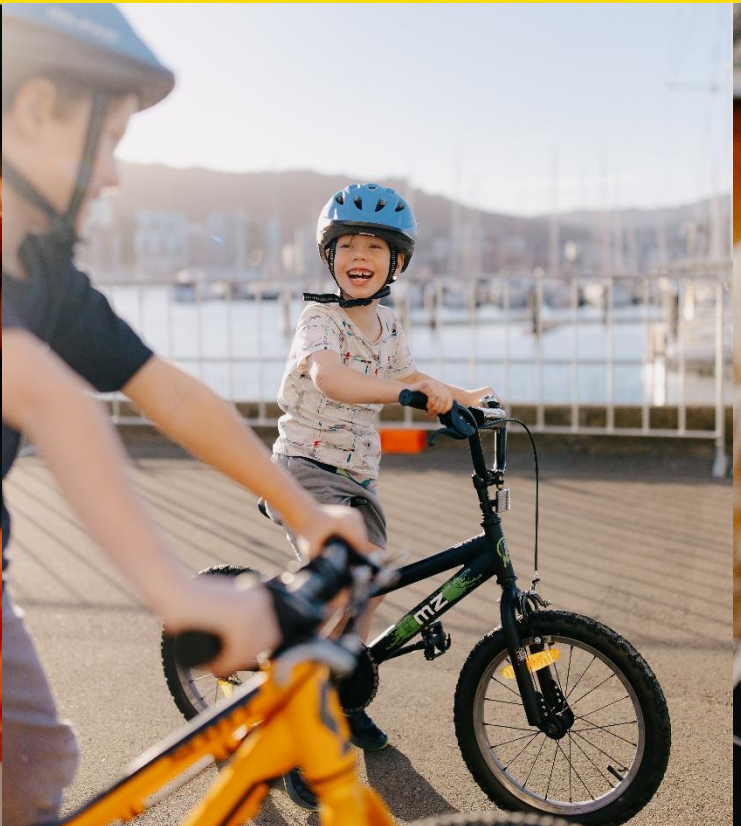
Climate Action Case Studies

Community-led Solutions in Pōneke 2026

Absolutely Positively **Wellington** City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke







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Introduction

Community groups and organisations are already taking climate action around the city. At Wellington City Council, we're supporting this mahi by funding bold ideas and practical projects that help reduce emissions and build a more connected, sustainable city.

The Climate and Sustainability Fund was launched in 2022 as part of Te Atakura – First to Zero, the capital's climate action strategy. Te Atakura sets out steps the Council is taking alongside Wellingtonians to support our shared goal of net zero emissions, with a strong focus on equity, resilience, and partnership with mana whenua and hāpori Māori.

Funding is given to community-led initiatives that reduce emissions and build climate capability. From first-time applicants to long-standing community leaders, the Climate and Sustainability Fund has helped unlock new ideas, build capacity, and strengthen local networks.

Since the fund was launched, we've supported 29 projects with almost $1million in funding to:

- engage over 9,833 people in climate action
- deliver 396 events across the city
- support 130 businesses to start reducing emissions
- enable hundreds of bikes to be repaired and rehomed
- help schools, churches, and whānau take practical steps toward sustainability
- deliver five Māori-led initiatives, contributing to our Tūpiki Ora Māori Strategy.

The following stories celebrate some recent initiatives supported with Council funding. They showcase what's possible when we partner with community groups and invest in people-powered climate solutions. Whether you're a resident, business owner, teacher, community leader or simply a local who wants to see a Pōneke where people and nature thrive, there's a role for you in Wellington's climate journey.

We hope these stories spark ideas, conversations, and new partnerships. Climate change affects everything we do, but it also offers us a chance to reimagine our city and our future. Reaching our goals will take a collective effort. The Climate and Sustainability Fund is one way we're helping activate and sustain the energy, creativity and leadership in our communities to implement climate solutions.



Responding to a changing climate through maramataka

Ahumai Limited

Mātauranga and tikanga Māori offer valuable climate solutions. Through effective sustainability practices and intergenerational knowledge of local ecology, Ahumai Limited supports uri | descendants of Taranaki Whānui o Te Upoko o Te Ika to connect with each other and care for taiao | the environment.

Ahumai Limited is a mana whenua and wāhine-led team of environmental experts who support collaborators to understand, protect and restore natural environments, focusing on the wellbeing of land, marine and freshwater systems. From using plant fibres as a growth support for giant kelp, to monitoring tuna in Kaiwharawhara awa, researching kina barrens, and advising on resource management plans, Ahumai advances kaupapa important to mana whenua and hapori Māori.

In October 2024 Ahumai were funded through the Climate and Sustainability Fund to engage a tohunga Māramataka and hold six wānanga, with the aim of creating a Māramataka mo Taranaki Whānui. This new initiative supports uri of Taranaki Whānui to strengthen observation and research skills based around principles of maramataka. Maramataka is a way of tuning into natural rhythms including the phases of the moon, position of the stars and seasonal changes to guide activities like planting, fishing, hunting and conservation.

The project connects participants to te taiao, allows them to understand how climate change impacts ecosystems, and motivates climate action to reduce those impacts.

Ahumai kaiwhakahaere Lee Rauhina-August (Taranaki nui tonu, Ngāti Te Kōhera, Te Taoū) says learning about maramataka together helps whānau connect more deeply with the unique taiao of this region.

Working with the interconnectedness of nature is a key part of Ahumai, driven by foundational values in te ao Māori and the harm that can be caused when environmental issues are treated as separate from each other. For example, kina barrens show how overfishing predators disrupts ecosystems – leading to high kina populations, high consumption of kelp forests, and reduced coastal protection from storms.

Uri attending maramataka wānanga are supported to notice connections in nature and keep records to track tohu (signs) like plants blooming and creatures migrating, to see how these are being impacted over

"This has been a long-held moemoea for us. For a lot of us, the issue was following maramataka that belonged to other places... Our whakaaro is about making something fit for purpose that responds to our environment in Te Whanganui-a-Tara." *- Lee Rauhina-August, Ahumai*





Māia-te-oho Holman-Wharehoka (Taranaki, Te Ātiawa, Ngāti Whakaue), kaimanga with Ahumai, says wānanga are a chance to monitor tohu, grow understanding about what is changing, and collect data that can help to restore balance and health.

"We are building on hundreds of years of observation from our tupuna, trying to navigate how we shift and use our tohu now to fit with a very fast-changing climate." *- Māia-te-oho Holman-Wharehoka, Ahumai*

Wānanga are led by mātauranga Māori tohunga Erina Wehi-Barton (Maniapoto), with participants ranging in age from tamariki to kaumātua. Each wānanga explores a different element of maramataka – such as collecting oral histories, monitoring local streams, encouraging rangatahi leadership, and analysing data – fostering long-term climate action and boosting community resilience.

"We all live in the city, and it is possible to be connected to the taiao. My hope is that whānau really own that and feel connected to each other and our natural environment."

- Tina Walker-Ferguson, Ahumai

With changes caused by disruption in the climate affecting traditional tohu, the Maramataka mo Taranaki Whānau project is a chance for uri to reclaim cultural practices and apply them in their own ways.

Ahumai kaiārahi Tina Walker-Ferguson (Rongomaiwahine, Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Porou, Taranaki nui tonu, Kai Tahu) says the benefits of this work are far reaching for whānau and the taiao.

By centering maramataka and indigenous knowledge, we can deepen our understanding of te taiao and work toward holistic, long-term climate solutions that reflect the interconnectedness of people and the natural world.



Supporting church communities to become environmentally sustainable

A Rocha Aotearoa

Churches and the groups who meet in them are key parts of a community, with regular rhythms through weekly services, events, seasonal celebrations and other gatherings. A Rocha Aotearoa's Eco Church project helps Christian leaders and communities understand and reduce their impact on the climate.

How a church manages things like waste, energy, transport and buying supplies has an influence on the environment and on the people, neighbourhoods and households connected with the church.

