Advisory Group

The Waka Toa Ora Advisory Group met on 24 July 2019.

Key points from the meeting

- The Advisory Group received a brief presentation about the Canterbury Wellbeing Index (canterburywellbeing.org.nz). The Index contains mainly indicators of social wellbeing. However, its other indicators and its overall structure/approach may be useful for local governments considering indicators for the four wellbeings.
- The Advisory Group is in the early stages of establishing how to contribute to climate change projects and is considering future opportunities related to information gathering and engagement.
- Work is under way to outline more formal criteria for collaborative partnership projects under the umbrella of Waka Toa Ora.

Who is a part of the Advisory Group?

Current participating organisations include:

- Christchurch City Council – Paul Cottam and Claire Bryant
- Community & Public Health – Sandy Brinsdon, Gail McLauchlan, and Sara Epperson
- Environment Canterbury –Sam Bellamy and Clare Pattison
- Greater Christchurch Partnership – Nadja Grabner-Thornley
- Ministry of Social Development (MSD) – Marie Ward
- NGO signatories – Liz Hawes (SEWN), Lottie Vinson (CWEA), and Kathy Duncan (OVTRK)
- Selwyn District Council – Denise Kidd
- Mana Whenua ki Waitaha – Wendy Dallas-Katoa
- Waimakariri District Council – Tessa Sturley

Waka Toa Ora

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. A working group convened and decided to formally expand Healthy Christchurch across the region and to adopt a more geographically inclusive name—Waka Toa Ora.

The group has developed a high-level work programme and will continue to engage with signatories as this progresses. The initiative will continue to 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.