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Kāpiti Coast District Council  
Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre  
Social and Community Needs  
Assessment  
REPORT  
2024

Prepared by  
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# 1: Executive Summary

## 1.1 Background

Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre began operating in 1996, having been built for the community by the community following a significant community fundraising effort. The name Te Newhanga was gifted by the Te Uri o te Ngārara hapu in recognition of the original landowners.

Te Newhanga operated as a space from which community programmes were delivered; social and community sector services organisations offered services, as well as offering rooms for hire to a range of community groups and individuals needing space for meetings and other activities. While the building was gifted to Council, it was originally run by an independent community organisation. In 2018 Council became the kaitiaki of the Centre until it closed in June 2021 due to watertightness and mould issues.

The Council is now investigating the re-development of a space for the community which is inclusive and responsive to existing and future community needs. Council commissioned a social and community needs assessment in order to gain a detailed understanding of what the community wants and needs from a community space, as well as to develop a comprehensive understanding of the gaps in the sector, and the current and future needs of the community that could be met by a refreshed community space. The needs assessment will ensure that any future development of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre is fit for purpose for the community, supports the appropriate outcomes and is responsive to community needs.

## 1.2 Approach

The approach undertaken for this needs assessment was mixed method and comprised desk research, interviews with Kāpiti Coast District Council staff members, a community survey, intercept and in-depth interviews with members of the Kāpiti community, and a survey and in-depth interviews with social and community organisations. The catchment area in scope for this study included: Paraparaumu, Paraparaumu Beach, Raumati Beach, Raumati South, Waikanae, Waikanae Beach, PekaPeka and Paekākāriki. Ōtaki was excluded because of its distance from Paraparaumu and the lack of public transport access. Ōtaki residents were not excluded from participating in the community survey however should they have wanted to do so.

- Interviews and meetings were held with Kāpiti Coast District Council staff members including the business areas of Parks, Property, Economic Development, Libraries, Strategy (housing developments) and Research and Policy
- A workshop was held with Elected Representatives
- N=615 members of the Kāpiti community participated in an online survey
- N=58 intercept and in-depth interviews were conducted with members of the community (residents) in the core catchment areas for this study
- N=45 interviews were conducted with social and community organisations (including previous users of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre) and other stakeholders
- N=25 social and community organisations provided feedback via a short online survey
- Engagement was undertaken with Te Ati Awa-ki—Whakarongotai (a workshop/hui and interviews).

Across all of these participating groups, feedback was largely consistent.

### 1.3 Key overall findings

The findings of this needs assessment with regards to the needs of the Kāpiti Community are in-line, and consistent with the strategic priorities (community facilities) of Kāpiti Coast District Council.

- **There are a range of Council owned and non-Council owned community facilities across the Kāpiti area, all of which are currently operating as venues for hire, with none staffed as ‘active’ community centres:**
  - a. There are nine Council owned facilities (mainly halls, including in Ōtaki) all of which are currently underutilised but are reported to have a number of issues including: a lack of, and the inability to be adapted for technology/digital connectiveness, internal configurations that are not flexible which limits the number of users (hirers) at any one time, as well as a limited remaining life (reported to be between 4 and 8 years for most – as at 2023)
  - b. There are more than 20 non-Council owned community hall facilities, mainly schools and church facilities as well as a range of other meeting rooms (including at the Women’s Centre, Coastlands Aquatic Centre and at a range of other private venues), with mixed levels of reported capacity, mixed reported ‘anecdotal’ satisfaction levels and some affordability issues
  - c. There are two facilities that operate in a *similar* manner (to some extent at least) to the way in which Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre **most recently** operated (as a venue for hire) – the Kāpiti Impact Hub and the Ocean Road Community Centre at Paraparaumu Beach. Current hirers of these facilities include previous hirers of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre. Both report that they have additional capacity but neither are staffed as active community centres (or currently have a ‘drop-in’ offer).
- **The population of Kāpiti is predicted to increase from 58,055 in 2023 to 80,924 in 2054 (using a 50% percentile predicted accuracy) which is likely to have an impact on the demand for fit for purpose, adaptable, flexible and affordable community facilities:**
  - a. Population increases are predicted to be across all age groups but most significant increases will be in the 65+ segment and single person households
  - b. Increased high density housing for Kāpiti is likely to place more pressure on activities for people outside of their homes
  - c. There is significant high density planned for Paraparaumu in particular.
- **Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre was a well-regarded community facility (by members of the community and hirers of the centre):**
  - a. Te Newhanga was well used for a wide variety of activities and programmes. Many community members report having attended classes and activities there over many years – 83.7% of survey

participants were aware of the centre, and of those, 66.3% had attended an event, activity or meeting there (or had family members that had done so). A further 16.3% had run an event, activity of meeting there

- b. A key strength of Te Newhanga was that it was considered to be an open, welcoming and friendly environment – with bright open spaces and a comfortable and attractive fit-out and with good kitchen facilities and good sized, accessible bathrooms
- c. The greenspace surrounding Te Newhanga was also considered to be a key positive feature, able to be accessed by users of the centre
- d. Te Newhanga was reported to have a good mix of meeting rooms and spaces – although there was some feedback that the layout did not work as effectively as it could as a ‘drop-in space’ where members of the community could come in and spend time (if they were not attending an event or activity)
- e. The main reason given for not attending an activity at the centre not knowing what was on offer there (or not having lived in Kāpiti while it was operating)

- **There is strong community support for the redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre:**

- a. More than 90% of all community survey participants believe that community spaces like Te Newhanga are important (giving a score of 7-10 out of 10 for this question). 71.5% gave a score of 9 or 10 out of 10, and 65% gave a score of 10 out of 10 for this question
- b. Slightly more Māori said that community spaces like Te Newhanga are important
- c. There is also support for community spaces like Te Newhanga among people who had **never used** this facility. Of the total survey sample, 189 people had either not heard of Te Newhanga or had never attended an event or activity there. Among this group, 74.5% gave an importance score of 7-10 out of 10 and just under half (49.5%) gave a score of 10 out of 10. This result is also reflected in interviews conducted with members of the community who had never used Te Newhanga.
- d. Social and community organisations, and other stakeholders taking part in this study support the redevelopment of Te Newhanga
- e. The main reasons given for the importance of facilities like Te Newhanga are that they:
  - Help to create a sense of belonging and strengthen communities
  - Enable community and social service groups to access low/reasonable cost facilities – which means activities and services are accessible to a wide range of community members
  - Contribute to a healthy society/societal well-being
  - Contribute to a vibrant community
  - Are able to encourage diverse groups of people to come together (who may not otherwise meet each other)
  - Provide safe spaces for the community to meet and spend time

- Are (or could be) places that members of the community know they can go to and find the information they need (and/or be referred to someone/an organisation who can help them).
- **There is strong support for any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre to be at the same location:**
  - a. 77.2% of survey participants and most of the social and community organisations taking part in this study believe that this is the right location for any redevelopment of Te Newhanga
  - b. The key reasons given for this are that:
    - It is part of a hub of other facilities: It is nearby to other facilities such as Paraparaumu Library, Council offices, Coastlands Aquatic Centre, Coastlands and the Women’s Centre (and the community feels that it makes sense to be located alongside these other facilities)
    - It is close to public transport
    - The parking is generally considered good (although there were some mixed views here)
    - It is accessible to a wide range of people, including from other parts of Kāpiti.
- **There are a wide range of social needs impacting the Kāpiti community, most of which are consistent with other towns and cities across New Zealand. In terms of social needs gaps, the most relevant to any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Centre are that:**
  - a. There is no community space in Kāpiti that operates as a ‘managed’ community centre where members of the community can spend time (unless they are participating in an organised programme or activity)
  - b. Social and community organisations report difficulties in finding appropriate low cost space to rent/lease on a permanent basis (as a base/office) – either full-time or part-time (and at the right location)
  - c. Some also report difficulties in finding appropriate low cost space to hire as required for workshops/meetings/activities/training etc. (note that appropriate includes a convenient, central and accessible location – with a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere)
  - d. Some report difficulties in finding consistent locations to deliver workshops/activities out of – which can create challenges for attendees in terms not having one consistent venue at which to attend events/programmes/activities (i.e. as part of a course/training/support) – although we note that this may not always be possible even at a redeveloped Te Newhanga
  - e. There is a reported lack of networking opportunities across community and social service organisations – including the ability to share resources, ideas etc.
  - f. Social and community organisations report that they lack visibility in the community (and suggest that a redeveloped Te Newhanga presents an opportunity to be a central source of information for the members of the community they serve i.e. by ensuring information resources are in place (other than digitally) and that the centre becomes the go to place for any

member of the community seeking information about social services (where to go, how they can assist).

- **A redeveloped Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre may not necessarily address the needs identified by, and with respect to Kāpiti youth (and in this sense may not meet the strategic goal of being an ‘intergenerational space’.**
  - a. Feedback from youth, the general public, some schools and from the Kāpiti Youth Council suggests that more ‘active’ recreational facilities would be of more interest (and value for youth) than a community centre
  - b. In this respect a community centre may not meet the needs of youth unless there were specific youth-oriented activities there. Most youth taking part in this study said they would be unlikely to use a community centre simply as a drop-in/hang out space
  - c. Paraparaumu already has a youth-focused hang out space in the form of Zeal, which is a dedicated youth centre including with gig space, a rehearsal room and a digital design lab and more. From Tuesday to Friday, 3.30-5.30pm the space is available for youth to simply hang out at. The Kāpiti Youth Council report that approximately 20-30 youth take up this opportunity
  - d. Other feedback suggests that there are many other young people in Kāpiti who do not use, and are not interested in Zeal (or do not see Zeal as relevant to their needs).

## 1.4 Recommendations for consideration

**The overarching recommendation arising from this needs assessment is that consideration be given to the redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre at its current location.**

It is also recommended however that the following be considered:

- That the outcome of the feasibility study with respect to the indoor recreation centre be taken into consideration – particularly in terms of how it may work as part of the wider precinct in which Te Newhanga would be part of, and in terms of any proposed community space/meeting rooms that would be offered as part of an indoor recreation centre
- That consideration be given to how the ‘hub’ of community facilities in and around Te Newhanga’s locations might be better connected (physically and visibly)
- That consideration be given to any intended community space plans/development as part of the Wellington Company’s proposed housing development – and how this might work/be incorporated alongside any development of Te Newhanga
- That consideration be given to how the greenspace around Te Newhanga could be incorporated into any redesign of the centre – the greenspace is valued by the community and there may be an opportunity to create a better indoor-outdoor flow



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- That the operating model for any redevelopment of Te Newhanga be considered to ensure that Te Newhanga doesn't become just another venue for hire – this will have implications in terms of cost, and the layout and design of the centre
  - That consideration be given to the wider role of any redeveloped Te Newhanga in terms of its role as a central source of information for the community, a space that might be able to showcase/present local arts, culture and history – as well as a future proofed and vibrant community space. There was support among iwi as well as the wider Kāpiti community for a redeveloped community centre to also showcase local history and culture. This also supports the Long-term Plan's focus that *"our community facilities are also core to preserving, presenting and **celebrating culture and heritage**, and establishing community identity"*.
  - That consideration be given to the impact of any redevelopment of Te Newhanga on other community spaces including the Ocean Road Community Centre and the Kāpiti Impact Hub.

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## 2: Project background and objectives

### 2.1 Background

Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre began operating in 1996, having been built for the community by the community following a significant community fundraising effort. The name Te Newhanga was gifted by the Te Uri o te Ngārara hapu in recognition of the original landowners.

Te Newhanga operated as a space from which community programmes were delivered; social and community sector services organisations offered services, as well as offering rooms for hire to a range of community groups and individuals needing space for meetings and other activities. While the building was gifted to Council, it was originally run by an independent community organisation. In 2018 Council became the kaitiaki of the Centre until it closed in June 2021 due to watertightness and mould issues.

The Council is now investigating the re-development of a space for the community which is inclusive and responsive to existing and future community needs. Council commissioned a social and community needs assessment in order to gain a detailed understanding of what the community wants and needs from a community space, as well as to develop a comprehensive understanding of the gaps in the sector, and the current and future needs of the community that could be met by a refreshed community space. The needs assessment will ensure that any future development of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre is fit for purpose for the community, supports the appropriate outcomes and is responsive to community needs.

This report presents the findings from the social and community needs assessment that was undertaken.

### 2.2 Objectives

The overall objective of this needs assessment was to create a clear picture of unmet social and community needs, to inform a potential future development of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre. The specific objectives of this needs assessment were to:

- Review existing reports, needs assessments, community surveys, workshops, interviews, and strategic documents to summarise the historic and current environment from a holistic perspective, and identify synergies and ensure consistent outputs
- Identify and map existing facilities, including meeting room venues for hire
- Identify and engage with existing social sector and community organisations to develop an understanding of unmet current and future needs, and immediate priorities
- Undertake a quantitative analysis of survey and any other data produced during the needs assessment (broken down by geographic and demographic subsets)
- Identify gaps in current provision of services and social infrastructure to meet social needs within the catchment areas for this study
- Identifying current and proposed future developments where these are likely to increase social needs within the community and increase the requirement for community spaces
- Identify and prioritise actions and describe their potential social impacts.

## 3: Approach

The approach undertaken for this needs assessment was mixed method and comprised desk research, interviews with Kāpiti Coast District Council staff members, a community survey, intercept and in-depth interviews with members of the Kāpiti community, a survey and in-depth interviews with social and community organisations.

### 3.1 Catchment area in scope

The catchment area in scope for this study included: Paraparaumu, Paraparaumu Beach, Raumati Beach, Raumati South, Waikanae, Waikanae Beach, PekaPeka and Paekākāriki. Ōtaki was excluded because of its distance from Paraparaumu and the lack of public transport access. Ōtaki residents were not excluded from participating in the community survey however should they have wanted to do so.



### 3.2 Engagement undertaken

- Interviews and meetings were held with Kāpiti Coast District Council staff members including the business areas of Parks, Property, Economic Development, Libraries, Strategy (housing developments) and Research and Policy
- A workshop was held with Elected Representatives
- N=615 members of the Kāpiti community participated in an online survey
- N=58 intercept and in-depth interviews were conducted with members of the community (residents) across the core catchment areas for this study
- N=45 interviews were conducted with social and community organisations (including previous users of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre) and other stakeholders
- N=25 social and community organisations provided feedback via a short online survey
- Engagement was undertaken with Te Ati Awa-ki—Whakarongotai (a workshop/hui and interviews).

Across all of these participating groups, feedback was largely consistent.

### 3.3 Desk research

The following documents were reviewed as part of this project:

- Long-term Plan 2024-2041
- Annual Plan 2023/4
- Te tupu pai. Growing Well (2022)
- Kāpiti Community Centre: Building for Community Wellbeing, Prepared for Kāpiti Coast District Council (2 July 2021, Yumiko Olliver)
- Asset Management Plan – Halls and Community Centres (July 2023)
- Kāpiti Coast Intergenerational Strategy (Berl, 2022)
- Education Hub Feasibility Report (August 2022)
- Age Friendly Approach (June 2023)
- Community Facilities Strategy (2017)
- Not just a housing, a life. Understanding real housing need in the Kāpiti Coast District (The Urban Advisory, May 2022)
- Housing Demand and Need in the Kāpiti Coast District (Community Housing Solutions, 2022)

## 4 Strategic context and summary of previous research

### 4.1 Strategic Context

Kāpiti Coast’s commitment to the provision of fit for purpose community spaces and the relationship of these to community well-being has been well documented at both a macro level in the **Long-term Plan 2024-2041**, through to a number of proposed initiatives including in the current **Annual Plan 2023/4**.

The Long-term Plan identifies a community outcome, where *“our communities are resilient, safe, healthy and connected”* ... where *“Everyone has a sense of belonging and can access the resources and services they need”*. One of the ways Council will contribute is by *“facilitating connectivity across the community [groups and individuals] and between communities”*. Later, the Plan outlines Council’s role in community facilities, *“it is important to provide a range of community facilities that meet community needs now and into the future, and which facilitate community well-being. Our goals in managing building assets is to provide access to facilities and services that satisfy community needs and expectations, by meeting defined levels of service in the most cost effective manner”*. The Plan states that Council’s main contribution to *“our community’s well-being is”*, that *“our community facilities are also core to preserving, presenting and **celebrating culture and heritage**, and establishing community identity”*.

As one of its Top 10 priorities for the ‘coming year’, under ‘People’, Council’s priority is to *“increase inclusive spaces and creative opportunities for all, and ensure that intergenerational equity is addressed”*. One of the key actions related to this is to *“**build strong community centres**, both precincts and physical buildings”*.

Other strategic documents and reports relevant to this needs assessment are summarised below.

#### The Community Facilities Strategy 2017

The strategy was developed to plan for the current and future needs of the Kāpiti community, taking into consideration the future demographic profile of Kāpiti residents.

##### Summary of key elements:

- The strategy states that *“community facilities are an important component of our Kāpiti community. They provide places and spaces for residents and visitors alike to participate in leisure time activities, ranging from competitive sport to passive recreation and community gatherings”*
- Council acknowledges the importance of working with other providers to deliver a network of facilities throughout the district
- The demand for flexible indoor community space (including halls) **will increase** in the medium to long-term
- While the spread of facilities throughout the district is good, the quality and functionality of hall spaces is variable
- Accessibility to the existing network is considered a priority

- There is recognition of the contribution of these facilities in achieving the high-level outcomes identified in (at the time of this strategy's development) the Long-term Plan 2015-2035 to "*achieve a vibrant, diverse and thriving Kāpiti*".

The strategy outlined a range of strategic themes, with the most relevant to this needs assessment being "*a desire for safe and welcoming facilities for all ages which provide a wide range of recreation, leisure and social activities*". From a planning consideration perspective this means the consideration of "*multi-use facilities, which are carefully designed ... to ensure they are adaptable, safe and well-utilised by the whole community*".

It is likely that as the population of Kāpiti continues to increase, that this will have an impact on the demand for community facilities. The report points out however that "*activity patterns continue to change*" the nature and format of community facilities will also have to evolve and that "*rather than thinking in terms of a community hall network it is more beneficial to think of a community spaces network that is more bespoke and meets a greater diversity of our residents' needs (including those of youth, people with disabilities, and older adults)*". This will include a good geographical spread of facilities but also partnering with other organisations such as schools and churches.

### Kāpiti Coast Intergenerational Strategy, Berl, 2022

The purpose of this strategy is to promote the economic inclusion of older adults, specifically those aged between 65 and 80 years, to promote financial stability and to ensure longer and more fulfilling working lives. This includes paving the way for effective pathways into education and employment and better jobs for older residents. The Strategy highlights that "*The Kāpiti Coast has a higher than proportional share of residents aged over the age of 65. By 2048, half of the District's population is projected to be over the age of 65*". While this strategy is largely focused on access to educational and workplace opportunities, there are a number of elements relevant to the current needs assessment.

#### Summary of key elements relevant to this needs assessment:

- Primary research in the form of focus groups and telephone interviews was undertaken across four Kāpiti communities (Paraparaumu, Paekākāriki, Waikanae, and Ōtaki) with residents aged 65-80 years of age
- Key findings included those related to a **lack of community spaces**:
  - For better social links and interactions
  - To create more of a community "*heart*"
  - Valuable spaces that could act as hubs for place-based services to promote local inclusion
  - To combat loneliness and social isolation – including for newer residents retiring to the Kāpiti Coast who may not have existing social networks
  - To enable older and younger generations to interact, including intergenerational mentoring and sharing of knowledge
  - To enable professional networking
- Research participants identified a range of areas of interest including: digital upskilling opportunities, night classes and workshops on a range of topics (entrepreneurial skills, basic accounting, tax, finance, marketing, CV development, how to apply for jobs and prepare for interviews, confidence-building etc.).

### Education and Training Hub Feasibility Study, Volte, August 2022

The purpose of this feasibility study was to determine the viability of investing in providing education within the region and to highlight potential investment options that will improve the accessibility and choice of

education for rangatahi ākonga (learners) to provide greater employment and career opportunities for workers in the district. The study also outlined the potential options under consideration and placed them within a strategic and prioritisation framework that provides an informed, longer term investment strategy that delivers the best value for money.

#### Summary of key elements relevant to this needs assessment:

- Stakeholder engagement was undertaken with education providers, employers, iwi and the wider community to understand needs. An economic analysis was also undertaken to develop an indicative demand profile for education in the region
- The study identified the main challenges in meeting workforce needs/recruiting locally, the main ones being (1) experience and attitude of workers, (2) interpersonal skills, and (3) soft skills
- Formal skills and education and attracting workers to Kāpiti was ranked in the middle
- The local availability of education/training/knowledge was lower ranked (as a challenge)
- A set of six broad options for potential future education provision was developed with key education providers that are currently serving, and understand the needs and wants of, ākonga in the district. These were:
  - Do nothing
  - Using existing facilities to deliver programmes
  - A small purpose-built centralised hub
  - A large purpose-built centralised hub
  - A mobile unit for the delivery of all programmes and services
  - Designated trade hubs in towns across the district
- The preferred way forward was identified to be a **Community Centre + a Small Scale Education Hub**
- The key benefit of this was to deliver better value for money by “...incorporating educational facilities within the redesign and development of the **Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre** to create a multi-use facility. With projected limited learner numbers within the region, this enables KCDC to leverage multiple Council investment initiatives to achieve benefits of scale and mitigate potential utilisation risk”
- Some variations to this were proposed to address any potential downsides: (1) piloting using Te Wānanga o Raukawa first, and (2) ensuring that any education hub had the flexibility for physical expansion to meet more specialised training needs in the future, should demand arise.

