

ISC Porirua initiative wins excellence award

June 19, 2009

An initiative by Porirua City Council and New Zealand Police to make Porirua a safer city has won the Prime Minister's award for Public Sector Excellence on 18th June 2009. The 'Safer Porirua' project won the category for excellence in 'Working Together for Better Services', as well as the supreme Prime Minister's Award.



Above: Rosie Gallen, formerly HNZN, Dallas Crampton, Porirua Community Guardians, Kaye Calder, Police, Senior Community Constable Rob Gregory, Police, Community Constable Peer Nielsen, Police, Prime Minister John Key, Superintendent Hamish McCardle, Police, Mayor Jenny Brash, Dr Roger Blakeley, PCC, Peter Bailey, PCC, Jenny Lester, Porirua Healthy Safer City Trust, Jo Vilipaama, ACC, Janet Carlyle, PCC.

Porirua City Mayor Jenny Brash says she is absolutely delighted with the win.

"Engagement with our communities is something we do well in Porirua and it's extremely important if we are to be effective and consistent in advancing positive change. I am proud of the way our communities work together and the Safer Porirua Project is a fine example of this. I would like to acknowledge the Police and all our partners, the many community groups and agencies, who together are doing a fantastic job for our city in the area of community safety."

Council Chief Executive Roger Blakeley Chair of the Safer City Steering Group and Senior Constable Rob Gregory accepted the award on behalf of Porirua City and the Police.

"These prestigious awards were keenly contested with 45 entries in five categories open to all Government Departments, Crown Entities and Local Authorities. PCC was the only finalist from Local Authorities in New Zealand."

"Our entry was submitted jointly by PCC and the Police and acknowledges the other partners in Safer Porirua, namely ACC, HNZN, Porirua Healthy Safer City Trust, Porirua Community Guardians and Regional Public Health."

Safer Porirua achieved International Safe Community accreditation in 2008 by Certifying Centre, Safe Communities Foundation New Zealand, and already there is evidence of improvements in safety outcomes since the initiative began in 2005, he says.

"These include an improved perception of safety, the lowest crime rates in the Wellington region and a reduced rate of serious and fatal road injuries."

Police Deputy Commissioner Lyn Provost says:

"Safer Porirua is typical of the many community partnerships and interactions our staff are involved with throughout New Zealand. While last night's award specifically acknowledges the work of Porirua Police, and Wellington District staff, it is also an endorsement of the community partnership approach adopted by Police throughout the country," she says.

Winners were named in five categories, each designed to highlight significant public sector initiatives making a positive difference to communities. Projects were judged by an independent panel looking at excellence in terms of vision, innovation and results for further information visit www.gen-i.co.nz

For further information on Safer Porirua, visit www.safecommunities.org.nz/sc/po