

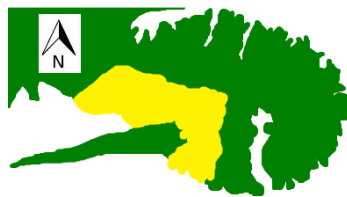
Community profile - November 2014

Little River / Wairewa

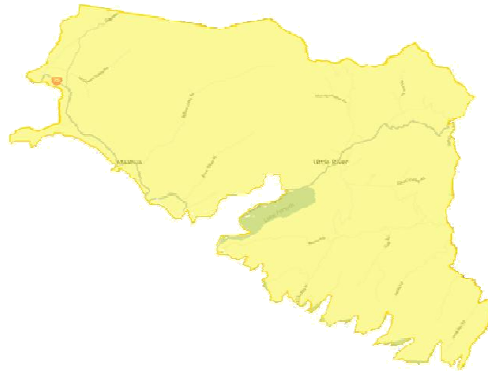
Hilltop, Cooptown, Little River, Western Valley,
Okuti Valley – Reids Hill (Southern Bays), Prices Valley, Ataahua,
Kaituna, McQueens Valley – Southern edge Gebbies Valley/Motukarara

(Census area unit: Little River including the mesh blocks covering Birdlings Flat)

Banks Peninsula



Profile Area



Little River township is the largest settlement in this zone, which stretches from the Hilltop south to Gebbies Valley in the north; the slopes and ridges of the Mount Herbert volcanic group to the east; and west to the shores of Lake Ellesmere / Te Waihora. Lake Forsyth / Te Wairewa separates Little River from the Birdlings Flat zone. Little River is 54 kilometres from Christchurch and considered the gateway to Akaroa and the Peninsula. State Highway 75 (SH75) is the main through road.

The population for this zone is 933, scattered over one of the largest geographic areas of Banks Peninsula. The median age for Wairewa is 46 years. At the 2013 Census the age demographic statistics were: 39 people aged under five years; 144 aged 5–14 years; 42 aged 15–19 years; 213 aged 20–44 years; 234 aged 45–54 years; 138 aged 55–64 years; and 126 aged over 65 years. The New Zealand Deprivation Index 2006 for the Little River/Wairewa area is three to four (10 being the most deprived). This statistic belies the fact that there are several pockets of extreme deprivation within these communities.

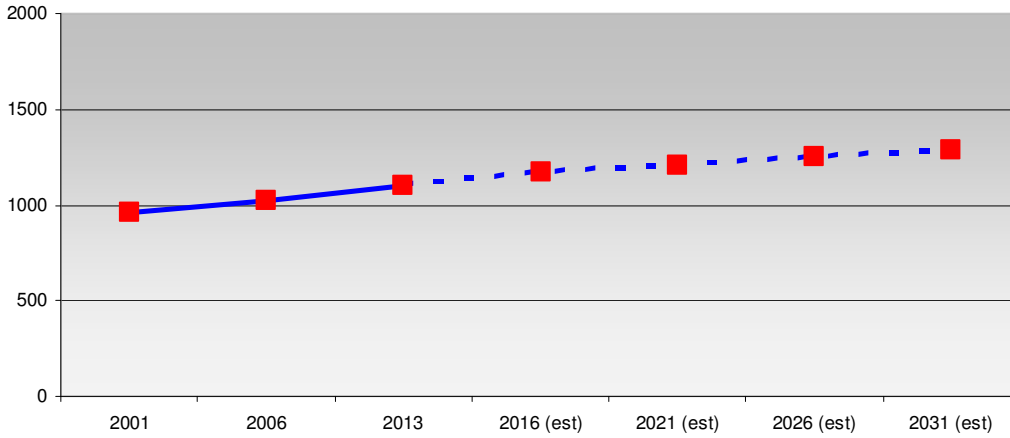
The settlements in this area are a mix of farming, forestry and residential communities situated within numerous valleys. Those further to the north align more readily with Tai Tapu and Lincoln, rather than the 'urban' settlement of Little River. Employment opportunities are limited and a number of residents commute to Christchurch or Lincoln for work.

There is one marae, Wairewa, in the Little River settlement. There is one primary school, for years one to eight (decile five), situated in Little River. It had a roll of 99 pupils in 2013. Secondary schooling is at Lincoln High School or at various Christchurch schools. Many children travel by school bus. There is no public transport and distances preclude walking or biking.

