Safer Mid Canterbury
Hakatere Haumaru
Together we're safer • Me uru kahikatea

Making our district safer

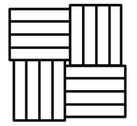
ANNUAL REPORT 2025/2026



Our kaupapa and our story can be told through this woven diamond pattern.

It shows our purpose, our strength and our commitment to working within a bicultural framework. The four colours interwoven in the pattern represent our services and what we are committed to doing within our hapori every day.

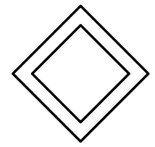




The interlocking strands represent whānau, community, working together, unity, strength and support.



This woven pattern, similar to a kete, represents the passing on of knowledge and the teaching of new skills.



The pātiki shape, which is based on the flounder, symbolises hospitality and the ability to provide for the wider hapori/community.



Working together, unity and whānau.



Passing on knowledge and teaching new skills.



Strengthening and supporting those in need.



Hospitality, providing for a hapori/community.

Me uru kahikatea
Together we're safer

Kahikatea grow tall with greater success when they are in groves. Their shallow roots interlock with each other, providing the necessary foundation to stand tall.

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About Safer Mid Canterbury

Safer Mid Canterbury is a non-profit community organisation that has been operating as a charitable trust since 1994. It provides free and confidential community services for the Ashburton district. We prioritise the delivery of early intervention programmes to support and strengthen individuals and whānau. We help people to make good choices, providing positive opportunities and pathways for change.



Our history

Safer Mid Canterbury has grown steadily since its inception in 1994 and now employs a wide range of staff across many programme areas. We also have volunteers supporting these programmes; extensive community support; and engagement with other agencies and providers throughout the district. Safer Mid Canterbury is the largest locally-driven provider of community services in the Ashburton district.

We deliver programmes and services in response to community need. We support vulnerable families, children, youth justice clients, adult offenders, and new migrants.

Supporting community agencies

Safer Mid Canterbury also employs staff on behalf of small, non-profit organisations including the Hakatere Multicultural Council, Neighbourhood Support, and Ashburton Senior Citizens/Thrive. Staff from these organisations report to their respective Trusts at a governance level, and Safer Mid Canterbury handles their day-to-day management and employment. The structure of this relationship saves small organisations from having to become employers; provides staff with the support and direction of a larger organisation with robust policies and procedures; and saves on administration overheads.

Our supporters

Ministry of Education – Te Tāhuhu o te Mātauranga
Ministry of Justice – Tāhū o te Ture
The Lion Foundation – Here for good
Ashburton District Council
Timaru District Council – Te Kaunihera ā Rohe o Te Tihi o Maru
ACC – Te Kaporeihana Āwhina Hunga Whara – prevention. care. recovery.
Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment – Hikina Whakatutuki
Oranga Tamariki – Ministry for Vulnerable Children
Public Trust
sport canterbury
Youth Institute of Ashburton
Mackenzie Charitable Foundation
RuralSupport
Advance Ashburton Community Foundation
COGS – Community Organisation Grants Scheme
Community Trust – Mid & South Canterbury
Ngā Kōti o Aotearoa – Courts of New Zealand
Lions Clubs International
Lottery Grants Board – Te Puna Tahua – Lotto funds for your community
Woolworths
Rotary
Pegasus – partners in health
TrevorWilson Charitable Trust
Ministry of Social Development – Te Manatū Whakahiato Ora
Te Tari Taiwhenua – Internal Affairs

Governance and management structure





Safer Mid Canterbury Board Chairperson's report

Another year has passed in the life of this organisation, and we continue to perform well in serving the Mid Canterbury community.

As always, this is primarily due to the fine work of the General Manager Kevin Clifford and our dedicated staff. Along with a range of volunteers, they serve the district in a whole host of areas, ranging from re-settling Afghani refugees to helping schools improve students' attendance. There is a huge assortment of projects that add to that list, which will be mentioned elsewhere in this report.

My first task must be to thank the staff and volunteers for their efforts. We are well equipped to meet the standards and objectives set for us by the Council and the various funders who support our work, and we continue to gain contracts for projects from a diverse range of agencies.

It is clear that the rollover of many of our contracts is because we do them well. We get positive feedback from people in the local area and we constantly look for opportunities to make life better for all.

The Board works well together. Long-serving Board members Jeanette Tarbotton and Liz McMillan have moved on, with Liz taking up the full-time position of Mayor. I thank them both for their service at the same time as welcoming new members Julie Moffett and Dianne Prendergast.

The "old guard" of Tony Todd, Russell Ellis and Max Cawte continue to provide wisdom and insight for our work and decision making, and again I thank them for their ongoing contributions. Likewise to our Board Secretary, Coby Snowden.

Financially we are in a sound position, thanks to good Board oversight and prudent management by Kevin and our financial advisers. Monthly review and analysis of our accounts means we are making responsible and timely decisions, and successive audits of various aspects of our activities reinforce this overall picture. There are always challenges, like the advances in artificial intelligence (AI), but we are confident that we can meet them.

It is worth noting that this year marks 20 years of service by our General Manager, Kevin. Under his guidance the organisation has prospered and grown immensely. That growth is in no small measure due to Kevin's competence, personal and business skills, and ability to get the best from a growing number of employees.

We are conscious of, and grateful for, the expertise Kevin continues to provide. Thank you, Kevin, from all of us!



Don McLeod
Chairperson

General Manager's report

While this year was largely business as usual, we were fortunate to grow some of our services and continued to deliver excellent support to people and families across the district. This has been particularly important in times of growing need, with the ongoing cost-of-living crisis continuing to affect people in all areas of their lives.

As you'll see later in this report, we have been able to strengthen our Attendance Service considerably. At the end of 2025, our contract for delivering this work ended. We submitted a tender to provide an innovative, new look service and were successful in winning the contract, resulting in us hiring two more staff members including a Hāpai Taiohi (Youth Advocate) and Kaiwhakatere Tikanga (Cultural Navigator). Safer Mid Canterbury has delivered an attendance service for the community for more than 20 years and we are delighted to be continuing this.

One of the things that we were assessed on as part of the tender process was our cultural competency as an organisation. We were pleased to show that we had done a considerable amount of work to build our cultural competency to better support Māori and people from other cultures to engage in education.

We also had several changes to our Board in the last year, including Liz McMillan standing down from her role as Safer Communities Ashburton District Chairperson when she was elected Mayor of Ashburton. We are very grateful for her many years of leadership and wish her the best on her exciting new journey. We also farewelled one of our long-standing Board members, Jeanette Tarbotton, who stood down at the end of the financial year. Thank you for all your years of dedication, Jeanette. We welcomed Councillor Julie Moffett as the new Chairperson for Safe Communities and Di Prendergast as a Trustee and are looking forward to working with them both.

There has been some exciting progress with the Bike Skills Park, and our Age Friendly Ashburton Strategy and Action Plan for residents aged over 65, following a needs assessment of the community in 2024/25. More detail about these projects is included in the Safe Communities section of this report. It is great to see them gaining traction.

Safer Mid Canterbury has also completed and published a comprehensive report that mapped what services exist for youth in the district and what the needs and gaps are. This work has identified where investment is required to ensure the level of support for rangatahi is where it needs to be. It is the first time such a comprehensive report has been commissioned locally, and we are proud to have led its development.

In the last year, our contract to deliver a bilingual cultural navigator service was extended and expanded to include a Registered Nurse (more about this can be found on page 22 of this report). This has considerably increased the level of service that we can provide for refugee families as they make Ashburton their new home.

Also included later in this report is a story about Food Rescue Aoraki, which we have been overseeing for the last two years. This service is a great example of how we can quickly respond to the needs of the community. After helping to secure the funding that was urgently needed to keep the organisation operating, it is now in a financially robust position and is appointing trustees to manage its governance. Safer Mid Canterbury will continue to employ the staff and look after the overall management of the operation, like we do with other small community organisations, saving them from having to become employers as well as saving significant overhead costs.

Thank you to our funders for enabling us to do the important work we do. Thank you also to our Board for their support and guidance throughout the year. Our staff are unwavering in their dedication to their work and the community, and I would like to thank everyone for their ongoing effort.

We are looking forward to a positive year ahead and continuing to do what we do well - helping people in our community to make good choices, and providing positive opportunities and pathways for change.

Ngā mihi nui,



Kevin Clifford
General Manager

Safe Communities Chairperson's report

This year, we made great progress in a variety of areas to support our Mid Canterbury community. One of the key ways we were able to achieve this was through successfully leveraging additional funding of $337,300 for Age Friendly Ashburton, the Mid Canterbury Community Transport Service and the now-named, Tarbotton RideSmart Park.

In 2025/26, momentum continued to build for Age Friendly Ashburton to make our district a more welcoming and inclusive place for older people. The newly minted Age Friendly Ashburton Action Plan was born out of a comprehensive survey of over-65s in our community. Information for the plan was also gleaned during a workshop held with the Steering Group's member agencies in April 2026.

One issue that received strong support at the workshop was the need to establish an older persons' hub. The hub would allow agencies to work more closely together, and enable older residents to more easily access information and support. This will be a key project in the year ahead.

Further, we were proud to see two successful safety events for older people held during the year; the first 'Spring into Spring' at the EA Networks Centre in October 2025, which focused on fall prevention, and the second 'April Falls' at Te Whare Whakatere in April 2026 that centred on safety in the home. About 220 people attended the two mini- expos, which was great to see.

This past year, transport options continued to be in-demand, with the number of people using the Mid Canterbury Connector Community Transport Service growing. For 2025/2026, 366 people were transported to their destination and 38,026 kilometres were covered. Volunteer drivers contributed a total of 729.2 hours. Since it began in 2021, the service has transported a total of 929 people into Ashburton.

We were sad to learn of the passing of one of the Community Connector's trustees and founding volunteer drivers, Kevin Sisson. Not only did Kevin contribute so much to the service since its inception, but he generously bequeathed $20,000 to the Mid Canterbury Community Vehicle Trust that will be used to replace a vehicle, when needed. We give our sincere thanks to Kevin for all he did, and for helping to support the service into the future.

Progress on the now-named Tarbotton RideSmart Park, an off-road bike skills facility in the Ashburton Domain, hit a major milestone in April 2026 as construction got underway. Former Safe Communities Chairperson, Liz McMillan did the honours of turning the first sod from the seat of a digger!

The project has been tracking well, thanks to Tarbotton Land & Civil which came on board as the major sponsor. A number of other local businesses have also provided funding to the project, and there has been widespread community support. In addition to these (and the leverage funding from Safe Communities), successful funding applications for the park, totalling $296,300 were made to the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury, Lion Foundation, Lottery Community Facilities, Pub Charity and Braided Rivers Community Trust. This level of support from throughout the community shows how valued the RideSmart project is, and it is great to see the district come together for what I'm sure will be a wonderful facility.

As I look back over the year, there are many people to recognise and thank, not least of whom is our Mayor and former Safe Communities Chairperson, Liz McMillan. Liz chaired Safe Communities for many, many years and her dedication is to be commended. I was proud to step into the role in October 2025 and can report that it has been a very positive experience so far.

The Ashburton District Council has again included funding for Safe Communities in its Long Term Plan, for which we are grateful. Special thanks must also go to the Ashburton Courier newspaper for its continued support in publishing a monthly feature that helps to keep messages of safety top of mind and highlights the agencies that are part of Safe Communities Ashburton District.



Julie Moffett
Safe Communities Ashburton District Chairperson

Hapori Haumaru
Safe Communities

The 2025/26 year was another busy and productive one for Safe Communities with significant progress being made on key projects.

This year was a busy and productive time for the Safe Communities Programme, with significant progress being made on key projects.

The programme delivered a range of initiatives and events that focused on the needs of people living rurally, older residents and younger people. This included scam awareness presentations, progress on a new bike skills park, community transport, falls prevention expos, and the development of a new Age Friendly Ashburton Strategy and Action Plan. More detail on these projects and initiatives can be found on the following page.

Safer Communities Ashburton District Coordinator Lesley Symington says the positive results achieved this year are a testament to the collaborative, locally driven model that Safe Communities embodies.

"The programme works to prevent injuries in the community and promote safety through working with local organisations. By working cohesively, we enable a district-wide, strategic overview of community safety issues and provide greater reach and a collective 'weight' to respond."

"Having a local focus means new safety issues can be addressed as they arise and agencies can pool their resources to make a bigger impact," she says.

During the past year, the Safe Communities Programme successfully attracted additional funding of $337,300 to put towards specific initiatives. For 2025/26, the funding went towards the Mid Canterbury Community Trust Transport Service, the Age Friendly Ashburton project, and the newly named Tarbotton RideSmart Park - a purpose-built off-road bike skills facility.

The Safe Communities Steering Group, which is now chaired by Ashburton District Councillor Julie Moffett, works to a business plan (2024-2027) to address the key priority areas identified for the district.

The key safety concerns identified include older people having falls leading to both fatal and non-fatal injury; road crashes; theft and burglary; scams; and family harm. Key priority areas include rural safety/social isolation; falls in older people; road safety; harm reduction/prevention (theft/burglary and scams), and social/community wellbeing.



Caption: The new Mid Canterbury Connector vehicle purchased with a grant from the Lion Foundation.

Ā mātou tutukitanga
Our achievements

A detailed summary of Safe Communities achievements between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026 includes:

Tarbotton RideSmart Park
The bike skills park made significant progress during the year, with Tarbotton Land & Civil coming on board as a partner and major sponsor. This support, along with funding from several other local businesses and service clubs, meant there was sufficient funding for construction to start on the off-road bike skills park at the Ashburton Domain on 28 April 2026.

Successful funding applications totalling $296,300 for the project were made to the Community Trust of Mid & South Canterbury, Lion Foundation, Lottery Community Facilities, Pub Charity and Braided Rivers Community Trust.

The facility is on track to be completed and opened in 2026/27.

Age Friendly Ashburton Strategy and Action Plan
Age Friendly Ashburton made significant progress this year, with the development of the Age Friendly Ashburton Strategy and Action Plan.

The documents drew on the survey responses of 564 older people, who were asked about their experiences of living in the Ashburton District, what they considered 'age friendly', and what could be improved. The survey was carried out by the Age Friendly Ashburton Steering Group, a collection of agencies that work with older people in Ashburton. After the survey data was analysed by a university in The Netherlands, the Steering Group then workshopped the survey responses and agreed to priorities for the first year of the Action Plan.

The first project the Steering Group will focus on is the compilation of a booklet on services and support available for older people. This will be similar to the Need Help Booklet produced by Safer Mid Canterbury and the Citizens Advice Bureau. Information is being collated by the Citizens Advice Bureau, which is working with a small group of agencies from the Steering Group.

The Steering Group is also looking to establish an Older Persons Hub, which will support agencies to work more closely together, and enable older residents to more easily access information. Funding has been sought for the project.

Mid Canterbury Connector Community Transport Service
The Mid Canterbury Connector project aims to reduce rural and social isolation by providing a low-cost community transport service. Volunteer drivers use the Mid Canterbury Connector vehicle to bring people living in rural areas of the district into the Ashburton township for appointments, shopping and to see whānau and friends.

Between 1 July 2025 and 30 June 2026, there were:

- 366 passengers transported/number of trips
- 729.2 volunteer driver hours recorded
- 38,026 kilometres travelled
- 89 other volunteer hours (such as trustee involvement)

In 2025/26, the Mid Canterbury Community Vehicle Trust spent time developing a Strategic Plan to guide its work over the next three years.

A grant of $10,000 was received from the Community Organisation Grants Scheme (COGS) towards operational costs and the coordinator's salary. Another $16,000 from the Lion Foundation enabled the Ashburton-based vehicle to be upgraded.

Sadly, one of the service's founding volunteer drivers and trustee, Kevin Sisson, passed away in December 2025. He will be greatly missed. Kevin generously bequeathed $20,000 to the Mid Canterbury Community Vehicle Trust for the future replacement of a vehicle, when required.

Falls Prevention for Older People
In October 2025, about 110 people attended a 'Spring into Spring' mini falls prevention expo, which was held at the EA Networks Centre. About the same number visited the 'April Falls' event in April 2026 at Te Whare Whakatere. This event focused on educational talks and safety in the home, which was very well received.

Scam Awareness
Four community talks were held to help prevent older people from being scammed, thanks to a collaboration between Neighbourhood Support Ashburton District, ASB Bank, Digital Waitaha Charitable Trust, and Safe Communities.

About 50 people attended the sessions in Ashburton, Rakaia and Methven. Feedback from older people who attended the talks highlighted that many lacked knowledge of and comfort with technology. This feedback led to the development of a new relationship with SeniorNet Ashburton.

The sessions proved to be a popular initiative, with requests made for more presentations to be delivered by the Neighbourhood Support Ashburton District Manager and ASB Bank Community Banking Officer.

In addition to the talks, a scam awareness flyer that had originally been developed by Neighbourhood Support Ashburton District, Citizens Advice Bureau, and SeniorNet Ashburton, was updated and re-printed. The flyer includes contact information for local agency support.

Safety Promotion
The Ashburton Courier newspaper's free, monthly Safe Communities' column continued during the year, with spaces offered to Safe Communities' member agencies. This has been a great way for community agencies to promote their safety messages and services and for the Safe Communities' programme to be profiled in local media. Safer Mid Canterbury's Facebook page has also been used to promote various activities throughout the year.

Thank you to the Ashburton District Council for funding the Safe Communities' Programme.



Caption: The design for the brand new Tarbotton RideSmart Park.



Caption: Volunteer Allan Badcock with the new Food Rescue Aoraki van.

Food Rescue Aoraki

A growing need for food in the community kept the Food Rescue Aoraki team very busy in the last year, with reports that more families with young children were reaching out for support.

Foodbank Aotearoa's Mid and South Canterbury Branch Manager Helen McKeown says rising costs have put immense pressure on families.

"The demand increases every day. There are always going to be people that need food supplements, whether they are struggling with the cost of living or due to their general circumstances," Helen says.

"What we're hearing from the organisations we provide food to is that this year there have been a lot more families with young children struggling. Rising power and petrol costs, along with rent increases, have impacted many people. People who are working full time, and normally wouldn't need assistance, are now the growing demographic. We're also looking after people with mental health challenges and a lot of elderly people who are on a fixed pension and having to choose between food or paying their power bill."

Born out of the closure of Foodbank Aotearoa at the end of 2023, Food Rescue Aoraki collects unsold food from local supermarkets and food producers and redistributes it to organisations and food banks throughout Timaru and Ashburton.

These organisations in turn help people and families in need. The food is good quality but can't be sold by stores due to imperfections or being close to its best before date.

Before it's closure, Foodbank Aotearoa had a significant presence in Mid and South Canterbury, and while its work in Christchurch was picked up by other organisations, there was no money in the bank and initially nobody to step in to keep the service operational for the southern parts of Canterbury.

Not willing to watch the service close when there was so much need in the community, Helen approached Safer Mid Canterbury to help keep the operation running. With a donation from a local businessperson and support from Safer Mid Canterbury to help secure grants from Community Trust Mid and South Canterbury, and The Lion Foundation, work was able to resume in January 2024.

Since then, the team of five part-time staff and nine volunteers have grown the service to save and redistribute 1.6 tonnes of food each week in Timaru and 1.4 tonnes in Ashburton. This includes meat and produce, dry goods, bread and other pantry staples that would have otherwise ended up as landfill. It is conservatively estimated that the value of the food saved is about $10 per kilogram.

Since being taken on by Safer Mid Canterbury, Food Rescue Aoraki has received charitable status, appointed a Board of Trustees, and will become its own separate entity on 1 July 2026, while still operating under the umbrella of Safer Mid Canterbury.

With Helen retiring from her role in May 2025, Luke Reihana has been employed as the new Operations Manager.

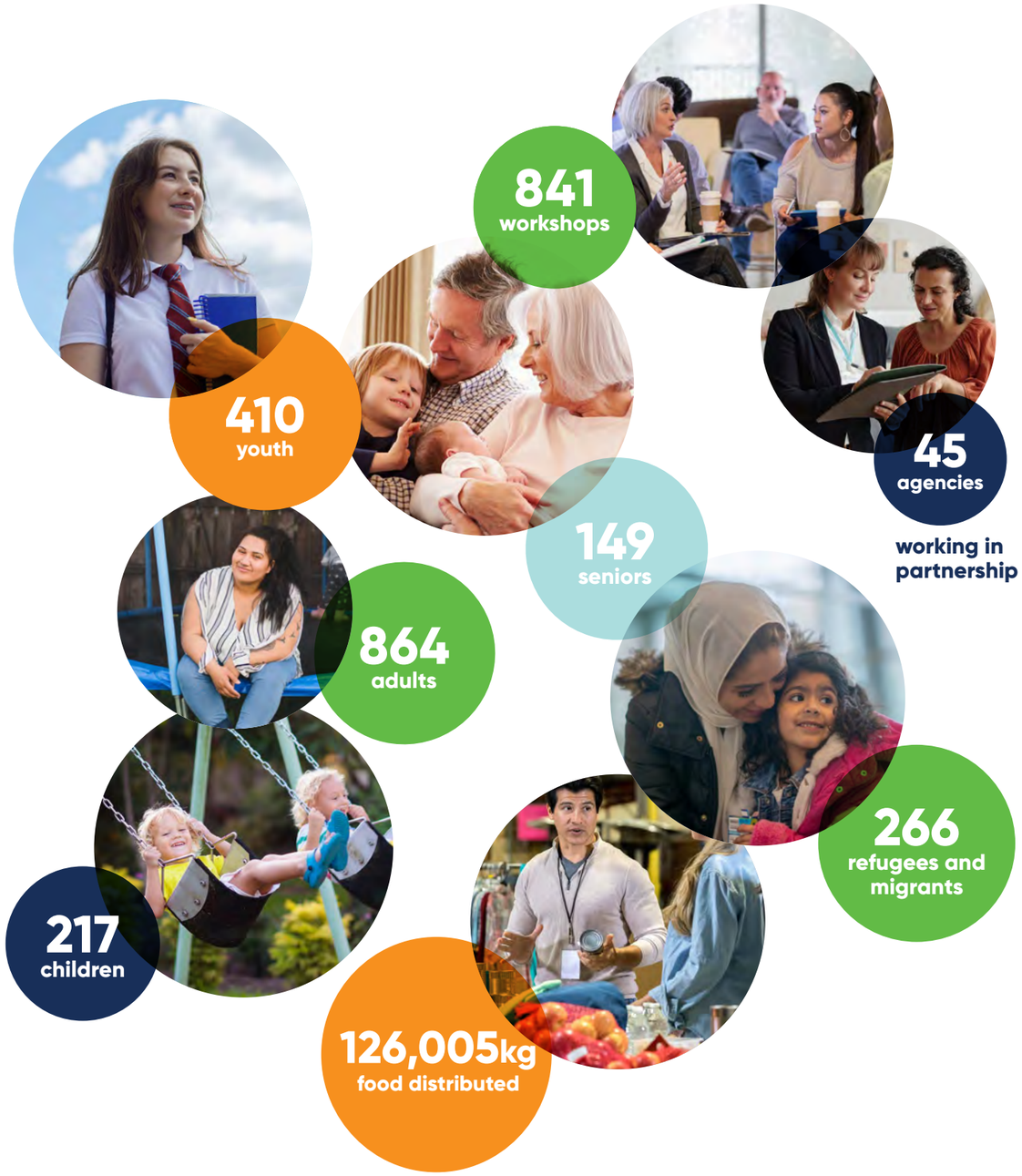
"We're all set up now and in a very good position for Luke to take over. We've got our warehousing sorted, good relationships with the supermarkets, and enough funding to keep going for at least another year-and-a-half to two years. Luke has a lot of great community contacts and will be looking to grow the sources we can rescue food from in the primary industry and manufacturing sectors. That's an area we see a lot of potential growth coming from," Helen says.

"Safer Mid Canterbury has been an amazing support and we're very grateful to them and to the community groups and organisations in Ashburton and Timaru that help us keep going. Whether that's through giving us the warehouse space to run our operation or grants to pay our staff, to helping cover the costs of our power bills."



Ā mātou tauanga
Our statistics

In the past 12 months, we have been proud to support...



Ō mātou taratī
Our trustees



Don McLeod, *Chair of Trustees*

Don has been a Safer Mid Canterbury Board member since 2013, including several years as Board Chairperson. He is a former secondary school principal and former Ashburton District Councillor, who has a strong interest in people and the community. He served on the board of Ashburton Community Alcohol and Drug Service (ACADS) for 17 years, including 10 as Chairperson. Other offices held have included being a member of the Community House Mid Canterbury and Neighbourhood Support Boards, and he has twice been President of the Rotary Club of Ashburton.



Liz McMillan, *Former Chair of Safe Communities*

Liz became Chair of Safe Communities, following her appointment to the Board as Ashburton District Council's representative in September 2017. She resigned from her role when she was elected as the Mayor of Ashburton in October 2025.



Julie Moffett, *Chair of Safe Communities*

Julie was made the Chair of Safe Communities following her appointment to the Board as Ashburton District Council's representative in November 2025. She is a first-term councillor, with a background in broadcast and print journalism. Her special interests include social issues and strengthening democracy. She has been living in Ashburton since 2021.



Dianne Prendergast

Dianne is the Principal of Ashburton Borough School and has a long history in education and involvement in School Boards across Mid Canterbury. Dianne was appointed as a Justice of the Peace in 2014 and has been the Chair of the Ashburton Principals' Association. This work reflects her strong interest in and affinity for working with people. This year has been her first on the Safer Mid Canterbury Board.



Max Cawte

Max has been a local business owner, who has since retired but remains involved in many community activities. He has been contributing his skills and knowledge to Safer Mid Canterbury since he joined us as a trustee in 2011. Max is also a long-term member of the Ashburton Lions Club, and has previously served as their President.



Russell Ellis

Russell first came on board as a representative from Ashburton District Council and served for about six years until he moved away from the district. On his return, we were quick to invite him back as a trustee. Russell brings strong business skills and an enthusiasm for his community, in particular a passion for supporting the wellbeing of young people.



Tony Todd

Tony was appointed to the Board as an Ashburton District Council representative. He is well known in the community and has served on many boards and committees, along with being an Ashburton clothing retailer for many years.

Building a new-look Attendance Service for Mid Canterbury

Our Attendance Service received a significant boost in the last year, with the team recruiting two new staff members to help meet community needs and deliver a new-look service.

In 2025, we won a tough tender to continue working with young people and their families to help them maintain a connection to education. Since then, we have been undergoing a significant period of growth and transformation. This has included the development of an innovative new model of support to better meet the needs of taiohi (young people), their whānau (families), and 23 kura (schools).

As part of this growth, we were pleased to recruit a Hāpai Taiohi (Youth Advocate) and a Kaiwhakatere Tikanga (Cultural Navigator), who bring specialist youth development expertise and cultural knowledge to the team.

Child and Youth Services Team Leader Bronnie McKenna says developing this new way of delivering the Attendance Service is a shift away from traditional approaches and recognises that many young people can face a range of barriers to being at school that require more than monitoring their attendance alone.

"By embedding youth advocacy and cultural support within the team, we strengthen our ability to walk alongside taiohi, whānau and kura in ways that are meaningful, culturally responsive, and effective," she says.

"Our Attendance team regularly meet with schools throughout the district and continue to strengthen partnerships with government agencies, community organisations, and other support services. These relationships help create a coordinated network of support around our young people and their families."

Innovation remains a central part of the team's work and they have been exploring solutions to some of the barriers that prevent regular school attendance, including transport challenges, particularly for students living in the Ashburton township where public transport options are limited. The previous transport service, which was delivered in partnership with the Ashburton Kāhui Ako, saw schools partner with Safer Mid Canterbury and the Salvation Army to deliver a school transport service for about 20 young people. Bronnie says the service is seeking funding to expand and support more young people to access education.

"Cultural responsiveness remains at the heart of the service," Bronnie says. "Recognising the importance of engaging effectively with Māori whānau, the team has strengthened its cultural capability and has embedded practices that reflect local needs and aspirations. The addition of specialist cultural expertise to the service enhances how we build trust, foster engagement, and support positive outcomes for taiohi and whānau."

The Attendance Service is also achieving strong outcomes for youth who are not enrolled in education, with more than 80 per cent progressing towards enrolment at the time of preparing this Annual Report. Bronnie says she attributes this to the team's proactive approach to case management and commitment to ensuring every taiohi remains connected to education pathways.



He Oranga Whai Hua Lives Worth Living

In 2025, Lives Worth Living brought back its highly successful mental health and wellbeing social media campaign, with the videos seen more than 1.6 million times.

Originally launched in 2022, the social media ad campaign targeted 13–30-year-olds living in Mid Canterbury to provide helpful and practical tips for managing low mental health. It also promoted ways that young people could ask for and receive support, whether from a friend or a professional.

Six short animated videos were created with simple, easy-to-follow advice built around key messages that included: what to know when you're feeling low; tips for managing anxiety; what to say when you're not ok; ways to boost your mental health; things to do or say when your mate isn't ok; and what to do if you're feeling blue.

The 2022 videos proved to be a huge success, prompting the campaign to be run again in 2025.

In total, the re-run of the six ads achieved 1.3 million views on TikTok and 357,000 on Facebook and Instagram. The campaign lead to 6,900 people clicking on the ad to view the Lives Worth Living website, which is full of practical resources and advice.

Combined with the results from 2022, the ads have been viewed 2.68 million times on TikTok and 1.16 million times on Facebook and Instagram. As a result, 13,800 people clicked to view the Lives Worth Living website across all platforms.

Lives Worth Living is a suicide prevention and post-vention response service for the Mid Canterbury region. The programme is run by a highly experienced team, including a mental health clinician and community health promoter, who work with people on their journey through loss and provide education about suicide prevention.





Refugee Health Nurse boosts support provided by resettlement service

In September 2025, we were pleased to welcome Tegan McCully to our team as a Refugee Health Nurse - a role that is delivered as part of the wider Refugee Settlement Support Service in Ashburton.



Born and raised in rural New South Wales, Australia, Tegan worked around the world, prior to basing herself in Aotearoa New Zealand.

"Most of my nursing career has been centred around community health and I have worked with different cultural groups in the Northern Territory, rural Guyana, Costa Rica and London," she says. "Working with the Afghan community in rural New Zealand has been a great opportunity to work in a humanitarian role locally. The Refugee Health Nurse position allows me to combine my clinical knowledge with a practical understanding of rural communities and the importance of providing accessible, culturally responsive support."

Support services to help refugees settle into their new home include a Refugee Health Navigation Service which links families with healthcare providers in the district. When a new family arrives, the Navigators can enrol them with a local GP, book medical appointments, offer transport to and from their appointments, and provide interpretation services.

Tegan says as the Refugee Health Nurse, part of her role is reactive, responding to immediate needs as they arise, while the rest of her work focuses on early intervention and prevention. With post-graduate qualifications in occupational health and professional supervision, as well as her Bachelor of Nursing, she is well-equipped to help bridge the gap between primary and secondary health services for the families she supports.

"I help bridge the gap between families and the health system, supporting people to understand services, attend appointments, navigate unfamiliar processes and build their confidence to manage their own health and wellbeing, so that a year or two after their arrival they can manage independently."

"The dynamic nature of this role means I can be reviewing complex health concerns with a family in the morning, advocating for an acute appointment or taking them for a blood test at lunch time, and having a cup of tea with them in the afternoon to discuss new medication plans."

Before and after the families arrive in New Zealand, they go through various health screenings. Once they get to Ashburton, the Refugee Health team will provide orientation training to help them navigate the health system.

Tegan says she aims to be innovative in how she addresses complex needs, particularly those related to challenges with adjusting to life in Ashburton or trauma. She says one initiative that has worked well has been delivering trauma-informed yoga classes for women, which was made possible through funding from Advance Ashburton. She has also completed courses on grief and loss, and understanding and healing trauma, which closely aligns with her work.

"This role is a privilege, and I thoroughly enjoy working with the resettlement team, while learning from and valuing different cultural perspectives. I believe it is critical to maintain our humanity and to try and understand life beyond the edges of our own upbringing," Tegan says.

"I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to play a part in supporting families as they rebuild their lives, and help them foster a sense of belonging and confidence as they find their place in a new community."

Ashburton has become a safe and welcoming place for the resettlement of former refugees under the New Zealand Government Refugee Quota Programme, established in 2020.

The town is proud to be one of thirteen settlement locations in New Zealand and receives approximately 110 people per year from the national yearly quota of 1500.

Since 2020, the Refugee Settlement Support Service in Ashburton has provided specialised settlement support to newly arriving families for their first two years.

The settlement programme is a collaboration between Safer Mid Canterbury and the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE).



Ngā Whānau Tūkino Kore
Safe Families Network

An impactful event in Ashburton focused on family violence, trauma and addiction, mental health, healing and hope helped inspire attendees with ways they could support community wellbeing.

The public presentation and a professional development workshop were hosted by former gang member turned public speaker, Lucky Te Koha.

Safe Families Coordinator Anna Arrowsmith said the event, supported by Advance Ashburton and the Tindall Foundation, brought together about 160 members of the public as well as 40 professionals.

"Lucky's message was challenging and inspiring, reinforcing that no matter a person's starting point, change and healing are possible. The impact of both sessions was significant, and attendees left feeling motivated and better equipped to support the wellbeing and safety of our community."

Safe Families Ashburton has been working hard for almost two decades to raise awareness and educate people about family violence and its prevention.

It was formed in 2008 in response to an increasing number of domestic incidents in the Ashburton district and highlights the issue through various initiatives and campaigns.

In addition to Lucky Te Koha's presentation and workshop session, Safe Families has in the last year supported Women's Refuge's "Paint the Town Purple" campaign, an initiative aimed at showing visible community support for people affected by family violence.

The campaign encouraged local businesses and organisations to decorate their windows and wear purple as a symbol of solidarity, hope, and commitment to ending violence in the district. Anna says the initiative helped spark important conversations around family violence, safety, and support services available in Mid Canterbury.

Safe Families was also the recipient of the Love Grace Handbag Appeal which supports women affected by domestic violence. It was created as a legacy for Grace Millane, who was murdered while travelling New Zealand in 2018. The initiative involves people donating a handbag filled with essential items which are then distributed to women in need at refuges or hospitals. Anna says that about 70 handbags were received and then given to women in need in the community.

A bi-monthly meeting hosted by Safe Families is attended by about 50 representatives from other community organisations who collaborate on initiatives to help reduce violence in the district, including the annual White Ribbon Day campaign. On White Ribbon Day, men are encouraged to take a stand against violence and promote respectful and healthy relationships.

"We continue to support and acknowledge nationwide campaigns like White Ribbon Day through community awareness, education, and engagement activities that encourage conversations around safety, accountability, and wellbeing for individuals and families within our community," Anna says.

"This year our annual quiz night fundraiser had about 210 people attend which was amazing to see. The night is always a lot of fun and raises much needed funding for a great cause."

More than 200 women also came together for an event called Thrive: Women, Work and Wellness in October.





Top photo: Lucky Te Koha at our public talk. Bottom photo: The Safe Families Network White Ribbon Quiz organising committee.

Ā mātou ratonga
Our services

Community Youth Programme
Hōtaka Rangatahi

What we do: The Community Youth programme has been providing young offenders and those at risk of offending with positive alternatives since 2010. Young people entering the youth justice system (generally for lower-level offending) are referred to us, so that we can support them to engage in positive activity and ultimately halt their offending.

This year: Staff working in this service have been very busy with 25 referrals. Most young people on this programme have successfully made changes in their lives, which is positive for our community.



Supervision without Activity / Supported Bail
Kaitiaki Whakahono

What we do: Supervision without Activity / Supported Bail has been operating since 2018. This contract is aimed at higher level youth offenders and is an intervention before a residential sentence, or is a mandated intervention for a youth offender leaving a residential environment and returning to the community. It is an intensive service, where staff may spend up to 20 hours per week with an offender, engaging them in positive activity with a view to stopping their offending.

This year: There was one client referral for this service.



CACTUS *(Combined Adolescent Challenge Training Unit and Support)*
Toi Rangatahi Toi Ora

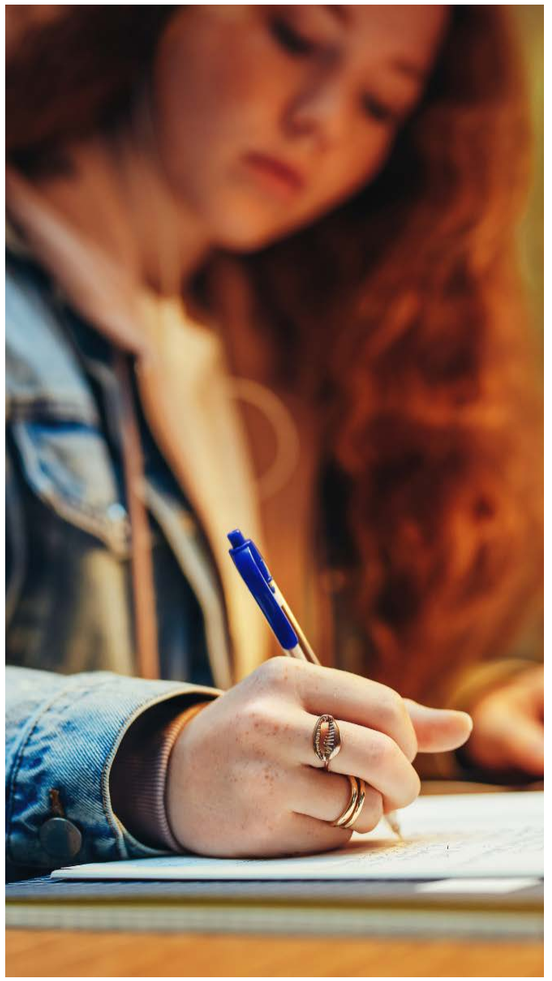
What we do: CACTUS supports young people to discover their inner strengths and abilities to reach their potential. Activities promote self-esteem, confidence and physical fitness. Each course is followed by an overnight camp to introduce participants to new camping and bush skills, and also to celebrate their achievements throughout the course. A five-day advanced course is also run each summer for those who have excelled in the basic courses.

This year: Our CACTUS programme had 43 trainees complete the programme this year.

Refugee Post Settlement Support Service
Ratonga Nohonga Taurewa

What we do: We receive funding from the Ministry of Social Development to support refugee families once they are settled and no longer receive support from the Refugee Settlement Service. This service runs groups, social activities, and a youth group, and provides ongoing education and skills supporting families to settle well in New Zealand.

This year: We worked with 65 young people, 74 families and 36 women through our group activities.



Transition Service
Ratonga Whakatangata

What we do: The Transition Service is contracted to community providers across the country, with the aim of supporting young people who are, or have been at any point after the age of 15, in the care of the State. The concept involves assisting these young people into adulthood and everything this entails. The young person can gain a high level of support up to the age of 21 and can come back for assistance up to the age of 25.

This year: We have worked with nine young people over the year.

Food Rescue Aoraki

What we do: Food Rescue Aoraki became part of Safer Mid Canterbury at the start of 2024, after its parent organisation, Foodbank Aotearoa, had to close its doors at the end of 2023. Food Rescue Aoraki has four staff and many volunteers who collect food that can't be sold from local supermarkets and food producers. The team then redistribute it to organisations providing food parcels to people in need throughout the Mid and South Canterbury districts.

This year: More than 126,005 kg of food has been rescued and distributed throughout Mid and South Canterbury.

Refugee Health Navigation Service
Ratonga Whakatere Hauora Taurewa

What we do: The Refugee Health Navigation Service links refugee families with health care providers in the Ashburton district. It is part of Safer Mid Canterbury's Refugee Settlement Service.When a new family arrives in the district, Health Navigators can enrol them with a local GP, book medical appointments, offer transport to and from their appointments, and provide interpretation services. The Health Navigators liaise with other health providers including dentists, optometrists, community labs, and other specialists to ensure refugee families are well supported.

This year: We have assisted with 731 appointments providing support, navigation and interpretation.



Ā mātou ratonga
Our services

Attendance Services
Ratonga Kuranga

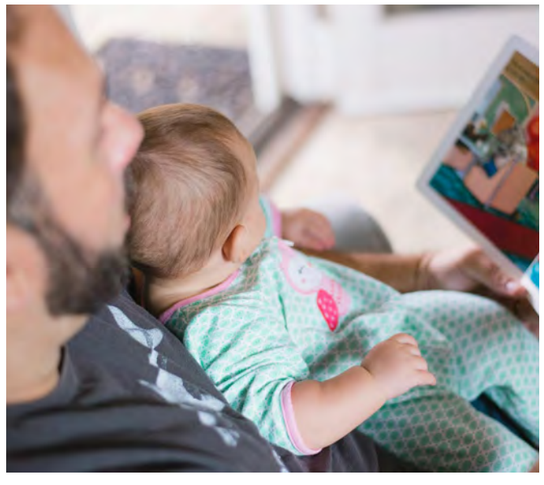
What we do: Safer Mid Canterbury has delivered Attendance Services in the Ashburton district since 2002. We successfully tendered to continue this service from 1 June, which has grown to include a Youth Advocate and Cultural Navigator to help families and young people maintain a connection to education.

This year: Between 1 June – 31 December we worked with 44 unjustified absences and 46 young people who were not enrolled. Between 1 January – 30 June under the new contract, we worked with 32 young people who were chronically absent from school, and 49 non-enrolled.

Lives Worth Living
He Oranga Whai Hua

What we do: Lives Worth Living was developed by Safer Mid Canterbury in 2019 to address concerns around suicide and its ongoing impact on the Mid Canterbury community. Lives Worth Living is a community-funded project, employing people to work in suicide prevention and provide support in the event of a death by suicide in the district.

This year: This work has been very busy with the delivery of a range of programmes, support, and educational awareness activities. This year, we had 353 group education attendees and 22 individual client referrals.



Safe Families Network
Ngā Whānau Tūkino Kore

What we do: The Safe Families Network was formed in 2008 in response to increasing levels of family violence. The coordinator promotes the prevention and awareness of family violence, runs activities and events, and develops resources to help victims and offenders access information and assistance. The coordinator brings agencies together to work collectively to reduce family violence.

This year: We worked with, and supported, 15 agencies, held 12 collaborative meetings, and six trainings.

Rural Driver Licensing Scheme
Te Hōtaka Whai Raihana ki Taiwhenua

What we do: The Rural Driver Licensing Scheme provides free support, tuition and subsidised driving tests to migrant women living in rural parts of the district. It is a partnership between Safer Mid Canterbury and the Mid Canterbury Rural Support Trust. The test fees and tuition are subsidised by the programme. Because many of the women have young children, there are also volunteer child minders available and a volunteer who can drive participants into town if transport is a barrier.

This year: The following licences were achieved: 24 learners, 13 restricted and 19 full.

Community Service Support
Ratonga Hapori

What we do: Safer Mid Canterbury works in close partnership with several smaller trusts in our district. The support we provide generally involves the employment and day-to-day oversight of coordinators of various projects in our community. We see this as a great way to reduce overheads and workloads for small volunteer trusts.

This year: We have supported a range of organisations including Neighbourhood Support, Hakatere Multicultural Council, and Ashburton Senior Citizens.

Refugee Settlement Support Service
Ratonga Taurewa

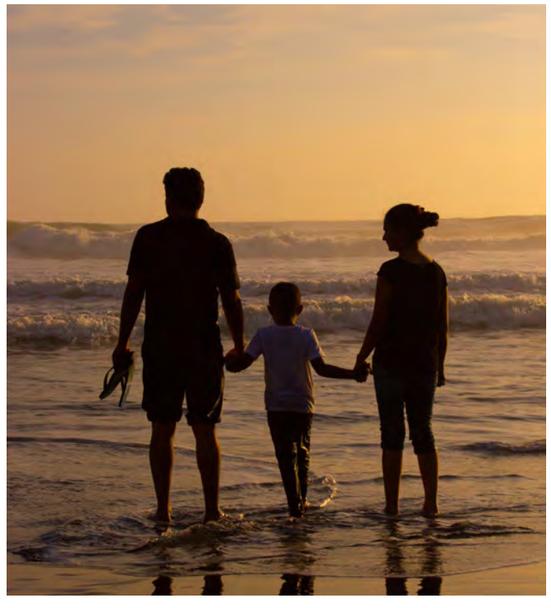
What we do: The Refugee Settlement Support Service provides intensive support to new refugees in their first 24 months of settlement in a new area. It assists them in every aspect of settling in, from housing and enrolling with a local GP, to school enrolments and social engagement.

This year: We have supported 113 Afghan refugees to settle in the Ashburton district.

Safe Communities
Hapori Haumaru

What we do: Safe Communities Ashburton District is a collaboration of 27 agencies involved across a range of community safety areas. It aims to reduce injury and crime, and enhance safety over time. By combining agency skills and resources, we can have a bigger impact on identifying and responding to community safety concerns.

This year: This was our seventh year of delivering our work plan. We continued to bring together the 27 organisations, and worked on three community initiatives over the year.





Ashburton Senior Citizens/Thrive

What we do: Thrive is a home-based service that provides support and advocacy for seniors. This involves delivering food parcels in collaboration with Food Rescue Aoraki; offering regular visits and telephone calls; organising monthly supporters' lunches; and providing bespoke support for those who need assistance with independent living. It is also a Total Mobility provider for the Ashburton district. The service, formerly known as Ashburton Senior Citizens Incorporated, came under Safer Mid Canterbury's umbrella in January 2024.

This year: Over the past 12 months we have distributed 1168 food parcels, supported 78 clients with Total Mobility, and have had 61 client referrals for one-to-one support.

Restorative Justice Service
Houhou Rongo

What we do: Safer Mid Canterbury has delivered Restorative Justice Services in the Ashburton District Court since this initiative was established in 1999. We have also picked up the contracts for the Timaru and Ōamaru courts. When a person appears in court charged with an offence, the Judge may refer them to the Restorative Justice service, if they have pleaded guilty to their offence. The process involves a pre-conference with the offender and victim, before a conference between both parties, where the harm is addressed and various plans and actions are agreed.

This year: We carried out 277 pre-conferences and 45 full conferences for this service, across the Ashburton, Timaru and Ōamaru courts.

Ō mātou tāngata
Our people



Ana Taufa

Ana is the Coordinator for the Hakatere Multi Cultural Council (HMCC). Originally from Tonga, Ana moved to Ashburton in 2009, and says it is now a place she proudly calls home. She oversees three main areas of work, including the HMCC, Mid Canterbury Newcomers' Network, the Mid Canterbury Migrant and Ethnic Leaders' Forum, and supports new residents moving to the district. In her spare time, Ana enjoys camping with her family and supporting her children in their sporting endeavours.

Anna Arrowsmith

Anna is the Safe Families Network Coordinator. Her qualifications and background are in psychology and counselling. Born and raised in Ashburton, Anna likes being part of our close community and all that it has to offer. In her spare time, she enjoys reading and being with her whānau and friends.





Brittany Jordan

Brittany was an Attendance Advisor, who worked with tamariki in Geraldine. Her role finished in December 2025 as the contract no longer covered her area. The new provider of this service employed Brittany. Thank you, Brittany, for all of your work.



Bronnie McKenna – Team Leader Child and Youth Services, Court Services, Family and Community Services

Bronnie is the Court Services/Restorative Justice Team Leader, and a Restorative Justice Facilitator for both Ashburton and Timaru Courts. She is passionate about her work and helping victims and offenders of crime move forward positively. In her spare time, Bronnie and her family love spending time together, having fun on the water.



Christine Phillips

Christine has been employed by Food Rescue Aoraki for the past three years. She enjoys working with an awesome team and finds her mahi supporting people in Mid and South Canterbury very rewarding. Christine is also passionate about reducing food wastage. When she's not at Food Rescue Aoraki, Christine works with the elderly and enjoys caring for her grandson.

Cindy Gleave

Cindy is the Cultural Navigator for the Attendance Service, bringing a deeply-rooted connection to Te Ao Māori and a lifelong passion for kapa haka to this newly-created role. With a background as a teacher aide and an interest in neurodiversity, they are dedicated to supporting tamariki and whānau in ways that honour identity, culture and belonging. Guided by the values of whānaungatanga, manaakitanga and aroha, they help create pathways for positive engagement and success.



Coby Snowden

Coby is the Minute Secretary for Safer Mid Canterbury and some of its groups. With a background in accounting, she is also treasurer for many organisations. When not spending time with her daughters, Coby's spare time is filled with creative writing and Fullbore Target Shooting.





Dagmar Rohrbach

Dagmar joined the Ōamaru Restorative Justice team as a facilitator trainee in 2022. She trained as a lawyer in Germany and has a background in corporate law and communications. In her spare time, she enjoys exploring Aotearoa with her family, and playing in and on the water.

Darian Hurst-Long

Darian is a Kāiawhina with the School Attendance Service and is the CACTUS Programme Coordinator. As a registered teacher, she has a background in health, physical and outdoor education, and in health and youth worker roles. She has previously worked in schools throughout the South Island, as well as for He Waka Tapu and The Y. She enjoys taking her two dogs for runs; spending time with her fiancé; training for events such as the Coast to Coast; and Latin dancing. You might also find her poolside at the EA Networks Centre teaching aqua classes or helping out on the gym floor.





Elaine Aldridge

Elaine has recently joined Mid Canterbury Neighbourhood Support, working alongside Sue. Her role involves maintaining and updating the Neighbourhood Support databases. Originally from the UK, Elaine moved here 15 years ago to be with her family. She worked for 14 years as a Support Worker for IDEA Services.



Elizabeth (Ferg) Ferguson

Elizabeth is the Refugee Post Settlement Support Service Coordinator. She joined the team after working as a secondary school teacher for 36 years in Australia and New Zealand. Elizabeth loves vegetable gardening, crafts, travelling and trying delicious food with friends and family.



Haider Ahmadi

Haider has been working as a Bilingual Health Navigator with the Refugee Resettlement Support Service since 2021. He helps refugee families navigate through the New Zealand health system. Haider is originally from Afghanistan, and has been living in New Zealand for 20 years. He looks forward to supporting more refugee families to resettle in Ashburton in the future.

Hayley Dunlop

Having previously worked at Allenton School for eight years, and spending two years as a Kaiāwhina on our Attendance Service team, Hayley is now a Family Caseworker for the Refugee Settlement Support Service. She also works as a gymnastics coach. In her spare time, she spends quality time with her children who play a range of different sports, and she enjoys riding dirt bikes and going on adventurous 4WD trips. You can also find her down at the track with her partner, who races in the 2K Cup.



Ō mātou tāngata
Our people



Helen McKeown

Helen was the Operations Manager for Food Rescue Aoraki for both the Ashburton and Timaru warehouses. She retired in May 2026. Thanks, Helen, for your amazing work to keep this important service going.

Jacqui Paterson



Jacqui joined Safer Mid Canterbury in 2024 as the Coordinator for Ashburton Senior Citizens Inc. She considers it a privilege to work alongside the Safer Mid Canterbury team because everyone is working for the good of the community. Jacqui also works as a Front of House Assistant and Researcher at the Ashburton Art Gallery and Museum. In her spare time, she enjoys walking, reading, writing, op shopping, spending time with whānau, and developing her artistic talents.



Jane Wallace – Refugee and Migrant Services Team Leader

Jane took over from Kathy as Refugee and Migrant Services Team Leader in March 2025. Before joining Safer Mid Canterbury, she was the Oranga Tamariki—Ministry for Children Site Manager for Te Kakahu o Aoraki. Jane enjoys spending time at the beach with whānau and her two-year-old Saint Bernard dog, Abbey. She also loves op-shopping, cooking, gardening, and binge watching a good Netflix series.

Jill Herbert



New to the Mid Canterbury area, Jill is a Kaiāwhina with the Attendance Service. She has previously worked in different social service roles throughout Otago and Southland. Jill spends her spare time on the upkeep of her section, exercising her dogs, and entertaining.



Karen Henderson

Karen works with the team at Food Rescue Aoraki maintaining and operating the work van. Before this role, she spent six years working as a rest home caregiver. Outside of work, Karen enjoys spending time with her three adult children, daughter-in-law, and five grandchildren. She lives with her partner, four small dogs and two cats, and enjoys camping and spending time outdoors.

Keri Kuru



As Safer Mid Canterbury's Transition Kaimahi, Keri works alongside rangatahi to support and guide them as they transition to adulthood. Keri has worked with young people most of her adult life including running outdoor activities, adventure-based programmes, and youth-focused community events. Keri enjoys spending quality time with her whānau; hiking; trail running; going to the gym; travelling, and riding her Indian Scout motorcycle.

Me mahi tahi tātou, mo te oranga o te katoa (we should work together for the wellbeing of everyone).



Kevin Clifford – General Manager

Kevin has been the General Manager of Safer Mid Canterbury since 2006. His favourite parts of the job are working with people who are dedicated to helping others, and the enjoyment of making a difference in people's lives. Kevin is involved with a number of other community boards and trusts, and is an active volunteer in the community. He enjoys the outdoors and spending time with his family.

Kim Hamill

Safer Mid Canterbury contracts bookkeeping and payroll company Nimba to look after our day-to-day finances, payroll and reporting. This provides us with the security of knowing we have Kim and her team looking after our financial comings and goings.





Kirsten Dixon

Based in Ōamaru, Kirsten works for Safer Mid Canterbury as a Restorative Justice Facilitator across Waitaki and South Canterbury. She has a specialist endorsement in facilitating cases involving family harm. Kirsten also works in conflict resolution, communications coaching, and as a professional supervisor for the social services sector.

Lesley Symington

Lesley is the Safe Communities Coordinator. The initiative aims to address safety issues for the district by having agencies pool their skills and resources to devise solutions. Lesley has a background in local government community services and enjoys creating programmes to help people. In her spare time, Lesley enjoys walks with her dog, antiquing, reading, and travel.





Luke Reihana

Luke is a butcher by trade and has been in the food industry for many years. He has been in the role of Operations Coordinator of Food Rescue Aoraki (FRA) since May 2026, following the retirement of Helen McKeown. Redirecting food that would end up in landfill to organisations that in turn help Mid and South Canterbury families is a very powerful motivation for Luke. He says the staff and volunteers of FRA are the best part of his job and values their knowledge and care. Luke is Temuka-born and bred, and outside of work he coaches rugby and enjoys fishing and hunting with his three young children.

Matilda Dellow

Matilda is a driver for the Refugee Resettlement Service. She enjoys getting to know the families she works with, and welcoming them into the district. Matilda enjoys knitting, reading and shopping, and is keen on travel.





Matt Trudgeon

Matt supports the Senior Citizens' Coordinator by delivering food parcels, visiting residents, and taking people to do their shopping. He is passionate about helping seniors in the community to thrive. As well as being a huge Star Wars' fan, his spare time consists of reading, exploring family history, spending quality time with family, working on art projects, and enjoying time with his four-legged fur children.

Ō mātou tāngata
Our people



Michael Henderson-Purdom

Mike works with the Refugee Settlement Support Service team as a Family Caseworker. He has spent the last several years studying towards becoming a social worker. Mike is very family orientated and loves spending time with his kids.



Navid Bashir

Navid has been working as a Cultural Navigator with the Refugee Settlement Support Service since 2021. He assists the team to understand the cultural needs of refugee families settling in Mid Canterbury, as well as helping with communication support. Navid is originally from Afghanistan and speaks Farsi and Dari. He enjoys being part of this service and helping refugee families to settle in well.



Nicolee Ayton

As part of our Refugee Settlement Support Service, Nicolee coordinates the housing for families when they arrive in Ashburton. She has previously worked as a property manager in Christchurch, and as the Mid Canterbury Newcomers' Network Coordinator. Outside of work, Nicolee enjoys spending time with her horses either at the races or competing in jumping competitions.



Nuria Abdullah

Nuria is a bilingual Health Navigator with the Refugee Settlement Support Service. Born in Ghazni, Afghanistan, she moved with her family to Pakistan as a child, growing up in Karachi. Nuria was educated at Karachi University and can speak several languages, including Farsi/Dari, Urdu, Hindi and English. She has lived in New Zealand for the last 13 years. Nuria loves to work alongside people from all cultures and communities, and to learn something new from them.



Pup Chamberlain

Pup has been at Safer Mid Canterbury since 2019 as a Suicide Prevention Coordinator. He has had previous experience in health and education and spent many years as a Police Officer, mostly in the Mid Canterbury region. Pup enjoys working with adults and young people, supporting them to enjoy fulfilled lives. When he's not at work, Pup likes spending time with family, fishing and watching his pacers.



Rachael Price

Rachael is Safer Mid Canterbury's administrator and receptionist. She can generally be found at the front desk welcoming visitors, answering phone calls and emails, overseeing vehicle maintenance, editing the Safer Mid Canterbury website, and doing her best to help things run smoothly for her colleagues. Rachael enjoys following figure skating and ice hockey, hosting a weekly quiz night in town, and deep dives into specific subjects.

Rachel MacIntosh

In her role at Food Rescue Aoraki, Rachel is kept busy collecting food from supermarkets and redistributing the kai to organisations. Previously, Rachel had worked in community mental health roles, so understands the stress that food insecurity can bring to whānau. Now semi-retired, Rachel enjoys spending time with her family and friends, cooking, and gardening.





Rana Kohunui

As Safer Mid Canterbury's Youth Justice kaimahi, Rana supports rangatahi by guiding them towards making positive changes, and accessing new opportunities. In her spare time, Rana is passionate about embracing Te Ao Māori, and enjoys learning, teaching, and creating in this space.

Ruth Swale

Ruth is an accredited Restorative Justice facilitator based in Timaru. Her background is in advocacy, mental health, and disability support roles. Her self-care includes tending to her garden, reading voraciously, walking by the sea, and enjoying cat therapy with her tortoiseshell rascal.





Sarah Clifford

Sarah is a Case Worker for the Refugee Resettlement Service. She also started CanInspire Charitable Trust, and has been the South Island Women's Representative Smallbore Shooter six times. Sarah is passionate about the community and lifelong learning.

Sue Abel

Sue has been with Mid Canterbury Neighbourhood Support, which focuses on community and neighbours looking out for each other, since 2021. Alongside her role with Neighbourhood Support, Sue also runs the Civil Defence Get Ready programme. Outside of work, she enjoys spending time in the outdoors and gardening.





Tania King

Tania is a Supervised Contact Supervisor who helps to reconnect children with their parent or parents in a safe way. Aside from working in a job she loves, she enjoys cooking, reading and spending time with her family.

Ō mātou tāngata
Our people



Tegan McCully

Tegan is a Registered Nurse. She works closely with former refugee families to support their health and wellbeing, providing education, coordinating care, and helping individuals confidently navigate the New Zealand health system. Tegan is passionate about building strong, meaningful relationships and developing culturally responsive, trauma-informed initiatives that support positive resettlement outcomes. In her spare time, she loves to explore Canterbury trails and tracks by bike or foot, spending time with her family, growing flowers, and yoga.

Toni Sweetman



Toni feels fortunate to be doing a job that she loves as a Restorative Justice Facilitator, helping people work through harm resulting from crime. Having only recently returned to Safer Mid Canterbury (after a five-year break to work on and in our local café), it is like Toni has never been away! With an earlier career in the Police, Toni feels like her work is doing the full circle – previously prosecuting offenders for crimes, she is now able to work to soften or reduce the long-term impact for victims, and support offenders to make positive changes in their lives.



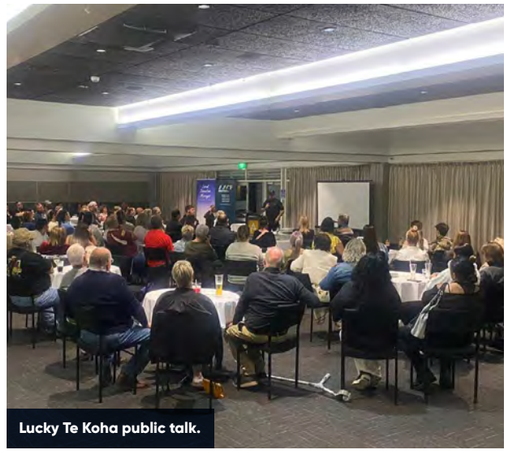
Wendy Hewitt

Wendy is the Rural Driver Licensing Scheme Coordinator. The programme assists newcomers to gain a driver's licence, leading to less isolation and more independence for newcomers and migrants in Mid Canterbury. Wendy is also the Volunteer Coordinator for the Refugee Settlement Support Service. This role involves supporting volunteers, managing donations, and setting up houses for the new families. When not at work, Wendy enjoys spending time with family, gardening, and walking the dog.

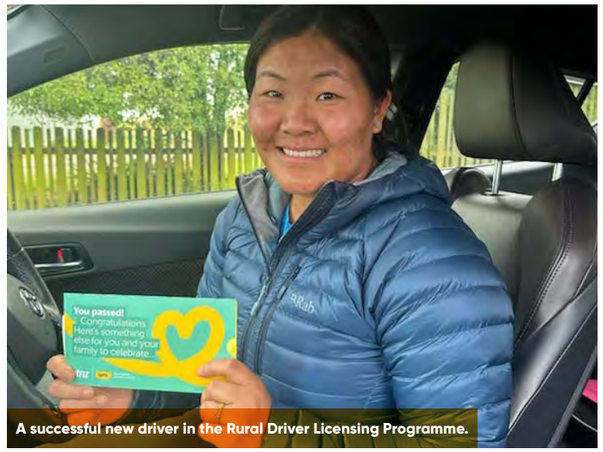
Farewells

This year we farewelled two team members from Safer Mid Canterbury. **Brittany Jordan** (who is still doing the role, but Geraldine is no longer part of our Attendance Service contract) and **Helen McKeown** (who has retired). Thank you both for all of your hard work over the years.

Whakaahua
Photographs



Lucky Te Koha public talk.



A successful new driver in the Rural Driver Licensing Programme.



Kids at the 2025 White Ribbon at Fun Day.



Love Grace Handbag Appeal photo with Anna Arrowsmith and Eliza Waszczak.



White Ribbon Fun Day 2025.



Rural Driver Licensing Programme practise underway.

Financial report

Performance Report 2026

Safer Mid Canterbury
For the year ended 30 June 2026

Prepared by Nimba Limited

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Entity Information

Safer Mid Canterbury
For the year ended 30 June 2026

Legal Name of Entity

Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board

Entity Type and Legal Basis

Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board was incorporated as a charitable trust under the Charitable Trusts Act 1957.

Registration Number

Incorporated Charitable Trust No: 606871

Charities Commission No: CC22733

Entity's Purpose or Mission

We provide a variety of free and confidential services for the Ashburton community. The organisations focus is upon improving the safety of the local community with a diverse range of services available to young people and their families of all ages.

Keeping families safe by enabling them to engage with their community is a priority for The Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board. We endeavour to assist the community in creating healthy, strong and well supported young people and families.

The organisations direction is guided by the principle that; "a sustainable safer community will only be achieved through providing services and programmes that support and strengthen individuals and families, enabling them to make good choices and through providing positive opportunities and pathways for them to choose".

Entity Structure

Ashburton Safer Mid Canterbury operates as s single unit.

Entitys Governance Arrangements

The Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board (the Board) governs the organisation. The Board is comprised of approximately 20 representatives at any one time, appointed in accordance with the Trust Deed.

Board members are people in positions of community responsibility, from within the Ashburton District. The Board sets the organisation's strategic direction and ensures agencies share information and work together on partnered solutions. The organisation is governed by a Trust Board appointed from the members.

Further to the Board are five elected Trustees, elected by the main Board. The Trustees meet monthly to handle the approval of Financial reports and oversee the General Manager.

The organisation employs a full-time General Manager, who reports to both the full Board and Trustees.

The Trustees Chair, who is always Chair of the full Board, oversees the General Manager.

Main Sources of Entity's Cash and Resources

Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board retains surplus funds in bank and short term deposit accounts.

Main Methods Used by Entity to Raise Funds

Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board receives most of its funding from local and national government agencies specifically aimed at providing services within the Trust's core object areas.

Entity's Reliance on Volunteers and Donated Goods or Services

The Trust Board relies on volunteered time for its oversight role.

Physical Address

255 Moore Street, Ashburton, 7700

Postal Address

255 Moore Street, Ashburton, 7700

Approval of Financial Report

Safer Mid Canterbury
For the year ended 30 June 2026

The Trustees are pleased to present the approved financial report including the historical financial statements of Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board for year ended 30 June 2026.

APPROVED

Tony Todd

Trustee

Date 1/10/2026

Trustee

Date 1/10/2026

Statement of Service Performance

Safer Mid Canterbury
For the year ended 30 June 2026

Description of Medium and long term Objectives

The Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board Strategic Plan is centered on four key outcomes - A safer, stronger community; working together; strong and healthy families; and pathways for young people. These outcomes are aligned with our mission to reduce and prevent crime in the community and its impact on the Ashburton District - together we're safer.

Description of Key Activities

Service	2026 Measure	2025 Measure
Attendance Services	1st Jun 2025 to 31 Dec 2025 Unjustified Absence Referrals: 44 Non-enrolled referrals: 46 1st Jan 2026 to 30 Jun 2026 Chronic Absence Referrals: 32 Non- Enrolment Notification: 49	Unjustified Absence Referrals: 132 No-enrolled referrals:111
CACTUS Programme	Trainees: 43	Trainees: 31
Court Supervised Contact	Contract Ceased	Supervised Contact Hours: 258
Food Rescue Service	Food Rescued: 126,005 kgs	Food Rescued: 131,007kgs
Family Wellbeing Service	Contract Ceased	Client Referrals: 12
Hakatere Multicultural Council	Clients Supported: 146	Clients Supported: 102
Lives Worth Living	Workshop Attendees: 353 Client referrals: 22	Workshop Attendees: 636 Client referrals: 24
Neighbourhood Support	Households on Database: 4,646	Households on Database: 4,709
Post Refugee Settlement Support	Womens Group: 36 Youth Group Attendees: 65 Family Support: 74	Womens Group: 42 Youth Group Attendees: 65 Family Support: 14
Rural Driving Programme	Licenses Achieved: Learners 24 Restricted 13, Full 19	Licenses Achieved: Learners 24, Restricted 18, Full 44
Restorative Justice Service	Pre-conferences held: 277 Full conferences held: 45	Pre-conferences held: 374 Full conferences held: 53
Refugee Counselling Service	Counselling Sessions held: 101	Counselling sessions held: 104
Refugee Health Service	Appointments: 731	Appointments: 784
Refugee Settlement Service	Refugees Settled: 96	Refugees Settled: 113
Safe Communities	Safety Initiatives worked on: 3	Safety Initiatives worked on: 7
Senior Citizens	Food parcels: 1,168 Total Mobility: 78	Food parcels: 615 Total Mobility: 109

Safe Families	Client referrals: 61 Agencies Supported: 15 Training events: 6	Client referrals: 42 Agencies Supported:20 Training events: 6
Transition Service	Client referrals: 9	Client referrals: 4
Youth Justice Service	Client referrals: 26	Client referrals: 19
Youth Support Service	Contract Ceased	Client referrals: 13

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Performance Report and the Independent Auditor's Report.

Statement of Financial Performance

Safer Mid Canterbury
For the year ended 30 June 2026

'How was it funded?' and 'What did it cost?'

	NOTES	2026	2025
Revenue			
Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activity.	1	536,357	712,780
Revenue from commercial activities	1	2,298,074	2,364,414
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	1	7,009	12,853
Other revenue	1	453,909	452,903
Total Revenue		**3,295,350**	**3,542,950**
Expenses			
Employee remuneration and other related expenses	2	1,814,598	1,741,435
Volunteer related expenses		11,030	10,132
Expenses from commercial activities	2	1,382,301	1,460,902
Other expenses	2	138,870	171,083
Total Expenses		**3,346,798**	**3,383,552**
Surplus/(Deficit) for the Year		**(51,448)**	**159,398**

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Performance Report and the Independent Auditor's Report.

Statement of Financial Position

Safer Mid Canterbury
As at 30 June 2026

'What the entity owns?' and 'What the entity owes?'

	NOTES	30 JUN 2026	30 JUN 2025
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash and short term deposits	3	936,394	900,604
Debtors and prepayments	3	211,984	118,725
Other Current Assets	3	94,885	91,114
Total Current Assets		**1,243,263**	**1,110,443**
Non-Current Assets			
Property, Plant and Equipment	5	1,472,595	1,557,394
Other non-current assets	3	46,263	53,595
Total Non-Current Assets		**1,518,858**	**1,610,988**
Total Assets		**2,762,121**	**2,721,431**
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Creditors and accrued expenses	4	753,111	682,930
Employee costs payable	4	221,699	203,273
Current portion of Term Loans	11	48,890	54,037
Other current liabilities	4	25,450	9,372
Total Current Liabilities		**1,049,150**	**949,613**
Non-Current Liabilities			
Loans	11	578,512	588,152
Other non-current liabilities	4	2,240	-
Total Non-Current Liabilities		**580,752**	**588,152**
Total Liabilities		**1,629,903**	**1,537,765**
Total Assets less Total Liabilities (Net Assets)		**1,132,218**	**1,183,666**
Accumulated Funds			
Accumulated surpluses	6	1,111,270	1,162,718
Reserves	6	20,948	20,948
Total Accumulated Funds		**1,132,218**	**1,183,666**

This statement is to be read in conjunction with the Notes to the Performance Report and the Independent Auditor's Report.

Statement of CashFlows

Safer Mid Canterbury
For the year ended 30 June 2026

Statement of Cashflows		
	2026	**2025**
Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activities	546,562	63,884
Revenue from commercial activities	2,201,163	3,064,741
Interest Dividends and other investment revenue	7,009	13,508
Cash receipts from other operating activities	453,909	6,583
GST	43,159	(26,780)
Employee remuneration and other related expenses	(3,204,785)	(2,765,263)
Total Cash Flows from Operating Activities	47,017	356,673
Cash Flows from Other Activities		
Proceeds from loans borrowed from other parties		1,180
Payments to acquire property, plant and equipment		(154,486)
Repayments of loans borrowed from other parties	(14,787)	(9,553)
Cash Flows from other Investing and Financing Activities	8,013	
Westpac Term Deposit 1	(3,065)	(3,143)
Westpac Term Deposit 2	(1,387)	(1,421)
Net Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities	(11,226)	(167,743)
Net Increase / (Decrease) in Cash Balances	35,791	189,250
Cash balances		
Cash and Cash equivalents at beginning of period	900,604	711,354
Cash and Cash equivalents at end of period	936,395	900,604
Net changes in cash for period	35,791	189,250

Statement of Accounting Policies

Safer Mid Canterbury
For the year ended 30 June 2026

Basis of Preparation

This performance report is prepared in accordance with the XRB's Tier 3 (NFP Standard). The entity is eligible to apply these requirements as it does not have public accountability and has total annual expenses of less than $5 million. All transactions in the performance report are reported using the accrual basis of accounting. This performance report is prepared under the assumption that the entity is a going concern and will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

Presentation Currency

The financial statements are presented in New Zealand currency ($), rounded to the nearest whole dollar.

Goods and Services Tax (GST)

The entity is registered for GST. All amounts are stated exclusive of goods and services tax (GST) except for accounts payable and accounts receivable which are stated inclusive of GST.

Income Tax

Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board is wholly exempt from New Zealand income tax having fully complied with all statutory conditions for these exemptions.

Changes in Accounting Policies

There have been no changes in accounting policies. Policies have been applied on a consistent basis with those of the previous reporting period.

Bank and Cash

Bank accounts and cash in the Statement of Cash Flows comprise cash balances and bank balances with original maturities of 90 days or less.

Fundraising and Grants

Fundraising and Grant income is accounted for depending on whether or not it has a "use or return" condition attached. Where no use or return conditions are attached, the revenue is recorded as income when the cash is received. Where income includes a use or return condition, it is initially recorded as a liability on receipt. The income is then subsequently recognised within the Statement of Financial performance as the performance conditions are met.

Property, Plant & Equipment

Property, plant & equipment are shown at cost or valuation less any accumulated depreciation and impairment losses.

Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on a diminishing value basis on all property, plant and equipment, at rates that will write off the cost of the assets to their estimated residual values over their useful lives. The depreciation rates and useful lives associated with major classes of assets have been estimated as follows:

Computers & Equipment	5 to 8 yrs 10% to 50% DV	Furniture & Fittings	4 to 15 yrs 9.5% to 25% DV
Buildings	No Depreciation	Motor Vehicles	4 to 15 yrs 25% to 30% DV

Notes to the Performance Report

Safer Mid Canterbury
For the year ended 30 June 2026

	2026	2025
1. Analysis of Revenue		
Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activity		
Accident Compensation Corporation - Income carried forward	-	8,535
ADC - Grants Carried Forward	19,315	-
Advance Ashburton	3,480	3,000
ADC - Grants	275,882	296,211
Ashburton College	-	(490)
Braided Rivers Community Trust Ashburton	-	1,955
CCS Discretionary Fund B - SIQ	-	(1,532)
Community Organisation Grants	-	12,000
Community Trust Mid Sth Canty	12,500	12,519
DIA Lotteries - Funding for Change Grant	-	47,851
Discretionary Funds: Income	4,060	2,351
Donations - Food Rescue Aoraki	-	1,000
Donations Received - Safe Families	7,382	6,029
Donations Received	2,487	26,855
Fundraising Income - Safer Families	852	16,652
Lion Foundation	-	20,000
Lottery Board NZ	139,743	90,632
Lottery Board NZ - Income carried forward	-	575
Lottery Board - Purchase of Van	-	70,000
Mackenzie Charitable Foundation	16,667	33,333
Perpetual Guardian Funding	-	3,500
Rotary Club of Ashburton	-	2,000
Sponsorship (Income)	987	987
Sport Canterbury	1,669	5,151
Trevor Wilson Charitable Trust	51,333	23,667
Woolworths Food for Good	-	30,000
Total Donations, koha, bequests and other general fundraising activity	**536,357**	**712,780**
Revenue from commercial activities		
Ashburton Youth Health Trust	-	9,654
Dept of Courts - Supervised Contact	9,086	26,485
Food Rescue Aoraki	163,726	-
Hakatere Multi Cultural Council	52,575	60,330
Home Views - Refugee Support	320	1,280
Mid Canty Community Vehicle Trust	7,760	5,508
Mid Canty Rural Driver Licensing Trust	70,018	70,047
Ministry for Ethnic Communities	-	3,230
MBIE	413,121	401,088
MBIE - Pay Equity	103,970	95,193
MoJ - Income carried forward	-	109,990

	2026	2025
Ministry of Social Development	92,914	127,774
MSD - Carried Forward	-	15,356
MoE - ATT Non Enrolled & Cost Pressure Funding	21,907	37,981
MoE - ATT Officer Contract	-	55,000
MoE - Service Contract Jan-Jun	102,933	48,846
MoE - ATT income carried forward	109,677	52,000
MoE Pay Equity Carried Forward	48,950	48,950
MoE - Pay Equity	24,475	-
MoJ - Interpreter Fees Income	-	1,455
MoJ Restorative Justice	317,355	395,867
Neighbourhood Support	54,371	58,378
Oranga Tamariki	217,437	227,719
OT - Fees for Service	-	260
OT - Pay Equity	-	53,972
OT Pay Equity - c/fwd	-	28,216
Pegasus Health: Income carried forward	21,735	16,660
Pegasus Health Charitable Ltd	231,938	175,424
Vehicle Mileage Recovered: External	628	4,411
Rental Income	13,358	13,320
Rents Rec'd: Middle Rd (No GST)	22,378	28,560
Rental Income Rental Properties	27,540	25,680
Rural Driving Programme Participant Contributions	-	-
Senior Citizens Income	78,790	59,462
Tenancy Bond Claims	-	478
Transfer of Holiday Pay Accrual	-	4,345
Vehicle Mileage Recovered: SMC	77,603	87,986
Youth Institute Ashburton	13,510	13,510
Total Revenue from commercial activities	**2,298,074**	**2,364,414**
Interest, dividends and other investment revenue		
Interest Received	7,009	12,853
Total Interest, dividends and other investment revenue	**7,009**	**12,853**
Other revenue		
Gain on Disposal of Assets	-	5,205
Insurance Claims	-	1,978
Overheads Recovered	451,379	444,342
Sundry Income	2,530	1,379
Total Other revenue	**453,909**	**452,903**

	2026	2025
2. Analysis of Expenses		
Employee remuneration and other related expenses		
Annual Leave Taken	148,727	-
Annual Leave Liability Expense	7,639	-

