

CANTERBURY MAYORAL FORUM

Supporting the wellbeing of whānau in our local communities

WORKSHOP SUMMARY

APRIL 2021

**CANTERBURY
Mayoral Forum**

Whānau First

The introduction of intergenerational wellbeing within local government represents a significant shift from our current focus on asset management.

At the heart of intergenerational wellbeing is the support and fostering of extended whānau within our communities.

A province that can support the complex dynamics of whānau creates a resilient platform for future prosperity.

WORKSHOP PURPOSE

How might we proactively support the wellbeing of whānau in our local communities?

THE BACKDROP

The local government sector is facing a significant period of change, uncertainty, challenge and opportunity. Reforms to the three waters system and resource management, as well as responding to issues such as COVID-19 and climate change are challenging us to transform how we service our local communities.

Core Focus

- A current assessment of LG service provision across Canterbury
 - Reimagining service provision based on intergenerational wellbeing & whānau
 - Creating a long list of priority focus areas for an emergent strategy
 - Discussions how might we take a leadership role with Central Government
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REPORT OUTLINE AND APPROACH

SURVEY SUMMARY

A survey was completed by all Canterbury councils It asked them to rate their level of involvement in a range of community services, including:

1. Health
2. Aged Care
3. Social Housing
4. Social Services
5. Pre-school
6. 5-18 Education
7. Vocational Training
8. Public Safety

SCENE SETTING

An extended whānau persona was presented highlighting their wellbeing needs based on statistical probability.

The objective of the session was to put whānau at the centre and consider a future council model that was responsive to their wellbeing needs.

WORKSHOP OUTPUTS

Participating Mayors, Chief Executives, central government agencies and Rūnanga explored a range of challenges and opportunities to enable whānau.

The summary of the discussion highlighted areas where council can play a leadership or supporting role in increasing the subjective wellbeing of its citizens.

LONG LIST

The two-hour session produced a long-list of focus areas that require further validation and prioritisation.

One of the objectives of the next session is to prioritise the long-list into a set of actions that will achieve maximum impact.

THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2002

Purpose

The purpose of this Act is to provide for democratic and effective local government that recognises the diversity of New Zealand communities; and, to that end, this Act—

- A. states the purpose of local government; and
- B. provides a framework and powers for local authorities to decide which activities they undertake and the manner in which they will undertake them; and
- C. promotes the accountability of local authorities to their communities; and
- D. provides for local authorities to play a broad role in promoting the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of their communities, taking a sustainable development approach.

Canterbury Wellbeing Service Provision

SURVEY SUMMARY



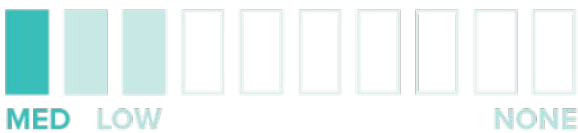
Health Services



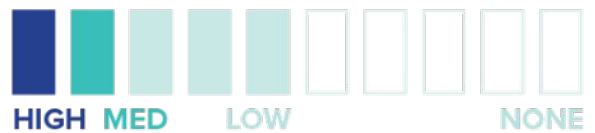
Aged Care



Pre-school



5-18 Education



The wellbeing services survey highlighted high involvement in social housing and public safety, but low involvement across all areas of education.

It was expressed, that high involvement often reflected investment in physical assets, rather than the wellbeing of people. Comparatively the investment in wellbeing services is very low.



Social Housing



Social Services



Vocational Training



Public Safety



SCENE SETTING - STATISTICS

With its relaxed lifestyle, great schools and access to nature, Canterbury is often considered a great place to raise a family. However, the statistics tell a different story. How can we make the wellbeing of whānau the core of our provincial purpose?

Cultural Diversity

NZ European: 68%
Māori: 7%
Chinese: 3%
British: 1.6%
Samoan: 1.6%
Indian: 1.3%
Filipino: 0.9%

Families

Average number of children per family: 2.8

Average age to start a family: 30.5

Step-Families

18.4% of children live in shared care by age 16

Post-EQ Divorce

Up 25% in 2011/2012

Alcohol

1 in 5 New Zealanders drink alcohol hazardingly

First Home Buyers

18.3% annual house price increase 2020-21
Current Canterbury average house price \$560,000.
Deposit required: \$116,000
Equates to nine years to save for a deposit for first home buyers.

