

How Will We Tackle Poverty?

Kaikohe *TacklingPoverty*NZ Workshop, 15 September 2016, Final draft



<i>Domain: Economy</i>		
	<i>Hows</i>	<i>Reworded</i>
1.	Increasing community ownership of the local economy by buying from local businesses, promoting local business ownership and through cooperative banking.	
2.	Forming collective buying arrangements in the community to overcome price increases in the area. Models for this system exist in Italy and Cuba and involve a group of buyers who prioritise people and the environment in their purchasing decisions.	
3.	Regulating money 'loan sharks' to stop them preying on the vulnerable.	
4.	Exploring innovative ways to package debt such as mortgages, higher-purchase agreements, cash loans, car costs and student loans. This will help break cycles of debt and generational benefit reliance.	
5.	Closing down gambling facilities like the pokies in Kaikohe.	
6.	By empowering the local council to stand up to 'big business' (such as The Warehouse and other businesses on the Australia/NZ Stockmarket) by imposing stronger regulations, possibly based on the size of the floor plan for the proposed business. The operation of 'big business' in the local community needs to be on the town's terms.	
7.	Exploring the potentials of natural resource innovation to grow the local economy while also reinforcing shared values of environmentalism and appreciation for the land.	
8.	Developing older areas of town to stop money leaving the area and going to larger centres, and to reduce the presence of empty buildings which in turn contribute to the poverty mind-set of the town.	

<i>Domain: Social Services and community</i>		
	<i>Hows</i>	<i>Reworded</i>
9.	Encouraging grassroots community collaboration with networks of likeminded agencies and groups to ensure that local solutions are driven by community members. This will improve resilience and sharing about how to work within constraints.	
10.	Changing the culture of social services from a contest approach to one of cooperation and shared goals. This could be achieved by decentralising WINZ and other agencies of importance to allow the	

	sharing of information between professionals, and improve connectivity and accessibility.	
11.	Creating an initiative within social services that increases connectivity between providers and consumers so that risk indicators can be identified and acted upon from birth and throughout an individual's adult life.	
12.	Increasing the availability of emergency housing.	
13.	Providing free car registration for those on the benefit.	
14.	Ensuring the benefit follows the child rather than the parents. This will provide extra support in situations such as grandparents raising grandchildren and children who are constantly on the move from one family member to the next.	
15.	Increasing the size of the police force to enable around the clock availability in the local area.	
16.	Providing pastoral care for prisoners on parole to aid their reintegration and reduce the chances of reoffending.	

	Domain: Rural isolation	
	Hows	Reworded
17.	Encouraging door knocking and meetings between neighbours in local communities to facilitate connections and meaningful relationships. Social gatherings could be held at marae or clubrooms.	
18.	Normalising in-home visits by health professionals to reduce the impact of rural isolation and remove barriers to receiving adequate health care.	
19.	Implementing rural bus services between rural communities and main towns to allow access to services such as medical appointments.	
20.	Improving the quality of the existing roading network in the Far North and evaluating the possibility of expanding it.	
21.	Securing funding to enable WINZ to supply petrol vouchers for those whose movements are restricted by their location and ability to buy petrol.	

	Domain: Education	
	Hows	Reworded
22.	Changing the education system to better address culture, spirituality and morality to strengthen a person's wairua (spirit/soul). This will encourage a love of learning and produce creative, critical thinkers and innovators.	

23.	Using research to understand what forms of education are effective for the community in order to build and develop existing models. For example, research the value of peer education. This is a way of working with available resources to achieve education reform.	
24.	Adopting a long-term, holistic approach to education that encompasses all levels and ages, including in-home education and basic life skills such as gardening and managing personal or household finances, as well as more formal education.	
25.	Implementing a mentoring system for those who are struggling in the existing education system.	
26.	Ensuring that teachers are diverse enough to engage and provide strong role models for their students who are in the process of developing their own identities and may also have one or more parent absent from their lives. This will reduce the creation of 'educational refugees' – students who drop out when transitioning from primary to secondary or from secondary to tertiary education.	
27.	Educating teachers about the power of labelling their students and ensuring that they value the potential of their students regardless of those students' backgrounds. This will help combat the erosion of self-esteem and resulting problems including mental health issues like depression and suicide, addiction problems and involvement in the criminal justice system.	
28.	Increasing accountability in the teaching profession to ensure that teachers are evaluated based on the visible outcomes in the lives of their students, rather than just focussing on test scores of questionable relevance.	
29.	Increasing participation in early childhood education to strengthen family and community ties, providing one-on-one personal connections and creating networks of support. This is modelled in Te Kohekohe, which benefits from a focus on the positive and a hands-off approach by the Ministry of Education.	
30.	Teaching driving in schools so that students can get their license. This will help combat geographic isolation and reduce the rate of 'behind the wheel' offences.	

	<i>Domain: Health</i>	
	<i>Hows</i>	<i>Reworded</i>
31.	Establishing mobile GP centres in highschoools to facilitate greater access for those who may only travel to town for school.	
32.	Providing special support for the elderly and those with age related illnesses.	
33.	Making alcohol unavailable in Kaikohe by closing down liquor stores in the area.	
34.	Increasing the availability of mental health support and counselling.	
35.	Prioritising the improvement of living conditions to stop the spread of preventable diseases such as	

	MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus). This would also improve the rates at which developmental milestones are reached for children under five.	
36.	Creating education programmes about living healthy lifestyles, to reduce the risk of issues such as diabetes.	

Total 'hows' = 36