

# MDC Youth Council Action Plan 2019

## Background

The Council's Long Term Plan includes a community outcome for youth as follows:

- *People - a vibrant community that is flourishing, diverse and inclusive for everyone, presenting opportunities for people to succeed.*
- *Living - a healthy and safe community that thrives on positive relationships between all people, where opportunities for a better life abound.*

In addition Council adopted a Youth Policy in 1999 that states:

*The Marlborough District Council will work towards developing a District where:*

- *young peoples' views and contributions to their families and their communities are valued*
- *young people are cherished and their diversity is recognised, acknowledged and celebrated*
- *the views of young people will be sought and taken into account in the development of the Council's policies and activities.*

The Youth Council was then established in 2000 as a mechanism to communicate and gain participation by young people in civic activities.

In 2005 Council undertook a Youth Scoping Project in conjunction with Public Health which comprised a survey of Youth Service Organisations and a Talking Walls Project with secondary schools students, Council requested that the Youth Council provide information on how Youth Initiatives funding could be utilised. A Youth Initiatives Plan was presented to Council for consideration and encompassed the information provided by the Youth Council and some recommended actions.

As a result Council agreed to adopt the plan and provide an annual budget for the Youth Council to implement the actions identified in the plan to achieve positive outcomes for young people in our community.

## Youth Council Purpose

The purpose of the Youth Council is to:

- Provide a line of communication between youth, Council and other organisations.
- Provide an opportunity for youth to raise issues relating to them and undertake some projects to address these.
- Increase youth awareness of wider community issues.
- Gain youth input on Council processes and projects.
- Development of youth leadership skills through involvement in civic activities.
- To provide opportunities in decision making for allocation of Council's youth funding.

## The Plan

The plan summarises the issues identified by the Youth Council members that they want to make a difference on for Marlborough Youth. It also identifies actions to be undertaken both by the Youth Council and in conjunction with other organisations such as the Marlborough Youth Trust (MYT), Police.

It is intended that this will assist Council in achieving the Community Outcomes for youth and the Youth Policy as well as give guidance on priorities for allocation of youth funding.

## **Objectives**

1. The objectives of the plan are as follows:

- **Youth Voice** - youth views are valued and listened to
- **Youth Support** – youth are supported to take action and participate
- **Leadership** - opportunities for personal growth and community participation
- **Events & Activities** – regular youth events are supported
- **Youth Health** – promotion of youth friendly health services
- **Youth Achievement** – showcase young people and their achievements
- **Positive Promotion of Youth** – positive youth profile in the community
- **Education & Training** – opportunities for career development
- **Environment** – think and act sustainably

## **Plan Implementation**

Along with working in partnership with key youth service providers, the Youth Council considered proposals from organisations who can contribute to positive outcomes for youth as outlined in this Plan.

The Youth Council will work towards achieving the action points throughout 2019.

## **Budget**

Council has an annual budget of \$60,000 for youth activities linked to the implementation of the plan. Some of the funding is required to resource some projects identified by Youth Council members as well as for supporting proposals from providers.

Allocation of youth funding is through a Youth Funding committee comprising of the Mayor, Chair of the Council Community & Financial Planning committee and one representative from each of the schools on the Youth Council. The youth representatives are appointed by youth each year. The majority of funding decisions are made at Youth Council meetings.

## Marlborough Youth Council Action Plan 2019

Youth Voice - youth views are valued and listened to.			
Actions	When will this be achieved?	Who is involved - Youth Council and others?	Outcome
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information about the Youth Council membership to be provided on the website.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 2019</li> </ul>	Council Staff	Completed
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Council representatives promote who they are so that young people know who to contact to raise their issues at the Youth Council meetings. This will be done through school notices and assemblies, My Voice website and social media.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing throughout the year</li> </ul>	Youth Council - all	Communication mainly via Social Media Identified more can be done in this area. Ideas given: Wear hoodies at school Make short videos of YC members Poster at schools identifying YC similar to peer support
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Council representatives to gain wider youth input on issues raised through their school and other networks.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As required throughout the year</li> </ul>	Youth Council - all	Significant interest from Youth Council in respect of environmental/climate issues Alcohol campaign Top of the South Hui process
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise the Youth Website/social media options to get youth feedback on issues.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing throughout the year</li> </ul>	Council staff with Youth Council sub group	Poll for new logo design to be attempted Ongoing use of social media to promote youth voice & events
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider making a submission to Council's Annual Plan on youth related activity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By 6 May 2019</li> </ul>	Council staff with Youth Council sub group	Submission made by Jack, Lennox, Charlotte & Luka – on continued support for Youth initiatives, facilities & environment
Youth Support – youth are supported to take action and participate			