Eco Church is an A Rocha Aotearoa initiative helping church communities realise their potential as climate action leaders. The project focuses on fostering sustainable community, restoring ecosystems and preparing the next generation of environmental kaitiaki.

Funded by the Climate and Sustainability Fund in March 2022 and August 2023, the Eco Church project supports churches to understand their carbon footprint and develop climate action plans. Their carbon calculator tool was launched in March 2023 and has since been used by Wellington's growing number of Eco Churches to better understand and measure their impact.

Mo Morgan, Eco Church coordinator for the lower North Island, says every church has its own priorities and needs.

Eco Church Aotearoa is part of A Rocha's global network of Eco Church projects. Over the funding periods, 580 people joined online and in-person capability-building sessions. There are 26 Eco Churches in Wellington, with a growing list of churches taking an interest in the initiative, demonstrating measurable change and momentum. 31% of people in the Wellington region identified as Christian in the 2023 Census.

Each Eco Church in the region is on its own sustainability journey, which might involve measuring and monitoring emissions, maintaining community gardens and compost, hosting bike-fixing workshops or strengthening connections with nature by having church gatherings outdoors. Mo Morgan says some church communities also plant trees and care for local streams.

> "When a church becomes an Eco Church, they don't have to do a set list of things. They just need to say yes ... We need to make choices which actually make churches more sustainable, and how each church does that is going to be different."
>
> *-Mo Morgan, A Rocha Aotearoa*



“When an Eco Church is being active, they are participating in local conservation projects, making choices with their resources which are sustainable, like recycling or taking care of their waste well. They are seeking to manage their energy output, maybe having conversations about solar panels.”

-Mo Morgan, A Rocha Aotearoa

Shared values, strong relationships and connected communities are an important part of church for most people. Research shows these concepts also play a key role in promoting the lifestyle changes and long-term focus needed to address climate change. While education is part of the support A Rocha provides to Eco Church participants, the programme also helps people connect over shared interests and spend time together on activity that benefits their neighbourhoods and the environment at large. Mo Morgan says magic happens when people get outside, roll their sleeves up and work on something together.



As part of emissions reduction and conservation work, the Eco Church kaupapa encourages church communities to partner with mana whenua, and support iwi and hapū leadership to protect natural resources. Local partnerships aim to build connections through shared goals and grow a more hopeful and fair future for all.

The Eco Church movement is engaging large communities in climate action and encouraging people to do better together at church, home, school and beyond. But Mo Morgan says the motive for this work doesn't come from fear of what is happening to the planet, or stories on the news. She says it's about a love for the world and everything in it.

"Caring for the environment has always been part of the picture of what it means to be Christian. It's just that it's pressing right now ... Our motive is that this is just what it means to be human." *-Mo*

Morgan, A Rocha Aotearoa



Engaging with Eco Churches who are taking practical steps - such as reducing energy use, promoting sustainable travel, and reducing waste - contributes to stronger, healthier, and more resilient communities.

To learn more visit **ecochurch.org.nz**



Engaging young people in climate change solutions

BLAKE (The Sir Peter Blake Trust)

Governments and leaders around the world recognise the importance of involving young people in climate action. Environment-based education from BLAKE uses virtual reality (VR) to help tamariki and rangatahi learn about climate change and explore ways to make a positive difference.

Melting glaciers, underwater seaweed forests and hills topped with wind turbines are just a few of the unique environments brought into the classroom through BLAKE's climate-focused education. The not-for-profit organisation carries on the work of Sir Peter Blake, who inspired millions of people around the world to care more about the environment and take action to protect it.

With support through the Climate and Sustainability Fund in December 2022, BLAKE developed and piloted a virtual reality climate change module for their NZ-VR environmental education programme. The programme is shaped by national climate policy and enriched with locally relevant Wellington content, including local climate goals and initiatives.

The NZ-VR programme supports teachers and students to better understand the causes of climate change, how it affects us and what we can do. BLAKE's programme manager Alice McCullough says VR is a great way to bring a range of significant places and creatures to kids who might not otherwise get to see and hear them.

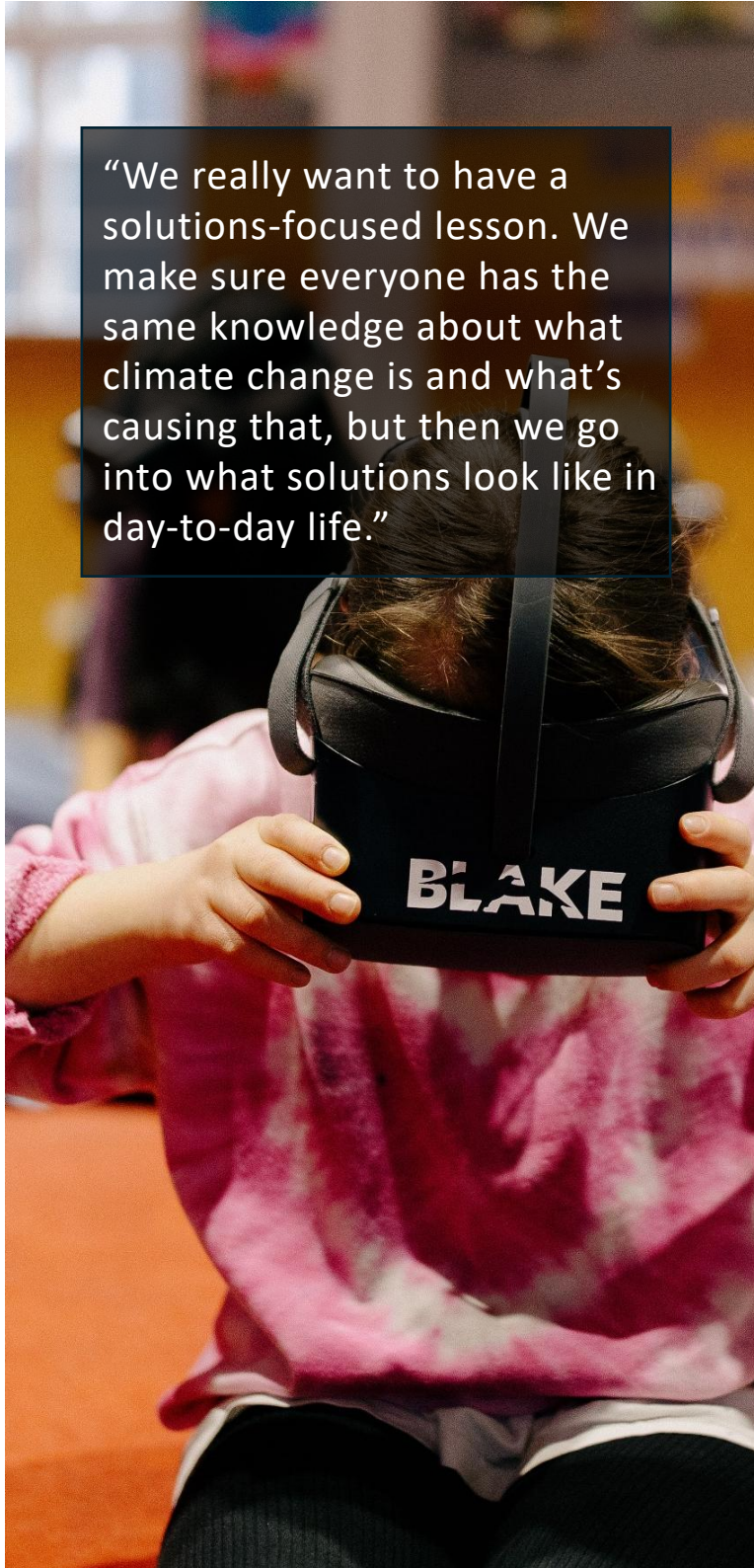
Around 9,000 intermediate-aged students in Pōneke | Wellington experience BLAKE's VR education each year, contributing to a total of around 40,000 per year across the motu. A learning session begins with a short presentation about a particular environmental issue or goal. Then each student in the classroom dons a VR headset to see how the issue connects to people, places and creatures in Aotearoa.

Alice McCullough says the climate change lesson is designed to address anxiety by helping young people understand the actions they can take.

