

Help create your community's future


Draft Ōtautahi Christchurch Community Strategy

Overview document

To view the full version of the refreshed
draft strategy, please visit:

ccc.govt.nz/communitystrategy





Whiria ngā whenu
o ngā papa, honoa ki
te maurua tāukiuki

**Bind together the strands of
each mat and join together
with the seams of respect
and reciprocity**

This whakataukī sums up our mutual commitment, with Ngāi Tahu Papatipu Rūnanga, to a governing partnership relationship based on understanding and respect. This partnership commits us to working together to improve social, economic, environmental and cultural wellbeing for all and aligns to our commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as a framework for all.

What is the draft Ōtautahi Christchurch Community Strategy?

It is our commitment to continue working with others to build a healthy, happy and resilient Christchurch.

Our city has changed since our first Strengthening Communities Strategy in 2007. We have faced many challenges as a city but these challenges have also sparked creativity, innovation and collective action.

Renamed the Ōtautahi Christchurch Community Strategy 2021-2031, the refreshed Strategy aims to better meet community needs and aspirations, now and in the future.

Why a new strategy?

We reflected on the old Strategy which made it clear that people value diversity, collaboration, being connected and building capability for the future.

We cannot address the many complex social issues that face our city on our own, but can help to develop and nurture networks and bring resources and people together so that collectively we can achieve more.

We know that communities want us to focus more on goals and outcomes, with more emphasis on collaboration and partnership. They want measurable goals and actions so we know what's working and what isn't.

We believe this refreshed strategy delivers on this, and we'd like to hear what you think.

What's in the strategy?

Our draft strategy has a clear vision and strong values, with pillars of work, objectives and actions that will guide our work in partnership with communities and others over the next 10 years.



Te Haumako; Te Whitingia
To enrich; to shine



Our vision

Active and connected communities owning their own future

Our values

- Te Tiriti O Waitangi is New Zealand’s founding document
- Our work considers future generations
- We do not act alone- we always look for a partnership approach
- Our relationships are collaborative, trusted and enduring
- We commit to inclusive practices across Council
- We advocate for and support responses to social injustice and inequity
- Peoples, time, knowledge and skills are valued



Our key priorities for the next 5 years

We have identified the following high priority areas based on what communities have told us is important to them.

As a result we will:

- Work better to understand what stops people from fully participating in their communities and across Council services by improving how we capture and use relevant data.
- Increase people’s sense of safety in the central city - particularly after dark.
- Encourage more volunteering in local neighbourhoods to increase a sense of inclusion and belonging.
- Ensure that the needs and aspirations of the community are incorporated across the whole of council – through consultation, planning and service delivery.
- Reframe our engagement practices to increase involvement, trust and satisfaction in decision-making.
- Support and encourage communities to better understand and respond to the impacts of climate change and emergencies – with an emphasis on underrepresented or vulnerable communities.



Pillars and Objectives



Te Whenua Tua Tahī: Te Tāngata Pillar 1: People

Actively promote a culture of equity by valuing diversity and fostering inclusion across communities and generations.

Objective 1.1: Develop and enhance relationships with tangata whenua via mana whenua and Te Hononga.

Objective 1.2: Build, nurture and strengthen relationships with Pacifica communities.

Objective 1.3: Continue to build on the relationships and achievements developed through the Multicultural Strategy – Our Future Together.

Objective 1.4: Harness the strengths of diverse communities and address issues of social exclusion.

Objective 1.5: Support groups involved in providing access to arts, culture, heritage, recreation, and those who care for the environment.

Objective 1.6: Facilitate and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.



Te Whenua Tua Tahī: Te Tāngata Pillar 3: Participation

Residents and groups are socially and actively engaged and able to initiate and influence decisions affecting their lives.

Objective 3.1: Empower and equip residents and groups to participate in decisions affecting their communities and neighbourhoods.

Objective 3.2: Increase general understanding of the decision-making process and how people can have their say. We want more people to get involved in decision-making, and to feel that their views are heard.

Objective 3.3: Provide well-informed support and advice to staff and elected members for effective decision-making

Objective 3.4: Increase volunteering opportunities across the Council and the wider community.



Te Whenua Tua Rua: Te Whenua Pillar 2: Place

Support and help build connections between communities to foster a sense of local identity, shared experience and stewardship.

Objective 2.1: Encourage communities to create and sustain a sense of local identity and ownership.

Objective 2.2: Work with new and emerging communities in both rural and urban areas to build a sense of belonging.

Objective 2.3: Support the community activation and kaitiakitanga of public places and spaces.



Te Whenua Tua Whā: Te Takatū Pillar 4: Preparedness

People feel safe and work together to understand, adapt and thrive in times of change and disruption.

Objective 4.1: Work with communities to prepare for and respond to emergencies, and also increase climate resilience and adaptation action.

Objective 4.2: Support the capacity of the community and voluntary sector to plan, adapt and respond to risk, disruption and change.

Objective 4.3: Support neighbourhood and city-wide initiatives aimed at increasing a sense of safety and wellbeing.

Implementation:

Delivering this strategy is a Council-wide endeavour. The strategy aims to influence the Council's community outcomes, and will often involve working through complex relationships and interdependencies. We don't act alone, and rely on partnerships and collaboration with key stakeholders and communities across the organisation and city.

How we will monitor our progress?

We will measure our performance annually against the objectives of the strategy, using a mix of data and stories to illustrate outcomes. We will also establish a cross-Council implementation team that will:

- Report to relevant committees and working groups to show how our goals and objectives are being achieved.
- Present community board reports to Council bi-monthly that tell the stories of local progress.
- Produce community newsletters to share activities and highlight success.
- Track survey data relevant to the strategy goals
- Monitor agreed actions in our joint Health in All Policies work-plan with Community and Public Health and Environment Canterbury.
- Encourage community reporting and feedback
- Produce an annual implementation plan update including a community grant funding report.
- Update the implementation plan in 2026.



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