

Central City Biannual Report

January—June 2021



This reporting reflects the key themes of the Central City Action Plan ([CCAP](#))

It provides an overview of:

- Progress towards [long term outcomes](#)
- Relevant statistics
- Project delivery updates
- Use of grants that Council has provided.



City Leadership

Progress towards our Central City Outcomes

The announcements about the opening of Te Pae in October and the appointment of the Kōtui consortium to design and build the Canterbury Arena are major milestones for the Central City. The delivery of these venues have been viewed, for many years, as ‘game changers’ that offer great potential to regularly bring large numbers of people into the heart of the Central City for events, business and hospitality.



Whilst the Arena remains 3 years away, definitive commitment to the project has been cited by a range of city leaders and vacant site owners as catalysts for new investment and development. As the design process continues during 2021, with a more definitive layout and imagery of the finished venue being released progress on other sites on the eastern side of the Central City can be expected to emerge.

There is currently a focus on strategic scale planning with initiatives including [Greater Christchurch 2050](#), the Government’s National Policy Statement on Urban Development and reform of the Resource Management Act in the pipeline. Kāinga Ora may also have a role to play in supporting transformational projects. For the Central City, a continued focus on the outcomes articulated in the Central City Action Plan is important.



Across all of the [Central City’s headline metrics](#) which are summarised in this report, there is good progress.

- Spending by Christchurch residents in the Central City during the first quarter of 2021 was 10% higher compared with 2020 underlining its continuing attraction as a place to be and growing loyalty among customers.
- Whilst the expected lack of international visitors during the summer months (compared to the pre-pandemic summer of 2020) was always going to impact on businesses, the 44% increase in spending from New Zealanders went a long way to keeping the total Quarter 1 gap between 2020 and 2021 to 9.6%.
- The buoyant market has attracted significant developer interest in the residential market. The number of commitments—sites under development or consented during January to March is strong with 358 units in the pipeline. The number of homes completed in the Central City in the first 6 months of 2021 was lower compared to 2020 which can be attributed to the disruption and uncertainty created by COVID-19 in 2020 and the fact that more multi-unit developments are underway which deliver larger numbers of units less frequently than lower rise, section-based homes.

Over Winter 2021,

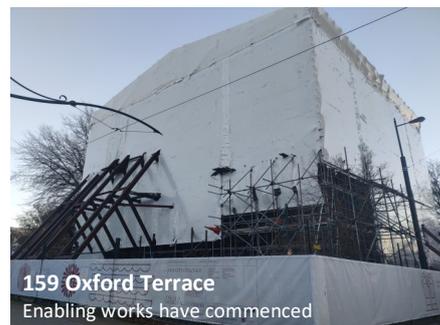
- A series of events are planned over the Winter period to continue to draw people to the Central City including Tirama Mai, the CCBA’s Chill in the City and Go Live.
- The announcement of significant new housing developments on the former Convention Centre site (pictured) and Madras Square have helped to create a real sense of momentum and positivity. Fletcher Residential is also moving forward with development on their One Central development area.



Barrier Sites Programme

Key progress on the Barrier Sites Programme during the January to June period includes:

- **159 Oxford Terrace (Our City)** - A restoration partnership with Christchurch City Council and private developers Box112 was approved in December 2020. Enabling works including the erection of scaffolding and building wrap have now started.
- **79 Cambridge Terrace - (Bradley Nuttall Building)**- Strengthening work on the building is complete and stage 2 building consent has been lodged to convert the building into a serviced hotel (pictured).
- **159 Hereford Street (Malvern House)** - Sold to a new owner who is in dialogue with the Council regarding redevelopment options for the building.
- **210-214 Tuam Street (Laurie and Wilson Building and Odeon Theatre)** - Building consents have been lodged to strengthen the Laurie and Wilson Building to 100% NBS and install temporary bracing on the adjoining Odeon Theatre.
- **141 High Street (Duncans Buildings)** - Resource consent lodged for reinstatement and restoration of the building for mixed use (commercial and residential).



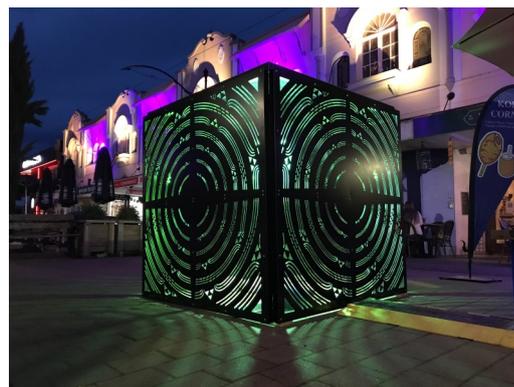
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|---|-----------------|
| Total number of Barrier Sites at programme initiation in 2017 | 43 sites |
| Number of Barrier Sites resolved | 22 sites |
| Number of current Barrier Sites | 21 sites |
| Number of Barrier Sites with plans or firm intentions for reuse | 18 sites |
| Number of Barrier Sites with no clear intentions | 3 sites |

Light up the City

The **Urban Regeneration Capital Programme ('Enliven Places')** has a focus on supporting the Urban Regeneration work programme's Central City Action Plan, Vacant Sites Programme, Residential Programme (Project 8011) and Urban Renewal.

In order to improve perceptions of safety and help enliven public spaces in the Central City, over the reporting period, Enliven Places delivered and/or supported the following lighting projects:

- **Plymouth Lane festoon lighting:** In collaboration with the Peebles Group, Plymouth Lane has temporary festoon lighting to visually connect the Guthrie Centre and Riverside. Peebles Group has paved the walkway between Guthrie Centre and Riverside at their own cost as agreed with Council – and in a reciprocal gesture the Programme paid for a section of temporary lighting. Peebles Group will pay for the remainder of lighting and manage maintenance and associated costs. This project was completed in the first quarter of FY21/22.
- **New Regent Street lighting:** The Council has lit the historic facades along New Regent Street with forty permanent lights, in partnership with private owners and the local business association. This project builds on the success of a lighting trial last winter. This installation gives the street the ability to create custom lighting programmes and better leverage other participation in Central City events, such as Tīrama Mai.
- **Tīrama Mai cubes and gobos:** Following the collaboration with Events for CHCH is Lit In FY19/20, the Programme partnered to support Tīrama Mai, including purchase of two lighted cube installations and contribution toward Matariki artwork for gobos. The artwork for the cubes and gobos were developed alongside Ngai Tahu. Purchase and deployment of the lighted cube installations meant New Regent Street was included in Tīrama Mai, encouraging foot traffic to the street during the event. The ten gobos create a trail through the Central City.