The VR experience places students in the middle of a scene with 360-degree views. Each real-life visual world helps them understand the positive action happening throughout New Zealand. In the depths of the ocean, looking to the right reveals a ginormous southern right whale as part of learning about carbon sequestration. Walking around a hydroelectric dam brings the idea of renewable energy to life. Students explore the sights and sounds of sustainable transport,

> "We use VR so we can bring these environments to everyone. In the past we have taken students away for a certain period of time but not everyone can do that. So this is a great first experience."

Alice McCullough, BLAKE



the future of food and regenerating native forest without leaving the classroom.

Alice McCullough says the VR climate action lesson also shares some Pōneke scenes with students around the country.

Nothing compares to being outside in the natural world when learning about conservation and climate action. But not every family is able to visit different parts of the country or access special tours. The immersive aspects of VR mean everyone in a class can feel what it's like to climb glaciers, swim with whales and follow a compost-collecting bike through the city streets.

BLAKE's team plans carefully to make sure the VR experience can support action in the real world. As part of each session, students and teachers come up with ideas for taking climate action at home and in their daily lives. Some schools develop ongoing plans and activities to keep students engaged in climate change solutions, building a strong legacy of lasting impact.

Alice McCullough says it's satisfying to work with enthusiastic young people who want to be part of tackling the biggest issue society is facing.

"Climate change is affecting everything we do. Now we can actually see it in the real world, people are starting to take it more seriously." *– Alice McCullough, BLAKE*

"One of the VR experiences is on the front of a Kaicycle bike. We've got a drone flyover of Mākara wind farms, and some kelp forests around Kāpiti Island." *– Alice McCullough. BLAKE*



Young people are key to driving climate innovation and building a resilient future. Let's support and equip them to take action through education and hands-on climate initiatives.

To learn more, visit **blakenz.org**



Tackling climate challenges through innovation and technology

Creative HQ

To reduce emissions and limit the disruption caused by a changing climate, we need new, better ways of doing things in the systems we rely on, like energy, transport and food. Creative HQ supports entrepreneurs to develop products, services and processes that will give Wellingtonians more options for living sustainably.

Creative HQ is an innovation hub that helps startups, established businesses, government agencies and corporations stoke new ideas and solve complex problems. The hub also connects initiatives with funding opportunities, helping founders and teams turn their ideas into real-world solutions.

In March 2024, Creative HQ secured funding through the Climate and Sustainability Fund to support the Aurora Climate Lab and its culminating event—the Wellington Clean Tech Summit.

The Aurora Climate Lab is a 12-week Wellington-based accelerator programme that supports people to progress climate tech ideas rapidly and pitch to investors. Holly Beals, senior innovation specialist at Creative HQ, says teams taking part work across different areas of climate action.

As part of their experience, startup founders are immersed in the uniqueness of Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington region. Taranaki Whānui experts help participants understand the local environment and the innovative spirit of this place. Holly Beals says being a small city with big creative energy makes Wellington a perfect place to invent solutions for climate challenges.

There are more than 310 climate tech companies in Aotearoa. In the past two years, they have generated more than $291 million dollars in revenue. Wellington-based companies are working on forward-thinking solutions. As well as addressing climate change, Creative HQ's general manager of startups, Colm Kearney says businesses who come through the climate tech accelerator create new jobs and economic growth. In 2024, the accelerator also placed a strong focus on amplifying Māori innovation, with Creative HQ continuing to expand hapori Māori involvement across its programmes.



Electric motorbikes, sustainable concrete, a marine turbine, and livestock feed made from insects that eat consumer food waste are just a few of the products created by Creative HQ alumni. As a group, graduates of the climate tech accelerator are making an impressive impact. Their work makes it easier for consumers, businesses of all sizes, and entire industries to make choices that are better for the planet.

"Climate tech is a mixture of hardware, software and process solutions. Some teams are focused on energy, some are in future food, some are in sustainability and emissions management. There's a huge range." *-Colm Kearney – Creative HQ*



Teams who participate in the accelerator programme have the chance to pitch to an audience of hundreds, including New Zealand-based and global investors, climate experts, students, and leaders from community, government and industry. The 2024 Clean Tech Summit attracted approximately 500 attendees and featured 35 speakers.

The event helps forge connections, linking new ideas with the people who can help them grow. It keeps attendees informed about emerging opportunities in New Zealand's economy and employment market, while complementing broader climate action areas such as renewable building energy and circular waste. By fostering a ripple effect of innovation and legacy and promoting inclusive climate solutions through the integration of te ao Māori, the event strengthens the foundation for long-term, community-driven climate impact.

Creative HQ is helping entrepreneurs respond swiftly to the climate crisis. Holly Beals says saving the planet makes sense, and more investors are taking an interest in funding climate tech because it makes good business sense too.

"If we are going to solve climate change, we need to be creating solutions that are economically viable, even profitable. And that is possible. And the teams in our programmes are proving that." -

Holly Beals – Creative HQ

"Because of our proximity to each other in Wellington, it's easier to come together around a problem. We can connect an ecosystem that includes central government, local government, regulatory authorities, startup founders and people even earlier in their idea development." *-Colm Kearney – Creative HQ*

Your bold ideas can become real climate solutions. Get involved, share your vision, and help shape a city that's ready for the future.

To learn more visit **creativehq.co.nz**



Making it easy for everyone to own a bike

EkeRua Rebicycle

Transport is Wellington's biggest emitter of carbon. Changing how we get around has huge potential to reduce our emissions, and EkeRua ReBicycle makes sure anyone who wants to ride a bike can get one and keep it in good shape.

EkeRua ReBicycle brings tired bikes back to life and gives everyone the option to experience the wellbeing, freedom and efficient transport benefits of owning a bike. Workshops in Ngā Puna Waiora | Newtown and Raukawa | Strathmore host a range of activities that help people who wouldn't otherwise have a bike to access one and maintain it well.

Since 2022, EkeRua has received ongoing support through the Climate and Sustainability Fund, enabling them to expand their team, increase workshop hours, and open a second hub in Strathmore Park. This support has helped deliver targeted training for underrepresented groups, kaupapa Māori-led community projects, and inclusive programmes like 'Shift Happens' maintenance courses for Rainbow and Takatāpui communities — all contributing to the vision of a connected city where everyone has access to the tools, skills, and support to travel sustainably.

"The cost of a car is one that people assume they have to pay in life. Sometimes having a car is putting people into poverty. With services like ours, you could have a bike with no overhead costs at all." *-Arthur Price, EkeRua*

Every month, EkeRua receives dozens of bikes donated by generous Wellingtonians. A team of volunteer mechanics fixes any issues before bikes are made available for people who have requested one. Depending on the bike and the person, it is often completely free for someone to take away a bike that suits their needs. Around 30 bikes are rehomed each month. Arthur Price, workshop manager for EkeRua, says having a bike can change someone's life for the better.

There are no criteria to be matched with a bike, but referrals from community housing and refugee settlement support services help EkeRua provide free bikes to people who need one. Bikes come with a helmet, lights and a lock.

Providing a welcoming environment to learn bike maintenance skills is an important part of EkeRua's work. Anyone can attend courses and build confidence doing things like changing a tyre and tube, aligning brakes and gears, replacing worn parts, and setting up a bike for the right fit and comfort. There is a



dedicated training night each week for women, trans people and gender diverse people to learn skills by maintaining their own bike or working on one that is being repaired for the bike matching service.

Participants are asked to pay what they can to attend a course so that having low or no income doesn't stop anyone from joining. Some people who attend courses decide to volunteer with EkeRua, making it possible to repair and pass along even more bikes to people who need them. Skills learned can also help people prepare for employment as a bike mechanic. Arthur Price says the low cost and flexibility of being able to get around by bike can unlock employment opportunities, too.

As well as making it easier for more people to use climate-friendly transport options, EkeRua is recycling bikes and parts that could otherwise be thrown into landfill. Their regular evening workshop events and services help people keep their bike safe and functioning well for longer. The satisfaction some people get from the community being built around bikes encourages them to volunteer as mechanics, which in turn grows the community's ability to get more people on bikes. Bikes given out can be brought back for maintenance and repair, and bikes for young riders can be swapped out as they grow.

