



Proactive Release

Submissions on the Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy

August 2019

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet has released the following submission received during its public consultation on the child and youth wellbeing strategy.

Some of the information contained within this release is considered to not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act).

- Where this is the case, the information has been withheld, and the relevant section of the Act that would apply, has been identified.
- Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it.

Key to redaction codes and their reference to sections of the Act:

- **9(2)a** – Section 9(2)(a): to protect the privacy of natural persons, including deceased people.

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Child and Youth Wellbeing Strategy – Submission Template

This document is intended for individuals or groups who wish to make a formal submission on the child and youth wellbeing strategy.

Please complete this template and email it to: childandyouthwellbeing@dpmc.govt.nz

A guide to making a submission is available on the DPMC website <https://dpmc.govt.nz/our-programmes/child-and-youth-wellbeing-strategy>

Submissions will close on **Wednesday 5 December**.

Please provide details for a contact person in case we have some follow up questions.

Contact Name:	Lani Evans
Email Address:	9(2)(a)
Phone Number:	
Organisation Name:	Tasman District Council
Organisation description: (tell us about your organisation – i.e. who do you represent? How many members do you have? Are you a local or national organisation?)	<p>We are a local authority that covers a large area from Farewell Spit through to Murchison and across to St Arnaud and Richmond. We have both rural towns and urban areas within our region. From the recent Statistics NZ report, within our district there are 9,500 young people aged 0-14, 3,130 young people aged 15-19 and 2,410 young people aged 20-24.</p> <p>We are a Council committed to the wellbeing of young people. Our main connection point with young people is through our Tasman Youth Councils. There are four Youth Councils in Tasman District (Motueka, Waimea, Murchison and Golden Bay). The Youth Councils represent the voice of young people in their community and promote youth needs and opportunities to local community groups, our local authority and central government.</p>

<p>Executive Summary: (Please provide a short summary of the key points of your Submission - 200 words)</p>	<p>As a part of our Long Term Plan consultation, we asked our youth community about their needs and concerns. We received 488 survey results highlighting what young people would like to see happen across our district.</p> <p>Below is a summary of regional key themes that came out of the youth consultation.</p>
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Submission Content

The 'What's Your Tasman' youth survey asked the Tasman youth community three questions:

1. What is the best thing about the place you live in?
2. Looking into the future, what is your big idea for making your town a better place for young people?
3. What is one thing that is not working well for young people in your community that you would like to see fixed? Please tell us what this is and ideas on how to improve it.

Key themes emerged from the results highlighting the needs, concerns and opportunities for young people in Tasman.

The number one thing young people loved most about Tasman was our natural environment. They love living close to our clean beaches, national parks, rivers, mountains and the sea. They highlighted how much they enjoy outdoor activities in our natural environment, for example, mountain biking, formal sport, kayaking, tramping/walking and other outdoor adventures.

In urban areas, they enjoy facilities like recreation centres, shopping malls, movie theatres, skateparks, parks and reserves, BMX tracks, swimming pools and sport complexes.

The youth community also love the community connectedness within their neighbourhoods and towns. They enjoy living in smaller communities where it is less busy and there is a good sense of community, where everyone knows each other.

Youth highlighted a range of areas they would like to see improved.

A major theme was a lack of youth spaces across the region, including places to 'hang out', and playgrounds for all ages. They felt existing skateparks and BMX tracks needed an upgrade and there was a need for more 24/7 informal sport opportunities such as basketball hoops and mountain bike tracks.

The second main issue was the lack of events and activities targeted at young people. They want opportunities to get out and try new things. They believe there is a strong correlation between a lack of targeted youth activities and events in local towns and increased use of drugs and alcohol, in particular in rural communities.

Employment across the region is a major issue. Young people felt there is a lack of career pathways and meaningful job opportunities.

Within the school education system, they want a wider variety of training and development opportunities. Young people want more education in environmental training to help change their communities.

Young people want to make our communities safer. They want to reduce the amount of drugs and alcohol young people and community members are taking. Young people also want to stop bullying within their communities and feel bullying is increasing. They want more lighting in towns and parks and an increase in security cameras. They are also concerned about road safety and suggested more traffic lights, slower traffic and more

