

Goals

Goal 1: Health – Waimakariri youth are enabled to thrive mentally and physically and have access to essential wellbeing services.

Goal 2: Recreation – Waimakariri youth are satisfied with and have increased access to local sports and recreation opportunities.

Goal 3: Environment – Waimakariri youth are informed on environmental issues impacting the District and feel equipped to make an impact.

Goal 4: Employment – Waimakariri youth are aware of local career pathways, connected to local employers, and are supported to be work ready.

Goal 5: Belonging – Waimakariri youth have an increased sense of social and cultural belonging across the District.

Goal 6: Spaces and Places – Waimakariri youth have access to spaces and places in the District that are youth friendly, connected, safe, and inclusive.

Goal 7: Engagement – Waimakariri youth are engaged with Council and have increased levels of civic awareness.

Goal 8: Sector Support – The Waimakariri youth sector is supported, connected, and trained to effectively address priority issues impacting youth.



Youth Action Plan 2026– 2029

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Learn more about the
Youth Action Plan
via Council's website



WAIMAKARIRI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Youth Action Plan 2026–2029

The Plan is structured around eight key themes identified through the Early Engagement Survey: Health, Recreation, Environment, Employment, Belonging, Spaces and Places, Engagement, and Sector Support. These themes collectively form a holistic foundation for this work, and reflect the priorities and aspirations of local young people.



Actions

Health

- 1.1 Promote health service availability
- 1.2 Partner to address youth addiction
- 1.3 Educate providers on youth health and addiction

Recreation

- 2.1 Collaborate to expand sport and recreation
- 2.2 Reduce participation barriers
- 2.3 Promote sport, recreation, and play

Environment

- 3.1 Support youth-led environmental activities
- 3.2 Explore sustainable practices
- 3.3 Enable youth environmental advocacy
- 3.4 Share information and empower youth

Employment

- 4.1 Continue Mayors Taskforce for Jobs
- 4.2 Maintain Council internship opportunities
- 4.3 Deliver work readiness workshops
- 4.4 Pilot “Day in the Life” experience
- 4.5 Promote volunteering opportunities
- 4.6 Support NC Youth Futures pathways
- 4.7 Explore transport for youth employment

Belonging

- 5.1 Align Welcoming Plan with youth needs
- 5.2 Enable inclusive, culturally diverse opportunities
- 5.3 Promote social connection and events
- 5.4 Ensure youth voice in inclusion planning

Spaces and Places

- 6.1 Develop Youth Spaces concept
- 6.2 Improve youth-friendly public spaces
- 6.3 Advocate for better public transport

Engagement

- 7.1 Support Waimakariri Youth Council
- 7.2 Support WaiYouth
- 7.3 Support Youth Voice Canterbury
- 7.4 Promote Youth Service Award
- 7.5 Strengthen Council youth engagement
- 7.6 Create youth engagement opportunities
- 7.7 Increase youth civic education

Sector Support

- 8.1 Deliver sector newsletter and training
- 8.2 Share youth data with sector
- 8.3 Promote funding access

Timelined Priorities

Year 1

Employment

- 4.4 Pilot “Day in the Life” experience
- 4.5 Promote volunteering opportunities

Engagement

- 7.5 Strengthen Council youth engagement

Year 2

Health

- 1.2 Partner to address youth addiction

Recreation

- 2.1 Collaborate to expand sport and recreation
- 2.2 Reduce participation barriers

Spaces and Places

- 6.3 Advocate for better public transport

Year 3

Environment

- 3.2 Explore sustainable practices

Employment

- 4.7 Explore transport for youth employment

Spaces and Places

- 6.1 Develop Youth Spaces concept
- 6.2 Improve youth-friendly public spaces