### Age Friendly Approach 2023

Kāpiti Coast District Council’s Age Friendly Approach seeks to value and support ageing in Kāpiti with a focus on those aged 65 and over. An age friendly Kāpiti is one which:

- Recognises the wide range of capacity and capability of our older people
- Future-proofs and responds to positive ageing needs and interests
- Is inclusive and celebrates older people’s diverse identities and lifestyles
- Is safe and accessible for older people and addresses inequalities.

#### Summary of key elements relevant to this needs assessment:

- The overarching vision is that older people feel cared for, connected and able to positively contribute, now and into the future, particularly given Kāpiti’s ageing population
- The focus areas are: older people feel connected and valued as an integral part of the district, older people can get around and have access to what they need and older people participate in their communities in ways that work for them

- This means that: people have positive attitudes towards aging and older people, older people feel a sense of safety and connection in their neighbourhoods and the wider district, and that the contribution of older people in the community is encouraged and valued and their knowledge and experience are cherished.
- This would be done by:
  - Strengthening older people’s sense of safety and connection at neighbourhood and community levels.
  - Ensuring there is **age friendly access** to educational, cultural, spiritual and recreational resources in our communities
  - Ensuring there are services, activities and information available which recognise the unique needs of older Māori people, as well as older ethnic and migrant communities
  - Supporting initiatives which enhance older people’s wellbeing and celebrate their achievements
- The outcomes of this would be:
  - Older people participate in decisions that affect them and contribute to the community.
  - Our outdoor spaces and **public facilities are accessible to all and encourage active use** and enjoyment by older people.
  - All older people have **options to participate meaningfully** in our communities.

### **Not just a housing, a life. Understanding real housing need in the Kāpiti Coast District, The Urban Advisory, May 2022**

This was a housing needs assessment which was designed to identify what is really at the heart of Kāpiti’s housing issues today. This assessment was focused on understanding what will help people thrive in their communities and what makes the right type of house a home.

### **Housing Demand and Need in the Kāpiti Coast District, Community Housing Solutions**

This report was to assist Council in better understanding housing trends in Kāpiti Coast District across a range of demographic characteristics.

#### **Summary of key elements (across both housing reports) relevant to this needs assessment:**

- The number of owner-occupier and rental households is expected to increase, and the number of 65+ households is expected to grow faster than other age groups
- Housing affordability issues (whether renting or owning) will impact on Kāpiti residents’ access to **recreational and other activities outside the home**
- There is a **need for better coordination** between relevant social service agencies
- Suggestions were made regarding the need for an **information or services hub**.

## **4.2 Prior research**

### **Kāpiti Community Centre: Building for Community Wellbeing, Prepared for Kāpiti Coast District Council 2 July 2021 By Yumiko Olliver**

The overall purpose of this research paper was to “...provide a framework for how the council and community can shift from thinking of a community centre as a building facility, to imagining one that supports and strengthens Kāpiti as a community of connections, resilience and well-being”.



### Summary of key elements:

- This paper provided a broad historical overview of the concept of a community centre, which ranged from providing social services and support, to providing additional learning support, to being a venue for hire, and discussed the emerging role of community centres as contributing through providing a centralised location to house responses to community needs. The paper provided definitions of community centres from a from a building-centric, activities/benefit-centric and role-centric perspective
- Out of this a working definition was developed (based on needs not the physical environment) of “a shared community space for groups and organisations to come together for the benefit of community well-being”
- Desk research and primary research was undertaken. Primary research was undertaken with a range of groups, organisations and services to understand how they use the space and the purpose and aspirations of the services or activity they provided (note that this paper **did not** include research with the community/residents)
- Key themes identified were:
  - Providing a range of community services, activities and programmes is essential
  - Community involvement and collaboration is important
  - A sense of place and belonging and social cohesion, equitable access to spaces and activities
- And that a community centre for Kāpiti needs to consider:
  - Human values (usability, desirability)
  - Physical (technical requirements)
  - Business (feasibility and viability)
  - The staffing, operational and strategic management approach
  - The importance of having a local profile
  - Integrated planning
- A range of models were summarised including co-working spaces, activities and community/social enterprise, services, and a community hub model
- Other considerations identified included:
  - Activities, programmes and services that are responsive to community needs
  - Having a wide range of activities
  - Not just being a space for hire
  - Opportunities to support each other (e.g. better coordination)
  - Shared office spaces, shared technology, hot desks
  - Providing a space for people who feel isolated, disconnected
  - The need to reflect local people/culture
  - Designing for people with disabilities
  - It being a welcoming environment, with consideration given to outside spaces including parking, lighting, pathways
  - Outside spaces – parking, lighting, pathways
  - The need for managed and staffed spaces with people there to greet users
  - Good maintenance
  - Good marketing – including signage, facebook, and a noticeboard
  - Consistency of availability
  - Public transport accessibility.

### 4.3 Summary of key themes

Across the key documents reviewed as part of this study the following **two themes** are clear:

1. Community facilities are a key part of ensuring the **well-being and sense of belonging** experienced by the Kāpiti community, and
2. Community facilities play a key role in creating a vibrant, diverse and thriving Kāpiti – and in **connecting communities** including intergenerationally and culturally.

These two themes are consistent with what the Kāpiti community has communicated throughout this needs assessment. This includes what was heard from members of the Kāpiti community (residents) as well as the many social and community organisations providing a wide range of services, activities and programmes to that community. A key point here is that while there are a range of community facilities/venues for hire across the district (mainly ‘older’ halls and meeting rooms) there is currently no managed community centre.

These themes are supported by feedback from iwi, in that there was strong support for a ‘community centre’ (facility) in Kāpiti which would have the potential to bring the community together/as an important facility for the **whole community**. It was emphasised however that the cultural hub for iwi is, and always will be the marae.

**“It is an opportunity to bring the community together, there are a lot of fragmented spaces in Kāpiti, a lack of a heart”**

## 5: Community Profile

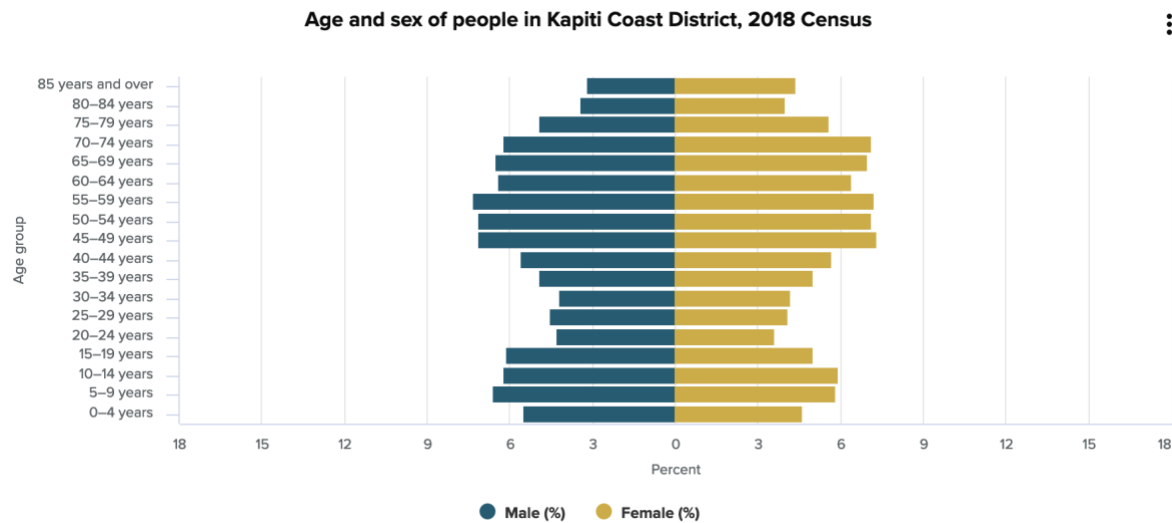
This section outlines the current and future community profile of the Kāpiti community.

### 5.1 Current population profile

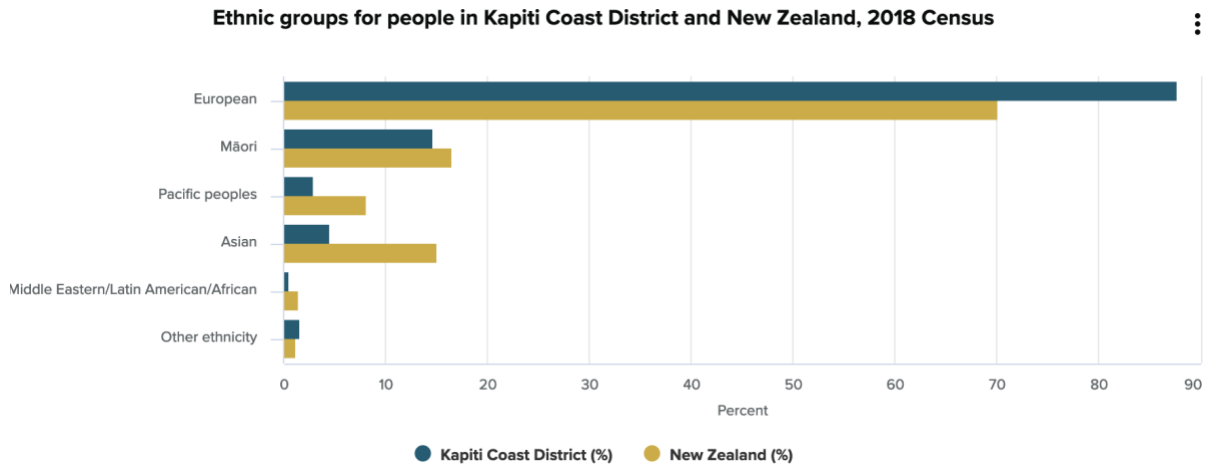
There are currently (as at 2023) **58,055** residents of the Kāpiti Coast District (including Ōtaki).

The age and gender of the population (based on the last census data available is shown in the table below, 2018). Kāpiti currently has (and will continue to have in the future) a larger proportion of 65+ households than other households.

**Figure 1: Age and gender of Kāpiti Coast Residents**

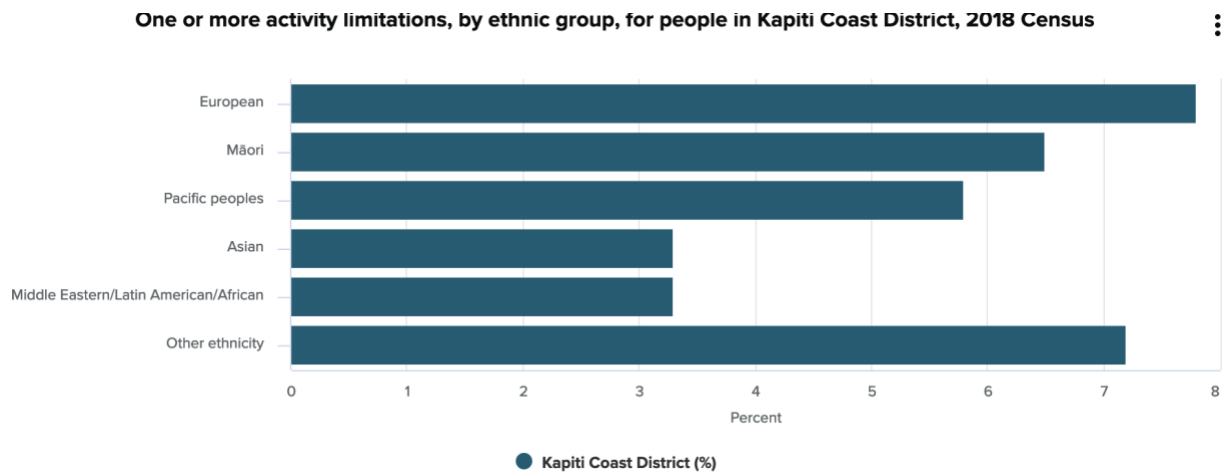


**Figure 2: Ethnicity of Kāpiti Coast Residents**



**Figure 3: Activity limitations for Kāpiti Coast Residents**

People with activity limitations are defined as those who have ‘a lot of difficulty’ or ‘cannot do at all’ one or more of the following activities: walking, seeing, hearing, cognition, self-care, and communication.



## 5.2 Summary of projected population trends

For the purpose of this report we have focused primarily on **population projections** which is likely to have an impact on the **future demand for community space**. Between 2023 and 2054, the population of Kāpiti is predicted to grow by 22,869.

**Table 1: Project population growth to 2054**

Year	Population/projected population (using 50% percentile predicted accuracy)
1996	39,456
2018	55,128 (Council data), 56,673 (Census)
2023	58,055
2030	63,552
2040	71,140
2054	80,924

The population projections are broken down by age group and household structure, and the percentage increases are shown in the following two tables.

**Table 2: Population projections 2024-2054 by age group**

The age groups predicted to increase the most by 2054 are 0-5 and 40 years plus, with a more significant increase for residents aged 60+.

Age	2024	2054	% increase
0-5	1720	2329	35.4% increase
6-11/12	1905	2406	26.2%
13-19	2566	2841	10.7%
20-39	5619	6467	15.2%
40-59	7514	10121	34.6%
60-79	7958	11596	45.7%
80+	2384	4582	92.1%

**Table 3: Change in household type**

The changes in type of household reflect the changes in the age groups above. The largest increase will be in single person households which is likely to impact in terms of the issues raised regarding social isolation of older Kāpiti residents (and the need for welcoming, accessible community spaces).

Household type	2024 (no of households)	2054 (no of households)	% increase
One parent	2492	3214	28.9%
Two parent	5553	7194	29.5%
Multi-family	484	656	35.5%
Couple	9073	12979	43.0%
Multi-person	563	736	30.7%
Alone	7970	12010	50.7%

### 5.3 Increased intensification and housing developments

Increased planned intensification in Kāpiti is likely to increase the need for community and other recreational spaces **outside of the home**.

Kāpiti's growth strategy (Te tupu pai. Growing Well 2022) states that *"focusing on intensification around our existing centres, central Paraparaumu will be developed as a city centre for our district"* and outlines the need for *"fostering strong communities"* which will have implications for the range and nature of community facilities in that area.

In Paraparaumu new zoning changes mean that buildings up to 15 storeys would be enabled in a new *"metropolitan centre"* zone at the centre of Paraparaumu, while 10 and six-storey buildings would be permitted within 400 and 800m of the area.

New zoning rules also allow buildings of up to six storeys within 800 metres of Paraparaumu, Paekākāriki and Waikanae train stations, and within the town centres at Paraparaumu Beach and Waikanae.

Four-storey structures would be allowed within 400m of the town centres at Ōtaki's Main St, Ōtaki train station and Raumati Beach. They are also enabled within 200m of the village centres at Raumati.

There are already a number of planned housing developments in and around Paraparaumu and Raumati including a Kainga Ora development at 59-69 Raumati Road in Raumati Beach. This land has been purchased to help meet the need for more housing for people and whānau in the Kāpiti Coast District (4.63 hectares) and could mean potentially 100 homes on this site.

The Wellington Company has purchased a 28 hectare site at 77-109 Kāpiti Rd in Paraparaumu. This would be a medium to high-density development, including a mixed use zone shared by commercial, retail and residential properties; a large format retail area; a general reserve, and subdivisions for homes and aged care offering more than 1000 houses.

There are also other developments planned and/or in progress including 78 townhouses on Kāpiti Road.

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## 6: Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre – background/overview

This section provides summary/overview information about Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre and is based on information provided by Council, including interviews with key staff members, iwi, the wider Kāpiti community, interviews with previous tenants and users (hirers) and desk research.

### 6.1 Background information



The Kāpiti Community Centre was located over the railway lines in Paraparaumu for many years. In the 1990s a Community Trust was established to raise funds for a new centre, to be located on Ngahina Street. The Deputy Mayor of the time, Murray Jensen, was instrumental in this process and in 1996 the building was completed. Later, the building was gifted to Council and run by an independent community organisation. In 2011, the local hapu, Te Uri o te Ngarara, gifted a tipuna name to the Centre, Te Newhanga. This was significant in acknowledging the connection to local hapu and iwi, while recognising the importance of the centre to the community. In 2018, Council became the kaitiaki of the centre.<sup>1</sup>

Over the years, Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre has operated in a range of different ways, from a managed community space from which community programmes were delivered, as well as a venue for hire to a range of community groups and individuals needing space for meetings and other activities. There was also a community garden. Prior to its closure in June 2021 due to watertightness and mould issues there had been two permanent tenants, Kāpiti Foodbank and Volunteer Kāpiti. Kāpiti Foodbank is now based in stand-alone premises on Hinemoa Street, Paraparaumu, and Volunteer Kāpiti leases space at the Kāpiti Impact Hub on Tongariro Street.

In the year before it closed Council's Connected Communities team members began to develop programmes and activities to reinvigorate the space (it had been operating more as a venue for hire prior to this). They

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.Kapiticoast.govt.nz/your-council/projects/te-newhanga-Kapiti-community-centre/>

changed the layout of the foyer, removing the large reception desk and replaced it with hot desks/work stations, and ran a number of community open days. The open days included:

- Having health providers on-site (for health check-ups)
- Parenting workshops
- Yoga classes
- Giant sized games to play
- Orange Sky New Zealand’s mobile laundry service on-site
- Free kai (hot dogs, a soup kitchen, muesli bars, tea and coffee) – provided by Kaibosh Food Rescue
- A sewing machine in one of the meeting rooms along with donations of material (to encourage arts and craft activities).

It was reported that more than 100 people attended the first of three open days. The open days were held on weekdays and attracted older residents as well as younger mothers and their pre-school aged children. MASH Trust would also visit with Kāpiti residents with special needs. The weekday timing limited the types of residents able to attend the open days. There had also been a plan to work with the Kāpiti Herb Society and the environmental team at Council to run workshops and provide baskets and tools for use at the community garden. Feedback from people who attended these open day **was very positive**.

While the community centre is closed, Council’s Connected Communities have worked with the Kāpiti Coast Youth Council and the Parks and Recreation team to create a **Meanwhile Space** on the nearby lawn and walkway between Te Newhanga and the Bridge Club, “turning this into a fun and interactive pathway. This Meanwhile Space is a welcoming, vibrant, and interactive community hub – a flexible space where people can sit and relax or hold community events. It’s been designed to help people reconnect with the community centre space and keep them engaged with its future”.<sup>2</sup>

### Meanwhile Space concept



<sup>2</sup> <https://www.Kapiticoast.govt.nz/your-council/projects/te-newhanga-Kapiti-community-centre/>

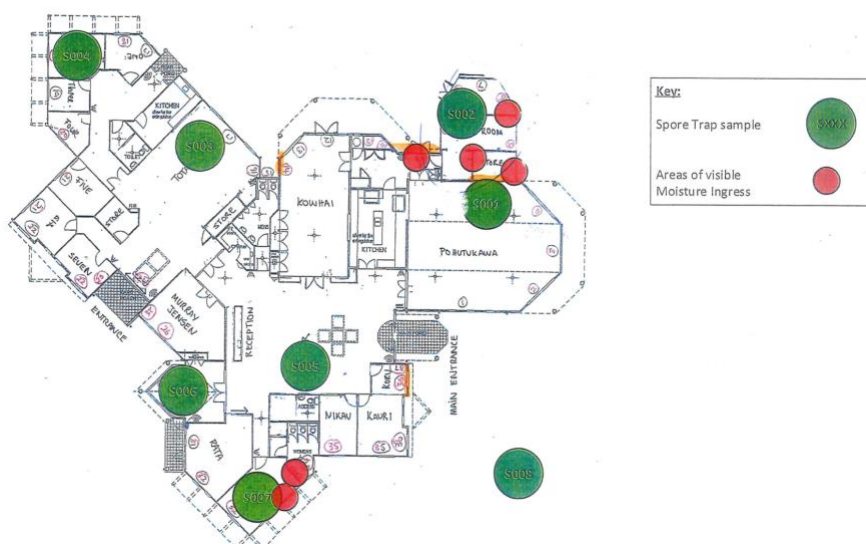


### 6.1.1 Design and layout

Figure 4 shows the layout of Te Newhanga. Feedback from hirers and from the community was that the layout was not optimal in terms of its flow and design.

**Figure 4: Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre layout**

#### Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre, Paraparaumu



### 6.1.2 Feedback about Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre – prior to its closure

While this needs assessment was focused on the **current and future needs** of the Kāpiti community, during discussions with Council staff, and various groups and organisations who used Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre there was some general feedback provided about the ‘way the centre was’ when it was up and running. For the most part feedback about Te Newhanga was positive (including in the open-ended comments that were provided as part of the community online survey and during intercept interviews conducted around Kāpiti). Key overall positive feedback was that:

- Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre was reported to be very well used for a wide range of activities and programmes – many community members reported having attended classes and activities there over many years
- Te Newhanga was considered an open, welcoming and friendly environment – with bright open spaces and a comfortable and attractive fit-out
- The greenspace surrounding Te Newhanga is attractive and was also able to be accessed by users of the centre (**note** that feedback regarding Council’s on-going upkeep of this greenspace since the community centre closed was very positive)

- The toilet facilities were considered to be a good size for disabled visitors and their carers (where applicable)
- The kitchen facilities were very good with enough, and a high standard of crockery and other items
- The range of meeting rooms was good – with a good mix of sizes
- The location is good – it was considered central and to form part of a convenient ‘hub’ with other facilities (such as the library, the aquatic centre, council offices, Coastlands etc.)
- Staff members running the centre were well-regarded
- It was a good central emergency management location for people (people knew it, they knew where to go in the event of an emergency)
- There is parking outside/close by (although there were mixed views on parking availability)
- It is close ‘enough’ to public transport routes
- It had a defibrillator
- The room rates were considered to be reasonable (and affordable for community groups).