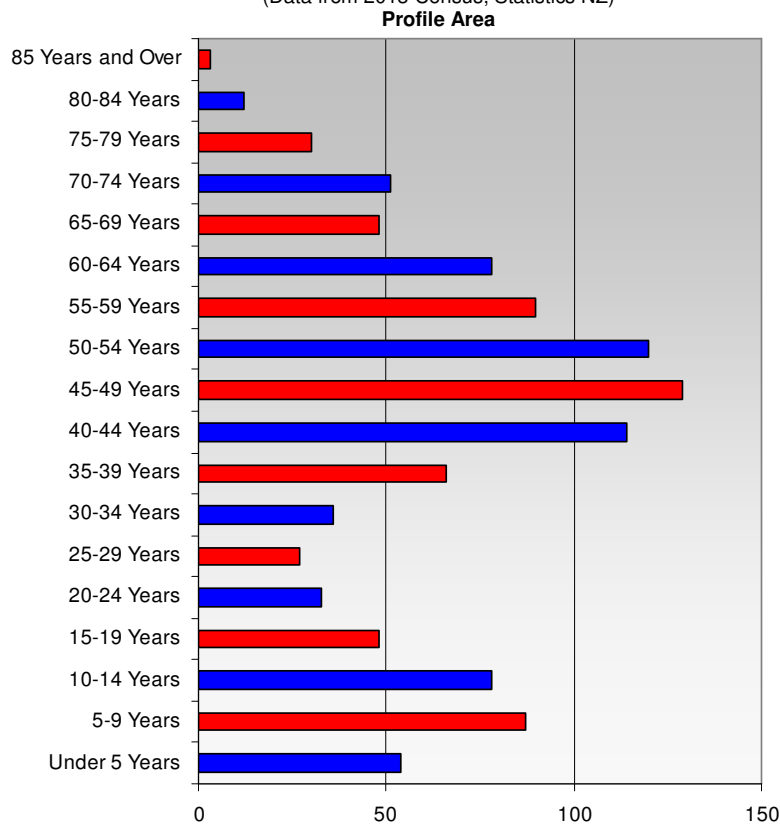
Key demographics

NB: The demographics below show the Little River Area Unit data which **includes** the Birdlings Flat area.

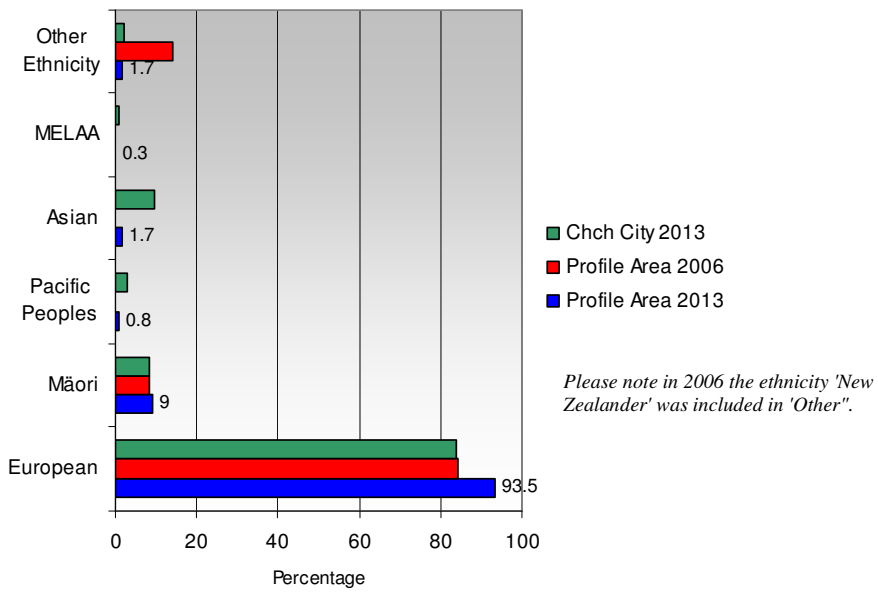
Usually resident population count
(Data from Statistics NZ)



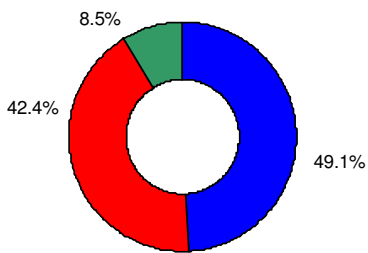
Age for usually resident population (number of people)
(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)



