

Steps towards a safer Whanganui

Safer Whanganui, a coalition of agencies and groups working together to promote community safety and reduce harm, has commissioned a community needs assessment to gather, analyse and present the latest available Whanganui District injury and safety statistics.

Manager Safer Whanganui for Whanganui District Council, Lauren Tamehana, says the needs assessment is an important step to support Whanganui being a safe and positive place to live, learn, work and play.

Mrs Tamehana says most people consulted for the report felt Whanganui was as safe, or safer, than other communities.

"Whanganui is seen as a place where the traffic is lighter on the roads. There's a more relaxed pace of life, friendlier people, good lighting in the CBD, a relatively low number of drinking establishments and effective policing.

"We are concerned, however, about our injury rates from a range of causes and that important issues such as adolescent mental health, family violence and elder abuse are well understood in our community and effectively addressed."

She says the Safer Whanganui Community Needs Assessment provides a core resource for Safer Whanganui to help guide, its strategic direction and future activities and projects.

As well as statistical information about the people of the Whanganui District, the report covers information on injury deaths, hospitalisations for injury, emergency department attendances, ACC injury claims, road crashes, suicide, drowning, crime, adolescent mental health, restorative practices, hazardous alcohol use, methamphetamine, family violence, elder abuse, work safety, fire-related harm and natural disasters.

"If we don't have a comprehensive picture of where we are now, it's more difficult to move forward to where we would all like to be in the future. We needed to gather all the existing information in one place."



(10am-2pm)

FREE ADMISSION

Elements Café, 26 Victoria Ave, Whanganui.

The Community Needs Assessment report was presented to local agencies and organisations at a forum held at the War Memorial Centre in Whanganui on September 22. You can read the assessment as well as key findings and a summary report at www.whanganui.govt.nz/saferwhanganui

Get Ready Week - October 9-15

Make sure you know the best way to stay informed during an emergency – find out more on page 16.



Have your say



The following policies affect what happens in our community and we want your feedback.

Proposed Local Easter Sunday Shop Trading Policy

The Council is asking for community feedback on whether to allow shops to trade on Easter Sunday. Without a policy, only some shops are able to trade under the Shop Trading Hours Act 1990 (the Act). If a policy is adopted, this would not change provisions under the Act, which ensures all shop employees have the ability to refuse to work on Easter Sunday without providing a reason to their employer. Submissions close at 4.00pm, Friday 27 October 2017

Proposed Gambling Venues Policy

We are required by the Gambling Act 2003 and Racing Act 2003 to review and adopt a policy on Class 4 gambling and Board (TAB) venues. These Acts empower the Council to control where new Class 4 gambling (pokies) and TAB venues may be located, restrict the number of gaming machines (pokies), and whether existing gambling venues can relocate. Submissions close at 4.00pm, Monday 30 October 2017

Proposed Parking Management Plan and Parking Bylaw

We are suggesting some parking changes to encourage pedestrian activity and longer stays for visitors. This includes a proposal to increase parking time from 60 minutes to 90 minutes in Victoria Avenue. **Submissions close at 4.00pm, Friday 3 November 2017**

Hard copies of the proposed documents, supporting materials and submission forms are available from the Customer Services Counter at the Council's Municipal Building, 101 Guyton Street and at Whanganui libraries.

All consultation information is available at www.whanganui.govt.nz/haveyoursay, including electronic submission forms.

You can also also email your thoughts to policysubmissions@whanganui.govt.nz

i-SITE update

The Whanganui i-SITE, 31 Taupo Quay, is pleased to announce exciting new services for locals and visitors alike.

Eventfinda agent

The i-SITE has become a ticketing agent for Eventfinda, the guide to events around New Zealand. Pop into the i-SITE to purchase tickets for any Eventfinda event and check out the events on sale at www.eventfinda.co.nz

Parcel Connect

Thanks to a partnership with Fastway Couriers, customers can now drop off and pick up parcels from the i-SITE. It's as easy as purchasing your label online and dropping off your parcel. For more information on sending and receiving parcels via Parcel Connect, visit www.parcelconnect.co.nz

Change of hours

Summer hours (November 1 – April 30) Monday-Friday 9.00am-5.00pm Saturday and Sunday 9.00am-5.00pm

Winter hours (May 1 – October 31) Monday to Friday 9.00am-5.00pm Saturday and Sunday 9.00am-4.00pm

During public holidays, the i-SITE is open from 9.00am to 3.00pm, except for Christmas Day, when it is closed.

Friends of the Sarjeant Gallery AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Friends of the Sarjeant Gallery Incorporated will be held at Sarjeant On the Quay, 38 Taupo Quay, Whanganui at 7.30pm, Tuesday 17 October 2017. The meeting will include presentations from Nicola Williams, Chairperson of the Sarjeant Gallery Trust on the redevelopment fundraising and from Jennifer Taylor-Moore, Collections Curator on current and upcoming

Whanganui Arts Forum

Artists and arts supporters are invited to hear brief presentations on the Quartz Museum of Studio Ceramics, UCOL and the newly established Public Art Fund at the next Whanganui Arts Forum. There will also be plenty of time to update the community on your own work in our 'shout-out' section and we will give you a progress report on the Council's Creative Arts Strategy. Please bring a plate for a shared potluck tea! For questions and enquiries please contact Riah King-Wall, Arts Facilitator, on 349 0001 or riah.king-wall@whanganui.govt.nz.

5.30pm, Wednesday, October 11, Pioneer Room, Whanganui War Memorial Centre

Creative Communities Scheme

Workshop on October 7

The next workshop to learn about the Creative Communities Scheme application process will be held from 12.00 noon to 1.30pm on Saturday, October 7 at the Gonville Café Library. Applications close at 12.00 noon on Thursday, October 12.

Council meetings

There are no Council meetings scheduled for next week. You can view our meeting calendar at www.whanganui.govt.nz/agendas