



PAPAIOEA
PALMERSTON
NORTH
CITY

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

9:00 AM, WEDNESDAY 20 MAY 2026

COUNCIL CHAMBER, FIRST FLOOR
CIVIC ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
32 THE SQUARE, PALMERSTON NORTH

MEMBERS

Lorna Johnson (Chair)
Brent Barrett (Deputy Chair)
Grant Smith (The Mayor)

Mark Arnott
Rachel Bowen
Vaughan Dennison
Lew Findlay (QSM)
Hayden Fitzgerald
Leonie Hapeta
Bonnie Kuru

Debi Marshall-Lobb
Billy Meehan
Orphée Mickalad
Karen Naylor
William Wood
Kaydee Zabelin

AGENDA ITEMS, IF NOT ATTACHED, CAN BE VIEWED AT

pncc.govt.nz | Civic Administration Building, 32 The Square
City Library | Ashhurst Community Library | Linton Library

Waid Crockett

Chief Executive | PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

20 May 2026

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Karakia Timatanga

2. Apologies

3. Notification of Additional Items

Pursuant to Sections 46A(7) and 46A(7A) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to receive the Chairperson's explanation that specified item(s), which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded, will be discussed.

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7) must be approved by resolution with an explanation as to why they cannot be delayed until a future meeting.

Any additions in accordance with Section 46A(7A) may be received or referred to a subsequent meeting for further discussion. No resolution, decision or recommendation can be made in respect of a minor item.

4. Declarations of Interest (if any)

Members are reminded of their duty to give a general notice of any interest of items to be considered on this agenda and the need to declare these interests.

5. Public Comment

To receive comments from members of the public on matters specified on this Agenda or, if time permits, on other Committee matters.

- 6. Presentation - Age Friendly Palmerston North**

Page 7
- 7. Presentation - Butterfly Compassion Community**

Page 9
- 8. Butterfly Compassion Community - Occupancy Arrangements at 82 Waldegrave Street**

Report, presented by Perene Green, Property Officer.

Page 11
- 9. Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs) - Hearing of Submissions**

Page 19
- 10. Overview of consultation activities and submissions - proposed amendments to the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs)**

Memorandum, presented by Ann-Marie Mori, Policy Analyst.

Page 75
- 11. Confirmation of Minutes**

That the minutes of the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee meeting of 29 April 2026 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Page 81
- 12. Marriner Reserve - Proposal to Grant Easement to Powerco - Deliberations Report**

Memorandum, presented by Perene Green, Property Officer.

Page 85
- 13. Community Reference Groups - Terms of Reference Review**

Memorandum, presented by Martin Brady, Senior Community Development Advisor.

Page 89
- 14. Annual Youth Wellbeing Update**

Memorandum, presented by Remy Waldteufel-Irvine, Youth Services Team Leader.

Page 103

15. **Bi-annual Sustainability Report** Page 127
 Memorandum, presented by Olivia Wix, Manager Communications.

16. **Committee Work Schedule - May 2026** Page 169

17. **Karakia Whakamutunga**

18. **Exclusion of Public**

That the public be excluded from the following parts of the proceedings of this meeting listed in the table below.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under Section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution are as follows:

	General subject of each matter to be considered	Reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter	Ground(s) under Section 48(1) for passing this resolution
8.	Butterfly Compassion Community - Occupancy Arrangements at 82 Waldegrave Street Confidential Attachment 1	The attachment contains commercially sensitive lease information, including rental figures, the release of which would be likely to unreasonably prejudice the commercial position of the tenant and related parties.	s7(2)(b)(ii) THIRD PARTY COMMERCIAL: Disclosing the information could harm a company's commercial position

This resolution is made in reliance on Section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by Section 6 or Section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or the relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public as stated in the above table.

Also that the persons listed below be permitted to remain after the public has been excluded for the reasons stated.

[Add Third Parties], because of their knowledge and ability to assist the meeting in speaking to their report/s [or other matters as specified] and answering questions, noting that such person/s will be present at the meeting only for the items that relate to their respective report/s [or matters as specified].

PRESENTATION

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Presentation - Age Friendly Palmerston North

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

- 1. That the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee receive the presentation for information.**
-

SUMMARY

Kerry Hocquard, Secretary and Russell Hallam, Chair of Age Friendly Palmerston North will update the Committee on the work of Age Friendly Palmerston North.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

PRESENTATION

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Presentation - Butterfly Compassion Community

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

- 1. That the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee receive the presentation for information.**
-

SUMMARY

Lara Sheridan, Operations Manager and Mikaela Bouwmeester, Secretary from Butterfly Compassion Community will deliver a presentation providing an overview of the organisation and the services it delivers.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

REPORT

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Butterfly Compassion Community - Occupancy Arrangements at 82 Waldegrave Street

PRESENTED BY: Perene Green, Property Officer

APPROVED BY: Glen O'Connor, Acting General Manager Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

- 1. That the Committee receive the report title 'Butterfly Compassion Community- Occupancy Arrangements at 82 Waldegrave Street' presented to the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee on 20 May 2026.**
- 2. That Committee consider the future occupancy arrangements for Butterfly Compassion Community Incorporated (BCC) at 82 Waldegrave Street and determine one of the following options:**
 - a. Approve public consultation on granting BCC a community occupancy agreement under Council's Support and Funding Policy, OR**

RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL

- b. Retain the current commercial lease structure, with a 50% reduction in annual rental, including this in the Annual Budget 2026/27**

SUMMARY OF OPTIONS ANALYSIS FOR

Problem or Opportunity	<p>Butterfly Compassion Community (BCC) occupies part of 82 Waldegrave Street, a Council-owned commercial property.</p> <p>BCC has approached Council seeking financial relief due to occupancy affordability pressures.</p> <p>Council is now asked to determine whether the current commercial lease arrangement remains appropriate, or whether an alternative support model should be considered, recognising the community outcomes delivered by the organisation.</p>
OPTION 1:	Public Consultation on a Community Occupancy Agreement under the Support and Funding Policy
Community Views	Public views would be sought through a consultation process.
Benefits	<p>Recognises community value delivered by BCC.</p> <p>Provides transparency through public consultation.</p> <p>May provide long-term occupancy certainty.</p>
Risks	<p>Loss of commercial revenue.</p> <p>Departure from original commercial intent of the property.</p>
Financial	If a community occupancy agreement under the support and funding policy is agreed, Council would receive \$650 + GST per annum. Plus, associated outgoings of the premise, including rates.
OPTION 2:	Maintain Commercial Lease with 50% Rental Reduction
Community Views	Community views would not be formally sought. However, the decision may attract public interest if perceived as preferential treatment. Councillors could consider consulting on both option 1 and 2, to seek advice before making the final decision.
Benefits	Provides practical support while retaining a commercial lease framework.
Risks	Potential equity concerns from other tenants or organisations.
Financial	Council would receive 50% of the current rental (as per attachment 1)
OPTION 3:	No Change (Status Quo)
Community Views	Community views will not be sort.
Benefits	<p>Maintains full commercial revenue</p> <p>Ensures consistency with original intent of the building</p> <p>Avoids setting a precedent</p>

Risks	<p>Risk the tenant may vacate due to affordability.</p> <p>Potential loss of services provided to the community.</p> <p>Possible reputational risk if Council is perceived as not supporting community organisations.</p>
Financial	No change to current revenue (as per attachment 1)

RATIONALE FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

1. OVERVIEW OF THE PROBLEM OR OPPORTUNITY

- 1.1 Council owns 82 Waldegrave Street, a commercially leased property acquired in 2024 as part of the long-term Central Energy Trust Arena Master Plan.
- 1.2 BCC entered into a lease commencing 1 April 2025 and has since established and expanded its community-focused operations from the site.
- 1.3 BCC has requested financial relief in recognition of affordability pressures and the community benefit delivered by the organisation.
- 1.4 Council Officers have assessed a range of options relating to the current tenancy arrangement and are seeking Council direction on whether to maintain the existing commercial lease structure or pursue an alternative approach. While Officers have presented a number of options in this report, Council may determine another option.

2. BACKGROUND AND PREVIOUS COUNCIL DECISIONS

- 2.1 The property at 82 Waldegrave Street is a Council-owned commercial building originally intended to generate commercial return while preserving flexibility for future redevelopment.
- 2.2 A valuation completed in 2023 described the building as a two-storey showroom and office facility with rear workshop space, constructed in the 1960s with later additions through to the 1990s.
- 2.3 The approximate area of the building is outlined below:
 - Ground floor office, workroom and amenities 156 sq m
 - Garage/workshop at rear 166.6 sq m
 - First floor office and amenities 127.2 sq m
 - Mezzanine Storage 28.8 sqm (noting this is not being occupied).
 - Off street carparking area 89 sqm
 - Covered canopy area outside 103.1 sqm – noting that BCC has carried out works extending the covered area.



Figure 1: Aerial view of leased premise

- 2.4 Prior to leasing to BCC, Council engaged Bayleys and Property Brokers to market the premises. The premise provided limited interest.
- 2.5 One agent provided that they were unable to provide a market appraisal, and advised they were unable to accurately assess the anticipated rental due to the current condition of the property and the requirement for a demolition/development clause to be included in the lease arrangement.
- 2.6 A separate appraisal suggested a rental range of \$38,000 to \$48,000 per annum; however, Officers considered the comparable evidence limited. The property remained on the market at that price level and did not generate any interest.
- 2.7 While the property remained vacant and listed for advertisement, Officers approved a short-term arrangement where BCC could occupy the space alongside the hospice.
- 2.8 BCC did view an alternative Council site being 266 Rangitikei Street, however, the property was not suitable due to its size. 266 Rangitikei Street is now occupied by a commercial tenancy. Council does not have any other premises available to lease that would be suitable for BCC activities.
- 2.9 At the time BCC expressed interest in the property, management of the matter occurred during a period of staffing transition. Officers understand that BCC had inquired about occupancy options under Council’s Support and Funding Policy 2022. It was advised at that time that the intended use of this property was for commercial leasing purposes. Officers also advised that, if BCC wished to pursue a community occupancy arrangement under the policy for an alternative Council premises, the process was estimated to take approximately six to eight months. Current Officers

are not aware of any suitable vacant Council premises that would have been available under the policy at that time.

- 2.10 BCC entered into a lease agreement commencing 1 April 2025, with a final expiry of 31 March 2031.
- 2.11 The rental was negotiated with the delegated Officer at the time. The current commercial rental is outlined in the accompanying public excluded attachment, as the rental terms are commercially sensitive. Financial implications relating to Option 2 have also been included in the public excluded section. Officers note the current rental is considered reasonable for the condition of the building.
- 2.12 The lease is structured on an “as is, where is” basis to limit Council’s obligation for capital investment. BCC has carried out improvements within the building including canopy extension and a new kitchenette.
- 2.13 The strategic purpose of the building has been clearly communicated to both tenants and is reflected in the lease terms. Those communications have included that the current 10-Year Plan does not identify any redevelopment of the site during that period; however, it has also been made clear that this position is subject to change. Accordingly, the lease terms protect Council’s position and retain flexibility to terminate the agreements should the site be required for development earlier than anticipated.



Figure 2: Concept outlined in the CET Arena Master Plan.

3. DESCRIPTION OF OPTIONS

Option 1: Public Consultation on a Community Occupancy Agreement

- 3.1 If BCC is to enter into a community occupancy arrangement under the Support and Funding Policy, the rental would be \$650 +GST per annum. The current lease arrangement is a gross lease (includes all outgoings). The support and funding policy outline that outgoings would be additional to the rental figure. The estimated outgoings would be \$7,000 + GST.
- 3.2 While consultation is proposed under the Support and Funding Policy, the opportunity to lease premises at a community rental would typically be offered through an Expressions of Interest (EOI) process. However, in this instance the building has historically operated under a commercial lease arrangement. The current tenant is a for-purpose organisation which, by circumstance, meets the eligibility criteria for support under the policy.
- 3.3 Option 1 therefore proposes consultation specifically on leasing the premises to BCC, rather than undertaking an EOI process, as BCC has indicated that if it does not receive occupancy under the community rental framework, it intends to continue operating from the site under a commercial arrangement.
- 3.4 This approach would recognise the community benefit provided by the organisation and potentially allow occupancy at a reduced or nominal rent, consistent with other community occupancy arrangements.

Option 2: Maintain Commercial Lease with 50% Rental Reduction

- 3.5 Council could retain the commercial tenancy agreement structure, while providing a 50% reduction in the rental rate.
- 3.6 This approach would provide financial relief to the organisation while still recognising the building's commercial purpose.
- 3.7 Option 2 provides a pragmatic middle ground, offering support while retaining commercial structure.

Option 3: No Change (Status Quo)

- 3.8 Council could choose to retain the current commercial tenancy arrangement with no change to the rental levels.

