

Summer with your neighbours



2026 guidelines for your information

Summer with your neighbours is back again for 2026. Events can be held from 24 October 2026 to 29 March 2027. Small subsidies are available to help cover costs and support Summer with your neighbours events. Please be aware that allocation of funding towards the project is subject to Community Board approval.

The following criteria applies:

- Funding is not available for alcohol or fireworks.
- Some Community Boards may not give priority to funding items other than food. Please contact neighbourhoodweek@ccc.govt.nz if you have any queries around this.
- Funding is seen as a small contribution towards holding a gathering. Because it is intended to 'bring neighbours together', applications from individuals getting together and holding a local gathering will take priority over those held by organisations.
- Funding should not be seen as a way for individuals or organisations to hold a gathering that they would hold at other times of the year.
- It is expected that those holding the gathering will contribute in some way towards the gathering, even if it is through supplying some of the materials.
- All gatherings need to take place within designated dates – 24 October 2026 to 29 March 2027.
- Where two gatherings are to be held in a close locality (i.e. same street or park), we will encourage you to combine these gatherings.
- Where two or more people apply separately for the same gathering, these applications will be considered together.
- Residents' Associations can apply unless they have received funding for a Summer with your neighbours (Neighbourhood Week) gathering from another Council fund.

Health and safety

The individual(s) organising your gathering must ensure that appropriate standards of health, safety, security and environment practice are maintained at every Summer with your neighbours gathering.

If, for the purpose of the gathering, the individual(s) is/are a person conducting a business or undertaking within the meaning of the Health and Safety at Work Act 2015, they must comply with their various duties under that Act.

If the proposed location of the gathering is on Council property or to be held at a Council venue, the Council will provide information to the organiser of your gathering to advise of its health and safety policy in relation to that property or venue at the time of your booking.

Reimbursement

If you have been notified in writing that your application was approved, hold your gathering first, then provide receipts and attach them to the Subsidy Reimbursement Form. This form will be emailed or posted to you.

The process

Once you have decided to participate in Summer with your neighbours, here are the steps to take:

1. Get your neighbours together for a pre-gathering chat to gather ideas.
2. Complete the application form online or collect a hard copy from your local service centre. Submit it via email, post to Papanui Service Centre, PO Box 73024, Christchurch, 8154, ATT: Summer With Your Neighbours, or drop it off at your local service centre prior to the deadline of Friday 11 September 2026 at 5pm.
3. Once applications have closed these will be presented to the Community Boards for consideration.
Note: Because you are applying for public funding, your name and gathering details will be part of the public record of the Community Board's allocation meeting. You will be notified of the decision made by your Community Board. Please be aware that allocation of funding towards the project is subject to Community Board approval.
4. Hold your gathering. Take lots of photos and have a great time!
5. Complete the Subsidy Reimbursement form, include your receipts, and return.
6. If your application was successful in being allocated funding, your allocated subsidy will be reimbursed.
Note: This could take up to four weeks.
7. Get going!

If you have any questions throughout the process, please get in touch. If you are able to, please email in the first instance: neighbourhoodweek@ccc.govt.nz

If email is not an option, please call Hannah Martin on 03 941 8999 (please be aware we may forward your inquiry to another staff member if your question relates to a specific Community Board area).