### Experiences of Te Newhanga – what the community told us

“The community centre used to be very busy every day. Where have all those activities gone?”

“The location of current building is what’s so important. It is a visual reminder, it’s easy to access, and people know it’s there even if they have just driven past. There are other options but this venue was always easily the best”

“It is without doubt one of the favourite places to have community based public meetings, workshops and other community activities. We enjoyed what we had before it was closed”

“The community centre used to work well as it was a COMMUNITY centre. Activities were centralised and it was used all the time”

“I went to get-togethers with international groups, Kāpiti spiritual centre meetings, small fairs around children and the community, etc. especially when the centre was community oriented”

“When it was thriving, we had access to all sorts of conversations and on the ground intelligence that we normally would not have access to. This allowed us to challenge ourselves and ensure we were catering to a wide range of people. Community, real community consists of time, energy and the ability to not exclude people. There are communities among communities. This centre has the potential to create meaningful interactions for people and provide a place of respite for many of our community. They are the anchor of the community as long as you have the right staffing”

“When I moved in the area three decades ago, the centre was a centre for the community where I could find a lot of information to know my way around. It was very important to know about the community which helped so much to become an integral participant to this community”

“It is the Soul of the District by allowing a Hub/Space for multi-ethnic groups to be able to use for their individual gatherings”

“It’s a well serviced facility that can be used by anyone. It is close to the centre of town and transport services. It is a non-biased and safe space for like-minded people to gather. IT IS GREATLY MISSED, also ideal for those with disabilities”

“A central place for everything as our Community centre was, had so many activities/advice available from so many organisations”

“I like the location, it is welcoming, multipurpose, I remember it being welcoming like a drop in centre, it caters for various groups of people anyone certainly not selective, modern easy to find, happy”

However, the following feedback was also provided by interviewees:

- There was a sense that it lacked a clear purpose – mainly as a result of the operating model for the centre changing over time, including from:
  - Having an on-site ‘manager’ – who ran the centre in a ‘meet and greet’ role and who was a point of contact for users/hirers, to
  - Operating simply as a venue for hire, to
  - Operating as a permanent space for some community organisations (Volunteer Kāpiti, the Kāpiti Foodbank), to
  - Most recently – a council-facilitated ‘drop-in centre’ (where activities were organised, kai provided etc.)
- There was some feedback that the layout of Te Newhanga did not work effectively as a ‘drop in space’ – there was no area where members of the community could come in and spend time (if they were not attending an event or activity)
- The permanent space used by the Kāpiti Foodbank was confusing to some members of the community – anecdotal feedback suggests that some members of the community assumed it was ‘The foodbank’
- There was limited ‘marketing’ of the community centre as a community centre.

### 6.1.3 The Paraparaumu Bridge Club – feedback on Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre

The Paraparaumu Bridge Club are the nearest neighbours to Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre and reported positive experiences of the community centre while it was still operating. They are very supportive of a redeveloped community space on the **same site**. Members of the club had used Te Newhanga



previously (as part of other activities and programmes they were involved in). The only impacts of the closure of the community centre on the Bridge Club have been:

- The mobile breast screening unit staff (and some clients) use the Bridge Club’s bathroom facilities (which is not an issue)
- The defibrillator that was at the community centre is now at the Bridge Club (again not an issue).

One thing they would like to see should Te Newhanga be redeveloped would be a lockable storage area for their members who use electric bikes (of which there are approximately one dozen). They wonder if this could be incorporated into the redeveloped community centre facility. They would also like some consistency in design between their club and any new development – although they acknowledged that this is unlikely to happen (that any new development will be updated/modernised in terms of its design, and look and feel).

The Bridge Club also wanted to pass on their thanks to Kāpiti Coast District Council for their continued up-keep of the greenspace around Te Newhanga and also that they are pleased that the building has not had any graffiti or people ‘hanging around’ overnight.

## 6.2 Activities, events and programmes at Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre

A wide range of activities, events and programmes were held at Te Newhanga. Table 4 provides an example of the types of activities that were run at Te Newhanga between 2016 and 2020 (pre-COVID). Many of these were run on a regular basis throughout each year and others were annual events. The activities are a mix of social/support services, educational and recreational activities and are examples of those listed online as part of an **events calendar** for the Centre.

**Table 4: Examples of activities at Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre 2016-2020**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mediation and Buddhism – drop in classes</li> <li>• Maitreya the World Teacher and Masters of Wisdom – range of public talks, transmission meditation, other workshops</li> <li>• Waste Free Parenting Workshops</li> <li>• Buddhist workshops/spiritual workshops</li> <li>• Gentle Somatic Movement</li> <li>• Are You Prepared – personal preparedness readiness planning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stitch a dishcloth/crocheting classes</li> <li>• Kāpiti Startup Weekend – Techweek</li> <li>• Medications for the Heart</li> <li>• Masterclass on Menopause</li> <li>• Matiriki Celebration</li> <li>• Annual Bird Exhibition</li> <li>• Fusion Multicultural Festival</li> <li>• Enzacta New Zealand (learning about purple rice)</li> <li>• Learning from Te Ao Maori to Manage Grief</li> <li>• The Nasty Weeds – getting on top of weeds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kāpiti Atrial Fibrillation Peer Support Group</li> <li>• Effective Social Media for Kāpiti Community Groups</li> <li>• Bollywood Boogie</li> <li>• Pimp My Bog – emergency management workshop</li> <li>• Feed Your Gut – learning how to make fermented foods</li> <li>• Living Solo Kāpiti – Nikau Foundation and Mary Potter Hospice</li> <li>• Waste Free Living Workshops</li> <li>• Simple DIY Irrigation</li> <li>• No8Wireweek – repair café</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fuel Your Body – how to make sugar free fizzy drinks for kids</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kāpiti Bird Club Monthly Meeting</li> <li>National Neighbours Day Celebrations</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SuicideTALK Workshop</li> <li>Seaweek Fishhooks and Fisheries</li> </ul>
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Over the years iwi have used Te Newhanga for a range of reasons including for kapa haka, workshops and meetings. Kaumatua taking part in this needs assessment also spoke of their positive experiences at Te Newhanga, including at the open days organised by the Connected Communities team. It was reported by iwi that the wairua of Te Newhanga felt “great”. Tangata tiriti were also using Te Newhanga for mainstream kaupapa.

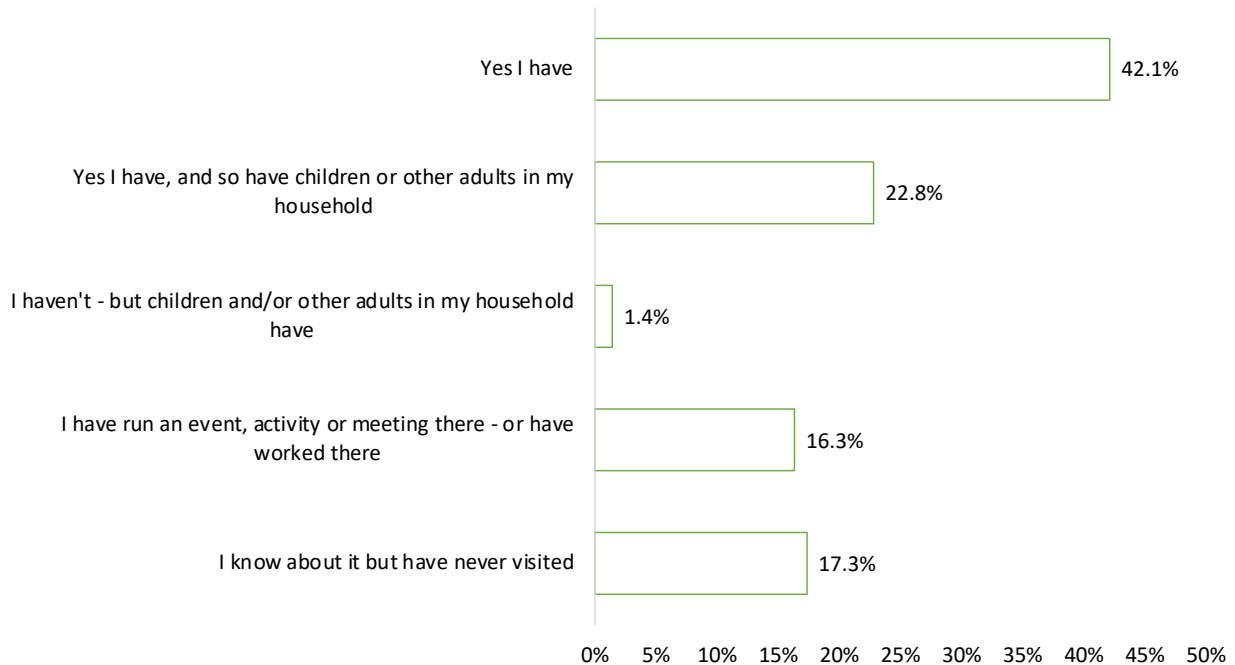
### 6.3 Community use of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre

An online survey was conducted with the Kāpiti community as part of this needs assessment. While most of the feedback from the community is outlined in Section 7 of this report, Te Newhanga **usage information** captured in this survey is outlined below.

A total of **N=615** members of the Kāpiti community completed an online survey. Of those:

- 83.7% were aware** of/had heard of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre – **16.3% were not**
- Of those who were aware:
  - 66.3%** had attended an event, activity or meeting at Te Newhanga (at some stage) and/or so had children or other adults in the household
  - 16.3%** had run an event, activity or programme at Te Newhanga
  - 17.3%** had never attended an event, activity or programme at Te Newhanga.

**Figure 5: Use of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre – all participants**



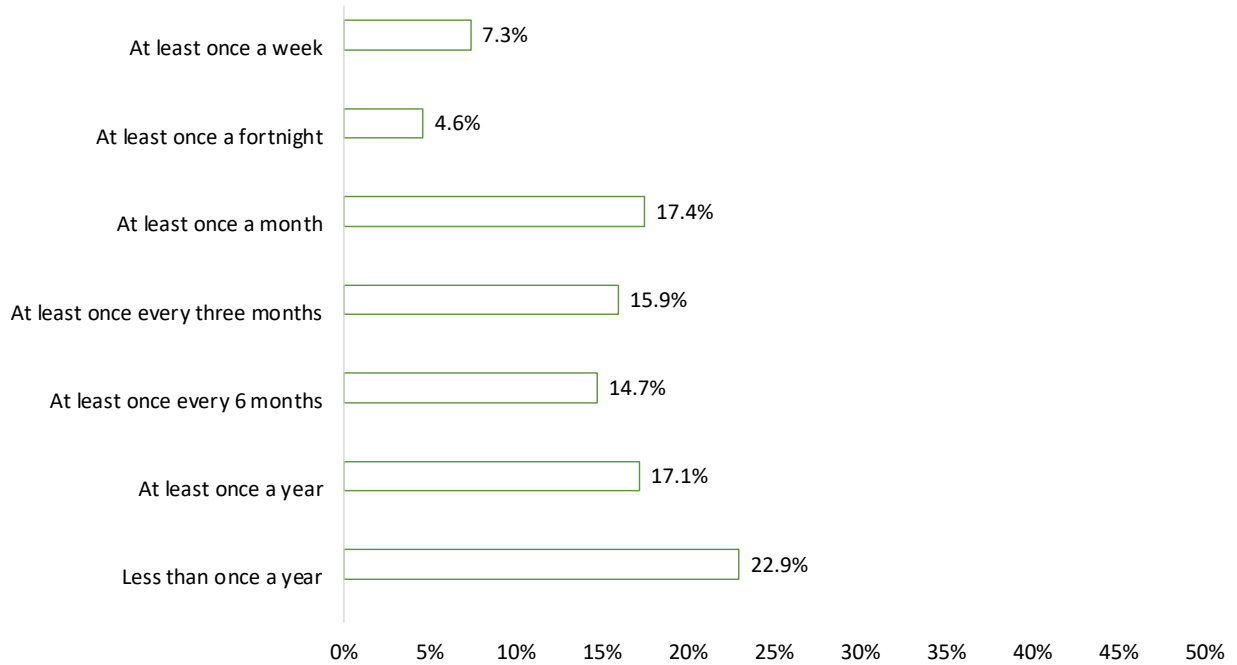
**Māori and non-Māori use of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre:**

Slightly fewer Māori (**63.3%**) had attended an event, activity or meeting there (at some stage) and/or so had children or other adults in their household – compared to **67.9%** of non-Māori. Note however that iwi feedback suggests that Māori also marae based activities and events (including workshops, birthdays, weddings and tangi). It was also reported that while iwi did not use Te Newhanga for iwi kaupapa, individual iwi members did use the centre or their own kaupapa and workshops if the marae was unavailable (and depending on the occasion).

**Figure 6: Frequency of use of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre**

Of those members of the community who used Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre prior to its closure, attendance was **fairly regular**:

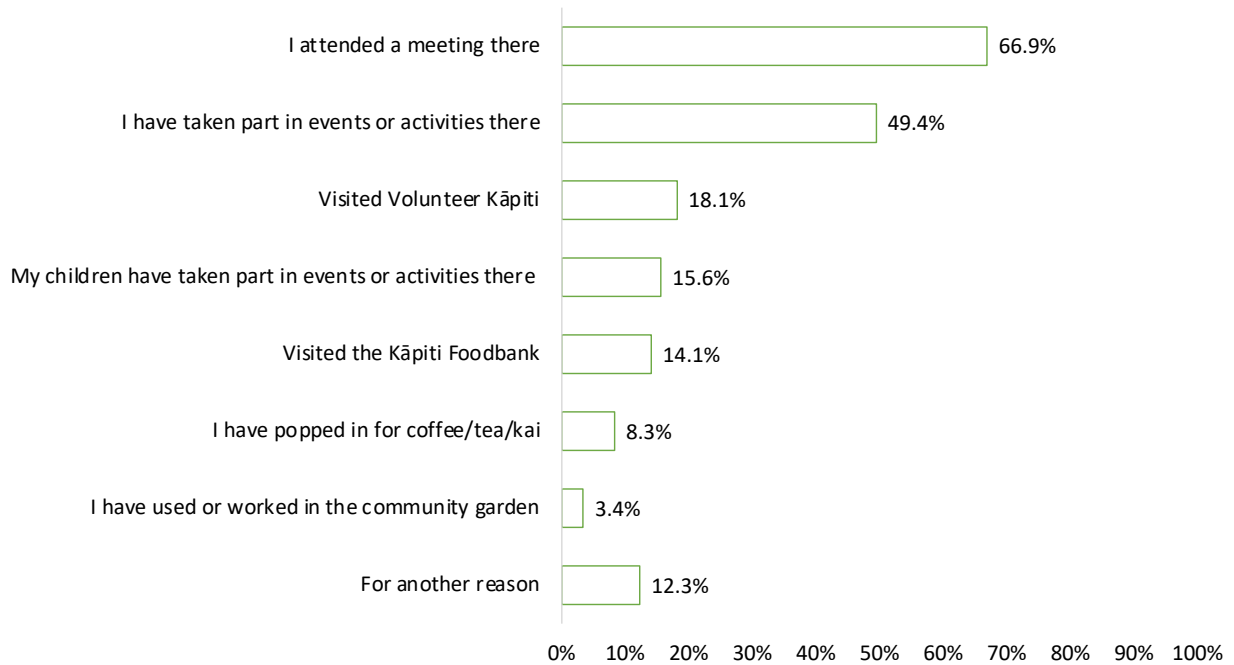
- **29.3%** of people who used Te Newhanga attended an event, activity or programme there at least once a month
- **45.2%** attended at least once every three months
- **59.9%** attended at least once every six months, and
- **77%** attended at least once a year.



## 6.4 Community use of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre

**Figure 7: Activities at Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre**

Survey participants were asked for which of the following reasons they attended Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre.



People who said ‘for another reason’ mentioned specific activities such as te reo classes, blood donations, crochet classes etc.

All survey participants were then asked for examples of the types of activities and events they had attended.

**Table 5: Examples of activities attended, mentioned by Kāpiti residents**

There were a wide range of activities, programmes and meetings mentioned.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boxing classes</li> <li>• Blood drive</li> <li>• First aid training</li> <li>• A Work Ready Kāpiti event</li> <li>• Parent to Parent events</li> <li>• Altogether Altruism events</li> <li>• Soroptimist fundraising event</li> <li>• Friends of the Library events</li> <li>• Amnesty International events</li> <li>• Red Cross events</li> <li>• Belly dancing</li> <li>• Musical performances</li> <li>• Antenatal classes</li> <li>• Shakespeare reading group</li> <li>• Zumba</li> <li>• Work functions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hareke Weaving Workshop</li> <li>• Te reo classes</li> <li>• Baby playgroups</li> <li>• Lions meetings</li> <li>• Craft classes</li> <li>• Dance classes</li> <li>• Playcentre events</li> <li>• Children’s birthday parties</li> <li>• Tuesday morning crafts for seniors</li> <li>• Kāpiti Geneology meetings</li> <li>• Sign language courses</li> <li>• Cloth bag making</li> <li>• Choir</li> <li>• Political meetings</li> <li>• Celtic events</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sewing groups</li> <li>• Cooking demonstrations</li> <li>• Weddings</li> <li>• Yoga</li> <li>• Te Tiriti Workshop</li> <li>• CAB events</li> <li>• Arthritis Foundation events</li> <li>• Disability events</li> <li>• Stroke Foundation events/meetings</li> <li>• Pilates</li> <li>• Lego building workshops</li> <li>• Prize giving</li> <li>• Baby sensory classes</li> <li>• Craft fair</li> <li>• NZEI teacher meetings</li> </ul>
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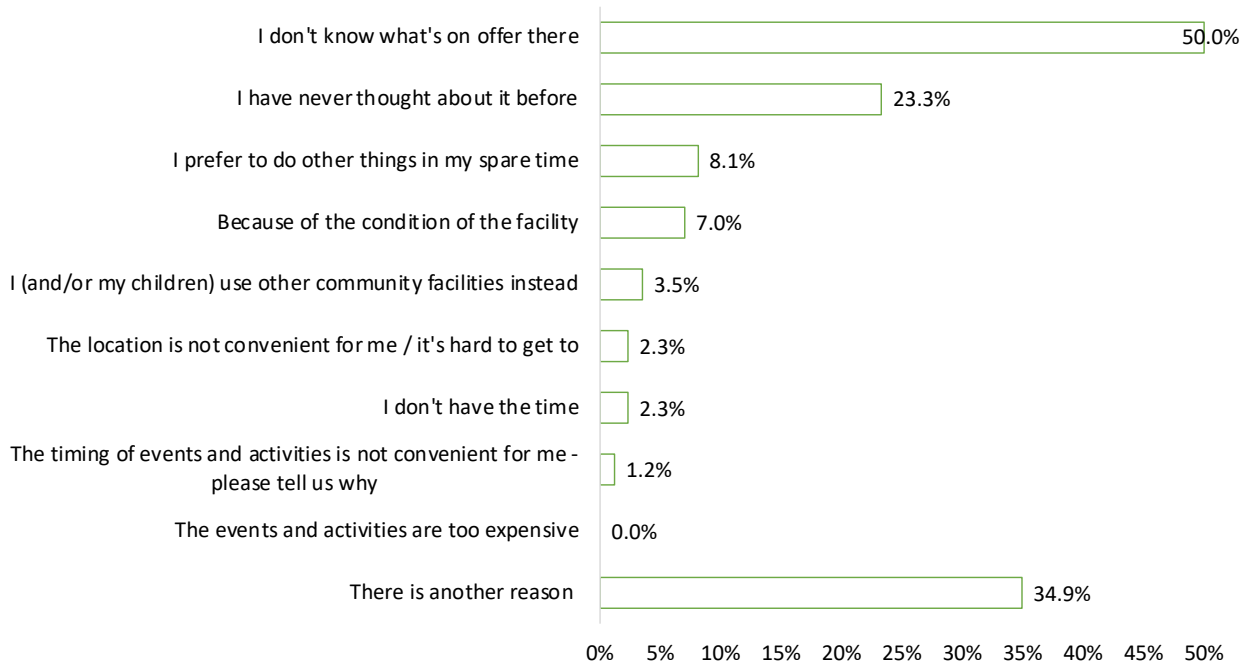


<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Restorative Justice meetings</li> <li>• Hui – youth related, pregnancy risk</li> <li>• Funeral</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Breast Cancer breakfast</li> <li>• BMX Club awards</li> <li>• Drama therapy</li> <li>• Stroke Club meetings</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Migraine talks</li> <li>• White Ribbon event</li> <li>• Asthma talks</li> <li>• Podiatrist</li> </ul>
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### 6.4.1 Reasons for not attending/using Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre

**Figure 8: Reasons for not attending Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre**

The most commonly mentioned reason for **not using** Te Newhanga was not knowing what was on offer there.



**34.9%** of people said there was another reason. The **main other reason** mentioned for not using Te Newhanga was that they had moved to Kāpiti after the community centre had already closed. Other reasons given here were:

“Never knew it was more than a food bank, my kids started school across the road in 2021 and between that and closing I never knew it was anything else”

“Recently retired and now have more time”

“Wasn’t relevant to me before but is now”.

