

**REPORT OF THE SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING HELD
WEDNESDAY 12th April 2006 AT 9.00AM IN THE
MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER ROOM, ESPLANADE,
KAIKOURA.**

PRESENT: Councillor M McChesney (Chair), J Roche-Bolton (Te Whare Putea),
Councillor S Thomas, R Tu Ua (Family Violence Coordinator), M
Unahi (CCS), K McKenzie (District Nurse).

IN ATTENDANCE: J Woodgate (Committee Secretary), M Kennedy (Road Safety Officer)
N Doney (Family & Community Services), C Hartley, K Roberts, L
Craig (Public Health Nurse), Don Wright (Order of St John), L Keri
Keepa, Kaikoura Star.

APOLOGIES: Councillor B Woods, Michelle Falloon, K Heays, G Rae, C Cowen, M
Burdon

*Moved by L Craig, seconded by M Unahi and resolved that the
apologies be accepted.*

1. MATTERS ARISING FROM REPORT OF 08/03/2006

Pharmacist D McKee is coming in for a brief moment to speak about fluoridation. Article sourced from Red Seal Toothpaste.

L Craig mentioned that her mangers are going to speak with the PHO and are putting lines of action in place.

M Kennedy advised that the New Zealand government are changing the legislation surrounding the Avian Flu Pandemic.

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Rupia reported that the Crime Prevention Unit was very beneficial. She is hoping to see some other Maori organisations participating in the future. Training for self defence for 7-8 year old girls was also taking place. The organisers hope to bring this activity to Kaikoura. Strengthening Families workshop was very informative, can see benefits of it helping with work meetings and facilitating groups. Rupia stated that she is finding her new job is going well and networks are coming together.

The Women's Refuge representative advised she was finding her work front very quiet at the moment. Her role ties in with victim support. She receives referrals from local doctors and Family Violence Coordinator. This should be advertised through the local paper The Kaikoura Star, there is a possibility that this service could be free. Rupia will look more into this.

Family Violence minutes on page 8

Meeting that took place yesterday showed very positive outcomes, there are however still a few issues to work through.

Canterbury District Health Board

There will be an awareness campaign started by CDHB regarding fluoride. Kaikoura seems to be heading in a different direction than CDHB in regards to this matter. Councillor M McChesney has stated that she does not want fluoride in Kaikoura water.

Committee discussion about different opinions on fluoride.

Dental Decay in Kaikoura is far worse than anywhere else in New Zealand. Are there alternative areas to place this expenditure? Possibly put the money towards more education in schools. It seems as though fluoride is just masking the real problem of poor diet and dental hygiene.

Six Councils in New Zealand have stopped fluoridating their water. Will check with L Copping to see if she can pull some information from around New Zealand for both for and against debates. Also will ask local dentists to come and talk to us.

Pharmacist D McKee arrives at Social Services Meeting at 9.50am.

D McKee states that arguments for and against are exceptionally broad. D McKee as a medical professional advises the committee that he is sitting on the fence with the argument. He says that it is the decision of trying to help people with their health when they do not make the right decision for themselves. He is not going to say whether fluoride is good or bad because nobody really knows. It is of more paediatric use, its only use is for dental care and paediatrics for under 16 year olds. The dilution is very weak and you would have to consume a huge dose, which would be nearly impossible. Apparently it is not accumulative. There are no outstanding side effects. A plant manufacturing products will only use pure H₂O they will never have fluoride added to start with. When you use toothpaste the fluoride is topical you do not ingest it. D McKee advises for the committee to be very careful with the decision as it will have very loud repercussions. The PHO probably does not have a particular opinion on this topic at this stage.

Committee Discussion

When the fluoride touches the enamel that is when it works not when you ingest it. The target group that we are getting at probably do not drink water, they drink coke, juice and V . St Josephs School does not supply any fizzy drinks. The pupils are only allowed to drink water.

Look at asking Dentist Chris Lidguard to come to the next Social Services meeting.

Number 7 on the Agenda

Nothing to report.

Number 9 – Road Safety

Last week L Craig, M Kennedy and a few others attended a course on putting child restraints in cars. M Kennedy went to the Road Safety meeting in Blenheim. This course was to go over basics and to ensure that the Police Force is meeting their requirements. Kaikoura as a district is not doing too badly. M Kennedy hands out stats report. All crashes for Kaikoura are down; accidents on urban roads are down. Crashes on rural roads are up slightly from last year. There are a few trends noticeable. Our older user's crashes are down. Alcohol related crashes are up.

Every six months Mike does a seat belt survey. Logged 450 cars in the Westend, 51 drivers were not wearing seat belts. Some times it was the same car passing.

Transit has approved four sites for speed limit awareness billboards which we will be put up in the district soon. Some suggestions were; slow down or go down, undertakers love overtakers, slow down and live to enjoy the view, drive to survive.

Science Alive's Earths Fury exhibition is coming to town on May 19 and 20th 2006. So far all the schools in the Kaikoura District are attending. Altogether there are 16 exhibits. A gold coin donation will be required on the Saturday.

Barry Stratten wrote to Council regarding the vulnerable road user sign located at the bottom of Churchill St. There is a suggestion for another one to be placed on Beach Rd. The adventure Shack would be a good location.

General Business

Leena –reporting about child care holiday programmes. Oscar has available subsidies. Bread of Life has applied for funding to run holiday programmes in Kaikoura. They have SIFFS approval, maybe appending site visit from SIFFS. These programmes will be possibly being held at the Primary School hall. Maybe look at after school programme. Originally sent 50 surveys and received back 30 back- 28 said that they would use a holiday programme and after school programme. Will need to hire up to three people to facilitate this, this will help to create more jobs in the district.

Noel is waiting on the printers for his report.

Ma-rea has been working away. She has managed to catch up with the people that run the Community College in Blenheim. It was expressed that there is a need for training up in Kaikoura for people that can't afford to otherwise or do not have the time. Need to see what courses would be suitable for the people of Kaikoura. This programme could be similar to the KCCE that use to run here. Leena would be interested in being apart of this. She will contact Mayor Heays about getting the new Youth Coordinator to be apart of this.

Note to Linda: Marlborough refuge need to be sent Social Services agenda from now on.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.50am.