The Raukawa workshop in Strathmore Park opened in 2024 and is part of a wider project focused on building knowledge, wellbeing and skills for Māori whānau. The Haere Whakamua initiative supports low-carbon travel and strengthens connections between caring for people and caring for the environment.

EkeRua estimates that around one million kilometres have been travelled by re-homed bikes in eight years of operation in Pōneke, saving around 240 tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions if cars were used instead.

"The mobility of a bike can be the first step toward a more reliable or decent income. It can be the difference between having a job or not if someone has needs that other forms of transport can't fulfil." *-Arthur Price, EkeRua*



Join local bike workshops to learn repair skills, volunteer your time, or donate unused bikes to help others get riding. Together, we can make cycling more accessible, reduce emissions, and build a stronger, more connected community.

To learn more or volunteer, visit **ekerua.com**



Reducing food waste in restaurants and at home

Everybody Eats

The average New Zealand household throws away around $1,326 worth of food every year, with negative impacts for our environment as well as our bank accounts. A new venture from Everybody Eats makes it easier to save food, money and the planet in our kitchens at home.

Everybody Eats is a restaurant that rescues food destined to be thrown out, turns it into a beautiful dining experience, and offers a pay-what-you-can model so anyone can gather and enjoy a flavoursome, nutritious meal in a restaurant setting. Their small Wellington staff is supported by volunteers to collect surplus food, craft it into outstanding meals, and serve dinner to people from all walks of life at their Dixon Street restaurant. Restaurant manager Jack Rainey defines Everybody Eats as a hospitality social enterprise.

The restaurant strives to be a sustainable business both financially and environmentally. They use an electric vehicle to collect ingredients around Pōneke | Wellington. Collaboration with other food rescue organisations makes sure any surplus is shared thoughtfully. Head chef Alicia Mendez plans each evening's menu for maximum flavour and minimum waste, and the small amount of food that can't be used is composted. They save around ten tonnes of food from going to waste each year – a significant contribution to reducing carbon emissions and strengthening Wellington's circular waste systems.

"We're trying to challenge people to stop and think before they chuck something away. It's such a precious commodity, food." *-Jack Rainey, Everybody Eats*

Receiving surplus food from supermarkets and other providers means the industrial Everybody Eats kitchen recycles large amounts of the same kind of packaging as someone cooking at home – including bags, lids, trays and wraps made of plastic. Jack Rainey says their process includes separating soft plastics and Tetra Pak and transporting them to recycling centres.

As well as missing an opportunity to nourish someone, throwing food out contributes to climate change. It wastes the resources needed to produce and transport food. Harmful gases are created when food goes to the rubbish tip and can't break down properly. By intercepting food waste and redirecting it to feed people, Everybody Eats is helping to build a more resilient food network - one that values resources and people equally.

In October 2024, Everybody Eats received funding through the Climate and Sustainability Fund to deliver and distribute a series of zero waste and low carbon educational cooking videos. The funding also supports collaboration with local organisations and hospitality venues - such as Voice of Aroha and The Botanist, Lyall Bay - to reduce food waste in kitchens and engage diners around low carbon kai.



"We want to see less food going to landfill. The difference in environmental impact between that and compost is massive."

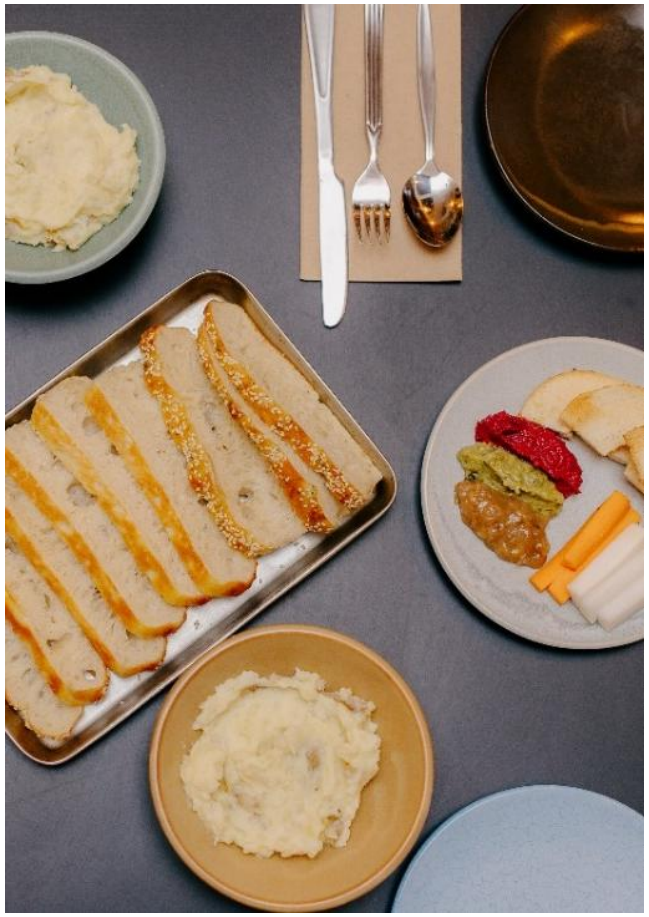
“We're sharing what we know about what’s useable and not useable when someone buys produce. You can make delicious food out of things like leek tops, or the peel of an orange, pumpkin seeds, the leaves of a cauliflower, banana skins.” *-Jack Rainey, Everybody Eats*

“We’re working really hard with all the other community organisations to champion food sustainability. To make a real change, it takes effort from all of us. We need to think about where we fit and what we can do.” *-Jack Rainey, Everybody Eats*

The team relishes the chance to save food from landfill and create something magical from an overlooked part of a fruit or vegetable. Driven to expand their impact beyond the restaurant, their new video series shares zero waste techniques and tips so people cooking at home can do the same. After bread and leftovers, oranges, apples and bananas are the most wasted foods in New Zealand.

Growing Wellington’s zero waste community in person and online is a priority for Everybody Eats, with around 20,000 diners through the restaurant each year, 20,000 people following their social media, and a mailing list of 1,750 Wellington volunteers. This kaupapa extends to the wider hospitality sector, too. Everybody Eats works alongside other restaurant businesses to help them get the most from their ingredients and reduce food waste. These efforts not only reduce emissions but also advance public understanding and uptake of low carbon practices across the community.

From diners to volunteers, food rescue organisations, hospitality industry peers and a network of organisations working to improve food security, Everybody Eats is energising and connecting a movement of zero waste devotees.



By rethinking how we eat and share food, we can reduce emissions, cut food waste, and make good food accessible to everyone. Join the movement toward a more sustainable and equitable food system - one plate at a time.

To book a table or donate, visit **everybodyeats.nz**



Producing food, reducing waste and building community resilience

Kaicycle

Industrial food production is responsible for around a third of human-caused greenhouse gas emissions. Kaicycle's composting program and urban farm shows how growing food locally can support the wellbeing of people and place.

Tucked down a Newtown side street, a different kind of industry is buzzing. Billions of microbes break down around 40 tonnes of food scraps collected from Wellington homes and businesses each year. A team of farm managers and compost specialists plans the next crop of organic produce. Bees drift from flower to hive. From kindy kids to retirees with a passion for gardening, people tend the māra at Kaicycle's urban farm.

Kaicycle grows food through regenerative practices that improve the health of people and the environment. The group's model is designed as an alternative to industrial food systems which can pollute the environment and generate lots of waste through the way food is grown, processed, transported, prepared and disposed of. This work strengthens local food resilience and contributes to a circular, low-carbon food system in Pōneke.

Community farm manager Rose Dohig says local composting and growing can benefit communities across Pōneke by turning food scraps into plant food.

