

Mahere haumaru hapori, hauora hapori

Community safety and health plan

We want to be a healthy city, where our community is safe and feels safe.

Community wellbeing encompasses all aspects of health, including the Māori understanding of te whare tapa whā.¹ Many Council services support community safety and health. They are provided alongside Government services which aim to support everyone to live longer in good health.²

We understand that people feel safe in communities that respond to their needs and concerns. We want to increase our readiness to provide core services to respond in emergencies. We also want to realise opportunities to promote everyday community safety and health through a wider range of activities. We want to work with others to make sure city services are co-ordinated, well-managed and designed to promote community wellbeing.

¹ Te whare tapa whā is a Māori health model developed by Sir Mason Durie and encompassing taha tinana (physical health), taha wairua (spiritual health), taha whānau (family health), and taha hinengaro (mental health).

² Manatū Hauora Ministry of Health. (2023).



Ka aha mātou? What will we do?

Promote community health

What will this mean?

Community spaces and events are smokefree and sunsmart. Council venues, facilities and events provide for healthy food and beverage choices. Community health issues and solutions are well-understood, and communities have access to the information they need.

Specific actions

- Promote our Auahi Kore Smokefree and Vapefree city
- Provide for and manage a liquor ban in the central city
- Provide sun protection at events and public spaces
- Work with public health partners to promote community health initiatives and programmes.

Provide Civil Defence Emergency Management

What will this mean?

The city is prepared and equipped for civil defence emergencies and has 24/7 Civil Defence Emergency Management. Communities have the information and support they need to prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters and other emergencies.

Specific actions

- Plan and provide for Civil Defence Emergency Management
- Support Palmerston North's Rescue Emergency Support Team
- Provide civil defence information and education through community networks and events

New or one-off actions

- Develop a community planning framework to adapt vulnerable communities to the predicted impacts of climate change

[see [Climate change and sustainability plan](#)]

Provide environmental health services

What will this mean?

Communities have the information they need to be responsible animal owners. Council management of food safety, building safety, gambling, and animal management all support community wellbeing. Regulatory services comply with relevant legislation and Council policy.

Specific actions

- Provide dog control and animal management services
- Assess and manage risks arising from dangerous and insanitary city buildings
- Provide food safety verification services to local businesses
- Provide statutory regulation of class 4 gambling venues
- Provide alcohol licensing services
- Provide information and education about responsible animal ownership and safety

Co-ordinate and support community safety and harm reduction initiatives

What will this mean?

Public spaces, facilities and events are safe for everyone. The Council works in partnership with Police and communities. Responses to emerging safety issues promote community wellbeing.

Specific actions

- Provide funding to for-purpose organisations, local communities, and communities of interest through:
 - Strategic Priority Grants
- Install and monitor CCTV cameras to support Police processes
- Facilitate and support community safety and harm reduction initiatives

New or one-off actions

- Review the Safety Advisory Board purpose and functions (year 1)
- Fund Palmerston North Surf Life Saving Club to provide regional lifeguard service at Himatangi Beach (year 1)