



**KAIKOURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

**SOCIAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE**

AGENDA

7 MARCH 2007

AT TAKAHANGA MARAE

**SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 9.00 AM ON
WEDNESDAY 7TH MARCH 2007 AT TAKAHANGA MARAE, KAIKOURA.**

AGENDA

1. *Apologies*
2. *Matters to be raised as General Business*
3. *Matters Arising from Report of 07/02/2007* *page 1*
4. *Community Networkers Minutes* *page 4*
5. *Family Violence Co-ordinator's Report* *page 7*
6. *Community Development Officer's Report* *page 8*
7. *Community Law Marlborough*
 - **Gordon Strang of Community Law Marlborough will be present to speak to the committee on the feasibility of having a represent in Kaikoura on a permanent basis**
8. *Report on Cloth Nappies* *page 10*
9. *Mayor's Update*
10. *General Business*

MINUTES OF THE KAIKOURA COMMUNITY NETWORKERS MEETING

Te Whare Putea/Heartlands, unit 3, 78 Beach Road
12noon Tuesday 13th February 2007

Present:

Jenny Bolton Roche (TWP), Frank Maxwell (HNZC), Colleen Cox (MSD), Robin Robb (Literacy Marlborough), Dianne Kerrison (Brain Injury Assoc), Ivanana Korunic-Menendez (Epilepsy NZ), Lisa Kahu (Te Tai O Marokura), Noel Doney (FACS), Daryl Mataiti (IR), Andrea Taylor (Cant PHO), Vanessa Goodwin (MYD), Lynda Kitchingham (Counsellor), Gordon Strang (Marlborough Community Law), Megan Pfeifer (KDC), Rupia Te Ua (FV Network), Linda Craig (Public Health Nurse), Gayle Rae (Work and Income), Ma-rea Unahi (CCS), Lyn van Velzen (Work and Income – CCC & WFF), Shaun Frizzell (Member of the public).

Apologies:

Lianne Nicholls (MSD), Robin Mortimer, Julie Priddle (Kaikoura High School), Martin Maquire (DIA)

Round:

Lisa Kahu – Community Health – Te Tai O Marokura

Te Tai O Marokura is a community health organisation based up at the Marae and Te Whare Putea. There is currently training available for a certificate in Maori Health. This is a one year course. For more information please contact Te Tai O Marokura.

Noel Doney – Family and Community Services

Noel spend two years on a Local Services Mapping project for this community. He is now looking at the outcomes of this report. The CDHB are also running a pilot assessing health issues for the community.

Lyn Van Velzen – Child care Coordinator- Work and Income

Lyn is available to talk to groups regarding Working for Families. The Ministry of Education are doing a road tour regarding the free childcare and everyone is able to attend this. Dates are not yet available for this, but Lyn will let us know when they come out.

Darryl Mataiti – IR

Darryl is the Maori Community Advisor for this area. He operates through Heartland and provides Maori tax advice.

Rupia Te Ua

Rupia is the Family Violence Coordinator and the SEEK Coordinator for Kaikoura. This role aims to work with school leavers and unemployed youth to help them access employment, apprenticeships or further training.

Ma-rea Unahi – CCS

There is training available in Christchurch through the Mental Health Education and Resource Centre. Sessions run during February and March and cover topics such as Borderline Personality Disorder; Schizophrenia; Food and Body Image issues; Bipolar; Anxiety disorders; depression awareness. Sessions cost \$20 and you can enrol by phoning 03 3655344. Ma-rea also has a copy of the VISION newsletter (Official Publication of Parents of Vision Impaired) if anyone is interested in reading this.

Andrea Taylor – Mental Health Liaison – Canterbury PHO

Andrea plans to visit Kaikoura once a month to support general practitioners in maintaining and managing those with mental illnesses. This will include assessing and making recommendations to GPs. She is also looking at gaps in services provided and is passing the information onto the PHO. She is also keen to liaise with other health professional in the area eg Te Tai O Marokura.

Vanessa Goodwin – Ministry of Youth Development

Vanessa is the Youth Development advisor for the South Island. She is part of a new team working towards effective youth participation in decision-making.

Collen Cox – Family Violence Response Coordinator – MSD

Colleen's role is to mentor and support Work and Income case managers when they come across incidents of family violence. Colleen also educates community groups on family violence prevention.

Robin Robb – Literacy Marlborough

Robin coordinates a team in Blenheim that provides literacy services. This is one on one tutoring or class groups. They are unable to provide the service in Kaikoura, but are happy to support us in setting up a literacy service. (Megan to follow up).