Action	When will this be achieved?	Who is involved - Youth Council and others?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Peer Support programme in Secondary Schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Annual Request</li> </ul>	Youth Council - all	Funding of \$1300 approved for training
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support the Regional SADD committee including attendance at conference and initiatives throughout the year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2019 for conference</li> <li>Initiatives on request</li> </ul>	Youth Council – all Council staff	Funding was offered but not taken up this year
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote Pink Shirt Day activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>During Youth Week 2019</li> </ul>	Youth Council members MVIP Co-ordinator	Youth Week – ‘day in the life’ videos created & shared via social media. Participation with pink shirt day activities in colleges
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote Cyber safety education and initiatives, including online resources</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	Council staff with Youth Council Cyber—safety working group PrComm group	New link updated on the website
<b>Leadership - opportunities for personal growth and community participation</b>			
Action	When will this be achieved?	Who is involved - Youth Council and others?	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Training for Youth Council members is provided to develop leadership skills</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throughout the year</li> </ul>	Youth Council – all Council staff	Info/training sessions held with Community law, Youth Addiction case worker, Youth Development Centre visits, involvement in Top of the South Youth Hui, MC role at Future of Work conference, training at Youth Council annual Top of the South get together.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Leadership opportunities are promoted to young people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As required throughout the year</li> </ul>	Youth Council – all Council staff	<p>Supporting youth organising Pre-formal party Opportunities in planning &amp; delivery of Future of Work Conference Sharing of opportunities for youth to join groups &amp; take leadership roles.</p>
<b>Events &amp; Activities – regular youth events are supported</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>When will this be achieved?</b>	<b>Who is involved - Youth Council and others?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue the relationship with the Marlborough Youth Trust for regular one off youth activities across the region. Request minimum of one event to be held in Picton. Youth Council assist with delivery of events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	Marlborough Youth Trust Youth Council – all Council staff	<p>Plan supported for 6 annual events following consultation with YC. Support to MySpace opening &amp; various events held there.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with Millennium Art Gallery to provide an annual Youth Art Project, including development of skills for young people. This year a Youth Mural in Picton.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completed by December 2019</li> </ul>	Millennium Public Art Gallery Youth artists Council staff College Art Teachers	<p>Picton Youth Mural preparation has been started with group formed with QCC, MGC &amp; YC members with artists from Gisborne &amp; Sustainable Coastlines</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue the partnership with the Marlborough Civic Theatre to support youth productions- a maximum of three per annum.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>On request</li> </ul>	ASB Theatre Youth Council – all Council staff	<p>2 use of venue requests have been approved so far this financial year *This is currently under review by ASB Theatre.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in activities that build relationships with other organisations and provide opportunities for intercollege participation. – e.g. Future of Work Conference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As identified and agreed throughout the year</li> </ul>	Youth Council – all Council staff Marlborough Youth Trust, Graeme Dingle	<p>Future of Work conference was a huge success with positive feedback from the 142 who attended, as well as businesses participating.</p>

		Foundation & other organisations	Involvement & support for Top of the South Youth Hui
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue support for CACTUS programmes and PCT activities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing contract in place with Marlborough Youth Trust – reported annually</li> </ul>	Youth Council – all Council staff Marlborough Youth Trust & other organisations	Approval of funding for Cactus/PCT
<b>Youth Health – promotion of youth friendly health services</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>When will this be achieved?</b>	<b>Who is involved - Youth Council and others?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Utilise the Youth Website to ensure information about health services is available to youth. Ongoing review of content to ensure the services contact details are up to date.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	Public Health Youth Council Sub Group Council staff	Current & up to date
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support initiatives that encourage a change in the drinking culture and exposure to drug use with a focus on keeping young people safe.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By December 2019</li> </ul>	Marlborough Alcohol Advisory Group Youth Council – Sub Group Council Staff MVIP	Provided design input & survey information for delaying drinking campaign. Information provided via website & info session held with addiction services
<b>Youth Achievement – showcase young people and their achievements</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>When will this be achieved?</b>	<b>Who is involved - Youth Council and others?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Youth Civic Awards</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By December 2019</li> </ul>	Youth Council Council Staff	Completed with 4 recipients being awarded in October.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to support youth chosen to represent Marlborough and/or New Zealand at a national or international level under the policy for supporting youth in need.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	Young people Youth Council Council Staff	Several individual and small group funding awarded for sports and attending climate meetings at a national level
<b>Positive Promotion of Youth – positive youth profile in the community</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>When will this be achieved?</b>	<b>Who is involved - Youth Council and others?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue the relationship with local media and the Youth Council to promote positive stories about local youth on an event/activity basis also utilising Youth Council social media tools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throughout the year</li> </ul>	Marlborough Express Youth Council ProCom Council staff	Media were active with YC regarding the Annual plan submission, MySpace opening, Youth Civic Awards, Future of Work Conference as well as several individual Youth Council members
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote activities for Youth Week that profile the positive contribution young people make in our community. This to include youth profiles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 2019</li> </ul>	Youth Council Council Staff Marlborough Youth Trust MVIP	YC members recorded their “every day life” fitting with this year’s theme ‘I am more than you see’.
<b>Education &amp; Training – opportunities for career development</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>When will this be achieved?</b>	<b>Who is involved - Youth Council and others?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue support for services that provide trades information including the annual Industry Training Graduation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>December 2019</li> </ul>	Mayor Council Staff	Graduation held 31 October
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure information about services that support transition from school are kept up to date on the Youth Website</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> </ul>	ProCom Group	Website updated this year to include local employment programmes as well as the Future of Work Conference

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Investigate employment opportunities for college students.</li> <li>Future of Work Conference</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>By December 2019</li> <li>12 June 2019</li> </ul>	Youth Council – all Council Staff	Through a partnership with Graeme Dingle Foundation & MDC the Future of Work Conference was held in June. It was a success with positive feedback & planning to expand this in 2020.
<b>Environment – think and act sustainably</b>			
<b>Action</b>	<b>When will this be achieved?</b>	<b>Who is involved - Youth Council and others?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage youth participation in environmental issues by including information on the My Voice website and promoting activities on FB page and inclusion in any contracts with Youth Funding.</li> <li>Continue to voice youth views on climate change and run off into waterways via an Annual Plan Submission and environmental activities in the colleges.</li> <li>Youth messaging encouraging people to take self-responsibility for dumping of rubbish/waste.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ongoing</li> <li>Annual plan submission by 6 May</li> <li>Throughout the year</li> </ul>	Youth Council Sub Groups Council Staff	Climate Change Strikes X 2 Activities carried out in the community – encouraging cycling/ tree planting Support for Marlborough Youth to attend national meetings Annual Plan submission Environmental consideration incl in Youth event contract Using the Youth Mural as another medium to community about environmental messages & working in partnership with Sustainable Coastlines NZ