	2026	2025
Wages Salaries & KiwiSaver	1,658,231	1,741,435
Total Employee remuneration and other related expenses	**1,814,598**	**1,741,435**
Volunteer related expenses		
Travel & Conference	11,030	10,132
Total Volunteer related expenses	**11,030**	**10,132**
Expenses from commercial activities		
Accounting Services	94,978	96,215
Accident Compensation Levies Paid	3,707	3,494
Accounting: Out of Scope	5,543	7,915
Advertising	4,428	9,822
Annual Reporting	774	5,555
Bank Charges	748	839
CCS Fund B - SIQ Discretionary Expense	1,336	877
Cleaning & Laundry	13,760	13,636
Client Expenses	23,284	26,906
Client Expenses - ATT	-	660
Client Expenses - PMRS	-	573
Client Expenses - YS	-	422
Computer and Website Expenses	6,431	7,089
Contractor - Geraldine High School	7,898	-
Contractors	78,945	125,129
Discretionary/Emergency Fund - Attendance	1,342	-
Discretionary/Emergency Fund Expense - Transition	51	-
Donations Made Towards Project Costs	31,004	1,043
GPS Safer MC Vehicle Mileage Expense	77,171	88,342
Health & Safety Expenses	840	138
HR & Recruitment Costs	15,289	34,628
Insurance	42,141	37,883
Interpreting Expenses	22,251	14,879
Lease Vehicle Expense	-	3,545
Light Power & Heating	12,667	9,546
Meeting costs	9,880	-
MoJ Clawback	-	62,534
Motor Vehicle Expenses	65,233	74,447
Office Expenses	2,695	1,109
Office Equipment & Plant < $1000	8,269	1,275
Office Software Subscriptions	47,826	36,947
Personal Vehicle Mileage Reimbursed	4,088	4,931
Plant & Equipment Hire	1,070	670
Postage Printing & Stationery	21,882	31,260
Project Costs	29,962	49,988
Rates	8,369	4,528
Rent Payable	100,972	94,792
Rent and Venue Hire: RJ Oamaru	1,311	-

	2026	2025
Rent and Venue Hire: RJ Ashburton	71	141
Rent and Venue Hire: RJ Timaru	1,222	2,377
Rent and Venue Hire: RJ Waitaki	6,299	8,124
Repairs & Maintenance	35,446	14,194
Programme Driver Training	9,058	8,400
Rural Driving Programme Licencing	9,922	15,353
Security	13,305	12,441
Share of Overheads	451,099	444,242
SMC Team Benefits	3,064	2,501
Staff Expenses	18,942	19,906
Supervision	18,697	24,049
Telephone & Internet	37,577	30,102
Training & Resources	17,416	14,307
Vehicle Mileage Personal Expense Reimbursed - Employee and Volunteer	-	405
Venue Hire	12,081	10,434
Volunteer Expenses	1,956	2,307
Total Expenses from commercial activities	**1,382,301**	**1,460,902**
Other expenses		
Auditor & Reviews	14,816	16,300
Bad Debts	680	-
Depreciation	79,981	98,514
Mortgage Interest Paid	37,535	44,556
Legal Expenses	1,039	1,033
Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets	4,818	10,681
Total Other expenses	**138,870**	**171,083**

	2026	2025

3. Analysis of Assets

Bank accounts and cash		
Westpac Debit Card Account	4,305	5,734
Main Petty Cash Account	5	52
NBS Operating Account	577,505	689,797
NBS Capex Account	205,596	106,631
Transition Petty Cash	35	61
Westpac Restorative Justice	9,100	5,302
Westpac Transactional Account	131,330	92,990
Youth Justice Petty Cash	-	38
Staff social bank account	8,519	-
Total Bank accounts and cash	**936,394**	**900,604**
Debtors and prepayments		
Accounts Receivable	181,910	85,242
Prepayments	-	-

	2026	2025
Prepayments - Insurance	30,073	33,483
Total Debtors and prepayments	**211,984**	**118,725**
Other current assets		
Term Deposit 01	65,337	-
Term Deposit 02	29,549	-
Westpac Term Deposit 1	-	62,272
Westpac Term Deposit 2	-	28,162
RSS Loan - Current Portion Mustafa Karimi	-	680
Total Other current assets	**94,885**	**91,114**
Other non-current assets		
Community House - Carpark Loan	46,612	53,943
Sale of Fixed Assets	(349)	(349)
Total Other non-current assets	**46,263**	**53,595**

	2026	2025

4. Analysis of Liabilities

Creditors and accrued expenses		
Accounts Payable	43,272	48,301
Accruals	37,282	9,775
GST	27,930	(9,810)
Income In Advance	644,626	634,664
Total Creditors and accrued expenses	**753,111**	**682,930**
Employee costs payable		
PAYE Payable	-	3,538
Provision for Annual Leave	168,571	164,383
Wages Accrued	50,620	35,995
Wages payable - including PAYE KS and Net wages Employment Hero	2,508	(642)
Total Employee costs payable	**221,699**	**203,273**
Other current liabilities		
Credit Cards	16,931	9,372
Total Other current liabilities	**16,931**	**9,372**
Other non-current liabilities		
Social Club Clearing Account	8,519	-
Total Other non-current liabilities	**8,519**	-

Two of the new vehicles are financed and secured by Heartland bank.

5. Property Plant and Equipment

Asset Class	Opening Carrying Amount	Purchases	Sales/Disposals	Current Year Depreciation	Closing Carrying Amount
2025					
Buildings	964,083				964,083
Furniture & Fittings	370,258	1,408	324	23,085	348,257
Motor Vehicles	155,669	142,068	21,218	66,048	210,470
Office Equipment & Plant	35,724	11,008	9,813	8,252	28,665
Solar System	7,092		47	1,127	5,917
TOTAL	**1,532,826**	**154,485**	**31,404**	**98,513**	**1,557,393**
2026					
Buildings	964,082				964,082
Furniture & Fittings	348,257			19,601	328,656
Motor Vehicles	210,470			56,061	154,409
Office Equipment & Plant	28,665		4,818	3,371	20,477
Solar System	5,917			947	4,971
TOTAL	**1,557,393**		**4,818**	**79,980**	**1,472,595**

6. Accumulated Funds

	2026	2025
Accumulated Funds		
Opening Balance	1,183,666	1,024,268
Accumulated surpluses or (deficits)	(51,449)	159,398
Total Accumulated Funds	**1,132,218**	**1,183,666**
Total Accumulated Funds	**1,132,218**	**1,183,666**

7. Commitments

Commitments to lease or rent assets	Current	Non Current
Community Trust Charitable Trust - Rental Agreement $5,693.56 per month - this includes carpark rental. 13 years starting 27th of July 2023	68,322	614,905
Timaru District Council - Rental Agreement Expires 15th of May 2026 $1,525	0	0
E-Road EH2.2. 12 x monthly rentals of $55 each.	660	1,100
Heartland Technology Photocopier ES5473 & MP301 Expires August 2026 $95 per month	190	0
Heartland Technology Photocopier MPC307 x2 Expires August 2026 $120 per month	240	0
Heartland Technology Photocopier IMC 3000 Expires August 2026 $400 per month	800	0
Heartland Technology Photocopier IMC300 Expires February 2027 $85 per month	680	0
Heartland Technology Photocopier MPC307 Expires January 2027 $65 per month	455	0
Heartland Technology Photocopier MPC 307 (FRA) Expires 20 February 2029 $55 per month, 60 Months - S/N C508P60251	660	1,100
Heartland Technology Smart Touch Screen MX275V4 Expires 20 January 2029 $169 per month. S/N K151PW07P0252	2,028	5,408

8. Related Parties

There were no transactions involving related parties during the financial year ending 30 June 2026. (30 June 2025: Nil).

9. Events After the Balance Date

Food Rescue Aoraki reported a surplus of $99,754 for the year ended 30 June 2025. As part of the transition to an independent entity, the Trust invoiced SAFER for $29,754 in the 2026 financial year. The van, valued at $70,000, will be gifted to the newly established Food Rescue Aoraki Trust in the 2027 financial year.

10. Ability to Continue Operating

The Trust has a strong net asset position. The Trust has sufficient resources in the form of Term Deposits to cover expenses for the period ending 30 June 2027 in the event of a lack of support from funders.

The entity will continue to operate for the foreseeable future.

11. Mortgages

31 Galbraith Street, Ashburton: The Mortgage is secured by the Land & Building at 31 Galbraith Street, Allenton, Ashburton. The interest rate is 5.94% and the term of the Mortgage is 25 years. The final repayment date is 7th of October 2047.

13 Middle Road, Ashburton: The Mortgage is secured by the Land & Building at 13 Midddle Road, Ashburton. The interest rate is 4.87% per annum. The final repayment date is 8th March 2049.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Trustees of the Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board

Report on the Audit of the Performance Report

Opinion

We have audited the performance report of Ashburton Safer Community Council Trust Board (the 'Trust'), which comprises the financial statements, the statement of service performance and the entity information. The complete set of financial statements comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2026, the statement of financial performance, statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the performance report, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying performance report presents fairly, in all material respects:

- The entity information as at 30 June 2026;
- The financial position of the Trust as at 30 June 2026, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended; and
- The service performance for the year ended 30 June 2026 in that the service performance information is appropriate and meaningful and prepared in accordance with the Trust's measurement bases or evaluation methods

  in accordance with the Tier 3 Not-For-Profit Standard ('Tier 3 (NFP) Standard') issued by the New Zealand Accounting Standards Board.

This report is made solely to the Trustees, as a body. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Trustees those matters which we are required to state to them in the auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trustees, as a body, for our audit procedures, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit of the financial statements in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (New Zealand) (ISAs (NZ)), and the audit of the entity information and the audit of the service performance information in accordance with the ISAs (NZ) and New Zealand Auditing Standard ('(NZ AS) 1 (Revised)') *The Audit of Service Performance Information*. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report* section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with Professional and Ethical Standard 1 *International Code of Ethics for Assurance Practitioners (including International Independence Standards (New Zealand)* issued by the New Zealand Auditing and Assurance Standards Board and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other than in our capacity as auditor we have no relationship with, or interests in the Trust.

Trustees' Responsibilities for the Performance Report

The Trustees are responsible on behalf of the Trust for:

a) The preparation and fair presentation of the performance report in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard;

b) The selection of elements/aspects of service performance criteria, performance and/or descriptions and measurement bases or evaluation methods that present service performance information that is appropriate and meaningful in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard;

c) The preparation and fair presentation of service performance information in accordance with the Trust's measurement bases or evaluation methods, in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard;

d) The overall presentation, structure and content of the service performance in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard; and

e) Such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of a performance report that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the performance report, the Trustees are responsible on behalf of the Trust, for assessing the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Trust or cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Performance Report

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether performance report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS 1 (Revised) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this performance report.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (NZ) and NZ AS 1 (Revised), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the performance report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control;
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit of the performance report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal controls;
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management;
- Obtain an understanding of the process applied by the entity to select its elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures and/or descriptions and the measurement bases or evaluation methods;
- Evaluate whether the selection of elements/aspects of service performance, performance measures, and/or descriptions and measurement bases or evaluation methods present an appropriate and meaningful assessment of the Trust's service performance in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard;
- Evaluate whether the service performance information is prepared in accordance with the Trust's measurement bases or evaluation methods, in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard;
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting by the Trustees and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our report to the related disclosures in the performance report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern;
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure, content of the performance report and whether the performance report represents the underlying transactions and events and elements/aspects of service performance in accordance with the Tier 3 (NFP) Standard in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Trustees regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

PKF Goldsmith Fox Audit.

PKF Goldsmith Fox Audit Limited

Christchurch, New Zealand

1 October 2026

Safer Mid Canterbury
Hakatere Haumaru
Together we're safer • Me uru kahikatea

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