## 6.5 Summary of key findings

**Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre was a well-regarded community facility by members of the community and by the providers of services, programmes and activities held there**

- Te Newhanga was well used for a wide variety of activities and programmes. Many community members reported having attended classes and activities there over many years – **83.7%** of survey participants were aware of the centre, and of those, **66.3% had attended** an event, activity or meeting there (or had family members that had done so). A further 16.3% had run an event, activity or meeting there
- A key strength of the centre was that it was considered to be an open, welcoming and friendly environment – with bright open spaces and a comfortable and attractive fit-out
- The greenspace surrounding the community centre was also considered to be a key positive feature, able to be accessed by users of the centre
- The centre was reported to have a good mix of meeting rooms and spaces – although there was some feedback that the layout did not work as effectively as it could as a ‘drop-in space’ where members of the community could come in and spend time (if they were not attending an event or activity)
- The main reason given for not attending an activity at the centre not knowing what was on offer there

## 7: Summary of existing community facilities and spaces

This section provides an overview of the existing community facilities and spaces available for community use in the Kāpiti area. Information regarding available spaces is presented in detail in both the **KCDC Community Facilities Strategy (2017)** and the **KCDC Asset Management Plan, Halls and Community Centres (Te Kaiwhaka Tiakitanga), 3 July 2023**. This section does not repeat the detail provided in these two reports, but rather provides a summary and re-grouping of the available information. This section also outlines any updates to the available information (where possible) since the publication of these two reports. The information presented here provides context around the number, type and usage levels of existing community spaces.

Sections 7.3 and 7.4 below provide more detail about two community facilities, **The Ocean Road Community Centre at Paraparaumu Beach**, and the **Kāpiti Impact Hub (KIH) on Tongariro Street, Paraparaumu**. These two community facilities operate in a *similar* manner (to some extent at least) to the way in which Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre most recently operated, with some permanent tenants (at the KIH) and as a venue for hire for social and community groups, and private providers of a range of activities (at both facilities). In addition, a number of the previous users of Te Newhanga have relocated to these venues since its closure.

### 7.1 Council owned facilities

There are **10 council owned facilities** (halls and community centres) across the Kāpiti area, with **9 still in use**. The table below outlines the age, occupancy and estimated remaining life of each asset. This information is recent, originally compiled and presented in the Asset Management Plan, Halls and Community Centres in 2023.

**Table 6: Council owned facilities**

Name of facility	Age of facility	Occupancy	Estimated remaining life of asset
Mazengrab Sports Hall	2018	Not available	14 years
Paraparaumu Memorial Hall	1954	36.57%	13 years (refurbished in 2021)
Ōtaki Memorial Hall	1955	15.18%	8 years
Raumati South Memorial Hall	1952	15.04%	7 years
Waikanae Beach Hall	1970	21.85%	4 years
<b>Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre</b>	<b>1997</b>	<b>Closed</b>	<b>Closed</b>
Waikanae Community Centre	1991	15.46%	4 years
Reikorangi Hall	1895	10.65%	5 years
Waikanae Memorial Hall	1951	31.29%	5 years

Paekākāriki Memorial Hall	1952	15.82%	5 years
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There is one other facility (which was considered out of scope for the Asset Management Plan), Paraparaumu College Sports Hall. Council has a 50% maintenance cost sharing agreement in place with Paraparaumu College for the sports hall, but does not own the asset. The relationship has been in place since 1979 and ends in 2025. This is currently under discussion in the context of a feasibility study for an indoor sports facility.

The report states that these assets average more than 60 years old, are somewhat old-fashioned in their design aesthetic and have challenges in terms of their on-going maintenance and upkeep. Other information reported includes that:

- Utilisation appears to be low and these assets are not worked hard. There is an opportunity to broaden the utilisation, but this will require investment
- The buildings are not fitted for or with technology to enable them to be digitally connected. This means that it is difficult or inconvenient for presentations or virtual connections to be effective
- Internal configuration is generally not flexible, meaning only one user at a time can use the halls
- Indoor recreation is largely restricted to light activities
- There is community pressure for places where rangatahi might congregate and recreate. Typically, hall users are older
- Cost of use is identified as a probably barrier for people who could probably benefit the most from a warm, dry, safe meeting space.

In summary, while the existing Council owned community spaces have **additional capacity**, they are older, have on-going maintenance needs, and limitations in terms of technology, flexibility and adaptability.

Furthermore, all of the remaining nine facilities are halls for hire rather than 'managed community centres' and most have a relatively limited remaining life.

## 7.2 Non Council owned facilities

There are more than 20 **non-Council owned** community facilities available for private hire (again mainly halls) across Kāpiti, including Ōtaki. A comprehensive stock-take of schools, church halls and other facilities was undertaken in 2017, the results of which are provided in detail in **KCDC Community Facilities Strategy (2017)**. A brief review of these facilities as part of this study indicates that **little has changed** in terms of the capacity and usage information present in that report. The report indicated that use, capacity and condition was mixed. **None** of these facilities operate as managed community centres.

Anecdotal feedback from some of the community organisations taking part in this needs assessment was that:

- School and church halls can be difficult to access – school activities are given priority and church halls can be busy at peak times
- Halls are often cold and uncomfortable (particularly for older residents)
- Halls spaces are often too large for activities and the large size of these spaces can impact negatively on group dynamics.

There are also **rooms** available for hire at a range of other locations across Kāpiti. This **includes** at:

- Paraparaumu Library – note that this room will no longer be available to the public from 29 February 2024
- The Paraparaumu Bridge Club – one room for hire and the entire space can also be booked
- The Women’s Centre
- Zeal
- The Loss and Grief Centre
- Coastlands
- Kāpiti Office Suites
- Coastlands Aquatic Centre
- Kāpiti Economic Development Association (KEDA)
- Blue Train Kāpiti
- Sports clubs
- House of Sound – meeting room
- Kāpiti Collective
- Kāpiti Coast Meeting Space

Feedback from some of the community organisations taking part in this needs assessment was that:

- Some of these spaces are cost-prohibitive
- It can be difficult to get bookings at convenient times
- Some room sizes are not fit for purpose
- Some rooms are uncomfortable – too hot, too noisy.

### 7.3 Ocean Road Community Centre



The Ocean Road Community Centre was formerly owned by the Kāpiti Senior Citizen's Association, the Kāpiti Parents' Association, the Rotary clubs of Paraparaumu and Kāpiti and the Lions Club of Kāpiti. In 2014 the Centre underwent renovations and a Trust comprising Trustees from the main user groups was formed to run the Centre. At this time, the name was changed from the Kāpiti Senior Citizen's Hall to the Ocean Road Community Centre.

This venue has **two rooms** for hire. The rates in the table are for ad hoc and non-community group hire. Community groups are charged \$40 + GST per hour for the Main Room and \$25 + GST per hour for the Meeting Room **if they become regular users**.

<b>Main Room</b>	Seating is available for 120 people	<b>\$50 + GST per hour</b> Full day (8 hours) \$400 + \$50 for each extra hour (+ GST) Evenings 5.30-10.30pm \$300 + GST Wifi and electronic equipment extra
<b>Meeting room</b>	Can hold up to 30 comfortably, depending on the seating arrangements	<b>\$30 + GST per hour</b> Full day (8 hours) \$240 + \$30 for each extra hour (+ GST) Evenings 5.30-10.30pm \$120 + GST Wifi and electronic equipment extra

Hirers of the rooms are varied and include the following groups, some of which previously hired space at **Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre**. Users of the Ocean Road Community Centre appear to be skewed towards older Kāpiti residents.

Rotary Lions Probus Combined Probus Rebus	Age Concern Balance Class Greypower Kings Church Senior Citizens Entertainment Afternoon Kāpiti Senior Singers Indoor Bowls Boccio Parent Centre Antenatal Classes	Women's Club Wine Club Herb Club Booking Reading Club Floral Art Club
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The Ocean Road Community Centre report that their calendar for 2024 is "*quite booked up*" but that they could accommodate additional groups depending on the day and time. They would like to encourage additional users including meditation groups, yoga/pilates/fitness groups and children's play groups. They would also like to accommodate chit-chat coffee drop-in groups.

While Ocean Road has a Centre Manager, the facility is run as a venue for hire. Anecdotal feedback was generally positive.

## 7.4 Kāpiti Impact Hub



The Kāpiti Impact Hub operates out of the former St Patrick’s School, which was purchased by the Kāpiti Impact Trust (a charitable organisation) on 2017. According to its website, the Kāpiti Impact Hub was established as a “community hub, a place that helps people thrive in LiFE ... Living in Freedom Everyday and ...we desire to see Kāpiti as a place where our community thrives in every area of LiFE”.

The Kāpiti Impact Hub has a number of permanent tenants:

- Kāpiti Impact Trust
- Kāpiti Impact Church
- Age Concern – previously at Coastlands
- Volunteer Kāpiti – previously at **Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre**
- New Beginnings
- Blind Low Vision – who lease space but don’t appear to be currently occupying that space on any regular basis
- Support of Change
- Hopeful Hearts
- Nurse Maude
- Wesley Community Action
- Kids Care/Kidz need Dadz.

There are **five spaces** for hire of varying sizes. Room rates depend on the size of the room, but there are not separate rates for community and commercial hirers. Room rates reduce, the longer the booking.

<b>Tui</b>	Space for up to 25 people in a workshop style with kitchenette, external access and adjacent bathrooms.	\$20 per hour
<b>Ignite Room</b>	Multipurpose space to cater for groups of up to 30 people.	\$20 per hour
<b>Kea</b>	For small meetings or training sessions (3-8 people)	\$11.50 per hour

<b>Kereru Room</b>	A cosy space for interviews, counselling or an office away from home	\$11.50 per hour
<b>Grace Hall</b>	Multipurpose venue with seating capacity up to 200 people with Cafe, bathrooms and audio- visual (including Live Stream) capability	\$45 per hour Audio-visual and other equipment hire is charged separately

Hirers of the rooms are wide and varied and have included the following groups, some of which previously hired space at **Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre**. This list includes a mix of one-off users and more regular users.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kāpiti Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services</li> <li>• Rail &amp; Maritime Transport Union</li> <li>• Kāpiti Impact Trust</li> <li>• L'Arche Kāpiti</li> <li>• Volunteer Kāpiti 2020 Trust</li> <li>• Hohepa Homes</li> <li>• Human Rights Commission</li> <li>• Ministry of Social Development</li> <li>• Kāpiti Gospel Choir</li> <li>• Parkinsons Support Group</li> <li>• Department of Internal Affairs</li> <li>• New Zealand Red Cross</li> <li>• People First</li> <li>• New Zealand School Trustees Association</li> <li>• Kāpiti Living Without Violence</li> <li>• Kāpiti Art Studio</li> <li>• Oranga Tamariki - Porirua</li> <li>• The Road Forward</li> <li>• Skylight Trust</li> <li>• Statistics NZ</li> <li>• AphasiaNZ</li> <li>• Zumba Gold with Anna</li> <li>• Villa Maria</li> <li>• Ness 7 Games</li> <li>• Nikau Foundation</li> <li>• Access Counselling &amp; Supervision</li> <li>• Kāpiti Mental Health</li> <li>• Age Concern Kāpiti Coast Inc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AIO Counselling</li> <li>• NZ Care</li> <li>• New Zealand Red Cross</li> <li>• Inland Revenue - Te Tari Taake</li> <li>• Kāpiti Coast District Council</li> <li>• Grandparents Raising Grandchildren</li> <li>• Allsorts Kāpiti</li> <li>• Ombudsman New Zealand</li> <li>• Aspire Dispute Resolution Aotearoa NZ Ltd</li> <li>• Life Pharmacy, Kāpiti Coast</li> <li>• Family Works</li> <li>• NZ Blood Service</li> <li>• Heart of Kāpiti Limited</li> <li>• Daily Mindset</li> <li>• Kāpiti Impact Trust</li> <li>• Challenge for Change</li> <li>• Citizens Advice Bureau Kāpiti</li> <li>• Electra</li> <li>• AA Driving School</li> <li>• Stroke Central Region Inc.</li> <li>• Sing &amp; Sign Wellington</li> <li>• Kāpiti Community Health Network c/o Tu Ora Compass</li> <li>• Oranga Tamariki-Ministry for Children</li> <li>• English Language Partners</li> <li>• Te Ātiawa ki Whakarongotai Charitable Trust - Manaaki Kāpiti</li> <li>• Family Works</li> <li>• Whirlwind</li> <li>• NZ Blood Service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Driven to Exel</li> <li>• Wellington Sexual Abuse HELP Foundation</li> <li>• Natural Healing Raumati</li> <li>• Blueprint</li> <li>• Faerie Glen Creations</li> <li>• Sue Hurst - mediation</li> <li>• Oranga Tamariki Clinical Service</li> <li>• Wesley Community Action</li> <li>• Community Law Wellington and Hutt Valley - Restorative Justice</li> <li>• Kāpiti Psychology LTD</li> <li>• Blind Low Vision NZ</li> <li>• Links First Aid Training (2008) Ltd</li> <li>• Manaaki Kāpiti</li> <li>• The National Party Ōtaki</li> <li>• Kāpiti Carers</li> <li>• NZ Blood Service</li> <li>• Mahuika Associates</li> <li>• Te Puna o Te Aroha</li> <li>• Presbyterian Support Central</li> <li>• Habit Rehabilitation Limited</li> <li>• Aboutkids homebased Ltd</li> <li>• Paraparaumu School</li> <li>• Wholistic Health Works</li> <li>• NZ first</li> <li>• NZEI Te Riu Roa - Kāpiti Branch</li> <li>• ETU</li> <li>• Incredible Years</li> <li>• It's in the Ballot Production</li> </ul>
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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jill Clarkson Therapy</li> <li>• KenaKena Playgroup</li> <li>• Girls Brigade Wellington/ Hutt Valley Wairarapa</li> <li>• Porirua Whanau Centre</li> <li>• Kidz need Dadz</li> <li>• Paraparaumu Beach National Party Branch</li> <li>• A Safe Kāpiti</li> <li>• National Heart Foundation - Wellington</li> <li>• Hora Te Pai Health Services</li> <li>• Restive Group</li> <li>• Sue Taylor Counselling</li> <li>• Te Whatu Ora Capital &amp; Coast</li> <li>• Workbridge</li> <li>• NZ Public Service Association</li> <li>• Bulgarian Society Horo Incorporated</li> <li>• Wellstop</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• KL Dispute resolution</li> <li>• Private</li> <li>• MOE</li> <li>• Lombard Law</li> <li>• Heart Foundation</li> <li>• WellStop</li> <li>• Mattingley</li> <li>• Nurse Maude</li> <li>• Emerge Aotearoa</li> <li>• Organic Wealth</li> <li>• Bhakti Yoga Women Trust</li> <li>• Work Smart</li> <li>• Atareira</li> <li>• Kāpiti Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service</li> <li>• Emerge Aotearoa</li> <li>• Infinite Ora</li> <li>• Aglow Kāpiti</li> <li>• Aphasia NZ Charitable Trust</li> <li>• Industry Training Solutions</li> <li>• Kāpiti Community Health Network c/o Tu Ora Compass</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Internal Affairs</li> <li>• Humming Bird Effect</li> <li>• Kāpiti Women's Centre</li> <li>• Oranga Tamariki New Plymouth</li> <li>• Kāpiti Bird Club</li> <li>• Ora Toa Mauriora</li> <li>• Oranga Tamariki - Kāpiti</li> <li>• NZ Blood Service</li> <li>• Kāpiti Driving School</li> <li>• Sophia Wight , Psychologist, Private Practice</li> <li>• Tu Ora Compass Health</li> <li>• Nurse Maude</li> <li>• L'Arche Kāpiti</li> <li>• Tautoko Options</li> <li>• Litmus Ltd</li> <li>• Work Ready</li> </ul>
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The venue appears to be well used. Across the four quarters of 2023, bookings ranged from 253 bookings to 386 bookings per quarter, across between 41 and 53 individual hirers (groups/organisations).

The Kāpiti Impact Hub report however that they **still have capacity** for more bookings – with weekends and evenings underutilised, and that Fridays and Mondays are not as booked as other days.

Kāpiti Impact Hub currently operates as a venue for hire and does not have a drop-in space for members of the community who may not be attending a particular activity there. Anecdotal feedback was generally positive.

## 7.5 Summary of key findings

There are a range of Council owned and non-Council owned community facilities across the Kāpiti area, all of which are currently operating as venues for hire but none are staffed as 'active' community centres

- There are nine Council owned facilities (mainly halls, including in Ōtaki) all of which are currently underutilised but are reported to have a number of issues including: a lack of, and the inability to be adapted for technology/digital connectiveness, internal configurations that are not flexible which limits the number of users (hirers) at any one time, as well as a limited remaining life (reported to be between 4 and 8 years for most – as at 2023)
- There are more than 20 non-Council owned community hall facilities, mainly schools and church facilities as well as a range of other meeting rooms (including at the Paraparaumu library, the Women’s Centre, the Aquatic Centre and at a range of other private venues - with mixed levels of reported capacity, mixed reported ‘anecdotal’ satisfaction levels and some affordability issues
- There are two facilities that operate in a *similar* manner (to some extent at least) to the way in which Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre **most recently** operated (as a venue for hire) – the Kāpiti Impact Hub and the Ocean Road Community Centre at Paraparaumu Beach. Current hirers of these facilities include previous hirers of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre. Both report that they have additional capacity but neither are staffed as active community centres

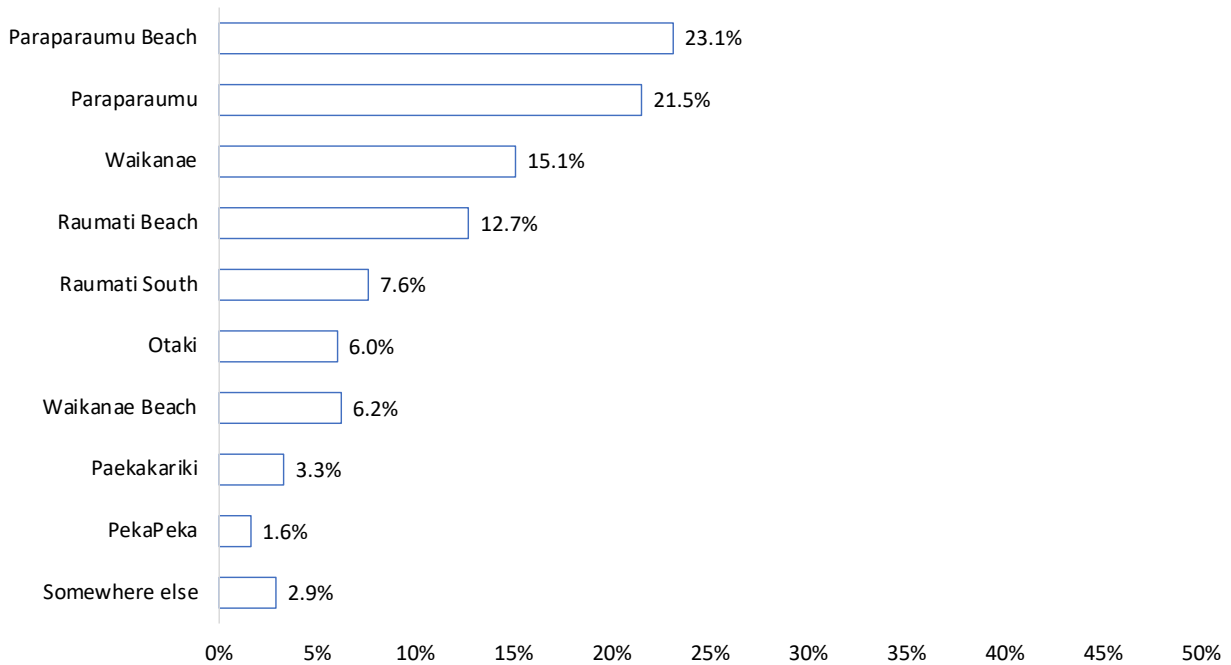
## 8: Kāpiti community feedback

This section presents the feedback from the community engagement which included a community survey and intercept and in-depth interviews with Kāpiti residents in Paraparaumu and Paraparaumu Beach, Raumati South and Raumati Beach, Waikanae and Waikanae Beach, Paekākāriki and PekaPeka. While Ōtaki was out of scope for this project, some Ōtaki residents did complete a survey (most of which had used Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre at some stage previously).

### 8.1 Community survey – who we heard from

#### 8.1.1 Usual place of residence

Survey participants were asked what their usual place of residence was.



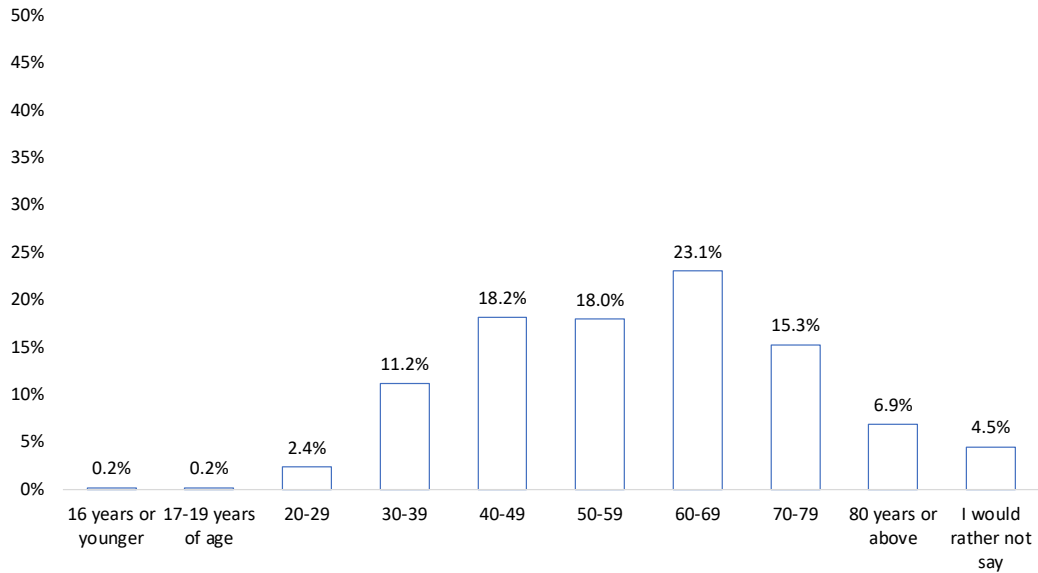
Base: 615

2.9% of participants said that lived ‘somewhere else’. The participants from **Ohau and Levin** had run an event at Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre. The participants from **Porirua and Pukerua Bay** were aware of the centre but had never attended anything there. The others (**Te Horo, Otaihanga, Wellington**) had **all attended** an event or programme there.

