed older people expressing a similar interest and willingness to invest in young people⁶⁷.

Our young Māori people wanted to learn from their kaumatua. We heard they wanted to learn about their whakapapa and te ao Māori from their whānau. 43% of young Māori people aged 15–24 in Aotearoa feel it is very important/important for them to be engaged in Māori culture, 82% had been to their marae tipuna at some time in the past and 68% said they would like to have been to their marae tipuna more often in the past 12 months⁶⁸.

Research shows intergenerational relationships enrich people's lives across the board. For young people, intergenerational relationships benefit academic performance; whānau and peer relationships; improves mental, emotional and physical wellbeing; increases self-confidence, civic engagement and social cohesion. For older people it benefits their quality and purpose in life; improves their mental and physical wellbeing and decreases social isolation. For communities, building intergenerational relationships reduces discrimination, improves wellbeing and develops a greater sense of belonging and connection to community⁶⁹.

We want interconnected communities where both our older and young people can develop relationships and learn from each other. Waikirikiri Selwyn is lucky to have many individuals and community groups ready and wanting to pursue this vision. Council has an important role in bringing these people together. We want our communities to know what opportunities there are for connection and to support the groups leading this work so that there are opportunities available to as many of our communities as possible.

4

I am safe, supported, and valued to be Māori.

This strategy will...

build a community that celebrates
te ao Māori and supports our young
Māori people to achieve their
aspirations and dreams.

by:

- collaborating with mana whenua and iwi Māori to pursue their aspirations and dreams for young Māori people.

“

“We are more connected to te ao Māori than most other Māori, but even those of us who are more connected than most to te ao Māori it’s still a challenge to be Māori.” — Māori, 15–19 yrs.

“Money and more job opportunities, better transport into Christchurch, something fun like an arcade, and more appreciation for different cultures.” — Māori, Pacific Islander, Rural, 15–19 yrs.

“I feel supported by my whānau but not my community. Pākehā echo what the government are saying about Māori now. My Tāua, my aunties and my marae make me feel supported.” — Māori, 15–19 yrs.

“Connections (meaningful), to feel safe, aroha, to live out of poverty” — Māori.

“a lot more opportunities to engage with each other” — Māori, Pākehā, Urban, 15–19

“Opportunities to be involved in the community” — Māori, Urban, 15–19

”

“

*“Being proud of your culture and accepted for who you are.”
— Urban, 10–14 yrs.*

“Having cultural connectedness and community involvement and part of and involved in the community.” — Rural, adult.

*“Māori opportunities don’t exist in Selwyn. Capacity and funding is limited in Selwyn for Māori opportunities. Like you’ll get funding for a kapa haka group and by the time you’ve got 10 kids, the funding runs out even though there’s 20–50 other kids wanting to join.”
— Māori, Mana Whenua, 20–24 yrs.*

“There should be a marae near Rolleston.” — Māori, 15–19 yrs.

“Being Māori means being able to speak te reo, being closer to whānau, being connected to other people and knowing your whakapapa. Its ways of doing, being and living.” — (multiple people) Māori, 15–25 yrs.

“Māori schools and regular schools that speak te reo and do Māori activities” — Māori, 15–19 yrs.

“We want a bus exchange, programs to learn to drive, waka ama, kapa haka, an arcade so you can have fun, to be able to go to the marae every day, a theme park and horror maze, polyfest in our parks, league games and to learn to smoke eels.” — (multiple people) Māori, 15–25 yrs.

“We want to learn more about our whakapapa from the area we are from”. — (multiple people) Māori, 15–25 yrs.

*“A waste pipe and better internet out to Taumutu would be good”
— Māori, adult.*”

”

I am safe, valued, accepted,
and can contribute to my community.
Building inclusive connected communities.

Kā Matea Ahurea

Cultural Needs

Goals

Young Māori people have equitable access and opportunities to celebrate and live te ao Māori.

Young Māori people experience improved wellbeing outcomes and greater equity.

Our community supports young Māori people and celebrates te ao Māori.



Across Aotearoa, Māori experience greater disparities in wellbeing outcomes compared to other ethnic groups. We know that indigenous people across the globe who have experienced colonisation have similar disparities in wellbeing outcomes⁷⁰ and colonisation (although less explicit) is still occurring in society today. Studies show racism is a widely acknowledged key determinant of detrimental outcomes for Māori internally, interpersonally, institutionally and societally⁷¹. However, high engagement in cultural practices can act as protective factors for Māori and promote better wellbeing outcomes. In short, Māori generally have better overall wellbeing when engaged in te ao Māori⁷².

We heard from our young Māori people that they want to connect with te ao Māori close to their pā and whānau. Our young Māori people want to learn about te ao Māori, but often need to travel to Ōtautahi Christchurch to do so. In addition, we heard some find it hard to be Māori and connect with te ao Māori. One of our focus groups told us that despite being more connected to te ao Māori than most others, it is still difficult to be Māori and remain connected.

Across Waitaha Canterbury, Māori have significantly less engagement with te ao Māori compared to the rest of Aotearoa. In 2018, less Māori in Canterbury aged over 15:

- spoke and understood te reo Māori,
- knew their hapū,
- visited marae,
- felt strongly connected to their ancestral marae as tūrangawaewae, and
- found it easy to get whānau support with Māori cultural practices⁷³.

As a partner to Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Council has a responsibility to our young Māori people, however equally, we recognise in most areas we are not the best placed organisation to provide the best wellbeing outcomes for them. We need to collaborate with mana whenua and iwi Māori to

pursue their aspirations and dreams for their young Māori people rather than imposing our own. A recent study found that actions which had Māori leadership, rakatahi Māori specific policies, and underpinned by mātauraka Māori⁷⁴ reduced inequity for Māori when coupled with political will to support these actions⁷⁵.

One way Council is currently supporting this is by participating in the Tuia Programme. The programme is a long term, intergenerational approach to develop the leadership capacity of young Māori people in communities throughout New Zealand. This programme involves local Mayors mentoring a young Māori person on a one-to-one basis, to encourage and enhance leadership skills. As part of the programme, young Māori attend wānaka throughout the year which gives them an additional opportunity to immerse themselves in te ao Māori. Some participants have reported the wānaka was an opportunity to network, embrace and connect and reconnect with others and te ao māori. The relationship provides both partners with the opportunity to gain a deeper insight into inter-generational issues, cultural values and experiences⁷⁶. The Tuia programme and other programmes such as Te Hekeka which link to this kaupapa have been incredibly successful in increasing young Māori people's sense of belonging to their communities and developing leadership. This has led to further successful programmes being developed centered around kaupapa Māori.

Council's ambition is to build its cultural competency, to better engage with Māori and mana whenua, and improve outcomes and reduce inequities. To do this Council needs to support Māori leadership in decision-making. Together with mana whenua and iwi Māori living in the district, we want to build a community that celebrates te ao Māori and supports our young Māori people to achieve their aspirations and dreams. We know what is good for our young Māori people is good for our wider community so an investment in our them is an investment in Waikirikiri Selwyn as a whole.

5

My voice is important, and I can influence what happens in my community.

This strategy will...

ensure every voice counts.

by:

- listening to our young people and making it easier for them to join in, and
- shifting the narrative about young people.

“

“Giving them your undivided attention. Giving them a safe space to speak their mind. Giving them opportunities that they need to set them up for the future! Sadly, a lot of our rangatahi don’t have any of this.” — Māori, Pākehā, Pasifika, Rural, 15–19 yrs.

“Treating them with respect and actually listening to their concerns. I think that youth need to feel heard and a lot of the time we don’t feel listened to, due to our age.”

— Pākehā, Rural, 20–24 yrs.

“Being there, listening, asking what they want”

— Pākehā, Rural, 40–49 yrs.

“Conducting more surveys for this age group and including them in town-planning activities and discussions, as they are the future of the region. Actively listening to young people and perhaps visiting secondary schools in the region”.

— Pākehā, Urban, 20–24 yrs.

”

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“Listening to their concerns and trying to see and understand things from their perspective, not brushing them off because they are younger, respecting and being patient with them and offering support and guidance” — Pākehā, Urban, 20–24 yrs.

“Thinking about how the choice made in council will affect our generation currently but also in future” — Pākehā, Urban, 20–24 yrs.

“Feeling accepted and not being judged...pressure to smoke, vape. Have, you know, better support” — Māori and Pasifika, Urban, 15–19 yrs.

*“Consultation, understanding rather than condemning — why are youth acting like this? what is different for their generation?”
— Pākehā, Rural, 15–19 yrs.*

*“When teenagers do something bad, all teenagers and young people get blamed and judged but at the end of the day it’s only 2 people”
— Urban, 15–19 yrs.*

“Our voices to be heard and for us to not be put under the assumption that we’re all criminals” — Māori and Pākehā, Urban, 15–19 yrs.

