

Waimakariri Youth Council 2026 – Information Pack

Here is what to expect from being a part of the Waimakariri Youth Council in 2026.

Meetings

Monthly formal meetings:

- Last Tuesday of every month, except December.

One of the following group meetings:

- **Community Space Development - Dudley Park**
Fortnightly every Monday at 3:30 – 4:30 starting 9th February.
- **Environmental**
Fortnightly every Monday at 3:30 – 4:30 starting 16th of February.
- **WaiYouth**
Fortnightly every Tuesday at 3:30 – 4:30 starting 17th February.
- **Youth Voice** – Monthly, day is yet to be confirmed.
- **Youth Strategy Advisory Group - TBC**

Events (all dates are subject to change; this is a estimated guide for dates)

- **Environmental:**
 - Sunday 29 March
 - Sunday 28 June
 - Sunday 26 July
 - Sunday 27 September
- **WaiYouth:**
 - Friday 24 April
 - Friday 24 July
 - Friday 25 September
 - Friday 4 December

- **Youth Voice Take Over Survey:**

Dates to be confirmed. Surveys will be promoted through all secondary schools across Waimakariri. You will be asked to attend the event at your school (if applicable) during a lunch break in Term 1.

Training and Leadership Opportunities

- Waimakariri Youth Council
 - o Tuesday 7th or 14th April- Training Day for all members
- Youth Voice Canterbury Training – Dates TBC

Celebrations and Ceremonies – Optional

- ANZAC Day commemorations
- Christmas Parades
- Community Service Award – Youth Service Award

Representative Advisory Groups

- Youth Voice Canterbury Youth Committee
- Waimakariri District Council Youth Service Award panel
- Creative Communities – Waimakariri
- Pegasus Bay North Advisory Group
- Public Transport Youth Reference Group
- Sport Canterbury Youth Panel
- Waimakariri District Council Road Safety Reference Group
- Southbrook Road Safety Reference Group

Consultations

- Annual and Long-Term Plans
- Youth Action Plan

Structure of Youth Council

- Two Co-Chairs
- One Administrator
- One WaiYouth Leader
- One Dudley Park Leader
- Two Environment Leaders
- Eight General members

Transport

For most events and activities, the Waimakariri District Council will not provide transport.

Membership Expectations

Here below are the expectations of being a Waimakariri Youth Council member.

- Attending eleven (11) Youth Council Meetings per year. Meetings are the last Tuesday of each month.
- Be an active member of the Youth Council.
- Per month, be available for approximately 4 hours of work and meetings.
- Social media – Create and share appropriate content with the Social Media Project Group for Youth Council's social media profiles which will inform youth in the District about opportunities to engage with local community initiatives and relevant youth information.
- Present to Council at least once (1) a year.
- Join one project group: Environment, Community Spaces, WaiYouth or Youth Strategy Advisory Group
- Shall be willing to represent the Youth Council at specific public events, such as ANZAC commemorations, Annual Plan presentations.
- Shall ensure Youth Council direction is focused on delivering the Youth Strategy 2018 and working within the Terms of Reference of the Waimakariri Youth Council.

Waimakariri Youth Council's Terms of Reference

The document that guides the work that Youth Council does and is involved with. The full Term's of Reference is available on the Youth Council's webpage on the Waimakariri District Council website.

Waimakariri Youth Council's citizenship definition

Community involvement which builds a sense of identity and belonging. Helping the community to understand their rights, duties, and opportunities.

Purpose

Identify and communicate to the District Council the interests and preferences of Waimakariri young people in relation to:

- The content of strategies, policies, plans, and bylaws of the District Council.
- The processes and mechanisms for engagement with young people in the District.
- The consideration of regional issues raised by local young people.
- Consultation with local young people and the community.
- Advocating and advancing the Waimakariri Youth Strategy.
- Any matter that the Youth Council considers to be of particular interest or concern to Waimakariri young people.

Youth council will facilitate positive public engagement and involvement of young people in the community. Through various project groups which focus on;

- Events/opportunities
- Development of youth spaces
- Social and intergenerational connections
- Environmental protections
- Public Engagement and opportunities for young people to have a voice

Additionally, the Youth Council will work with other youth participation groups and partners to represent the district, the community, and its young people nationally.

Waimakariri Youth Council's Values

- Be respectful & non-judging
- To representing young people
- Accept each other
- Be active & committed to Youth Council
- Value the whole District
- Approachable & friendly
- Value and seek everyone's opinion
- Open to new ideas
- Value positive youth development

Criteria

Youth people who are aged between 12 and 24 years, who also live or study in the district.

Recruitment process

- Applications open: Monday 2 February 2026
- Applications close: Sunday 1 March
- Interviews: Starting Monday 9 March, after school hours
- Decisions made: Friday 13 March
- Interviewees notified of decision: Tuesday 17 March, by end of day
- Training day: 7 April or 14 April – Full day
- First Youth Council Meeting: Tuesday 28 April, 7 – 9 pm.