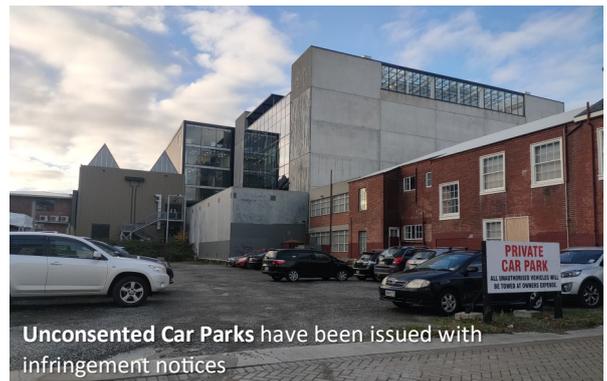
Vacant Sites Programme

In December, Council initiated the [Vacant Sites programme](#). This programme has two main goals.

- ⇒ Engagement with site owners in the Central City to understand their intentions and support them in bringing forward new development on their land. This activity is supported by consenting and strategic partnerships areas, as well as outreach through the Project 8011 residential programme.
- ⇒ Where owners are not yet ready to develop they are being encouraged to improve the appearance of their sites and, in busier areas, funding is available to support activation projects that enhance the city experience. Improving the city's appearance can help attract new visitors, residents and investment.

Initial work being progressed through the programme includes:

- **Working with operators of unconsented temporary car parks** — this work stream is about addressing the legality of this temporary activity and, in doing so addressing the visual appearance of sites. Regulatory Compliance staff have written to operators of unconsented car parks; this has led to resource consent applications. Within the consenting process, staff are seeking to achieve outcomes consistent with District Plan requirements and the outcomes of the programme.
- **Vacant Site Guidelines** (when published later this calendar year) will set some basic standards for the upkeep of vacant land in the Central City and other suburban centres where vacancy is prominent.
- **Site Improvement** — project support (*using funding from the Urban Regeneration Capital Programme*) has been used to support the High Street business community to deliver a temporary project on a vacant site at 240 High Street. A hoarding was repositioned and replaced to allow for a large planted seating area. Artwork was installed to brighten the hoarding and address graffiti issues. As one of the last vacant sites on the block, this project will contribute positively to the public realm by supporting the continuity of activity until the site is developed. A further project to support activation of the site at 9 Cathedral Square is underway.
- **Site Owner Engagement** — whether as part of the Partnership Approvals service, consenting processes or case by case contact with owners, gathering a wider picture of what is intended on Vacant Sites will help the programme direct resources. Owners contacted to date are open about what they want to achieve, but a clear message is coming back that progress on major projects and a return of international visitors are important triggers for further investment.



Street Performance and Activation

The **Urban Regeneration Capital Programme** helped to support projects that enhance street performance and activation.

- **Riverside banquet table:** In collaboration with Riverside Market/the Peebles Group, the Council will deliver a banquet-type table for community events on the Council land at Friendship Corner along Oxford Terrace. This project was delayed due to COVID-19 and the reimagined banquet tables will be modular to accommodate possible changes to physical distancing requirements. Delivery is expected in July 2021.
- Funding allowed the reconnection of the **Hack Circle Event Space Power Box** as part of the Cashel Mall lighting upgrade project. Previously connected to a power source in the former Triangle Centre, community events have needed to use hired generators or do without power. The delivery of the reconnection will have immediate benefit with the CCBA being able to base its synthetic ice rink for the Chill in the City event in Hack Circle at the end of August.



Enliven Places Programme : Enliven Places Projects Fund (EPPF)

Funding supported a range of community-led projects to temporarily activate Christchurch's vacant spaces in suburban areas and the Central City. The FY19/20 funded project Ōtautahi Christchurch Street Art Lighting Project returned \$1,495 of their overall grant fund, which added to the FY20/21 budget.

In this financial year 100% of the Fund was allocated. This funding period saw a range of spaces activated, including vacant shops, hoardings murals and a Phantom Stickers bollard. Applicants ranged from businesses, artists, markets and trusts.

The Enliven Places Projects Fund ended at 30 June 2021.

Suburban projects that have been funded include: **Te Puna Auaha Lyttelton - the pool/spring of creativity and innovation** (Lyttelton), **P O O L SIDE** (Waltham), **Hassal's Lane** (Waltham) and **Orton Bradley Park Spring Fair** (Charteris Bay). These will be reported in the Suburban biannual report 2021.