*“To not be bullied by bigger people. It’s like a cycle, if someone bullies that person, they go and take his anger on him”
— Pākehā, Rural, 10–14 yrs.*

”

My voice is important, and I can influence what happens in my community.

Ensure every voice counts.

Kā Whai Wāhitaka Engagement

Goals

Young people can easily participate in Waikirikiri Selwyn's decision making.

Young people feel their views and the needs of future generations are represented in decision-making.



In the 2023 central government election, only 77.6% of voters enrolled in Waikirikiri Selwyn aged 18–24 voted, the second lowest turnout in the district and second only to the 25–29 age group⁷⁷. Furthermore, less than 75% of the district's young people who are eligible to vote are enrolled, less than any other age group⁷⁸. This is consistent across Aotearoa with less young people ages 18–24 participating in civic processes. Evidence shows if a young person fails to vote when they first become eligible, they are less likely to vote in future elections⁷⁹.

In Waikirikiri Selwyn, 70.8% of enrolled 18–24-year-olds of Māori descent voted in the 2023 general election, compared with 78.2% of non-Māori descent. This is similar to national statistics, but national turnout of non-Māori voters was 75%⁸⁰. The participation of young people in the 2022 local body elections is likely to be low given that the overall voter turnout for Selwyn was only 42.4% (slightly below the national average of 44%)⁸¹.

Disengagement was the main reason people did not vote in the 2014 general election. Non-voters were also more likely to have low trust in parliament, low interest in politics, low understanding of how government makes decisions and low trust that the public has influence on government decision making compared to people who did vote⁸². Additionally young people who actively participated in civic processes had higher levels of wellbeing, intentions to continue to engage in civic processes, a sense of participation in society⁸³.

We heard young people and communities want their voices to be heard, and for young people to have opportunities and a tangible role in decision-making and shaping the direction of Waikirikiri Selwyn.

In particular, we heard from our focus groups they want easier ways to participate in civic processes and for Council to come to them rather than expecting them to go to Council. In 2016, nearly half of Māori had low trust in government and felt they had little to no influence on government decision making⁸⁴. We heard young people want Council to adapt their engagement methods so they are more youth and te ao Māori friendly and enable young people to comfortably share their experiences.

Young people in our focus groups said that while they wanted to be heard, they were often unclear if their voice would have any impact on decision-making. We heard young people want acknowledgement of their contribution to civic processes, so they know their contributions are taken seriously.

We want our young people to have agency, to be heard in safe spaces and have regular opportunities to give feedback. We want our engagement opportunities to be done well, ethically, and safely, and take care to respect the pressures on young people's and mana whenua's time and resources.

The Selwyn Youth Council is one of the mechanisms Council uses to hear from young people, but we want to diversify our ways of engaging with young people to meet their needs. We want to lay the groundwork for a future where the next generation doesn't just inherit Waikirikiri Selwyn, they co-create it. We understand we need to take the first step but are dedicated to empowering our young people to become kaitiaki of the community we all cherish.

My voice is important, and I can influence what happens in my community.

Ensure every voice counts.

Kōrero Narrative

Goals

Young people are in control of their own narrative in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Narrative is focussed on young people's value in Waikirikiri Selwyn.



We heard young people often feel judged by adults in our communities. They reported that when they engage in typical activities for their age — such as talking, laughing, or hanging out with friends in public places — it often results in reprimands from older people. Many young people felt discriminated based on their age, being stereotyped as troublemakers or criminals.

A 2014 study by the Mental Health Foundation found young people who experienced discrimination from peers, government agencies, the health system, schools, communities, and the media faced significant impacts on their mental health and well-being. Participants reported feelings of depression, low self-esteem, and worthlessness. They described a self-perpetuating cycle where the negative emotions caused by discriminatory behaviour led them to internalise these negative stereotypes, believing these to be true. Furthermore, the study found discrimination led to increased anger, substance abuse, and difficulties in forming relationships among young people⁸⁵.

Not only does stereotyping impact young people's mental health, but it can increase the likelihood of young people engaging in the stereotyped behaviour. Similarly to the impact on wellbeing, stereotyping can create a self-perpetuating cycle where being stereotyped can define a young person in a vulnerable time of their lives when they are cultivating a sense of self and identity⁸⁶. Being in a school or a community where people exclude a young person because they are viewed as a troublemaker can make it difficult for the young person to challenge that stereotype. The more the young person is stereotyped, the greater the difficulty in challenging it. In addition, research shows young people who are labelled as "troublemakers" or "risky" are more likely to be excluded from society and opportunities; limiting alternative narratives or protective factors for the young person to cultivate an alternate sense of self⁸⁷.

For young Māori people Māori, stereotyping can have particularly negative impacts. A recent study found the systems built in communities and government exacerbate exclusion and disadvantage for young Māori people compared to pākehā. The study found that in 2021, 38% of young Māori people encountered exclusion and disadvantage compared to 14% of pākehā young people⁸⁸. This exclusion means young Māori people from the outset have fewer protective factors to draw from to create alternate narratives for themselves.

In Waikirikiri Selwyn and across Aotearoa, media about young people is predominantly negative. Often media about young people depicts anti-social or criminal behaviour. Despite Waikirikiri Selwyn's low crime statistics⁸⁹, responding to crime and anti-social behaviour was a theme raised by adults and young people in our engagement. Council has a responsibility to tell an accurate story about our young people and respond to negative narrative.

We have a role in setting the vision for the district and being consistent with our messaging. Imagine the ripple effects for our young people and our communities if Waikirikiri Selwyn actively celebrated, included and valued young people's unique contributions. Our strategy aims to build a youth-friendly district by connecting and enabling communities to support our young people by shifting the narrative.

6

Waikirikiri Selwyn is built for my future and the futures of my kids and grandkids.

This strategy will...

be brave today for a better tomorrow.
aspirations and dreams.

by:

- taking bigger actions to address climate change,
- improving the environment and biodiversity, and
- having enough variety in housing to meet young people's needs.

“

“Ensuring that the livelihood of the next up and coming generation is protected and doing what can be done to make things better/keep things in a good place to safeguard future generations.” — Pākehā, Rural, 20–24 yrs.

“We should preserve all of our animals and trees, so that the young people still can see it in future” — Asian, Urban, 20–24 yrs.

“Liveable communities into the future, climate resilience” — 20–24 yrs.

“Want more trees so there are more birds and more shelter from the wind. Also, more trees would mean there would be less fires instead of just plains.” — Urban, 15–19 yrs.

“I would like to be able to harvest kai from Te Waihora without getting sick”. — Mana Whenua, 20–24 yrs.

“Addressing the elephant in the room: climate change!!!!” — Māori, Pākehā, Urban, 25–29.

”

“

“Out by Te Taumutu — our beach is disappearing. The sand dune has disappeared, and another one will go in my lifetime. Our dead people are not far from the beach and our marae — I am unsure about what I can do. I’ve never swum off that coast because of the change. Education is really important — not many people know our coast is disappearing.” — Mana Whenua, 20–24 yrs.

“Sometimes the fish have plastic in their guts. And not too long ago all the eels washed up on the beach — the eels were unable to get to the sea from Te Waihora. It stunk.” — Mana Whenua, 15–19 yrs.

“Access to clean great outdoors — farming, animals and rivers for fishing.” — Urban, 20–24 yrs.

“Clean rivers to play and swim in” — Pākehā, Rural, 20–24 yrs.

“LIGHT RAIL! It connects us to the city, cuts commute and gives hope in climate-forward solutions.” — Māori and Pākehā, Urban, 25–29 yrs.

“Looking after the environment, making sure there are safe spaces taking responsibility for things that you own but aren’t looking after.” — Pākehā, Rural, 10–14 yrs.

“I currently live with my family. I will likely be renting in the future, it’s the only feasible option. Owning is not realistic because of the mortgage rates and house prices. 1st home buyers have to purchase in the 700K–800K range and that’s hard to afford. Also renting is ruthless, you’re looking at \$550 a week minimum because there are no 2-bed houses and you’re lucky to find a 3-bed. There’s no middle ground in housing — either it’s massive or a super compact house. That doesn’t really cater for young people or young families.” — Mana Whenua, 20–24 yrs

“We want intergenerational households — to live with our grandparents/kaumatua to learn more about our whakapapa in the area we are from.” — Mana Whenua, 15–19 yrs.

“Affordable housing plans” — Māori, Pākehā, Urban, 10–14 yrs.

“Keeping rates affordable/making saving money easier” — Pākehā, Rural, 20–24 yrs.

“We need lower living costs (broke students)” — Pākehā, Urban, 20–24 yrs.”

”

Te Panonitaka Āhuaraki Climate Change

Waikirikiri Selwyn is built for my future
and the futures of my kids and grandkids.
Be brave today for a better tomorrow.

Goals

Take big actions/steps to address climate change.