Diane Kerrison – Brain Injury Association

Diane is the liaison officer in the Kaikoura area. She is available to provide education for school and community groups. She also supports families, carers and clients.

Ivana Korunic-Menendez – Epilepsy New Zealand

Ivana is the field officer for the Canterbury/West Coast branch of Epilepsy New Zealand. Her role is as support and advocate for people with epilepsy. She provides staff training to promote awareness. According to statistic there are 80 people in the Kaikoura District with epilepsy yet she only has 6 clients on her books. It was questioned whether the clients know that this service is available to them. It was suggested that there be a better tie in with GP's who would be aware of this.

Gordon Strang – Community Law Marlborough

A representative from Marlborough Community Law come to Kaikoura for two days a month to provide advice and education on legal issues. Marlborough Community Law is currently investigating how they might provide a better service to the Kaikoura District. It is proposed that they employ a local person to work one day a week from the Heartlands office. This trial is likely to be from 1st of July 2007 to 30th of June 2008. This would not only provide a better service, but also more hours. In order to gain the funding for this trial Community Law Marlborough need to show the net gain to the community and also the net cost to fund this service. If anyone can help Gordon with ideas and opinions please contact him on 03 5779919 or marlclc@xtra.co.nz

Linda Kitchingham – Counsellor

Linda has a counselling contract through the family court. She advises that six free counselling sessions are available through the family court and she is able to liaise with the court in order to set this up. She is also a counsellor for EAP services, which provide work place counselling, the fire service and the Problem Gambling counselling. This year Linda is also offering personal supervision to professionals in Kaikoura such as community workers; health workers and teachers. It is an opportunity to talk over workplace or personal issues in a safe, confidential, supportive & constructive environment.

Frank Maxwell – HNZA

Frank covers the Kaikoura, Blenheim and Picton areas. He comes to Kaikoura once a month, but HNZA are always available via their 0800 contact phone number. Kaikoura currently has a demand for housing but no vacancies and nothing likely to come up in the near future.

Megan Pfeifer – Community Development Officer – Kaikoura District Council

Bread of Life after school programme has started term one with 7 children. They have capacity for more and need about 10 children per day to make it a viable programme. Transport is still an issue and Megan obtained a quote from another shuttle service, which is still too high. Bread of Life is planning to negotiate with the service. They are still looking for a programme assistant for their after school programme.

Things are moving forward with the Youth Council. Megan is working with the Te Tai Youth Officer Jana regarding this.

The Kaikoura District Councils Gambling Venue Policy is up for review this year. At the end of last year Megan sent out letters to stakeholders asking for information. She has compiled a report on her findings, which is to be presented to the Council meeting on the 21st of February. She asked if anyone has any additional information to add to please let her know as soon as possible. There was a general discussion regarding the negative social consequences gambling is having in this community, and although its difficult to get the hard statistics a lot of agencies have dealings in this and advise it is a serious problem in this community. There was also discussion surrounding the money corporate societies return to the community and does it really meet its 37.5% in grants to community groups. Megan advised that she had highlighted these areas in her report.

General Discussion

Darryl Mataiti is keen to run a seminar for the community and asked for some feedback on likely attendance. It was suggested that in order to get people to come it might be better to run such a seminar when people have an actual need for advice, ie coming up to the end of the financial year. This seminar could also include details of changes to family assistance. Lyn Van Velzen from Work and Income expressed an interest in being involved also to promote the Working for Families package and perhaps childcare also. The Network will be informed when a date is set and asked to promote this to their contacts.

Lisa Kahu asked a question about whether there would be income testing for the 20 hours free childcare for 3 and 4 year olds. Lyn advised that this is not income tested. There were questions asked as to whether the local centres would be providing this service, as it is not compulsory. It was thought it would be likely, but whether they would buy in straight away or not is not known. There is concern about families taking spots in childcare centres and paying the cost now in hope that it will become free. This will be of concern if the centres do not buy into the scheme.

Meeting Closed at 1.15pm.

Next meeting will be held on March 13th at 12 noon.

Family Violence Co-Ordinator's Report

The Kaikoura Family Violence Network has applied for funding from Family and Community Services.

If we are successful the network is preparing to hold three workshops in Kaikoura, targeting different sectors of the community. The workshops will have speakers who are specialists in the field of Family Violence.

Crime Prevention Unit Conference March 14th and 15th.