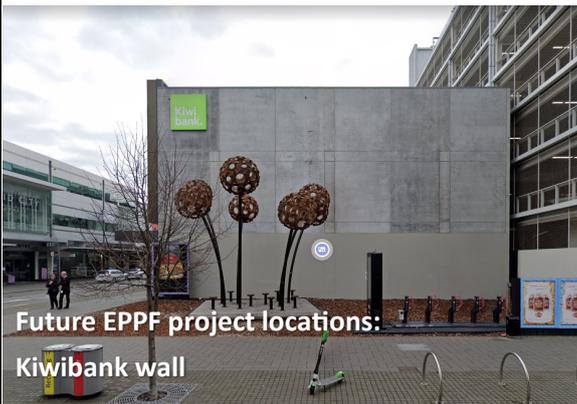
| | | |
|--|--|--|
| Funds available in 2020/21 (Year 9) : | Available balance at 1 January 2021 | Closing balance at 30 June 2021 |
| • \$100,000 | • \$101,495 | • \$0 |

| Applicant | Project | Location | Delivery | Funded |
|---------------------------|--|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Audrey Baldwin | The Art Chemist. A world first pop-up Art Chemist was part performance, part public therapy. Clients were prescribed various arts-based activities to support wellbeing and encourage audience participation in local arts. | Cathedral Junction | May 2021 | \$7,435 |
| Oliver Scott | O Scott World. A fashion shop showcasing local, emerging designers and artists, alongside a public events programme. | Five Lanes, BNZ Centre | April 2021 - Oct 2021 | \$4,000 |
| Rollickin Gelato | New Regent Street mural. Creation of a new mural by Wongi to refresh an existing hoarding. The work will incorporate wayfinding and reflect the era New Regent Street was built. | New Regent St | July 2021 | \$4,280 |
| Debbie Porter | Artisans Collective – Workspace, Workshop Space and Shop Space. A pop-up that consists of local artisans retail shop, artisans co-working space, public workshops, markets, more. | Cathedral Junction | Sept 2021 | \$8,000 |
| Ben Murgatroyd | Green Lane Markets. Support for three markets to help Green Lane grow and activate underutilised spaces across the city. | Various, central city, TBD | July - Sept 2021 | \$10,710 |
| Blue Cradle Trust | The Ocean is in our Hands. A mid-scale mural focusing on ocean awareness and duty of care to the environment. | Colombo St | Oct 2021— Oct 2022 | \$5,000 |
| OHO Ōtautahi | Ōtautahi Art Factory. A two-day event that creates a journey of discovery through the BOXed Quarter with a range of installations, artists, market stalls and existing businesses. | BOXed Quarter | Oct 2021 | \$8,000 |
| The Creators' Room | Art Stars 2021. A high quality exhibition to showcase the works of 105 Canterbury secondary students, "saving secondary school art from the tip". | Central City, TBD | Sept 2021 | \$8,500 |
| YMCA | YMCA Street Art Project. An original mural by Flox, co-designed and created with youth for the construction hoarding facing the Botanic Gardens. | Rolleston Ave | Oct 2021— July 2023 | \$12,000 |
| Watch This Space | The Paste Up Project. Quarterly curation of a Phantom Billstickers bollard with original, urban art created by local paste up artists. | Manchester St | Sept 2021 - 2022 | \$5,400 |

Enliven Places Programme : Enliven Places Projects Fund (EPPF)



The Art Chemist



Future EPPF project locations:
Kiwibank wall



Phantom Billstickers bollard



New Regent St
hoarding

Enliven Places Programme : Incentives

Rates Incentive for Property Owners: supports an increase in activity by providing a financial incentive to property owners of vacant exterior spaces and buildings to permit temporary creative, entrepreneurial and innovative activity while plans for permanent development are progressed.

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|
| Budget 2020/21 (city-wide): \$40,000 | Credited this period: \$14,424 | Closing Balance 30 June 2021: \$12,037 |
|---|---------------------------------------|---|

In September 2020, the Sustainability and Community Resilience Committee resolved to extend the Rates Incentive until 30 June 2021, making an amendment to cap the incentive to a cumulative \$15,000 per site. One Central City site and one suburban site reached the cumulative \$15,000 cap at 30 June 2020. The Incentive will be further reviewed and its potential will be further considered and reported separately.

One new Central City space and one suburban space began to receive the incentive. The spaces that rolled over host the Council’s Dahlias installation (662-664 Colombo Street), Gap Filler’s Buzzwire (110 Cashel Street), Kowhai Collective (181 High Street B2) and a current vacancy in the Guthrey Centre (126 Cashel Street). The new Central City space hosts The Den (181 High St C2). Suburban spaces are Common Ground in New Brighton (91 Estuary Road), Tiny Shops in Linwood (108 Stanmore Road) and Collett’s Corner in Lyttelton (3-9 London Street). The new suburban site is in Mairehau (55 Nancy Avenue).



The Den



Grant funding : City-Making Partners

Gap Filler, The Green Lab (formerly Greening the Rubble), Life in Vacant Spaces (LIVS) and the Central City Business Association (CCBA) were supported with grant funding of \$90,000 each to support city/placemaking in Christchurch. The Green Lab and LIVS work in the Central City and suburban areas. Gap Filler and the CCBA focus on the Central City.

Each grant agreement outlines outcomes, aims and targets that support the Council’s Strategic Framework including liveable city, resilient communities and healthy environment. Each organisation’s operations have been impacted by COVID.

Gap Filler

Gap Filler designs and creates the conditions for engaging, experimental and playful encounters to connect people to place.

In this reporting period Gap Filler delivered **Sit!**, a series of six fortnightly interventions to make existing street furniture more sociable and interactive along the Ōtākaro Avon River. These interventions were monitored across 37 lunchtimes, with more than 120 interactions, 93.33% positive.

Gap Filler began **Ngā Pirihimanaaki NZ Polite Force** to promote and encourage sociability, play and good spirit on the streets of Ōtautahi. Thirteen Polite Officers were trained, with 39 outings in the Central City. The Council’s Partnerships and Planning team has now funded a 3-month extension of the Polite Force in collaboration with the NZ Police.

Gap Filler has been contracted by the Council to advise on **Christchurch Performing Arts Precinct**, and contracted to deliver a **Latimer neighbourhood Asset Mapping** project for Project 8011. Gap Filler has; given presentations at the **Urban Futures** conference in Auckland, the global **Culture, Health and Wellbeing** conference; participated in contextual Central City tours including to the **Kāinga Ora** placemaking team; academic interviews, and featured in **Landscape Architecture Korea**. Two **Dance-O-Mats** are under construction in Kaikoura and Covington, Kentucky, USA. The organisation hosted one UC intern for 150 hours.