Take big actions/steps to prepare for climate change.

We promote what is being done to address/prepare
for climate change.



Climate change is the greatest challenge for current and future generations. Both temperature and coastal sea levels in Aotearoa are rising and are projected to increase further, mostly due to climate change. The changing climate will have large effects on our environment, and our communities, impacting social, economic and health and wellbeing. Across Aotearoa we can expect hotter days, more and varied rainfall, increased drought severity, more flooding, and stronger winds impacting all parts of society⁹⁰. Infrastructure and communities will also continue to be adversely affected, making it highly likely that climate-related impacts will result in the displacement of people living in locations vulnerable to climate change. This displacement will disconnect people who are deeply connected to, and reliant upon, the security, networks and cultural values of their land, homes, communities, and livelihoods⁹¹.

Agriculture, forestry and fishing were the largest economic contributors to Waikirikiri Selwyn's economy in 2023, contributing \$27.9 million to the local economy. The impacts of climate change on agriculture alone could cause food insecurity, impact soil health through loss of biodiversity, and affect access to fresh water for crops and livestock causing significant financial consequences for farmers, growers, and consumers are potentially significant. The Māori economy is projected to be severely affected by climate change because it has a high proportion of interests in the primary sector⁹³.

We heard that climate change is a big concern for young people, impacting their health and wellbeing. Emerging evidence indicates that children and young people are experiencing greater levels of mental distress due to climate change than any other age group, and research suggests they will be disproportionately burdened by the impacts of climate change⁹⁵. Eco and climate anxiety is an increased sense of hopelessness, dread, grief, or anger about climate change. This can lead to fatalistic thinking; shame about one's carbon footprint; feelings of depression, anxiety, panic; obsessive thoughts about the climate,

sleep, appetite and concentration problems and heightened stress in relationships⁹⁵. Māori, children and young people are the most impacted and vulnerable to eco anxiety⁹⁶.

It is highly likely health and wellbeing outcomes will deteriorate because of climate change and biodiversity loss, including the introduction of infectious diseases and food insecurity. Existing health and social system inequities will be exacerbated by climate change, particularly for young people, elderly, disabled, Māori, and Pasifika⁹⁷.

We heard our community and young people want greater action to be taken to address, prevent and prepare for climate change. As a signatory to the Aotearoa New Zealand Local Government Leaders' Climate Change Declaration 2017, the Council is committed to developing and implementing plans to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, to collaborate with mana whenua, and to support resilience within our local communities. The insights and expertise of people engaged in te taiao initiatives are being looked to for pathways to climate change mitigation and adaptation. Research, such as this, which strengthens the place and practice of mātauraka to support climate health outcomes for Aotearoa, could provide more hopeful futures for young people⁹⁸. We understand tackling the climate crisis requires a collective effort from across the globe, but this should not prevent us from taking big steps ourselves. We heard our communities want to contribute with Council to a better environment and climate for Waikirikiri Selwyn and future generations.

Our young people challenged us to be brave in responding to the climate crisis. In partnering with central government, Greater Ōtautahi Christchurch, mana whenua and community, we have an opportunity to take big actions to address climate change together and bring our young people on this journey with us. This will take work and not be easy, but ultimately, this isn't just about us—it's about safeguarding the planet for future generations.

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Te Taiao Environment

Goals

Support environmentally positive initiatives and opportunities for young people to participate in across Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Improve environment and biodiversity conditions in Waikirikiri Selwyn



Biodiversity⁹⁹ holds intrinsic value and provides numerous benefits essential for human well-being and the health of other species. Biodiversity supports healthy soil; the growth of food, trees and fresh water; climate regulation, flood and disease control, water purification; peoples cultural, recreational and spiritual needs; and many other areas. Human activities such as changes in land and sea use, climate change, and the introduction of invasive species caused significant declines in biodiversity over the past 50 years. Ecosystems worldwide have deteriorated considerably leading to the extinction of several species. This biodiversity loss undermines ecosystem services, threatening food security, health, and economic stability globally¹⁰⁰.

In Aotearoa, biodiversity holds profound cultural significance for Māori for whom nature and humans are interconnected through whakapapa¹⁰¹, kaitiakitanga¹⁰², customs, language, and spirituality¹⁰³. Climate change and biodiversity loss threatens the loss of culturally significant land and taoka which could disrupt the transmission of location-specific mātauraka Māori and tikaka practices. These species are treasured based on historical, cultural, spiritual and ecological significance. Many taoka have been gathered over generations and are connected to mahika kai¹⁰⁴ and rongoā¹⁰⁵.

These unique flora and fauna are also crucial to the country's national identity and tourism industry. Preserving this biodiversity is essential for cultural, economic and ecological benefits¹⁰⁷. In addition, biodiversity supports wellbeing. Access to natural recreational environments and public conservation areas can reduce stress, improve mental health and wellbeing. Access to parks, sport and recreational environments can influence physical activity for whole communities, indirectly benefitting peoples physical and mental health¹⁰⁷.

Waikirikiri Selwyn is home to a large variety of geographic and biodiverse features. The district ranges from Kā Tiritiri o te Moana| the Southern Alps in the west, the Pacific Ocean in the east, the Waimakariri River in the north and the Rakaia River in the south; encompassing beach, the Canterbury Plains, braided rivers, rolling hill country, steep high country,

and alpine areas. The physical characteristics of the natural environment of the Waikirikiri Selwyn district are highly varied and are some of the most diverse in the country.

Waikirikiri Selwyn is home to several threatened species and some of the most significant and 'naturally uncommon ecosystems' that often have distinctive flora and fauna¹⁰⁸. One such species is the endangered kea, the only mountain parrot species in the world and beloved resident of Arthurs Pass¹⁰⁹. Native vegetation in Waikirikiri Selwyn has been significantly altered since human occupation. Much of the native swamps have been drained and shrublands and forests cleared for pasture, leaving only some isolated areas remaining. This in turn has led to species such as the kea residing in these small, isolated pockets of the district, and diminishing numbers of species with habitat loss¹¹⁰.

We heard a biodiverse environment is important to young people, particularly a clean and healthy Te Waihora and rivers, and diverse tree, plant and animal life. We heard young people want to be able to swim in our rivers, see native birds and sit in the shade of trees for generations to come. We want to protect what remains of our biodiversity and restore what has been lost so our big backyard is preserved for generations to come to continue to enjoy and experience¹¹². This is going to need work from multiple stakeholders.

The Selwyn Biodiversity Strategy¹¹² provides an overarching view of how Council intends to achieve the protection, maintenance, and restoration of indigenous biodiversity within Waikirikiri Selwyn. The Strategy aims to build on the good work already occurring in the district; support and encourage the associated efforts of mana whenua, communities, landowners, and individuals; raise awareness of biodiversity values and facilitate the coordination of agency effort through alignment and partnerships. Piki Amokura will support the actions in this strategy.

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Be brave today for a better tomorrow.

Kā Whare Housing

Goals

There is enough variety in Waikirikiri Selwyn's
housing stock to meet young people's housing needs.



We heard young people want more housing options in Waikirikiri Selwyn. The district's housing stock is primarily made up of three to four-bedroom homes¹¹³ in line with Aotearoa's trend towards larger homes. There is little diversification in Waikirikiri Selwyn's housing stock, leading to the low provision of multi-unit or 2 or less bedroom homes. Homeownership is high in the district with 8 out of 10 households living in owner-occupied dwellings¹¹⁴, which leaves fewer rental options. Consequently, renting is less affordable in Waikirikiri Selwyn compared to the rest of Aotearoa¹¹⁵.

In the last 10 years, house prices across the country have doubled¹¹⁶. In 2018, young people, Māori and Pasifika were the least likely to own a home in Aotearoa¹¹⁷. The rising property prices make it increasingly difficult for young people to enter the housing market. In 2018, homeownership rates in Aotearoa dropped to their lowest level since the 1950s to 64.5%¹¹⁸. Waikirikiri Selwyn has more affordable houses in comparison to Aotearoa; however, house prices have been increasing¹¹⁹. The increase in house prices is largely due to a supply and demand issue. The number of private occupied dwellings increased by 1.3 percent annually between 2013 and 2018, but this did not keep pace with population growth. The result has been larger and more crowded households¹²⁰ and young people delaying moving out of their parental homes¹²¹.

We heard young people want more choices and options for housing. We heard students in Lincoln and young whānau in Waikirikiri Selwyn are finding it more difficult to find affordable rentals, and young people are worried about being able to afford to buy their first home. We heard young Māori people want to live in intergenerational households with their whānau and kaumatua.

Housing has become increasingly expensive across Aotearoa, and this too is the case in Waikirikiri Selwyn. This is not necessarily something which Council can influence; however, Council can influence the provision of housing in the district. We can influence the variety of housing being built in developments to include more options for young people. We can also attract greater development of housing in the district, increasing supply to meet demand and ultimately keeping prices affordable. This is not only positive for young people but is positive for the wider community; for older people wanting to downsize or single people and couples without children.

