



Warmer Canterbury working group:

This term of reference briefly outlines the membership, role and purpose of the Warmer Canterbury Working Group which has been established to identify and either address or escalate issues facing Canterbury residents through the cooler months.

The group working does not exist in isolation from other working groups and organisations which are addressing issues that are inter-related with Warmer Canterbury. This inter-relationship is managed through members remaining linked into other groups and initiatives to reduce any likely duplication.

It is also recognised that many members of the working group will also be undertaking their own individual planning and response to winter issues.

Members:

The working group is made up of government agencies and community groups that have a responsibility for sectors of the population; major winter warmth projects or initiatives, and/or have key links into communities of most need. Members must also be able to commit the time to this project. Some agencies may have more than one member where their activities span a range of responsibilities.

Member agencies and key functional relationships:

- Canterbury District Health Board (CDHB)
- Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA)
- Earthquake Commission (EQC)
- Environment Canterbury (ECAN)
- Red Cross
- Christchurch City Council (CCC)
- Canterbury Energy Action (CEA)
- Ministry of Social Development, Earthquake Co-ordinators
- He Oranga Pounamu
- Work and Income
- CALD communities – Christchurch Resettlement Services
- Primary Care
- Age Concern

Purpose:

Working group exists to:

- provide a planned response to winter issues
- enable open sharing of projects and initiatives related to winter warmth with the aim of extending their reach and uptake
- combine resources (money, people, venue, linkages etc) where possible to improve the impact of identified projects / initiatives

- ensure linked up communication so key messages are consistent
- capture information to plan ahead for the coming winters

Priorities:

The working group will meet regularly (generally monthly) to revise the priority groups and projects it will focus on. The priorities identified for are:

- A focus on **vulnerable populations** – broadly defined as families with young children, those with chronic illness (including mental health) and the elderly. Specifically within this those with low incomes.
- A focus on those in **tenanted properties**, especially where they overlap with the definition of vulnerable populations
- A focus on improving the **affordability** of winter warmth, be this electric, gas or wood or through insulated homes.

Working group will function with:

- a staff member at Healthy Christchurch (HC) assigned to co-ordinate/liase with the group¹
- face to face meetings on a monthly basis
- agreed tasks and actions between meetings supported through HC liaison person
- all members of the group committed to implementing projects and working together
- clear knowledge of all other working groups in the area of housing and winter warmth so as not to be duplicating the effort of others.

The working group reporting mechanism is:

- each member will have their own internal mechanism to ensure actions and issues are raised within their organisations where applicable
- the working group activity sits within the umbrella of Healthy Christchurch and as such has the ability to have issues taken to both the advisory group and champions of this intersectoral partnership.
- no formal reporting outside of these structures is a requirement of this group but there is an expectation that other sector and community groups will remain informed via both Healthy Christchurch signatory hui and web-based communication.

The working group does not have:

- a mandate to instruct groups but is based on goodwill and common purpose
- any specific resources except as exist within the working group partner organisations
- a focus on issues related but not directly associated with Warmer Canterbury such as broader housing issues. Members may wish to focus on this outside of this working group.

¹ Sandy Brinsdon, 021 684 174