4. CONCLUSION

4.1 Butterfly Compassion Community occupies part of 82 Waldegrave Street under a commercial lease arrangement for a Council-owned property that was originally intended to generate commercial return and retain flexibility for future redevelopment. Since entering the lease, BCC has demonstrated growing demand for its services and has sought rental relief due to affordability pressures and building maintenance constraints.

4.2 Council has three available options:

- Option 1 would seek public feedback on transitioning the tenancy to a community occupancy agreement, recognising the organisation's community benefit while reducing commercial return.
- Option 2 would retain the commercial lease structure while providing a 50% rental reduction, offering immediate support and preserving greater flexibility.
- Option 3 would maintain the current arrangement with no change, preserving revenue but with a risk to tenant sustainability and continued occupancy.

5. NEXT ACTIONS

5.1 If option 1 is the preferred option, officers will prepare consultation and will present the feedback in a subsequent report, the subsequent report will request a decision from Council.

5.2 If option 2 is the outcome, and Council decided to not publicly consult on the new rental structure. Officers will communicate this to BCC and make changes to the lease arrangement to reflect the outcome.

5.3 If option 3 is the outcome, the outcome will be communicated to BCC.

6. OUTLINE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

6.1 Public consultation would include 1 month of consultation including:

- Council website
- Letter drop to neighbouring area

7. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide?	Yes
Are the decisions significant?	No
If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?	No
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	No
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	No
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these objectives?	Yes
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council’s policies or plans?	No
<p>The recommendations contribute to:</p> <p>Whāinga 3: He hapori tūhonohono, he hapori haumaruru</p> <p>Goal 3: A connected and safe community</p>	
<p>The recommendations contribute to this plan:</p> <p>7. Mahere tautāwhi hapori</p> <p>7. Community Support Plan</p> <p>The objective is: Provide funding to for-purpose organisations, local communities, and communities of interest through occupancy of Council-owned property.</p>	
Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	Support for-purpose organisations and communities of interest, and deliver programmes to promote community wellbeing

ATTACHMENTS

1. BCC Commercial rental - **Confidential**

SUBMISSION FROM CONSULTATION

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs) - Hearing of Submissions



RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

1. That the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee receive the submissions and hear submissions from presenters who indicated their wish to be heard in support of their submission.
2. That the Committee note the Procedure for Hearing of Submissions, as described in the procedure sheet.

SUBMITTERS WISHING TO BE HEARD IN SUPPORT OF THEIR SUBMISSION

Submission No.	Submitter
2	Out of Home Media Association of Aotearoa
18	ACT Party (Manawatū ACTIVATE Committee)
21	New Zealand Sign & Display Association

ATTACHMENTS

1. Procedure Sheet - Presenting to a Committee [↓](#) 
2. Submissions [↓](#) 

Procedure Sheet Presenting to a committee

Presenting to a committee	<p>Your request to make a presentation before a Committee of Elected Members has been granted. You can do this either in-person or online. You may have others speak alongside you if you wish. We recommend no more than three speakers.</p> <p>We also recommend that your presentation speaks to the main points of why you are presenting.</p> <p>After your presentation, questions may be asked by Elected Members at the discretion of the Chairperson. Questions are not to be directed at Elected Members or Council staff as this is not the forum to undertake those discussions.</p>
Time Allocation	Ten minutes will be allocated for your presentation. If more than one person speaks, the time that is allocated will be shared between speakers.
Who will be there?	<p>The Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee will receive your presentation. The Committee comprises of Elected Members as identified on the frontispiece of the Agenda.</p> <p>The Hearing is open to the media and the public.</p>
Agenda	An Agenda for the meeting at which you will be presenting will be publicly available at least two working days prior to the meeting. It will be published on the Palmerston North City Council website (agendas and minutes) and available to view at the Customer Service Centre.
Venue	<p>The meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration Building, Te Marae o Hine, 32 The Square, Palmerston North.</p> <p>The Council Chamber will be set out with tables arranged appropriately. You will be invited to sit at the table with the Elected Members when it's your turn to present.</p> <p>Please note the meeting will be livestreamed and recorded. You will also be on camera when speaking – please let us know in advance if you are not comfortable with this.</p>
Tikanga Māori	You may speak to your presentation in Māori if you wish. If you intend to do so, please contact us no later than four days before the date of the meeting (refer to the “Further Information” section below). This is to enable arrangements to be made for a certified interpreter to attend the meeting. You may bring your own interpreter if you wish.
Visual Aids	A whiteboard, and the ability to present a slideshow or clip will be available. Forward any slideshows or clips to the Committee Administrator before the meeting day.
Changes to this Procedure	The Committee may, in its sole discretion, vary the procedure set out above if circumstances indicate that some other procedure would be more appropriate.
Further Information	If you have any questions about the procedure outlined above please contact Nicolas Granieri, Governance Administrator, phone 06 356-8199 or email nico.granieri@pncc.govt.nz .

Index of Submissions
Proposed Amendments to the Election Signs Rules
Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw

Subm No	Submitter
1	ACT New Zealand
2	Out of Home Media Association of Aotearoa
3	Green Party Palmerston North & Rangitikei Branch
4	Debra Arnold
5	Julie Griffiths
6	Malcolm Law
7	Scott Campbell
8	Daniel Prentice
9	Don Spiers
10	Simone Laing
11	Rachel Butler
12	Demelsa Burnand
13	Isaac Henderson
14	Simon Thorpe
15	Jane Want-Sibley
16	Raewyn Parsons
17	Alan Selway
18	ACT Party (Manawatu ACTIVATE Committee)
19	Rosemary Watson
20	Palmerston North National Party Elecorate
21	New Zealand Sign & Display Association

1-1



ACT New Zealand
 Suite 2.5
 27 Gillies Avenue
 Newmarket
 Auckland 1023

20 March 2026

Attn: Ann-Marie Mori
 Palmerston North City Council
 32 The Square
 Private Bag 11034
 Palmerston North 4442

By email: Ann-Marie.Mori@pncc.govt.nz

Dear Sir/Madam,

SUBMISSION ON THE REVIEW OF THE SIGNS AND USE OF PUBLIC PLACES BYLAW 2015 AND DISTRICT PLAN PROVISIONS – ACT NEW ZEALAND

This submission is made on behalf of ACT New Zealand. We welcome the opportunity to provide feedback on the Palmerston North Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw 2015. Our party believes that a vibrant democracy requires a high degree of visibility and public engagement. The current restrictions on election signage in Palmerston North are overly restrictive and do not sufficiently protect the right to freedom of expression as guaranteed under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.

Access to Public Land for Election Signs

Submission: We propose that the Bylaw be amended to allow the placement of election signs on designated public land, specifically road berms (e.g. Main Street), during the regulated election period.

Rationale:

- Democratic Engagement: For many voters, election signs are a primary trigger for political conversation and a reminder of their civic duty to vote.
- Consistency: Many other Tier-1 local authorities in New Zealand permit signage on public berms provided they do not obstruct traffic safety. Palmerston North should align with these best practices.

Exclusion of Commercial Billboards from Election Signage Rules

Submission: Commercial billboards should be explicitly excluded from the restrictive size and quantity rules governing election signs in the Bylaw and District Plan.

1-2

Rationale:

- **Contractual Independence:** The use of commercial billboards is a private commercial arrangement between a media company, a landlord, and a political entity. These should be treated as standard advertising media, not as temporary election signs.
- **Existing Standards:** Commercial billboards already adhere to strict District Plan standards regarding lighting, size, and location. Layering additional election-specific restrictions on these permanent structures creates unnecessary bureaucratic duplication and interferes with private commerce.

Quantity and Variety of Signage on Private Property

Submission: We advocate for a change to allow residents to display multiple signs on a single property – specifically, a provision for numerous smaller signs in addition to up to two large signs (3 square metres).

Rationale:

- **Civic Duty and Multi-Party Representation:** In an MMP (Mixed Member Proportional) system, a single household may support different parties or candidates. The current one-sign-per-property ethos prevents family members or flatmates from exercising their individual political preferences.
- **Complex Messaging:** Modern elections often involve multiple issues or distinct policy platforms. Allowing for more than one sign allows a resident to display a Party Vote sign alongside an Electorate Vote sign, or messages from multiple parties they wish to highlight.
- **Freedom of Expression:** A property owner should have the right to use their own land as a platform for political discourse without arbitrary limits on the number of messages they can display, provided they remain within the 3 square metre statutory limit per sign.

Conclusion

The proposed changes would modernise the Palmerston North regulatory framework to better reflect the realities of the MMP system and the importance of political visibility. We request to be heard in support of this submission at the upcoming Council hearing.

Yours sincerely,



Callum Purves

General Manager & Party Secretary | ACT New Zealand

Proposed changes to election sign rules submission 2-1



Submitted on	11 May 2026, 11:47AM
Receipt number	21
Related form version	3

Your contact details

Privacy

All submissions may be made publicly available on our website, at our customer service centre and in some of our libraries. Your name will be published with your submission. Elected members receive all submissions without contact details so they can consider the views and comments expressed.

We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name	Sarah
Last name	Schulte
Organisation you represent	Out of Home Media Association of Aotearoa

Email

Phone

Hearing

The Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on 20 May 2026.

Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission?	Yes
--	-----

What's your preferred way to be contacted?	Email
--	-------

Election sign sizes

2-2

We're proposing a new Clause 10.7, which sets out the different kinds of traditional signs that can be used, where they can be put and what sizes are allowed for local and general elections. These are:

District Plan Zone - Residential

Maximum single sign area

- 0.6 m² (for local elections)
- 3 m² (for general elections)

District Plan Zone - Local Business, Rural, Institutional

Maximum single sign area

- 10 m²

District Plan Zone - Inner Business, Outer Business, Fringe Business, Industrial, North-East Industrial

Maximum single sign area

- 18 m²

Tell us why.

Please see submission emailed to ann-marie.mori@pncc.govt.nz

Illuminated and digital signs

We're suggesting changes to clauses 10.8 and 10.9 to allow election ads on illuminated, digital, or other types of signs, as long as they comply with the District Plan's signage rules or have resource consent approval.

Tell us why

Please see submission emailed to ann-marie.mori@pncc.govt.nz

Election signs visible from public places

We're proposing updates to clause 2.2 to make the purpose of the Bylaw clearer, especially for signs visible from public places like roads. We're also adding a new clause to explain how it works alongside the District Plan. These changes make it clear that the District Plan relies on the Bylaw for election sign rules.

Tell us why

Please see submission emailed to ann-marie.mori@pncc.govt.nz

Do you have any other feedback to share with us about our proposal?

Please see submission emailed to ann-marie.mori@pncc.govt.nz

How did you find out about this opportunity to have your say?

Council website

Palmy Matters is our brand new email newsletter, delivered to your inbox once a month. It's a great way to stay up to date with upcoming and ongoing infrastructure projects, events, key Council decisions, opportunities to have your say and other important news.

Would you like to sign up?

No thanks

2-3

Submission on proposed changes to Palmerston North City Council's Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw

To: Palmerston North City Council (PNCC, Council)

Submitter: Out of Home Media Association of Aotearoa (OOHMAA)

s7(2)(a) Privacy

- 1 This is a submission on the proposed changes to the PNCC Signs and Use of Public Spaces (the **Bylaw**).
- 2 OOHMAA is a not-for-profit incorporated body representing 94% of Out of Home Media, outdoor advertising industry revenue in New Zealand. Out of Home Media utilises a variety of formats for different communication outcomes, including street furniture posters, bus advertising, static and digital billboard displays, in a range of sizes.
- 3 Members of OOHMAA include Out of Home Media operators JCDecaux, oOh!media, QMS, Media 5, Ad-vantage Media, Vast Billboards, LUMO, GO Media, Shout, VMO, JOLT, MAD Media and Bekon Media. With new members being onboarded at present. A range of organisations which are associated with or support the industry overall are also affiliate members.
- 4 OOHMAA's is a membership organisation whose key areas of focus are to:
 - a) Educate and inform the advertising industry on the many benefits and power of Out of Home as an advertising channel.
 - b) Build and maintain relationships with stakeholders within the broader advertising industry, industry bodies, councils and government.
 - c) Develop best practices that become industry standards.
 - d) Provide a range of support services for our members.
- 5 OOHMAA is the successor to the Outdoor Media Association of New Zealand, which was closely involved in the Local Government Act processes which resulted in the development of bylaws for billboards in Auckland in 2007, and later with the development of suitable provisions for billboards and other signs in the Auckland Unitary Plan in 2013-2016.
- 6 OOHMAA acknowledges the Council's engagement on the Bylaw but considers that insufficient time was provided to clearly communicate the key issues before and during this process, or to ensure the Council fully understands the implications of its proposed changes. By contrast, OOHMAA is engaging with Auckland Council around a year ahead of potential signage bylaw changes to allow for meaningful and effective feedback.

