

**From:** donotreply@intergen.net.nz  
**Sent:** Friday, 4 May 2018 11:26 AM  
**To:** Consultation  
**Subject:** WDC Web Submission

FullName: Waitomo District Youth Council c/- Clowdy Ngatai  
Organisation:  
PhoneNumber: 8780889  
PostalAddress: Queen Street  
Email: cloudy.ngatai@waitomo.govt.nz

Speak\_to\_Council\_Hearing: Yes\_speak

PROPOSAL\_1\_SAFE\_COMMUNITIES: I support Option 1 for proposal 1

SAFE\_COMMUNITIES\_COMMENTS: Proposal One: Safe communities

Position: Representatives of the Waitomo District Youth Council (WDYC) would like to thank the Waitomo District Council (WDC) for the opportunity to make submission to the 2018-2018 long term plans. The WDYC supports OPTION ONE of the Safe Communities Proposal 1. The WDYC would also like to request a time frame to present to the Waitomo District Council on their position.

Informed: The WDYC draws this position from conversations held within the group and from the peers that they are often with and around on a regular basis.

The Youth Council have decided it is unreasonable to provide this position from 11 students to the WDC LTP without a concerted effort to consult their wider cohort of peers. The WDYC will be providing the opportunity to the young people they represent by undertaking a consultation workshop with rangatahi in secondary schools to raise awareness and capture feedback on the LTP proposals.

Background to the position:

Concerns: Forming part of the WDYC position and of particular concern to some young people in the Waitomo District is the influence of gangs in their communities and the dangerous risk taking behavior that results in negative impacts for themselves, their whanau and their friends. Many young people made specific mention of "crack" or "p heads" within conversations when talking about things that concern them in their communities.

Young people (WDYC inclusive) talked of their fears for their peers that lived in trying circumstances. Within the district young people know there are families that live in substandard housing and have been managing on minimal incomes for generations with the very basic needs uncertain, for example food security. In many situations there are mental health and wellbeing issues, high levels of violence and low levels of security, income and compassion ultimately leading to poor outcomes.

What was of consensus for the WDYC was the concern that some young people have developed an impoverished mindset to the point that they no longer thought of themselves as a person that could aspire and a factor of that was that they were living in the Waitomo District/Maniapoto.

Positives: The WDYC believes that our communities care for one another and has strengths that could be nurtured to further support improved outcomes for young people and their families.

The WDYC knows that there are sectors of our community that are connected and thriving and this could be strengthened, with the benefits of having a sense of pride and belonging grown. There are a number of individual hero's and groups that have a following and they are doing positive and uplifting things in the community.

Local tourism is flourishing with growth firmly on the radar. Local business look to future proof their workforce with cadetships and apprenticeships being taken up by young people and work readiness being developed.

The use of Social media and technology has grown allowing connection to family's living rooms and mindsets at the touch of a button. The ability to do promotions and communications continues to move rapidly on a world wide scale which we can and have been a part of.

The Waitomo District has seen a collaborative approach to working on social issues before, so this is not a new concept. Many of the services and personal are familiar with the workings of a joined up approach and this should serve as a strength and provide learnings moving forward.

The Plan:

Suggestions: when looking at a number of frameworks it is a collective and multifaceted approach that is the best practice model, one that is well informed, planned and evaluated against outcomes to provide reflection opportunities, learnings and pathways forward. Whanaungatanga, networking and

partnerships will be essential in the development of comprehensive plans, which consider the broader socio-economic context of our communities.

A key focus should be to do WITH and not To a community to establish sustainable changes. The Safe Communities concept of working provides an accreditation platform but it should be influenced in every paragraph by the significant uniqueness of our communities. WDC should look to avoid the one size fits all effect and the driving force should not be the accreditation component.

The WDYC would like to advocate that young people are consulted in a meaningful way at all levels of the planned developments and strategies that are adopted to ensure their needs (the Waitomo districts future) are reflected in the plan.

Conclusion:

The WDYC wants to applaud the Waitomo District Council for their foresight to propose initiatives that will consider the best ways to increase positive outcomes and safety for the wider district and youth of our area. The WDYC is aware this is a different pathway for the WDC and therefore it will provide new challenges that will require strength and commitment and on balance reward - kia kaha.

