



**KAIKOURA
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

AGENDA

1 FEBRUARY 2012

Memorial Hall Supper Room

**SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT 9.00 AM ON
WEDNESDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2012 AT MEMORIAL HALL SUPPER
ROOM, ESPLANADE, KAIKOURA.**

AGENDA

1. *Karakia*
2. *Apologies*
3. *Matters to be raised as General Business*
4. *Confirmation of Minutes 7/12/2011*
5. *Matters arising from Report of 7/12/2011*

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6. *Minutes Action List Update*

MEETING	ACTION REQUIRED	BY	ACTION
5 October 2011			
	Report on the process of proceeding with natural burials	Mayor Gray	In Progress
7 December 2011			
	Write to committee representatives about attendance at Committee meetings.	Councillor Morgan, Community Development Officer.	Completed.
	Try and obtain more violence-free badges	Violence-Free Coordinator	An update will be provided at the meeting.

7. *Environment Canterbury Update*

- **K Heays will be in attendance at 9.30am to present this item.**

8. *Community Development Officer's Report*

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9. *Kaikoura Violence-Free Network Coordinator's Report*

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10. *Strengthening Families Coordinator's Report*

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11. *Youth Transition Service Report*

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12. *Civil Defence and Rural Fire Update*

13. *Action Plan / Strategy*

14. *Community Networkers Minutes*

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15. *Mayor's Update*

16. *General Business*

Community Development Officer's Report

Grant and Funding Information

1. Community Initiatives Fund

This fund is open monthly for financial help with community events or public education. \$500 was granted to the Music on the Lawn event on Saturday, the 28th January 2012. A further \$1,500 was granted to the Kaikoura Violence-Free Network to run a Children's Day event on the 4th March 2012. This event will run in conjunction with Seaweeek and will be based at the Memorial Hall. There is \$1,300 left in the fund to June 2012.

2. Creative Communities Scheme

Applications are now open for financial assistance to groups and individuals who wish to increase participation in the Arts or increase the range and diversity of the Arts available to the community. Applications close 4pm Tuesday 14 February 2012. All applications will be considered at the next meeting on Tuesday 21 February 2012. Projects must meet one or more of the following funding criteria:

- **Broad community involvement** – The project will create opportunities for local communities to engage with and participate in arts activities.
- **Diversity** – The project will support the diverse arts and cultural traditions of local communities, enriching and promoting their uniqueness and cultural diversity.
- **Young people** – The project will enable and encourage young people (under 18 years) to engage with and participate in the arts.

Youth Council

1. Kaikoura Dance: Piera Fromm the Kaikoura Dance Project coordinator has been working hard this year and has over 100 youth involved in the Youth Development Partnership Fund project.
2. Nelson Masked Parade: On Friday 7 October 2011, ten Youth Council members travelled to Nelson overnight to attend the Nelson Masked Parade, with the view of organizing a large 'street party' next year.
3. Certificate Presentations: on Wednesday 7 December 2011 the Youth Council had their certificate presentation.
4. 2011 overview:
Kaikoura Youth Council main achievements in 2011
 - 16 Youth Council members attended 20 meetings between February and November 2011
 - Committee involvement:
 - Mayfair Theatre
 - NZ Creative Communities Scheme
 - Social Services
 - Tourism & Development
 - Successful funding applications:
 - \$5000 Youth Grant
 - \$10,000 Kaikoura Dance Project
 - \$3,600 COGS Youth Skills Course

Public discussion meeting with Kaikōura Community

Colin King MP will be hosting Minister for Social Development, Paula Bennett, in Kaikoura on Thursday 2nd February to talk at a public meeting about the Green Paper on Vulnerable Children. The Green Paper, launched in July 2011 is a consultation document intended to stimulate debate about vulnerable children and get public feedback.

This is an opportunity for Kaikoura residents to make crucial decisions that will change the way we care for and protect children in the future. Some of the issues raised in the paper are:

When should Government intervene with families?

- Responsibility for children – parents, communities and Government.
- Targeted services for vulnerable children – how much and where should funding be shifted from?
- Prioritising services for vulnerable children and their parents.
- Whether all children should be monitored from birth.
- Information Sharing.
- Mandatory reporting of child abuse.
- Professional standards of those who work with children.

A full copy of the Green Paper can be found at: <http://www.childrensactionplan.govt.nz>

Meeting details:

Thursday 2 February, 4.00pm, Kaikōura Memorial Hall (Supper room)

The Green Paper process will result in a Children's Action Plan and Children's Legislation which will put our children first in every way. Submissions on the Green Paper close on Wednesday 28 February 2012 so Colin encourages you to come along and have your say. RSVP would be appreciated but not essential to the email address colin.kingmp@parliament.govt.nz or 0800265 466

Social Services Committee Representation

The Kaikoura District Council's Social Services Committee has recently reviewed its membership to include a number of additional organisations/sectors. These changes were ratified by the Council. The purpose of the Social Services Committee is to enhance social service delivery through integration and collaboration to endeavour to meet the social needs of our community.