General submission

- 7 OOHMAA generally submits that:
 - (a) OOHMAA supports Council's goal of improving clarity of the rules for election signs.
 - (b) The most straightforward and effective way to achieve clarity on the election sign rules is to include a clear and express exemption from the rules in the Bylaw for signs that are permitted under the District Plan, or that have been granted resource consent under the District Plan. The proposed changes to the Bylaw do not achieve this.
 - (c) Similarly, the Bylaw needs to expressly state that signs on private property do not generally need a permit under the Bylaw. It is OOHMAA's submission that the Bylaw should regulate

2-4

the placement of signs in public spaces only (with limited clear exceptions). This is the existing situation and is most appropriate.

OOHMAA's response on specific proposed changes

8 OOHMAA specifically submits that:

(a) **Clause 2.2(d)**

OOHMAA does not support the inclusion of the words "or visible from" in relation to public places in clause 2.2(d). This extends the purview of the Bylaw significantly so that it can be used to regulate all signs that are visible from public places. This will result in uncertainty and duplication of permitting/consenting processes between the Bylaw and the District Plan.

The purpose of signs is that they are to be seen – to communicate information to the public. Therefore, the vast majority of signs will be visible from public places. The correct mechanism for managing any adverse effects of such signs is the District Plan.

The current version of the Bylaw does not control signs on private land except for a small number of specific limitations such as clause 6.2 which provides that "no person may display a sign containing material that is offensive, objectionable or indecent that is visible from a public place or another person's private residence" and 8.1(c) which provides that signs that advertise commercial sexual services must not be visible from a private residence or land zoned Residential, Village, Rural or Institutional zones in the District Plan.

It is OOHMAA's submission that a small number of specific exceptions can be provided for without undermining the general rule that the Bylaw only applies to signs located on public /Council controlled land. Extending the purpose of the Bylaw to generally regulate signs that are visible from public places will increase uncertainty and result in more potential for overlap, and double regulation between the Bylaw and the District Plan.

(b) **Clause 6.1** OOHMAA supports the removal of the words "without a permit from the Council" in clause 6.1. This makes the general control clearer because permits under the Bylaw are presented alongside resource consents under the District Plan/RMA, as two distinct forms of approval or permission for signs. The important factor here is that the Bylaw must make it clear that signs that are permitted by, or have been granted consent under, the District Plan, do not need a permit under the Bylaw.

(c) **Clause 10.7** OOHMAA does not see a need for the addition of clause 10.7 which "seeks to allow large-format signs to be used that are already permitted in the District Plan, or have been consented." Signs that are already permitted under the District Plan, or have been consented do not need to be regulated under the Bylaw. Adding clauses to the Bylaw that allow these signs only serves to duplicate the District Plan rules and reduce clarity.

(d) **Clauses 10.8 and 10.9** OOHMAA supports the addition of these clauses which make it clear that illuminated signs, digital signs and other signs are regulated by the District Plan and therefore any of these signs that are permitted, or have a consent granted under the District Plan, do not need a permit under the Bylaw.

Examples of effective Bylaw/District Plan interface from other regions

9 To assist, OOHMAA provides the following examples of effective interface from other regions:

(a) The Auckland Council and Auckland Transport Signs Control Bylaw 2022 (**Auckland Bylaw**) summary statement clearly states that it "does not seek to duplicate the Auckland Unitary Plan (**AUP**)". For this reason, billboards that are regulated by the AUP are not managed by the Auckland Signs Bylaw.

2-5

- (b) The Auckland Bylaw also includes a map of the "portable sign prohibited area" in central Auckland. The map delineates the area where portable signs must not be displayed on "any council-controlled public places" including:
 - (i) immediately adjacent footpaths on unzoned land such as Queen Street and Karangahape Road; and
 - (ii) civic spaces such as Aotea Square, Freyberg Place, Khartoum Place, Queen Elizabeth Square and St Patrick's Square.
- (c) The Christchurch Signs Bylaw clearly states that the election rules do not apply to consented billboards. It notes that: "There may be exceptions to the permitted timeframe and size requirements on lawfully established sign frames or billboards, including digital signage, where these have been consented for the display of advertising." This clearly indicates that the Bylaw will not add another layer of regulation in circumstances where signs have been consented under the District Plan/RMA.
- (d) The Wellington City Signs Bylaw makes a clear distinction between public and private land. It states that "If you want to advertise a party, candidate, or referendum during and electioneering period, you are required to obtain Council permission before erecting any signage on public land in the Wellington District". This is coupled with the following statement on private property – "Generally you do not need Council permission to put up temporary signage on private property. You just need permission from the landowner." This clearly sets out the default position that the Bylaw only manages signage on public land, while indicating that there may be some specific exceptions for certain signs on public land. This is exactly the kind of position that OOHMAA considers should be taken in the PNCC Bylaw.

Decision Sought

- 10 OOHMAA seek the following decision from the Council:
 - (a) that the proposed changes to the Bylaw be amended to address issues raised in this submission; and
 - (b) such other relief as may be required to give effect to this submission;
- 11 OOHMAA wish to be heard in support of its submission and will consider presenting a joint case with others presenting similar submissions.

3-1

Green Party Palmerston North & Rangitikei Branch

Comments on Signs & Use of Public Spaces Bylaw

15 March 2026

The Green Party locally is actively involved in democracy and elections including running candidates in general elections and local body elections.

With regards the Signs and Use of Public Spaces Bylaw here

<https://www.pncc.govt.nz/files/assets/public/v/1/documents/council/bylaws/signs-and-use-of-public-places-bylaw-2015-amended-2018.pdf>

We welcome a review, it has been a while since 2015!

We are concerned that in most elections there is often non-compliance with Section 11 (Election Signs) in both local body and general elections.

In addition to breaches of 11.5 during elections, we are concerned by the proliferation of candidate-specific and politically-oriented signage outside of the election period. For example the current National Party advertising campaign with billboards on many residential fences in the city, including the face and name of their 2026 candidate. We recommend this be explicitly banned, in order to reduce the risk of proliferation of these approaches to other candidates and parties. That should be extended to include any political party-based signs with generic messages; for examples signs with no candidate name, no candidate face, but still Party endorsed / paid for and with Party logo or name. Obviously there needs to be a carve-out for sitting MPs to advertise, as that is not an 'election' sign.

We strongly recommend inclusion of better accountability and enforcement measures, given the non-compliance issues experienced. We suggest a sequence of first a written request (to the relevant Party or Candidate), which if not complied with within a certain timeframe (max 3 days) would be followed by a small fine and public notification of that fine. That would be sufficient to markedly improve compliance, with minimal administrative burden.

We endorse continued non-provision of 'sign parks' in public spaces in the city.

We'd like to see information in the bylaw around timing of election hoardings going up and coming down, for both local body and general elections, with the suggestion they go up no more than 3 months prior to polling day / close of voting.

3-2

Regards the specific clauses in the 2015 edition of the bylaw, we request that four be kept and that three of them are revised

No Change

11.1, 11.2, 11.4, 11.5.

Revise

11.3 "No person may display on any land other than land zoned Residential or Village in the District Plan an election sign that is greater than 10 metres2"

We suggest the bylaw provide an exception for consented commercial advertising space in the city

11.6 "No property or sign park may display more than one election sign per political party."

Language in this clause is confusing. We assume the purpose of this clause is to enable during a general election the display of a 'Party Vote Green' sign on a property, in addition to another sign that says 'Vote Teanau Tuiono' or similar, and to limit the number of Party Vote Green signs to one per property.

We suggest the clause be clarified and revised to reflect current and likely ongoing practice.

We note:

All general election and some local body election signs have a Party logo or Party authorised by statement on them, thus a property with one vote for candidate sign and one party vote sign in the general election is a technical breach of 'more than one election sign per political party'.

In local body elections, the Greens often run multiple Green-endorsed candidates, resulting in a technical breach of 'more than one election sign per political party' in many cases.

In General Elections, a single election sign will often call for both the candidate vote and the Party vote, e.g. (tick Utikere, tick Labour on the same sign).

A reasonable remedy in our view would be to revise 11.6 to enable in the General Election one sign per property where the primary message was Party Vote, in addition to the one sign per candidate enabled in 11.5, provided the sign message in 11.5 does not contain a call for Party Vote.

11.7. No person may display in any place visible from a road an election sign that is animated or illuminated or made of any reflective material.

3-3

We suggest the bylaw provide an exception for consented commercial advertising space in the city

We have no further feedback at this stage, and appreciate the engagement in advance of a draft bylaw being considered for consultation.

Heather Browning (she/her) & Robert Gibb (he/him)

Co Convenors

Green Party
Palmerston North & Rangitikei Branch

Proposed changes to election sign rules submission 4-1



Submitted on	10 April 2026, 2:26PM
Receipt number	3
Related form version	3

Your contact details

Privacy

All submissions may be made publicly available on our website, at our customer service centre and in some of our libraries. Your name will be published with your submission. Elected members receive all submissions without contact details so they can consider the views and comments expressed.

We collect your contact information so we can keep you up to date with the proposal. For more information, see our [privacy statement](#).

First name Debra

Last name Arnold

Email

Phone

Hearing

The Council will hear submissions at a public meeting on 20 May 2026.

Do you want to speak to Council in support of your submission? No

Election sign sizes

We're proposing a new Clause 10.7, which sets out the different kinds of traditional signs that can be used, where they can be put and what sizes are allowed for local and general elections. These are:

District Plan Zone - Residential

Maximum single sign area

- 0.6 m² (for local elections)
- 3 m² (for general elections)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Overview of consultation activities and submissions - proposed amendments to the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs)

PRESENTED BY: Ann-Marie Mori - Policy Analyst

APPROVED BY: David Murphy, General Manager Strategic Planning

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

- 1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Overview of consultation activities and submissions - proposed amendments to the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw (Election Signs),' presented on 20 May 2026.**
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 The Council has now completed public consultation on proposed amendments to the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw – Election Signs.
- 1.2 The purpose of this memo is to summarise the consultation activities and provide a high-level overview of the written submissions received.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Proposed amendments to the Bylaw were approved for public consultation by the Council on 25 March 2026. Consultation began on 8 April 2026 and closed on 11 May 2026.

3. CONSULTATION ACTIVITIES

- 3.1 Consultation activities included:
 - Public notices in the Manawatū Standard and on the Council's website.
 - A media release.
 - A webpage with the Statement of Proposal on the Council's website, and submission form.
 - Direct email contact with stakeholders and other interested parties.

- Printed copies of the Statement of Proposal were placed at the Customer Service Centre and all Council libraries.
- Organic and paid social media posts on the Council’s Facebook page (linking to the webpage and the online submission form).
- Six hundred (600) posters placed around the City.
- Advertising on the i-Site’s digital billboard.
- Links to the Council’s consultation webpage via an email signature in the first week of consultation.



Figure 1: Examples promoting the consultation on the i-Site and Posters in the City Centre

4. OVERVIEW OF SUBMISSIONS

4.1 The Council received 21 submissions, with 4 submitters indicating that they want to speak to the Council about their submissions.

4.2 A summary of the themes from the submissions based on the three main questions posed in the submission form is:

- **The submissions related to the changes in the rules relating to the size of signs show mixed points of view.** Those in support of the proposed amendments value improved rule clarity, alignment with existing guidance, and the democratic visibility benefits of larger signs. Those opposing the amendments are concerned about fairness, visual impacts, and the influence of sign size on political campaigning. Other submitters want sign uniformity (same size for all signs, regardless of election type) or a complete ban on signs altogether.

- **The submissions about rules related to digital and illuminated signs also show a mixed perspective and show a tension between modernising the rules and allowing for the freedom of expression versus fairness, cost barriers, and visual/safety concerns.** Supporters emphasise the benefits of using existing technology and of complying with the District Plan's advertising rules. Opponents emphasise democratic fairness in terms of cost inequity for some candidates, and the risk of increased campaign spending on advertising on these types of signs.
- **The submissions related to the rules about the visibility of election signs from public places show a concern about fairness and ensuring that visibility rules do not advantage more well-resourced candidates or incumbents.** A secondary concern is about limiting visual clutter and ensuring road safety. Some submitters have expressed uncertainty about these changes but are open to rules if they are well-designed and equitable. There are divergent views on allowing signs on public land, such as road reserves, with some submitters supporting the removal of sign park provisions. One submitter notes that reducing opportunities for centralised signage display might unintentionally increase pressure for more signage on private property.

4.3 Other submission points on issues beyond size, type, and visibility aspects are related to:

- Appropriate use of public land for election advertising
- Enforcement and compliance approach
- Timing rules, such as when signs can go up and the deadline for removal, are important from an operational perspective as well as minimising visual impacts
- Political advertising outside election periods
- Council's role in rules that reflect political neutrality and achieve fairness
- Clarifying the scope of the bylaw in terms of setting public places only controls
- The proposed changes offer a modern, practical, and balanced approach to election signage regulation that considers amenity, road safety, and public place management.
- The proposed amendments better reflect how advertising operates in practice in 2026.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Advice on responding to these points raised by submitters will be included in the deliberations report for elected members to consider at the Council’s meeting on 24 June 2026.
- 5.2 The deliberations report will also include recommendations on any changes to the proposed amendments to the Bylaw as a result of consultation.

6. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide?	Yes
Are the decisions significant?	No
If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?	No
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	No
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	No
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these objectives?	Yes
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council’s policies or plans?	No
<p>The recommendations contribute to:</p> <p>Whāinga 3: He hapori tūhonohono, he hapori haumarū</p> <p>Goal 3: A connected and safe community</p>	
<p>The recommendations contribute to this plan:</p> <p>9. Mahere haumarū hapori, hauora hapori</p> <p>9. Community Safety and Health Plan</p> <p>The objective is: Co-ordinate and support community safety and harm reduction initiatives</p> <p>14. Mahere mana urungi, kirirarautanga hihiri</p> <p>14. Governance and active citizenship plan</p> <p>The objective is: Provide clear and accessible information and opportunities for community input into Council decisions</p>	
Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	<p>One purpose of the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw is to protect the community from nuisances, health, and safety issues arising from signage. Implementing effective controls for election signs helps achieve this and promotes social and environmental well-being. The Bylaw enables the Council to establish local signage regulations for both local and general elections, which can assist the community in choosing</p>

	representatives for the Council and Parliament. Therefore, signage, as one form of advertising, plays a vital role in our democratic processes.
--	---

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee Meeting
Part I Public, held in the Council Chamber, First Floor, Civic Administration
Building, 32 The Square, Palmerston North on 29 April 2026, commencing at
9.00am.**

Members Present: Lorna Johnson (in the Chair), The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

Members Present online: Councillor Leonie Hapeta.

Members Present online:

Apologies: Councillor William Wood and Orphée Mickalad for late arrival.

Karakia Timatanga

Councillor Lorna Johnson opened the meeting with karakia.

15-26 Apologies

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the apologies.

Clause 15-26 above was carried 13 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

Councillor Vaughan Dennison joined the meeting at 9.03am after consideration of clause 15-26. He was not present for clause 15-26.

16-26 Confirmation of Minutes

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the minutes of the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee meeting of 11 March 2026 Part I Public be confirmed as a true and correct record.

Clause 16-26 above was carried 14 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

17-26

Annual Sector Lead Report: MASH Trust

John Fowke, Chairperson, and Danu Sefton, Service Manager, Mental Health and AOD presented the work of MASH Trust.

Councillor William Wood entered the meeting at 9.25am during consideration of clause 17. He was not present for clauses 15 and 16.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Rachel Bowen.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Annual Sector Lead Report: MASH Trust' presented to the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee on 29 April 2026.

Clause 17-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

18-26

Annual Sector Lead Report: Niuvaka Trust

Dana Kunaiti, General Manager, and Aaron Freeman, Pasifika Sustainability Lead, presented the work of Niuvaka Trust (presentation appended to the minutes).

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Annual Sector Lead Report: Niuvaka Trust presented to the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee on 29 April 2026.

Clause 18-26 above was carried 15 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

19-26

Annual Sector Lead Report: Te Tihi o Ruahine Whānau Ora Alliance

Pauline Hiroti, Te Tihi Kaimahi/Project Coordinator Ora Konnect and, Pikihuia Hillman, Pou Herenga/Project Development presented the work of Te Tihi o Ruahine Whānau Ora Alliance (presentation appended to the minutes).

Councillor Orphée Mickalad entered the meeting at 10.25am during consideration of clause 19. He was not present for clauses 15 to 18.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Annual Sector Lead Report: Te Tihi Ruahine o Whānau Ora Alliance' presented to the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee on 29 April 2026.

Clause 19-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

The meeting adjourned at 10.39am.

The meeting resumed at 11.03am.

20-26

Bill Brown Park - Proposal to Grant an Easement on Reserve Land to Powerco
Report, presented by Perene Green, Property Officer.

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Karen Naylor.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee approve public notification of its intention to grant an easement at Bill Brown Park, Havelock Avenue, Palmerston North to Powerco to convey electricity, in accordance with Section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977.
2. That the Committee note that the land area affected by the easement for Powerco is described as Lot 1 DP 40097.

Clause 20-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

21-26

Draft Stormwater Strategy

Memorandum, presented by Hilary Webb, Planner City Planning & Jono Ferguson-Pye, Manager City Planning. They made a presentation (appended to

the minutes).

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Committee approve the draft Stormwater Strategy (Attachment 1) for public consultation.

Clause 21-26 above was carried 12 votes to 3, with 1 abstention, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor and Kaydee Zabelin.

Against:

Councillors Mark Arnott, Hayden Fitzgerald and William Wood.

Abstained:

Councillor Leonie Hapeta.

22-26 Committee Work Schedule - April 2026

Moved Lorna Johnson, seconded Brent Barrett.

The **COMMITTEE RESOLVED**

1. That the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee receive its Work Schedule dated April 2026.

Clause 22-26 above was carried 16 votes to 0, the voting being as follows:

For:

The Mayor (Grant Smith) and Councillors Lorna Johnson, Brent Barrett, Mark Arnott, Rachel Bowen, Vaughan Dennison, Lew Findlay, Hayden Fitzgerald, Leonie Hapeta, Bonnie Kuru, Debi Marshall-Lobb, Billy Meehan, Orphée Mickalad, Karen Naylor, William Wood and Kaydee Zabelin.

Karakia Whakamutunga

Councillor Lorna Johnson closed the meeting with karakia.

The public part of the meeting finished at 12.33pm.

Confirmed 20 May 2026.

Chair

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Marriner Reserve - Proposal to Grant Easement to Powerco -
Deliberations Report

PRESENTED BY: Perene Green, Property Officer

APPROVED BY: Glen O'Connor, Acting General Manager Infrastructure

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

- 1. That the Committee grant an easement to convey electricity at Marriner Reserve, Marriner Street, Palmerston North, to Powerco.**
 - 2. That the Committee note that the land area affected by the easement for Powerco is described as Lot 3 DP 29419.**
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 Powerco are planning to complete infrastructure upgrades within Marriner Reserve.
- 1.2 The aerial location of the transformer and switchgear within Marriner Reserve is shown below in yellow in Figure 1.
- 1.3 The Reserves Act 1977 requires that any new utility services located on reserve land be covered by an easement.



Figure 1: Aerial view

1.4 The public notification process has been completed following the process set out in Section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977. There were no submissions received.

1.5 This report seeks approval from Council to grant the formal easement for this.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 A report titled 'Marriner Reserve - Proposal to Grant an Easement on Reserve Land to Powerco' on 25 February 2026 assessed the proposal and as a result Council resolved:

1. *That the Committee approve notifying the public of the proposal to grant an easement at Marriner Reserve, to convey electricity, in accordance with Section 48 of the Reserves Act 1977.*
2. *That the Committee note that the land area affected by the easement for Powerco is described as Lot 3 DP 29419.*

2.2 The report outlined that Council officers sought feedback from Rangitāne at the Te Whiri Koko meeting held on 12 December 2025. Rangitāne supported the proposal but asked whether there were impacts of the proposed installation on the whenua.

2.3 Following the Te Whiri Kōkō meeting held on 13 March 2025, Rangitāne have confirmed they are comfortable with the information provided by Powerco and support the proposal.

- 2.4 Consultation was completed in April 2026. No submissions were received.
- 2.5 If the easement is granted the easement instrument will be entered between Council and Powerco and added to the relevant property title.

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1 Granting of the easement followed the process outlined in the Reserves Act 1977.
- 3.2 Given that the process outlined in the Reserves Act 1977 was followed, and no objections to the proposed easement were received, it is recommended that Council grant an easement to convey electricity to Powerco.

4. NEXT STEPS

- 4.1 The easement instrument will be entered between Council and Powerco and added to the relevant property title.

5. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide?	Yes
Are the decisions significant?	No
If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?	No
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	No
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	No
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these objectives?	Yes
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council’s policies or plans?	No
The recommendations contribute to: Whāinga 3: He hāpori tūhonohono, he hāpori haumaru Goal 3: A connected and safe community	
The recommendations contribute to this plan: 6. Mahere rēhia 6. Recreation and Play Plan The objective is: Administer the Reserves Act 1977	
Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	This action ensures Council decision making is consistent with the provisions of the Reserves Act 1977 with regards to reserves planning and legislative requirements for utilities sited in reserves.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Community Reference Groups - Terms of Reference Review

PRESENTED BY: Martin Brady, Senior Community Development Advisor

APPROVED BY: Danelle Whakatihi, General Manager Customer & Community

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL

1. That Council agree the revised Terms of Reference for Community Reference Groups.
 2. That Council note that the provision for the acknowledgement payment to include the Heritage Reference Group is subject to budget being agreed in the 2026-2027 Annual Budget.
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 Council's Community Reference Groups are governed by a Terms of Reference document, which was recommended by the Community Development Committee and adopted by Council in December 2021.
- 1.2 Clause 1.5 of the Terms of Reference requires a biennial review of the document with the previous review report to Community Committee being in [November 2023](#).
- 1.3 This memorandum provides a description of the required review, including recommended updates, and proposes an updated Terms of Reference for Council's agreement. (See the proposed updated Terms of Reference document attached, with additions marked in red as well as proposed deletions).

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Council has four reference groups: Disability, Seniors, Pasifika and Heritage. The Disability Reference Group was established in 2018, the Seniors and Pasifika groups were established in June 2022, and the Heritage group was created in 2024.
- 2.2 Reference Groups provide Council with a direct channel to hear the voices of those from a specific community or demographic, with the groups having opportunities to provide feedback on Council's activities, including what should be considered in planning, developing or implementing activities.

- 2.3 The groups meet regularly, with the cadence of meetings varying from monthly to six-weekly. Group membership ranges from a minimum eight to a maximum of fifteen members.
- 2.4 The previous review of the Terms of Reference resulted in two key changes - the introduction of **member rotation** and **acknowledgement payments** for participation within the groups.
- 2.5 Members are up for rotation every three years, with the option for members to re-apply, and that one-third of membership rotate each year.
- 2.6 Acknowledgement payments were established at \$200 net per member per year and \$400 net per Chair per year.

3. ANALYSIS

- 3.1 During the review process, feedback was sought from all four reference groups and well as Council officers who had previously interacted with the groups or who had a profession connection in governance, policy, and community engagement processes.
- 3.2 Overall, feedback from the groups indicated that they are functioning well and provide a valuable mechanism for Council to hear from people with lived experience across key communities and demographic groups.
- 3.3 The introduction of both the acknowledgement payments and the rotation of members were viewed positively and are operating effectively, particularly across the three original groups: Pasifika, Disability, and Seniors.
- 3.4 The review did, however, identify several minor areas for improvement, with all proposed amendments reflected in the revised Terms of Reference.

Greater Clarity and Consistency

- 3.5 The aim of the changes is to provide greater clarity and consistency of the groups' operations. A summary of the changes is listed below:

Clause	Proposed Change	Rationale
1 Introduction	Changes made to the groups' background, scope and purpose	Greater clarification
2 Disability Reference Group	Update reference to New Zealand Disability Strategy	Accuracy
3 Pasifika Reference Group	Update demographic statistics from 2023 census	Accuracy

3 Pasifika Reference Group	Included a paragraph on the purpose of the group	Greater clarification & consistency among groups
4 Seniors Reference Group	Update demographic statistics from 2023 census	Accuracy
4 Seniors Reference Group	Included a paragraph on the purpose of the group	Greater clarification & consistency among groups
6.1 Group composition	Reference to councillors and council officers attending meetings	Greater clarification
6.2 Selection process	Inclusion of minimum number of members.	Greater clarification
6.3 Rotation of membership	Update clause to have recruitment to occur in the first quarter of each year	Provides more time for recruitment
6.4 Process of exiting members	Replacement of the word exiting with resigning	Accuracy
7.2 Resourcing	Removal of wording "With the exception of the Heritage Reference Group"	To align payment opportunity for all four reference groups
7.2 Resourcing	Replacement of City Shaping Team with Planning Team	Accuracy
7.2 Resourcing	Inclusion that payments are optional for members	Greater clarification

Acknowledgement payments

- 3.6 When the Heritage Reference Group was established two years ago, it was decided group members would be excluded from acknowledgment payments.
- 3.7 Following the review, officers are recommending that Heritage Reference Group members be acknowledged which would align all four groups.
- 3.8 The total maximum budget cost for the acknowledgement payments is \$12,240 per annum (based on full membership of 15 members per group and allowing for Co-chairs and for 20% schedular tax). This amount would increase to \$16,320 if the Heritage Reference Group was included.
- 3.9 During the past two years, the average cost of the acknowledgement payments has been \$8,890, equating to a 73% uptake by members.