Gap Filler has continued **ChChChanges**, **Dance-O-Mat**, **Super Street Arcade** and **Buzzwire** delivered through previous GFAs. In addition, it continues its contract with Fletchers at Placemaking One Central which included delivery of multiple events, workshops, carparks and activity.



The Green Lab

The Green Lab completed one Central City installation, **PlantWorks** in Cathedral Junction, and a second is underway. PlantWorks was a collaboration with Ōtautahi Creative Spaces and Life in Vacant Spaces, and was delivered as Tūranga’s **Creative in Residence** with support from staff from Christchurch City Libraries. Three-hundred volunteer hours contributed to the creation of six green walls/art frames, and approximately 480 people were engaged through pop-up events and activations. An intern involved in PlantWorks received a Volunteer Canterbury Award for her services. The second Central City project is underway but has faced delays due to COVID. The project received Lotteries COVID-19 funding to contribute toward delivery, enabling a larger scale project than if delivered only with Council grant funding. This project is expected to pop-up for its first iteration in August 2021.

The Green Lab has established and fostered partnerships and relationships with 18 community groups, companies and organisations including Art Chemist, The Natural Paint Company and City Care Property. The Green Lab worked with 126 volunteers with over 500 hours of volunteer time (including for PlantWorks), and has recruited four contractors and appointed six new Board members.

The Green Lab sought expressions of interest from suburban communities for a co-design project and continues to engage with communities in suburban areas. This work will be reported in the next suburban biannual report (April 21—Sept 21).



Central City Business Association (CCBA)

The CCBA continues to support the business community, leveraging its grant through collaborations and events to secure \$78,660 additional value. 47 new members were added with a total membership of over 500. This is higher than pre-earthquake level.

A partnership with Bread & Circus allowed four member events and a Buskers wrap-up event. The CCBA worked closely with the Christchurch Foundation and businesses to promote Pride Week, and partnered with Riverside Market for the Gumboot breakfast and walk in support of youth mental health. Planning is underway for the Winter Festival Chill in the City. The event will run 29 July - 1 August.

The CCBA continues to advocate on behalf of its members on issues of importance to the success of Central City including working with:

- Council on street upkeep audits.
- NZ Police on anti-social behaviour.

The CCBA has set up a contact group involving key business leaders to work with the police to reduce lawlessness.

To secure future funding, the CCBA executive have worked with Council to frame a Targeted Rate which will be introduced July 2021 and effectively makes the CCBA self-funding. The CCBA will be engaging its members on a 3-5 year Strategic Plan in coming months to replace the previous 2017 version.



Life in Vacant Spaces (LiVS)

In this reporting period LiVS supported over 30 projects into spaces and 10,000 days of activation. Two new Central City spaces were added to their portfolio. 58% of their property portfolio is Central City; these spaces include 111 Cashel Street (BNZ Centre/ Five Lanes), 181 High Street, 110 Cashel Street and Cathedral Junction. All spaces have had regular activations and included projects such as retail, studio spaces, art installations and public events. The four LiVS-brokered spaces in Cathedral Junction hosted the Enliven Places Projects Funded The Art Chemist, The Green Lab's PlantWorks, a silent disco and two Ara student exhibitions. 181 High Street has become the home of graduate art gallery, The Den. The Den hosts regular events and exhibitions, drawing crowds to their space in the SALT District. The new City Market supports local makers and is being trialed at 110 Cashel Street.

The license for the Old Convention Centre site opposite the Town Hall ended as plans for permanent development on that site are underway. The license for the UniMed Building on Gloucester Street also ended when the LiVS-brokered tenant Fiksate Gallery sought new premises.

COVID-19 has impacted space availability across the city, as well as resources required to deliver projects; however demand for spaces and support for projects continues to increase.

Outside their Grant Funding Agreement, LiVS is collaborating with the University of Canterbury to contribute to the National Science Challenge's research project *Huritanga: Systems change for Urban Wellbeing* to develop a Community Economy Returns on Investment (CEROI) tool or method. LiVS continues their work in suburban areas which will be reported in the April 21 – Sept 21 suburban biannual report.



Central City Development Contributions Rebate Funds

A rebate of development contributions is offered as an incentive for residential development within the Four Avenues. In June 2020, the Council voted to end the commercial rebate scheme but extend the residential rebate scheme until such time as the fund is exhausted. The residential scheme will be refreshed to ensure that rebates are targeted at supporting genuine residential developments, and not residential units used for commercial purposes, including short term guest accommodation. Information about the process, FAQ's and qualifying criteria are on the [Council website](#).

| Residential Rebates January—June 2021 | Total |
|---|----------------------|
| Number of residential developments assessed within the four Avenues | 14 |
| Number of residential units provisionally approved for the rebate | 202 (\$2,050,881.66) |
| Total Fund approved for qualifying developments during this period | \$0.00 |
| Total fund remaining | \$5,335,623.89 |

Central City Growth Statistics

The [Central City Insights and Monitoring Webpage](#) presents regularly updated statistics and commentary of how we are tracking against stated ambitions for economic, living and city experience outcomes. This section draws on that resource and also adds in other data sources which paint a wider picture of the city's health and vibrancy.

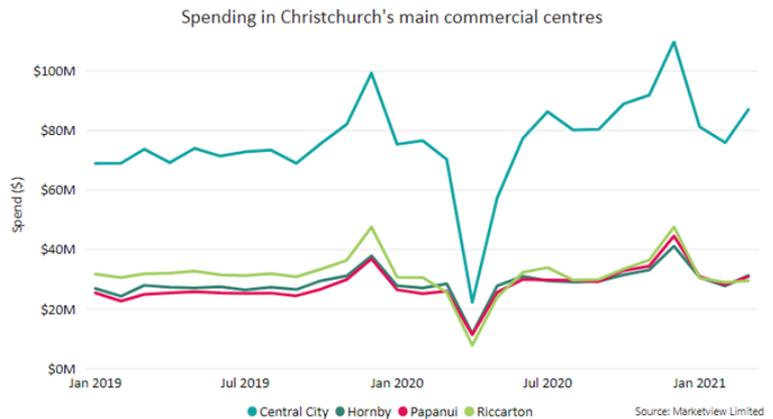
Central City spending compared to other main centres

Observed here is the last 3 years of spending data in the Central City compared with other main centres. The COVID-19 lockdown led to a sharp decline in Central City spending between March and April of 2020.

