Community profile - November 2014 New Brighton/Southshore

(Census area units: New Brighton, South Brighton)



New Brighton/Southshore area is located approximately eight kilometres east of the Central Business District of Christchurch. The area is bordered by the beach to the east, the estuary to the west and Sea View Road to the south.

There is one school, South New Brighton Primary, a preschool and a play centre.

According to census statistics from 2013 the median age of the area is 41.6 years, slightly higher than that of Christchurch city as a whole and the resident population is 5670 people. There has been a total population decrease of 528 people between the 2006 and the 2013 Census.

Outdoor recreation locations include South New Brighton Park and the estuary.

The new boundary of Sea View Road now divides the main business area of New Brighton Mall into two profile areas. Businesses north of Sea View Road are part of North New Brighton and those to the south part of New Brighton/Southshore. The New Brighton Master Plan will guide business development in the area.

There is one medical centre.

The South New Brighton Community Centre opened in November 2013, providing an accessible community space. The Southshore Community House continues to deliver services to Southshore residents. The Seaside Community Toy Library is based at St Luke's church hall. The New Brighton Pier and Library service the greater New Brighton area.

Three residents' associations cover the area.



Key demographics

Usually resident population count (Data from Statistics NZ)



Age for usually resident population (number of people) (Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ) **Profile Area**







Family type (%) (Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)



Home ownership (%) (Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)



Dw elling held in a family trust

Occupied and unoccupied dwellings (Data from Statistics NZ)



Personal income for Profile Area compared to Christchurch City (Data from Statistics NZ)





Personal income for Profile Area compared to Christchurch City (Data from Statistics NZ)





Median weekly rent for rented households in private occupied dwellings (Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)







Highest educational qualification for the census usually resident population, aged 15 years and over



(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)







The above ratings have been based on reach, diversity, and participation. For example, bigger circles tend to be groups that provide a wider range of services, or have large numbers of participants. They also tend to be groups that are well networked within the community.

The New Brighton/Southshore community has approximately 37 active organisations servicing the area, including 16 community organisations, 12 sports, recreation and leisure groups, three faith-based organisations, one primary school, three residents' associations, one community facility and one library.

The Council-owned South New Brighton Community Centre (transitional facility) opened in November 2013 on the site of the previous South New Brighton Community Centre. The New Brighton Library is a facility for people from all parts of Christchurch. There is one school in the area and that is unaffected by the Ministry of Education's consolidation proposals.



Community resilience mapping



Scale: 1 = Low 5 = High

15 measures of resilience

Community Support Organisations	(rating)	Volu	nteering	(rating)
 1a # of organisations 1b strength of organisations 1c community development principles 	(2)	2a	investment in volunteers	(4)
	(4)	2b	# of volunteer hours from Fundforce	(5)
	(4)	2c	# of volunteer hours from Census	(2)

Conne	ectedness	(rating)
3a	# of Neighbourhood Support groups	(1)
3b	# of residents' associations	(5)
3c	access to networking groups/forums	(5)

Parti	cipation	(rating)
4a	community events	(5)
4b	Fundforce participation rates	(5)
4c	club membership #s	(4)

Prep	aredness	(rating)
5a 5b 5c	# of Neighbourhood Support groups# households in Neighbourhood Supportcapability of groups to lead local response	(1) (1) (5)

Note: 2b, 4b - These ratings only take into account figures from community projects funded by Council.
 2c - These figures are based on 2006 Census data as this information is not yet available for 2013.
 3a, 5a, 5b - These ratings are based on groups and households registered with Christchurch Gets Ready as at November 2013.



Community environment

Social environment

This area has a large number of community and social organisations.

Community initiatives in New Brighton/Southshore continue to serve local needs. There is one significant church providing welfare support to the community and wider area by supplying food, volunteers, advice and referrals to other key agencies. One significant and several smaller youth and family organisations in the area deliver a variety of recreation and leisure options locally through events, holiday programmes and after school clubs. A community group continues to organise and promote local markets, events and programmes to draw people back to the shopping mall. An organisation is co-ordinating the creation of a community-led plan for the recovery of the area through community development projects and it organises a regular community network forum.

All residents in the area have access to a residents' association. The South Brighton Residents' Association produces a regular newsletter, promotes community initiatives and organises community events. The Southshore Residents' Association employs an Earthquake recovery Co-coordinator, produce a regular newsletter and operate the Southshore Community House. A range of advice/support services can be accessed through the house and community groups use the venue for leisure, recreation and community activities. The Seaside Community Toy Library relocated from Southshore Community House to St Luke's Church Hall in June 2014. The Southshore Community House moved to a new site in August 2014 and will operate from this site until February 2015. After this date organisations and groups currently using the house will need to relocate to alternative venues; South Brighton Community Centre may be a suitable alternative option.