Ethnicity for usually resident population (%)
(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)

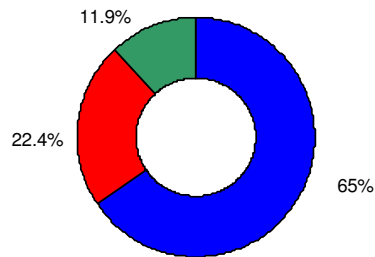


Family type (%)
(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)



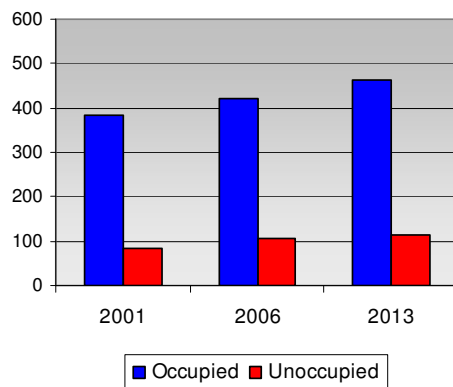
- Couple without children
- Couple with child(ren)
- One parent with child(ren)

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

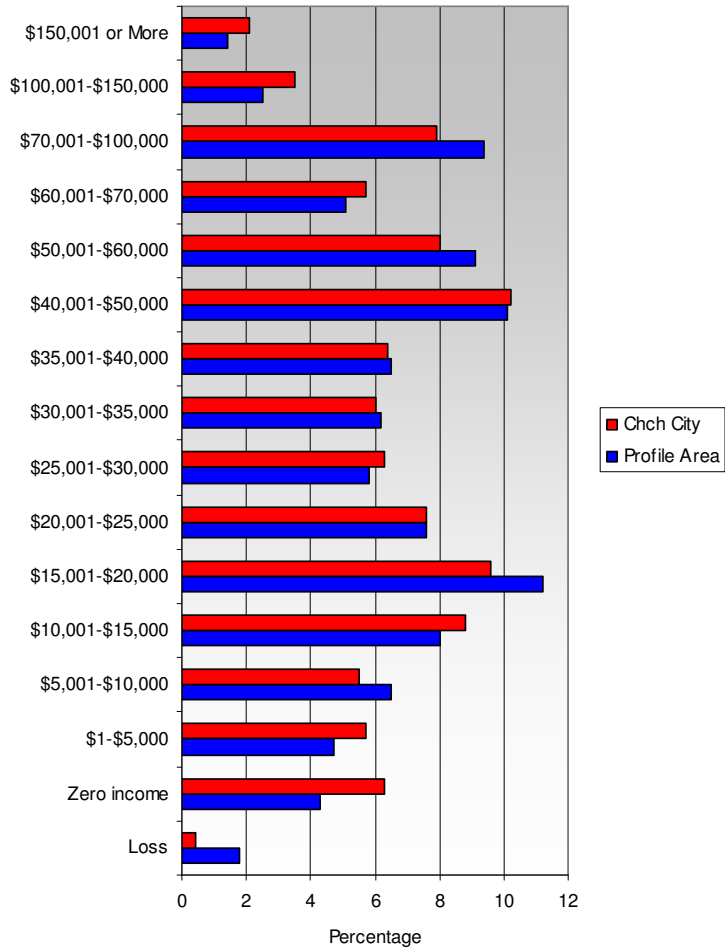


- Dwelling owned or partly owned
- Dwelling not owned and not held in a family trust
- Dwelling held in a family trust

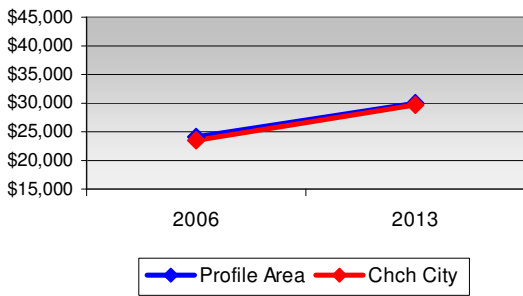
Occupied and unoccupied dwellings
(Data from Statistics NZ)