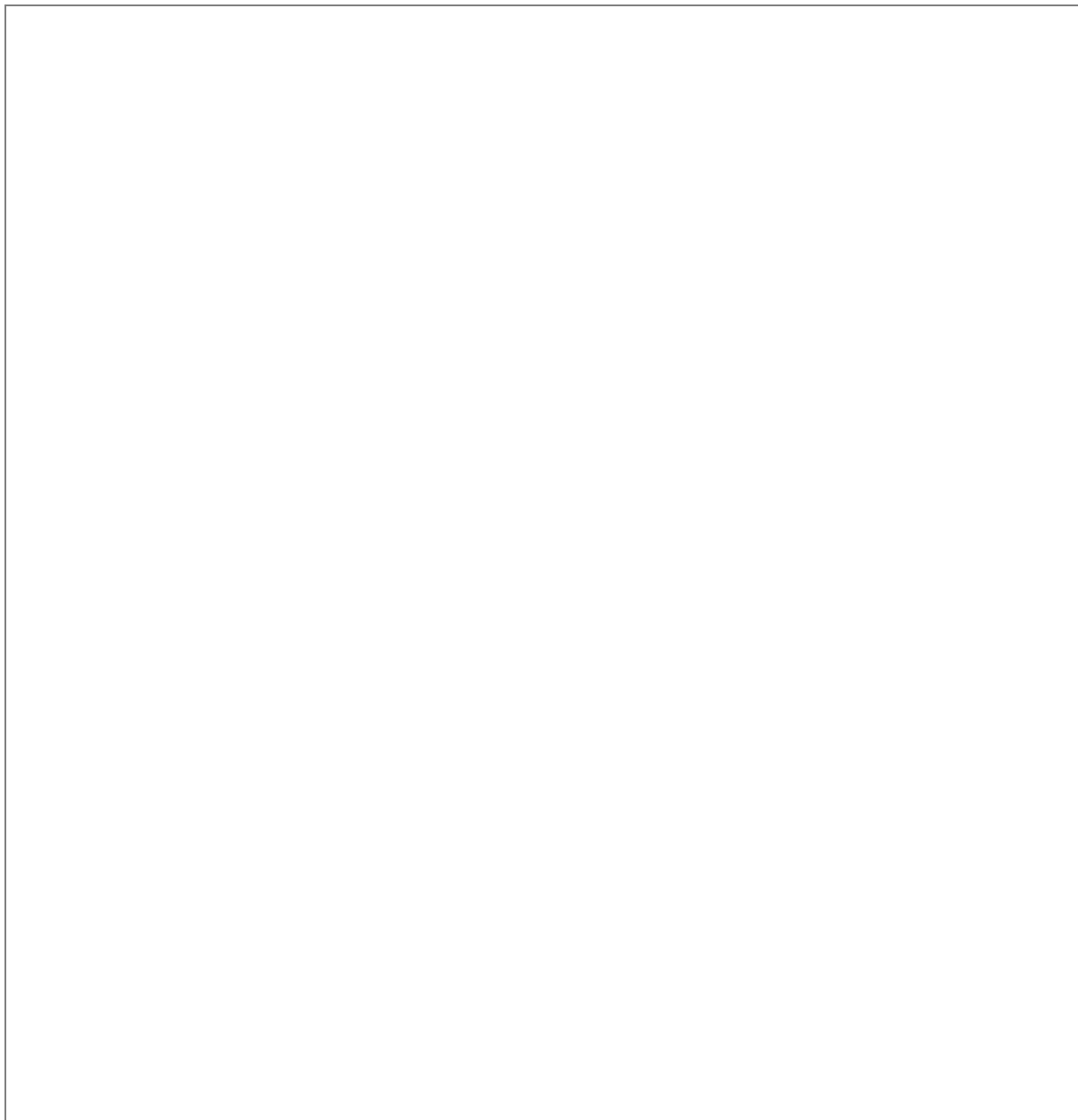
pedestrian crossings. Cycle safety was also significant, requesting more cycle lanes so they can get places safely.

Young people strongly value the environment. They care deeply about the environment and want to keep our 'clean, green' New Zealand image. Reducing pollution and litter, planting more trees, stopping the use of plastic bags and making our rivers swimmable are all ways they suggested to improve our environment.

As our region covers a large geographic area, transport is a significant issue. Limited public transport makes it difficult for young people, especially those living rurally, to access some opportunities in our district.

Our survey respondents felt young people need to be heard more both within their own communities, and nationally. They would like the Government to listen and react in a timely manner. They want acceptance in communities and not to be seen as disruptive young people. They want to get involved in their community more and volunteer to make their town a better place.

Youth highlighted living conditions as a concern, wanting to see more and cheaper houses, reduction of living costs and increased support for 'less fortunate' families.



Please note that your submission will become official information. This means that the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet may be required to release all or part of the information contained in your submission in response to a request under the Official Information Act 1982.

The Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet may withhold all or parts of your submission if it is necessary to protect your privacy or if it has been supplied subject to an obligation of confidence.

Please tell us if you don't want all or specific parts of your submission released, and the reasons why. Your views will be taken into account in deciding whether to withhold or release any information requested under the Official Information Act and in deciding if, and how, to refer to your submission in any possible subsequent paper prepared by the Department.