

**PALMY**<sup>®</sup>  
2021-31



**TE MAHERE  
HAPORI HAUMARU  
SAFE COMMUNITIES  
PLAN**

# Ahunga rautaki



# Strategic direction



# He hapori haumarū: Te ahunga rautaki a te Kaunihera

## Safe communities and Council's strategic direction

The Palmerston North City Council vision is He iti rā, he iti pounamu Small city benefits, big city ambition. The Safe communities plan primarily contributes to the Palmerston North City Council's goal of Connected and safe communities. The plan describes Council's activities for the first three years of the 2021-2031 10-Year Plan.

### Ngā tino Priorities

The priorities of Goal 3: A Connected and safe community are:

1. He whakawhanake, he whakarato, he tautoko, he hapahapai i ngā ratonga, i ngā taiwhanga, i ngā takunetanga, e tuia ai he hapori tūhonohono, hapori whakahei, whakauruuru anō hoki

Develop, provide, support or advocate for services, facilities, and events that create a connected, welcoming and inclusive community

2. He whakaū i te hauora o te hapori, e whai wāhi ai te katoa ki te whare noho me te paenoho kiritata hauora, haumarū anō hoki

Ensure the city has a healthy community where everyone has access to healthy, safe and affordable housing and neighbourhoods

3. He tautoko i ngā hapori ki te whakatutuki i ō rātou awhero

Support communities to achieve their aspirations

4. He whakaū i te tāone e mauritau ai, e noho haumarū ai ōna tāngata

Be a city where people feel safe and are safe

### Te take o te mahere Purpose of the plan

The 10-Year Plan levels of service for this plan are:

- Coordinate and facilitate the work of the Safety Advisory Board to enable the fulfilment of its strategic plan
- Achieve the Manawātū Whanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management Group goals to build resilience and disaster preparedness for civil defence and emergency situations
- Enforces bylaws and legislation in relation to supply and sale of alcohol, stray and aggressive dogs, keeping animals, food and commercial premises, gambling, and excessive noise

### Ngā hononga ki mahere kē Links with other plans

The actions in this plan also contribute to the achievement of the Connected communities plan. This is because Council recognises that the issues that underpin safety concerns can be attributed to a lack of community connectedness or whanaungatanga and opportunities to encourage this.

### Te mahitahi me Rangitāne o Manawātū Rangitāne o Manawātū partnership

Council will work in partnership with Rangitāne o Manawātū and:

- support Rangitāne representation on the Safety Advisory Board as a key partner in community safety

These commitments will guide the implementation of all aspects of this plan.

### Ngā puka Kaunihera e whai wāhi mai ana ki tēnei mahere

#### Council documents that contribute to this plan

The implementation of this plan is shaped by these Council-adopted documents:

- Alcohol Control Bylaw
- Animal and Bees Bylaw
- Class 4 Gambling Venues Policy
- Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy
- Dog Control Policy and Bylaw
- Local Alcohol Policy (under development)
- Local Approved Products Policy
- New Zealand Racing Board Venue Policy
- Palmerston North Local Approved Products Policy
- Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw
- Street Naming and Numbering Policy

### Te ine i te angitutanga Measures of success

Council will monitor these measures of success and report on these through the City Dashboards:

- Increasing perception of safety in Palmerston North
- More residents are satisfied with dog control outcomes
- Decreasing problem-gambling
- Decreasing alcohol-related harm
- Increase in collaboration on animal welfare initiatives
- Improvement in animal welfare at the animal shelter
- Decrease in crime in Palmerston North
- Increasing preparedness for emergency in Palmerston North (Manawātū-Wanganui CDEM survey)





### Kupu whakataki Introduction

Community wellbeing includes all aspects of health, te whare tapa whā, and includes safety. The purpose of this plan is for people in Palmerston North to feel safe and be safe.

### Kei hea tātou i tēnei wā? Where are we now?

#### Rūnanga Tohutohu Haumarū Safety Advisory Board

- Formed in 2004, the Safety Advisory Board is a governance board for the Palmerston North safe community programme. Council provides facilitation support to the Safety Advisory Board, which is made up of representatives of agencies with an interest in safety.
- Palmerston North, through the Safety Advisory Board (SAB), was reaccredited as a 'Safe City' under the Safe Communities Foundation.

- The City Ambassadors programme is an initiative designed by the SAB. This runs during the summer months from December to March. The city ambassadors are inducted by the police and have a direct line to the police in the community. Their primary purpose is to patrol the city centre and assist the public with inquiries. They present as welcoming city hosts, but also assist with crime prevention and crime reporting. There have been three cycles of the programme so far.
- It is unclear whether the City Ambassadors programme is achieving its stated goals.
- The SAB has reviewed its strategic and agreed a broader scope in comparison to previous years, with the overall outcome being 'Palmerston North is a Safe Community'. The priority areas are:
  - Crime
  - Connectedness and resilience
  - Youth
  - Housing
  - Healthy lifestyles
  - Education
  - Employment and income



