

**West Coast Health Community Voice Meeting**  
**Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> February 1pm – 3pm**

**Community Voice**

*Health and Wellbeing Advocates Te Tai Poutini West Coast*

**Members**

Gaye Coates (GC), Jan Flinn (JF), Lynnette Beirne (LB) (Deputy Chair), Neil Stevenson (NS), Pam Sutherland (PS), Teri-anne Bell (T-AB), Andrew Welsford (AW), Carolina Salazar (CS), Lee Harris (LH), Janella Munns (JM), Melanie Wilson (MW), Eleanor Harrington (EH), Mary-Rose O'Loughlin (M-RO), Steph Newburry (SN) (Chair)

**Opening Karakia:**

*Whakataka te hau ki te uru  
Whakataka te hau ki te tonga  
Kia mākinakina ki uta  
Kia mātaratara ki tai  
E hī ake ana te atakura  
He tio, he huka, he hau hū  
Tihei mauri ora!*

*Cease the winds from the west  
Cease the winds from the south  
Let the breeze blow over the land  
Let the breeze blow over the ocean  
Let the red-tipped dawn come with a  
sharpened air.  
A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.*

Item	Discussion
<p><b>1:00pm</b></p> <p>In-Committee / Members only time</p> <p><i>(10 minutes)</i></p>	<p>(Not minuted)</p>
<p><b>1:10pm</b></p> <p>Administration</p> <p><i>(5 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Full meeting opened with Karakia</p> <p>Whakawhanaungatanga – connecting, introducing and welcoming new members to the group.</p> <p>Apologies noted</p> <p>Previous minutes moved / Confirmation of previous meeting</p>
<p><b>1:15pm</b></p> <p>Group feedback</p> <p><i>(45 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Round table discussion</p> <p>Feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Availability of mental health crisis support</li> <li>- Access to prescription medications outside of pharmacy opening hours in Westport</li> <li>- Rural resilience roadshow</li> <li>- Continuity of care (being able to see same clinician each appointment)</li> </ul>
<p><b>2:00pm</b></p> <p>Guest: Gaylene Findlay <i>Community Mental Health and Wellbeing Coordinator</i></p> <p><i>(15 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Gaylene talked about current work on developing a suicide prevention action plan and identifying at-risk / vulnerable communities. Focus on awareness and coordinating services that are currently working in these spaces, as well as those providing post-incident support. Note that this is primarily a coordination-focused role working to provide support to existing networks and services</p>
<p><b>2:15pm</b></p> <p>Discharge Project – Margot Van Mulligen</p> <p><i>(10 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Discharge project draft has been shared with Community Voice group who provided some feedback in January. Next steps are to finalise document for distribution (via print or online). Purpose of document is to provide information on when people are transferred to Christchurch for a higher level of care and are then discharged from hospital in Christchurch</p>
<p><b>2:40pm</b></p>	<p>M/A: group adjourned for photo to be taken</p>

<p>Chair update</p> <p><i>(5 minutes)</i></p>	
<p><b>2:45pm</b></p> <p>Update from Gaye – Te Waipounamu Consumer Council</p> <p><i>(5 minutes)</i></p>	<p>Updates from regional meeting on 9/2/2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rural Health Sustainability Group – there is a consumer representative on this group</li> <li>- Sunflower Lanyard project discussion</li> </ul>

**Next meeting:** Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2026 1pm – 3pm

Meeting closed with a karakia