

# BE A 2021 HASTINGS YOUTH COUNCILLOR

**The Purpose** of the Hastings Youth Council is to provide a voice for young people around the district.

The Youth Council works on youth-related projects, using Hastings District Council's Youth Strategy as the basis for all deliverable activities, and advises Council on issues that affect our district's youth.

## THE YOUTH COUNCIL'S MAIN ROLES ARE TO:

- give a youth perspective on issues
- promote and encourage youth involvement in planning and developing Council services
- make sure the views of young people are canvassed and passed on to the Council
- give advice on planning and infrastructure, particularly relating to any direct impact on young people
- give input relating to policy and strategic development
- be an active participant on council subcommittees: District Development, Eco-District, Great Communities.

## YOUTH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP:

The Youth Council is open to:

- youth aged 15-21 years
- people who live, work or attend school within the Hastings District

## YOUTH COUNCIL REQUIREMENTS:

A Youth Councillor is expected to attend fortnightly meetings. Meeting duration is approx. two hours.

Youth Councillors are also expected to attend informal project/event meetings throughout the year.

Compulsory activities for all 2021 Youth Council members include:

- attendance at a planning session at the start of the year
- introduce yourself as a Youth Council member at a school assembly (if still in school).
- take part in Council's Youth Potential Awards
- take part in Mayor Taskforce for Jobs

As part of the planning session, the Youth Council will develop an annual plan for 2021. The annual plan will identify the activities and events that the Youth Council has committed to delivering throughout the year.

All members will attend and contribute to events that are confirmed in the annual plan.

## HOW DO YOU BECOME A MEMBER OF THE YOUTH COUNCIL?

If you meet the criteria outlined above and are interested in becoming a member of the Youth Council, apply online and submit a two minute video or come in for an interview. Applications will be open Monday, 25 January to Sunday 14 February 2021.

Reminders about applications will be advertised through various media channels closer to the time of applications closing.

## YOUTH COUNCIL DURATION:

The Hastings Youth Council term begins in February and finishes in December 2021.

## OFFICER SUPPORT FOR THE YOUTH COUNCIL:

A Council officer will support you.

The role of the officer is to help the Youth Councillors meet their targets, table their views and to guide, train and support them with the activities they want to deliver.

A Hastings District Councillor is also appointed to support the Youth Council. The Councillor attends Youth Council meetings and provides a link to the Council.

## INCENTIVES FOR BEING ON THE YOUTH COUNCIL:

The Youth Council gives young people an insight into decision making, how Council operates and offers the experience of being a Councillor. There is also the opportunity to choose, organise and deliver events in Hastings. All members who have fulfilled their commitments to the Youth Council will receive a personal reference from the Hastings Mayor, Sandra Hazlehurst.

**For any enquiries contact:** Pip Dixon at the Hastings District Council [pipd@hdc.govt.nz](mailto:pipd@hdc.govt.nz) or 871 5000.