- 3.10 While the feedback was positive on the acknowledgement payments, it has been suggested and now included in the proposed Terms of Reference that the offer of such a payment is voluntary. Members can choose not to receive an annual payment if they wish.

Youth Council

- 3.11 As part of the Terms of Reference review, consideration was given to include the Palmerston North Youth Council within the Terms of Reference.
- 3.12 The Youth Council advises Council on youth perspectives, support youth-led initiatives and make sure young people are part of decision-making.
- 3.13 The Youth Council has its own Terms of Reference.
- 3.14 The Youth Council document has a broader developmental and participatory emphasis. It includes advising Council, but also explicitly focuses on youth participation in democracy, leadership development, public engagement, inclusion of youth voices, and youth wellbeing.
- 3.15 The Community Reference Groups document is primarily about advising Council and ensuring community voices are heard in planning, implementation, and decision-making.
- 3.16 There are other operational differences between the two models, and these are explained further in the below table:

Area	Reference Groups	Youth Council
Membership	Membership of 8 to 15 people with age & demographic criteria.	No fixed number of members. Uses eligibility-based membership criteria.
Recruitment	Undertaken annually	Undertaken annually
Selection	Simplified Expression of Interest process.	More formal process used.
Rotation	One-third of membership rotated annually.	Rotation is determined by the individual situation and no as an overall membership.
Length of service	Three years	Two years

- 3.17 After considering the inclusion of Youth Council within the revised Terms of Reference, it was decided that Youth Council would continue to operate independently of the four reference groups.

Communication

- 3.18 Two further points were raised during the review process: a need for stronger **internal communication within Council, and stronger external communication with communities.**
- 3.19 **Both points will be developed by Council officers outside of the Terms of Reference to ensure:**
- **Council staff** know the schedule of reference group meetings and what type of work could be presented,
 - The community know the reference group members, and methods to raise matters with the groups.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 The Terms of Reference requires a biennial review of the document.
- 4.2 The proposed revisions which have been informed by feedback from the four reference groups and officers' research into good practice.
- 4.3 Officers recommend that the Community Resilience and Sustainability Committee recommend the revised Terms of Reference to Council.
- 4.4 In order to implement the revised Terms of Reference, officers further recommend that Council note that the provision of a recognition payment is subject to budgets being agreed in the 2026-2027 Annual Budget.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1 Subject to Council resolving the recommendations above, implementation of the revised Terms of Reference will commence from 1 July 2026.
- 5.2 Should budget for the recognition payment not be agreed in the 2026-2027 Annual Budget, officers will implement other amendments excluding the removal of the wording "with the exception of the Heritage Reference Group" in clause 7.2.
- 5.3 Council officers would implement actions under clause 3.19.
- 5.4 The Terms of Reference will be reviewed again in late 2027 and be presented to the Community Resilience and Sustainability for agreement in early 2028.

6. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide?	No
Are the decisions significant?	No
If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?	No
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	No
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	No
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these objectives?	Yes
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council’s policies or plans?	No
The recommendations contribute to: Whāinga 3: He hapori tūhonohono, he hapori haumarū Goal 3: A connected and safe community	
The recommendations contribute to this plan: 14. Mahere mana urungi, kirirarautanga hihiri 14. Governance and Active Citizenship Plan The objective is: Provide clear and accessible information and opportunities for community input into Council decisions.	
Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	Terms of Reference are critical to the smooth operation of the four Community Reference Groups. The Community Reference Groups contribute to the social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the wider community by highlighting the priorities, concerns and opportunities within their respective communities, and enabling Council to respond to these.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed Reference Groups Terms of Reference [↓](#) 

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Annual Youth Wellbeing Update

PRESENTED BY: Remy Waldteufel-Irvine, Youth Services Team Leader

APPROVED BY: Danelle Whakatihi, General Manager Customer & Community

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

1. That the Committee receive the memorandum titled 'Annual Youth Wellbeing Update' presented on 20 May 2026.
 2. That the Committee refer an additional \$30K for the Youth Wellbeing Programme (including an annual Youth Wellbeing Forum and financial support for subsequent youth initiatives) to the 2027-2037 Long-Term Plan process.
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 Council have requested an annual update on the youth wellbeing activities.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Palmerston North remains one of the youngest cities in the country, with 19,070 or 21% of our population falling between the ages of 10-24 years of age.
- 2.2 The Oranga Papaioea City Strategy 2024-2034, and related plans, outline a range of areas in which Council is delivering services directly with and for this demographic, including the provision of Youth Space, with youth development programming, a youth focused library collection, facilitation of youth leadership programmes (including Youth Council), the provision of funding for youth led initiatives and youth scholarships, and the coordination of activities within the youth services sector.
- 2.3 In November 2023, the Community Committee resolved:

'That the establishment of a specific Youth Well-being Plan be referred to the 2024-2034 Long Term Plan.

That officers facilitate a youth well-being forum in early 2024 and complete a sector wide scan of youth focused programmes and or initiatives within the city and identify

any strategic or service gaps that can be used to inform the development of the Youth Well-being Plan.

That officers provide a report to the Community Committee before the Long-Term Plan deliberations, on the finding of the sector wide scan, with associated recommendations and resource implications.'

2.4 Subsequently, in May 2024, Officers presented a memorandum to Council which summarised the findings and insights from the first Youth Well-being Forum, held in April 2024, and presented analysis from a sector wide scan of youth focused programmes, initiatives, and services.

2.5 Later in May 2024, as part of the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034 deliberations, Council resolved:

'That Council create a new programme for youth wellbeing of \$33.3k (excluding inflation) to support youth well-being for each of years 1,2 and 3 of the Long-Term Plan 2024-2034, specifically to create a youth development reference group, fund an annual youth well-being forum, and provide a pilot quick response youth development fund', and 'That the Chief Executive provide a youth wellbeing and youth development progress report annually'.

2.6 This report provides the second annual update on the progress of the youth wellbeing programme, activities of the last twelve months and a summary of the Annual Youth Wellbeing Forum 2026.

3. ANNUAL UPDATE

3.1 Youth development work remains fundamentally relational and preventative, relying on strong partnerships and collaboration across the community.

3.2 In Palmerston North, the work of the youth sector is diverse, often changing, and reflects national trends such as high workforce turnover in frontline roles, increasing complexity of young people's needs, and adapting to growing system pressures.

3.3 Youth development workers play an essential—often less visible—role in community wellbeing by supporting rangatahi at critical moments, providing pro-social opportunities, and acting as a bridge to other services. Without this work, systems such as education, health and justice would face greater strain and cost.

3.4 The youth development sector in Palmerston North, is an eco-system of varied roles, organisations, and priorities, with longstanding relationships and a set of values that has helped it to continue to serve the community over time.

3.5 Emerging needs highlight the importance of services to adapt, as young people engage differently with the world and with one another. Initiatives such as sector training, the Pounamu Project, and the development of an online youth connection platform through Bluelight Manawatū show positive momentum.

National research data provides insight into the wellbeing of young people in communities across the country¹

- 3.6 Young people’s needs are changing rapidly, data that keeps pace with emerging trends support the sector to respond meaningfully and more efficiently.
- 3.7 In September 2025, the Ministry of Social Development released ‘*The Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey (YHWS)*’, the largest, nationally representative survey of young people aimed at understanding their health and wellbeing.
- 3.8 Participants were 9400 Secondary School Students aged between 13 – 19 from across Aotearoa, New Zealand.
- 3.9 The survey identified areas of strength, resilience, and challenges for young people. The table below shows an overview of the work:

Youth Wellbeing Indicator	Survey Findings
Wellbeing	Most young people reported having good or excellent wellbeing (65.6%)
Screen time and social media	Young people self-reported relatively high rates of screen and social media use. 56.0% of young people spend at least five hours on screens a day. 33.5% reported spending at least five hours on social media a day.
Safe homes	Most young people surveyed reported living with someone who cares for them and loves them (90.0%). Most young people report their homes are warm (96.1%), safe (88.9%), and damp-free (78.7%). Oranga Tamariki engagement — 13.9% of young people surveyed, their whānau or family had been involved with Oranga Tamariki or Child, Youth and Family.
Doing and contributing	Extracurricular involvement — Over two thirds of young people (70.0%) are part of a group, club, or team (e.g., cultural group, sport, dance or music group, choir, environment organisation). Caring for others — More than a third of young people (36.8%) have a responsibility to care for others at home. Caring for others meant 18.2% of young people stayed home from school, started late, or came home from school early at least once a month.
Bullying	About one in four (26.3%) young people were bullied in the

¹ [MAHI TŪTURU: The Landscape of youth work in Aotearoa – AUT & Ara Taiohi](#)

	past 12 months.
Gambling	Two fifths (43.7%) of young people surveyed reported having ever gambled.
School attendance	71.3% of young people think it’s important to be at school daily.
Mental health	About a fifth (21.2%) of young people who answered enough of the “screening” questions met thresholds for high levels of psychological distress, around one in eight (13.2%) reported high levels of depressive symptoms, and about a third (31.6%) reported levels of symptoms indicating they are at high risk of having possible disordered eating problems and may benefit from further assessment.
Access and barriers to mental health care	While screening tools show that 21.2% of young people may benefit from further mental health assessment. Only 6.1% accessed professional mental health support (e.g., counsellor, psychologist) for help or advice when they were feeling down or having a hard time in the past year. It was more common for young people to seek support from non-professional sources like friends (63.6%) a known adult or parent (55.3%) than other health professionals like a school nurse (10.5%), or GP (3.4%)

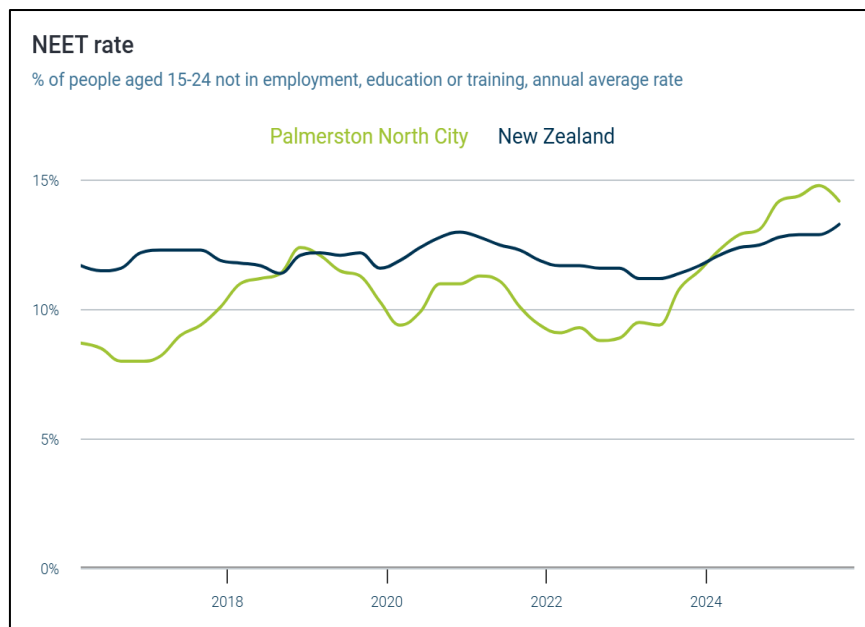
Table 1. Key findings from the Youth Health and Wellbeing Survey of Young People in Secondary School 2025, from [Ministry of Social Development](#).

- 3.10 The [‘If I was Prime Minister’](#) report published by Just Speak in December 2025, provides insight into the experiences of young people in the justice system.
- 3.11 The research highlights immense hardship for many young New Zealanders including disengagement from school, hunger, poverty, homelessness, family disruption, and the influence of peers and role models.
- 3.12 Several critical areas emerge from the report:
 - Offending does not occur in a vacuum, and a key issue heard from young people was the need to invest in prevention.
 - Many young people are facing serious hardship, but there is much that can be done. Addressing problems such as access to education is a preventative and protective factor for young people's wellbeing.
 - The power of relationships and belonging. Young people spoke about the enormous role relationships and role models play in their lives. And the importance of positive and consistent interpersonal support.

- The ability to influence, have a say and shape the worlds they live in is of importance to young people and creates better outcomes.