A 10% increase in Central City spending from quarter 1 2021 to the comparable quarter in 2020 indicates the continuing attraction of the Central City among its local catchment. When breaking this down by industry, there was a substantial growth in the non-food retail space (24%), entertainment and hospitality had a 11% increase whilst food retail decreased by 4%.

Over the last three years, the upwards trend reflects the Central City's recovery. Other centres will continue to

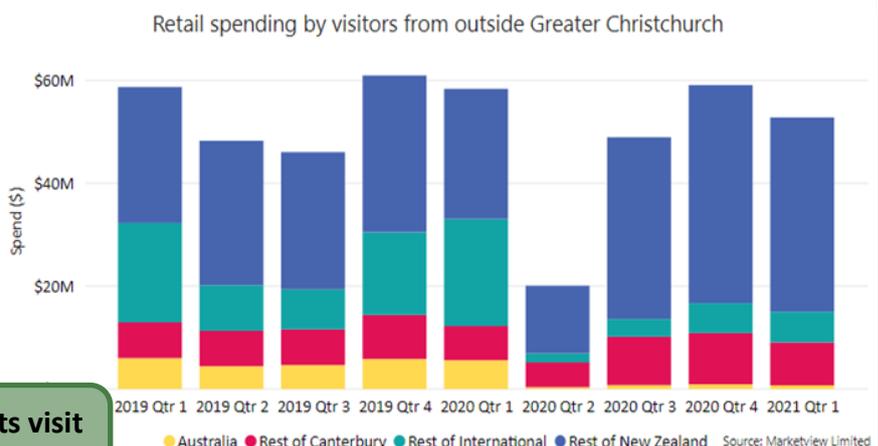
play important roles for their communities, but strengthening of the Central City's offer will attract more specialist retailing and add to the city's status as a destination. Currently, the Central City reflects 20% of the total spend across Christchurch as a whole.



Visitor retail spend in the Central City

Since the second quarter of 2020, there has been a strong rebound despite the absence of overseas visitors. Over the remainder of 2020, domestic visitor spending (regional and Rest of NZ) increased notably with year on year growth in quarter 3 increasing by 11 million (33%).

The 10% dip in quarter 1 of 2021 can be directly attributed to the absence of peak season overseas visitors. The impact of the opening of an Australasian bubble will begin to be seen in quarter 2 data.



To access the full Central City insights visit the online [dashboard](#)

Central City Building & Resource Consents

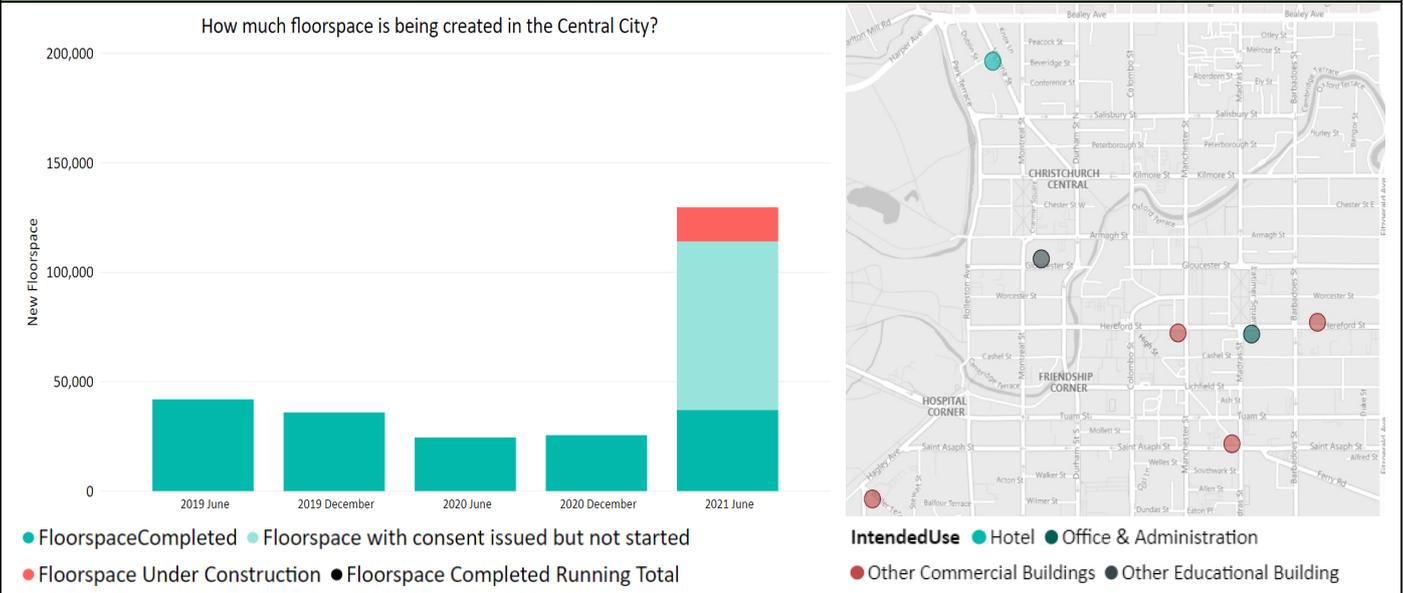
| Resource consent applications received (January– June) | Number | Building consent applications received (January– June) | Net New Housing (units) | Floorspace (sqm) |
|---|------------|--|-------------------------|------------------|
| Land use & subdivision consents received within 4-Aves (excl. core) | 238 | Central City (South Frame) | 2 | 82 |
| Land use and subdivision consents received within Core | 51 | Central City Business | 0 | 5,041 |
| | | Central City Mixed Use | 1 | 131 |
| | | Central City Residential | 47 | 9,522 |
| TOTAL | 289 | TOTAL | 50 | 14,776 |

Key features during this time period

Within the January to June period several resource consent applications were processed for large scale multi-unit developments including a forty-four unit residential development on the corner of Aberdeen and Madras Streets and a 21 unit development at 259 Gloucester Street. Both of these developments will be delivered by Williams Corporation. Another key application processed was for the redevelopment of the Hereford Street YMCA site (overlooking Hagley Park).