"The overarching vision of Kaicycle is to have spaces in every suburb in Wellington, in Pōneke, where regenerative growing practices are taking place and food scraps are turned into compost." *– Liam Prince, Kaicycle*



Part of the farm is reserved for cultivating in line with mātauranga Māori. Crops include hue and kūmara, and harakeke is cared for, harvested and woven. With funding through the Climate and Sustainability Fund in 2024, Kaicycle launched Māra Māori ki Whanganui-a-Tara - facilitating māra sessions for whānau Māori by whānau Māori to wānanga traditional and sustainable growing practices. These sessions support kai sovereignty and empower Māori to take tangible climate action with the whenua. Kaicycle is on the journey of becoming certified under the Hua Parakore framework facilitated by the national Māori organics authority Te Waka Kai Ora.

Cycles are meaningful for this community in many ways. There are seasonal cycles, life cycles, and the important garden-to-table-and-back-again cycle. And then there's bicycles.

'Kaicyclists' use e-bikes to collect food scraps from businesses and homes around the city. Composting manager Liam Prince says compost from food waste is a precious resource that reduces reliance on fertilisers and helps to keep soil healthy.

Teaching people to grow food and make compost is part of the group's resilience efforts, along with donating most of the farm's produce. Food grown at Kaicycle is shared with volunteers and donated to community groups including Newtown Community Centre and the Home of Compassion soup kitchen. Any extra compost is gifted to community gardens at marae, social housing complexes and schools.

Volunteers help with tasks like planting seeds or seedlings, processing food and green waste, turning compost, watering garden beds, harvesting crops, making seed-raising mix and sifting compost. Occasionally a group of workmates will spend a team day learning and helping on the farm, or ākonga from a local school will visit for a field trip.

The urban farm is a public space and has been referred to as an outdoor community centre. Sometimes people come to enjoy their lunch break. Patients and staff visit for time away from the nearby hospital. Rose Dohig says volunteer numbers have doubled over the course of a year, and people seem to enjoy the hopeful and solution-focused aspects of Kaicycle.

Kaicycle is taking local action for local resilience and tackling climate change in the process. Through their mahi, food waste is recycled, people learn to grow food without environmentally damaging fertilisers, and package-free produce is distributed locally without the need for intensive transport. This work delivers measurable carbon emission reductions and builds a resilient, community-led food system that supports long-term climate adaptation.

Rose Dohig and Liam Prince agree building a connected community is one of the best ways to reduce and adapt to the effects of climate change.

"It's easy to talk about the impact of diverting waste from landfill and producing food, the tangible quantitative impact. But actually it's so much deeper than that. It's all of the other activities and people that contribute in so many ways." *– Liam Prince, Kaicycle*

Supporting community gardens allows us to reconnect with the whenua, reduce waste, and build local food resilience. Get involved – learn, share and help cultivate a thriving, sustainable Pōneke.

To learn more visit **kaicycle.org.nz**

"The interest we see from volunteers goes to show how many people are wanting to have that sense of community." *– Rose Dohig, Kaicycle*





Becoming a carbon neutral community

Ngaio Climate Crew

Climate action is good for us. It can reduce air pollution, increase physical activity, and introduce healthier ways to eat. Ngaio Climate Crew makes it easier for people living in Ngaio and Crofton Downs to reduce their carbon footprint and improve their wellbeing.

The Ngaio Climate Crew wants to show that everyone can take action to reduce carbon emissions and make their neighbourhood a great place to live. The group is part of the Ngaio Crofton Downs Residents Association, and its members are on a mission to supercharge their suburbs' sustainability efforts.

Project leader Ian Turk hopes Ngaio Climate Crew will have a positive impact on people's sense of belonging and connectedness along the way.

"It's not just a place where house is. It's about knowing people, sharing our interests, being part of a bigger community." *– Ian Turk, Ngaio Climate Crew*

Ngaio and Crofton Downs are home to many people with ideas for making small changes together for big impact. A monthly community recycling station collects recyclable items that can't go in curb side recycling, like plastic screw top lids, and food and drink cartons. A repair cafe helps people fix things instead of throwing them out. Residents bike to work together instead of driving. People are cleaning up local streams, restoring native bush, learning about plant-based cooking and composting their food scraps. Ngaio Climate Crew team member Scarlett Tully says connecting people with shared climate action interests is a big part of the group's work.

The Climate Crew is run by local people who want to make it easy for residents to do right by the planet. Two part-time staff keep things ticking, supported by a small group of volunteers and a growing community of people committed to making changes that will help Ngaio and Crofton Downs become the first carbon neutral suburb in New Zealand.

In October 2024, funding through the Climate and Sustainability Fund supported the group to engage and mobilise residents toward this goal. The funding supports household engagement, measuring emissions, and identifying barriers to change - laying the groundwork for a whole-of-community approach to climate action.

"It's great to be a platform to connect people with big ideas and helping that to happen." *- Ian Turk, Ngaio Climate Crew*

When they join the carbon neutral kaupapa, residents sign up to FutureFit – a carbon footprint calculator that lets them see their progress as they reduce emissions in their daily life and household. So far, 40 households have committed to reducing their emissions through FutureFit, helping to build a measurable picture of community-wide impact. People are making big and small changes to the ways they get around, power their homes, spend their money and plan their meals. Ngaio Climate Crew uses FutureFit to measure the positive difference being made by the community at large.

The group's flexible communication approach has helped them grow rapidly. As well as online channels like their website and social media pages, they help people sign up in person. Members regularly attend recycling events and the repair cafe to answer questions and offer guidance, noting that residents have different preferences when learning about actions they can take for the climate.



As they grow and learn, Ngaio Climate Crew is documenting their journey for a ‘playbook’ to help other communities reduce emissions and manage the impacts of climate change. Scarlett Tully imagines this project becoming an example for individuals and groups in Pōneke | Wellington and beyond.

The Climate Crew's expanding kete of tools includes a community climate action map and events like the Open Streets Community Picnic - designed to build visibility, connection and momentum around local climate action. The map shows the many different initiatives happening locally so people can join the growing movement and get to know their neighbours in the process.

Ngaio Climate Crew encourages people to take an active interest in making sure their suburbs are healthy and resilient for future generations. They hope their efforts will make it easier for residents to care for the people and places that matter to them. This could mean growing their own food, composting, using clean renewable energy, enjoying healthy streams, and using public transport or active transport like walking or cycling.

Scarlett Tully says each person’s actions make a difference. She urges people to think about small ways they can reduce their impact on the environment.

“We’re here for our community, but the impact of our project could be a lot larger.” *-Scarlett Tully – Ngaio Climate Crew*

“If everyone is doing imperfect climate action, the impact that can have is incredible – way, way more than if one or two people eat a completely plant-based diet and walk or bike everywhere.” *-Scarlett Tully – Ngaio Climate Crew*



Changing how you eat and get around are two ways to take action for the climate. To reduce your carbon footprint, eat more plant-based meals and choose active transport like biking or walking when you can.

To learn more or join Ngaio Climate Crew, visit **ngaio.org.nz**



Equipping families to share knowledge and take action

Parents for Climate Aotearoa

Talking about climate change is one of the most effective ways to inspire action. People process information and decide to act through conversations with people they trust. Parents for Climate helps parents understand climate change and talk with their children and communities to create local-led solutions.



"We are raising a generation that will be even more impacted than we are. Fundamentally we are here to support other parents to engage with the issue." *– Alicia Hall, Parents for Climate Aotearoa*

Children and young people concerned about climate change look to their parents for assurance and guidance. But parents and caregivers wanting to contribute to a better future might not know where to begin. Alicia Hall and Dr Olivia Hyatt of Parents for Climate Aotearoa saw a need to help parents understand climate change and have meaningful, encouraging conversations with their tamariki.

The group hosts workshops and activities to raise awareness, connect generations and help people find ways to take climate action in their daily lives and communities. Founder Alicia Hall says parents have a lot more power to make change than they realise.

Parents for Climate combines climate science expertise and social science knowledge to help parents overcome barriers to talking about climate change with their families and communities. Some people feel too overwhelmed to engage with climate action. Others worry they don't know enough. Some are unsure how to talk with children who are anxious or confused about climate change.

In 2022, Parents for Climate Aotearoa received funding through the Climate and Sustainability Fund to develop, pilot and deliver their 'Let's Talk Climate' workshop series. The programme was co-designed with community partners including local iwi, rangatahi, Pasifika, disabled and migrant communities.

"Conversation gives us a chance to find that thing in common. Talking about climate change propels us into asking what we can do, and how we can act based on what's important to us." *– Alicia Hall, Parents for Climate Aotearoa*

In the workshops, participants explore how climate change impacts them, how to talk about it with friends, whānau and community members, how to have conversations with their kids, and how to develop local solutions to climate-related problems in their communities. Alicia Hall says communicating the science in plain language is important, but sharing stories and perspectives is what energises people to make change.

Over a year, Parents for Climate hosted 30 workshops across Pōneke | Wellington. Workshops were delivered in five separate locations across the city to make sure attendees could understand local impacts and actions they can be part of. More than 300 people joined to learn, talk and plan together, with participants ranging in age from 19 to 88. People reported feeling more confident and hopeful afterward, and much more likely to talk with other people about climate change and how to take action and reduce emissions.

Parents for Climate found that many parents avoid talking about climate change because they assume others don't care. Alicia Hall says it was interesting and heartening to see people's reactions when they learned eight out of ten people care about climate change and want to take action.

Parents have a lot of influence in the lives of their children and how households manage daily life. Hall says parents are also a large portion of the population and can influence positive change when tackling issues together.

"I want parents to know they are not alone in this. That love we have for our kids can be channelled into some real tangible action and making a really cool, climate-friendly future for them." *– Alicia Hall, Parents for Climate Aotearoa*



Creating space for young families to learn, share, and act together raises awareness across generations. Try talking about climate at home, sharing stories, and developing local solutions - every action helps shape a better tomorrow.

To learn more, visit **parentsforclimatenz.org**



Working with small businesses to measure and reduce emissions

Race to 2030

Around 96% of Wellington businesses are small or medium-sized with fewer than 20 employees. Race to 2030 is helping small businesses make the most of a big opportunity to overcome barriers, reduce carbon emissions, and lead climate action.

Race to 2030 is a joint initiative by groups that focus on supporting businesses and enabling climate action. With support from the Climate and Sustainability Fund in 2022, the programme began as a pilot called the Sustainability Bootcamp ran by Wellington Chamber of Commerce. Building on the success of the Bootcamp in December 2024 the Wellington Chamber of Commerce, Climate Club, Greendeals Charitable Trust and GoZero social enterprise came together to collaborate on Race to 2030; helping small businesses in Pōneke | Wellington learn about the cause and effects of climate change and find ways to reduce emissions.

Participating businesses aim to reduce their emissions by five percent each year. Mike Anthony, facilitator of Race to 2030, says this target is set in line with guidance from the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Wellington City Council's Te Atakura – First to Zero climate action plan.

So far, 11 businesses from a range of industries receive free training and support as they measure their carbon footprint and track their progress in reducing emissions. With offerings from hospitality to fine jewellery, clothing, tourism, herbal medicine and bikes, each business has its own aims and challenges. Businesses taking part are based in the central city, and Mike Anthony says building local connections is an important part of Race to 2030.

"The idea of creating communities is deeply engrained in what we need to do in terms of providing real solutions to climate challenges ... so we decided to look around Cuba Street and Courtenay Place where there are lots of little, cool owner-operated businesses." *– Mike Anthony, Race to 2030*

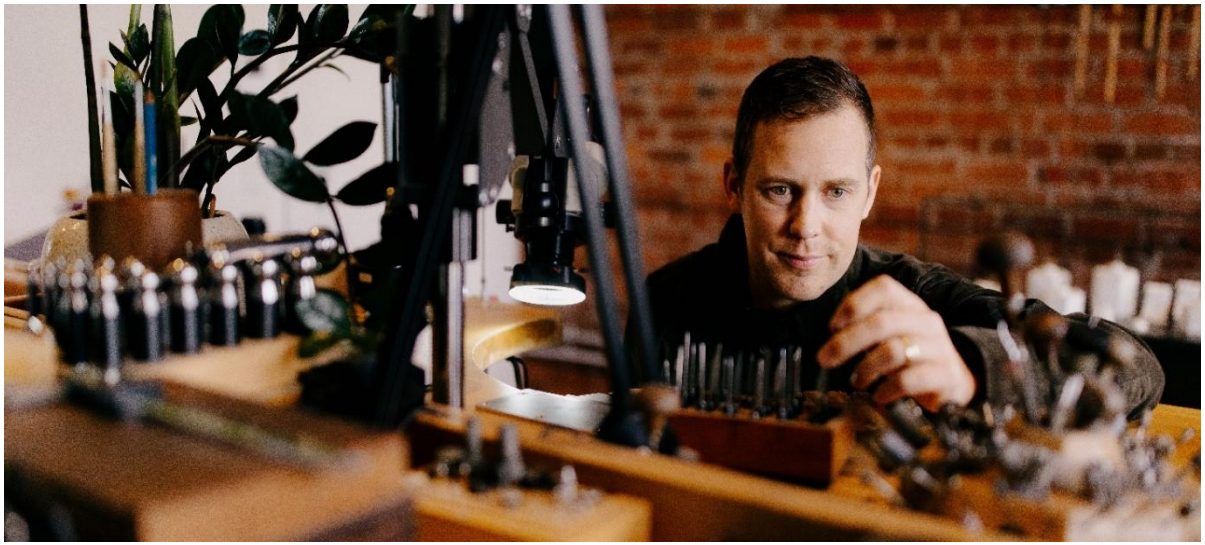
Race to 2030 begins with a workshop led by Climate Club, where small business owners dive deep into the science of climate change. They learn how human activity contributes to climate disruption, and what climate change means for people and places at a local, national and global scale. To understand their business's carbon footprint, participants use the free Cogo app. Race to 2030 then helps each business consider ways to reduce their emissions and start taking action. Check-ins help the business owners monitor progress and adjust their approach around any problems or priorities.



"A lot of small businesses are interested in climate action. They just don't have a lot of time or resources to throw at it. So that's why we're doing this, and why it's tailored to them. We need a whole of society response to what is a real emergency." *– Mike Anthony, Race to 2030*

Climate action opportunities are shaped around the needs and context of each business. Mike Anthony says participants are supported to solve problems and build financial resilience as part of the process so they can be sustainable in every sense.

As part of efforts to reduce emissions, participants are making changes across different areas of business including how they source products, manage waste, deliver goods and travel. Depending on their aims and constraints, a small business's climate action might involve switching suppliers to reduce the distance covered by orders, reducing air travel, increasing active transport and the use of electric vehicles, or composting food scraps instead of sending them to landfill. Business owners are encouraged to consider their impact on the natural environment and understand the overall result of any changes they make as part of emissions reduction activity.



"There is a need for every part of the economy to react, for all of us to be doing the bits that are feasible and within our reach if we are going to slow climate change down." *– Mike Anthony, Race to 2030*

Race to 2030 advances the understanding and commitment to low-carbon practices among Wellington's business community. It supports businesses to innovate toward zero carbon and circular economy solutions, creating ripple effects across supply chains and customer behaviour.

While one small business is not likely to create a large portion of Wellington's carbon emissions, the city's small businesses play a big part in New Zealand's economy through connection to consumers, manufacturing and transport. Mike Anthony says small to medium-sized businesses can use their choices to influence change at a large scale.

By providing tools to measure emissions, track progress, and learn reduction strategies, we can empower local enterprises to grow sustainably and contribute to a low-carbon economy.

To learn more visit **raceto2030.org**



Supporting young people to lead climate action

Social Change Collective

Young people will inherit the long-term consequences of climate change and decisions made today. Through events and advocacy, the Social Change Collective encourages young people to learn and lead in climate action.



Around 40,000 Wellington teenagers took part in New Zealand's first School Strike 4 Climate in 2019, with growing numbers of young people continuing to call for action. The Social Change Collective formed to help people aged 18-30 influence and lead change in social and environmental issues they care about.

In October 2024, the group received funding through the Climate and Sustainability Fund to deliver a climate action activation event in Wellington in 2025. The event is designed to empower young people to engage in social and environmental change by providing them with knowledge, tools and connections.

Younger generations are often looked to as motivation for making a better world. Ethan Reille, Chair of the Social Change Collective, says it's important young people are also involved in the processes, decisions, and solutions that shape responses to a changing climate.

"Decisions made today will impact young people the most. We encourage young people to lead the conversation, and let everyone else listen and learn, and be part of that." *-Ethan Reille, Social Change Collective*

With teams in Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland and Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington, the Social Change Collective is run by and for young people. They host regular events themed around issues important to their audience. Past events have focused on topics like food security, fast fashion, youth in governance, designing cities for population growth, and how to maintain wellbeing for people and the natural environment.

Events feature expert speakers and community leaders, with breakout discussions for attendees to kōrero about how their lives and communities are affected by key issues. Depending on the topic, there might be opportunities to work on a submission to government or sign a petition. Participant-driven events like 'unconference' gatherings give young people a chance to share their expertise, learn from others and strategise together.

Ethan Reille says Social Change Collective events have a strong focus on helping young people decide on actions they will take to make a difference.

“We do need systemic change for the issues we’re talking about. But a lot of times you also need individuals to change, to build up a community of people to be challenging that status quo.” *-Ethan Reille, Social Change Collective*

The group views climate change as a crisis with multiple challenges that need attention and action from all generations. People aged 18-30 years old lead the conversation, but anyone is welcome to join, contribute and learn with the Collective. Events are designed to create lasting impact beyond by equipping participants to lead change in their own communities.

The Social Change Collective also functions as a bridge for groups or initiatives wanting to understand the perspectives and priorities of young people in relation to specific issues. Most recently, they joined with other charities and community organisations to advocate for the Right to Repair Bill. The Bill is designed to extend the lifespan of products, reduce household expenses, and minimise waste.

Empowering young people to connect, be informed and be ready to act will always be the core focus of the Social Change Collective. The group is building a movement where young people in Wellington not only have a voice but are helping to lead change.

Ethan Reille says young people can do incredible things when they are trusted with the resources and decision-making power to take an active role in addressing issues that matter to them.



“It’s important for us to come together as a community and tell the city ‘This is the vision we have. If you support that, then come and be a part of this conversation.”

-Ethan Reille, Social Change Collective

Young people are driving bold change in our communities. Whether it’s launching a project, joining a movement, or sparking conversations, their leadership is key to building a fairer, more sustainable future.

To learn more visit **socialchangecollectivenz.com**



Helping more people take up active transport

Switched On Bikes

Transport is the biggest source of emissions in Pōneke | Wellington, accounting for 56.2% of total gross emissions. Switched on Bikes makes it possible for more Wellingtonians to experience a fast, fun and efficient way of getting around that just happens to be better for the environment.



"We're trying to increase access to bikes without requiring everybody to buy something new themselves." – *Ryan O'Connell, Switched On Bikes*

Switched On Bikes is on a mission to make biking accessible to as many people as possible. Out of their bike shop and rental service on Wellington's waterfront, a team of mechanics, bike specialists and tour guides helps Wellingtonians and visitors tap into the joy of being on two wheels.

In October 2024, the Climate and Sustainability Fund supported Switched On Bikes to deliver four pilot projects aimed at reducing car dependency and emissions, while increasing access to bikes for groups facing barriers. These projects include the Kids Bike Library, subsidised "Subscribe to Ride" e-bike leasing for lower-income households, the introduction of a recumbent e-trike for people with disabilities, and cargo bike trials for small businesses.

Riding a bike isn't always a simple choice to make. The cost of owning one can be a real barrier. Not everyone has the physical ability to ride a bike or the knowledge to keep up with maintenance. Switched On Bikes owner Ryan O'Connell says their offerings make biking a more affordable and suitable option.

People wanting to get around the city on an e-bike without the big price tag can sign up to Switched On Bikes' monthly "Subscribe to Ride" programme. For a monthly subscription, riders are provided with a lock, helmet, rear carrier pack, and maintenance is taken care of. Subscribers can commute by bike for less than the cost of weekly parking. Through built-in bike GPS it is estimated subscription customers cover about 70,000km per year.

Switched On Bikes' Kids Bike Library allows families in the Wellington City Council area with a child between 2 and 13 to take a bike home for free. As the child grows, their bike can be swapped out for a larger size. The returned bike is professionally serviced and then passed along to another family. Ryan O'Connell says being able to use a bike as they grow up helps kids build confidence, have fun and have more options for getting around.

"If kids have constant access to a bike throughout the time they're growing up, they're more likely to take it on as a form of transport as they become independent." – *Ryan O'Connell, Switched On Bikes*

Programmes like the bike library and e-bike subscription make it easier for people to ride a bike that is well maintained. Switched On Bikes take responsibility for making sure their fleet is reliable and enjoyable to ride. Caring for bikes properly also helps to reduce waste by keeping them in use instead of rusting in the backyard or garage.

For those who find pedalling difficult, a recumbent electric tricycle has been added to the Switched On Bikes rental fleet. A rider sits lower to the ground in the trike's seat with their back supported and the pedals out in front of them. Anyone can hire the e-trike, whether they want to explore the waterfront and cycleways, or test out a trike before committing to buying one.

Businesses looking for faster, more affordable delivery vehicles can also try before they buy. An electric cargo bike with a trailer is available for short-term hire. Small businesses with an interest in a no-emissions replacement for their car or van can put the cargo bike to the test without making a big investment.

These initiatives not only improve access to low-carbon options for Wellingtonians, but they also result in measurable emission reductions and increased uptake of climate-friendly transport. Switched On Bikes hope to see more people choosing the efficiency and fun of a bike as their main form of transport.

Ryan O'Connell says it's important for biking to be safe and convenient so people who make the right choice for the climate are also making their lives easier.



"Most people are going to do the most practical thing for their lives, so we have to make sure that thing is in line with our requirements to address climate change." *– Ryan O'Connell, Switched On Bikes*

Sustainable living shouldn't be a luxury. Let's make clean, affordable transport available to more people - through community schemes and workplace support.

