



AGENDA

Safer Communities Committee Meeting Thursday, 19 June 2025

Date Thursday, 19 June 2025

Time 1:00 pm

Location Meeting Room 1
District Council Building
King George Place
Timaru

File Reference 1764449

Safer Communities Committee

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the Safer Communities Committee will be held in the Meeting Room 1, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru, on Thursday 19 June 2025, at 1:00 pm.

Safer Communities Committee Members

Nigel Bowen (Chairperson), Gordon Handy, Ruth Swale, Zoe Kirk, Vicki Walker, Craig Chambers, Joel Burgess, Margie Goldsmith, Gavin List, Merali Taylor, Keith Shaw, Rene Templeton, Scott Shannon (Deputy Chairperson), Sandi Abel, Sue Matthews, Rosie Chambers, Graham Dellow, Kathryn Robinson, Greg Newton, Tracey Miron, Nancy McGregor, Amanda Herewini-Wills, Teressa May, Tina Kavanaugh, Donna Lindsay, Nils Macfarlane, David Duthie, Chris Thomas, Kelly Katene and Kenny Diamond

Quorum – no less than 6 members including at least one Elected Member

Local Authorities (Members' Interests) Act 1968

Members are reminded that if they have a pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda, then they must declare this interest and refrain from discussing or voting on this item and are advised to withdraw from the meeting table.

Paul Cooper

Acting Group Manager Community Services

Order Of Business

1	Apologies	5
2	Identification of Items of Urgent Business.....	5
3	Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature	5
4	Declaration of Conflicts of Interest	5
5	Confirmation of Minutes	6
5.1	Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 March 2025.....	6
6	Reports	12
6.1	Safer Communities Update - June 2025.....	12
7	Consideration of Urgent Business Items.....	15
8	Consideration of Minor Nature Matters.....	15

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business**
- 3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature**
- 4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest**

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 March 2025

Author: Jessica Hurst, Community Development Advisor

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 March 2025 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Attachments

1. Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 20 March 2025



MINUTES

Safer Communities Committee Meeting Thursday, 20 March 2025

Ref: 1764449

**Minutes of Timaru District Council
Safer Communities Committee Meeting
Held in the Meeting Room 1, District Council Building, King George Place, Timaru
on Thursday, 20 March 2025 at 1:00 pm**

Present: Scott Shannon (Deputy Chairperson), Chris Thomas, Craig Chambers, Sandi Abel, Graham Dellow, Tracey Miron, Amanda Herewini-Wills, Teresa May, Nils Macfarlane, David Duthie, Chris Thomas, Katy Houstoun, Bob Katene, and Jenna Chapman.

In Attendance: Jessica Hurst (Community Development Advisor), Claire Barlow (Community Experience Manager), Naomi Scott (Community Funding Advisor), Lucy Mehrtens (Road Safety Coordinator), Michelle Bunt (Road Safety Coordinator), Darryn Grigsby (Manager Emergency Management), Lamorna Cooper (Emergency Management Advisor)

1 Apologies

1.1 Apologies

Resolution 2025/54

Moved: Deputy Chairperson Scott Shannon

Seconded: Member Nils Macfarlane

That the apologies of Nigel Bowen, Merali Taylor, Keith Shaw, Ewen Graham, Gavin List, Vicki Walker, and Donna Lindsay be accepted.

Carried

2 Identification of Items of Urgent Business

No items of urgent business were received.

3 Identification of Matters of a Minor Nature

3.1 Member Updates

The Safer Communities Committee agreed to receive member updates as a Minor Nature Item.

4 Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

No conflicts of interest were declared.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 12 December 2024

Resolution 2025/55

Moved: Member Nils Macfarlane

Seconded: Member Chris Thomas

That the Minutes of the Safer Communities Committee Meeting held on 12 December 2024 be confirmed as a true and correct record of that meeting and that the Chairperson's electronic signature be attached.

Carried

6 Reports

6.1 Safer Communities Update - March 2025

The Community Development Advisor (CDA) spoke to the report to provide the Safer Communities Committee with an operational update on activities and progress in the Safer Communities programme.

Highlights from the reporting period includes:

Jobs Fair – collaboration between Te Aitaraikihi, Ministry of Social Development, and Timaru District Council to run a family-orientated jobs fair for people that lost their jobs at Alliance Smithfield.

Social Sector Forum – upcoming forum on April 16th

SC Mate Wareware Roopu Group – CDA presented at their recent meeting relating to the Age-Friendly Strategy. Members of that group will provide feedback on the strategy for the next iteration.

Meaningful Refugee Participation – The New Zealand National Youth Refugee Council will be facilitating a leadership programme for youth with a refugee background.

Need Help Booklet – The Community Experience Manager spoke to the subcommittee about the current status of the Need Help Booklet. Information gathering begun in January 2024 by the CDA and then the project was handed back to South Canterbury Citizens Advice Bureau to complete. This was at the request of Safer Mid Canterbury. It is now March 2025 and despite attempts at getting the information, it has not been received, and there must be considerations for whether the information is still up-to-date and relevant. The subcommittee discussed options at length and decided to get the information already compiled onto the Timaru District Council website and that a physical booklet will not be funded at this time.