Appendix A

– background context

In today's rapidly evolving world, young people are navigating an increasingly complex local, national, and global landscape. Young people are having to be savvier than ever often in a world where they are some of the most impacted; navigating instability caused by increasing cost of living and less security of housing, global geopolitical conflicts, misinformation, and dis-information spread by social media, and the developing online world. Ensuring the next generation can thrive in an uncertain future requires an understanding of these multifaceted challenges.



The strategic context

Piki Amokura sits within a broader strategic context, primarily set by the Council.

Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn

Piki Amokura sits within the Council's long-term strategic framework, Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn, which responds to and prepares for population changes ahead by setting the vision and direction for the district for the next 50–100 years. One of the outcomes is to make Waikirikiri Selwyn a great place to call home. Young people are integral to this vision.

Piki Amokura's place in the overarching strategic direction is Ōtatou hāpori | People and communities. Measures for Piki Amokura align with Waikirikiri Ki Tua Future Selwyn.

Te Rautaki Tikaka Rua | Bicultural Strategy

Te Rautaki Tikaka Rua, the Council's internal bicultural strategy⁵, to strengthen Council's engagement and relationship with mana whenua and Māori, and fulfil its obligations under Te Tiriti o Waitangi. The stronger relationships and positive outcomes achieved through this strategy will equip Council to better serve its communities.

Child and Youth Wellbeing strategy

In 2019, the government released a national Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy setting out a vision to make Aotearoa New Zealand the best

¹ When using the term "young Māori people" in this strategy, we are referring young people in Waikirikiri Selwyn who identify as Māori.

² [Indigenous health and wellbeing — Australian Institute of Health and Welfare \(aihw.gov.au\)](https://www.aihw.gov.au), [Social Determinants of Health Inequities in Indigenous Canadians Through a Life Course Approach to Colonialism and the Residential School System — PMC \(nih.gov\)](https://www.aihw.gov.au)

³ While equality is the effect of treating all people in the same way, equity refers to more than just equal access or support. Equity recognises that people with different levels of advantage require different approaches and resources to get equitable



See Appendix D for full page version of diagram

place for youth and children to live. The feedback we received during our engagement process resonated with the six outcomes outlined for children and young people in the national strategy:

- be loved, safe and nurtured,
- have what they need,
- be happy and healthy,
- be learning and developing,
- be accepted, respected and connected, and
- be involved and empowered.

(fair) outcomes. Equity is focused on ensuring that efforts and resources are used wisely to improve outcomes for those most in need. Providing more opportunities for educational success, addressing income inequities and unemployment and improving housing standards are all measures that directly improve health outcomes. cph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/IntegratedPlanningGuide.pdf

⁴ To assist with planning, we have made a series of assumptions which can be found in Appendix C.

⁵ Te Rautaki Tikaka Rua | Bicultural Strategy was endorsed by the Council in 2023 — [UNCONFIRMED Public Minutes Council meeting 24 March 2021 \(selwyn.govt.nz\)](https://www.selwyn.govt.nz/unconfirmed-public-minutes-council-meeting-24-march-2021)

Local context

Population growth

Waikirikiri Selwyn is located within Waitaha Canterbury and is bordered by Kā Tiritiri o te Moana| the Southern Alps in the west, the Pacific Ocean in the east, the Waimakariri River in the north and the Rakaia River in the south. Waikirikiri Selwyn is the fastest growing district in Aotearoa New Zealand, having grown by over 50,000 people since 2000, almost tripling the population⁶. The main source of this growth is people moving to the district from other parts of the country, particularly young families⁷.

This has meant the district is much younger compared to most other areas in Aotearoa New Zealand. Over a third of the district's population is under 24 years old with the easternmost towns, particularly Rolleston, having the highest concentration of young people. 24% of Rolleston and 23% of West Melton's population are under the age of 14⁸.

This is expected to continue with Waikirikiri Selwyn's population of young people projected to grow by 33%, twice the national growth rate⁹. This means there will be 4,500 more young people living in the district. Rolleston's population of young people is projected to increase by 64% in the next 15 years (an increase of 3,500 young people)¹⁰.



⁶ [Growth and demand report](#)

⁷ The high number of births and the median age in the district suggests that young families are migrating to Waikirikiri Selwyn. The median age of Waikirikiri Selwyn is 37.3 years old; much younger than other areas in Aotearoa New Zealand. [Growth and demand report](#)

⁸ [Growth and demand report](#)

⁹ In the next 15 years, the national population of young people is projected to increase by 18%.

¹⁰ 2023 youth plan — based on 2018 census population estimates. 2023 census population estimates and projections are scheduled to be released in October 2024.

Ethnicity

Waikirikiri Selwyn's young people are increasingly becoming more multicultural compared to the wider population¹¹. Since 2018, there has been an increase in young people identifying as Asian (12.7%¹²), Pasifika (2.8%¹³), Māori (12.4%¹⁴), MELAA (1.1%¹⁶) and other ethnicities (2.9%¹⁷) and a decrease in Pākehā (68.2%¹⁸).

Urban Expansion

As expected, population growth has led to greater urban expansion, particularly in Rolleston and Lincoln. There has been a strong increase in housing developments largely containing 3–4-bedroom homes. In 2018, the district had 23,403 dwellings¹⁹. By 2022, this had increased to 30,559. This is projected to increase by 12,058 in the next 10 years to 42,617 dwellings, and a further 30,759 dwellings in the next 30 years to 61,318, essentially doubling the number of dwellings by 2054²⁰.

¹¹ At the time of writing, 2023 Census ethnicity data by age groups was not available. It will be available in October 2024.

¹² In 2018 5.7% of the school population identified as Asian compared with 12.7% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹³ In 2018 1.8% of the school population identified as Pasifika compared with 2.8% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹⁴ In 2018 11% of the school population identified as Māori compared with 12.4% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹⁵ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹⁶ In 2018 0.4% of the school population identified as MELAA compared with 1.1% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹⁷ In 2018 2% of the school population identified as an "other ethnicity" compared with 2.9% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹⁸ In 2018 79.1% of the school population identified as Pākehā compared with 68.2% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹⁹ Census data

²⁰ [Growth and demand report](#)

²¹ [Selwyn District Council — Annual Plan](#)

²² Partnerships include 24/7 youth work and Selwyn Sports Trust [Selwyn District Council — Long-Term Plan 2021-2031](#)

Council initiatives for youth development

With our high population of young people and whānau in the district, Council and community have been working in the youth space for a number of years. Initiatives Council has been involved in include:

- having a [Youth Council](#),
- supporting the Youth Council to facilitate at least 6 consultations annually with young people in the district,
- supporting the Youth Council to deliver campaigns to raise awareness and promote civic participation among young people,
- facilitating a [youth hub](#) in Rolleston where young people can access targeted services and programmes,
- creating [spaces and facilities](#) in the town centre for young people²¹,
- funding strategic partnerships with youth service providers²²,
- employing a Senior Youth Partnerships Advisor,
- maintaining relationships with schools,
- developing actions for young people in our strategies and plans²³,
- holding community funds specifically for young people²⁴,
- delivering broad range of events, activities and workshops for young people and the wider community and,
- providing facilities for young people and the wider community²⁵

²³ [Selwyn District Council — Annual Plan](#), [Selwyn District Council — Long-Term Plan 2021-2031](#), PARS plan

²⁴ [Selwyn District Council — Funding](#)

²⁵ Programmes include specific targeted activities such as driving courses and homeschool social events; and regularly planned activities such as swimming lessons. Our libraries also hold a range of books for young people, and our pools, community and event centres and community spaces have facilities for young people. [Selwyn District Council — Events](#)

Regional context

Canterbury earthquakes in 2010 and 2011

A further contributor to population growth in Waikirikiri Selwyn was the Canterbury earthquakes in 2010 and 2011. Young people who moved to Waikirikiri Selwyn during this time as young children and babies are now in their early to mid-teenage years. These young people likely have higher needs compared to their peers outside Canterbury. The earthquakes and other events in the last 15 years had an impact on young people's wellbeing. Since 2011, there has been a 93% increase in referrals for children needing specialist support for mental health issues. Studies show the trauma from the earthquake resulted in significantly higher symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder²⁶, behavioural problems in children, and a higher need for mental health services²⁷.

Greater Christchurch Partnership

The Selwyn District Council is part of the [Greater Christchurch Partnership](#), a coalition of mana whenua, local government, and central government agencies who work together to address strategic challenges and opportunities for Greater Ōtautahi Christchurch. In early 2023, the Whakawhanake Kāinga Committee²⁸ undertook the Huihui Mai engagement to understand residents' thoughts on key issues for the region.