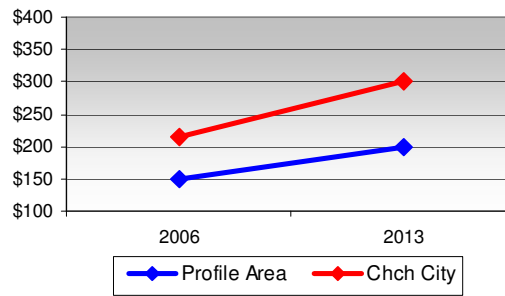
Personal income for Profile Area compared to Christchurch City (%)
(Data from Statistics NZ)



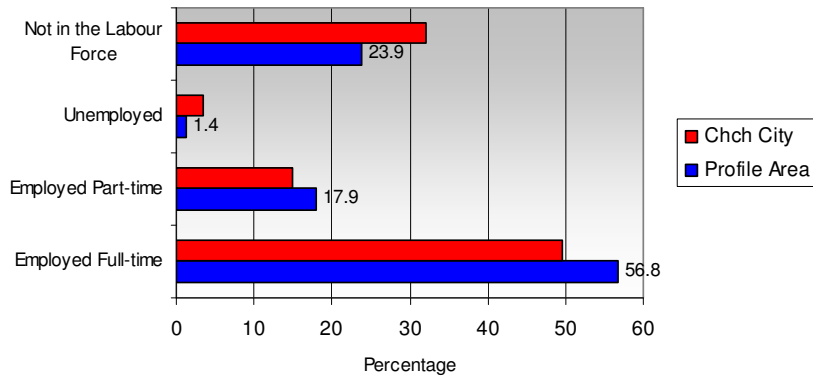
Median personal income for Profile Area compared to Christchurch City
(Data from Statistics NZ)



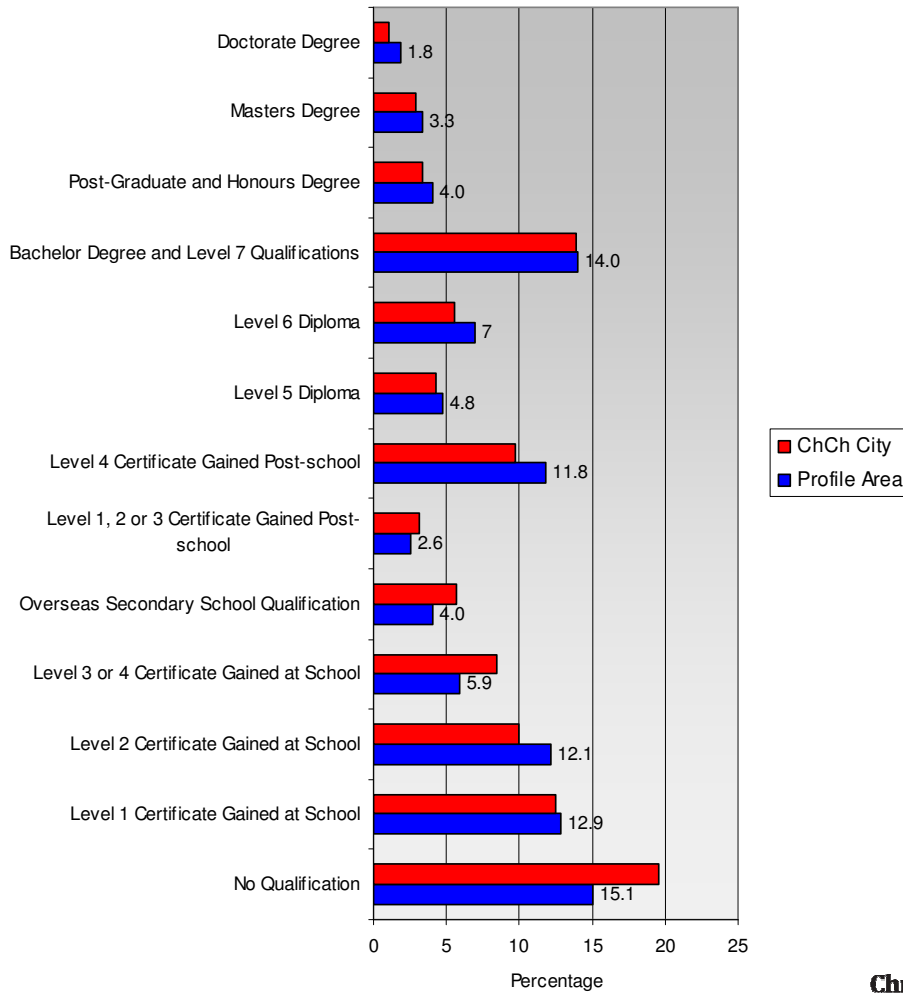
Median weekly rent for rented households, in private occupied dwellings
(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)