Resolution 2025/56

Moved: Member Tracey Miron

Seconded: Member Chris Thomas

1. That the Safer Communities Update – March 2025 report is received and noted.
2. That the Safer Communities Subcommittee moves that the Need Help booklet will be an online directory on the Timaru District Council website.
3. That the Safer Communities Subcommittee moves to notify South Canterbury Citizens Advice Bureau will not be funding the Need Help booklet at this time.

Carried

7 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

No items of urgent business were received.

8 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters

8.1 Member updates

Tracey Miron – Refugee Settlement Services

Currently have 38 families with a refugee background (200 people) living in Timaru. Five families recently declined to come to Timaru, and a further five families left Timaru over the Christmas period. Three families are due to arrive in early April. A community meeting is being held after Eidh for agencies and former refugees to discuss the challenges. If families decline to come to Timaru this means they do not receive settlement location services elsewhere. Upcoming youth leadership programme, and a parenting course.

Craig Chambers – Fire and Emergency New Zealand

Recruiting is underway for a local advisory committee tasked with picking up gaps and suggesting improvements on how FENZ are doing in the community. It is based on Civil Defence boundaries, which covers a large area but a good number of Mid and South Canterbury applicants are getting interviews. South Canterbury Neighbourhood Support has a new Coordinator, Zoe Kirk.

Graham Dellow – Community Patrol

Street patrols are going well. They are also doing a rural daytime road patrol. Continue to require additional volunteers. Their team worked as security at the Rock and Hop. The Soundshell and games area at Caroline Bay are their 'blind areas' not captured by existing cameras.

Darryn Grigsby and Lamorna Cooper – Emergency Management

Agreement with Fraser Park to use their facilities as a backup in case of an emergency. A Timaru Boys' High School student is looking to invigorate the Volunteer Student Army and is looking for projects to support. The Emergency Management Advisor attended the Multicultural Aoraki Festival and distributed 600 Get Ready booklets.

Jenna Chapman – Hippy

Hippy provides home-based preschool education funded through the Ministry of Education. 30 families in the District are receiving support. Attended the Multicultural Aoraki Festival and Children's Day to raise awareness of the programme.

Sandi Abel – South Canterbury Primary Principals' Association

South Canterbury's Lunches in Schools programme has continued 'as is', as schools are managing the programmes internally. Upcoming Learning Migrant Hub providing 10 workshops to discuss the

education system in New Zealand. Concerns around youth population in the district. There is currently a large cohort of Year 8s, but the youth population below that age is not coming through the schools and into jobs. This will cause zoning issues. Council needs to look at what is provided for youth in our community.

Nils Macfarlane – Multicultural Aoraki

Thanks to the community and agencies for the support with attending the Multicultural Aoraki Festival. MA has some mini-festivals in April and May. Working in collaboration with others on an education learning hub.

Chris Thomas – Age Concern South Canterbury

Positive Aging Expo is being held on May 8th at the Caroline Bay Hall. Big intervention is needed to support our aging population in the future. Social Sector Forum is being held on April 15th.

Bob Katene – New Zealand Police

Bob is the Ethnic Services Liaison, lead referrals to social services.

Teresa May – St John

SJ Café is about to celebrate it's first birthday – 30-40 people attend every week. It is a real success. 3 Steps for Life is available for free training. When thinking about youth events and initiatives, don't forget about Lions and Rotary – they are looking for initiatives to support.

Lucy Mehrtens and Michelle Bunt – Road Safety

Project Zebra went well. Current agri campaign around farm machinery. SADD is going well, Mountainview High School has joined. Girls Can Do Maintenance coming up at Toyota.

David Duthie – TCMA

Community meals are going well with a core group of attendees. Lots of young people going to youth camp. Game On parenting programme is going well, getting good feedback.

Throughout the member updates there were discussions around community/council/government/education needing to work with business, as well as the topic of youth. Cllr Shannon explained that Council is not in a position to lead everything, Venture Timaru is part of Council's strategy. Encouraged engagement with VT's Towards 2050 plan. Bob mentioned that he has been part of similar conversations for over 15 years – important to plan for the future, not just the now (as is happening in some places in Canada). Timaru is great in crisis, perhaps not so good at planning and collaboration due to funding restrictions.

The meeting closed at 2.33pm.

.....
Chairperson

6 Reports

6.1 Safer Communities Update - June 2025

Author: Jessica Hurst, Community Development Advisor

Authoriser: Claire Barlow, Community Experience Manager

Recommendation

That the Safer Communities Update – June 2025 report is received and noted.

Purpose of Report

1. To provide the Safer Communities Committee with an operational update on activities and progress in the Safer Communities programme.

