Burwood Ward

Community Profile

September 2026



Dallington Landing - Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor

Christchurch City Council

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Aranui Wainoni Community Centre

Profiles compiled by the Community Support and Partnerships Unit, Christchurch City Council

***New Zealand Index of Deprivation (NZDep)**

The NZDep is an area-based measure of socioeconomic deprivation in Aotearoa New Zealand created by Otago University. It measures the level of deprivation for people in each small area. It is based on nine Census variables. To read more about the variables used and view maps in more detail, visit http://www.ehinz.ac.nz/indicators/population-vulnerability/socioeconomic-deprivation-profile/

Ward Area Overview

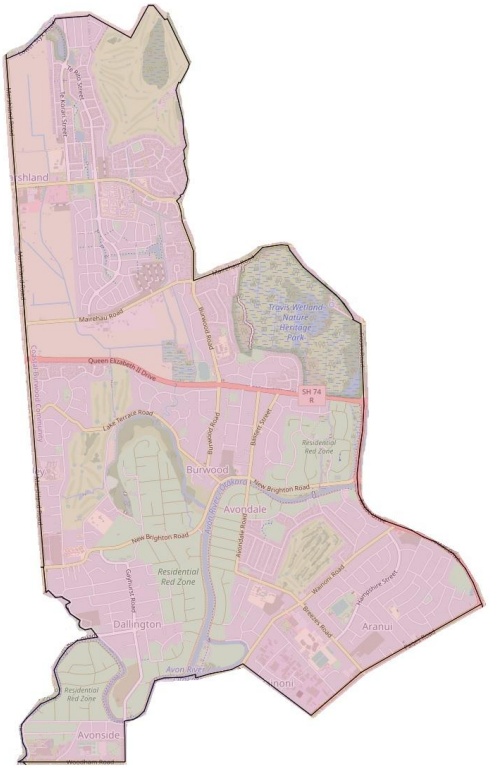
The Burwood Ward includes the suburbs of Aranui, Wainoni, Bexley, Burwood, Avondale, Dallington, Shirley East, Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor, Prestons, Waitikiri, Marshlands and Travis Wetlands.

The communities within this profile area are all distinct in character and all have the common experience of being in the ‘East’.

For many residents there is a strong sense of community and belonging. The experience of recovering from and moving forward after the Canterbury earthquakes has been varied with many residents still identifying with the residential red zone being a place where they belong.

There is hope and excitement about construction of spaces underway (e.g. the City to Sea pathway, Avon Park, Dallington footbridge), alongside uncertainty about future plans for Wainoni Landing and the Flatwater Sports project.

The community wants to be kept informed regularly about future projects plans.





