

CANTERBURY HEALTH IN ALL POLICIES

# 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by the Health in All Policies (HiAP) team at Community and Public Health Te Mana Ora (Canterbury District Health Board) on behalf of Canterbury agencies and organisations supporting a HiAP approach.

## Tēnā rawa atu koutou katoa

Reflecting on what has been an extraordinary year, the Health in All Policies (HiAP) team at Community and Public Health wants to express sincere gratitude to all of our partners, community organisations, and other changemakers in the region. In the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, the essential role that local government and communities play in advancing human health and wellbeing is abundantly clear.

In times like these, we all see that making health and wellbeing explicit outcomes of major planning, transport, and recovery efforts pays dividends. This report also highlights the many other projects and adjustments that have positive benefits for health, the environment and the climate. Although the impact of the pandemic continues to be a priority for many of us, we continue to work together and cheer on innovations in the collective mahi of fostering health for all.

The adaptations needed to face the challenges of the past year created some positive and hopefully sustainable changes to priorities and the way we all work. Organisations continue to share, grow and learn. We are more aware than ever of the impacts of inequity and unmet need. Let's take advantage of the current momentum to move beyond the status quo to continue to create healthier places and improve the wellbeing of people in Canterbury.

*Me mahi tahi tātou mo te oranga o te katoa*

We must all work together for the wellbeing of all

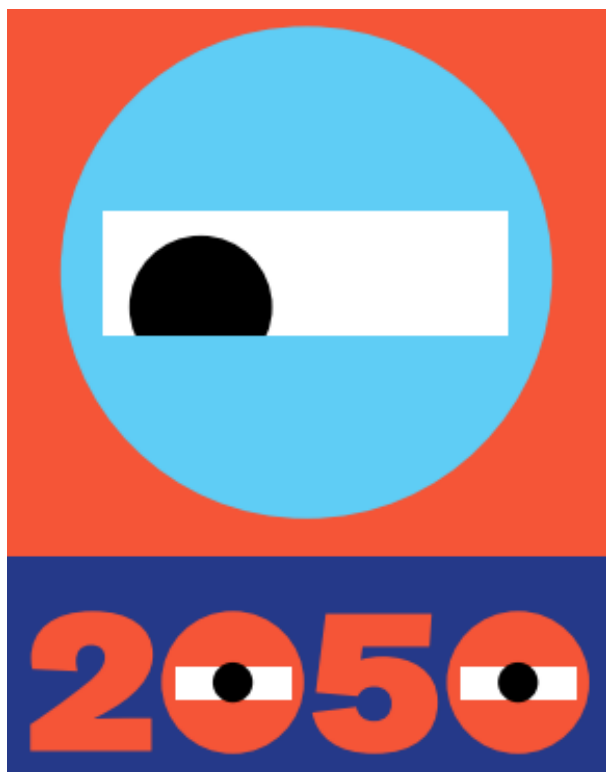


# Greater Christchurch 2050

## *Developing a plan for the place we want for future generations*

In the second half of 2020, many local people took the opportunity to contribute to the Greater Christchurch 2050 planning process. The Greater Christchurch Partnership, (whose partners include Christchurch City Council, Selwyn District Council, Waimakariri District Council, Environment Canterbury, Te Runganga o Ngāi Tahu, Canterbury District Health Board, and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency) has initiated the Greater Christchurch 2050 project to develop a vision and plan for the region for the next 30 years.

Via online surveys, host-your-own workshops, sector workshops, conversations in schools, youth workshops and a leadership workshop,



the community shared what was important to them about the future of Greater Christchurch.

In general, people wanted to:

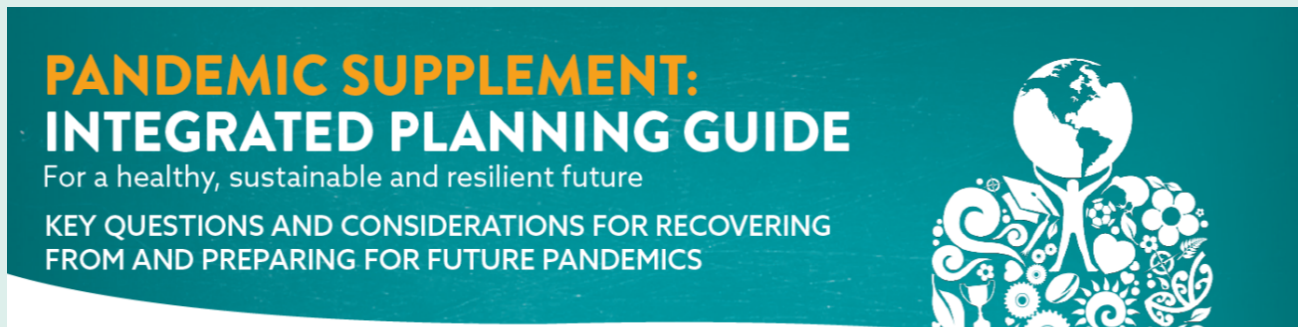
- Reduce our environmental footprint
- Be courageous about tackling the challenges of climate change as a priority now
- Restore and expand our natural ecosystems so that they are once again healthy and flourishing
- Deepen connections with our natural environments in our everyday lives
- Ensure our communities are safe and welcoming for everyone
- Eliminate racism, truly embrace diversity and never lose our strong social cohesion
- Stop urban sprawl and car dependence so we can live more sustainably in people-centred environments
- Increase urban vibrancy with lots of arts and events for people of all ages
- Ensure everyone has their basic needs met to live a happy life
- Ensure everyone can afford to live in a good quality home that meets their living needs and has access to the high-quality education and healthcare they need
- Build a resilient, sustainable economy that provides meaningful work
- Be Tiriti led and embrace Māoritanga.

It is fantastic to see how the feedback from the community aligns with what we know to be the determinants of good health. It is also interesting to reflect that the same ideas brought to light by the Share an Idea campaign hold for our community nearly 10 years on.

The Greater Christchurch project team will spend the first six months of 2021 developing this and other feedback into a strategic framework and plan that will outline a vision for Greater Christchurch and guide the partner agencies in collective actions to bring this vision to life.

# IPG Pandemic Supplement

*A locally-developed resource to support decision making in our current environment*



The response to COVID-19 reinforces how policies and actions outside of the health sector can protect wellbeing and foster resilience. The consequences of the pandemic emphasise how our planning and projects need to take into account three key priorities: health and equity; addressing climate sustainability, and; incorporating wider social goals.

The Pandemic Supplement to the Integrated Planning Guide for a healthy, sustainable and resilient future (IPG) provides strategic questions and considerations across key dimensions of health specific to recovery from this pandemic and to help prepare for future health challenges.

Initiated from conversations with Christchurch City Council, Community and Public Health Te Mana Ora worked with Council staff and Environment Canterbury to develop this special supplement to support policy and decision-making in the current environment.

Use this five-page pandemic-specific supplement alongside the IPG. The additional prompts are useful when developing plans or projects for both pandemic recovery and building ongoing resilience to public health emergencies.

The supplement has been useful to provide a specific lens for recent submissions and long-term projects. Feedback from the development process also provided great suggestions for the full IPG. As the IPG was always intended as a living document, these suggestions will be incorporated into the next version of the Guide.

# FOCUS AREAS:

## Strengthening communities

### *Waka Toa Ora*

Waka Toa Ora continued to meet through the busy COVID-19 period, and, like so many organisations, swapped our usual kanohi ki te kanohi (face-to-face) meetings to online platforms. It's a testament to the commitment and ingenuity of our Waka Toa Ora partners that when our public health unit was under the pump, our various organisations were happy to chair and administer meetings to keep things running smoothly. Hosting also allowed members to lead discussions in their key areas of interest. Waimakariri was able to share special insights into the region and their COVID-response work. The Environment Canterbury-led meeting provided an opportunity to update on annual plan discussions especially climate change and greenhouse gas emissions. This pattern continued when we were able to resume our face-to-face meetings. In Selwyn, the meeting coincided with the Selwyn Community Forum and included a presentation on the focus of local initiatives. The Advisory Group continues to identify opportunities to work together and further discussions around the human impacts of health from climate change.

### *Ōtautahi Christchurch Recovery Plan*

New Zealand's response to COVID-19 shows that doing the right thing for health, in its broadest sense, has positive impacts on the economy and the community.