Assessment of Significance

2. This matter is deemed as low significance under the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy as this has ongoing but limited community interest and affects a small number of people in the community.

Discussion

3. The Community Development Advisor (CDA) has continued meeting with various community agencies and stakeholders to build relationships.
4. In partnership with The Y, the Community Development Advisor (CDA) has established a disability network meeting to unite agencies and community groups working in the disability sector. The first meeting, held in May, was well-attended, indicating a strong interest in collaboration to provide more opportunities for disabled people and to ensure effective information dissemination.
5. The Whakanuia Awards have been submitted for consideration in the Excellence in Placemaking category at the Taituarā Local Government Excellence Awards. The awards ceremony is scheduled for 12 June 2025.
6. The Community Development Team as met with Council's IT team to discuss how to best present the Community Services Directory (previously the Need Help booklet) online. A website option is being investigated, similar to the 'Buy Local SC' website, which has simple search functions. A further verbal update will be reported at the Safer Communities meeting.

Age Friendly Strategy

7. The most recent Age-Friendly Network meeting, held in May, concluded that the initiative should transition from being Council-led to a community-led model, with local councils participating as members.
8. The community-led network will encompass the entire South Canterbury region, aligning with the operational scope of agencies such as Health New Zealand, which will serve the broader area.

9. Attendees were requested to review the Timaru District Age-Friendly Strategy and provide feedback to the CDA. This input will assist in assessing progress against the strategy's objectives and identifying areas requiring further attention. This review will enable the group to establish what actions have been completed, are still relevant, and need more of a focus. This review of information will be discussed at the next meeting to be held in July.
10. The Community Development Team participated in the recent Positive Aging Expo, engaging with numerous older residents. Feedback was sought regarding potential age-friendly projects, particularly in anticipation of the upcoming Ministry for Seniors Age-Friendly Fund application period.
11. A verbal update will be provided to the Committee about the Need Help Directory, which is about to be sent out for design work. It will be a directory of services available for children, youth, adults and whānau across the Timaru District and will be distributed across the community, including to agencies, organisations, health providers, schools and to individuals that need support.

Welcoming Communities

12. The Aoraki Settling-In Collective is actively developing the Welcoming Plan. In recent meetings, the Collective have completed actions for two of the elements of the Welcoming Communities Standards. These are: 'Equitable Access', aiming to ensure that opportunities to access services and participate in the community are available to all, including newcomers; and Economic Development, Business and Employment, aiming to ensure communities maximise and harness the economic development opportunities that newcomers can offer.
13. The CDA has secured an additional \$30,000 from the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, to support meaningful refugee participation. The New Zealand National Youth Refugee Council is currently facilitating a former-refugee youth leadership program with 25-30 young people attending each session.
14. The CDA is now working with a local youth agency to provide further tailored programmes for youth with refugee backgrounds, to continue this important work.
15. The Refugee Network Meetings have restarted as stand-alone sessions. The first meeting was held on 25 May 2025, with senior MBIE officials Andrew Lockhart (National Manager Refugee and Migrant Support) and Sarah Ward (Manager Refugee and Migrant Services) present to discuss current challenges with settlement for former refugees.
16. On 11 June 2025, eight former-refugee families were recognised by the Mayor as having lived in the Timaru District for 12 months.
17. MBIE officials will now work alongside the CDA and community stakeholders to form a working group and develop a pilot programme in Timaru, aimed at providing former refugees with various opportunities to learn English.
18. Welcoming Week will be held in September; the CDA is keen to collaborate with a variety of groups and organisations across the district to celebrate newcomers and the valuable contributions they bring to our communities.

Mayors Taskforce for Jobs Programme

19. The MTFJ Coordinator has been in the role for nine months and has successfully placed 23 young people into local employment. This number consists of 17 full-time employment, 6

casual contracts, and 3 apprenticeships. A further 54 people have signed up for the programme since September 2024.

20. Through strategic partnerships, flexible funding, and a person-centred approach, the programme has made significant progress in addressing barriers to employment for young people and other disadvantaged groups. MTFJ Timaru has demonstrated its value not only through positive client outcomes but also by fostering strong networks with schools, community services, training providers, and employers.
21. From the outset, MTFJ Timaru has prioritised building positive and ongoing relationships with local employers. These relationships have been essential in creating real and meaningful job placements that match the aspirations, skill set and abilities of the clients.
22. The willingness of employers to engage with the programme is an essential factor in its long-term success. Employers have responded well to the support of MTFJ and the programme's ability to assist them with employee training costs, pastoral support, advocacy for the client, and wage subsidies.
23. MTFJ Timaru is currently in discussions with the MTFJ leadership team to secure and finalise a further contract for the next financial year. Whilst this contract might have some changes, MTFJ will continue expand relationships with local businesses, maintain its person-centred and flexible approach, respond to community needs, and promote the programme to increase uptake and referrals.

Attachments

Nil

7 Consideration of Urgent Business Items

8 Consideration of Minor Nature Matters