The Committee meets on the first Wednesday morning of every month at 9am until approximately 11am. The first meeting is on Wednesday, the 1 February 2012. Attendance at meetings was discussed last year and it was decided to remind all Committee members of times, dates and standing orders regarding meetings, which state that should a member have four unexplained absences from meetings in a row they will be automatically struck off the Committee.

Ratified changes:

- Remove Kaikoura Ratepayers Assoc as it does not exist anymore and replace it with a Community Representative. We need to discuss how we would like to proceed with finding the right person in a fair and equitable way.
- Agencies included on the Committee: Mental Health, the Medical Centre, the Kaikoura Hospital, Kaikoura High School student and St John.

Letters have gone out and representation will need to go before the Council to be ratified.

Community Events Calendar

Before organizing an event, have a quick look on the kaikouraevents.co.nz website or visit us on www.kaikoura.govt.nz. The events calendar is a user-friendly tool where you can upload your events yourself at no charge. Just follow the instructions!

Kaikoura Violence-Free Network Coordinator's Report

Domestic Violence for the year 2011

The Christmas/New Year period can be a stressful time for families, compounded with low income, and high alcohol consumption it can lead to an increase in domestic violence (DV) incidents. Other areas around New Zealand reported sharp increases in DV incidents (<http://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/news/6197354/Domestic-violence-cases-surge>), yet in Kaikoura these numbers remained low, with 5 incidents over the Xmas to New Year break with only one of these involving local residents.

Local police attended 59 domestic violence incidents in Kaikoura in 2011— some of these were repeat offenders. Our aim as a network this year is to increase local supports to these families and through court processes mandate offenders to attend local stopping-violence programmes (beginning February). We should, in time, be able to establish patterns of reoffending and gauge the effectiveness of the programmes here. Funding has been established for this year and over the year we'll be in a better position to know whether the programme is viable long term and/or what funding will be needed to cover programmes in the future.

Stopping Violence Services

I've had extensive discussions with Jo Westbury of Stopping Violence Services (ChCh) with the aim to enable these programmes to work long term, which initially has meant minimising costs. Keith Jacques is prepared to travel from ChCh, returning the same day, until we have established the service. **I've had to tread carefully** as we have no reliable figures to help establish projected client volume, mainly because previous figures have been lumped in with Blenheim statistics. The Ministry of Justice offer funding for mandated clients and approximately eight clients per quarter will cover SVS operation, time and travel costs. It is considered unlikely that Kaikoura will have this number of offenders on courses.

Similar programmes in Kaikoura, I believe one in 2009 and another in 2007, have not been considered a long term option. From my understanding and discussions with local agencies these were intended as short-term programmes rather than as an ongoing service— and they were expensive. It is of note that a large portion of the expenses of these programmes consists of travel and accommodation expenses. To future proof the service therefore, the programme facilitator Keith Jacques, will train a local facilitator, who will train another in time, and so on. In a year or so we will have facilitators here who work under the SVS banner, eliminating the extra time and travel costs and reducing future expenses and becoming an ongoing and sustainable service. SVS facilitator Keith Jacques will be delivering the programmes. He has worked in similar roles since 1995 and prior to that was a community worker in ChCh. He has a very good reputation in the industry, has developed his own men's programmes delivering these for SVS, Military Services and recently received MSD funding to help men deal with stress. I am meeting with Keith soon to discuss his initiation into Kaikoura and the process of client assessments.

Offender programmes have the full support of local agencies and probation services. We believe to reduce the high number of DV incidents in the area there is a definite need to engage with offenders and not only victims. Violent behaviour is often cyclic, involve issues of power and control and can remain in a family for years. Behavioural programmes have had an extremely positive effect on the lives of some offenders. A DVD provided by the It's Not Okay campaign called "Men's Stories of Change" is an uplifting DVD that discusses men's reactions to the programme and their desire, once given an opportunity to change, to work on self-defeating behaviour that they have not had the psychological or behavioural tools to improve on. This DVD is available for Loan from my office.

Promotions

The network meeting, December 13th, raised questions about publicity in the community and tactics for effective campaigning toward safer domestic environments.

The Taskforce for Action on Violence within Families “It’s Not Okay” campaign provides communities with opportunities to work with them to establish a local presence. It takes a community development approach by tapping into and supporting the work already undertaken in the community. Community-based organisations are funded to undertake innovative initiatives that raise awareness in the community by promoting strong messages against domestic violence. We discussed some ideas at the last meeting and should have a clear plan by early March. Suggestions so far have included: the local Rugby Club becoming an ‘It’s Not Okay’ sponsored team with the anti-violence message as its kaupapa; a mural in the town that promotes peace and family wellbeing, possibly using some of our local creative talent, graffiti artists or school children and the development of a local network logo utilising the ‘It’s not Okay’ tag.