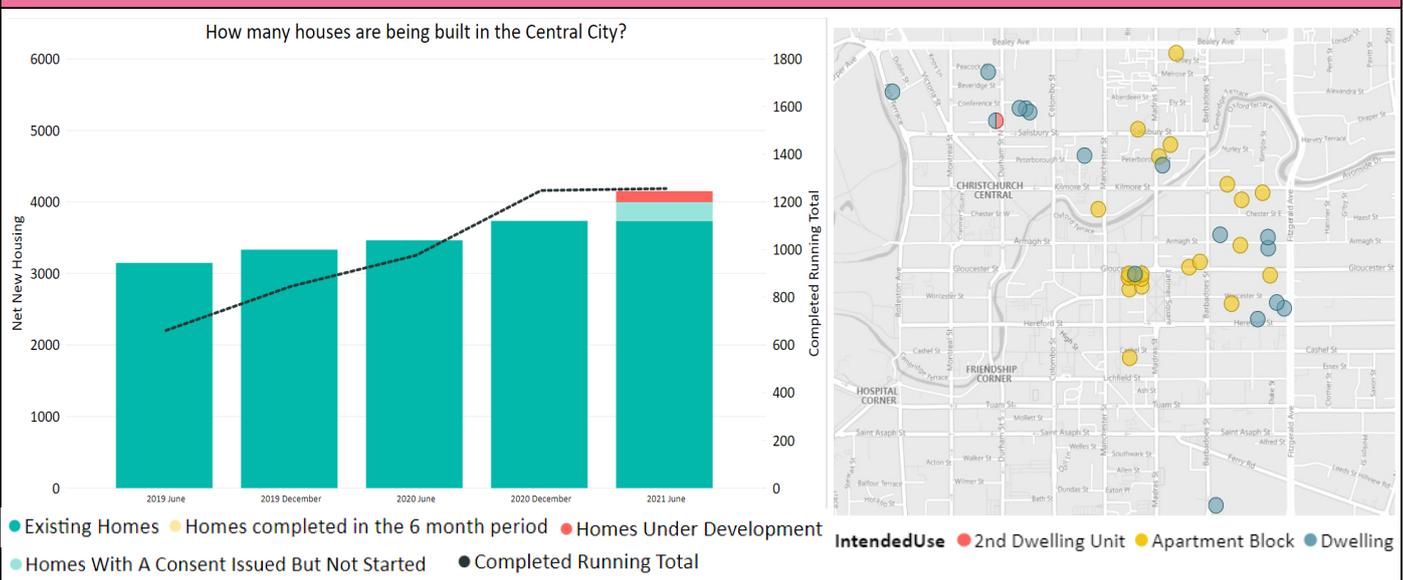
Over the January to June period, building consents were also processed for a number of multi-unit developments including a 21 unit Williams Corporation development at 255 Gloucester. Building consents were also processed for the Bone Marrow Cancer Trust patient accommodation (Selwyn Street), a three storey office building at 172 Hereford Street and re-development of the City Mission Hereford Street site.

Commercial Building consents (includes as part of mixed-use developments)



People

Residential Building consents (includes as part of mixed-use developments)



Central City Residential Programme (Project 8011)

The Central City Residential Programme was adopted by the Council in September, 2018. Its overall goal is to promote housing development and grow the Central City population over a 10 year timeframe.

Progress towards 20,000 residents

Latest [Central City insights](#) show strong development activity. A buoyant market is attracting developer interest.

The number of homes completed in the first 6 months of 2021 was lower compared to 2020. This may possibly be a flow-on effect of the disruption and uncertainty created by COVID-19 in 2020. However, there is a strong pipeline of new housing development in the Central City. Approximately 254 homes have a consent issued but work has not commenced and 154 homes are currently in the construction phase.

408 homes in the pipeline
(either homes with consent but not started or homes currently in construction).

Neighbourhood planning

Asset Mapping- The Latimer neighbourhood is a priority for Project 8011 to activate and strengthen the neighbourhood, and increase community capacity. Gap Filler is working with the community to develop community connections through an asset mapping process.

Vacant site activation– 222 Kilmore Street– Supported by the Urban Regeneration Capital Programme and building on learnings from the Conversation Walk series, a collaborative placemaking project was delivered on a vacant site in the Avon/Chester neighbourhood. Staff worked alongside the owner of the site to make temporary improvements, including tidying up weeds, adding planters, seating and signage.

Canterbury Multi Use Arena (CMUA)- Supported by the Urban Regeneration Capital Programme, planning is underway for placemaking around the CMUA site to improve amenity for surrounding residents. The project has sought to involve residents in the planning and delivery of placemaking initiatives. The first phase of the project has been delivered in the form of plant boxes along the Madras Street frontage of the CMUA site (pictured). These boxes help to improve visual appearance of the site, particularly for those who view or pass by the site regularly.



222 Kilmore Street



CMUA placemaking

Promote Central City Living

Neighbourhood Webpages - The Central City has a number of neighbourhoods with individual identities, amenities and local places. [Webpages](#) have been co-created with current Central City residents and using learnings from the Conversation Walks Series.

Cityscape feature - The winter issue of [CityScape](#) features the story of living central, focussing on the lifestyle and benefits of Central City living. Online and printed promotions feature hidden treasures, city hotspots, transport options and Central City living options. The P8011 team supported this feature with Conversation Walk resident contacts.

Development Opportunities

To grow the pipeline of housing supply, we are supporting owners to understand the development potential of their land. Over the January-June period, staff worked with Central City land-owners to deliver information packages relating to two vacant sites in the Central City (including 222 Kilmore Street noted above). The information packages included statutory information, site layout modelling, feasibility analysis and development examples. Positive feedback was received from both land owners.

Alternative Housing

Having successfully nominated the Peterborough Housing Co-operative for the Open Christchurch Festival of Architecture in May, staff assisted with a pre-event Newsline story and the tours of the development, to promote alternative housing in the Central City.

As part of the wider Alternative Housing project, further engagement with alternative housing providers and internal stakeholders was conducted. Engagement has helped to confirm the project's findings and ensure that the Council support mechanisms which already exist are optimised.



Credit: Sarah Rowlands

Events Programme

Within the January—June period a large number of major and community events were held in the Central City . Key Council-produced events include Lazy Sundays, Summer Theatre, Symphony in the City, ANZAC Day Dawn Service and the launch of the city’s new lighting festival Tirama Mai. Symphony in the City was a new concept this year due to the uncertainty around COVID-19 and Sparks. Council partnered with the Christchurch Symphony Orchestra to present a special series of intimate performances in Victoria Square instead. These were very popular with over 9,000 people attending the three events.

COVID-19 continued to have an impact on the events industry during this time with a number of events cancelled or postponed because of changing alert levels. Ōtautahi Together, a free music event that was planned to remember and reflect on the 10th anniversary of the earthquakes, was changed to an online only event given level 2 restrictions. Other events like Hagley Park Polo and Holi Festival were cancelled.

Hagley Park was again host to a number of large events including Electric Ave which attracted a record crowd of 29,000 people along with Six60 Saturdays which attracted a crowd of 23,000. Hagley Oval proved popular for International cricket with a sold out BLACKCAPS v Australia T20 match and a number of Super Smash games throughout the summer.



Note: this report does not include the events run by other agencies such as Christchurch NZ, events outside the Central City or those that are reported elsewhere. For Christchurch NZ events refer to <https://www.christchurchnz.com/explore/whats-on>

| Event Name | Event Date | Anticipated Attendance | Event Attendance | Funded or Produced |
|--|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Summer Theatre | 14—31 January | 7,000 | 6,602 | Produced |
| Symphony in the City | 16, 23 & 30 January | 12,000 | 9,400 | Produced |
| Waitangi Day | 6 February | 15,000 | 12,000 | Funded |
| Lazy Sundays | 7, 14, 21 February & 7 & 14 March | 9,000 | 9,300 | Produced |
| Live Broadcast of 2021 Chinese Lunar New Year Celebrations | 13 February | 500 in person & 10,00 online | 2,000 in person & 12,000 online | Funded |
| Christchurch Super Slam | 19—21 February | 5,000 | 5,000 | Funded |
| Earthquake Memorial—10th Anniversary | 22 February | 5,000 | 5,000 | Produced |
| GROW Ōtautahi | 12—14 March | 25,500 | 25,000 | Funded |
| Made in Canterbury | 19—21 March | 1,200 | 1,400 | Funded |
| Le Race | 20 March | 800 | 800 | Funded |
| Owls Do Cry | 7—9 April | 560 | 500 | Funded |
| ASB Christchurch Marathon | 11 April | 5,000 | 3,800 | Funded |
| ANZAC Day Dawn Service | 25 April | 4,000 | 5,000 | Produced |
| Open Christchurch | 15—16 May | 12,000 | 12,500 | Funded |
| NZSO’s Immerse Festival | 28—30 May | 3,500 | 2,316 | Funded |

Marketing and Promotions

What’s On Christchurch Winter Ōtautahi Events Guide – The winter events guide has promoted a range of events happening in the Central City during winter. The guide also includes travel information on how to best get into the city. The events guide was distributed to pre-schools, primary schools, Central City venues, cafes and retailers. In total 55,000 copies have been distributed.

A large city-wide marketing campaign has promoted not only the What’s On guide, but also our key CCC winter events—KidsFest, Tirama Mai, Matariki Fireworks and Go Live. The campaign is ongoing but has included a media partnership with NZME, digital billboards, online advertising and social media. To date the Tirama Mai webpage has received 10,300 unique page views, the Facebook event has had 10.2k responses. What’s On Christchurch currently has 3,924 Instagram followers, 19,967 Facebook followers and 12,034 newsletter subscribers.



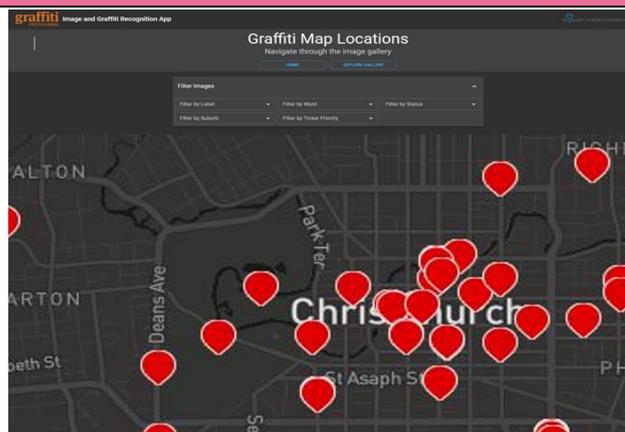
Smart Christchurch Programme

Within the January to June 2021 period, key updates for the Smart Christchurch Programme in the Central City included going live with an updated version of the Graffiti recognition app, the ongoing development of [SmartView](#), including a Greenhouse gas data portal and working on city wide collaborations within the innovation ecosystem that will help support the acceleration of key city strategies.

SmartView was a finalist in the IDC Smart Cities Awards for 2021 for Civic Engagement. The Graffiti Recognition application was also shortlisted for the LGNZ Excellence awards.