- Te Horo/Te Horo Beach (n=7) – **had all used Te Newhanga**
- Otaihanga (n=6) – **had all used Te Newhanga**
- Wellington (n=1) – **had used Te Newhanga**
- Porirua (n=1), Pukerua Bay (n=1), Levin (n=1), Ohau (n=1)

### 8.1.2 Age of participants

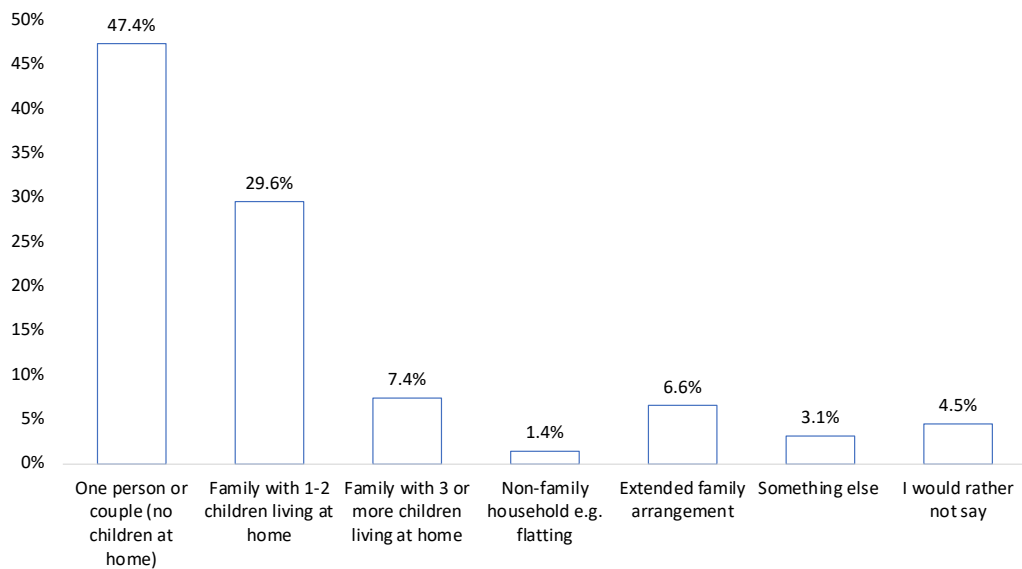
Most survey participants were aged **over 30 years of age**. Youth feedback was obtained in other ways – including via on-street intercept interviews and via the Kāpiti Youth Council.



Base: 490 (not everyone answered this question)

### 8.1.3 Household structure

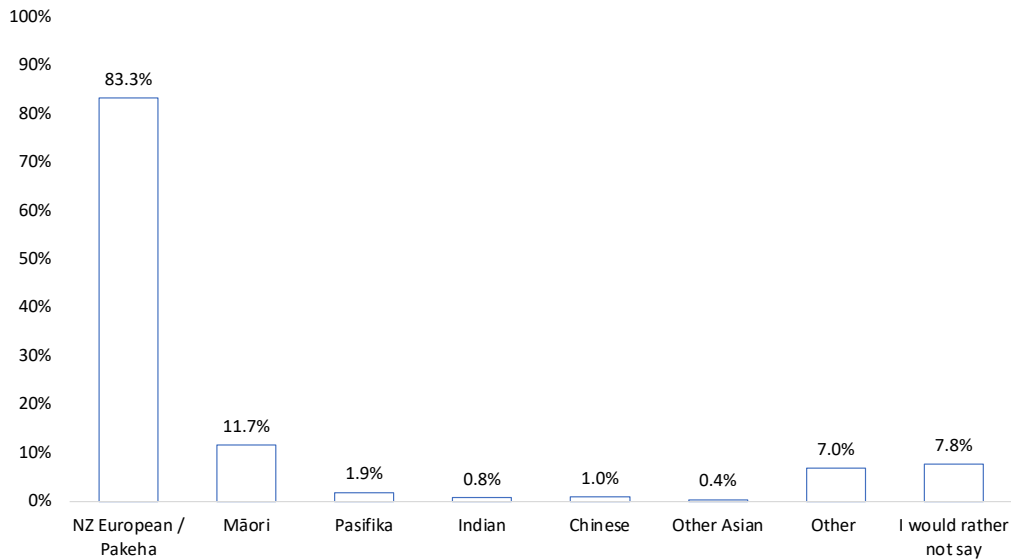
Just under half of participants (**47.4%**) were a single person or couple, with no children living at home. 43.6% were families with children at home, or extended family arrangements.



Base: 487 (not everyone answered this question)

### 8.1.4 Ethnicity

According to the Census 2018 data on ethnicity for Kāpiti (which includes Ōtaki), 87.7% identify as NZ European/Pakeha, 14.7% are Māori, 3% are Pasifika, and 4.6% are Asian.



Base: multi-response

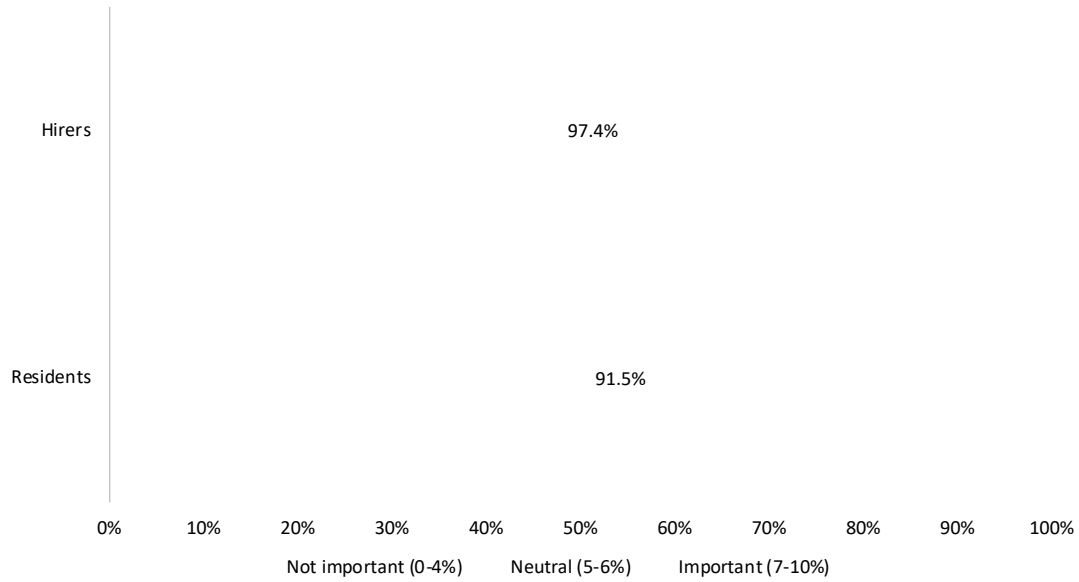
## 8.2 Community feedback

### 8.2.1 The importance of community facilities like Te Newhanga

Community survey participants were asked the extent to which they felt that community spaces such as Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre **were important**. The chart below has been separated into participants who had **hired** the community centre previously (organisations, groups, service deliverers) and **general members** of the community.

More than **90%** of all participants believe that community spaces like Te Newhanga are important (they gave a score of 7-10 out of 10 for this question). Note that **71.5%** gave a score of 9 or 10 out of 10, and **65%** gave a **score of 10 out of 10** for this question.

**Figure 9: The importance of community spaces for Kāpiti**



**Figure 10: The importance of community spaces for Kāpiti – Māori and non-Māori**

Māori are slightly more likely than non-Māori to say that community spaces like Te Newhanga are important.

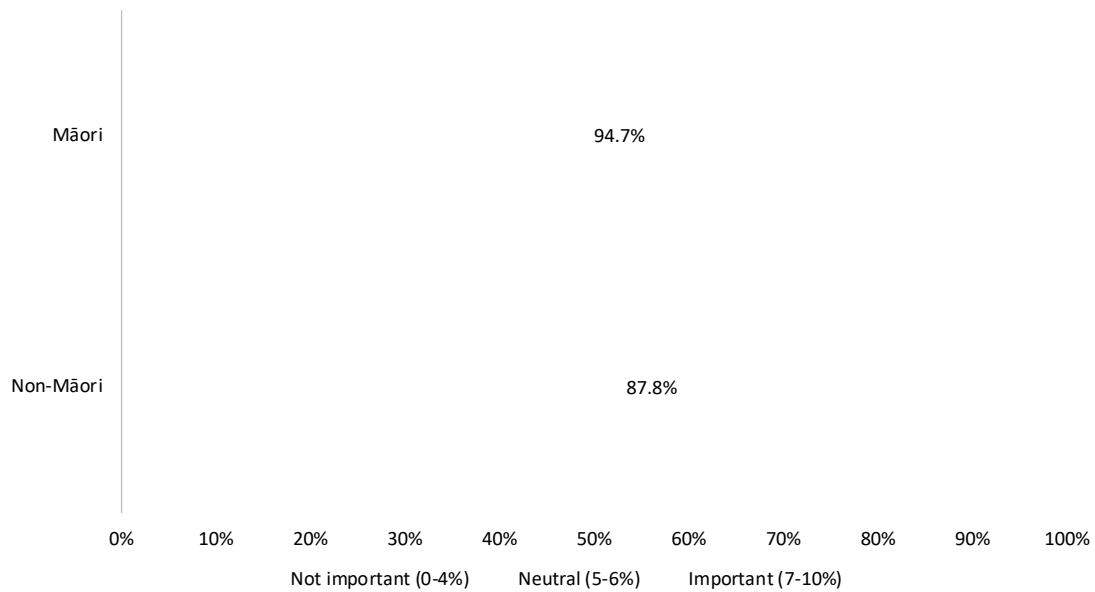
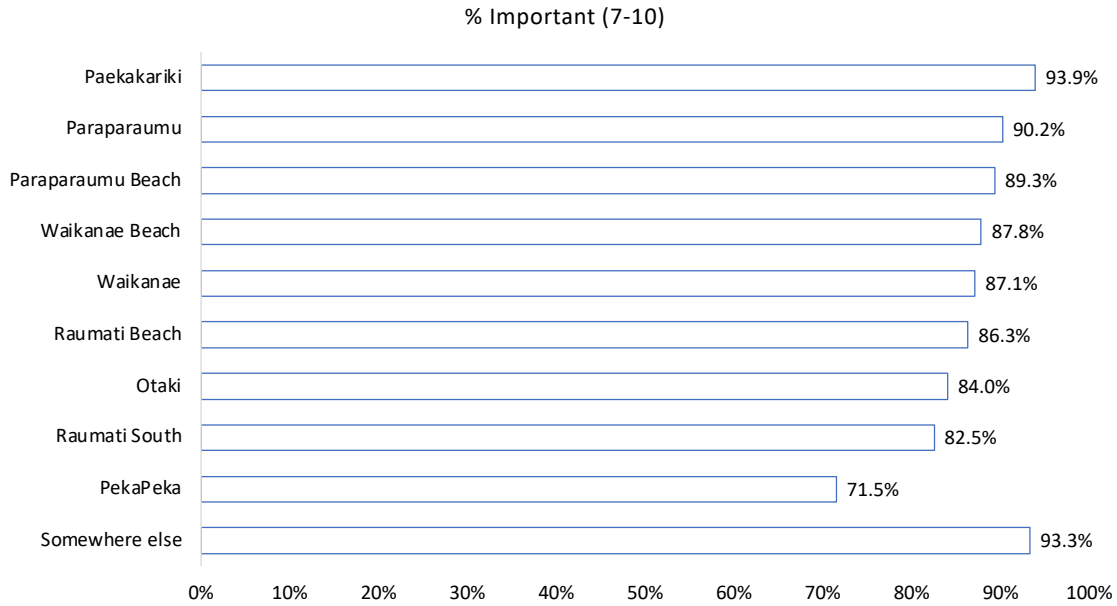


Chart 11: The importance of community spaces for Kāpiti – by area



### Why are community spaces important?



The **key themes** in terms of why community spaces like Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre are important were as follows:

- **Sense of belonging:** Community spaces help to create a sense of belonging and strengthen communities
- **Low cost/subsidised:** Community and social service groups need low/reasonable cost facilities – which means activities and services are accessible to a wide range of community members
- **Health and well-being:** Community spaces contribute to a healthy society/societal well-being
- **Diverse groups together:** Community spaces bring diverse groups of people together (who may not otherwise meet each other)
- **Safe spaces:** Community spaces are safe spaces for any member of the community/anyone is welcome
- **Central place/source of information:** Community spaces are places that members of the community know they can go to and find the information they need (and/or be referred to someone/an organisation who can help them).

### What the community told us – just a few of many examples:

“More emphasis should be placed on community and family, acts of service, to give is all a sense of belonging and pride in our community”

“I know from 20 years of being here that Kāpiti needs these places that are pop-in, not rigid, not dodgy but are places to come participate be involved meet nice everyday people be accepted in a non-threatening environment, and to be appreciated without too many rules and to be accepted and to be treated kindly and with respect there are many people young and old those who appear to be very comfortable and those who have it tough there needs to be rules but kind rules that are compassionate”

“It’s important for everyone in the community, no matter what their place in society to have somewhere to go if only for a cup of tea and a chat and to get information”

“Bringing culture, civic events like citizenships, community activities/meetings and our environment together into one space will add

“A community hub bonds people of all walks of life, essential in our multicultural society”

“Most groups require a meeting space where members can come together for their activities. It’s good to have a neutral space where everyone can feel comfortable. Good community buildings help build communities”

“In an increasingly difficult, financially hard time it is more than ever important to have community spaces”

“Having a strong community connection as an individual is empowering and strengthening as well as good for mental health”

“It is important for the community to have a space to socialise in, a centre or hub people know and can congregate in. Healthy society needs a place where we can gather and get to know each other and care for each other”



significantly to a better connected community, more knowledgeable of our history/past, bringing compassion through those learnings and giving locals a place to engage and participate in all that it offers. A place the community will be proud of, a place they want to bring visitors”

“Depending on the event it's an opportunity to bring our diverse community together to catch up with old friends, meet new ones and learn with and from one another”

“People are the heart and soul of a community. People need community centre's so they have a place to meet and connect with each other”

**2.9% of all residents, 1.9% of hirers** said that community spaces like Te Newhanga are **not important**. The reasons given here were that: there seems to be other spaces available for use, cost to the ratepayer and that they are simply not relevant ‘to me’. Comments provided here included:

“There are so many options available today”

“Because I like to minimise travel and I live in Waikanae”

“There are so many underutilised spaces provided by the council already”

“Can use other halls etc to attend meetings events etc.”

“If it has a clear purpose that’s not replicating something that already exists, that could potentially be valuable. We do already a range of public and private community spaces in Kāpiti”

“There are plenty of other facilities and I am not aware of people/activities existing premises could not serve”

“Ratepayer cost. There are enough other areas to use i.e. the new library in Waikanae is supposed to get community hub”

“Prefer the bush, the sea and natural resources”

“They are not well advertised”

### 8.2.2 The importance of community facilities like Te Newhanga – people who had never heard of, or had never used Te Newhanga

Among the Kāpiti residents taking part in this community survey, 16.3% had never heard of Te Newhanga. Of those that had (83.7%), 17.3% had never attended an event or activity there. This means that N=189 people who completed a survey had never heard of, or had never attended anything at Te Newhanga.

Looking at this group separately to the overall sample:

- **Three quarters (74.5%) gave a score of 7-10** out of 10 when asked if thought community spaces like Te Newhanga were important, and

- Just under half (**49.6%**) gave an importance score of 10 out of 10.

The reasons for giving a score of 7-10 among those who had had no prior relationship with Te Newhanga included:

#### People who never used Te Newhanga:

“They are essential venues as otherwise many community activities would not take place”

“Cost of living and affordability in this area at an all-time extreme”

“Anything that brings people together is a good thing”

“Connected communities are important, particularly for community members without support or networks”

“It is a place for various clubs groups to meet. It could be used as a emergency centre in the event of a disaster. It would be a community hub”

“Develops closer bonds between people and gives them activities to enrich their lives”

“Community Spaces allow more choice and more accessibility when it comes to event holding. Also, they provide a space where everyone in the community feels welcome and allows different groups and people to coexist, communicate, collaborate and create with one another. Also, derelict and empty buildings, especially community ones or council owned ones reflect negatively on a community. Look Good, Feel Good. Do Good, Be Good”

“Because the community needs a safe and welcoming common space to connect, collaborate, learn, a be supported when in need”

“In an increasingly difficult, financially hard time it is more than ever important to have community spaces”

“Connection, meeting others in the community, accessing informal supports for parents (Kāpiti is not good at this)

“Modern life means there are far fewer opportunities for people to come together and participate with others, especially if they don't have school age children or play sport. Not everyone wants to join a club or go to every community event on offer, but there should be a broad range of events offered in communal spaces so there is something for everyone whatever their interests and stage in life”

“Because there is a youth community centre for troubled or autistic youth-zeal. There's a woman's centre that usually you only go there if you know someone or have been a victim. There's not a space designed for all ages, all needs. There's little support for children who need help without diagnoses. There's not enough places for meeting type places. When we moved to Kapiti there was no community hub no place to go to for recommendations or support. We need a community hub”

“People utilise community centres to seek companionship - they may live alone; cannot afford to participate in other groups or lack transport to other groups”

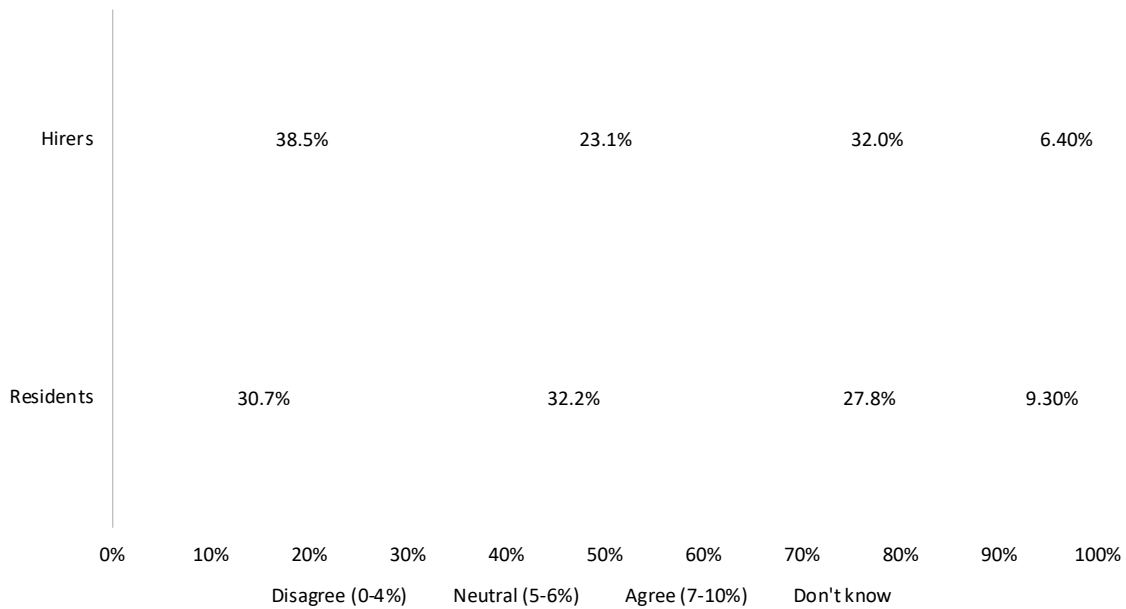
“Some people like to get involved in knowing about and attending community matters or other things that specifically interests them so a community needs a venue for these activities”

### 8.2.3 Is there a good range of community facilities in Kāpiti?

Participants were asked the extent to which they disagreed or agreed that there are a good range of community spaces in Kāpiti.

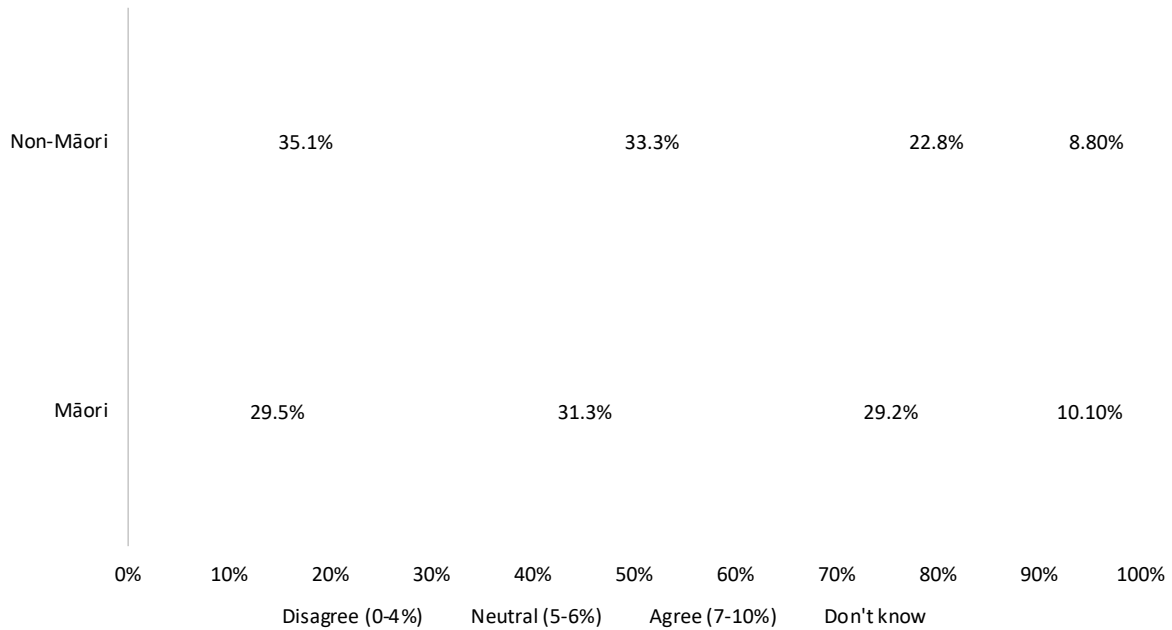
**Figure 12: Are there a good range of community spaces in Kāpiti – hirers and residents**

Approximately one-third of people disagreed that there were a good range of community spaces in Kāpiti.

