

Social Wellbeing Forum

- Thank you
- District does not receive the attention from Government agencies — snow
- In my years as Mayor — local service providers struggling to meet the demands upon their service
- Our district is undergoing change at unprecedented levels and while our buoyant economy is great for employment and the nation's GDP, there is a downside
- Ashburton today is not the Ashburton of five years ago and my concern is where will it be in five years?
- Our population is increasing, but many of our new residents have language issues, work on farms, and therefore have access issues or are shift workers
- Health — G P crisis and access
- Housing — affordable and available
- Education — Maori / Pacific population
 - Migrant language issues
 - Truancy
 - Decile 7 – 10 but 2 - 3
- Drug and Alcohol
- Police
- I have the impression that there is a lack of understanding of how our district is changing and the fact that central government agencies are based in Christchurch or Timaru discriminates against Ashburton
- I am not prepared to sit back any longer and I welcome the opportunity to meet with you today so that the issues I perceive to be present are addressed and that the local, regional and national resources available are co-ordinated to give us the maximum benefit
- If my perception is wrong then I am quite happy to be proved wrong