

Healthy Greater Christchurch Interim Group



The Healthy Greater Christchurch Interim Group had its first meeting earlier this month (May 2017).

Key points from the first meeting

- The group shared a strong, active willingness to work together. Participants agreed in the value of looking at working together across region.
- A draft Terms of Reference was drafted and tabled.
- The group identified several actions. A reference document for identifying general priorities and gaps is under way.
- Although the issue of geography is one of the reasons the group came together, the group agreed that specific geographical boundaries are unlikely to be useful. A name for an expanded initiative is still under consideration.
- The group is interested in monitoring outcomes and would prefer to use existing mechanisms where possible.

Who is a part of the Interim Group?

The Interim Group is made up of participants similar to those who participated on the Advisory Group. Participants may change as the Interim Group becomes clearer about what it needs to do.

Current participating organisations include:

- Christchurch City Council – Helen Beaumont
- Community & Public Health – Sandy Brinsdon and Sara Epperson
- Environment Canterbury – Vanessa Scott
- Greater Christchurch Partnership – Keith Tallentire
- Ministry of Social Development – Shane Carter
- NGO signatories/SEWN – Sharon Torstonsen
- Selwyn District Council – Lisa Larkin
- Te Kahui Kahukura – Puamiria Parata-Goodall
- Waimakariri District Council – Tessa Sturley

Thanks also to Claire Bryant, Claire Phillips, and Rex Gibson for attending the first meeting.

Why an Interim Group?

The [Greater Christchurch Partnership](#) identified Healthy Christchurch as a lead for the 'Health & Communities' stream of the [Urban Development Strategy](#), along with the Selwyn and Waimakariri District Councils. This means we have an opportunity to formally strengthen and expand our network and enhance its regional relevance.

The Interim Group will formalise a decision about whether to expand the network or not. The group will also be tasked with developing a Terms of Reference for the next Advisory Group, developing a high-level work programme and continuing to engage with signatories throughout its processes.

Like the existing initiative, an expanded network would still lead new projects, be a vehicle for communication and consultation with communities, and provide a mechanism to be voice at decision making tables around the region.