



AGENDA

Safer Communities Committee Meeting Thursday, 20 March 2025

Date Thursday, 20 March 2025

Time 1:00 pm

Location Meeting Room 1
District Council Building
King George Place
Timaru

File Reference 1747080

Safer Communities Committee

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Safer Communities Committee will be held in the Meeting Room 1, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru, on Thursday 20 March 2025, at 1:00 pm.

Safer Communities Committee Members

Nigel Bowen (Chairperson), Scott Shannon (Deputy Chairperson), Gordon Handy, Ruth Swale, Vicki Walker, Craig Chambers, Joel Burgess, Margie Goldsmith, Gavin List, Merali Taylor, Keith Shaw, Rene Templeton, Sandi Abel, Sue Matthews, Rosie Chambers, Graham Dellow, Kathryn Robinson, Greg Newton, Tracey Miron, Amanda Herewini-Wills, Teresa May, Tina Kavanaugh, Donna Lindsay, Nils Macfarlane, David Duthie, Chris Thomas, Katy Houstoun, Kelly Katene and Kenny Diamond

Quorum – no less than 6 members including at least one Elected Member

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

Members are reminded that if they have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then they must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

Paul Cooper

Acting Group Manager Community Services

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- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**
- 3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**
- 4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 12 December 2024

Author: Jessica Hurst, Community Development Advisor

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 12 December 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Attachments

- 1. Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 12 December 2024**



MINUTES

Safer Communities Committee Meeting Thursday, 12 December 2024

Ref: 1747080

**Minutes of Timaru District Council
Safer Communities Committee Meeting
Held in the Meeting Room 1, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru
on Thursday, 12 December 2024 at 1pm**

Present: Mayor Nigel Bowen (Chairperson), Jackie Williams, Gavin List, Keith Shaw, Graham Dellow, Andrea Grant, Greg Newton, Donna Lindsay, Nils Macfarlane, David Duthie, Chris Thomas, Katy Houstoun, Anna Graf

In Attendance: Jessica Hurst (Community Development Advisor), Claire Barlow (Community Experience Manager), Naomi Scott (Community Funding Advisor), Darryn Grigsby (Emergency Management Manager), Lucy Mehrtens (Road Safety Coordinator), Michelle Bunt (Road Safety Coordinator)

1 Apologies

1.1 Apologies

Resolution 2024/54

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Member Katy Houstoun

That the apologies of Scott Shannon, Teressa May, Margie Goldsmith, Rosie Chambers, Vicki Walker, and Tina Kavanaugh be accepted.

Carried

2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

No items of urgent business were received.

3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

3.1 Minor Nature Item for Discussion

The Safer Communities Committee agreed to receive member updates as a Minor Nature Item.

4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 10 October 2024

Resolution 2024/55

Moved: Member Nils Macfarlane

Seconded: Member Chris Thomas

That the Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 10 October 2024 be amended to include Teresa May as attending. Amended minutes are then confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Carried

6 Reports

6.1 Safer Communities Update - December 2024

The Community Development Advisor provided the Safer Communities Committee with an operational update on activities and progress in the Safer Communities programme.

Highlights discussed:

Whakanuia Awards – 21 young people with disabilities, neurodivergence, and other health impairments received recognition of their achievements and hard work at the inaugural awards ceremony.

Let's Connect Geraldine – A number of agencies and community groups came together to speed-network to learn more about services provided in Geraldine. The CDA noted that next time they would endeavour to have more Geraldine-based attendees.

The CDA provided the committee with a verbal update on the **Need Help Booklet** – the final draft has been completed and has been sent through to Citizens Advice Bureau to complete the contents page. Once this has been completed, it will be sent through to a designer to get the booklet created.

Resolution 2024/56

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Member Katy Houstoun

That the Safer Communities Update – October 2024 report is received and noted.

Carried

6.2 Adoption of CDEM Local Welfare Plan

The Emergency Management Manager spoke to the report to present the Local Welfare Plan to the Safer Communities Committee.

Key discussion points:

- The purpose of the plan is to showcase structure/responsibility. It is about the who and what, but not the 'how'. Responsible agencies like MBIE will always be a responsible agency, the plan is about how the welfare committee works together.
- The Safer Communities Committee Terms of Reference will need to be looked at to reflect the local welfare plan.
- The Emergency Management Manager noted a comment about inclusion of iwi in the document and will consider this.

- Some members of the community have not received the 'Get Ready' booklets, the EM Manager will look into further distribution. The booklets are available at Council facilities.

Resolution 2024/57

Moved: Mayor Nigel Bowen

Seconded: Member Gavin List

That the Safer Communities Committee

1. Receives and notes the scope for Local Welfare Plan; and
2. Review the Terms of Reference of the Safer Communities Committee to support the Local Welfare Plan.
3. Follow up with a workshop for the Safer Communities Committee.