The Ōtautahi Christchurch Recovery Plan sets out the framework for organising collective efforts and delivering actions to make sure Christchurch's economic and social recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic is deliberate, strong and fair. Christchurch City Council developed the Plan in partnership with mana whenua, and by working collaboratively with the Council family of companies, Ngāi Tūāhuriri and other iwi and rūnanga entities, central government agencies and crown entities, regional and local authorities, and the private sector. The Plan is organised under three horizons: Respond, Recover, and Reposition for a sustainable future and intergenerational wellbeing. Some of the nine interrelated workstreams include: Health, wellbeing and identity; Connectedness; Smart, sustainable city; and Productive infrastructure.

The timeline is intentionally flexible as it is anticipated that the Plan will continue to deliver and adapt to the changing situation. Some of the actions in the Plan will also be a bridge towards the longer-term future sought by the region's residents, as described in the Greater Christchurch 2050 work.



# Supporting healthier homes and environments

Christchurch City Council began work on the **Ōtautahi Christchurch Spatial Plan** to set out how the city could look, feel and function by 2050 and beyond. The ambition is to set out the pathway to achieving greener, carbon-neutral, healthier, and more liveable neighbourhoods. Excitingly, improved health and wellbeing for our community and environment are explicitly named as the overall aim of the plan.

The Greater Christchurch Partnership has also begun scoping a **Greater Christchurch Spatial Plan** that will leverage and build on the work already undertaken by Christchurch City Council. This spatial plan will outline how Greater Christchurch – which encompasses Christchurch and the surrounding areas in Selwyn and Waimakariri – will grow and change in the future to achieve the vision and outcomes set for people and communities through the Greater Christchurch 2050 project.

In the area of **air quality**, Environment Canterbury worked with Community and Public Health to better understand the health impacts of exposure to air pollution. This new information and guidance on the risks from wildfires will be useful for managing exposure to smoke from unplanned fires.

In response to COVID-19, Environment Canterbury made rapid changes to **Healthier Homes Canterbury** to ensure the wellbeing of the public was upheld. As part of their smoking chimney investigations, Environment Canterbury also connected homeowners to support agencies to improve the heating and health of their homes. In addition, the pandemic created an opportunity for Community and Public Health to work with Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust to support them to safely continue installations and housing improvements. In partnership with Christchurch City Council and Community Energy Action, Community and Public Health shared Warmer Kiwi Homes and Home Energy Check information with Whānau Ora, PCW, and Social Worker networks.



# Improving connectivity and accessibility

## Transport

The Regional Transport Committee, an alliance of the region's territorial authorities, and Waka Kotahi NZ Transport Agency made a collaborative effort over the last year to develop the **draft Regional Land Transport Plan 2021-31** (RLTP). The RLTP sets out a vision for the transport system and the priorities for investment. The impact of transport on health and the four wellbeing was recognised early in the development process. As a result, the objectives of this draft RLTP reinforce the need for a network that improves the wellbeing of Cantabrians, enhances regional prosperity, and provides better freight transport options. The draft underlines that the network must also be resilient to a range of stresses, reinforce and contribute to road safety goals, and facilitate sustainable transport choices. The draft RLTP will be finalised and endorsed in 2021.

Collaboration is key to Canterbury DHB's **Healthy Commute programme**, where Christchurch City Council carries out personalised journey planning with Metro bus use incentives provided by Environment Canterbury. Other incentives and advice to promote active and shared travel options are offered at staff orientation sessions, reaching over 500 Canterbury DHB staff in 2020. This partnership programme continues into 2021.

Environment Canterbury made rapid changes to **public transport** in response to COVID-19 and the various alert levels to ensure the wellbeing of the public was upheld. For example, during alert levels 3 and 4 fares were not required and rear-loading was introduced to protect bus drivers and maintain the service for essential workers.

Changes to encourage active travel continued in 2020, with work continuing on **cycleways** and modifications to shared pathways to allow safer distancing. Christchurch City Council monitoring of cycling numbers across the city shows that more people are opting to travel by bike. Further extension of the cycleway network and the ability to link up more parts of the city will progress over 2021 as the Wheels to Wings cycleway route is finalised.

## Disability sector

Disabled people experience disadvantages across the determinants of health, and have poorer social outcomes. COVID-19 has been particularly challenging for disabled people to carry on in their usual lives. The existing relationships and HiAP approach in the region were essential to the sector's ability to rapidly pivot when COVID-19 appeared. Information was collected from disability networks about the impact of COVID-19 on people's lives and was able to be reported directly to decision-makers able to make positive changes to policies. The results include better representation by disabled people at all levels of decision-making.

One such network is the **Christchurch City Council Accessibility Regulatory Working Group** established in 2019 to identify barriers and opportunities for people with disabilities and work toward making improvements. The Working Group invited disabled people to give their views on commonly travelled accessible routes including streets, footpaths, laneways, crossings, cycleways, parking and entrances within the central city to identify barriers and opportunities for improvement. Once complete in 2021, the assessment will help inform a work programme aimed at making a difference for people living, working and visiting the central city.



# Ensuring safe and sustainable water supply and waterways



2020 has been the first year of action for **Healthy Ōpāwaho** - a programme that empowers young people to lead community action for a healthy river. The student leadership team, made up of passionate young people from across five local primary and secondary schools, is supported by an education facilitator and a strategic leadership team of community and agency representatives from the Department of Conservation, Environment Canterbury, Christchurch City Council, Canterbury DHB, Junior Neighbourhood Support, Ōpāwaho / Heathcote River Network, and Canterbury Aoraki Conservation Board. Student leaders led riparian restoration projects for their schools, and a stormwater drain monitoring project (identifying and removing litter in stormwater drains that would otherwise have ended up in the Ōpāwaho Heathcote River). Students have also surveyed eel habitats and actively encouraged their communities to engage with their awa/river.

Christchurch City Council began their review of the **Water Supply, Wastewater and Stormwater Bylaw 2014**. The Bylaw contributes to positive public health outcomes by dealing with the protection of the water supply from contamination; protection of the wastewater and stormwater networks from things that shouldn't be put into them; prohibiting unauthorised access, connections or discharges to the networks; and encouraging efficient use of water. This review looks at possible bylaw amendments in relation to:

- Any areas where we could strengthen protection of the water supply;
- Supporting the Council's increased responsibilities under the Comprehensive Stormwater Network Discharge Consent to manage the quality of discharges and to reduce contaminants in stormwater, particularly better management of what enters the Council network.

# Building capacity

The Broadly Speaking course was successfully delivered in November after COVID-19 alert levels led to the cancellation of workshops earlier in the year. Facilitated by Community and Public Health staff, Broadly Speaking workshops bring together people across sectors to encourage joint action to improved community health and equity. One recent participant remarked, "Our Broadly Speaking discussions about population health outcomes within a multicultural context (e.g. Chinese immigrants) helped clarify my thinking. In particular, it helped provide clarity when conversations considered a Treaty lens on equity, then considered the more general idea of fairness, within Aotearoa. "

Four courses will be offered in 2021.

A poster for the 'Broadly Speaking' course. The top half has a green background with the title 'Broadly Speaking' in large white letters, followed by 'ABOUT HEALTH AND ITS DETERMINANTS' in smaller white letters. To the right of the title are three stacked cubes (blue, purple, orange) with icons. The bottom half has an orange background with the text 'ENROL NOW IN 2021 COURSES' in large white letters. Below that, on a purple background, is the text 'FREE workshops that bring together people across sectors to encourage joint action to improve community health and equity.' and a URL: 'Visit : <https://www.cph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/BroadlySpeakingInfoSheet.pdf>'. The Canterbury District Health Board logo is in the top right corner.

**Broadly Speaking**  
ABOUT HEALTH AND ITS DETERMINANTS

**ENROL NOW IN  
2021 COURSES**

FREE workshops that bring together people across sectors to encourage joint action to improve community health and equity.

Visit : <https://www.cph.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/BroadlySpeakingInfoSheet.pdf>

*"I can thoroughly recommend this course to gain a deeper understanding about wellbeing, equity, and how our own and our Council's actions and decisions can affect other people. Walking in other people's shoes and gaining insights from others about our actions is extremely valuable.*

*This course is fully aligned to our community outcomes and will help us foster caring and connected communities, a liveable city, healthy environment and inclusive economy. While this course appears to focus on "health" you will quickly see that nearly all Council activities are health / wellbeing related."*

Tony Moore  
Principal Advisor Sustainability  
Christchurch City Council

*Health in All Policies (HiAP) is a structured approach that systematically takes into account the health implications of decisions, seeks synergies, and avoids harmful health impacts, in order to improve population health and health equity. Organisations in Canterbury have supported this collective approach for over 15 years. For more information visit <https://www.cph.co.nz/your-health/health-in-all-policies/>*