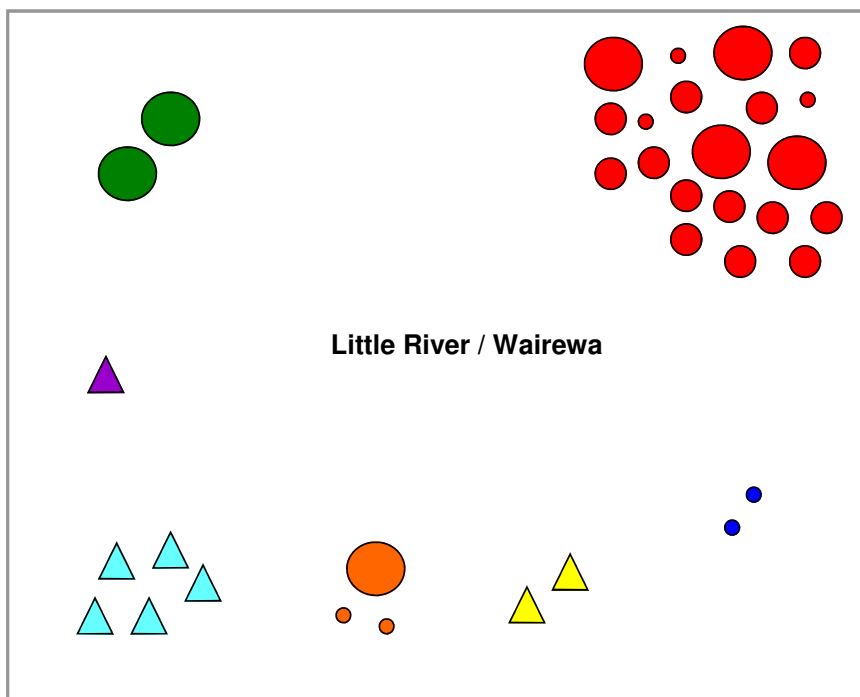
Work and labour force status (%)
(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)



Highest educational qualification for the Census usually resident population, aged 15 years and over (%)
(Data from 2013 Census, Statistics NZ)



Community infrastructure mapping



- Community development/support organisations
- Sport/recreation/leisure groups
- Faith-based organisations
- Residents/business associations
- ▲ Schools
- ▲ Community facilities (Council owned)
- ▲ Libraries (Council owned)

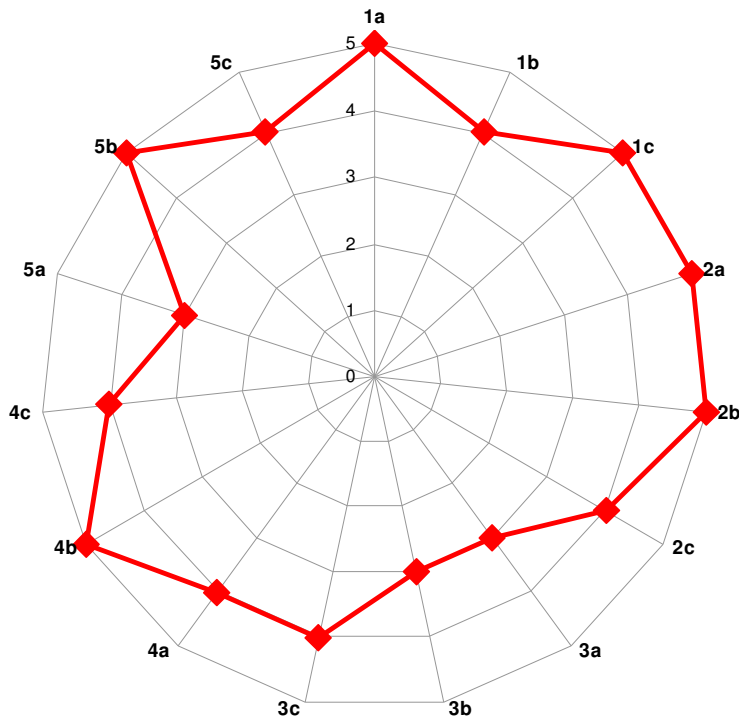
The above ratings have been based on reach, diversity and participation. For example, bigger circles tend to be groups that provide a wider range of services, or have large numbers of participants. They also tend to be groups that are well networked within the community.