Employment COVID Impact

The number of women employed dropped 8.4%

The number of Māori women employed dropped 20.5%

Cost of 0-2 year old

The average annual cost of a baby, including childcare, is \$15,000 per year

Tuancy

Moderate to chronic school absence is 18.1%

Retirement

39.6% of 65-69 year olds are still working

Accessibility

A quarter of NZ's population identify as disabled

Mental Health

17% of adults reported being diagnosed with a 'mood disorder'

People living in the most deprived areas are 2.5 times more likely to be seen by mental health and addiction services

Burnout

40% of the New Zealand work force are unhappy in their jobs

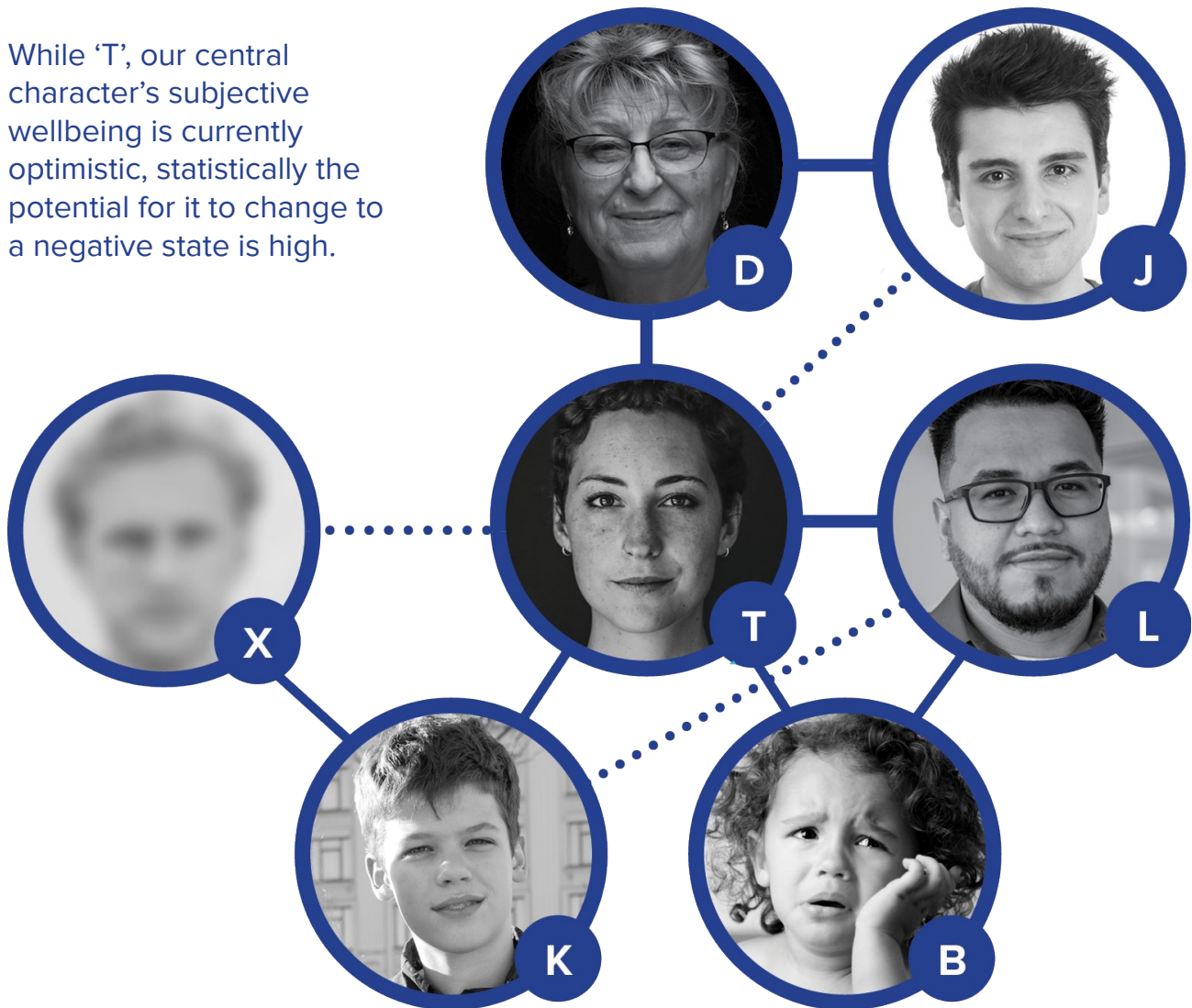
Racial Violence

52% of racial violence in NZ occurs in the South Island

SCENE SETTING - EXTENDED WHĀNAU PERSONA

An extended whānau persona was presented to highlighted the vulnerabilities within a family dynamic.