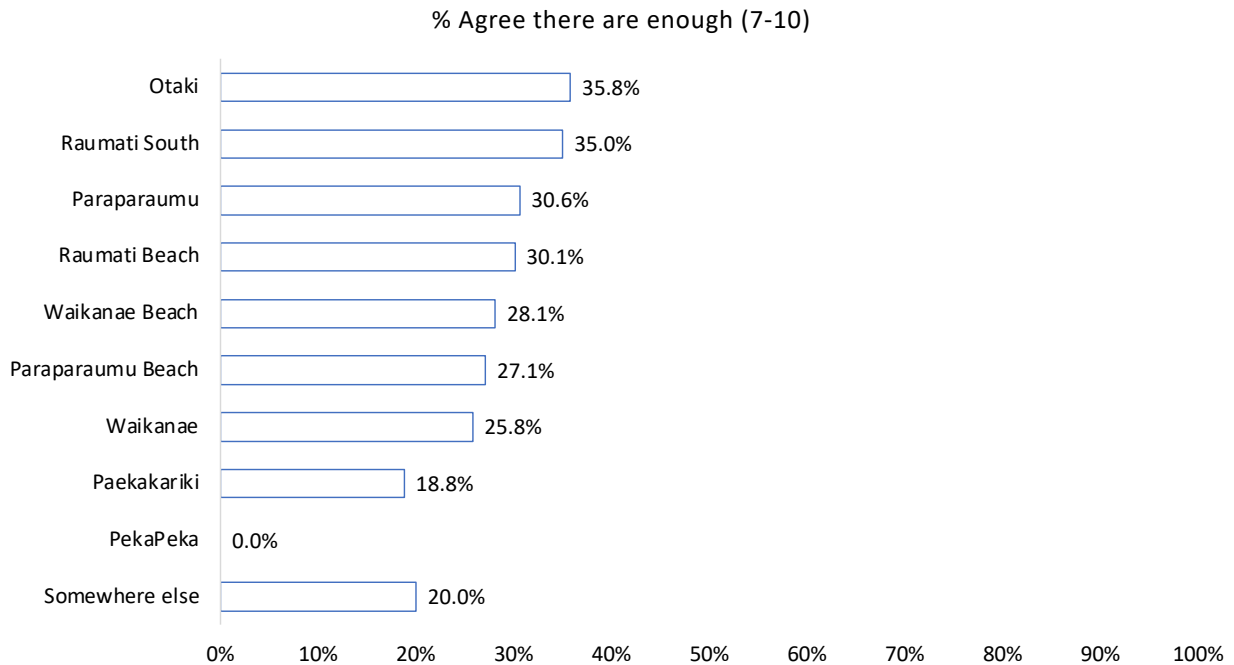


**Figure 13: Are there a good range of community facilities in Kāpiti – Māori and non- Māori**

Māori are slightly less likely to think that there are a good range of community facilities in Kāpiti.



**Figure 14: Are there a good range of community spaces in Kāpiti – by area**



**Why did the community disagree that there is a good range of community spaces in Kāpiti? (i.e. not enough) (scores of 1-4 out of 10) and what’s missing? Just a few examples of comments.**

**Key themes** here were around:

- Community spaces being spread out and hard to find
- Current community spaces not fit for purpose for a wide range of user types and user needs
- Current spaces are not always are disability-friendly
- There is no drop-in space
- Kāpiti has fewer intergenerational options than other places – particularly spaces for youth
- Less centralised options create barriers for people

“There is not enough for people who are less able to get to places”

“Because there is a shortage of community focused buildings that are central, with car parking and facilities”

“Not all facilities are usable by the disabled. We have found bias towards our community group in private facilities. This did not happen in the Te Newhanga community centre. Kāpiti is a growing area and we have found there are not enough places to hire that have the range of different sized

“We are missing a town hall or main community building that could host a variety of events”

“Limited spaces for playgroups and medium groups”

rooms available that the community centre provided”

“A community centre is needed in each community for young families young people and our older folk. A drop in place that is warm friendly and has interesting activities for all groups”

“Look at Upper Hutt, large facilities all over the city, family options, very inviting in comparison to Kāpiti”

“Unless you work in a particular area it is just so hard to find these venues. From my experience as a Health Social Worker I now have people driving all over the district looking for what they need. Then when they battle the traffic there are mobility issues for some to navigate. No parking for one”

“The area around Coastlands and the Council buildings is very central. Some existing services have moved further away from this area, so create more barriers for people to access services they need”

“There are a few meeting places, and some single use places. But there is no central community space that fulfils the multi purposes that the Community Centre did. It is much needed and greatly missed within the community”

“A lot of facilities have been closed down due to neglect and council inability to fix or repair issues in time. Work need to be done to increase the facilities before they go to ruin”

“Indoor facilities for wet days for children, I look at Porirua Council and some of their events they put on and wonder why we don't adult learning options, invaluable for all”

“I've spent years on and off looking for venues for things. Places here are either overpriced or underwhelming in their facilities offered or size”

:Exciting venues for us to love spending time in. Meet up and be a community”

“The community centre is missing! And there's just very few places for people to go as a matter of routine unless we were talking about commercial or natural attractions (which I'm not). There are even fewer reasons for people to visit Kāpiti and spend time and money here, which seems bizarre to me as it's such a beautiful area and the train journey up here is a destination in itself. I should acknowledge that I don't have a complete picture of what's happening in the region but I have the impression not much of it is council-led or supported”

“No community centre. No meeting centre for youth. Fragmented health services no central hub or community notices. Lacking central park or outdoor meeting place”

“There is not a lot for young people from the age of 10 upwards to do that doesn't cost a lot of money. Unfortunately it seems some of the common spaces for young people are becoming unsafe and the lack of freely accessible all weather sporting options out here is minimal. While there is Zeal and KYS, there are not a lot of activities for young people who don't want to engage with a specific organisation”

“Te Newhanga used to encompass a range of services in one place and also had spaces for a range of activity kitchen facilities. These services and spaces are now widely scattered”

“Zeal is wonderful but too small for the needs, the council can be a block to community self-help. I know of elderly who are lonely but have nowhere to connect with others”

“As the team coach in a residential home for teenagers in Oranga Tamariki care I strongly disagree. When trying to find ways for our youth the be out in the community and interacting with others unless they are enrolled in school (which is another story!) They aren't able to. If we had more on offer that gives purpose and a sense of belonging studies show it keeps them out of trouble and increases their quality of life. It's time to break the cycle and a good, active community center would be able to do this”

### Why did the community agree that there is a good range of community spaces in Kāpiti? (scores of 7-10 out of 10)

Note that there were a number of people who gave a score of 7-10 here but were actually in favour of another community space for Kāpiti. Reasons why people think **there is a good range** included: that current facilities are not well-used, that there are a lot of clubs and sports activities, that there are things to do if you look for them.

“I think we're pretty lucky, you could probably find nearly anything if you knew where to look. Missing perhaps things for 7-10year olds most things seem geared to younger, or older kids”

“I believe the Kāpiti Coast has a huge range of activities and places, clubs, groups for people to join”

There is a good variety of unused facilities.

“I have lived here all my life and have had loads of opportunities and support. I feel like the Kāpiti Coast is a community”

“There are lots of clubs, both sports & other. An independent place”

“There are lots of community events and groups across Kāpiti. It is a shame the council let this building and Waikanae library fall into disrepair”

“People that choose to be engaged can find plenty to do - the libraries, markets and fairs, numerous clubs, schools (when you are connected with your children). Parks, beaches, walkways are all great. There is enough motivation for people to start groups where needed. I lived in Raumati for 20 years, now living in Ōtaki where there isn't the same level of activity - however it is improving. Even the Community Board can be an entertaining night out !”

“So many things to do in Kāpiti for retired people if they can afford it”

“I feel the upgrade is essential as it is very different from the usual hall but it has to be an affordable rent. A room that holds 20 for a small meeting, a room for 50 and a suitable wedding type venue would cover our needs”

### 8.2.4 The location of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre

**Figure 15: The location of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre**

Participants were asked whether they thought the location of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre was the right one. 77.2% thought that it was the right location (78.9% Māori and 77% non-Māori).

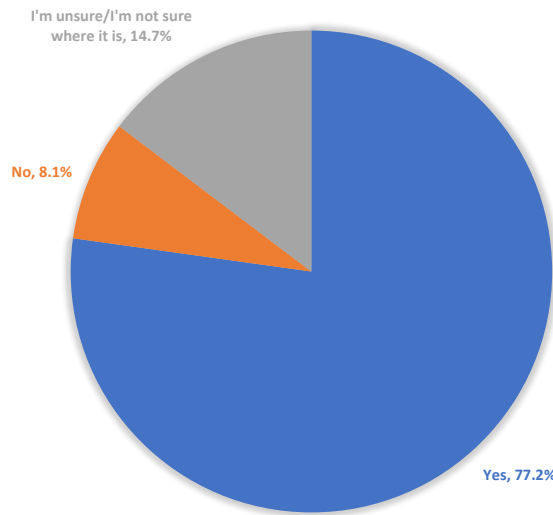
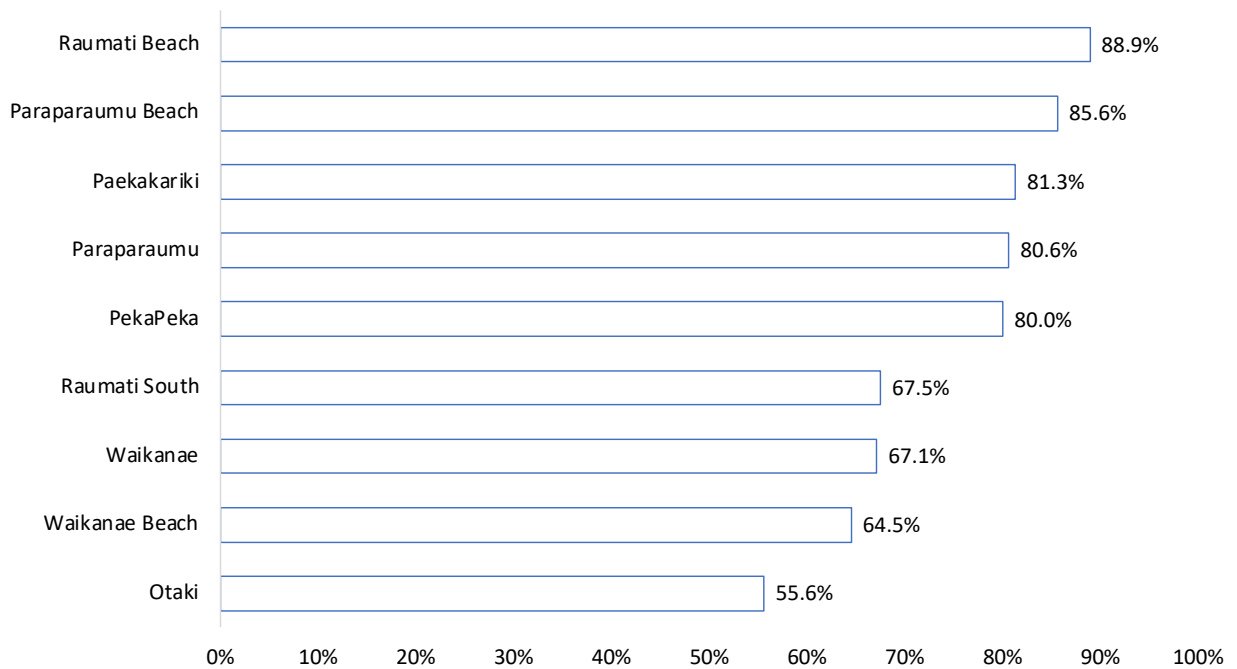


Figure 16: The location of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre – by area





## Why is it the right location?

The **key themes** in terms of why Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre is at the right location were:

- It is part of a hub of other facilities: It is nearby to other facilities such as the Paraparaumu Library, Council offices, the Aquatic Centre and the Women’s Centre
- It is near to Coastlands
- It is convenient
- It is close to public transport – so it is easily accessible for a wide range of Kāpiti residents
- The parking is generally good (although note that there were mixed views here)
- It makes sense.

## What the community told us – why is it the right location? (77.2%)

“Because it's near to public transport and the library. i.e. part of the hub of pool library council and shops”

“It's central to everything. Although the parking isn't great, it's close to Coastlands, bus and trains, the library, the aquatic centre. It's part of the heart of the town”

“It's in a good connected area, near council, pool and library and easy accessible by public transport”

“That area should become the town centre and it makes sense to link it with other service providers like the library and pool - this creates a civic precinct - just need to ensure that there is a large outdoor area close to these facilities so that major events can be held there. The school grounds could augment this area for marquees and/or parking major events that operate an outdoor area and use all the spaces at council building, pool meeting rooms, community centre conference rooms and ideally an indoor stadium around there somewhere. In an emergency its ideal as an assembly area or emergency recovery area”

“It was successful there before - can't think of a better place, however would like to see multiple sites -Waikanae and Ōtaki”

“It's central, close to all amenities especially for young mums/dads and the elderly.

“It could not be in a better spot. It is so central to the library, the shopping centre, the pool and there is good parking there most of the time. Why reinvent the wheel? It will cost a lot more to develop elsewhere, so why do it? Save ratepayers' money please Council and make the present site a place that we can be proud to attend once more”

“It's located in the centre of the Coast, close to coastlands, swimming pools, the library”

“Perfect location, next to library and women's centre, would not be so good to be located anywhere else!”

“Well it needs to be easily accessible by public and private transport. Being near other community facilities e.g. council offices library and swimming pool seems to make sense in creating a community hub where people can get a lot of services within a coherent area”

“Easy to get to with good public transport connections and plenty of parking”

“Because it is a very central location for those who rely on public transportation and there is plenty of room for expansion if needed”

“It's central, easy to find. Good parking”

Its surrounded by other local places of community interest”

“It's near public transport , so accessible from all parts of Kāpiti. Also near Coastlands which is a sort of unofficial 'hub' and near the library and pool- so already a 'central' space”

**8.1%** did not think it was the right location. The main reasons given for this were:

- A lack of parking in that location
- Access to the area/it's busy – Paraparaumu is already congested and will get more congested as the city grows
- Because it should be closer to Coastlands
- Because it should be on a direct public transport route
- It is not future proofed there in terms of available building space if community needs change and site needs to be expanded
- It needs more outdoor space/a kid's playground
- It should be part of a bigger arts and culture, tourism, events/recreation centre development and not a stand-alone community centre.

### What the community told us – why it isn't the right location? (8.1%)

“I think it needs to be a bit closer to Coastlands and public transport, and to Zeal too would be good. So potentially in the greenfields space opposite Pak n Save”

“Parking is now an issue - like it is all over Kāpiti”

“Hard to access and parking often difficult. Also no nice outdoor space available”

“Parking is a problem if you hold large events there, during the time it's closed the car parks are still very full outside the community centre.

Maybe Lindale? That used to be a bustling place but now sits quite empty. Would be good to look into how to revitalise that area. Or other areas with lots of carparks available”

“Too congested in the present location especially with how Paraparaumu is growing. It could be part of a central park type development near the development by The Wellington Company, Wharemauku Stream regeneration and Whale Song”

“That part of Paraparaumu has awful access and is no longer the actual centre of the population. A better location would be Kāpiti Road near the expressway or landing area”

The access to this area is painful and a better location for a bigger centre would be around the airport land. I realise this is privately owned land, yet the Council is great at tossing money at things, so why not a piece of land they can have forever. Owned and control by them. Airport land is very

“As a growing community I feel that this current location doesn't provide room to accommodate everyone's needs, plus the parking space isn't adequate. I would like to see a new community centre in the planned parkland space where the Whales art installation is going in”

“It would be great to be located in the Health Centre grounds. Everything in the one place and the buses go there”

centralised now for many within the coast due to the expressway”

“Be great if relocated and incorporated into an large event centre for the region”

“Location is hard to get to. Why not making it closer to train station”

“Poor parking. Co-develop at Kāpiti Impact Trust”

### What does the community want from a community space?

Survey participants were asked what they would like to see offered at a community facility or space in Kāpiti. There were **very many** suggestions made.

Key themes were around:

- Activities that could be run there such as: yoga, table tennis, crafting, educational classes – and many other types of activities and classes
- A community garden/outdoor space
- A range of different sized meeting spaces
- Subsidised rates for hirers
- Free activities for the community
- A hub for the community to connect (intergenerational, cross-cultural)
- A staffed reception area
- Room suitable for dance and exercise classes
- A place for parents and children (to play and spend time)
- Permanent space for community services
- A place to showcase the arts
- A place that is a source of information – about Kāpiti, about events, about social support.

Feedback from iwi was that any redeveloped community space needs to:

- Be a safe and welcoming space for all people
- Be a multi-functional space
- Be culturally fit for purpose and future proofed – “it has to be a welcoming and safe space that continues to grow in the future”
- Be a place with various spaces to cover a wide variety of kaupapa
- Incorporate a Maara kai
- Be a space that strongly consider rangitahi
- Be a health and well-being space – ideally a hauora and social services centre.

## What the community say they would like to see – just a few of many ideas!

“A free safe place where elderly can participate in activities and socialise with people. Isolation does not help their well-being. A free place where disable people can be involved in the community. A free place where families can learning parenting skills that will have a better outcome for children and community. Also needs a manager paid by KCDC, council needs to see that a healthy community is worth investing in”

“A large hall that is suitable for dance, keep-fit classes, Zumba etc. Similar size to the one the Community Centre had. Smaller spaces for more specialised classes. Lovely reception area and staffed by a great team who welcome and help you with your enquires”

“Art space for children and teenagers that is their own space and able to exhibit”

“Attractive surroundings different sized self-contained rooms – i.e., with a kitchen practical courses, such as budget cooking - so many young families do not have any idea about this”

“Indoor market - monthly for handcrafts sort of things”

“Multifaceted, a place for coworking and connection, practice rooms for musicians, jobs and careers advice - library is not cutting it in this space, technology enabled, space that works for disabled people’s, another cafe or restaurant, a building with more than one story, ideally you can see the island as well”

“We would like the centre back up and running as it was, so we can serve our community. The centre always worked well for our organisation. It was an excellent meeting place for people to come together. It is sadly missed”

“It was useful for our rummy kub group to rent a room for our monthly game . It was also a good venue for the WEA seminars. Similar possibilities

“A place for parents to take young children to play in bad weather i.e. an indoor playground. A place for teens to hang out”

“A place to meet and share a coffee ( or feel comfortable taking my own coffee and drinking there with a friend). Craft sessions , table tennis sessions etc. Speakers on interesting topics”

“A proper home for community based Services, e.g. CAB and JPs. An opportunity for local artists to regularly display their work. A place where local small businesses could receive Business Planning and Mentoring as a service provided by some of the many skilled planning and mentoring people on the Coast. This could be achieved with input from the Chamber of Commerce”

“Cuppa times for elderly to connect, young parent meetups, drop in and chat space , free exercise groups”

“Waitohi community hub provides amazing facilities and activities for the community . I suggest someone liaise with this hub re what they provide”

“Part of it should be available as affordable, accessible spaces for community organisations to hold meetings/events. In addition to use for the activity this brings people into the community centre who may then access for other activities. It also helps to have an onsite coordinator for at least some hours. I thought the centre worked well when Pat was there daily to answer queries, direct people to activities/organisations that would be helpful, and as a ... friendly place to be”

“I would like to see the community centre re open and return to the thriving centre it once was. Connected community staff worked there and occupied one of the rooms which brought the community and council in close proximity, where views staff may not have otherwise had access to were frequently heard. This is due to the safe, welcoming and space that was created by council staff. For the centre to be run at its optimal best it



should be offered again, i.e. affordable rooms of diverse sizes to cater for diverse needs”

“Local Community organisations networking. Like they used to once a month. General information face to face. A place to hire for workshops. Counselling for people in need”

is crucial that the front line staff are engaging, welcoming and understand diverse community ideas so they can create spaces for all. It does not matter what is run there, as if you get the right mix of people and they have positive experiences, more will come”

### 8.3 Summary of key findings

**There is strong community support for the redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre and at its current location**

- More than 90% of all community survey participants believe that community spaces like Te Newhanga are important (giving a score of 7-10 out of 10 for this question). **71.5% gave a score of 9 or 10** out of 10 and **65% gave a score of 10 out of 10** for this question
- There also support for community spaces like Te Newhanga among people who had **never used** this facility. Of the total survey sample, 189 people had either not heard of Te Newhanga or had never attended an event or activity there. Among this group, **74.5% gave an importance score of 7-10** out of 10 and just under half (49.5%) gave a score of 10 out of 10. This result is also reflected in interviews



	<p>conducted with members of the community who had never used Te Newhanga.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The social and community organisations, and other stakeholders taking part in this study support the redevelopment of Te Newhanga</li><li>• <b>77.2%</b> of survey participants and most of the social and community organisations taking part on this study believe that this is the right location for any redevelopment of Te Newhanga</li></ul>
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## 9: Social services and social needs

This section provides a summary of the organisations currently providing social services/meeting the social needs of the Kāpiti Community and identifies and discusses current gaps.