Rupia and Megan (Community Development Officer) will attend this workshop. This workshop is focused on the next funding round for 3 years, which funds the Family Violence Co-ordinator's contract.

Megan and Rupia will liaise with relevant agencies in our community and gather data that is violence related prior to attending the workshop in order to have a possible project in mind before we leave.

Reporting

Kaikouras reported incidents to police have definitely increased, 8 incidents from middle of December last year to early January, this is however peak time, but much higher reporting than previous years. The Kaikoura Medical Centre 2 reports at the end of last year.

Children's Day

Sunday March 4th Children's day, this has been promoted by the Family Violence Network throughout Kaikoura.

"In bringing up children, spend on them half as much money and twice as much time"

Victim Support Appeal Week 7th March to 15th.

Victim Support Appeal week will be running from 7th March to 15th March 2007.

"Enthusiasm is contagious, start an epidemic"

Rupia Te Ua
Kaikoura Family Violence Coordinator.

Community Development Officer's Report

Affordable Housing Project:

The Design Team came to Kaikoura on the 8th of February to present to us their initial plans for the proposed pensioner units and to address some concerns regarding space for the development. A number of concerns on both sides were addressed at this meeting so when the Design Team arrived back in Kaikoura on the 12th of February they were able to present to us a more complete picture of what the finished units would look like. They are now progressing onto the next stage of pricing the development. We are currently on track with this project that will be reviewed by HNZA in early March.

Gambling Policy:

A report on Gambling in Kaikoura has been completed in preparation for the Class 4 Gambling Venue review that needs to take place before June 2007. Based on the current situation in this district, the objectives of the Gambling Act 2003 and the current Kaikoura District Gambling Venue Policy two options were recommended for consideration:

Option One: Cap machine numbers at existing policy limits

Option Two: A district ban on new machines (sinking lid policy)

This report was presented to councillors on the 21st of February who voted that option one is put forward to the public for submissions.

Youth:

I have been working with Jana Kahu (Te Tai Youth worker) towards re-registration of the Kaikoura Youth Council. It has been decided that a new survey needs to be carried out to determine the level of interest in the Youth Council before we go ahead and reregister it. Jana and I have designed a survey that we will distribute around the high school and businesses. We are meeting on March 26th to collate and analyse results.

Oscar Project – Bread of Life

Bread of Life after school programme has started term one with 7 children. They have capacity for more and need about 10 children per day to make it a viable programme. Transport is still an issue and a quote has been obtained from another shuttle service, which is still too high. Bread of Life is planning to negotiate with the service. They are still looking for a programme assistant for their after school programme.

Community

On the 14th of February I visited the Kekerengu Community Center. Their hall which is the focal point for the community (meetings, play groups and social events) is in a state of disrepair and needs money spent on it for repairs and maintenance. At the moment the community is contributing to this themselves. I have asked them to put together a list with quotes and I will look into some funding options with them.

Labour Market Forum

Attended a meeting with Work and Income, Department of Labour and KDC Tourism and Economic Development officer to discuss the development of a Labour Market Plan for Kaikoura. The objective of this group is to drive economic development in Kaikoura by building a labour market where appropriately skilled people are available and are recognised in order to build community outcomes.

CPU Funding

Family Violence Coordinator Rupia and I are in the process of meeting with key people in the community with regards to crime and violence in the district. This is in preparation for attending

Crime Prevention Unit training in March where we will be applying for funding. This grant currently funds the Family Violence Coordinator role and this round the applications need to be more project based. So far we have met with Raymond (NZ Police) and Brian (Kaikoura High School). We intend on visiting several more stakeholders over the next couple of weeks.

Canterbury District Health Board – Health Services Planning

Attended a public meeting held by CDHB Health Services Planning team. Around 25 members of the public attended this meeting and there were some good discussions around health consumers in this districts experience of the current health service provision. There will be a follow up meeting at 1pm on April 11th where key health service providers will also be present (e.g. Maternity Manager).

Cloth Nappy Review December 2006

Background

As part of the Council's commitment to achieve zero waste to landfill and reduce green house gas emissions, commitment was given Council in July 2005 for \$2000 to be spent encouraging Kaikoura parents to use cloth nappies. It was the intention of the incentive to reduce the use of disposable nappies, bring about financial savings for local parents, reduce the amount of waste to landfill, and reduce the amount of green house gas production associated with the landfill.