While 'T', our central character's subjective wellbeing is currently optimistic, statistically the potential for it to change to a negative state is high.



T: Mother of two. Shared care. Made redundant due to COVID. Currently retraining.

L: T's partner. Sole income. Immigrant. Impacted by racial bias. Potential for burnout.

D: T's Mother. Over 65, but still works part-time. Cares for B two days a week.

J: T's brother. Moved back home with D due to mental health issues.

K: T's first son. Starting to skip school

B: T & L's son. Pre-school's a major expense

X: T's ex. History of alcohol abuse.

PUTTING WHĀNAU AT THE CENTRE

With the premise that Local Government can offer fit for purpose solutions based on local needs, participants were asked to highlight a range of ideas that would have an impact on wellbeing.



The line between Central and Local Government is not clear-cut.

WORKSHOP OUTPUTS

Overarching themes:

Put whānau at the centre,
and wrap services around them

Convening sustainable initiatives
with long-term partnership
funding agreements

The need to break down
silos in order to achieve
true systems change

WORKSHOP OUTPUTS - COMMUNITY NEEDS

When analysing the range of discussions, the themes were split into community needs and operational needs.

All focus areas were rated as having potential for high impact, the only variation being effort.

Effort:   
Low Med High

-  **1. Housing**
 - Social housing
 - Affordable housing
 - Housing first trust
 - Resource Management reforms
-  **2. Homelessness**
 - Create closer links with City Mission and other services
-  **3. Compulsory education**
 - Location and zoning, and its impact on size of schools and communities
 - % of young people being provided adequate food
 - Influence on curriculum - understanding of Civics
-  **4. Education**
 - Lifelong learning
 - Te Reo
 - Migrants - English as a second language
 - Influencing the curriculum
 - Supporting Young People
 - Healthy lunches
-  **5. Service Navigating**
 - Access and connection
 - Provide clarity about what support is available
-  **6. Health & mental health**
 - Strategies for local funding
 - Build capacity of individuals so they don't reach dependence
-  **7. Recreational Services and Facilities**
 - Improve health outcomes
 - Reduce carbon use
 - Attract small organisations
-  **9. Community Hubs & Events**
 - community kitchens
 - Promote connection & inclusion
-  **8. Community safety**
 - Partnership with Police
-  **9 Employability**
 - Link between planning power, procurement, employment and skills.
-  **10. Digital Divide and Connectivity**
 - Working with Schools, Libraries and Tech Companies
 - Connection with employment and jobs
-  **11. Flood Protection & Infrastructure**
 - future proofing in the face of climate change

WORKSHOP OUTPUTS - OPERATIONAL NEEDS

The operational needs could be clustered into considerations across four phases of implementation; connect, partner, fund and deliver. Discussions pointed to a need for a greater focus on integrated, sustainable partnerships.

1. Connect

- Use Council's power to convene and bring people together
- Develop approaches for council to gain a deeper connection and understanding of community needs.
- Human Connection. Every community is different, whether its a rural town or urban suburb, there needs to be someone knowledgeable in each community to ask for advice and support.
- Close the digital divide, to enable better communication and inclusion.
- Change the community's perception of council. Build trust and empathy.

2. Partnership

- Central Government with Local Government
- Local Government with Rūnanga, community groups and schools
- Community and Police working with education to tackle issues beyond the school gate
- Long-term impact projects alongside Rūnanga

3. Funding

- Securing long-term projects within Central Government's continuous shifts in focus
- Scoping Central Government funding. Fill a need, where they don't have a service delivery model
- Social procurement
- Trusts and commercial organisations (CSR)
- The rates model - currently property & asset focused not people focused

4. Delivery

- What can local government lead, enable, or advocate for?
- Bespoke delivery mechanisms that suit local needs
- Partnerships models to maximise impact and reduce duplication in delivery
- Break down the silos
- A village approach - smaller communities, equals more care

NEXT SESSION

The Future for Local Government

Friday 28 May, 9:30-12:30

At Clearwater

WORKSHOP AGENDA

Recap on discoveries
from workshop one.
Explore opportunities
to integrate and activate.