Carried

7 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

No items of urgent business were received.

8 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

8.1 Member updates

Chris Thomas – Age Concern South Canterbury

Seeing more financial hardship. Loneliness for older people increase over the holiday period. He has created a list of social connection opportunities which is being placed in the Courier Newspaper.

Lucy Mehrtens and Michelle Bunt – Road Safety Coordinators

Increasing trend of crashes locally, as well as reported heightened aggression. Fatigue Stop is being hosted in Fairlie on 21 December. Noted the support from AMI and Fulton Hogan. Mountainview High School has signed up to take part in SADD next year, which is fantastic!

Keith Shaw – The Y

Another successful year for The Y, graduations will happen next week. Several new appointments recently. Added pressure in the government agency space right now. Next year they will widen their scope with a new three-year strategic plan.

Anna Graf – Alpine Energy

Working in the energy wellbeing/hardship space. Held two forums this year. Working on a HEAT kit project with Safer Communities – first items have been purchased!

Nils Macfarlane – Multicultural Aoraki

Another great year for MA. They are closing for the year on Friday, their health team will work through. Looking forward to 2025. They have 49 hampers for distribution for Smithfield families, donated by McCains.

Katy Houstoun – Family Works

Alliance is sending out grocery vouchers to all staff. Three new former refugee families are arriving in Timaru tomorrow. Christmas Angels has broadened their reach, they are supporting 100 families this year. Christmas on the Bay is this Saturday.

David Duthie – TCMA

Community meals continue to be well-attended. Game On programme is going well, with some fantastic feedback from participants.

Gavin List and Graham Dellow – Timaru Community Patrol

Cameras in town have been quiet – they have expanded their coverage. Training new people to do the cameras. Not seeing homelessness on their patrols. Patrol to Police programme is happening elsewhere in the country, have had a recent local enquiry. Always looking for more volunteers.

Greg Newton – Health NZ

Work continues on the ‘What About You’ programme, promoting a reduction in alcohol harm, working with SCRU – looking to expand this programme into other sports next year.

Darryn Grigsby – Emergency Management TDC

Exercise Pandora was held recently, great response from agencies. Welfare was excluded from the exercise, will look to bring that in for future scenarios.

Jackie Williams – South Canterbury Neighbourhood Support and Women’s Refuge

12 months in the role at SCNS, seeing at increased awareness in emergency preparedness. The Committee is looking at a new strategy for next year. SCRW – currently restructuring, looking to appoint a new GM in the new year. Office has moved to Elizabeth St, skeleton staff over the holiday period, crisis line will still run. Seeing several police reports a day.

Andrea Grant – Health NZ

Recently hosted a food resilience community meeting, initial discussions are positive. Looking to set up a disability steering group for health – potential to work in with another group.

Andrea is moving to Auckland in the New Year – we thank you for your contributions to the Committee, and the Timaru community.

Donna Lindsay – Fire and Emergency NZ

Just entered the restricted fire season. Mid-South Canterbury Emergency Relief fund has been set up so that in the event of a fire, where people have no where to stay, three nights accommodation can be paid – officers on the firetrucks can manage that.

Mayor Nigel Bowen

Big thank you to everyone in attendance for the work you all do in the community.

The meeting closed at 2pm.

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Chairperson

6 Reports

6.1 Safer Communities Update - March 2025

Author: Jessica Hurst, Community Development Advisor

Authoriser: Claire Barlow, Community Experience Manager

Recommendation

That the Safer Communities Update – March 2025 report is received and noted.

Purpose of Report

- 1 To provide the Safer Communities Committee with an operational update on activities and progress in the Safer Communities programme.

Assessment of Significance

- 2 This matter is deemed as low significance under the Council’s Significance and Engagement Policy as this has ongoing but limited community interest and affects a small number of people in the community.

Discussion

- 3 The Community Development Advisor (CDA) has continued meeting with various community agencies and stakeholders to build relationships.
- 4 The CDA partnered with Te Aitarakihi, the Ministry of Social Development, and Connected to create a ‘Mini Jobs Fair’ that was held at Te Aitarakihi at the end of January. The event was focused on former Smithfield employees that were made redundant and gave them the opportunity to connect with potential employers.
- 5 The Mini Jobs Fair was a more casual setting than the larger Jobs Fair held last year, with fun family activities and free kai for over 200 people that attended.
- 6 The CDA continues to be a member of the Social Sector Forum Committee which plans 6-monthly networking forums for the social sector. The next forum will be held on April 16th.
- 7 The CDA presented at the recent South Canterbury Mate Wareware Roopu group to discuss the Age-Friendly Strategy. This group is made of agencies and health professionals working with clients with dementia. Three key areas of the Age-Friendly Strategy were discussed by the CDA.