"Mahia I runga I te rangiemārie me te ngākau māhaki"

"With a peaceful mind and respectful heart, we will always get the best results"

Ngā mihi

Waitomo District Youth Council

References used to provide background to position:

<https://www.safecommunities.org.nz/about-us/about-us>

<https://theinstitute.umaryland.edu/topics/soc/youthInvolvement/Best%20Practices%20Positive%20Youth%20Development.pdf>

<http://inspiringcommunities.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/IC-Capability-Framework-Guide-MARCH-2018.pdf>

<http://www.waitomo.govt.nz/Documents/Documents/Community%20Development/Youth/MSD140801-Action-Plan-Waitomo-FA2.pdf?epslanguage=en-NZ>

PROPOSAL\_2\_NORTH\_KC\_SPORTS: I support option 1 for proposal 2

NORTH\_KC\_COMMENTS: Proposal Two: North King Country Sports and Recreation Centre

Position: Representatives of the Waitomo District Youth Council (WDYC) would like to thank the Waitomo District Council (WDC) for the opportunity to make submission to the 2018-2018 long term plans. The WDYC supports OPTION ONE of the North King Country Sports and Recreation Centre Proposal 2.

The WDYC would also like to request a time frame to present to the Waitomo District Council on their position.

Informed: The WDYC draws this position from conversations held within the group and from the peers that they are often with and around on a regular basis.

The Youth Council have decided it is unreasonable to provide this position from 11 students to the WDC LTP without a concerted effort to consult their wider cohort of peers. The WDYC will be providing the opportunity to the young people they represent by undertaking a consultation workshop with rangatahi in secondary schools to raise awareness and capture feedback on the LTP proposals.

Background to position:

Compared to the national average there is a significantly high proportion of the population that identify with being of Maori decent that are living in the Waitomo District 39% and an increased number of Pacific families that have made the Waitomo District their home.

Reports released by the heart foundation in 2017 state that 31% of New Zealand's population are obese however of the Maori population 47% and Pacific populations 66% are obese. To escalate the resolve to implement intervention Maori and Pacific people are 30% more likely to be physically inactive impacting negatively on health, economic and social outcomes.

Whilst it paints a grim picture, this data raises the urgency for communities inclusive of local government to address some of the key positive impacts that could be made upon the health of the community and in particular those that experience inequalities.

One way to do this is to address barriers to access by providing better access to services and resources for improved health income... Proposal Two, option 1.

The young people of the WDYC want to have a gym facility in their District that they can be proud of and that caters to their needs and supports their aspirations to achieve and excel as groups, teams and individuals.

Young people want to have the opportunity to host regional competitions in a facility based within their home community/district.

The facilities that are currently available to young people are often unable to cater to the demand within the community and it is anticipated a growing interest in sporting codes will not see this change.

The young people of the Waitomo District Youth Council are excited about this proposal and support the WDC in option 1.

<http://www.superu.govt.nz/sites/default/files/Economic%20and%20social%20cost%20of%20obesity.pdf>

<https://www.heartfoundation.org.nz/statistics>

PROPOSAL\_3\_ECONOMIC\_DEVELOPMENT:

ECONOMIC\_DEV\_COMMENTS:

PROPOSAL\_4\_RATES\_REMISSION:

RATES\_REMISSION\_COMMENTS:

PROPOSAL\_5\_PUBLIC\_TOILETS:

PUBLIC\_TOILET\_COMMENTS:

PROPOSAL\_6\_FUNDING\_WATER\_SEWERAGE:

FUNDING\_WATER\_SEW\_COMMENTS:

Attention:

This e-mail message is intended for the use of the addressee only. If it is not addressed to you then do not read it.

This e-mail and any accompanying data may contain information that is confidential and subject to legal privilege. If you are not the intended recipient (the addressee) you are notified that any use, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message or data is prohibited.

If you have received this email in error, please notify: [administrator@waitomo.govt.nz](mailto:administrator@waitomo.govt.nz) and delete all material pertaining to this email immediately.