To learn more, visit **switchedonbikes.co.nz**

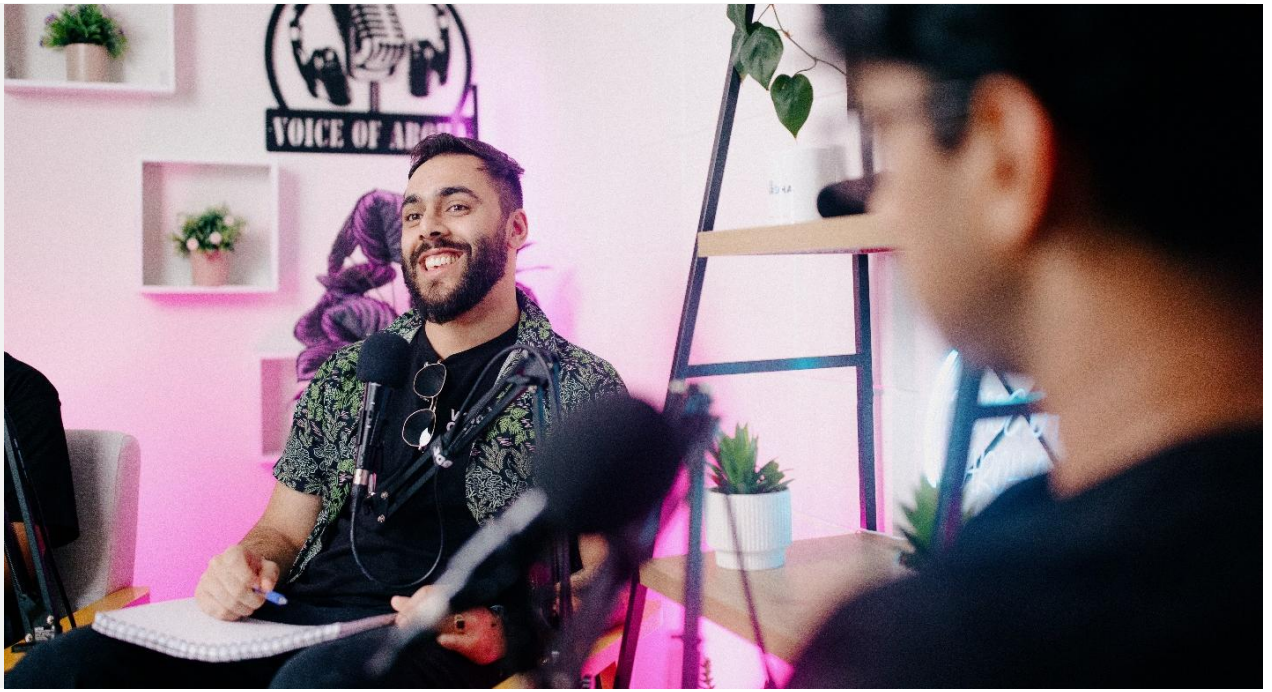


Amplifying diverse perspectives to shape better climate solutions

Voice of Aroha

More than 20% of people in the Wellington region moved here as migrants or refugees. Voice of Aroha helps make sure their perspectives, needs and ideas are part of the city's efforts to reduce emissions, prepare for change and plan for a better future.

“If you bring everyone to the table, any decision, any policy will fit for everyone.” *– Kodrean Eashae – Voice of Aroha*



To design solutions as a community, we need to understand the values, experiences and perspectives of people who call Wellington home. This belief drives Voice of Aroha to raise awareness about climate change, and share the needs and ideas of people from refugee and migrant backgrounds.

Voice of Aroha received funding in 2022 and in 2024 through the Climate and Sustainability Fund to empower climate action solutions by and for former refugee and migrant communities in Wellington. This funding has enabled the development of a rich library of podcasts and videos, alongside workshops, hui, and digital campaigns. These activities amplify the voices, stories, and knowledge of these communities—strengthening leadership, fostering climate resilience, and contributing to emissions reduction.

Voice of Aroha is a not-for-profit organisation that connects and celebrates diverse communities across the Wellington region. Run by people from refugee and migrant backgrounds, their work helps people share perspectives and experiences. The stories and information shared reflect the many ways refugees and migrants are more than the identities imposed on them as people who have moved here from other countries.

Voice of Aroha's small staff and a volunteer group of around 20 people use digital media and in-person

events to spark conversation about important issues. Founder and CEO Kodrean Eashae says information flows both ways so the experiences, expertise and needs of communities can be considered in policies and plans, and so people in these communities have an opportunity to learn more about what's happening and why.

Most Voice of Aroha volunteers are in high school or tertiary study, with a strong desire to care for the people and places they love amid disruption caused by climate change. Setting future generations up to thrive is a priority for the group and the communities they engage with. Sharing information about climate change and how to take action is a key part of this work. They also highlight and share the ways people from refugee and migrant backgrounds can help Pōneke | Wellington navigate challenges and find solutions.

The group shapes activities to engage leaders and young people in climate action, and to empower



> "We have a lot of knowledge of resilience and how to face problems. We want to bring our cultures and knowledge into the space of climate to drive solutions." *– Kodrean Eashae – Voice of Aroha*

community members to be part of solutions that fit their needs and cultural contexts. Community climate training is helping people better understand the causes and impacts of climate change. Innovation programmes are an opportunity to develop and test ideas. A series of hui share information about city plans and gather feedback from community members. And a suite of shareable videos and podcasts helps important messages reach the right people.

A growing audience is taking inspiration from Voice of Aroha's stories. Their content spans the world of digital media, with around 75,000 views on YouTube and thousands of followers across social media and podcast platforms. Subjects range from mātauranga Māori expertise to climate science, recycling tips, emergency response, and community-led initiatives.

The centring of refugee and migrant perspectives in this work is attracting international attention, with Voice of Aroha being invited to global climate forums and regularly supporting climate action advocacy in the Asia-Pacific region.

Engaging people from refugee and migrant backgrounds in ways that uphold their values and respond to their needs is seeing some great results. Community leaders are thinking more strategically about changes they can make. Young people are building their knowledge and getting involved in advisory groups. Increasing numbers of people are learning what they can do about climate change, and how it will help.

Kodrean Eashae says Voice of Aroha's climate action mahi sees the group acting as a bridge between local government planning and communities – helping each connect genuinely with the other.

> "We want people to know that yes, we can be part of our city. We can be part of decision making. We can contribute in the climate space." *– Kodrean Eashae – Voice of Aroha*

Your story matters. Share your culture, your climate journey, your vision. Through events and digital media, we build connection and change.

To learn more, visit **voiceofaroha.org.nz**



Making an electric and active commute more affordable

Workride

The way we move around the city has a big influence on carbon emissions. Workride's bike benefit programme helps employees in Pōneke | Wellington switch to a sustainable commute by buying an e-bike at a reduced cost with no up-front payment.



"We're engineers, and something we really love is efficiency. We see massive inefficiency in the way we use our streets and also in the way we use energy." *– Connor Read, Workride*

Bikes, e-bikes and e-scooters are a popular choice for people who commute to work. Riding an e-bike or e-scooter can offer extra assistance making Wellington's hills easier to manage, while traditional bikes provide a low-cost, healthy way to travel. All three options help to reduce emissions and avoid parking costs. However, the initial purchase cost can be unmanageable for some people wanting a better way to get to work. To help more people enjoy their commute and reduce emissions, Workride created a programme to connect retailers, employers and employees.

In August 2023, Workride received a grant through the Climate and Sustainability Fund to launch their innovative ride-to-work scheme in Wellington. The programme leverages Fringe Benefit Tax exemptions to make biking or scootering to work more affordable, reducing the cost of a ride by up to 48%. The launch included onboarding local bike stores, engaging employers, and assessing impact over the first 12 months.

A web-based app makes it easy for employers to offer a benefit scheme to employees, who can pay off the cost of an e-bike over time through a deduction in their salary. Workride's Connor Read says he and co-founder Aidan Smith want to make commuting more economical in every sense.

Through Workride, someone employed by a participating workplace can go to a shop and choose their new mode of transport. The retailer submits a request to the employer. When the request is approved, the employer pays for the bike, e-bike or scooter. The employee pays back the cost out of their pre-tax pay over the course of a year. An offset means the bike or scooter is cheaper than the retailer's quoted price by between 32-63%.

Since launching, Workride has onboarded 62 employers, providing access to over 4,000 employees in Wellington. This uptake is helping shift commuting habits and reduce transport-related emissions across the city.

"The employee is saving money. Not just from a tax perspective, but also through the transport mode shift – not needing to pay for parking." *– Connor Read, Workride*

Commuting by bike not only eliminates carbon emissions - it also helps reduce the cost of living, says Connor Read, by cutting down on travel expenses. More than 150 Wellington employers now offer Workride, a programme that enables staff to purchase bikes, e-bikes, or e-scooters from participating local retailers. It's a practical and climate-friendly way to get to work.

Supporting society and the economy in the transition to more sustainable transport is important to the Workride team. They hope to add public transport to the list of rides available through their programme. Employers could pay for bus or train credits to be paid back over time through an employee's pre-tax income.

Two-wheeled transport will continue to be a priority. Connor Read sees biking to work as a great way to get moving at the start and end of the day, with a string of benefits for mental and physical health. He says Workride is here to make cities easier to live in while improving outcomes for people and the climate.

With support from Wellington City Council, Workride was successfully launched in Wellington. This has also opened the door for other ride-to-work programmes, giving workplaces a growing range of options to help their staff commute by bike.

"We see that getting more people on bikes and scooters has got nothing but upsides from an environmental, societal and health perspective. That's what drives us." *– Connor Read, Workride*



Make cycling a part of your everyday commute. By using salary-based schemes and workplace benefits, more people can access clean, affordable transport - reducing emissions and making daily travel more enjoyable.

To learn more or sign up, visit **workride.co.nz**