Housing: Venture Timaru’s recent housing survey shows that 93% of people aged over 65 and older live alone or with one other person, often in larger homes than they need. The Age-Friendly survey showed that 78% of respondents own their own home. Home ownership rates across the country are falling with the rate for the total population falling from 75% in 1991 to 60% in 2023. This is projected to fall to 48% in 2048. Today, around 13% of senior households are paying off a mortgage, and an additional 20% are still renting. There are large disparities – for Māori senior households, 18% are paying a mortgage, and 35% are renting.

27% of Pacific seniors are paying a mortgage, and 46% renting. By 2048, the share of renters in the older population is expected to double to 40 percent.

Transport: Timaru is one of the pilot locations for the rollout of the new National Ticketing Solution programme, 'Motu Move'. This is a partnership between NZTA and 13 public transport agencies across the country. Having a single national solution provides the country with better technology at a lower cost. The changes will have the biggest impact on our older population as they will no longer be able to use their Metro card, nor top-up on the MyWay bus. The CDA has attended a workshop with Environment Canterbury and agencies that work in the aged care sector – information sessions will be held across the community to help people to make the change.

Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion

Loneliness and isolation are serious issues in the Timaru District. The Community Development team have worked in partnership with St John, Health NZ, and Age Concern to create SJ Café which is hosted each Tuesday at 10am – 12pm at the St John Community Rooms. The numbers are consistent, with approximately 40 people attending each week and additional session times are being planned. A one-year anniversary celebration is being held on March 25th.

The SC Mate Wareware Roopu group is going to review the current Age-Friendly Strategy and provide feedback for the next iteration of the Strategy.

- 8 The first Age-Friendly Network Meeting will be held in March, and the format of the meeting will change to make it more inclusive to people working in the sector. It will have a focus on collaboration, networking, and ensuring the implementation of the Age-Friendly Strategy.
- 9 A verbal update will be provided to the Committee about the Need Help Directory, which is about to be sent out for design work. It will be a directory of services available for children, youth, adults and whānau across the Timaru District and will be distributed across the community, including to agencies, organisations, health providers, schools and to individuals that need support.

Mayors Taskforce for Jobs

- 10 The Mayors Taskforce for Jobs (MTFJ) Coordinator has been busy establishing relationships in the community with schools, agencies and organisations, employers, and of course, young people.
- 11 At the time of writing this report, 15 young people have been placed into employment. Five of these are now counted as sustainable placements which means they have been in employment for more than 90 days.
- 12 These job placements are across a variety of sectors including agriculture, forestry, fishing; primary industries and farming; construction; trades services.
- 13 A business networking event is being organised for April 2nd. This is being hosted by the Mayor Nigel Bowen and will bring together local businesses to learn more about the MTFJ programme and the support that is available. Young people that have been placed into employment will also attend.
- 14 In June the Ara Taiohi professional development training days will be hosted at Timaru District Council Chambers. This is a fantastic opportunity to host all people working in the youth sector for this two-day training course.

Welcoming Communities

- 15 In December 2024, five former-refugee families were recognised by the mayor as having lived in the Timaru District. These ceremonies will be held twice a year going forward.
- 16 The CDA has been working closely with Refugee Settlement Services to best utilise the Meaningful Refugee Participation Fund (received from MBIE). Two leadership programmes have been developed – one for former refugee adults facilitated by Multicultural Aoraki, and one for former refugee youth facilitated by the New Zealand National Refugee Youth Council (NZNRYC).
- 17 In February the CDA hosted the Chief Executive and the Board Chair of the NZNRYC for a full day of visits to local schools and agencies that are working in the former refugee space. The first youth workshop will be held on April 5th (after Ramadan).
- 18 A survey was sent out to youth with a refugee-background to find out what they enjoy about living in Timaru, what challenges they have experienced, and what leadership opportunities they would be interested in. This survey was provided to them in Arabic so they could respond in their first language.
- 19 The CDA attends the Syrian Leadership Council meetings. This is a small council consisting of three Syrian community members, two Kurdish community members, the Refugee Settlement Manager and Caseworker, and the Multicultural Aoraki General Manager. A whole-of-community meeting is being held in April.
- 20 The Welcoming Communities programme is in support of all newcomers, whether they are migrants and their whānau, former refugees, international students, or people moving to the Timaru District from other parts of the country. The CDA is interested in strengthening ties to and for the international student community and will soon meet with stakeholders to discuss collaborating on regular events.
- 21 The Multicultural Aoraki Festival was held on Saturday, 1 March. Timaru District Council Community Services teams joined together to have a large site. Welcoming Communities, Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, Libraries, Climate Change, Emergency Management, and Road Safety all had a presence at the festival which was a wonderful celebration of diversity in the Timaru District
- 22 The Aoraki Settling-In Collective working group will work as the Welcoming Communities Advisory Group this year, meeting monthly on the eight elements of the Welcoming Communities Standard, to create the Welcoming Plan.

Attachments

Nil

7 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

8 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters