



# **Te pūrongo ā-tau**

## **Annual Report**

For the period 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022

### **Wellington City Youth Council**

Te Rūnanga Taiohi o te Kaunihera o Pōneke

Image Credit: Sulthan Auliya via Unsplash

# Introduction from the Chair

2021 has been a year of simultaneous consistency, familiarity as well as immense change.

Over the past year, numerous established projects have seen their continuation within the Wellington City Youth Council. At the same time, we have seen the introduction of not only new members but the new ideas and initiatives brought with them.



Of course, this has also meant the departure of many influential and formative Youth Councillors. In fact, this year saw the departure of ten Youth Councillors.

In June, we farewelled Laura Jackson, following several years of service. Laura's leadership was instrumental in the past several years of success for the Wellington City Youth Council. We wish her all the best in her future endeavours. Following this, Anastasia Reid was elected into the position of Chair.

These numerous departures, while unfortunate, signify a new chapter for not only our departing members but the Wellington City Youth Council itself. In this year's recruitment, we saw the continued strength of the Youth Council's reputation in the form of many strong applications. As a result, the new membership of the Wellington City Youth Council is a skilled and diverse group passionate to not only continue, but build upon, established efforts.

Said departures have also not prevented the Wellington City Youth Council from contributing in numerous capacities. Throughout 2021-2022, Youth Council continued to make strong submissions, including on Let's Get Wellington Moving and Tūpiki Ora. Youth Council has also had the privilege to contribute directly to Council activities. Most notable is the participation of Youth Councillors in working groups for both this year's Local Body Election and in the continued development of the Wellington Youth Hub.

Anastasia Reid  
**Chair Wellington City Youth Council**

Joshua Taefu  
**Deputy Chair Wellington City Youth Council**



# Purpose

The purpose of Youth Council is to:

- Assist and advise the City Council on how to help grow a great City where young people thrive and contribute to the City Council's priorities.
- Bring extra insight to Council (a youth perspective) to solve problems facing a changing world.
- Develop the capabilities of its members (including leadership and engaging wider youth)

## Membership

### Leadership:

Laura Jackson (Chair March 2021 - June 2022)

Ella Flavell (Deputy Chair March 2021 - March 2022)

Anastasia Reid (Deputy Chair March 2022 - June 2022, Chair June 2022 -)

Joshua Taefu (Deputy Chair June 2022 -)

### Membership:

Raihaan Dalwai (Aug 18 - Feb 2022)

Tony Huang (Aug 19 - Feb 22)

Laura Jackson (Aug 19 - June 22)

Shelly Liang (Aug 19 - Feb 22)

John Sibanda (Aug 19 - June 22)

Saiah Clayton-Wade (Aug 21 - June 22)

Ella Flavell

Jackson Lacy

Anastasia Reid

Henry Lockhart

Josh Taefu

Leandra Broughton

Ali Haidari

Artemis Crawford

Akira Huriwai

Andrew Akerly

Ashleigh Putt-Fallows

Ben Bridle

Finley Duncan

Keelan Heesterman

Nikau Edmond-Smaill

Pulupaki Liuola Pouvalu

Teresa Ng

Kalani Fransen

August Metherell

Kaspar Levack

Kady Saxon

## Statistics

Written Submissions: 9

Oral Submissions: 10

Presentations from WCC Officers: 14

Presentations from External Parties: 3



# Engagements

## Youth Hub Working Group

One of the greatest achievements of the Wellington City Youth Council in the 2020-2021 term was the securing of funding for a Wellington Youth Hub. Since this time, the Youth Council has been pleased to continue collaboration with the Council in the planning of the Youth Hub. This has been through continued Youth Council presence within Youth Hub meetings and discussions. Through these meetings, the Youth Council has been able to contribute toward design methodology decisions as well as provide engagement strategies for youth. The Youth Council looks forward to seeing the final culmination of these efforts.

## Local Body Election Working Group

Youth Council formed a Local Body Election Working Group leading up to the 2022 election. Rangatahi are underrepresented in voter statistics, especially for local elections. Youth Council contributed to the strategy for advertising voting in the City, seeing more youth-friendly and vibrant messages focussed on. The feedback from rangatahi around the City has been profound, with people connecting strongly to the relaxed messaging. Youth Council also gave feedback on ideal places for voting paper drop offs, with the aim of increasing accessibility to voting for all.

## Economic Wellbeing Strategy

Youth Council was pleased to have the opportunity to submit in support of the Economic Wellbeing Strategy, which has since been adopted by the City Council. In our submission, we highlighted the importance of ensuring young Wellingtonians are given the opportunities they need to succeed and fully endorsed the measures the council is taking to achieve this. Specifically, we were pleased to see plans to partner further with

mana whenua in an effort to help combat the lack of entry-level jobs present in Wellington. Additionally, the Youth Council was also supportive of the commitments made in the strategy surrounding Transitioning to a Circular Economy. In both our written and oral submissions, we emphasised our strong belief that reducing the city's carbon footprint and eliminating unnecessary waste is a crucial step in tackling climate change, just as is partnering with mana whenua to ensure these changes are undertaken in a way that upholds Te Tiriti o Waitangi.





## Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Bill

In 2021, the Youth Council decided to provide a submission to Parliament's Justice Select Committee in support of the proposed ban on gender and sexuality targeted conversion practices. We outlined the detrimental impacts these practices can have on young LGBTQIA+ people's mental well-being and emphasised the need for greater protections in order to prevent such harm from occurring. Furthermore, we highlighted the need for easily accessible outcomes pathways for victims in order to avoid additional harm being caused by barriers in the system. The Youth Council also advised the Justice Select Committee that the bill could be strengthened if the age of victims at which criminal liability applies to was extended beyond 18, as this would further protect young adults who have been victims of conversion therapy. After passing through parliament, the Conversion Practices Prohibition Legislation Bill became law on the 18th of February, 2022.

## Our City tomorrow Campaign

Youth Council's largest submission effort was on the 'Our City Tomorrow' grouping which was comprised of the Draft District Plan, Paneke Pōneke, & Lets Get Wellington Moving. Youth Council divided into teams for each of these submissions, sending in written submissions for all three and submitting orally on the Draft District Plan. Youth Council has previously submitted on the Spatial Plan that informed the Draft District Plan and is about to submit on the Proposed District Plan. A few Youth Councillors were also delighted to be part of the 'Our City Tomorrow' promotional campaign, posing for posters to encourage public engagement, particularly from young people.



# Member Development

The Youth Council has been very fortunate to have received many development opportunities for its members. Such opportunities include:

- The inaugural Mock Submissions, discussing topics such as a slide in the middle of Whareipo Lagoon and the exclusive provision of Wellington news through Tiktok
- Youth Councillors attending the 2022 AN-ZAC Day ceremony at Pukeahu National War Memorial Park
- Youth Council Members attending the Queens Platinum Jubilee Service at Wellington Cathedral of St Paul

Our efforts in making the Youth Council a more welcoming space for all members have also continued. As of the previous 2020-2021 term, efforts were made to simplify meeting procedures including simplification of meeting minutes and agendas. However, the creation of a welcoming environment extends further than practicalities.

As a result, the Youth Council has also made a commitment to increasing cultural inclusivity and awareness within meetings. One such step was the undertaking of a Māori Karaki and Tikanga workshop, for all Youth Council members and the participation of multiple youth councillors in Te Tiriti o Waitangi workshops. The Youth Council hopes that this will create a space open for all people, and result in culturally cognizant discussions in our decision-making processes.

## Other Engagements

### Presentations

What	Internal/External	When
Representation Review - Democracy Services	Internal	July 2021
Youth Hub - Community Services	Internal	September 2021
Youth Engagement at WCC	Internal - Studio Tepu	September 2021
Three Waters Reform	Internal	October 2021
Graduated Drivers Licensing System	External - Waka Kotahi	October 2021
Lets Get Wellington Moving	Internal	October 2021
Youth Participation in WCC Planning & Architecture	External - VUW Masters Student	October 2021
Tūpiki Ora - 10 Year Māori Strategy	Internal	February 2022
Open Space & Recreation Strategy	Internal	March 2022
Draft Economic Wellbeing Strategy	Internal	March 2022
Youth Hub Update	Internal	March 2022
Enrolling Process & Youth Engagement in Elections	External - Electoral Commission	March 2022
Accessibility Action Plan	Internal	April 2022
WCC Council Housing (Annual Plan)	Internal	April 2022
Annual Plan Consultation	Internal	May 2022
Election Workshop	Internal	May 2022
Youth Hub	Internal	May 2022

## Submissions

What	Internal/External	Written/Oral	When
Trading and Events in Public Places Policy submission	Internal	Both	August 2021
Conversion Practices Prohibition Bill Submission	External - Parliament	Both	September 2021
Representation Review submission	Internal	Both	September 2021
Graduated Drivers Licensing System	External - Waka Kotahi	Written	October 2021
Lets Get Wellington Moving	Internal/External?	Both	December 2021
District plan	Internal	Both	December 2021
Cycleways Network	Internal	Both	December 2021
Economic Wellbeing Strategy	Internal	Both	April 2022
Tupiki Ora Maori Strategy - Jackson	Internal	Oral	May 2022
Annual Plan	Internal	Both	May 2022

## Events

What	Internal/External	When
Social Media/Comms meeting with Rangatahi Voices - Waikato District Youth Council	External	July 2021
WCC Social media Hangouts meeting	Internal	July 2021
Festival for the Future - 10 Years of Inspiring Stories; Mayor's Lunch; main festival	External	August 2021
Safe and Sustainable Transport Forum - Ali as representative	Internal	Ongoing
Youth Hub Engagement Event	Internal	October 2021
Our City Tomorrow Photoshoot	Internal	October 2021
Studio Tupu - Future of Housing in Wellington - Pilot Workshop	Internal	October 2021
Youth Hub Working Group - Josh	Internal	Ongoing
Election Work Group	Internal	Ongoing
Traffic Safety on the Terrace - Henry	Internal	April/May 2022
ANZAC Day Ceremony	External	May 2022

# Wellington City Youth Council

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