Graffiti Recognition

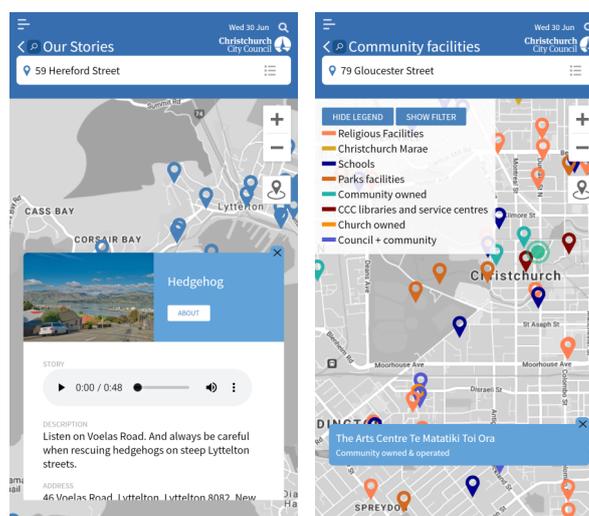
The Graffiti Recognition app tracks graffiti activity using data from the public and contractors to help curb building damage and identify repeat offenders. Staff analyse each photo using the newly developed graffiti recognition software and capture key data from the images to help identify & map recidivist offenders' activity. The data collected and visualised by the solution is used by Council staff, community groups and NZ Police to inform better decisions to curb and reduce the number of graffiti incidents.



SmartView

SmartView pulls together real-time data from a range of public and private organisations, making information easy for locals and visitors to access. The web app includes easy access to information about water and air quality data, the location of water fountains and public toilets and cycle routes. This is an important resource for visitors to find information about the Central City.

Over the January to June period, the web app has had an average number of 120 users per day and 225 sessions per day. The number of page views over the reporting period was 144,000; an 80% increase from the previous 6 month period. Three new datasets have been added to SmartView. The new data sets include audio stories from the Our Stories project (pictured), accessibility information on walking tracks and a community facilities map which includes both council and non-council operated facilities that are available for use by the public (pictured).



The Smart Cities Team are currently working on a number of additional datasets, including a Greenhouse Gas data portal which will track our carbon reduction progress. Smart Cities are also working with Christchurch NZ to add Central City Cultural Tour and Antarctica Gateway Audio Trail content to the audio stories.

Other updates

The full network of 22 smart cameras dedicated to measuring pedestrian numbers across the Central City are now installed and operational. Information from these cameras will be used to show pedestrian flows and peaks over seasons and events in real-time and in more detail than previous methods used. The next bi-annual report will provide a summary of recent trends.

Christchurch Free Wi-Fi

Christchurch Free Wi-Fi is available in the Cathedral Square, Akaroa, New Brighton Promenade and Council libraries. The Smart Cities team are working to expand the free public Wi-Fi in some public areas of the Central City giving access to citizens and visitors. Greater equity of access opens opportunities for economic and social growth to a wider range of a city's population which helps support digital inclusion.

Delivery of Major Projects

Despite continued disruption caused by COVID-19, progress on significant Central City developments continued during the first half of 2021.

- The most significant news is that the Kōtui consortium have been appointed to design and build the **Canterbury Multi-Use Arena**. Led by Australian-based stadium construction experts, BESIX Watpac, Kōtui includes local construction companies Southbase Construction and Fulton Hogan, local seismic engineering specialists Lewis Bradford, Christchurch architects Warren and Mahoney, and global stadium design experts Populous and Mott MacDonald. On-site geotechnical and environmental investigations and decontamination works were completed in June and work continues to progress on the concept design which is expected to be published in July 2021.
- **Construction on the Te Pae Convention Centre** is entering its final phases. An 8 week pop up showcase of the facility called a 'Taste of Te Pae' ran over March and April to showcase the venue to the local community ahead of the Centre's proposed opening in October this year.
- A significant crown-owned site on the corner of Madras and Gloucester Streets (referred to as **Madras Square**) was sold to Mike Greer Group and the Peebles Group who plan to embark on a joint venture to deliver a retail space and over 100 homes overlooking a communal garden.
- **Ravenscar House** located opposite the Canterbury Museum in the final stages of its construction and is expected to open in Spring 2021.
- The repair of the Thomas Edmonds **Band Rotunda** was completed in June.
- In April Councillors voted to accept a special name gifted by local rūnanga Te Ngāi Tūāhuriri for the **Metro Sports** facility. The facility's new name, Parakiore Recreation and Sport Centre, pays homage to the son of a Ngāi Tahu chief who was renowned for his amazing athleticism.
- Construction of the Crown-led **South Frame Anchor Project** is nearing completion with the new punga-lined section of the central Greenway to the east of Colombo Street opens later this year. Work on the final laneway, to the west of Montreal Street, is expected to get underway when the land becomes available later this year. Butchers Lane; a link between High Street and Lichfield Street was completed in May (pictured).



Madras Square proposal



Ravenscar House



Thomas Edmond Band Rotunda



Butchers Lane

| Activity | Who | When |
|--|--|--------------------------------|
| Major Public Facilities and Buildings | | |
| Edmonds Band Rotunda | CCC | Completed June 2021 |
| Te Pae Convention Centre | Otakaro Ltd | October 2021 |
| Metro Sports Facility | Otakaro Ltd | End of 2022 |
| Canterbury Multi Use Arena | Kōtui Consortium | Summer 2024 |
| Christ Church Cathedral | Christ Church Cathedral Reinstatement Limited | Early 2028 |
| Selected Commercial/Attraction Projects | | |
| Public Trust Building | Box112 | Opened December 2020 |
| 9 Cathedral Square | Site sold to Emerald Development Ltd in November | TBC |
| Old Post Office | G Chamberlain | Spring 2021 |
| Ravenscar House Museum | Canterbury Museum | Spring 2021 |
| Madras Square | Peebles Group and Mike Greer Group | TBC |
| Development of former Convention Centre site | Peebles Group, Mike Greer Group and Blackcomb Property Group | TBC |
| Public Realm | | |
| South Frame | Ōtākaro Ltd | TBC– as land becomes available |

(Dates above are based on direct or best available sources.)