As part of this engagement, they spoke to 395 representatives from schools, tertiary education institutions, the Youth Summit and youth

²⁶ Also known as PTSD

²⁷ [Article-3.pdf \(psychology.org.nz\)](#), [GEOG402_Youth-Engagement-in-post-quake-Christchurch.pdf \(canterbury.ac.nz\)](#).

²⁸ Also known as the Urban Growth Partnership for Greater Christchurch Committee

²⁹ 5 May A4 Huihui Mai GC2050 Youth Engagement ([greaterchristchurch.org.nz](#))

³⁰ New report shows significant changes to New Zealand's climate | Stats NZ

³¹ Household living costs increase 7.0 percent | Stats NZ

groups. Young people shared their thoughts on high-density housing options, the proposed mass rapid transit system, safety issues, equitable access to education and higher learning, cost of living, cultural representation, and healthy cities²⁹.

Global and national context

Climate change

Climate change is the greatest challenge for current and future generations. Climate change has increased unpredictable and extreme weather events, sea level rise, and warmer temperatures. Aotearoa New Zealand is particularly vulnerable due to its extensive coastline and reliance on agriculture³⁰.

Cost of living

The cost of living in Aotearoa New Zealand has consistently increased since 2021, with a 7% increase reported between December 2022 and 2023³¹. The main driver behind this has been high inflation, particularly in food, housing, and transport. Inflation reflects challenges with supply and demand. The Covid-19 pandemic disrupted supply chains around the world which created bottlenecks in production. This has been exacerbated by war in Ukraine and Palestine and by extreme weather events in Aotearoa New Zealand like Cyclone Gabrielle³²; resulting in an increase in the number of children in poverty experiencing material hardship^{33 34}.

³² FEU Special Topic: Decomposing inflation into supply and demand drivers | The Treasury New Zealand

³³ Material hardship means a household goes without six or more of 17 essential items including fresh fruit and vegetables, doctor's visits, good pairs of shoes, car upkeep, and unexpected expenses of \$500 or more.

³⁴ Child poverty statistics show increase in material hardship for the year ended June 2023 | Stats NZ

Housing

Increased rents and house prices have contributed to the rise in the cost of living. In the last 15 years, mortgage payments increased by almost 50%³⁵. Coupled with increasing house prices, Aotearoa New Zealand is one of the least affordable countries to buy a house, ranking the 6th least affordable country in 2022³⁶.

However, mortgage payments are more affordable than renting. Rent payments increased by 93% in the last 15 years. In 2022, 1 in 4 households spent more than 40% of their disposable income on rent, compared to 1 in 5 households paying a mortgage. The increased cost of housing is also reflected by the increased applications to the Public Housing Register. In March 2024, 25,527 people were on the Public Housing Register, and of that, almost 3,000 were under the age of 24. This represents an increase of 6% between March 2023 and 2024³⁷.

Health

A nationwide shortage of medical professionals and resources across the health system is straining the workforce. The shortage is particularly acute in rural areas, where access to primary and specialised care is limited. This may be exacerbated by Aotearoa New Zealand's ageing population who require more intensive health services as they age. The shortage of nurses and general practitioners has increased wait times for treatment and difficulty accessing timely and effective health care³⁸, is leading to adverse health outcomes³⁹. Health and wellbeing are influenced by a wide range of factors beyond the health sector. These factors are often referred to as the 'social determinants of health', and can be described as the environmental, economic and social conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work and age⁴⁰.

³⁵ [Housing affordability more challenging for renters than homeowners | Stats NZ](#)

³⁶ [The Global Cost of Property | Compare the Market](#)

³⁷ [Housing Register – Ministry of Social Development \(msd.govt.nz\)](#)

³⁸ [Nursing Shortages – New Zealand Nurses Organisation \(nznz.org.nz\)](#)

³⁹ [GP Future Workforce Requirements Report | RNZCGP](#)

⁴⁰ [Social determinants of health \(who.int\)](#)

Digital world

Globally there has been increasing reliance on technology; providing unparalleled access to information, entertainment, and online interaction instantaneously. Interactions are increasingly moving online with messaging and other communication functions in many online platforms, making social media a major component of most young people's social lives. Continual developments to technology mean young people are having to navigate this rapidly changing digital world.

Covid-19 pandemic

In 2020, the Covid-19 pandemic caused Aotearoa New Zealand and the rest of the world to isolate to prevent the spread of Covid-19. The country went into several nationwide lockdowns over two years from 25 March 2020⁴¹.

Covid-19 significantly impacted the global and national economy causing business closures, job losses, and reduced economic activity. Tourism and hospitality industries were substantially affected. The government took steps to financially support businesses, which increased national debt but provided essential economic relief.

The pandemic also significantly impacted young people and their education. Schooling was moved online with teachers connecting with their classes using online platforms. For some students, their entire NCEA level 1, 2 and 3 examinations were completed online. Not only did this cause disruption to young people's learning, but also to their attendance⁴². The pandemic saw an immediate drop in school attendance across Aotearoa New Zealand. After a brief reprieve in 2021, attendance continued to drop to as low as 45% in December 2022. This particularly impacted Māori and Pasifika young people with less than 40% of students attending school in December 2023. Addressing low attendance has been identified as a priority by the recently elected government⁴³.

⁴¹ [COVID-19 – Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora](#)

⁴² Attendance means students attend school more than 90% of the time.

⁴³ [Attendance action plan to lift student attendance rates | Beehive.govt.nz](#)

Appendix B

– development of this strategy

Background research

We began the development of this strategy with desk-top research of youth strategies from other councils across Aotearoa, national policy documents, and international strategies. The aim was to gain a broad understanding of current themes and approaches used to inform initial themes for our engagement. 11 main themes emerged:

- young people's voice is listened to and taken into account.
- young people feel safe and cared about in their towns and communities.
- young people feel safe and cared about in their whānau.
- young people have access to health and social services.
- young people have job and school opportunities.
- young people have safe and affordable transport options.
- young people can join in with community activities.
- young people live in a healthy and sustainable environment.
- young people are connected with their culture, language and beliefs.
- young people's whānau have what they need.
- young people have time to be with their whānau and do the things they enjoy.

Our engagement with communities and experts¹⁶⁴ told us these themes were consistent with their experiences in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

Community Engagement

Between October 2023 and March 2024, we engaged with community to understand what was important to Waikirikiri Selwyn's young people. We used a broad range of engagement activities to reach as many young people as possible. In total, we engaged with over 2,500 people across 27 events; workshops and focus groups at schools and tertiary providers; and a three-question postcard survey available at Council facilities. Of the 2,500 people, 1,462 identified within the target age group of 12–24-year-olds: an estimated 9.8% of Waikirikiri Selwyn's population of young people.

To keep the amount of data collected manageable for young people, we did not collect demographic data at every engagement activity. However, age, ethnicity, and place of residence was collected in the postcard survey which received 1,097 submissions. Of those submissions, 665 people identified as being Pākehā, 165 identified as Māori, 202 as Asian, 53 as Pasifika and 202 people identified as another ethnic group. Where a person reported more than one ethnic group, they were counted in each group. The place of residence was highest for submissions from Rolleston (369), Lincoln (170), and wider Canterbury including Ōtautahi Christchurch, Waitaha Canterbury, Waimakariri and Hakatere Ashburton Districts (282).

We anticipated that we would get more responses from urban areas so to ensure we heard the rural voice we ran targeted events and focus groups in rural areas. The events were held in Southbridge, Darfield, Prebbleton, West Melton, Rolleston and Lincoln University. The focus groups were held with the Selwyn Youth Council; members of the public who registered an interest; Alternative Education providers in Rolleston (with students from across the District attending); and students at Ellesmere College, West Rolleston School, Lemonwood School, Weedons School, Waitaha School, and Te Tohūtū Whio School. We engaged with an estimated 1,350 people at these events and focus groups.

We asked three questions in our postcard survey in addition to age, ethnicity, and place of residence. These were:

- What do young people (aged 12–24) need to live happy lives in Waikirikiri Selwyn?
- Putting young people first means....?
- The best thing in Waikirikiri Selwyn for young people is....?

We did not limit postcard survey responses to only young people because their development is supported by people of different ages. A young person is likely to have whānau (parents, grandparents, aunts, and uncles) invested in their lives and younger siblings, cousins or friends who have thoughts and views about their futures as young people.

Our focus group questions were informed by the analysis of around 500 responses from early engagement activities. By understanding the following emergent themes, we were able to delve deeper with focus group participants:

- Access to transport,
- Who young people want to spend time with,
- A healthy environment in Waikirikiri Selwyn,
- Why young people move away from Waikirikiri Selwyn,
- Access to housing,
- What young people want to teach adults,
- What young people want to learn from adults, and
- What changes would make young people thrive¹⁶⁵.