**Te whakamarumarū me te whakahaere ohotata**  
**Civil Defence Emergency Management**

- Council is a member of the Manawatū-Wanganui Civil Defence Emergency Management (CDEM) Group, which is based on regional boundaries and combines local councils, emergency services, health boards, Defence and the Ministry of Social Development. The CDEM group coordinates a regional approach to emergency management, overseen by the National Emergency Management Agencies (NEMA).
- In 2019 a survey was commissioned by the Manawatū-Wanganui CDEM to measure the regional communities' preparedness for, and resilience to emergency events. The survey found overall perception of preparedness in Palmerston North was lower than the regional average.
- Council is minimally meeting the CDEM goals which feed into the national plan. The goals are:
  - Reduce risks from hazards to acceptable levels;
  - Communities are aware of the hazardscape, are prepared and empowered to respond and recover from an emergency;
  - Agencies are aligned, prepared and able to provide an effective response to an emergency;
  - Communities and agencies can effectively recover from an emergency.
- The Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) is operating out of a newly purpose-built facility that meets legal specifications. This space is shared by Horizons and central government agencies.

**Te whakahaere kararehe me te hauora taiao**  
**Animal management and environmental health**

- Work in this area is focused on maintaining compliance, as Council's role and responsibilities are prescribed by legislation. The areas where Council has exercised some discretion are set out in Council bylaws and policies which are mentioned at the top of this document.
- Council delivers a regulatory response to safety concerns regarding:
  - Sale and supply of alcohol;
  - Stray and aggressive dogs;
  - Food and other commercial premises; and
  - Gambling;
- The number of dogs in the City is continuing to grow as Palmerston North experiences population growth.
- In 2019 Council's pound was renovated to meet the Ministry of Primary Industries code of welfare temporary housing of companion animals. Only dogs and sometimes livestock are housed temporarily in the Council pound.
- Council's animal management focus is predominantly on legislative compliance for dogs. Council educational programmes are focused on dogs and delivered at various community events and ad hoc outreach programmes.
- Council has successfully rehomed many dogs through its social media outreach programme, as well as working with community organisations.
- Council is a 'recognised agency' under the Food Act 2014.
- Council delivers a regulatory response to nuisance concerns regarding:
  - Keeping animals; and
  - Excessive noise.
- Council receives requests for cat traps, and these are issued when the Council is satisfied with the course of action the person will take after trapping a cat. From 01 July 2018 to 9 June 2020, 220 cat traps were issued by Council.



## He aha ngā hiahia hei whakatutuki? What do we want to achieve?

- Council supports the Safety Advisory Board to be an expert local body, made up of members who are part of the network of programme developers and implementers contributing towards safety outcomes in the areas SAB have prioritised.
- Rangitāne o Manawatū are represented on the SAB.
- Council supports the SAB to fulfil the reaccreditation process in 2024 to maintain Palmerston North's Safe City Accreditation.
- High-level insights and gaps identified by the SAB in the areas they prioritised for safety outcomes are conveyed to relevant Council committees.
- Council meets the CDEM goals to the standard required by legislation.
- Council meets a high level of compliance regarding its regulatory responses.
- Rangitāne o Manawatū have opportunities for early involvement in safe community initiatives.
- Council delivers a consistent educational programme about dogs that is relevant and effective to the community.
- Council understands where the key cat colonies are in Palmerston North that are causing issues, with a view to developing options to approach this issue.

## He aha ngā mahi e tutuki ai ngā hiahia? What actions will we take to get there?

Ongoing actions	Start date	Involvement of partners
Co-ordinate and facilitate the SAB, and the process to seek the Safe City reaccreditation in 2024	All 2021/2022	Safety Advisory Board
Support the delivery of the 'crime prevention cameras' (CCTV) programme through the Safety Advisory Board		Safety Advisory Board
Implement the solutions to achieve CDEM goals to a standard required by legislation		CDEM
Implement educational programme about dogs and other animals (within scope of Animal and Bees bylaw)	2022/2023	
Engage an animal welfare community organisation to deliver cat management education and cat management plan		
Provide regulatory services, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Implement the Alcohol Control Bylaw</li> <li>➤ Implement the Animal and Bees Bylaw</li> <li>➤ Implement the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw</li> <li>➤ Implement the Class 4 Gambling Venues and Racing Board Policies</li> <li>➤ Implement the Signs and Public Places Bylaw</li> </ul>	2022/2023	
New and one-off actions	Completion date	Involvement of partners
Build a fit-for-purpose animal shelter to replace the dog pound	2023/2024	
Review the Dangerous and Insanitary Buildings Policy	2022/2023	
Review the Local Approved Products Policy	2021/2022	
Complete a study to understand where the key cat colonies are in Palmerston North	2021/2022	
Provide the City Ambassadors Programme	2023/2024	Safety Advisory Board
Review the Animals and Been Bylaw	2022/2023	
Review the Dog Control Policy and Bylaw	2022/2023	
Review the Signs and Use of Public Places Bylaw	2023/2024	

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**Te Kaunihera o Papaioea  
Palmerston North City Council**

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Our north arrow draws directly from “North” in our city’s name. An upward arrow perfectly symbolises our ambition for a city that’s smarter, continually growing and evolving, innovating, collaborating and finding enlightened ways to work with nature.