Events held at New Brighton attract residents from the eastern suburbs and beyond. Yearly events include the Christmas Parade, Guy Fawkes Fireworks Spectacular, Sandcastle Competition, Spring River Festival, Kite Day, World Buskers Festival and I Love New Brighton.

Built environment

Road repairs, road closures and infrastructure repair work continue in the area. Bridge Street bridge has reopened to traffic. Flooding of the roads is a regular occurrence when it rains, particularly on the roads adjacent to the river. http://strongerchristchurch.govt.nz/

The community has expressed concern at the number of derelict buildings. Concerns have been raised about security, safety, arson, vandalism graffiti and rats especially in the red zones and New Brighton mall areas.

There are three Council City Housing complexes in the area. There are 24 closed units at Santa Cruz Courts. 24 open units at Bridgewater Courts and 28 closed units at Shoreham Courts.

The South New Brighton Community Centre (transitional facility) opened November 2013 on the site of the demolished New Brighton Community Hall, providing a community venue for residents in the area. South Brighton Residents Association has been awarded a grant to landscape the grounds at the community centre. A community landscaping working bee and planting day takes place in November 2014.

In May 2012, 198 properties in South Shore on the estuary side of the spit were zoned red. The remaining land is mostly technical category two (TC2) with some technical category three (TC3) land. The Canterbury Earthquake Recovery Authority (CERA) is working with private insurers and the Earthquake Commission to ensure Crown-owned properties in the residential red zoned flat land are cleared by the end of 2014. Houses will either be demolished or relocated and the land will be cleared, fenced and grassed.

The future of the residential red zone has not yet been decided. A network of Christchurch residents and organisations called Avon-Otakaro Network is dedicated to creating a reserve and river park in the Avon River residential red zone.



The Canterbury earthquakes have caused significant land damage throughout the city, with areas close to riverbanks and other waterways having been particularly hard-hit. Ground levels across large areas of the city have settled by as much as 200mm to 300mm and by more in some smaller areas.

In 2013, updated floor levels were set for properties in the Avon and Heathcote river catchment. The new floor levels will protect homes from the risk of future flooding. Actual floor levels for each property will be set as part of the building consent process. Flood risk and floor level assessments are now part of the resource consenting process for new developments in defined Flood Management Areas.

Economic environment

Consultation on the New Brighton Centre Master Plan closed February 2013. Master Plans help build investor and business confidence. They give residents, property and business owners a framework that will assist in providing a vision of how their ideas fit into the rebuild of the area. It also provides a 'guide' for the community so they can set goals and prioritise what they want to work on or develop. This will, in turn, enable the Council to make decisions based on community priorities.

The New Brighton Centre Master Plan will aim to re-establish the centre as the heart of the community and be the key activity centre for the eastern suburbs. A community advisory group was set up by Council to provide further input to the New Brighton Centre Master Plan before it is finalised for adoption by the Council, early 2015. The group focussed on identifying key elements of private investment and public place-making initiatives which would assist in revitalising New Brighton's commercial centre, and funding options to achieve these.

New Brighton Business and Landowners Association (NBBLA) have been working closely with property owners, businesses, community, local and central government agencies to finalise and implement the New Brighton Centre Master Plan. The NBBLA is seeking to establish a variety of built assets that will have wide ranging positive effects for the commercial centre. Some businesses have closed following the earthquakes.

Natural environment

The natural environment of the beach and sea to the east and the estuary and river to the west attract people to the area. Some of the river banks have suffered slips and some tracks have suffered damage.

The South New Brighton Park adjacent to the estuary and river is a community recreational space. Following a significant loss of trees and facilities in the park, the Council has undertaken a significant consultation to update the South New Brighton Reserves Management Plan. These plans were approved in March 2014. There have been a number of community planting days at the reserve which have been well supported and attended. Public consultation around the South New Brighton Park playground upgrade commences December 2014.

Flood management areas were identified prior to the Canterbury earthquakes for areas that are prone to flooding as a result of major tidal or rainfall events or are vulnerable to the effects of climate change as a result of rising sea levels. One of the flood management areas is the Avon and Heathcote Rivers.