Analysis of key themes

We analysed what people told us (“data”) in our community engagement. Our analysis involved looking across all the data to identify key themes and patterns. From these themes, we formulated problem definitions aimed at addressing root causes rather than the symptoms. These definitions were tested and refined in collaboration with staff from across Council as well as service providers and agencies attending our community forums. Ultimately, we used these refined definitions to develop this strategy.

Intersecting themes

During the analysis, five themes emerged which influenced or impacted all other themes:

- The cost of living, including increases in housing, food, and fuel costs.
- Importance of young people having their basic needs met, including access to clean water, enough healthy nutritious food, clothing, and warm, safe and dry housing.
- Increasing reliance on technology, including concerns about young people spending a lot of their time online, and impacts of social media.
- Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the needs of Young Māori people.
- Impacts of climate change.








Appendix C

– Assumptions

- The Waikirikiri Selwyn district population will continue to grow.
- The district will remain a popular location for whānau.
- There will be a growth in traffic on state highways and local networks within Waikirikiri Selwyn district.
- Passenger public transport growth will progressively increase in the Waikirikiri Selwyn district.
- There will be a continuing effort to encourage walking and cycling as a viable transport alternative in urban areas to manage demand and reduce vehicle use.
- Council's economic development role is to support entrepreneurship, provide infrastructure, facilitate workforce development, and collaborate with stakeholders to identify opportunities to grow the economy and to promote sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
- Council contributes to the overall quality of life and connectedness of the community by promoting social wellbeing through the provision of essential services, fostering connected and inclusive communities, ensuring public safety, and engaging with residents.
- As the population increases and as the district continues to grow and change it is expected that there will be incremental changes and greater demand for the levels services and facilities.
- As people age, there will be greater demand for accessible services and facilities as people become less mobile¹⁶⁶.

Appendix D – illustrations

Council Archetypes

Archetype	Description	Key Roles
 COMMUNITY LEADER	Using the moral authority of the Council to bring people together around a shared vision for the District	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Articulate a vision for the future of the District • Be a voice for the community nationally and internationally • Develop long-term and annual plans for the District
 INTEGRATOR	Bringing people together within the community to create meaningful change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate discussions between stakeholders within the District • Create connections between key players • Co-designing solutions with the community
 SHAPER	Shaping the look and feel of the District through planning and regulatory functions, and rating functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage the behaviours that will contribute to achieving the desired future shape and objectives for the District — through planning, regulations, and revenue policy setting. • Discourage undesirable behaviours using the same tools • Ensure the way in which revenue collection tools (rates, fees, fines) are used is equitable
 SERVICE PROVIDER	Providing and commissioning community services that improve social, economic, environmental and cultural outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide or commission community services required by legislation • Provide or commission other services that will benefit the community, with a particular focus on services that others are not willing or able to provide
 INFRASTRUCTURE PROVIDER	Providing reliable public infrastructure for communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invest and commission new infrastructure to meet the development needs of the District • Maintain existing infrastructure
 PROMOTER AND ADVOCATE	Representing the District externally to advocate for what the community needs and attract appropriate investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for the District's interests at regional and national levels • Attract appropriate investment into the District • Promote the District to potential future residents and/or visitors
 ENABLER	Using the Council's financial resources to enable activities within the District that might not otherwise occur	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use the Council's purchasing power to shape local markets • Provide subsidies, grants and other financial incentives to encourage desirable activities within the District that might not otherwise occur

Endnotes

¹When using the term “young people” in this strategy, we are referring to all young people who are aged 12–24 in Waikirikiri Selwyn.

² At the time of writing, 2023 Census ethnicity data by age groups was not available. It will be available in October 2024. — Source School data from Ministry of Education.

³ More information outlining the context which shaped the development of this strategy is in Appendix A. This also includes an introduction to what Council and community have been doing in the youth space for several years.

⁴ When using the term “young Māori people” in this strategy, we are referring young people in Waikirikiri Selwyn who identify as Māori.

⁵ [Indigenous health and wellbeing — Australian Institute of Health and Welfare \(aihw.gov.au\)](https://www.aihw.gov.au/indigenous-health-and-wellbeing), [Social Determinants of Health Inequities in Indigenous Canadians Through a Life Course Approach to Colonialism and the Residential School System — PMC \(nih.gov\)](https://www.nih.gov/social-determinants-of-health)

⁶ While equality is the effect of treating all people in the same way, equity refers to more than just equal access or support. Equity recognises that people with different levels of advantage require different approaches and resources to get equitable (fair) outcomes. Equity is focused on ensuring that efforts and resources are used wisely to improve outcomes for those most in need. Providing more opportunities for educational success, addressing income inequities and unemployment and improving housing standards are all measures that directly improve health outcomes. cph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/IntegratedPlanningGuide.pdf

⁷ Rural means the person who made the comment identified as living in a rural or remote area of Waikirikiri Selwyn.

⁸ Mana whenua means the person who made the comment is a descendant of either Ngāi Te Ruahikihiki or Ngāi Tuahuriri.

⁹ Urban means the person who made the comment identified as living in an urban area of Waikirikiri Selwyn.

¹⁰ [Quarterly Economic Monitor | Selwyn District | School attendance \(infometrics.co.nz\)](https://infometrics.co.nz/QuarterlyEconomicMonitor/SelwynDistrict/SchoolAttendance)

¹¹ [Student-rolls-by-School_2010-2023.xlsx](#)

¹² [Student-rolls-by-School_2010-2023.xlsx](#)

¹³ [Student-rolls-by-School_2010-2023.xlsx](#)

¹⁴ [Government to spend \\$80 million on Ashburton and Ellesmere colleges | Stuff](#)

¹⁵ [Redevelopment | Ellesmere College](#)

¹⁶ [Attendance | Education Counts](#)

¹⁷ [Missing Out: Why Aren't Our Children Going to School? \(ero.govt.nz\)](#)

¹⁸ [Attendance | Education Counts](#)

¹⁹ [Missing Out: Why Aren't Our Children Going to School? \(ero.govt.nz\)](#)

²⁰ [Missing Out: Why Aren't Our Children Going to School? \(ero.govt.nz\)](#)

²¹ [Overview of Māori employment outcomes in Aotearoa New Zealand | Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment \(mbie.govt.nz\)](#)

²² [Microsoft Word — 1. Succeeding as Māori Final.docx \(waikato.ac.nz\)](#)

²³ Net Migration was calculated by comparing Census population statistics for age groups of 15–19 yrs and 20–24 yrs between the years 2013 and 2018; and 2018 and 2023. As young people age, they move from the 15–19 age group to the 20–24 age group. This means that if no young people moved out of the district and no additional new young people moved into the district, net migration would be 0%. Net migration takes into account young people aged between 20–24 moving into the district (likely to attend Lincoln University), meaning that the loss of young people

aged 20–24 years out of district is greater than the gain of young people of the same age group moving into district. [Place Summaries | Selwyn District | Stats NZ](#)

²⁴ When the same group of young people were aged 20–24 yrs.

²⁵ [Who We Are :: Lincoln University](#)

²⁶ At the time of writing (May–June 2024) the Economic Development Strategy was in its draft phase [Selwyn District Council – Economic Development Strategy](#)

²⁷ Rautaki mo te Taurikura | Embracing change for prosperity. Ministry for Primary Industries,

²⁸ Selwyn Economic and Social Context, Benje Patterson People and Places, March 2024. Prepared for the Selwyn District Council to inform the development of their Economic Development Strategy.2

²⁹ [Quarterly Economic Monitor | Selwyn District | NEET rate \(infometrics.co.nz\)](#)

³⁰ Pae Aronui Year One Report 2020, Te Puni Kokiri.

³¹ The Future Ready Workforce priority in the Council's Economic Development Strategy will provide the platform for vocational training opportunities for young people. Piki Amokura will support the actions in this strategy.

³² “Employed” means employed for more than an hour a week (non-seasonally adjusted).

³³ [Employment rate — Canterbury Wellbeing Index](#)

³⁴ [Quarterly Economic Monitor | Selwyn District | Unemployment rate \(infometrics.co.nz\)](#)

³⁵ [Quarterly Economic Monitor | Selwyn District | NEET rate \(infometrics.co.nz\)](#)

³⁶ [2024-04-11 Overview report of main themes from community engagement for Piki Amokura](#)

³⁷ Selwyn Economic and Social Context, Benje Patterson People and Places, March 2024. Prepared for the Selwyn District Council to inform the development of their Economic Development Strategy.

³⁸ At the time of writing (May–June 2024) the Economic Development Strategy was in its draft phase [Selwyn District Council – Economic Development Strategy](#). The Economic Development Strategy will provide the platform for employment opportunities for young people and promote the district as open for business. Piki Amokura will support the actions in this strategy.

³⁹ New Zealand Health Survey, 2022/23. Manatū Hauora Ministry of Health.

