



Wellington City Site Visit

Wellington City, the capital of New Zealand, has a population of around 164,000 and is a picture-perfect city. Located at the bottom of the North Island, it is set between a wonderful harbour and rolling green hills. It is the cultural capital of New Zealand with shops, entertainment, galleries and restaurants all within easy walking distance.



Similar to many communities in New Zealand and around the world, Wellington City's goal is to promote safety and prevent injuries to all people who live, visit, work and play in Wellington City. They have adopted the vision of "Creative Wellington – Innovation Capital", and aim to achieve this through the collaborative efforts of local government, non-government organisations, community groups, employers and individuals.



A successful one day site-visit, conducted by the Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand (SCFNZ), was held in Wellington City on 21 April 2006. As a result of this site-visit, Wellington City will become the fifth Safe Community of the WHO Safe Community Network in New Zealand to hold such a prestigious award.

Although Wellington City's application to achieve accreditation focused primarily on crime prevention, the site-visit highlighted the collaborative partnerships that involved many other aspects of injury prevention and safety promotion. It was also evident that Wellington City has successfully achieved the six indicators for International Safe Community Designation. Highlights of the site-visit included: the profiling of initiatives to address alcohol misuse; comprehensiveness of the Safer Roads programme of work; innovative presentation of how Wellington City incorporates consideration of disability issues; a visit to Glover Park, an excellent example of how environmental design can provide a safe park-like setting in the inner city; a meeting with youth leaders at the Zeal Youth venue to view safe places in the city where young people can gather; and a walk through the Central Business District (CBD) to demonstrate how Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) can improve footpaths and poorly lit areas.



Wellington City Council hosted the site-visit and key partners reaffirmed their support to ensure that the efforts of all those involved in safety were sustainable. They also discussed future opportunities for more integration of crime prevention and injury prevention.



A future challenge will be to ensure that the good work which is evident from all the partners (Council, ACC, CCDHB, Police, LTNZ,) is celebrated and conveyed not only to the people of Wellington city, but also throughout New Zealand and internationally.



The Karolinska Institute in Sweden have accepted our recommendation for Wellington city to be designated as a Safe Community of the WHO Safe Community Network. The designation ceremony is scheduled for **Wednesday 14 June, 2006.**



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Certifying Centre of the WHO Safe Community Network;

Affiliate Safe Community Support Centre of the WHO Collaborating Centre on Community Safety Promotion; &

Affiliate Centre with Certifying Authority of the International Safe Schools Movement.