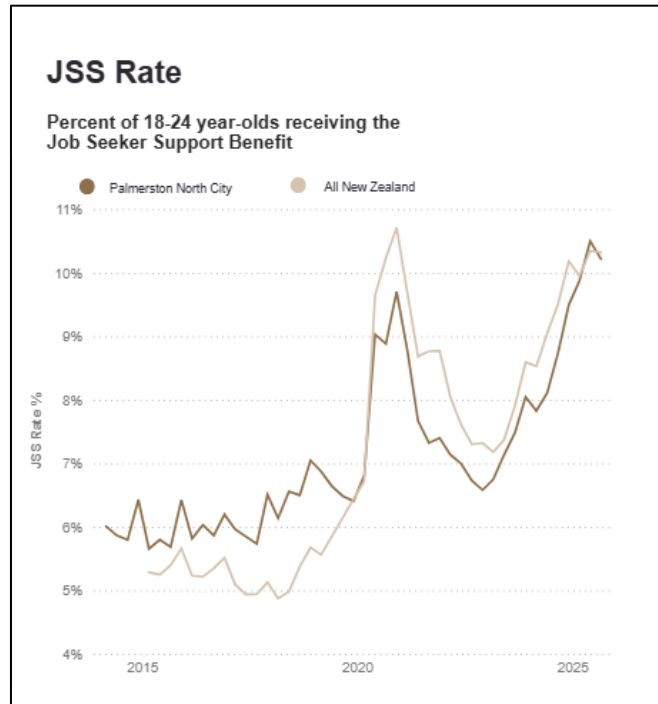
Wellbeing outcomes for young people in Palmerston North can be understood through various indicators

- 3.13 Consistent engagement with employment, education, and training are considered to be protective factors. The ‘NEET rate’ is the percentage of young people aged 15-24 who are not in employment, education, and training. This measure is often used to show non-utilised youth labour potential, and to indicate the risk of young people becoming disadvantaged or marginalised in the future.
- 3.14 Council has included this as one of the [community wellbeing indicators](#) in the Oranga Papaioea City Strategy 2024-2034.
- 3.15 Over the last ten years the annual average NEET rate in Palmerston North City reached a peak of 14.8% in June 2025.
- 3.16 In 2025, the annual average rate in Palmerston North City was higher than in New Zealand average of 13.3%.
- 3.17 As of March 2026, the Palmerston North NEET rate was at 11.8% compared to 13.5% in the Manawatū district and 12.7% nationally. This trend demonstrates the collective interventions of the sector has started to ‘shift the dial’ in NEET outcomes for young people in Palmerston North.



Graph 1. NEET rate Palmerston North versus New Zealand, 2015 to September 2025, from [Infometrics](#).

3.18 In 2025 an average of 10.2 percent or 975 of young people aged 18 – 24 in Palmerston North were on Job Seekers Support. Growth in this area was comparable locally to the national average of 10.3 percent.



Graph 2. Shows over time the percentage of 18-24 year olds on Job Seeker Support in Palmerston North versus across New Zealand, from The Ministry of Social Development.

- 3.19 Young people who hold a driver's licence, have improved social and employability outcomes. A licence means increased access to job opportunities. In New Zealand two-thirds of all jobs advertised require a minimum of a restricted licence.
- 3.20 In March 2026 in Palmerston North, 9924 or 73.2% of young people 15 – 25 hold a licence of some kind.
- 3.21 Youth offending is an indicator of wider societal and system pressures. The 'Youth Justice Indicator' reporting includes information about when children and young people that offend enter the system, and if they reoffend.
- 3.22 In the last twelve months in the Police Central District in which Palmerston North is located, fewer young people were involved in the justice system, as fewer enter for the first time and young people's offending lowered to a rate of 684 out of 22,170 from 710 the previous year.

Council's youth services team continue to deliver outcomes for young people and the sector through the youth space facility and staff.

3.23 The Youth Space opened in 2011 as a safe, welcoming, free and fun hub for 13 to 19-year olds. It is a place where young people can spend time, find community, explore

interests, learn skills, and participate in opportunities for development and connection.

- 3.24 The team facilitate opportunities for young people to be active citizens, have their voices heard, and get involved in community in ways that matter to them, providing a wide range of activity.
- 3.25 Safe youth specific spaces contribute to community resilience by creating environments where young people can foster well-being, enhance social skills, promote positive identity formation and involvement in pro-social activity and community building.
- 3.26 The Youth Space continues to be well utilised by both young people, community organisations and services in the city and region.
- 3.27 This financial year to March, the Youth Space has had 29,051 visitors across 198 open days. An average of 157 people a day, across the five day a week service.

This figure includes:

- 497 visits from support agencies who utilise the youth space in their work. Examples of services are Care on Call, Alternative Education Providers, Supported Lifestyle Services, Big Brothers Big Sisters Manawatū, CANTEEN and VOYCE.
 - 110 community-led events, enabled through the provision of a safe, central venue for bookings. This has included a range of shared services programming and youth-driven activations.
 - Co-design with young people and/or services resulting in over 100 activities that help young people explore their interests, and avenues for support and active participation. Activities are often designed and led by youth.
- 3.28 In response to community need, the team also collaborate with the sector on social initiatives and projects. Below is a snapshot of some of the collective work in this financial year:

Initiative	Description of activity
Police Youth Engagement Team partnership	<p>The regular programme is designed to build trust and connection between rangatahi and officers and has been well received.</p> <p>Young people are invited to ask questions and get to know police 'behind the blue'. One student told officers “It’s awesome being able to just speak to a Police officer, cause back at home when I was younger, I used to fear Police. So, thank you guys. I think I needed a bit of what you are doing when I was younger”.</p> <p>Police youth teams have noted an increase in young people</p>

	reporting crime and harm reduction through their teams. The programme allows for preventative and proactive work to occur.
Healthy relationship Programme with between Abuse Rape Crises Support, Manawatu Abuse Intervention Network, Youthline Central North Island, and Women's Refuge.	<p>Youth Services team are contributing to the development of a healthy relationships programme that meets current needs of young people in Palmerston North.</p> <p>Scoping commenced in 2025 with a 'Healthy Relationships Survey' open to 12 – 24-year olds. This closed early 2026, with 97 responses collected.</p> <p>The data will directly shape the content and format of the programme which will run in schools and alternate education offerings.</p> <p>Trends in the data included young people wanting to learn about online safety and relationships; what power and control looks like and about understanding toxic friendships.</p> <p>Survey participants told us that they learn about healthy relationships primarily from their peers, friends and family.</p> <p>The programme is currently under an ethics review to ensure it aligns with current safe practise before piloting in Term 3 of 2026.</p>
Rainbow ball co-designed by the InsideOUT youth group.	An inclusive safe and welcoming space was co-designed and created for rainbow young people and their allies at the Youth Space. The event was created with support from Bluelight Manawatū, InsideOUT, Youthline's 'Friends of Dorothy' rainbow group, ARCS, Manawatu Abuse Intervention Network and Woman's Refuge. The space was transformed thanks to the Palmy Parks team.
'Rangatahi Social Group' for people with disabilities.	Is a new monthly meet up for more than 30 young people. The event provides a safe inclusive space for young people to build social skills and create meaningful friendships. The event is designed especially for individuals experiencing isolation or social anxiety.
The Regional Race Unity Speech Awards	Home to the speech competition for the past four years, Youth Space has collaborated with the awards to this year see a 15-year-old Mana Tamariki student win the Manawatū-Whanganui regional title. The Manawatū teen has qualified for the national final in Auckland in May. This year's topic was Listening to Understand - Whakarongo Kia Mārama.
Driver licensing preparation sessions with Te Tihi	A collaboration with Te Tihi o Ruahine Whānau Ora Alliance that provides a warm bridging activity into the driver licensing programme facilitated by Te Tihi.
Vocational support collaboration with	A collaboration with Whaioro Trusts vocational support team. Providing a warm handshake and support for young people to

<p>Whaioro Trust</p>	<p>engage with the Mahi Tū Ora service. Kaimahi from both organisations work together to create confidence with young people to better engage in education, training, voluntary or paid employment.</p>
<p>Māori and Pasifika Literacy Kaupapa</p>	<p>In its ninth year, the study sessions kaupapa supports young people to succeed in their schooling. The aim of the programme is to provide a culturally safe environment for everyone to learn and succeed, to boost the literacy rates of Māori and Pasifika students and help them achieve NCEA credits. The programme’s environment allows students to work together to solve problems.</p>
<p>Pasifika Fusion Collaboration</p>	<p>For the fourth-year Youth Space has collaborated with the Pasifika Fusion and Pasifika Fusion Legacy team to run talanoa and fonotanga that compliments the week of Fusion events that bring together community from across the region.</p>





The Palmy Youth Council is a leadership and development opportunity supported by our Youth Services team.

- 3.29 The Youth Council programme helps young people learn about leadership, civics, and local government, while also ensuring Council and other key agencies hear and understand youth perspectives.
- 3.30 Youth Council represents young people aged 12 - 24 from across Palmerston North. Members are selected from a range of learning providers and lived experiences, with a strong focus on diverse representation.
- 3.31 Up to 20 Youth Councillors serve two-year terms, with new members joining each year. The group meets weekly.
- 3.32 Many past Youth Councillors have gone on to study overseas, step into governance roles, start social enterprises, lead community initiatives and work across local and national leadership spaces.
- 3.33 A snapshot of activity this financial year includes:

Activity	Description
Pizza and Politics local election event	An active citizens Pizza and Politics Event. This was aimed to empower young people to learn about local government, to have a say, and to go out and vote. A particular highlight of the event was young people getting to ask questions directly to candidates. The event held at youth space hosted 29 candidates and 40

	young people to share experience and knowledge with one another about the future of the City.
Long Term Plan Workshop	Youth Council identified several key areas for development. These included the importance of access to youth friendly spaces and hubs that served a wide range of ages from 12 – 24. That the city needed to push are brand to retain and engage under 24-year-olds. They also saw the importance of regenerating the Awa and continuing engagement with Mana Whenua.
Festival of Cultures ‘Have a go’ tent	Encouraging people to participate in the community building activities on offer throughout the day.
Holi Festival	Two Youth Councillors proudly MC’d the event, while others sold paint to the public.
ANZAC day youth participation	Youth Council supported the ANZAC Art Installation in the square on Friday to commemorate the anniversaries of the Cenotaph and the RSA. Two Youth Councillors presented speeches at the dawn and civic ceremonies on ANZAC Day, another two youth councillors performing The Ode for the two ceremonies and participating in the march.
Having their voices heard in the Manawatu Standard	Palmy Youth Council featured in the Manawatū Standard weekend edition, sharing their opinions on the importance of civic education for young people, the impact of the central government policy changes on young people voting and supporting young people to be politically engaged this year.
Stream Clean Up	Palmy Youth Council collected a whopping 280kg of rubbish in a stream clean-up in collaboration with Environment Network Manawatū. Rubbish was collected from the Mangaone Stream (and hauled from the Highbury Ave bridge through to the Monrad Street bridge).
Annual Draft Budget Submission	Youth Councillors submitted their advice for Council on what a youth-centred annual budget would focus on.
OutLOUD Music Event	Youth Councillors designed an opportunity for young people to express themselves creatively via a night of music, art and performance held at Youth Space during July. 10+ performers entertained a 50 strong crowd.
The Youth-led Wellbeing Summit	See below



The youth-driven, Wellbeing Summit helps young people access services and explore what wellbeing means to them

- 3.34 The Palmy Youth Council participated in the 2025 Youth Wellbeing Forum and saw an opportunity to support young people to reach wellbeing services in the city in a way that met their engagement needs.
- 3.35 Youth Council partnered with the Youth Services team to create the Youth Wellbeing Summit in 2026, a vibrant and creative space where Rangatahi explored wellbeing through a wide range of experiences, such as support dogs, yoga, singing bowls, boxing, physical challenges, creative arts, music, and workshops on healthy relationships and mental health strategies.
- 3.36 The 500+ young people in attendance were empowered to better understand what feeds their wellbeing and connect to services, resources, and opportunities to support them.
- 3.37 In turn, the event was able to strengthen cross-sector engagement with over 30 services in attendance.



Young people are given agency to shape their worlds through the provision of Palmerston North City Council’s community funding

- 3.38 The Palmerston North Youth Council is supported to award \$8,500 in scholarship funds to young people. The scholarships celebrate the contributions of young people in our city through their active participation and leadership in their chosen fields, to inspire them to pursue growth opportunities and facilitate access to these opportunities.
- 3.39 The Youth Council also awards \$8,500 annually to support youth-led projects, events, and activities. This fund enables young people to support their peers to access and get involved in arts, sport, learning, and community life. Rangatahi lead the ideas and decisions, with adults and organisations supporting along the way.
- 3.40 At the time of writing this report the 2025-26 Scholarship and Youth-led Initiatives funding rounds are open to applicants.
- 3.41 The Youth Development Response Fund is in its second year and has seen young people change the trajectory of their lives through the Kick for the Seagull’s Programme.

- 3.42 The 17-week kaupapa, originally created by Sir Graham Lowe for prisons, provides an avenue for students to achieve NCEA Level 1 and 2 in Literacy and Numeracy through the language of sport.
- 3.43 The youth development response fund enabled the pilot programme in Palmerston North started late 2024, as a partnership between Council, UCOL and YCentral’s Rangatahi Ora programme.
- 3.44 The four cohorts have seen 40 young people graduating with NCEA Level 1 or 2, and many continuing with further education courses including NZ Certificate in Hair & Beauty course, Plumbing, Gas fitting & Drain laying course, Automotive Engineering (training to be mechanics) and Early Childhood Education.
- 3.45 Three young people from the most recent cohort were awarded a UCOL Māori & Pasifika Trades Training (MPTT) scholarship, to support them in the Plumbing (2 recipients) and Automotive (1 recipient) programmes.

The Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs: Employability Programme Pilot

- 3.46 A partnership between Mayors Taskforce for Jobs, the Ministry of Social Development and Palmerston North City Council; this collaboration will work to achieve an outcome of 15 young people off the Job Seekers benefit and into long-term employment. 12 young people need to be referred through MSD as clients (18-24), and 3 can be NEET or at-risk young people aged 16 – 24.
- 3.47 The pilot programme commenced early February 2026 and will run for 5 months to June.
- 3.48 Funding is provided though a Ministry of Social Development contract and administered by The Mayors Taskforce for Jobs. Nationally, the funds are ringfenced for local councils to support their cities young people into employment though the employability programme.



Connecting the sector through the Pounamu Project

- 3.49 The Pounamu Project is an initiative guided by the whakatāuki Ahakoa he Iti pounamu (Although it is small, it is a treasured).
- 3.50 The Project has been designed to create a space where youth development workers and organisations across the sector could connect, network, and collaborate throughout the year.
- 3.51 Youth Services officers have had a coordinating role, alongside other organisations ACROSS Te Kotahitanga o Te Wairua, Sport Manawatū, Youthline Central North Island.
- 3.52 In 2025 there were 5 networking hui, 120 sector connections, Improved referral confidence and joint initiatives such as a shared youth week calendar and better understanding of each other's areas of work and opportunities for collaboration.
- 3.53 Feedback on the impact of the Pounamu from stakeholders has been “[Pounamu] helped improve my daily practice & confidence to refer if needed & [if the needs of the young person] does not fit the services we have”
- 3.54 Another participant wrote “Pounamu encouraged us to create new projects/initiatives/opportunities for youth with other agencies. I have collaborated with a few people because of this project including a wheelchair basketball programme for youth”
- 3.55 At the time of writing this report officers are reviewing the Pounamu Project, with the view to meet additional needs through this network to increase community training initiatives and joined up thinking across the sector on emerging youth wellbeing aspirations and trends

The 2026 Youth Wellbeing Forum “...has been a huge opportunity, that has started bridging the gaps between us in the sector”

- 3.56 The Youth Wellbeing Forum is for youth development kaimahi and organisations that work with the aspirations of young people and their communities in Palmerston North. It has been ‘kaimahi/sector’ focussed, looking at what empowerment factors contribute to proactive youth wellbeing work.



3.57 In 2026 the Youth Wellbeing Forum was hosted at the Palmy Conference and Function Centre on the 13th April. 115 people attended, from over 70 organisations across a wide range of youth development services and networks.

Forum Focus 1: Map the insights and experiences of the Palmerston North Youth Sector

3.58 The community mapping session brought together rangatahi, kaimahi, and organisations to reflect on the current state and future of youth development in Palmerston North. 231 data points were added to the digital map over two sessions.

3.59 Participants explored sector aspirations, collaboration and connection, professional development, workforce wellbeing, and the impact and broader community value of youth development work in our city.

3.60 The kōrero reinforced that when youth development is well supported, coordinated, and evidence based, both young people and cities communities are enabled to thrive. Key data insights from the discussions can be seen in the below table:

Theme	Insights
Understanding the impact of youth development work in Palmerston North	<p>Youth development work is upstream, preventative work that reduces pressure on other parts of community and systems like education, mental health, justice, and social services.</p> <p>Youth development strengthens not only individual young people, but whole systems and communities to support resilience in times of change and adversity.</p> <p>Frontline youth support and youth work was identified as the important social infrastructure that support young people to thrive in the city.</p> <p>Some participants also highlighted the broader community impact of unmet youth needs, noting that lack of mentorship, engagement, and support can contribute to negative outcomes such as increased vandalism and disconnection.</p>

<p>Aspirations for young people and the sector</p>	<p>Youth empowerment is embedded across homes, schools, and communities — strengthening whānau and enabling rangatahi to thrive.</p> <p>Schools and community spaces and hubs (third places) were described as key infrastructure for long-term change to outcomes for young people in the community.</p> <p>Shared capability, aligned values, culturally grounded practice, and leadership that understands both strategy and lived experience are all essential to delivering consistent, high-quality support for young people.</p> <p>The session surfaced a shared belief that young people should not have to navigate complex systems alone. Ideally, young people would already be supported by whānau, community, culture, and responsive systems that nurture them early, reducing the need for crisis intervention later.</p>
<p>Professional development and continued investment into training.</p>	<p>The sector has a high turnover, with frontline youth workers often staying no more than 3-4 years before moving on to other opportunities. Continual training and skill building are necessities to keep pace with youth worker attrition rates and the evolving needs of young people.</p> <p>The workshop highlighted growing demand for training in mental health first aid, neurodiversity, disability awareness and trauma-informed practises this year.</p> <p>From young people’s perspectives, participants reflected that young people want adults to understand who they are beyond their challenges and diagnoses.</p> <p>Young people value workers who are skilled in building genuine, culturally grounded relationships, who respect autonomy and choice, and who support independence while providing appropriate guidance.</p> <p>Youth also highlighted the importance of adults understanding contemporary pressures, including online environments, relationships, and the emotional impacts of family or personal relationship breakdowns.</p>
<p>Connection, Networking and Collaboration across the Youth Development Sector</p>	<p>Participants told us that connection across the youth development sector has a direct and significant impact on outcomes for young people.</p> <p>While the sector has become more complex—larger, more contractual, and more fragmented—a foundation of common values was of high importance empowering people across diverse workstreams to work together better.</p>

	<p>Many participants reflected that unless a young person already has a trusted relationship with someone in the sector, taking the first step to seek support can be difficult. Without the relational bridge, accessing assistance often depends on chance, word-of-mouth, or the confidence and persistence of the young person or their whānau.</p> <p>Youth contributions highlighted that when connections are strong, support can feel accessible and empowering. Some shared that they are well connected to services and feel supported, while others pointed to emerging needs, such as greater understanding of online spaces, internet culture, and gaming, which are increasingly central to young people’s lives and relationships.</p>
<p>Workforce wellbeing and capability directly shape youth outcomes</p>	<p>The discussion reinforced that youth worker wellbeing is inseparable from youth wellbeing outcomes. When workers are isolated, constrained, or burned out, the impact is felt quickly by young people and whānau. Innovation and joined up work across the sector are also affected.</p> <p>Participants identified a mix of coordination, policy, and funding pressures as limiting factors, with coordination issues raised most frequently.</p> <p>Funding cycles, contracts, and compliance requirements have the potential to create division and competition across the sector, even when organisations share the same boarder goals. This division creates lag in responding to needs and is less cost effective.</p> <p>While some participants felt funding was a key constraint, others emphasised that ways of working, coordination, and flexibility can sometimes matter more than the amount of funding available.</p>

Forum Focus 2: ‘What’s my why’ – a Ministry of Education Wānanga on Attendance

- 3.61 At the 2024 Youth Wellbeing Forum, participants highlighted the importance of education in young people’s lives.
- 3.62 In 2025 the Ministry of Education launched a community engagement campaign, encouraging young people to understand how school and the community are supporting them to achieve their aspirations – to understand their ‘why’.

- 3.63 This year's 2026 Youth Wellbeing Forum hosted a breakout session where participants had the opportunity to speak with the Ministry of Education about the 'What's my why' campaign, and to learn about attendance statistics for our region.
- 3.64 Feedback from participants was overwhelmingly positive and requested further sessions to understand how the sector could champion attendance.
- 3.65 One attendee wrote '[the] Attendance training was very informative. More kōrero about this would be great. Attendance or lack thereof for tamariki and rangatahi has a huge impact on many other sectors of wellbeing and therefore would be fantastic to know how we can support whānau with this'
- 3.66 Another wrote 'The education presentation was also highly engaging and informative. It offered useful insights—particularly around how school attendance is captured and reported—which helped to build a clearer understanding of the system and highlighted important considerations for practice and collaboration
- 3.67 At the time of writing the report, officers are working with sector partners to look at how to continue to connect and learn from the campaign.

Forum Focus 3: Developing the Bluelight 'YouthNZ' Project – opportunities, risk, and safeguarding considerations

- 3.68 At the 2025 Forum, the sector clearly identified the need for platform or directory of services to better connect across the sector.
- 3.69 In July of 2025 Bluelight Manawatū began scoping a digital youth platform that can be used as a toolbox to support better understanding of who is out there and enable young people and their whānau access support faster.
- 3.70 In October of 2025 the Manawatū Bluelight committee were successful in receiving funding to pursue the platform's development. Council have provided a small contribution of funding to this project along with other funding partners.
- 3.71 At the 2026 Youth Wellbeing Forum the 'Youth NZ' session invited participants to contribute to the development of this sector project, with the opportunity to define and shape the look and feel of the digital platform.
- 3.72 Participants sighted that a centralised platform would create a one-stop-shop for knowing what was available to young people, offering quick access to support across the region. That there was potential for the platform to reduce marketing costs, free up organisational resources, and achieve greater reach and exposure for youth services. Participants also raised that the digital solution, will strengthen collaboration and resource sharing across the sector while providing a mana-enhancing space that could celebrates young people's successes and showcases leadership opportunities rather than positioning services in a deficit-based way.

- 3.73 Alongside the positive potential impact of the project, the sector highlighted several safeguarding and system risks that need to be mitigated during development. In relation to the proposed youth platform’s ‘traffic light referral feature’, key concerns included oversimplification of complex needs, lack of clear accountability for referrals, and risks to young people if they disengage or are directed to services that cannot meet their needs. Participants also raised concerns regarding data privacy and sovereignty in this feature, alongside the need for transparent, youth-friendly consent and sharing processes.
- 3.74 The sector was highly supportive of improving access to services for rangatahi and whanau through the platform, though stressed that platform must be underpinned by robust safeguarding, clear system ownership and processes, and integration with existing support services to ensure it is safe and effective. Work is underway by Bluelight Manawatū to address the feedback as part of the project development.

Forum Focus 4: Building a Sustainable and Connected Youth Development Workforce in Palmerston North – Panel Discussion

- 3.75 Palmerston North has a rich history of youth development, shaped by community need, cultural knowledge, innovation, and resilience through periods of change and disruption. Honouring this history provides a strong foundation for supporting the next generation of youth development workers.
- 3.76 At the 2025 Forum, workforce challenges were identified across the youth development sector. Participants pointed to sustainability of the youth workforce, a lack of understanding the history and whakapapa that has brought us to where we are today, a need to be reconnecting practitioners to develop a stronger sense of a shared workforce identity as well as pathways for new and emerging kaimahi.
- 3.77 To explore these themes, the 2026 forum coordinated a panel discussion with some of the Cities longstanding youth development leaders. Sector Pou from NZ Police, YOSS, Highbury Whānau Centre and Youth Justice, were invited to share their experience, and insights into the workforce. The panel was facilitated by the Regional Public Service and a Praxis Youth Work student. The discussion brought focus to the following:

Theme	Conversation takeaway	Further detail
Legacy Infrastructure and Systems	Youth work is about relationships, trust, and persistence	While systems and funding change, keeping young people at the centre, supporting the workforce, and investing in collaboration are essential for long-term impact.
Looking Forward:	Young people are	Rather than expecting young

Gaps and Aspirations	experiencing increasingly complex challenges, which is driving a shift in how services are delivered	people to engage with distant or fragmented systems, specialist services need to think about moving into communities to meet young people where they are. This includes outreach-based, flexible, and locally grounded approaches. Leveraging places that young people already spend time.
Workforce Identity and Belonging	Reflecting on over three decades of youth development practice in Palmerston North and across the region, panellists identified several enduring values that should shape the workforce today:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Strong relationships between agencies, practitioners, and young people ➤ Trust, built over time through honesty, reliability, and shared purpose ➤ Collaboration over competition, resisting funding pressures that pit services against each other ➤ Youth-centred evidence-based decision-making, keeping young people at the core of every choice
Frameworks, Knowledge, and Professional Standards	Knowing your role and respecting the roles of others	Effective collaboration does not require everyone to do everything, but rather to do their own work well and hand over when others are better placed.
Innovation and Responsiveness	Tough conversations should not break relationships, as everyone is ultimately trying to support young people rather than harm them.	Trust was described as something that is regularly tested, especially when agencies have different mandates, legal obligations, or philosophical positions. Tough conversations—particularly between

		statutory agencies such as Oranga Tamariki, health, and education are necessary.
Sustaining the workforce - Mentorship, Supervision, and Pathways for Kaimahi	Workforce burnout was linked less to the work of supporting young people and more to Funding insecurity, Policy changes, Staffing pressures and turnover.	Strategies for sustaining wellbeing included supervision, training, creativity, strong peer support, realistic workloads, reduced hours where possible, taking leave, and maintaining life outside work. Panellists emphasised looking after one another and normalising support-seeking in a demanding field.