⁴⁰ Proportion of those aged 18 years and over who would find it hard or very hard to talk to someone if they were feeling down, for greater Ōtautahi Christchurch, by age group: 18–24 years, 18.8%; 25–34 years, 16.6%; 35–49 years, 14.1%; 50–64 years, 13.7%; 65–74 years, 12.9%, and 75 years+, 13.1% in 2022 [Emotional support — Canterbury Wellbeing Index](#)

⁴¹ Proportion of respondents reporting feeling lonely or isolated, always or most of the time, for greater Ōtautahi Christchurch, by age group: 18–24 years, 27.3%; 25–34 years, 11.7%; 35–49 years, 7.5%; 50–64 years, 3.5%; 65–74 years, 3.7%, and 75 years+, 2.8% in 2022 [Loneliness and isolation — Canterbury Wellbeing Index](#)

⁴² Proportion of those aged 18 years and over reporting stress sometimes, most of the time, or always, for greater Ōtautahi Christchurch, by age group: 18–24 years, 84.9%; 25–34 years, 82.6%; 35–49 years, 83.2%; 50–64 years, 66.7%; 65–74 years, 52.8%, and 75 years+, 48.1% in 2022. [Stress — Canterbury Wellbeing Index](#)

⁴³ WHO-5 Wellbeing Index mean scores for those aged 18 and over by age group: 18–24 years, 13.4; 25–34 years, 14.4; 35–49 years, 14.3; 50–64 years, 15.6%; 65–74 years, 16.7%, and 75 years+, 15.7% in 2022. [Emotional wellbeing — Canterbury Wellbeing Index](#)

⁴⁴ [Mental health inequities for Māori youth: a population-level study of mental health service data — PubMed \(nih.gov\)](#)

⁴⁵ [Part 3: Meeting young peoples' mental health needs — Office of the Auditor-General New Zealand \(oag.parliament.nz\)](#)

⁴⁶ [Mental health inequities for Māori youth: a population-level study of mental health service data — PubMed \(nih.gov\)](#)

⁴⁷ [Indigenous adolescent health in Aotearoa New Zealand: Trends, policy and advancing equity for rangatahi Maori, 2001–2019 — The Lancet Regional Health — Western Pacific](#)

⁴⁸ Te Whatu Ora presentation [Presentation on Health NZ data — GP data. pptx](#)

⁴⁹ [Growing bus patronage set to challenge resourcing | The Press](#)

⁵⁰ [Darfield/City | Metro Christchurch \(metroinfo.co.nz\)](#) [Southbridge/Lincoln | Metro Christchurch \(metroinfo.co.nz\)](#)

⁵¹ A Pathway Towards Understanding Māori Aspirations for Land Transport in Aotearoa New Zealand, June 2022. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency research report 688.

⁵² A common entry into the criminal justice system, particularly for young Māori men, is driving illegally. A Pathway Towards Understanding Māori Aspirations for Land Transport in Aotearoa New Zealand, June 2022. Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency research report 688.

⁵³ [Selwyn bus services | Metro Christchurch \(metroinfo.co.nz\)](#)

⁵⁴ NZTA [MegaMaps_Export_2024-5-23 All Selwyn Roads with posted speedlimits.csv](#)

⁵⁵ [Safety — Road deaths | Ministry of Transport](#)

⁵⁶ NZTA — 122 out of 154 serious crashes between Nov 2018 and May 2024 were on 80km/hr and 100km/hr roads 2024-05-22 road crashes. xlsx

⁵⁷ We received 433 responses that talked about activities. When identifying activity themes, if a respondent's contribution contained themes in more than one activity category, they were counted in each applicable category.

⁵⁸ [2024-04-11 Overview report of main themes from community engagement for Piki Amokura](#)

⁵⁹ [72176-NZJP-Vol-44-No-2_Maori-Cultural.pdf \(psychology.org.nz\)](#). [Microsoft Word — WAM draft report 20221004.docx \(msd.govt.nz\)](#)

⁶⁰ At the time of writing (May–June 2024) the Economic Development Strategy was in its draft phase [Selwyn District Council — Economic Development Strategy](#)

⁶¹ At the time of writing (May–June 2024) the Economic Development Strategy was in its draft phase [Selwyn District Council — Economic Development Strategy](#)

⁶² [dmp-ōtautahi-christchurch-waitaha-canterbury-fa_r1.pdf \(christchurchnz.com\)](#)

⁶³ [2024-04-11 Overview report of main themes from community engagement for Piki Amokura](#)

⁶⁴ Proportion of those aged 18 years and over who agreed or strongly agreed that they felt a sense of community with others in their neighbourhood, for greater Ōtautahi Christchurch, by age group: 18–24 years, 24.4%; 25–34 years, 35.6%; 35–49 years, 45.6%; 50–64 years, 49.5%; 65–74 years, 53%, and 75 years+, 54.9% in 2022. [Sense of community — Canterbury Wellbeing Index](#)

⁶⁵ Analysis of the 1097 submissions received in the postcard survey showed that having a sense of belonging consistently emerged in the top three themes across all three survey questions.

⁶⁶ [2024-04-11 Overview report of main themes from community engagement for Piki Amokura](#)

⁶⁷ [2024-04-17 Final Ageing Positively Overview Report of Engagement Results.docx](#)

⁶⁸ Te Kupenga: Final 2018, Tatauranga Statistics New Zealand survey of Māori wellbeing.

⁶⁹ [2021-MakingTheCase-FactSheet-WEB.pdf \(gu.org\)](#)

- ⁷⁰ [Indigenous health and wellbeing — Australian Institute of Health and Welfare \(aihw.gov.au\)](#), [Social Determinants of Health Inequities in Indigenous Canadians Through a Life Course Approach to Colonialism and the Residential School System — PMC \(nih.gov\)](#).
- ⁷¹ [Diversity and the Effects of Bias and Discrimination on Young Adults' Health and Well-Being — Investing in the Health and Well-Being of Young Adults — NCBI Bookshelf \(nih.gov\)](#), [72176-NZJP-Vol-44-No-2_Maori-Cultural.pdf \(psychology.org.nz\)](#)
- ⁷² [72176-NZJP-Vol-44-No-2_Maori-Cultural.pdf \(psychology.org.nz\)](#), [Microsoft Word — WAM draft report 20221004.docx \(msd.govt.nz\)](#)
- ⁷³ [He Tohu Ora — Canterbury Wellbeing Index](#)
- ⁷⁴ Māori knowledge systems — Māori knowledge — the body of knowledge originating from Māori ancestors, including the Māori world view and perspectives, Māori creativity and cultural practices. [matauranga — Te Aka Māori Dictionary \(maoridictionary.co.nz\)](#)
- ⁷⁵ [Indigenous adolescent health in Aotearoa New Zealand: Trends, policy and advancing equity for rangatahi Maori, 2001-2019 — The Lancet Regional Health — Western Pacific](#)
- ⁷⁶ [The Tuia Programme | Mayors Taskforce for Jobs \(mtfj.co.nz\)](#)
- ⁷⁷ Voters as percentage of total enrolled for ages 18-24 and 25-29 in 2023: 18-24 77.59%, 25-29 76.94%. [Voter turnout statistics | Elections](#)
- ⁷⁸ [Enrolment by general electorate — Selwyn | Elections](#)
- ⁷⁹ [Civic-engagement-and-well-being-in-New-Zealand-youth-Initial-report.pdf \(researchgate.net\)](#)
- ⁸⁰ 2023 General Election Voter Turnout Statistics, Elections NZ, [accessed 24 June 2024] <https://elections.nz/democracy-in-nz/historical-events/2023-general-election/voter-turnout-statistics/>
- ⁸¹ 2022 Final Voter Turnout Local Elections, Taituara Local Government Professionals Aotearoa, [accessed 24 June 2024] <https://www.votelocal.co.nz/final-voter-turnout-results/>

- ⁸² [Voting and political participation | Stats NZ](#)
- ⁸³ [Civic-engagement-and-well-being-in-New-Zealand-youth-Initial-report.pdf \(researchgate.net\)](#)
- ⁸⁴ [Kiwis perceive high political trust but low influence | Stats NZ](#)
- ⁸⁵ [young-peoples-experience-of-discrimination-2014.pdf](#)
- ⁸⁶ [Adolescence | Psychology Today New Zealand](#)
- ⁸⁷ [Labelled as 'risky' in an era of control: How young people experience and respond to the stigma of criminalized identities — Jo Deakin, Claire Fox, Raquel Matos, 2022 \(sagepub.com\)](#), [Treating young people like criminals actually makes violent crime worse \(manchester.ac.uk\)](#)
- ⁸⁸ [Taiohi Insights 2022 — OHI Data Navigator](#)
- ⁸⁹ [Copy of 20240319_Ryan_King_Selwyn District Proceedings Ages 12-24_final — with Nicola graph.xlsx \(sharepoint.com\)](#)
- ⁹⁰ [Climate Change and Health in Waitaha Canterbury: A scoping and profiling report to inform Health Impact Assessment \(cph.co.nz\)](#)
- ⁹¹ Our Atmosphere and Climate 2023, New Zealand's Environmental Reporting Series. Ministry for the Environment and Statistics New Zealand.
- ⁹² [Regional Economic Profile | Selwyn District | Contributors to growth \(infometrics.co.nz\)](#)
- ⁹³ Our Atmosphere and Climate 2023, New Zealand's Environmental Reporting Series. Ministry for the Environment and Statistics New Zealand.
- ⁹⁴ Our Atmosphere and Climate 2023, New Zealand's Environmental Reporting Series. Ministry for the Environment and Statistics New Zealand.
- ⁹⁵ [Eco-anxiety: Symptoms, Causes, and How to Cope \(healthline.com\)](#)
- ⁹⁶ [Understanding Eco-anxiety: A Systematic Scoping Review of Current Literature and Identified Knowledge Gaps — ScienceDirect](#)

⁹⁷ Our Atmosphere and Climate 2023, New Zealand's Environmental Reporting Series. Ministry for the Environment and Statistics New Zealand.