### 9.1 Overview – social needs and social organisations

The social needs identified as part of this project (in Kāpiti) are consistent with the social needs experienced across other regions/districts of New Zealand and include social needs around health (including mental health), housing, education, senior members of the community, youth, workforce related/unemployment, crime and family violence. The specific social needs identified by the social and other community organisations taking part in this study were to do with:

- A lack of recreational activities for youth
- Increasing mental health issues – especially for youth
- Youth truancy issues
- Employment issues – a lack of employment opportunities for youth, a lack of employment opportunities for older people seeking work
- Elderly isolation – particularly given an increasing older population in Kāpiti and also as a result of people retiring to the Coast who may not know people or have family members or other social networks nearby
- Housing shortages/having the right type of housing to meet community needs – including for an increasing elderly population
- Changes in the size of houses, including more high-density in the future – which may mean people may not have more spaces to be able to socialise and spend time out, away from their homes.

There are many social organisations operating in Kāpiti and/or travelling from Wellington who are working hard to address a wide range of social needs. Many of the social service organisations operate out of their own spaces (either owned or leased), although some smaller organisations do not have their own office space.

Some social service organisations rent venues across the district in order to deliver service to different communities (who may be unable to travel to a central location). The social service organisations who were operating out of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre, Kāpiti Foodbank and Volunteer Kāpiti have relocated to alternative locations. Kāpiti Foodbank is now based at 17 Hinemoa Street, Paraparaumu and Volunteer Kāpiti now leases space at the Kāpiti Impact Hub on Tongariro Street.

### 9.2 Feedback from social and community organisations/groups

Support for a community space such as Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre was high among the social and community organisations/groups taking part. Many said that they had previously used and enjoyed the space and would be likely to do so again. Key themes across many organisations were consistent and included the need for:

- Facilities that are accessible in terms of affordability (which means that programmes and activities can be accessible for the Kāpiti Community)
- Facilities that are located centrally, with easy access for the public including parking and access to public transport
- Locations that are well lit and safe during the day and night
- Facilities that are warm, comfortable, friendly and inviting
- Good kitchen facilities and other furniture.

### Social and community organisations – what they told us?

“There are not enough community spaces in Kāpiti, not enough with easy access, at a low cost, on public transport routes, and with spaces available. A lot of the halls are old, they are big spaces and [not fit for purpose] ... older people prefer carpet for exercise classes, less slippery. Furniture in some places can be terrible and not [right for older people], sloping backs and too heavy to stack”

“Te Newhanga was a great location but the parking was a nightmare”

“A community centre needs someone to be in charge, like Pat, she was always there”

“Ideal would be a team of two people who coordinate things, that it is a welcoming space, there are 2-3 decent rooms, but that they are adaptable, a cosy area where people can come and sit and have a chat and read”

“We need places to meet. We coordinate a range of Interest Groups run by members for members. Most groups are forced to meet in members’ homes because of a shortage of meeting spaces at a reasonable cost per hour in Kāpiti. Our need is for spaces that would hold maybe 20 people around 5-8 tables Funding and space for storage”

“We need Accessibility, inclusion, finding a regular place that’s familiar to our clients, acceptance, understanding. When the community Centre was open it was a valuable asset to our community, we often held larger events for a client, there were many workshops and seminars held there. as well as many people hired rooms for community events”

“We need space for our service (a building big enough to house us)”

“It’s hard to find suitable venues for our classes. I have not found an appropriate space for small family meetings in Paraparaumu. An appropriate spaced for groups without too much noise or distractions, this includes a presentation space. Currently we use the Coastlands Aquatic Centre meeting room but the noise from the pool area can be a distraction. Plus the kitchen facilities are very limited. The door to the Paraparaumu Library Meeting Room is very heavy for elderly clients, and slightly confusing!”

“Finding FREE venues to use for meetings and presentation of community based services”

“The closure impacted one of our Groups. No views on what should be done with the existing building . That's for the Council to decide but if it is pulled down the one hopes it would be replaced - but that will impact on our rates”



“Cheap room hire for community groups with storage. Workshops. Gardens (food), orchard, after school and school holiday activities (affordable). Common area. Would love to see a fit for purpose centre built, we used the centre on many occasions, from private workshops to fun days for our clients. We have missed this centre and would love to see it rebuilt or an alternative building erected. Many people in our community used it for private functions, it was close to amenities and well utilized”

“There aren't many options for running classes and group occasions that are available, accessible, affordable and suitable. It would be good to have a similar facility available for us. It's very important and would be a key to our work in Kāpiti succeeding. We have really missed having a focus and known venue for our services”

“Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre - The facility was really important to our organisation, we used it at least weekly. Keep a variety of meeting room sizes for hire plus the kitchen facility. An increase in all day parking spaces would be useful”

“Having the same regular staff at the reception area so they can develop relationships with our clients which makes them feel safe and that they belong. This is really important for people with dementia. One facility where all our Paraparamu activities can be based from- again provides familiarity. There are no small rooms for hire that I am aware of, which are appropriate for smaller family meetings. There are not many Dementia Friendly spaces. Large cold halls are not very inviting, the large size and echo can be very distressing for people with dementia. Providing information about services to everyone, accessibility, attractive community events for all ages/cultures/abilities”

“Rebuilt and able to be used by Community clubs, projects etc either FREE or at very low cost”

“The Community centre building as it exists has visually, physically and spiritually been very successful as a community space in Kāpiti life. To demolish is short-sighted and seems reactive to a public sense of the 'fashionable' and panic over 'mould and moisture' issues. Sustainability in both physical and social well-being terms would be to remediate and restore and confirm with designers like myself the highly positive aspects of the design of this space as community focus spaces that need to be retained, high-lighted and celebrated as uniquely successful local architecture ambient spaces”

“I am not sure about Te Newhanga - is it salvageable, if so, then I would support it, and use it. Having a community centre is very important. It would be great to have community spaces in all of the towns - Waikanae to Paekākāriki”

“2/3 of our members live in Waikanae so we see the need in Waikanae as more pressing than the need elsewhere:

“I love the location. It was so accessible for our clients and near train and bus stops and coastlands. the unusable community centre was the best building to utilize for many reasons, easy to find, great facilities”

“Yes. Central and accessible are very important. Parking needs to be plentiful. The only disadvantage to the Community Centre is the length of walk from local bus stops and as previously stated the amount of all day parking was an issue when holding all day seminars”

“The location of the original is perfect”

“Please continue to focus and support public open space urban design solutions thinking. Focusing on contemporary, appropriate and necessary public spaces between buildings as identity making and placemaking for a lively, vital Kāpiti future”

“They need to be accessible and have good parking. Variety of sizes of spaces is very important”

“Communicating the importance of community public space between buildings and urban design solutions to both public and council”

“When it first closed we were having a lot of queries from people that were running other programmes and workshops at the community centre to see if they could use our room, so we did get a few from that”

“We do need a community space, absolutely ... we’ve got a beautiful [safe space] for our women and children, but I’m well aware that the other half of the population are men and they don’t have a space like this”

“Once upon a time the community centre was a hub, it was a space where people could just go and be ... a place of belonging, so whoever walks into that space they can feel like this is my space as well, I belong here ... for our children, our women, our men, a place of belonging”

“My vision for a community centre is that it needs to go back to being a hub ... I would like to see a number of different charities in there, almost like an HQ where they can talk to each other and connect with each other. There are a lot of charities and NGOs in the region but they are not necessarily connected efficiently”

### 9.3 Social needs – current gaps

The most significant gap identified by the social and community organisations taking part in this study were to do with a lack of financial resources/funding. There was however consistency across these organisations in terms of there being a lack of a central hub, at a central and accessible location.

The key specific gaps identified were:

- Difficulties in finding **low cost** space to **rent/lease** on a permanent basis (as a base/office) – either full-time or part-time and including the ability to utilise hot desks as required
- Difficulties in finding **low cost** space **to hire** as required for workshops/meetings/activities/training etc.
- Difficulties in finding **consistent locations** to deliver workshops/activities out of – which can create challenges for attendees particularly in terms of not having one consistent venue at which to attend events/programmes/activities (i.e. as part of a course/training/support)

- A **lack of networking** opportunities across community and social service organisations – including the ability to share resources, ideas etc.
- A **lack of visibility** in the community.

“I would probably argue that going forward, Council has a responsibility to provide these facilities within the local community. When Council took over running the community centre that implementation and vision that Tania Parata and her team had was exactly what was needed, they turned it into much more of a welcoming community space ... they created a community hub kind of feel”

“I do think sharing resources would be good and I can imagine a community hub that had a mixture of offices ... where you could have a desk, we don’t require a lot of space ... just for some of the week”

Some organisations provided additional feedback (specific to their organisations and/or more detail about their experiences at Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre and/or social service gaps) which is presented separately below. Feedback from other organisations is reflected in the discussion above.

#### Kāpiti Women’s Centre - 7 Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu

The Kāpiti Women’s Centre operates in their **own space**, with the core purpose of providing a “safe space for women to come and be”. The Kāpiti Women’s Centre also has the contract for Women’s Refuge for the Kāpiti District. When the Women’s Centre is busy they can have up to 80 women (and children – counted in this) visiting each day – this includes for any reason (counselling, drop-ins, programmes etc.). They are open Monday to Friday from 9am-3pm (and from 9am-12pm during the school holidays). In addition to programmes and other activities, they operate on a **“drop-in” system** – any women (of any age) can come in and meet with someone (without an appointment) to discuss any needs or issues they may be having, or alternatively they can just drop in, have a cup of tea or coffee and just spend time there. They also have a small library and a clothing cupboard.

They offer free counselling, advice and support for women and also offer a range of programmes including: self-development (e.g. yoga, mindfulness), Zumba, Chi Cong, art courses etc. The courses are well subscribed and (at the time of this interview, December 2023), all of the term one courses had already sold out. Courses are subsidised e.g. \$15 total for six yoga classes, \$15 + \$20 materials for art classes etc. They offer around 10 programmes each term – classes have up to 12 participants. All programmes are run on-site – they **do not have any requirement** (at this stage at least) for additional space) but have used other venues - Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre (or overflow meetings/interviews) and the Kāpiti Impact Hub (for a larger event). Programmes are run during the day – they tried evenings but uptake was low overall and given that a staff member was required to be on-site for these, evening programmes were not considered feasible.

All programmes are run in their “meeting room”, which can also be hired by members of the public, community and business organisations on weekday evening and on weekends. The cost (for a block booking of any length) for community groups is \$25 + GST, the cost for businesses is \$60 + GST. This space is available to both men and women after hours. They have two regular weekend bookings – Quakers on a Sunday and Lava Aotearoa on a Saturday. Other uses include Soroptomist International Kāpiti Coast and private providers of e.g. mindfulness workshops. Their meeting room has some capacity for other users.

The Kāpiti Women's Centre provide a wide range of support to the women of Kāpiti, but have identified the following as **gaps**:

1. **Education programmes about family violence** – where women can meet as a group and support each other (at present women meet with a counsellor or support person on an individual basis)
2. **A Dress for Success Programme** – the Kāpiti Women's Centre do not have enough space to store clothing items and so women need to travel to Wellington to access this service. They believe space for storage and display at e.g. a newly development Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre, would be of value
3. **Self-defence classes** for women.

### Citizens Advice Bureau - Level 1, Coastlands, Paraparaumu

CAB “help people to understand their rights and obligations, and give people the support they need to take action”. Their biggest issue is funding and the **cost of renting office space**. They operate 5 days a week from 10am-3pm and are staffed by volunteers across two daily shifts (there are 30-40 volunteers in Paraparaumu). Their clients are a mix of (mainly) in-bound calls and emails (national), but they also get drop-ins (local). Their location at Coastlands is good because of the parking, and because Greypower and Kāpiti Budgeting Services are on the same level (and there is some cross-over/synergies).

Physical drop-in queries can cover a wide range of issues including: employment issues, family issues, trees, neighbours etc. They used to have a JP service but this now operates out of the Paraparaumu Library. Community Law ..

Prior to its closure, CAB had been in discussions with Council about re-locating to Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre. The benefits of this would be that they would be in a more central, visible location. However they would have required the cost of renting space there to be **heavily subsidised**. They would also have other **quite specific requirements** including the need for a separate lockable space (no sharing with other organisations because of equipment on site/security issues), a large enough space for two work desks and other electronic equipment, a separate space for private meetings and access to kitchen facilities (shared is ok). CAB looked at renting space at the Kāpiti Impact Hub but felt it didn't quite meet their needs – limited parking and a lack of public foot traffic in the area. Their walk-in clients are skewed slightly older and may have limited access to digital channels. They see themselves meeting needs of people who may be “digitally excluded”.

There are **no gaps** in service provision at present but a lack of funding (and the cost of renting space) presents a **future risk**. Their ideal scenario would be direct funding and/or subsidised accommodation (possibly at a redeveloped community space, and provided it met key criteria).

### Age Concern Kāpiti Coast - Kāpiti Impact Hub, 6 Tongariro Street, Paraparaumu

This is a smaller Age Concern office as they do not cover issues related to elder abuse (all calls in this respect are referred to Wesley who hold the contract for Kāpiti). Age Concern are “like an information centre for all things elderly in Kāpiti”/acting as a referral service. They receive 40-50 phone enquiries each week. They lease space at the Kāpiti Impact Hub (and were previously based at Coastlands, for 22 years). At the KIH they still do get **some people** coming in their office, but are **less likely** to get people just popping in for a chat. The

support a wide range of people (including younger people who may need help with older relatives). They encourage peer-led activities (but also support these). A number of the activities they offer need to be run in different locations across Kāpiti because of the difficulties older people have in travelling to a central location. They rent spaces in different locations (Waikanae, Ōtaki) as required – and report having no major difficulty finding places. They also use the Ocean Road Community Centre e.g. when they are speaking at other group's events (Probus, Rebus). They have used Te Newhanga for a Christmas party, but not on any regular basis. The biggest challenge they face as an organisation is the wide area they need to cover, and funding. They report that they are currently comfortable operating out of the KIH.

They offer a wide range of services for Kāpiti seniors including:

- A home visiting service (there are 62 weekly visits, approximately 70% are women) – some visits are one hour, some are 2-3 hours. Sometimes it's a cup of tea, sometimes they are taken out to e.g. movies, but other are completely housebound
- A walking service (a one hour walk, once a week for older residents who may need to feel more confident or need companionship). There are 32 volunteers assisting with this service
- Staying Safe Driving Refresher courses
- A monthly social group – Healthy Aging Together (HAT) – run at the KIH (was previously run at the Paraparaumu Library but the cost became prohibitive). Attendees are charged \$5 (members) and \$8 (non-members). Fewer people are attending now (since COVID lockdowns)
- Exercise classes – run at the KIH
- Monthly seminars e.g. covering bank scams, fraud, EPA, making a will etc. – run in different locations across Kāpiti. Over a 6 month period they may run up to 17 workshops. Turnout averages between 14-20 people
- Advanced Care Planning

The **biggest issues or gaps** they see impacting older Kāpiti residents are:

- (1) Social isolation and loneliness (considered to be significant), and
- (2) Financial issues (a lot of older residents are struggling financially)
- (3) Another issue impacting older people is the accessibility of community spaces – they need to be central and on public transport routes, and have good parking.

Other gaps (wider) are the lack of a hospital. It was also emphasised that housing is a major issue, with a three year waiting list for social housing. Mary's Guest House operates next door to the Kāpiti Impact Hub and while it offers a good service and meets the needs of some people, it is not for everyone in need (e.g. residents must be single, have no pets, have no children). Other social housing options are limited.

## Dementia Wellington

Dementia Wellington are an affiliate of Dementia New Zealand and also operate one branch in Kāpiti. They **used to use desk space at Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre as well as run all of their programmes and courses there**. They are a charity and provide support, information, education and advocacy service. All of their programmes and courses are provided free of charge and include (in Kāpiti):

- Supporter groups – for friends and family of people with dementia
- Peer support groups – for people with early stage dementia
- Various education programmes (12-25 people per session) including:

- Understanding mid-stages of dementia, 2 x 4.5-5 hour sessions over 2 days
- Seminars (“Dementia 101”), 90 minute sessions over 6 weeks
- Living Well with Cognitive Decline (for people newly diagnosed), 2 day courses over 2 weeks
- Navigating Dementia (for families and the general public), 90 mins, 3-4 times each year.

When Te Newhanga closed they spend some time looking for an alternative location, none of which were/have been entirely suitable:

- They currently use the meeting room at the aquatic centre, however the room is close to the spa pool which can be noisy and there is a glass wall in the meeting room which means they can see people walking past. This is not an ideal situation when running programmes for people with dementia – there are too many distractions. The kitchen facilities are also not well equipped (lack of plates, knives etc.)
- Prior to the aquatic centre they were used the Grief and Loss Centres but the room was too hot and they were unable to open the door because it is on a main road and too noisy
- They looked at the Ocean Road Community Centre (the main room was too large for their needs and the meeting room hadn’t yet opened), and the Kāpiti Impact Hub (which was too expensive for them, did not have a room that was the right size for their needs and would have been difficult for their programme participants to get to)
- Church halls can be cold and uninviting, and too large

The main impact of not having Te Newhanga available is that the courses are less effective because of the number of distractions. If Te Newhanga was redeveloped, they would go back there – to run all of their programmes and to use it as a base/hot desk for their local coordinator. Another advantage would be being able to store all of their material there rather than having to “lug” it around.

“The community centre was perfect, really good, because the toilets were visible from the rooms which was really important, all the reception people knew our people and just directed them, it was a nice meeting area, so supporters could just sit and wait until their person with dementia had finished. There was a drop off place so that they knew that they went into the centre ... having someone there to problem-solve if you were running a group was also good if something wasn’t working”.

The **biggest issues or gaps** are:

- (1) Having access to a suitable venue for the programmes and courses they run for people with dementia (the space needs to be ‘right’) and their supporters
- (2) Having access to hot desk space at the same venue, and storage of the materials they need in order run their programmes

An ideal space would include: a boardroom size room with a boardroom-style table, a larger room which enables break-out groups, smaller meeting rooms, an open and welcoming reception area, good indoor outdoor flow, a smart TV, a smart whiteboard, a room with a hard floor (for activities such as art therapy).

### Kāpiti Kindness Trust/Whirlwind

These are two separate charities which previously had the same key person involved. The Kāpiti Kindness Trust is focused on using kindness as a mechanism for creating greater resilience in the community. The idea is that residents would contribute \$2 per month to a fund that would be used to (1) celebrate kindness (a gift to a member of the community), (2) kindness injections (helping people out who may be in need) and (3)

projects e.g. a scholarship for a student who had shown kindness. The Kāpiti Kindness Trust do not have a physical space but would benefit for a hot desk option at a central community facility such as Te Newhanga. This would mean they would be more visible in the Kāpiti community and could speak with the range of people who may be using the centre.

Whirlwind is a men's mental health charity who used to hire a room (often the large room) at Te Newhanga. They used to meet once a month where men could come together for kai and informal connections. They said that they thought the venue was fantastic and were sad when it closed. They now run these meetings at the Kāpiti Impact Hub. They also explore the Ocean Road Community Centre but (they think) could not get regular bookings at the time they needed them.

"For Whirlwind it was a really, really good location because it was central, it was well-administered, cost-effective and the location felt safe ... when you talk about mental health, people get very comfortable with routine and familiarity and when we had to change we definitely lost a few guys along the way"

## 9.4 The needs of specific segments

### 9.4.1 People with disabilities

In terms of any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre, the Kāpiti Disability Advisory Group provided the following feedback. Many members of this group had attended activities and/or meetings at Te Newhanga – including for their own Advisory Group meetings (once every 6 weeks) – which are now held in Council chambers.

Activities attended there included: a vision-impaired support group (now held at the Paraparaumu library but reported to not meet their requirements and to be more expensive), large blind and low vision events, use of hot desks, popping in for coffee/chats, Christmas parties, parenting coffee groups for parents of disabled children. These parenting groups are now held at cafes which are not considered to be "safe spaces" and to impact negatively on "connections between people". Some activities are also being held at the Kāpiti Impact Hub. The Advisory Group reported that this is not an ideal space for people with disabilities because of the difficulty they have getting there/that there is no public transport.

#### Positives:

- Te Newhanga manager (Pat) – *"if there was an issue or if they were lonely, Pat would make them a cup of tea and sit down on a couch with them"*
- Close to bus routes – *"so for most people, it's completely accessible"*
- Affordable room rates

#### Some issues with Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre:

- Internal accessibility issues – they were able to get a wheelchair, pram or a mobility scooter into the venue, but manoeuvring these around once inside could be difficult, more difficult for smaller rooms
- The move from a managed community centre to a 'business-model/venue for hire'

### What would they like to see in any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre:

Some suggestions were more general, others were more disability focused.