4. ACTION PLAN PROGRESS

- 4.1 In addition to progress highlighted in the above report towards the 2025 Youth Wellbeing outcomes, actions identified in the 2025 'Annual Youth Wellbeing Update' included working towards increased training offerings for Youth Development Workers in Palmerston North. As well as increased the accessibility of supervision for frontline workers.
- 4.2 Through the Wellington Regional Youth Workers Trust, the sector has been provided with additional training options, responsive to the needs of the sector. These have included a four-week Supervision course which increases the availability of trained workers in the industry.
- 4.3 The Manawatū Abuse Intervention Network (MAIN) continues to keep many informed of the wider social sector training, newsletters, as well as promoting new initiatives, research and development opportunities via weekly emails.

- 4.4 Overall, youth wellbeing indicators show both increasing pressure and pro-active responses from the sector. Councils investment continues to contribute to strengthening sector capability, coordination, and long-term community health and prevent downstream costs.
- 4.5 Priorities for the coming 12 months for the youth services team, include continuing to connect the sector and support workforce coordination, support NEET reduction, employment pathways, sustaining youth community spaces and youth-led programming.

5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 Frontline youth support and youth work is important social infrastructure that supports young people to thrive in the city.
- 5.2 Youth development work is upstream, preventative work that reduces pressure on other parts of community and systems like education, mental health, justice, and social services.
- 5.3 When youth development is well supported, coordinated, and evidence based, both young people and cities communities are enabled to thrive.
- 5.4 Connection, networking and collaboration across the youth development sector has a direct and significant impact on outcomes for young people. Key data insights from the first Youth Wellbeing Forum in 2025 and the second Forum this year, demonstrate the ongoing need for the sector to continue to work collaboratively together.
- 5.5 Council has a key role in youth development in Palmerston North. Ongoing financial support from Council to continue to support overall Youth Service delivery and to coordinate and deliver an annual Youth Wellbeing Forum (with additional funding to support identified outcomes of the Forum, including this year, sector training, cross sector collaboration and youth project delivery), has been identified by the sector as important to continue to seek systems change and positive outcomes for young people in Palmerston North.
- 5.6 The current Youth Wellbeing pilot will conclude in the 27/28 financial year, with the final Youth Wellbeing Forum under this pilot to be held in March/April of 2027.
- 5.7 In order to continue to deliver the Annual Youth Wellbeing Forum and associated outcomes, officers recommend that Council approve a continuation of additional funding of \$30K for Youth Wellbeing Programme (including an Annual Youth Wellbeing Forum and financial support for subsequent youth initiatives), noting that appropriate budget will be established within the 2027-2037 Long-term Plan process for consideration.

6. NEXT STEPS

- 6.1 Officers will continue to deliver activities, services, and programmes to promote youth wellbeing through the youth space and alongside community partners.
- 6.2 The next annual youth wellbeing update will be presented to this Community Resilience and Sustainability Committee in 2027.

7. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide?	Yes
Are the decisions significant?	No
If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?	No
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	No
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	No
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these objectives?	Yes
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council's policies or plans?	No
<p>The recommendations contribute to:</p> <p>Whāinga 2: He tāone whakaihiihi, tapatapahi ana</p> <p>Goal 2: A creative and exciting city</p> <p>Whāinga 3: He hapori tūhonohono, he hapori haumarū</p> <p>Goal 3: A connected and safe community</p>	
<p>The recommendations contribute to this plan:</p> <p>7. Mahere tautāwhi hapori</p> <p>7. Community Support Plan</p> <p>The objective is:</p> <p>Support for-purpose organisations and communities of interest and deliver programmes to promote community wellbeing.</p>	
Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being	A strong youth sector which supports young people to thrive will contribute social, economic, environmental, and cultural wellbeing benefits now and into the future.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

MEMORANDUM

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Bi-annual Sustainability Report

PRESENTED BY: Olivia Wix - Manager Communications

APPROVED BY: Danelle Whakatihi, General Manager Customer & Community

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

1. That the Committee receive the Sustainability Report 2026 (Attachment 1) presented on 20 May 2026.
-

1. ISSUE

- 1.1 The Sustainability Review for 2026 is now complete. This is the fourth edition of the review, which is produced bi-annually.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Sustainability Review publication was a recommendation by Elected Members in 2019 to demonstrate how Council is working to improve its, and the city's, environmental footprint and highlights key initiatives.
- 2.2 The first review was completed in December 2020, followed by subsequent editions in May 2022 and May 2024. This is the fourth edition of the review.
- 2.3 As well as council initiatives, the publication includes case studies and examples from across the community. While community content has always formed part of the review, this edition introduces a clearer structure by grouping stories that are not directly funded or delivered by Council into a dedicated section. This was a suggestion from Elected Members in 2025 to provides a clearer distinction between Council-led or funded activity and the wider sustainability work taking place across the city.
- 2.4 During the presentation of the 2024 publication to Council, Elected Members requested the inclusion of a broader range of indicators to showcase work happening in this space. In 2025 staff presented a range of other indicators that could be used in this 2026 edition. In response, these additional indicators have been incorporated across this edition, resulting in a more comprehensive and data-rich

report. This data was already being collected by Council but had not been reported on in the publication previously.

- 2.5 As the fourth iteration, the process for creating the publication has become more streamlined. Content and stories are increasingly captured at the time activities occur, allowing material and data to be reused. This approach reduces the need for retrospective collection, allows for re-purposing and resharing of stories or data and supports more efficient production over time.
- 2.6 Overall, the review continues to evolve with each edition, building on previous learnings while maintaining a consistent approach to reporting on sustainability outcomes.
- 2.7 Environment Network Manawatū has been engaged in the development of this edition, contributing to the identification of stories and reviewing the content.

3. NEXT STEPS

- 3.1 The Sustainability Review 2026 will be published on the Council website and made available at Council facilities, including the Customer Service Centre and libraries.
- 3.2 The report will also be shared with organisations featured in the review for their stakeholders. Selected content and stories will be used across Council communications channels, including social media and media engagement, over the coming months.

4. COMPLIANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Does the Committee have delegated authority to decide?	Yes
Are the decisions significant?	No
If they are significant do they affect land or a body of water?	No
Can this decision only be made through a 10 Year Plan?	No
Does this decision require consultation through the Special Consultative procedure?	No
Is there funding in the current Annual Plan for these objectives?	No
Are the recommendations inconsistent with any of Council’s policies or plans?	No
The recommendations contribute to:	
Whāinga 4: He tāone toitū, he tāone manawaroa	
Goal 4: A sustainable and resilient city	
The recommendations contribute to this plan:	

10. Mahere āhuarangi hurihuri, toitūtanga	
Contribution to strategic direction and to social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being	The publication enables us to reach the objectives in the Climate change and Sustainability Plan, as well as many other plans in terms of educating, informing and promoting council and community initiatives/partnerships.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Sustainability Report 2026 [↓](#) 

COMMITTEE WORK SCHEDULE

TO: Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee

MEETING DATE: 20 May 2026

TITLE: Committee Work Schedule - May 2026

RECOMMENDATION TO COMMUNITY RESILIENCE & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

1. That the Community Resilience & Sustainability Committee receive its Work Schedule dated May 2026.

COMMITTEE WORK SCHEDULE – MAY 2026

	Estimated Report Date	Subject	General Manager Responsible	Current Position	Date of Instruction & Clause number
1	20-May 2026	Bi-Annual Sustainability Report	General Manager Customer & Community	Moved at request of Chair to balance quantity of material to April meeting	18-May-2022 Clause 9-22
2	20-May 2026	Public Places Bylaw: Hearings	General Manager Strategic Planning		Terms of Reference
3	20-May 2026	Community Reference Groups terms of reference review	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
4	20-May 2026	Annual Youth Wellbeing programme update	General Manager Customer & Community		Council 29-May 2024 Clause 95.2F(1)-24
5	10 June 2026	Community centres improvement project (one off) update report	General Manager Customer & Community		Community Committee 21 May 2025 Clause 14-25
6	10 June 2026	Annual update on the implementation of the accessibility	General Manager		20 March 2024 Clause 11.2-24

		programme	Infrastructure		
7	20 May 2026 10 June 2026	Draft Working Paper – Assessment of District Plan for gaps in relation to public health	General Manager Strategic Planning	Final Internal Review	10 December 2025 Clause 203-25
8	19 August 2026	Effectiveness of Civics Education Initiatives – Annual progress report	General Manager Customer & Community		29 May 2024 Clause 95.29-24
9	19 August 2026	Vegetation Framework to include a Tree Policy focused on Council administered streets and public spaces	General Manager Strategic Planning		Committee of Council 9 June 2021 Clause 31.8
10	19 August 2026	Low Carbon Fund Allocations 2025/26	General Manager Strategic Planning		21 August 2024 Clause 24-24
11	19 August 2026	Housing Insecurity programme – 2 Year update	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
12	19 August 2026	Food Security policy – Annual Monitoring report	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
13	19 August 2026	Draft City-wide Stormwater Strategy – Hearing of Submissions	General Manager Strategic Planning		Council 29 May 2024 Clause 95.7-24
14	16 Sept 2026	Annual Report on Library Services	General Manager Customer & Community		24 May 2023 Clause 22-23
15	16 Sept 2026	Annual Dog Report 2025-2026	General Manager Development and Regulatory		Terms of Reference

16	16 Sept 2026	Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2024 – Annual Progress update for 2025/26 FY	General Manager Infrastructure		9 Sept 2020 Clause 17-20
17	16 Sept 2026	City wide Emissions Inventory 2026 Annual Report	General Manager Strategic Planning		Climate change plan ongoing action #3
18	16 Sept 2026	PNCC Organisational Emissions Inventory 2025/2026 Annual Report	General Manager Strategic Planning		Climate change plan ongoing action #1
19	20 May 2026 16 Sept 2026	Public Spaces: approval to consult on draft policy and bylaw	General Manager Strategic Planning	Work reprioritised to begin Local Alcohol Policy	Terms of Reference
20	16 Sept 2026	Draft City-wide Stormwater Strategy - Deliberations	General Manager Strategic Planning		Council 29 May 2024 Clause 95.7-24
21	21 October 2026	Annual Report – Community Funding Allocation 2025/2026 – Community and environment groups	General Manager Customer & Community		Rec 1c of the Community Grants & Events Funding Review – May 2021
22	21 October 2026	Disability Reference Group – Annual Presentation	General Manager Customer & Community		Invitation to present 4 Nov 2020 Clause 41-20
23	21 October 2026	Pasifika Reference Group – Annual Presentation	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
24	21 October 2026	Seniors Reference Group – Annual Presentation	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
25	17 February 2027	Soft Plastics Trial – Effectiveness and Costs	General Manager Infrastructure		Council 3 December clause 193-25

26	10 March 2027	Annual Sector Lead Report: Environment Network Manawatū	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
27	10 March 2027	Annual Sector Lead Report: Manawatū Multicultural Centre	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
28	10 March 2027	Annual Sector Lead Report: Te Pū Harakeke - Community Collective Manawatū	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
29	10 March 2027	Welcoming Communities - Annual Report	General Manager Customer & Community		4 November 2020 Clause 43-20
30	28 April 2027	Annual Sector Lead Report: Te Tihī o Ruahine Whānau Ora Alliance	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
31	28 April 2027	Annual Sector Lead Report: MASH Trust	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
32	28 April 2027	Annual Sector Lead Report: Niuvaka Trust	General Manager Customer & Community		Terms of Reference
33	28 April 2027	Manawatū River framework – progress report	General Manager Infrastructure		26 April 2023 Clause 4-23
34	As required	Manawatū-Whanganui Climate Joint Action Committee	General Manager Strategic Planning		Climate change plan ongoing
35	TBC	Summerhays Reports – Partnership Models	General Manager Infrastructure		1 May 2024 Clause 66-24 and 74-24

		Expressions of Interest			
36	TBC 2026	Options to deliver social housing within the current Revenue and Finance Policy limit	General Manager Infrastructure /General Manager Strategic Planning		20 March 2024 Clause 10-24
37	TBC 2026	Work Programme 1: Delivery Model for Property – CCO Trust, to include Summerhays Street.	General Manager Infrastructure		Council 1 May 2024 Clause 66-24
38	TBC 2026	Progress report on social housing development at Summerhays Street	General Manager Infrastructure /General Manager Strategic		Council 1 May 2024 Clause 66-24
39	TBC 2026	Waste Management Bylaw – results of the Construction and Demolition waste diversion trial	General Manager Strategic Planning / General Manager Infrastructure		Council 3 December 2025 Clause 193-25