⁹⁸ Strengthening the Place and Practice of Mātauranga to Support Climate Health Outcomes in Aotearoa, being carried out by Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga | New Zealand's Māori centre of Research Excellence (2023).

⁹⁹ Biodiversity means “the variability among living organisms from all sources including land, marine and freshwater ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species (including genetic diversity), between species and of ecosystems” [Biodiversity in Aotearoa — an overview of state, trends and pressures \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)

¹⁰⁰ Biodiversity and Health (who.int), [Biodiversity in Aotearoa — an overview of state, trends and pressures \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)

¹⁰¹ Genealogy [whakapapa — Te Aka Māori Dictionary \(maoridictionary.co.nz\)](#)

¹⁰² Guardianship [kaitiakitanga — Te Aka Māori Dictionary \(maoridictionary.co.nz\)](#)

¹⁰³ [Māori and Biodiversity • Environment Guide](#)

¹⁰⁴ food resources and the practice of producing them.

¹⁰⁵ healing.

¹⁰⁶ [Biodiversity in Aotearoa — an overview of state, trends and pressures \(doc.govt.nz\)](#)

¹⁰⁷ [Environment — Canterbury Wellbeing Index](#)

¹⁰⁸ [Selwyn District Council — Sewlyn Biodiversity Strategy](#)

¹⁰⁹ [Kea Facts, Diet, Lifespan, Habitat, Ecosystem \(keaconservation.co.nz\)](#)

¹¹⁰ [Selwyn District Council — Sewlyn Biodiversity Strategy](#)

¹¹¹ [Selwyn District Council - Sewlyn Biodiversity Strategy](#)

¹¹² endorsed by Selwyn District Council in June 2024

¹¹³ [Growth and demand report](#)

¹¹⁴ [housing-in-aotearoa-2020 \(1\).pdf](#)

¹¹⁵ Renting in Selwyn District (23.1%) was less affordable than in New Zealand (22.0%) in the year to March 2024, based on the ratio of mean rents to mean household incomes. [Quarterly Economic Monitor | Selwyn District | Rental affordability \(infometrics.co.nz\)](#)

¹¹⁶ [Do Houses Really Double in Value Every Decade in NZ? | Relab](#)

¹¹⁷ [Housing in Aotearoa: 2020 | Stats NZ](#)

¹¹⁸ [housing-in-aotearoa-2020 \(1\).pdf](#)

¹¹⁹ [Quarterly Economic Monitor | Selwyn District | Housing affordability \(infometrics.co.nz\)](#)

¹²⁰ Over 55,000 multi-family households were recorded in 2018. [housing-in-aotearoa-2020 \(1\).pdf](#)

¹²¹ those aged 17+ living at home increased from 64.6 % in 2001 to 77.7 % in 2018 [housing-in-aotearoa-2020 \(1\).pdf](#)

¹²² [Growth and demand report](#)

¹²³ The high number of births and the median age in the district suggests that young families are migrating to Waikirikiri Selwyn The median age of Waikirikiri Selwyn is 37.3 years old; much younger than other areas in Aotearoa. [Growth and demand report](#)

¹²⁴ [Growth and demand report](#)

¹²⁵ In the next 15 years, the national population of young people is projected to increase by 18%.

¹²⁶ 2023 youth plan — based on 2018 census population estimates. 2023 census population estimates and projections are scheduled to be released in October 2024.

¹²⁷ At the time of writing, 2023 Census ethnicity data by age groups was not available. It will be available in October 2024.

¹²⁸ In 2018 5.7% of the school population identified as Asian compared with 12.7% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹²⁹ In 2018 1.8% of the school population identified as Pasifika compared with 2.8% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹³⁰ In 2018 11% of the school population identified as Māori compared with 12.4% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹³¹ Middle Eastern/Latin American/African — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹³² In 2018 0.4% of the school population identified as MELAA compared with 1.1% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹³³ In 2018 2% of the school population identified as an “other ethnicity” compared with 2.9% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹³⁴ In 2018 79.1% of the school population identified as Pākehā compared with 68.2% in 2023. — Source School data from Ministry of education.

¹³⁵ Census data

¹³⁶ [Growth and demand report](#)

¹³⁷ [Selwyn District Council — Annual Plan](#)

¹³⁸ Partnerships include 24/7 youth work and Selwyn Sports Trust [Selwyn District Council — Long-Term Plan 2021-2031](#)

¹³⁹ [Selwyn District Council — Annual Plan, Selwyn District Council — Long-Term Plan 2021-2031](#), PARS plan

¹⁴⁰ [Selwyn District Council — Funding](#)

¹⁴¹ Programmes include specific targeted activities such as driving courses and homeschool social events; and regularly planned activities such as swimming lessons. Our libraries also hold a range of books for young people, and our pools, community and event centres and community

spaces have facilities for young people. [Selwyn District Council — Events](#)

¹⁴² Also known as PTSD

¹⁴³ [Article-3.pdf \(psychology.org.nz\)](#), [GEOG402_Youth-Engagement-in-post-quake-Christchurch.pdf \(canterbury.ac.nz\)](#).

¹⁴⁴ Also known as the Urban Growth Partnership for Greater Christchurch Committee

¹⁴⁵ [5 May A4 Huihui Mai GC2050 Youth Engagement \(greaterchristchurch.org.nz\)](#)

¹⁴⁶ [New report shows significant changes to New Zealand’s climate | Stats NZ](#)

¹⁴⁷ [Niwa scientist in ‘no doubt’ climate change behind Cyclone Gabrielle’s intensity | RNZ News](#)

¹⁴⁸ [Household living costs increase 7.0 percent | Stats NZ](#)

¹⁴⁹ [FEU Special Topic: Decomposing inflation into supply and demand drivers | The Treasury New Zealand](#)

¹⁵⁰ Material hardship means a household goes without six or more of 17 essential items including fresh fruit and vegetables, doctor’s visits, good pairs of shoes, car upkeep, and unexpected expenses of \$500 or more.

¹⁵¹ [Child poverty statistics show increase in material hardship for the year ended June 2023 | Stats NZ](#)

¹⁵² [Housing affordability more challenging for renters than homeowners | Stats NZ](#)

¹⁵³ [The Global Cost of Property | Compare the Market](#)

¹⁵⁴ [Housing Register — Ministry of Social Development \(msd.govt.nz\)](#)

¹⁵⁵ [Nursing Shortages — New Zealand Nurses Organisation \(nzno.org.nz\)](#)

¹⁵⁶ [GP Future Workforce Requirements Report | RNZCGP](#)

¹⁵⁷ [Social determinants of health \(who.int\)](#)

¹⁵⁸ [COVID-19 — Health New Zealand | Te Whatu Ora](#)

¹⁵⁹ Attendance means students attend school more than 90% of the time.

¹⁶⁰ [Attendance action plan to lift student attendance rates | Beehive.govt.nz](#)

¹⁶¹ [Coalition Government unveils 100-day plan | Beehive.govt.nz](#)

¹⁶² To assist with planning, we have made a series of assumptions which can be found in Appendix C.

¹⁶³ Te Rautaki Tikaka Rua | Bicultural Strategy was endorsed by the Council in 2023 — [UNCONFIRMED Public Minutes Council meeting 24 March 2021 \(selwyn.govt.nz\)](#)

¹⁶⁴ Experts refers to Central Government, organisations, and service providers who work with young people in Selwyn and wider Ōtautahi.

¹⁶⁵ Piki Amokura Engagement Overview Report [Put about report here.]

¹⁶⁴ Assumptions sourced from LTP 2024–34 preparation materials [Assumptions clean.pdf](#)

¹⁶⁷ Please note the te reo names in the strategy map may change.

