

Appendices

Appendix 1 - How did this strategy come about?

Community Development has been a function of Council since 2003. Broadly speaking, this means that MDC has provided funding and support for community organisations and individuals as well as community development initiatives at the grassroots level for a long time.

During the preparation of its Long Term Plan 2018-2028, Council, through its Community Funding Committee, identified some gaps in Council's decision-making framework for community development. As a result, it decided that a strategy should be developed that would state outcomes and goals that would help guide investment and priorities at a community level.

In early 2019, after doing some initial drafting work, Council sought feedback from the community (check out the word cloud on the facing page). We went along to the Feilding Farmer's Market to ask people what they thought about our proposed vision, outcomes and goals for the strategy. We also held a series of eleven community engagement workshops with a total of around 120 participants.

The workshops had representatives from a wide range of community interest groups:

- **Social services**
- **Arts and culture representatives**
- **The aged community**
- **Youth**
- **Tāngata whenua**
- **Environmental groups**
- **Emergency services**
- **Sport and recreation representatives**
- **Multi-cultural communities**
- **Hall committees**
- **Community committees**

As a result of the feedback we received from the community, we revised the strategy's draft outcomes and goals.

The Community Funding Committee then identified actions to ensure that Council can achieve the community development outcomes and goals that were set. These actions fall into three categories:

- 1. Actions Council is already doing**
- 2. Medium-term actions**
- 3. Long term intentions**

The medium-term actions will be incorporated into Council's work plans over the next two years. The long-term intentions will require further research and planning, as well as careful budget consideration. These will be further explored as part of Council's Long Term Plan 2021-31. We will also seek the community's input as we investigate and develop the longer term actions.