To ensure the success of the program, the allocated \$2,000 was split with \$1,000 available for the first trial. A review of the first trial is summarised at the end of this report and the proposal for Stage 2 is detailed below:

Proposal for Stage 2

Christchurch City Council Cash Back Scheme

A cash back scheme is currently available to Christchurch residents purchasing cloth nappies - from anecdotal evidence the scheme is proving to be both successful and popular.

The Christchurch City Council scheme involves local modern cloth nappy suppliers having put together a starter or sample cloth nappy pack. Purchasers from Christchurch receive a \$20 discount at the time of purchase, the supplier then bills council for \$20- amounting to a 35-40% discount for purchasers. This system proved simple for the council administration, rather than providing refunds directly to the purchaser. The Christchurch City Council website provide links to the cloth nappy providers involved in the scheme.

Proposal for Kaikoura

It is suggested that Kaikoura District Council could enter into a similar cash back arrangement with cloth nappy providers. Considering there are, on average, 35 births over a 12 month period in Kaikoura and not all parents are interested in trialling cloth nappies, it is suggested that Council offer a \$30 cash back incentive.

The remaining \$1,000 funds would allow 30 new parents to benefit from the incentive.

In addition, stage 2 of the cloth nappy incentive in Kaikoura would include:

Promotion of financial savings.

Many cloth nappy providers provide a finance scheme that allow parents to pay off cloth nappies at a designated amount each month. The overall weekly cost of such schemes are similar to the average weekly spend on disposable nappies. Once the cloth nappies have been fully paid the only additional cost are washing, whereas the costs for disposables continue until the child is toilet trained.

Sample packs

Sample packs from the various nappy providers would be made available to be viewed at locations such as the Library, Council offices, hospital and with Well Care providers.

Awareness of environmental social benefits

The cloth nappy program would be linked to beneficial environmental and social outcomes, including prolonging the landfill life and reducing green house gas emissions.

Continued feedback

Throughout the trial program questionnaires would be used to gather feedback about the scheme, its effectiveness and the uptake of cloth nappy use.

Advantages of the cash back scheme.

- Higher value for products if there is a cost involved
- Wider choice of suppliers
- Ease of obtaining nappies: No need for parents to visit council offices, all telephone/electronic transactions.
- Access to information about individual companies financial schemes

Review of Stage 1

Arrangements were made with two cloth nappy companies to provide nappies to Kaikoura District Council at discounted wholesale prices. The companies are GreenBums- local supplier and FuzziBunz a Wellington based supplier.

Following discussions with local midwife and Well Care Providers, it was decided that new parents would benefit from approximately six weeks to get to know their new baby before considering adopting 'alternative' nappy options. To keep the supply process simple, sizes of nappies were deliberately generic, and large enough to fit babies six weeks of age and older.

Implementation

Statistics detailing the number of babies born annually in Kaikoura, suggested an average of 35 new babies could be expected. As such, during February 2006, the first stage of the cloth nappy program was implemented using \$1000 to purchase approximately 50 nappies (25 introductory packs). The progress and evaluation of the first stage will take place before a second stage is considered.

Community awareness: promotional brochures were distributed at anti natal classes by the local mid wife, advertisements and articles featured in the local newspaper, and community radio.

Voucher Distribution: Two Kaikoura Well Care providers working with parents once babies turn 6 weeks of age were happy to offer Cloth Nappy Vouchers to new parents. The Vouchers required contact details be completed (to ensure recipients were local residents) and then presented to the Council office, in exchange for two cloth nappies, information sheets and discounts offered by cloth nappy companies.

Conclusion

Through verbal and written feedback, it is considered that the cloth nappy trial was successful in that it increased awareness of the options associated with cloth nappy styles, use, costs and availability. The incentive also provided opportunities for parents to trial cloth nappies before buying, allowing them to make informed decisions before committing financially.

Many of the parents accepting the free cloth nappy incentives were interested in using cloth nappies, and it is likely they would have done so without the incentive in place.

The vouchers offering discounts for purchases of cloth nappies were used by about 60% of parents.

Feedback suggests that dropping into Council to collect nappy packs proved difficult for many parents and the distribution of the packs by each Well Care provider improved the uptake.

The fact that other Councils, such as Christchurch are now offering a cloth nappy incentive program is credit to the innovation and commitment of Council to achieve zero waste to landfill. Since the introduction of the cloth nappy incentive 12 months ago opportunities to improve the program have become apparent. Learning from Christchurch Councils approach, feedback from local Well Care providers, parents and the Kaikoura mid wife the following suggestions for a second stage of the trial are likely to improve the incentive program for the next 12 months.