Little River is a vibrant community with many opportunities for involvement in organisations for interest or recreational activities. Resilience has been tested over the past four years, however, the community has responded positively.

There are two Reserve Management Committees in the area. Although there is no residents' group, the Little River Wairewa Community Trust has representation from a broad cross-section of residents, members from other not-for-profit organisations and the business sector that enables more local input to occur than with many 'urban' residents' groups.

Community facilities have remained open, except for the historic Coronation Library building on Awa-iti Domain which is awaiting repair following earthquake damage.

Community resilience mapping



Scale: 1 = Low 5 = High

15 Measures of resilience

Community Support Organisations (rating)

1a	# of organisations	(5)
1b	strength of organisations	(4)
1c	community development principles	(5)

Volunteering (rating)

2a	investment in volunteers	(5)
2b	# of volunteer hours from Fundforce	(5)
2c	# of volunteer hours from Census	(4)

Connectedness (rating)

3a	# of Neighbourhood Support groups	(3)
3b	# of residents' associations	(3)
3c	access to networking groups/forums	(4)

Participation (rating)

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

Preparedness (rating)

5a	# of Neighbourhood Support groups	(3)
5b	# households in Neighbourhood Support	(5)
5c	capability of groups to lead local response	(4)

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

Overview

A significant piece of local research was completed in October 2014:- Issues and Options for Little River: A Scoping Document by Dr Suzanne Vallance. Funded by the CCC and the Little River Wairewa Community Trust, it identifies current challenges, priorities and options for the future development of the Little River area. The main issues identified are road safety, flooding, waste water treatment/disposal and the need for an area plan.

Social environment

All community activities continue to operate. New physical/recreation groups started throughout 2013. The Little River Wairewa Community Trust has organised meetings and community gatherings to build resilience and capacity of and for the community. Local organisations and residents' participation in the annual 'Little River Summer Festival' event has contributed to the buoyancy of this community.

Community resilience has been tested over the past four years reflecting evidence of families being tired and/or emotionally-fractured, with reduced coping mechanisms. This is in line with literature and research which shows that people's resilience erodes in the third and fourth year following an extreme, adverse event.

There are no local social service agencies to deliver programmes either for groups or individuals. The Akaroa Heartland Centre has opened an outreach service in the Christchurch City Council service centre building in Little River which is available to help address any social issues arising in the community. Community events provide stress release, fun, companionship, and a sense of connection, as well as an escape from usual routines.

Built environment

A small number of houses suffered extensive damage, particularly in Kaituna Valley and McQueens Valley, and required demolition. Included in the 17 heritage buildings damaged in Akaroa/Wairewa are the Catholic Church, St John the Evangelist, and the Coronation Library building on Awa-iti Domain.

The tennis courts in Awa-iti Domain suffered sever damage in the series of floods early 2014 and are unusable.

Economic environment

There is a small, local business community mainly based in Little River. There has been some influence from the national economic recession and a local, depressed tourism market.

Some people have uncertain job security since the earthquakes. Home-based businesses and practitioners of wellbeing and natural health lifestyles have developed niche markets in this area.

Natural environment

Little River/Wairewa was minimally affected by the earthquakes. Roads remained open; however, there were some minor rock falls on valley ridges and some water ponding on rural paddocks.

Flooding continues to be a major issue and has resulted in a joint working party being established, led by ECAN and including CCC, NZTA, DoC and the local community.

Te Wairewa (Lake Forsyth) continues to be affected by toxic algal blooms. The local community has been actively planting out indigenous species along the riparian strips of the Okana River, which feeds into the lake, to help neutralise the effect of run-off and pollutants.

