

Wellington City Youth Council

Annual Report 2014

Purpose

The purpose of the 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).

Terms of Reference Review

The Youth Council was pleased that its Terms of Reference were reviewed along with the other advisory groups' terms of reference in 2014.

Whilst this delayed the annual recruitment, the Youth Council was very pleased with this review. The updated Terms allow the Youth Council to continue to grow, and to begin to provide advice to *both* Councillors and now to Council Officers earlier in the development of work.

Annual Work Programme

As part of the 2014 Terms of Reference Review, a new process of agreeing a work programme between officers and the youth council was instituted (see Appendix One).

The Youth Council had previously conducted its own work programme planning process. The Youth Council will continue to conduct this internal process, as it allows the Youth Council to plan which consultations it feels are important to young people in Wellington City.

This new process sets which consultations and work programmes Officers feel that the Youth Council should contribute to, and provide advice on in the upcoming term. The aim of this work programme is to allow the Youth Council to be involved earlier in the development of consultations.

This programme was first set in October 2014, and contains consultations for the current term (July 2014 – June 2015).

As such, the Youth Council has already conducted work on several items on the Annual Work Programme, with the remainder to be conducted before the end of the current term.

Meetings

The Youth Council met twenty two times in 2014. The agendas and minutes of these meetings have been uploaded to the Wellington City Council's website. A table summarising meeting attendance is attached as Appendix Two. The attendance of individual members is summarised in Appendix Three.

Membership

The Youth Council was unable to conduct its annual recruitment in the usual period of time (January to February) due to the Terms of Reference review process.

After this process was completed in June, the Youth Council decided to change the term of members to July – June, which is in line with the Council's reporting year. It is hoped that this will bring benefits to the Youth Council, including greater retention of new members – as new members are more aware of their plans for the following year, and can commit to the full year term at a minimum.

After recruitment in July 2014, the Youth Council was restored to its full complement of twenty members, with eleven new members being appointed.

Tables listing the names of current Youth Councillors and of ex-members who have left the Youth Council since the 2013 Annual Report are provided in Appendix Three.

Youth Council Development

A new induction programme was developed in 2014 and improved on previous programmes. Members were provided with information about the Youth Council and about the Wellington City Council's governance processes and services. Members were also split into small teams to develop written advice on a live Council consultation and then had to present their advice in a mock oral submission.

The induction programme also included a session on Youth Council roles and expectations facilitated by Rod Baxter from the Boys' and Girls' Institute.

A major achievement in 2014 was the creation of a Youth Council Manual. This was written by senior members and documents current Youth Council processes and practices. It has a focus on 'how to get things done' and will be used to induct new members. The Manual will be updated periodically.

Member Development

A key purpose of the Youth Council is to develop the capabilities of its members; including leadership and engaging wider youth. To this end, members took part in the following events and programmes:

- 2 members attended the 'Valuing our vote' conference hosted by the Electoral Commission in May 2014
- 1 member and 1 ex-member participated in the UNICEF Youth vs MPs Election Debate at Parliament in July
- 4 members attended 'Speak Out 2014', a conference for Youth Councils from central New Zealand in July 2014

- 3 members participated in the 4-day LocalNZ workshop in November 2014 on 'How do regional goals align with national goals, and how might these goals need to change in order to aid regional growth?' The workshop was run by the McGuinness Institute with help from the New Zealand Treasury and the Wellington City Council
- 2 members participated in the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) programme in January 2015
- 4 members attended the Child Friendly Cities Forum in February 2015. The Forum was hosted by UNICEF and the Wellington City Council.

Advice

The following is a list of the major pieces of work carried out by the Youth Council in 2014, and demonstrates how the Youth Council works on a wide variety of issues with Councillors and Council Officers.

2014/15 Annual Plan:

The Submission of the Youth Council on the 2014/15 Annual Plan showed support for Economic Growth, Cycling and Earthquake Strengthening. The Youth Council made an oral submission in supplement to this Submission.

Urban Growth Plan:

The Youth Council submitted to the Urban Growth Plan consultation in October 2014.

This submission supported development where this was in line with the 'Eco City' principles, and was serviced by high quality public transport routes.

The Youth Council will conduct further work on this plan when the next phase of consultation occurs in March 2015.

Psychoactive Substances:

The Youth Council conducted initial work with the Officer in charge of this consultation whilst this plan was being developed.

The Youth Council also submitted to the Public Consultation process, favouring stronger protection of sensitive sites, including no differentiation between primary and secondary schools.

Island Bay Seawall

The Youth Council submission on the Island Bay Seawall consultation favoured option four, with a focus on enhancing the natural environment.

Two Youth Councillors also made an oral submission to the Council on this consultation.

North Kumutoto Development

The Youth Council submission on this consultation focussed on the development of Site 8 as a public open space. The Youth Council proposed an open space for people of all ages.

The Youth Council also made an oral submission to Council on this consultation.

Safer CBD Speed Limits

The Submission to Council of the lowering of the CBD speed limit focused on safety in the central city, and making the CBD more people friendly.

Youth Participation Work

The Youth Council completed 2 major youth participation projects in 2014:

- A Youth Week event in May for approximately 60 young people called 'Sharing the Change'. The event was a collaboration between the Youth Council, Evolve and Youthline and focused on youth mental health
- The Film Welly 1-minute Film Competition showcased emerging youth talent in September and October. The project was done in collaboration with the Massey University College of Creative Arts. The prize sponsors were PWC, IWantMyName, Park Road Post Production, Photography by Woolf and the Ministry of Youth Development.

Acknowledgements

The Youth Council has appreciated the continued contribution of Councillor Woolf, who has encouraged us to strive for more over the past year.