In November 2013 a Christchurch City Council report warned that many Christchurch suburbs, including New Brighton/South Shore and residents along the coastal stretch from South Shore to Spencer Park may be affected by future sea level rise. The greatest impact of sea level rise on the city will be the increased risk of storm inundation associated with the greater frequency of extreme tidal levels. The other main impact of sea level rise is the progressive shoreline retreat of low lying areas. The report can be found here: http://static.stuff.co.nz/files/tonkin-taylor.pdf



Key issues identified

Issue	Progress to date / outcomes
• Red zoning risks - depopulation of the area, reduced housing stock, future land damage, decreased value in remaining green zoned housing and an increase in crime around derelict buildings.	 <u>November 2012</u> 198 homes on the estuary side of the spit in Southshore red zoned. As residents begin to move out, the crime risk will increase. Demand for real estate in the eastern suburbs is high as red zoned residents are reluctant to leave their community.
	 <u>November 2013</u> Residents living in residential red zone land are required to move out by the end of January 2014. Residents living within and near the residential red zone have reported concerns of empty homes being a target for vandalism, arson, squatters and theft.
	 <u>November 2014</u> Demolition of properties in the red zone continues. Concerns remain around vandalism arson, squatters and theft.
Continuing high stress levels of individuals, loss of volunteers, volunteer burnout, welfare concerns.	 November 2012 Individuals are frustrated by their own issues around rebuilding or repairing their homes as well as looking after their communities. Frustration levels and health issues increasing. A practitioners' group of agencies, the Network for Eastside Community Support, is supporting communities in the east has been established to help and share their knowledge and resources. Some community organisations affected by volunteers moving out of the area. November 2013 Some people continue to face frustrating issues around rebuilding and repairing their homes. The Eastside Community Support Network has been disbanded. A number of community and recreation groups have reported a reduction in the number of members and participants, as people move out of the area. November 2014 Some people continue to face frustrating issues around rebuilding and repairing their homes. Many residents have concerns around flooding due to the poor condition or loss of the estuary edge and stop banks. In Southshore this has become more of an issue as estuary edge properties in the red zone are demolished, taking away the wall protection that did exist on the estuary.



Issue	Progress to date / outcomes
 Loss of major community facilities, damage to roads and infrastructure, reduced public transport. 	 <u>November 2012</u> South Brighton Community Centre demolished. Roads and infrastructure throughout the area significantly damaged. Road works causing major disruptions. Bus services have been reduced. Significant loss of community housing facilities.
	 <u>November 2013</u> South New Brighton Community Centre (transitional facility) opened November 2013. Road works continue to have an impact on residents' lives. Their area still has pot holes, bumpy and uneven roads; and detours are in place as operational work continues. Southshore Community House is expected to close June 2014.
	 November 2014 Road works continue to have an impact on residents' lives. Their area still has pot holes, bumpy and uneven roads; and detours are in place as operational work continues. South Brighton Residents Association will lead a community project to landscape the grounds at the community centre in November 2014. Southshore Community House moved to a new site in August 2014, and will operate from there to February 2015. After this date organisations and groups currently using the house will need to relocate to alternative venues; South Brighton Community Centre may be a suitable alternative option.
Closure of shops, depopulation and access difficulties threaten catchment for shops, perception of the mall area in Brighton as being low quality.	 <u>November 2012</u> 40% of the Brighton Mall area is vacant or demolished. Community activity beginning to regenerate the area. New Brighton Master Plan to be finalised by July 2013. Shops in South Brighton struggling to stay afloat. Southshore has lost key restaurants and bars that were important community meeting places. <u>November 2013</u> Submissions to the New Brighton Centre Master Plan closed February 2013. A community advisory group will be established January 2014 to provide
	 further input before the plan is finalised for adoption by the Council. Some businesses remain closed. <u>November 2014</u> A community advisory group was set up by Council to provide further input to the New Brighton Centre Master Plan before it is finalised for adoption by the Council in early 2015. The group focussed on identifying key elements of private investment and public place-making initiatives which would assist in revitalising New Brighton's commercial centre.



Issue	Progress to date / outcomes
 Major loss and disintegration of recreation facilities and natural environment. 	 <u>November 2012</u> South Brighton Domain majorly damaged. New Management Plan consultation in progress. River water quality has diminished.
	 <u>November 2013</u> Community consultation on the South New Brighton Reserves Management Plan closed November 2013. Expected completion date for the draft development plan is March /April 2014.
	 <u>November 2014</u> The South New Brighton Reserves management Plan was approved March 2014. A number of community planting days have taken place at the reserve. The South Brighton Park Playground upgrade will go out for consultation December 2014. There have been a number of arson attacks at the reserve.
Developing community connectedness and new initiatives in the face of large community challenges.	 <u>November 2012</u> A wide range of new and exciting organisations, events and initiatives have sprung up in the last year and new community leaders are emerging. <u>November 2013/14</u> A piece of independent research into community resilience in New Brighton was completed in October 2013. From this a Collaborative
	Community Emergency Response Plan for Greater New Brighton is in place.
 Community safety including building security, safety, vandalism and graffiti especially in red zones and the New Brighton mall areas. 	 <u>November 2013</u> There was a community meeting in October 2013 around vandalism, security and the safety of empty houses in the Southshore red zone area. A community safety partnership is working on issues connected to community safety.
	 November 2014 The New Brighton Community Safety Partnership has identified some community safety projects in the area, which have been approved for funding by Burwood Pegasus Community Board.