Key issues identified

Issue	Progress to date / outcomes
<p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is patchy telecommunication, cell phone, broadband, television (without satellite) and radio coverage for the whole area. 	<p><u>November 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2011-12 Strengthening Communities funding from the Christchurch City Council was provided to establish a small local radio station, which will have the capacity to reach the Little River and Birdlings Flat area and the capability of disseminating emergency information in times of disaster/adverse events. <p><u>November 2013/14</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The radio sites continue to be assessed for maximum coverage.
<p>Civil Defence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The volunteer fire brigade has been formally assigned the role of Civil Defence coordination. The risks are that as the brigade is a volunteer organisation and reliant on having sufficient volunteers available, if it is also called out on a medical emergency, accident and/or a fire, they may not be able to coordinate during a disaster/adverse event. As their base is in the settlement of Little River, they are dependent on State Highway 75 for access. 	<p><u>November 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Because each settlement tends to be clustered up valleys, this is the time for each valley to enhance its Civil Defence plans and organise neighbourhood readiness for any future events, to supplement and strengthen the fire brigade's plan. It is hoped the fire brigade will be able to initiate some ongoing development plans for each area. The Little River Wairewa Community Trust plans to initiate an asset database to register with the Neighbourhood Support Canterbury organisation. <p><u>November 2013/14</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Little River/Wairewa community, working with the fire brigade, have initiated an asset database to register local groups and individuals. During 2013, 46 individuals have registered in Little River, as well as one in Prices Valley and two in Puaha.
<p>Rock falls, slips and flooding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There remains a risk of some minor rock falls associated with slips. At times of heavy rain, slips pose a risk to State Highway 75, particularly between Birdlings Flat and Little River and up some of the valleys. This would close access to the highway/roads for emergency services, residents and also other service deliveries Three flooding events early in 2014 have promoted flooding as a serious issue effecting the lives and properties of residents and local businesses. 	<p><u>November 2013</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Status quo remains. <p><u>November 2014</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A working party led by ECan has been established to address the flooding issues. It includes membership from CCC, DoC residents, NZTA and stakeholders. One of the options is to establish a Ratings District Scheme to fund the flood mitigation work.

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Issue	Progress to date / outcomes
<p>Lack of social services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are currently no health or social services provided locally apart from the one day per week Heartland Centre. 	<p><u>November 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Akaroa Heartland Centre has opened an outreach Heartland Centre in the Little River Service Centre, which will help address social services for the community. Local residents are leading the consultation with their community to determine options for local health services. A public meeting will be held at the end of November 2012 for an initial discussion. <p><u>November 2013</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discussions are continuing with Government social service agencies to provide services to Little River. Visits are scheduled to coincide with their clinics in Akaroa. Little River health services – a small focus group was established as a result of the first public health meeting at the end of 2012. Traction has been slow. A working group within the Canterbury District Health Board is considering options for Little River health service provision. <p><u>November 2014</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is ongoing lobbying to MSD to provide staff visits to Little River. This seems even less achievable following a homicide in the MSD offices in Ashburton and increased need for security.
<p>Violence/abuse</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a risk of increasing domestic violence and other abuse. Historically, statistics show an increase following a disaster once people's coping mechanisms decline and with the increased pressures traditionally associated with Christmas, holidays, and/or financial commitments. 	<p><u>November 2012</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low-key awareness campaigns for 'It's not OK'; implementation of some social services to address issues for groups and individuals. A Safer Christchurch project has been implemented to address issues which, if they escalate, risk an increase in antisocial behaviour and family violence across the age spectrum. <p><u>November 2013</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The safer Christchurch project met with limited success. Anecdotal information from service providers indicates a small rise in family violence/abuse. <p><u>November 2014</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social services continue to monitor and respond to domestic and other violence.

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<u>Issue</u>	<u>Progress to date / outcomes</u>
<p>Community Plan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Scoping Document by Dr Suzanne Vallance strongly recommends the development of an integrated Community/Area Plan for the Little River district. Such a plan would cover all the main issues and offer a strategic approach to addressing local concerns. Some of which have remained unaddressed or partially addressed over many years. Levels of frustration and disappointment are moderately high amongst residents as progress with issues has been slow. 	<p><u>November 2014</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Document has been received and endorsed at a community meeting and is to be progressed. The top four issues identified are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Road Safety Flooding Waste water treatment and disposal A Community/Area Plan The Little River Wairewa Community Trust (who commissioned the research in partnership with the CCC) are investigating the employment of a co-ordinator to maintain progress on the development of a plan. The community are active with submitting to the council's Long Term Plan consultations to include planning and capital resourcing for Little River.

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