‘It’s Not Okay’ representative, Sheryl Hann, was in Kaikoura last month and we talked at length about ideas and local opportunities to gain presence. It’s an exciting area with a lot of scope for creativity. One advocate of change is Cherie Kurangi Sweeney. I’m hoping to confirm her visit, sometime early in the year as she is keen to come to Kaikoura to talk about the development of the ‘NARK’ campaign. In an incident last year Cherie reported the ongoing domestic violence that was said to have caused the death of her neighbour Serenity Jay Scott (6 months). Her actions were initially condemned by some in the small community that she lived, and the word ‘nark’ was painted on her house. Cherie didn’t accept the label, in its negative sense, and started a group based on the initials of Nark, forming the: Nation of Advocates for the Rights of Kids (Nark) (<http://www.nark.org.nz/>). In this she lists the names of the children killed in recent years in New Zealand homes due to domestic violence. Her Face Book page grew quickly to over 10,000 members. This year Cherie was the winner in North and South’s New Zealander of the Year for her contribution to society. The great thing about hosting people like Cherie and recent visitor’s Vic Tamati and The White Ribbon Riders, is that regardless of attendance, it enables us to fully utilise the newspaper for promotion and awareness. This is especially important in a community like Kaikoura that prefers, according to a local reporter, positive upbeat articles to the hard-hitting articles that we see in other mainstream papers. While acknowledging the need to promote Kaikoura to travellers and to uphold our reputation here, the newspaper is recognized as an effective way to engage locals and to examine local issues. It is a tool to create positive social change. The Kaikoura violence-free network’s ideal Kaikoura is one that is energetic yet peaceful and positive.

Finally, the violence-free network are organising the national Children’s Day event. The theme is Peace and Aroha which works in nicely with our strategies and supports local families. A focus for events on the day will be peace and aroha as it is experienced in the home. National and local organizations are coming on board: Push Play, Plunket, Skip, local schools and preschools are engaging and we have formed a partnership with “Sea Week” to combine events and activities on the day.

Education and Meetings

There have been no education or meetings due to the Christmas period. Those scheduled include:

Jan 31st: meeting with SVS facilitator Keith Jacques, Christchurch.

Feb 1st: Paula Bennet and Colin King : Green paper for Vulnerable Children, Kaikoura

Mar 23rd: Lynn Dodds ChCh Women’s Refuge, to discuss protection orders, Kaikoura

Mar 21st: Sexual violence and ethics training. Wellington Rape crisis, Wellington.

STRENGTHENING *families*

W h a k a p i r i p i r i N g a W h ā n a u

Referrals

We are contracted to deal with 40 referrals in one financial year – July 2011 to June 2012.

Referrals to date:

We have received 39 referrals from local and external agencies including self referrals.

Referrals January 2012:

1 new referral.

Closed cases to date:

28 cases have been dealt with and are closed.

SF process reviews to date:

10 active cases.

Identified needs

The following are the needs identified for families taking part in a Strengthening Families process:

- **Economic Situation /Housing**
 - Financial situation/budget management
 - Housing issues
 - Benefit entitlements
- **Health**
 - Care giver mental health
 - Young persons mental health
 - Parenting /child management
 - Drug and alcohol abuse
 - Effects of prior abuse or neglect
 - Gambling
- **Safety /Justice**
 - Family Violence
 - Young child's behaviour
 - Young person's offending
 - Bullying
- **Education and Skills**
 - Behaviour at school
 - Alternative school needs
 - Truancy
 - Parenting/child management
 - School exclusion
- **Employment**
 - Employment situation
 - Unemployment

Relocation supports

Two families moved to Christchurch
One family moved to Blenheim
One Family moved to mid Canterbury

Personal training

SF Kaikoura hosted facilitation training on 1 December 2011. Katrina Pritchard, the Ashburton Strengthening Families Coordinator facilitated the training and 5 new facilitators have been added to our pool.

Facilitation Training Opportunity

If anyone from the Social Services Committee is interested in facilitation training or if you know any agencies who may want to get involved in working with families you can contact Lois Vallance on 0272579535 office 03 9099292



Kaikoura Youth Transition Service Report

At present there are 12 youth registered with the Youth Transition Service on the database. There are 5 new clients included in this number.

There have been some changes to the subsidies available to employers who employ youth who fit the Work and Income criteria for those subsidies. The changes benefit youth and employers, especially as now you can get a subsidy if you take a youth on in an apprenticeship (provided they meet the Work and Income criteria).

As stated in the December report the application to COGS to fund a youth skills development course was successful but not for the full amount sought. It has been decided that an application will be made to the Youth Development Partnership Fund for the balance and also to fund the Youth Transition Service to work with 18-24 year olds again.

The new Youth Pipeline information and draft terms of reference are out and the way the system will operate will be substantially different from the current contracts. In its new form the contract will require a lot of management by Council. It is hoped that there may be an opportunity to discuss the changes with the Minister of Social Development when she visits Kaikoura on Thursday 2 February.

Author: Angela Blunt