- Wide doors – not standard width
- A sunny and bright space
- Good lighting with the ability to dim it down for people who may be neuro-diverse
- Accessible bathrooms, including a shower
- Covered waiting area outside (for people waiting to be picked up)
- Good quality technology, including hearing loops
- Adequate heating
- A well maintained outdoor areas – with wheelchair access (via any outside opening doors)
- Some adjustable height tables – different wheelchairs can have difficulty fitting sometimes
- Lockable storage space

#### 9.4.2 Older residents of Kāpiti

Kāpiti has a larger population of older residents compared other parts of New Zealand. There is a general view among relevant social service organisations that there are enough activities for older, able bodied Kāpiti seniors. As described above Age Concern offer a wide range of activities for older residents and also offer services to assist with the social isolation of older residents who may be housebound or have little social contact (and there is strong agreement that Age Concern do an excellent job). The Ocean Road Community Centre also appears to be skewed towards activities for older residents.

There is also a view that social isolation will continue to negatively impact older Kāpiti residents – and that access to age-relevant (as well as intergeneration) activities will continue to be important.

Despite a range of services and activities for older Kāpiti residents, there was strong support for a welcoming, safe and friendly community space among Kāpiti seniors. Examples of comments include:

“Because having a place for people off all ages to be able to call in have another space in the community, to learn new skills can springboard new opportunities for people and have an asset like a community garden, get some exercise, learn about nutrition get healthier in mind and spirit”

“There needs to be somewhere everyone feels they feel safe in/belong”

“Many services are online and people do not get face to face connections anymore which research has confirmed is important for community and personal mental wellbeing. People need neutral places to connect”

“It should be the central point of the community where folk can go for help and support, and a gathering place for those living alone and lonely folk as well as for young mums (and dads) to be able to get together and share their experiences”

“A community hub bonds people of all walks of life, essential in our multicultural society”



“A place of identity and activities especially for our elderly residents”

“Must encourage us oldies to keep going!!!”

“Few socializing opportunities in our small town”

“People are isolated in their homes. Need a friendly area to rest and mingle”

“I believe we can do more especially for groups like CAB who have to pay commercial rates for accommodation. Also other Service Groups like the various Lions groups who only exist to Serve the Community are unfairly burdened with having to pay for accommodation. Perhaps the time is right for KCDC to actually undertake a full review of how Community Service organizations like Lions, Foodbank and CAB should be better supported with access to community assets”

“There is a seniors hall in Ocean Road, recently renovated, but otherwise not much. And it would be good to have something more central as well, near the library and Council buildings”

### 9.4.3 Kāpiti Youth

The consistent view among Kāpiti youth taking part in this study, as well as the general community and relevant community and social organisations is that there is a gap when it comes to youth focused events and activities. Young people report that they need to travel outside of the Kāpiti if they want to take part in recreational activities such as 10 pin bowling (this closed in Kāpiti), go-karting, rock climbing, paint ball, ice-skating and so forth.

There was a general view that (despite a strategic goal of community facilities being intergenerational community spaces) a community centre **may not** meet the needs of youth unless there were specific youth-oriented activities there. Most youth taking part in this study said they would be unlikely to use a community centre simply as a drop-in/hang out space.

Paraparaumu already has a youth-focused hang out space in the form of Zeal, which is a dedicated youth centre including with gig space, a rehearsal room and a digital design lab and more. From Tuesday to Friday, 3.30-5.30pm the space is available for youth to simply hang out at. The Kāpiti Youth Council report that approximately 25-30 youth take up this opportunity.

Zeal also runs a range of learning opportunities and programmes for youth including:

- Live sound engineering
- Barista courses
- Dance lessons (hip hop etc.)
- Photography.

## 9.5 Summary of key findings

**There are a wide range of social needs impacting the Kāpiti community, most of which are consistent with other towns and cities across New Zealand. In terms of social needs gaps, the most relevant to any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Centre are that:**

- There is no community space in Kāpiti that operates as a 'managed' community centre where members of the community can spend time (unless they are participating in an organised programme or activity)
- Social and community organisations report difficulties in finding appropriate low cost space to rent/lease on a permanent basis (as a base/office) – either full-time or part-time
- Some also report difficulties in finding appropriate low cost space to hire as required for workshops/meetings/activities/training etc. (note that appropriate includes a convenient, central and accessible location – with a vibrant and welcoming atmosphere)
- Some report difficulties in finding consistent locations to deliver workshops/activities out of – which can create challenges for attendees in terms not having one consistent venue at which to attend events/programmes/activities (i.e. as part of a course/training/support) – although we note that this may not always be possible even at a redeveloped Te Newhanga
- There is a reported lack of networking opportunities across community and social service organisations – including the ability to share resources, ideas etc.
- Social and community organisations report that they lack visibility in the community (and suggest that a redeveloped Te Newhanga presents an opportunity to be a central source of information for the members of the community they serve i.e. by ensuring resources are in place)

## 10: Other considerations

This section summarises a range of other suggestions, initiatives and potential activities/developments that were discussed as part of the needs assessment engagement feedback.

### The feasibility study for a possible indoor recreation centre

The outcome of this feasibility study may need to be taken into consideration – particularly in terms of how (should it go ahead) it may work a part of the wider precinct in which Te Newhanga would be part of, and in terms of any proposed community space/meeting rooms proposed as part of this recreation centre. One of the locations being looked at is opposite the Coastlands Aquatic Centre and as such it has been suggested that a community hub could be included as part of this development. The first draft of the potential design includes courts and meeting rooms (at the time of this interview these were likely to be 1 x 100 sq metres, 1 x 40 sq m, and a possible mezzanine floor – all of which would be available for community use. It would appear that an indoor recreation centre may deliver more in terms meeting youth needs than a stand-alone community centre might. **Note however** that a community centre would likely meet other needs including the needs of Kāpiti residents of other ages, and social service and community organisation (as outlined in this report). There was some feedback captured as part of this needs assessment regarding the need for an indoor recreation space, for example:

“The Paraparaumu community needs a recreation centre combining a community centre as part of the venue. A multi-use venue is of far better practicality to our area than a stand-alone building to have meetings in and/or small social groups to meet. Please understand that the defunct Community Centre was financially fundraised for by the community to be constructed and placed on Council land. Once constructed the Council took over the management of this building which has not been very well done, hence the building having to be closed up. Visit the Walter Nash Centre in Taita, Lower Hutt, and see what our area is needing, a multi-sport and community centre that can be enjoyed by lots of groups, not just a building with rooms in it”

### The operating model of any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre

Consideration needs to be given to the operating model for any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre ensure that Te Newhanga doesn't become just another venue for hire (which is not something the community have said they want).

The community vision for any redeveloped community space is more around a managed community centre with the ability to drop-in and spend time at (other than if attending meetings or other scheduled activities). There is also strong support among community organisations for a space that incorporates social services (at least to some extent). Important to consider here is what the best fit would be between social services, community activities and a community space – it is unlikely that this space can deliver everything to everyone

Consideration needs to be given to the best way to optimise the spread of needs, and that can deliver based on complementarities across user groups, now, and into the future.

This will have implications in terms of cost, and the layout and design of the centre (of which there is also likely to be restrictions and the need for trade-offs and compromise)

### The potential development of the land behind Te Newhanga by the Wellington Company

Consideration should be given to any intended 'community space' plans/development as part of the Wellington Company's proposed housing development – and how this might work and/or be incorporated alongside any development of Te Newhanga.

### The wider role of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre – its design, purpose and on-going iwi engagement

Consideration needs to be given to the wider role of any redeveloped Te Newhanga in terms of its role as a central source of information for the community, a space that might be able to incorporate/showcase local arts/culture – as well as a future proofed and vibrant community space. There was support among members of the community and iwi for a space that enabled the showcasing of local culture and history (and that this should be incorporated in to the wider design of the space). One member of the Kāpiti community had this to say:

“Community and Cultural Centre – a multi-use Building! This is the opportunity to look holistically at all of the development in this area and the things we desire as a community. Under the initiation of Whale Song, a new wharenuī/cultural centre was proposed and in recent times talk has been to merge the cultural centre and the new community centre, with a building that reflects our cultural connections here in Kāpiti, through creative design and some stunning architecture. A building that people want to take pictures of because of its Kāpiti-ness, drawing people in the area. A building with multiple uses - Cultural and Civic events, Te Reo and Te Ao Maori environmental education focussed learning (as suggested by Takiri Cotterill of Puketapu Trust, an environmental university in sync with iwi and focussed on the wetland restoration that is about to occur), a place for the Kāpiti Story to be told as well as filling the communities needs with a community centre. Restore the i-SITE visitor centre in this building, a cafe, conference/exhibition spaces will all add to the vibrancy and ensure it's used by many every day. Hawera in Taranaki have built similar with Te Ramanui o Ruapūtahanga. A combined Cultural and Community Centre (recognising Puketapu hapu) will provide locals and visitors to Kāpiti, with a wide-range of services, information, cultural and educational resources. Combining several functions it will create a new vibrancy and sense of place. With an widened and path altered Wharemauku Stream and significant area of restored wetlands/park, the opportunity to have an overarching (holistic) design of how Whale Song, a new Cultural/Community Centre, planned adventure playground is an opportunity to important to miss. We have engaged landowners wanting to play their part, we have a community that has fed back through the WhaleSong site in the mall this is something they want, (15 million plus foot traffic over the last 4 years through the mall) and remarkably empty large open spaces to make it all come together, optimised for the benefits of Kāpiti and the region. Multi-use, used by many, everyday!”

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Iwi have also expressed a strong desire to be involved in engagement on-going in terms of the design, look and feel of this space. Iwi in particular expressed a strong desire for any redeveloped space to have a significant sustainability component.

### **The impact on other community spaces of the redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre**

Consideration needs to be given to the impact of any redevelopment of Te Newhanga on other community spaces including the Ocean Road Community Centre and the Kāpiti Impact Hub.

## 11: Summary and conclusions

The findings of this needs assessment with regards to the needs of the Kāpiti Community are in-line, and consistent with the strategic priorities (community facilities) of Kāpiti Coast District Council.

Key findings are that:

- While there are a range of Council owned and non-Council owned community facilities across the Kāpiti area, most are currently operating as venues for hire, with none staffed as 'active' community centres. Most of these are halls or meeting rooms for hire. While Council's nine 'open' community halls/venues are currently underutilised, most are reported to have issues including: a lack of, and the inability to be adapted for technology/digital connectiveness, internal configurations that are not flexible which limits the number of users (hirers) at any one time, as well as a limited remaining life.
- The population of Kāpiti is predicted to increase from 58,055 in 2023 to 80,924 in 2054 (using a 50% percentile predicted accuracy) which is likely to have an impact on the demand for fit for purpose, adaptable, flexible and affordable community facilities. Increased high density housing for Kāpiti is likely to place more pressure on activities for people outside of their homes, and there is significant high density planned for Paraparaumu in particular.
- Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre was a well-regarded community facility and was well used for a wide variety of activities and programmes. A key strength of Te Newhanga was that it was considered to be an open, welcoming and friendly environment – with bright open spaces, attractive surrounding greenspace and a comfortable and attractive fit-out and with good kitchen facilities and good sized, accessible bathrooms.
- There is strong community support for the redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre including among members of the community who had never used this facility.
- The main reasons given for the importance of facilities like Te Newhanga (of which there are none in Kāpiti) are that they:
  - Help to create a sense of belonging and strengthen communities
  - Enable community and social service groups to access low/reasonable cost facilities – which means activities and services are accessible to a wide range of community members
  - Contribute to a healthy society/societal well-being
  - Contribute to a vibrant community
  - Are able to encourage diverse groups of people to come together (who may not otherwise meet each other)
  - Provide safe spaces for the community to meet and spend time
  - Are (or could be) places that members of the community know they can go to and find the information they need (and/or be referred to someone/an organisation who can help them).

- There is strong support for any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre to be at the same location – it is close to other amenities and facilities, including the library, Coastlands and public transport.
- There are a wide range of social needs impacting the Kāpiti community, most of which are consistent with other towns and cities across New Zealand. In terms of social needs gaps, the most relevant to any redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Centre are that:
  - There is no community space in Kāpiti that operates as a ‘managed’ community centre where members of the community can spend time (unless they are participating in an organised programme or activity)
  - Social and community organisations report difficulties in finding appropriate low cost space to rent/lease on a permanent basis (as a base/office) – either full-time or part-time, and for activities and programmes
  - There is a reported lack of networking opportunities across community and social service organisations – including the ability to share resources, ideas etc.
  - Social and community organisations report that they lack visibility in the community (and suggest that a redeveloped Te Newhanga presents an opportunity to be a central source of information for the members of the community they serve).

**The overarching recommendation arising from this needs assessment is that consideration be given to the redevelopment of Te Newhanga Kāpiti Community Centre at its current location.**

It is also recommended however that the following be considered:

- That the outcome of the feasibility study with respect to the indoor recreation centre be taken into consideration
- That consideration be given to how the ‘hub’ of community facilities in and around Te Newhanga’s locations might be better connected
- That consideration be given to any intended ‘community space’ plans/development as part of the Wellington Company’s proposed housing development
- That consideration be given to how the greenspace around Te Newhanga could be incorporated into any redesign of the centre – the greenspace is valued by the community and there may be an opportunity to create a better indoor-outdoor flow
- That the operating model for any redevelopment of Te Newhanga be considered to ensure that Te Newhanga doesn’t become just another venue for hire – this will have implications in terms of cost, and the layout and design of the centre
- That consideration be given to the wider role of any redeveloped Te Newhanga in terms of its role as a central source of information for the community, a space that might be able to showcase local arts, culture and history – as well as a future proofed and vibrant community space. There was support for this among iwi and this would support the Long-term Plan’s focus that *“our community facilities are also core to preserving, presenting and **celebrating culture and heritage**, and establishing community identity”*.
- That consideration be given to the impact of any redevelopment of Te Newhanga on other community spaces including the Ocean Road Community Centre and the Kāpiti Impact Hub.

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## Appendix 1: Overview of social organisations

Note that this is not an exhaustive list of the social organisations that may be operating in the Kapiti area. Furthermore, not all of the organisations listed here took part in this needs assessment.

While we have attempted to categorise these under broad social needs headings, also note that some organisations will provide services across a range of 'categories' e.g. senior needs and health needs, youth needs and mental health services etc.



Social need identified	Organisation(s) currently supporting this need	Activities to meet social need	Impact of meeting social needs	Where they currently operate from	Gap – Y / N	Suitable for Te Newhanga
Healthcare support/services - general	Tu Ora/Kāpiti Community Health Network	Support and collaboration across providers, ensures identification of new and innovative ways to meet health needs	Improved health and well-being of the Kāpiti community	They lease office space in Paraparaumu	No	Possibly for meeting/hui space sometimes
	Blind Low Vision	Provides a range of services for members who are Blind, Deafblind or have vision loss, including instructors to help them learn skills for everyday activities, mobility canes, communication and employment, equipment, counselling and guide dogs	Improved well-being and access to services and assistance for the blind/low vision community	Kāpiti Impact Hub (lease space) – at the time of writing this report the space was leased but unoccupied	Unclear	Unsure – they lease space at the KIH but do not appear to use it
Seniors/older residents support	Age Concern	Offers Elder Abuse and Neglect Prevention, social connection and health promotion services to older people	Improved well-being for older Kapiti residents	Kāpiti Impact Hub (lease space)	No	Possibly for some workshops and exercise classes (needs to be the right size, big enough, but not too large)
	Kāpiti Coast Older Person's Council	Committed to working with the KDCD and the wider community to ensure the Kāpiti Coast becomes an age-friendly district.	Improved well-being for older Kapiti residents	No permanent office space	Constrained by financial resources	Have used Te Newhanga previously e.g. they facilitated a drop in centre here for older people (which they report worked well) – felt this should be offered more often but costs were prohibitive Interested in spaces that can offer big events e.g. senior expos
	Kapiti U3A	Support and activities for retired people			Yes - Places to meet at reasonable prices	Yes - they coordinate a range of interest groups run by members for members. Most groups are forced to meet in member's homes because of

						a shortage of meeting spaces at a reasonable cost per hour in Kapiti. Their need is for spaces that would hold maybe 20 people around 5 - 8 tables
<b>Safety/crime-related</b>	<b>A Safe Kāpiti</b>	Places a strong emphasis on working with young people, children and their families to focus on fostering greater resiliency through the protective factors of family, education, community and peers	Early intervention to prevent young people drifting into crime	Airport Annex Building Dakota Road Kapiti Coast Airport Paraparaumu Beach	N	Unclear
	<b>Community Patrols (Paraparaumu, Waikanae and Otaki)</b>	A visual deterrent and a valuable resource when it comes to crime prevention in local communities (Friday and Saturday nights)	The safety of the Kapiti community, crime prevention (one of the main issues is car conversion)	No permanent space	Always need more volunteers	Have had no previous relationship with Te Newhanga but they report that a lockable garage would be ideal
<b>Youth support (youth specific)</b>	<b>Zeal</b>	A dedicated youth centre with a gig space, rehearsal room, a digital design lab and more	A place for young people to 'hang out' and take part in a range of activities. Where youth can be "seen, heard, valued and accepted"	132 Rimu Road, Paraparaumu	No – Zeal is available to any young person who wants to use it/spend time there	No – they have their own space
	<b>Kāpiti Youth Support (KYS)</b>	One of the largest NGOs and providers of community services in Kapiti, including 3 school-based services. 5700 rangitahi access these services (approx. 68% of the youth population in Kapiti)	Provides a wraparound service for youth in Kapiti	15 Tutanekai Street, Paraparaumu	No	Unclear but they have their own space and provide school-based services

<b>Mental health support</b>	<b>Dementia Wellington</b>	Support for people with dementia and their families	Helping individuals and their whanau understand and cope with dementia	Based in Wellington but hire space in Kāpiti (Aquatic Centre)	N	<b>Yes</b> for meeting/hui space, to run workshops. The Aquatic Centre is not optimal for their needs, the space can be noisy, lack privacy, the smell of chlorine can be overwhelming for some of their 'clients'
	<b>Atareira</b>	Provides mental health and addiction support to individuals, family, whanau (as well as transitional housing support in the Wellington region)	Helps whanau cope with mental health and addiction issues in the home, improves resilience and understanding	No permanent space in Kapiti (they are in Wellington, Porirua and Lower Hutt. They hire space at the Kapiti Impact Hub)	No	Used to hire space at Te Newhanga Current space TBC
<b>Women's support</b>	<b>Kāpiti Women's Centre</b>	Providing a safe space and support for women		Their own space, 7 Ngahina Street, Paraparaumu	No (overall) but possibly in some areas (see next column)	<b>Possibly</b> for occasional overflow meetings, plus space for a Dress for Success Programme
	<b>Kāpiti Women's Refuge, Contract is held by the Kāpiti Women's Centre</b>	Support, information and a safe house	Support and safety for women and children	Support at the Kāpiti Women's Centre, a separate safe house	No	Not required
<b>Men's support</b>	<b>Whirlwind</b>	Provide support to men who may be experiencing mental health challenges	Provides informal connections for men and support (meets once/month)	Hire space at the Kāpiti Impact Hub	No	<b>Yes</b> , they used to use Te Newhanga, good central location, easy to get to, good parking

<b>Disability support/advocacy</b>	<b>Kāpiti Disability Advisory Group</b>	Provides advice to Council on planning, funding, managing and delivering services for people with disabilities – with a particular focus on issues of access, equity and inclusion.	Ensures that the needs of people with disabilities are considered in all council decisions	Uses Council chambers for their meetings	No	<b>Yes</b> , they used to use it for their own meetings and also attend other activities there
	<b>Kapiti Art Studio</b>	Artistic activities for people with disabilities and mental health needs	The accessibility and inclusion of people with disabilities and mental health needs	Hires space at Kapiti Impact Hub	Yes – regular space to meet	<b>Yes</b> – they would like low cost room hire for community groups with storage, for workshops, with gardens (food), for after school and school holiday activities, a common area. Te Newhanga was a great location, accessible for their clients and near train and bus stops and Coastlands
<b>Other support</b>	<b>Volunteer Kāpiti</b>	Actively promotes, supports and strengthens volunteering throughout the Kāpiti Coast	Contributes to a connected and thriving Kāpiti community	Lease space at the Kāpiti Impact Hub	No	N/A
	<b>Kāpiti Kindness Trust</b>	Uses kindness as a mechanism to build resilience. Community fundraising for (1) Kindness injections (to support a sudden need someone may have (2) Kindness projects and (3) to acknowledge kindness in the community	Acknowledgement of/celebrates community members, putting \$ back into the community	No permanent space	Resources and funding	<b>Yes</b> - feels a physical space is important to create awareness
	<b>Kāpiti Community Foodbank</b>	Supports people in need of food assistance	Provides food assistance to members of the Kapiti community	17 Hinemoa Street, Paraparumu	N	Not required, they have their own space

	<b>CAB</b>	Help people to understand their rights and obligations, and give people the support they need to take action	Advice and support across a wide range of areas	Level 1, Coastlands	Funding	<b>Yes</b> , they would be interested in permanent space at Te Newhanga. Would need to be heavily subsidised and meet other key criteria. But it is a good visible, central location with PT access
	<b>Birthright Kāpiti</b>	Supports one parent families between Paekakariki and PekaPeka including practical advice, education and networking opportunities, referrals to other services, low cost events for families, toys and other items. Run an op shop	Help and support for one parent families with children aged under 16 years	110 Rimu Road, Paraparaumu	No	<b>Yes</b> – they report that Te Newhanga was a valuable asset to the community, they often held larger events there and many workshops and seminars there. They would love to see a fit for purpose centre built – for a range of occasions, from private workshops to fun days for their clients
	<b>Mary Potter Community Hospice</b>	Support for patients receiving palliative specialist care and their whanau	Support for patients receiving palliative specialist care and their whanau	36 Warrimoo Street Paraparaumu	No	They have no need to hire the space but believe a community space is important in providing information about services to everyone, accessibility, attractive community events for all ages/cultures/abilities