

Safer Hastings

"An accredited Safer Community"

NEWSLETTER **JUNE 2019**



A Safe Community is... a community where people can go about their daily activities in an environment without fear, risk of harm or injury.

"Keeping the community safe is best achieved when people come together from different sectors to have input, and that's what's making Safer Hastings a success. Everyone has a responsibility and we are all doing a lot of work to promote community safety and reduce harm. Thanks everyone for helping make Hastings a safe place to work, live and play". Cr Eileen Lawson, Chair Safer Hastings



Connected Agencies & Communities

"Street by Street" Programme

Relaunched last year, the Street by Street programme brings communities and agencies together over a street BBQ.

Over the past 12 months, 16 BBQ's have been held in streets in Camberley, Central Hastings, Flaxmere, Mayfair, Mahora, Raureka and Havelock North.

The BBQ's support neighbours to meet each other, form new relationships, speak to agencies and in some instances have provided a platform for neighbours to look at forming a Neighbourhood Support group in their street.

Residents also have the opportunity to speak to our partner agencies and source information relevant to their specific needs.

Partners: HDC, Police, FENZ, HBCDEM, IRD, HNZ, HBDHB, MSD, Elections

"Street by Street has given us an excellent opportunity to talk with residents about new government assistance through MSD such as Winter Energy payments in 2018 and more recently trade training assistance through Mana in Mahi. We've also been able to get to know people from other agencies and learn more about what they do to support the community which has been great."

Calvin Robinson, Community Liaison Advisor, MSD

Safe in my home



Age of Champions! Strength and Balance Top Town Games

Over 100 competitors in the older age group had a crazy, fun day out recently celebrating all things strength and balance!

The event was organised by Enliven Older People Services who are the lead agency in Hawke's Bay for the national "Live Stronger for Longer" movement, which aims to reduce the risk of falls and fall injuries for older people. Falls prevention is a priority for us and we know that community-based exercise programmes targeted at improving strength and balance in older people can reduce the risk of falling by 29%.

Our partners Fire & Emergency NZ, Volunteering HB and Hastings District Council got together to have a safety stand at the games and gave out information on fire home safety visits, the new Police 105 number, car safety checklists and information on how to keep active through volunteering.

"Not only is this initiative a falls prevention strategy, it focuses on community engagement and, as such, has a wonderful effect on decreasing social isolation and loneliness in our older community. We currently have 20 accredited strength and balance classes in Hastings."

Kirstin Thompson, Enliven Community Services Coordinator.

To find a class phone Enliven on 0800 436 548 or visit www.livestronger.org.nz



Fun day out for participants at the Top Town Games

For more information contact **Debbie Northe**

Hastings District Council's Community Safety Coordinator

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Safe Roads

i-Way Pop ups-Be Safe Be Seen

Six roadside pop-ups were held around the city in May during the Be Safe Be Seen cycling campaign. Run by i-Way, the pop-ups highlighted the importance of wearing reflective clothing and using bright lights when biking or walking during the shorter daylight hours. The team also visited the HBDHB with their safety messaging.

At these events, 229 cycle lights were given out, along with 109 sets of reflective fittings and 136 reflective arm/ankle bands!



Louise Stoddart has been biking to work every day since she brought her bike back in November. "As winter approached I bought myself some lights but was wanting something reflective to put on my backpack so I could be better seen by cars on the road in the dark. A few days later I stopped at one of the i-Way pop-ups and was gifted some reflectors to go on my spokes, snap bands to put around my ankles and a reflective cover to go over my backpack. These items have helped me to feel safer on the roads when I am biking home in the evenings."

Safer Hastings is a coalition made up of people from a diverse group of government and community agencies and a wide network of supporting organisations, all working together in a co-ordinated and collaborative way to improve community safety.

For more information contact Debbie Northe

Hastings District Council's Community Safety Coordinator
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Safe in my community

National Youth Week

The Hastings District Youth Council recently launched Youth Week with a Friday night youth concert in Albert Square.

Located in the CBD, this is the first time the space has been used for a youth focused concert. The event helped to promote the CBD as a safe place for youth and highlighted the many safety features including bright lighting, open spaces, safe pedestrian access, and staff on the doors of licensed establishments.

Fourteen events were held during the week, the theme for which was "we are more than you see". A number of events were specifically designed to draw attention to mental health, such as the



Youth Council members at the opening concert for Youth Week - activating safe city spaces for young people.

use of gumboots in the gumboot hunt event – the symbol used to raise money for free mental health counselling for children.

"The Youth Council is really excited to be helping with the redesign of the Square and promoting fun, interactive and safe spaces for young people and the community in the CBD."

Angela Hughes, Youth Development Coordinator



People are free from addiction-related harm

It has been nearly four years since Hastings District and Napier City Councils decided to share a smoke free policy. The policy was adopted in support of the Government's goals for a smoke free New Zealand by 2025 and closely aligns with our Safer Hastings goal of minimising harm caused by smoking and tobacco.

The policy aims to improve the health and wellbeing of our communities by:

- decreasing the prevalence of smoking
- decreasing public exposure to second-hand smoke
- increasing the likelihood that people, particularly the young, will remain smoke free by reducing the number of places where they see others smoking.

Since then, both Councils have encouraged café premises with tables on publicly owned land to become smoke free, aka fresh air zones. All parks, playgrounds, sportsgrounds and reserves (apart from beach reserves), the Hastings City Square/ Central Plaza, and bus stops, shelters and areas around bus signs or bus stop markings are now smoke free.



Our focus areas

- TARGET ENVIRONMENTS**
Home, road, public spaces
- TARGET GROUPS**
Youth, older people, low income families
- CONTRIBUTING FACTORS**
Alcohol, drugs & gambling addictions

How you can be involved

- Attend community workshops
- Join our information network to receive updates and newsletters
- Update Safer Hastings with your activities
- Work on a collaborative project aimed to address a specific issue.