The Youth Council greatly values and appreciated the continued support and services provided by Council Officers in the past year.

The Youth Council would also like to acknowledge those Councillors and Council Officers who seek to encourage greater participation of the Youth Council, and young people in the decision making process.

The Youth Council would also like to thank Rod Baxter from the Boys' and Girls' Institute, the students and staff from the College of Creative Arts at Massey University who help with the Film Welly competition, and Simon Makaro from Evolve.

Appendix One: Annual Work Programme 2014-2015

October 2014

Chair – Wellington Youth Council

Wellington City Council

101 Wakefield Street, PO Box 2199

WELLINGTON 6140

Dear Chair

Re: Letter setting the Work Programme for the Wellington Youth Council (WYC)

Purpose of this letter

I am writing to you as the Chair to clarify the Council's priorities and outline Council's expectations for the Youth Council over the next 12 months.

The WYC is part of Council and I know that your group wants to contribute in the best possible way to our City. This letter will help focus the work of the group so that Council officers can engage with you at an early stage and in an effective way.

WYC's work over the next 12 months

The City Council recently finalised its Annual Plan (AP) and is working on developing the 2015-25 Long Term Plan (LTP). It is important that the work of your advisory group aligns with the priorities of the AP and LTP.

We want you to bring your experience as a group to help solve problems and find solutions for the work streams below. This is consistent with your group having deeper and more-ongoing involvement with the work-streams of greatest priority to the City.

Key AP and LTP priorities	WYC input
Member development: A key purpose of the Youth Council is to develop the capabilities of its members; including leadership and engaging wider youth. Council will facilitate the participation of members in development opportunities as they arise.	Work with officers to participate in the Rotary Young Leaders event, the Local NZ workshop being organised with the McGuinness Institute, regional youth council workshops and other relevant events and training throughout the year.
2015-25 Long-term Plan: The Council is developing its plan for the next ten years. As part of this work it is wanting to engage with young people in Wellington on its future direction and key projects that the Council is wanting to progress.	Work with officers to develop and deliver activities to engage young people in the 2015-25 long-term Plan.
Urban Growth Plan: The Urban Growth Plan will inform Council's focus and investment in urban development and	Work with officers to increase public and stakeholder understanding of the Plan. Work with officers to develop and implement key strategies

transport as part of the LTP. It brings together and links the strategic approach to, and key projects in, these areas.	and projects as part of the Plan such as our approach to public transport and projects such as the redevelopment of Victoria Street.
<p>Policies and Plans:</p> <p>The Council will be developing and reviewing key policies and plans over the course of the year. It will work with WYC members to develop, communicate and elicit feedback from the community on those pieces of work most relevant to young people.</p>	<p>Work with officers to develop, communicate and elicit feedback on key policies and plans including the Psychoactive Substances Policy, the South Coast management Plan and the Suburban Reserves Management Plan</p>

As part of Council's wider engagement, the Council will also consult with other groups on the issues that we bring to WYC. Furthermore, the above list does not preclude the WYC from having input into other Council projects and policies as these become apparent during the year. Such items can be considered by WYC with the agreement of the Chair and the Council Liaison Officer.

Additional information on how we see WYC operating is set out in the Terms of Reference.

Meeting to discuss and agree the work programme

Once you have discussed the priorities and suggested work-streams outlined in this letter with the other members of your group, we would like to finalise and begin working on the programme with you. Please contact me with your response to this letter by Wednesday 22 October 2014.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Martin Rodgers

Manager, Research, Consultation & Planning

Appendix Two: Meeting Attendance

The following table summarises meeting attendance:

Meeting Date	Number of members at meeting	Total number of members	% attendance	Comments
19 Feb 2014	7	9	78%	
5 Mar 2014	9	9	100%	
19 Mar 2014	9	9	100%	
2 Apr 2014	7	9	78%	
16 Apr 2014	6	9	67%	Easter
30 Apr 2014	5	9	56%	
14 May 2014	8	9	89%	
28 May 2014	8	9	89%	
11 Jun 2014	8	9	89%	
25 Jun 2014	9	9	100%	
9 Jul 2014	6	9	67%	School holidays
23 Jul 2014	17	20	85%	
6 Aug 2014	18	20	90%	
20 Aug 2014	19	20	95%	
3 Sep 2014	18	20	90%	
17 Sep 2014	18	20	90%	School holidays
1 Oct 2014	12	20	60%	
15 Oct 2014	20	20	100%	NCEA exams
29 Oct 2014	17	20	85%	
12 Nov 2014	13	20	65%	
26 Nov 2014	15	20	75%	
10 Dec 2014	17	20	85%	

Appendix Three: Membership of the Youth Council and individual meeting attendance

The membership of the Youth Council as at 31 December 2014 was as follows:

Name	% Attendance	Name	% Attendance
Anya Bukholt-Payne	100	Julie Hillel	82
Aornanshe Shamoon	91	Justina Koh	64
Bing-Ling Lou	86	Morgan Watkins	68
Brittany Hogan	77	Niamh Hyde	100
Daisy Lutyens	77	Oliver Michie	77
Erin Lockhart	86	Petelo Leaupepe	82
Eva McGauley	82	Sean Johnson ¹	77
Grace Nunn	100	Sebastian Klinkum	82
Jack Comer-Hudson	100	Siobhan Davies	64
Jack Marshall ²	100	Timothy Rutherford	91

Ex-members who left since the Youth Council's Annual Report 2013 was presented:

Amanda Yong	Lily Simmons-Donaldson
Ben Ogilvie	Maddie Bell
Cameron Oldfield	Rawania Thompson
Devon Robinson	Teariki Nonu
Duncan Armstrong	

¹ Deputy Chair

² Chair