Travis Wetlands Cycleway

Facts and Figures

Burwood Ward 2023 Census

25,245
Population

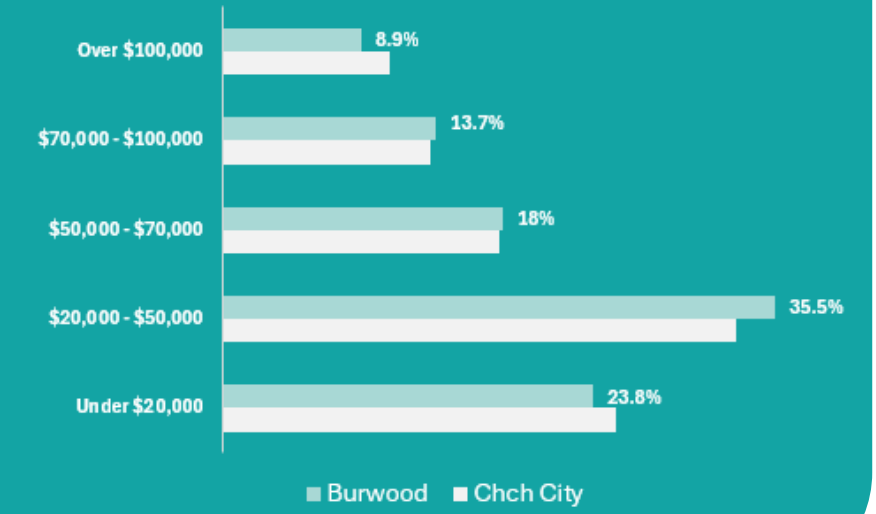
38
Median Age

9,369
Dwellings

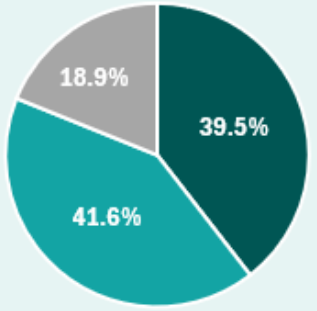
Cultural Diversity

81%	European
17%	Māori
7%	Pacific Peoples
8.4%	Asian
1.2%	MELAA

$ Personal Income



Family Type



Businesses

Approximately
1,641 businesses
employing
5,284 people
(Feb 2024)

Community Infrastructure

There are many community, sport and recreation groups located across the ward and there are several key organisations/residents' associations who advocate for their respective communities and are active in advocating and connecting with Community Board and Council.

The Avondale suburb is in transition with one active group working to hear community voices. The Prestons and Marshlands communities currently have their own respective informal neighbours groups online. Aranui/Wainoni has advocacy from the Aranui Community Trust (ACTIS) who have a strong relationship with the Board and Council.

The ward has two council owned community facilities, these being the Aranui Wainoni Community Centre and Burwood Play Centre which is under a lease agreement (reviewed each year).

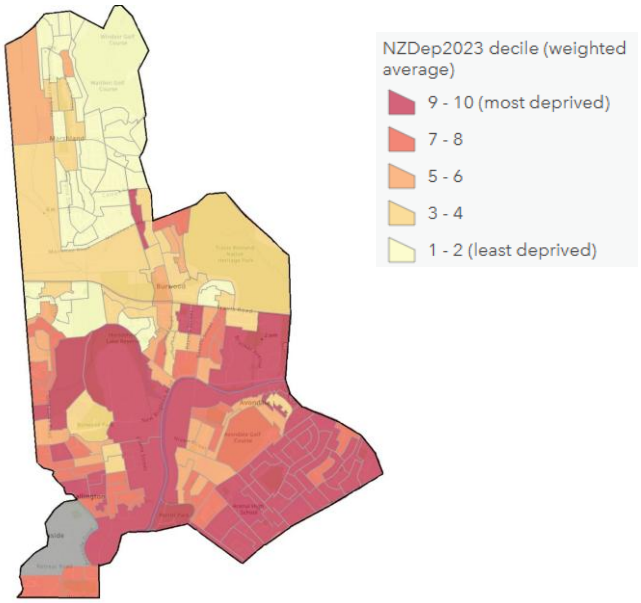
Since the 2011 Earthquakes Red Zoned large portions of the Burwood Ward it has been identified that there is a lack of community facilities within the area, something that the Community Board has championed in recent years. It's still identified that the growing suburbs of Prestons/Marshlands lacks a genuine purpose-built community facility to meet the growing needs of these communities, however progress continues to be made by the Marshland Hall Trust who are championing this for the area.

12 Community development/support organisations	**35** Sport/recreation groups	**13** Faith-based organisations	**6** Schools
27 Community-owned facilities	**2** Council-owned facilities	**3** Residents' Associations	**2** Council libraries

Facilities and Amenities

- Library in Aranui adjacent to Wainoni Park, Library and Service Centre located next to the Palms
- 4 shopping areas at Breezes Road, Aranui, Prestons and The Palms
- 6 schools - 3 primary, 1 intermediate, 1 of special character and 1 high school
- 20 Early Childhood services
- Climate Action Campus - located on the old Avonside Girls High School site
- 16 sports clubs and 6 sports facilities
- Two churches have expanded their spaces significantly for future community use (All Saints Church and Burwood Christian Centre)
- Multiple recreation amenities including Travis Wetland, Ōtākaro Avon River Corridor, Bottle Lake Forest, Taiora Recreation and Sport Centre and QEII Park are on the boundary of the ward

Socio-economic Deprivation Index



The scale of deprivation ranges from 1 to 10:

- 1 represents the areas with the least deprived scores.
- 10 represents the areas with the most deprived scores.

Relative to the rest of Christchurch City, Burwood Ward had higher levels of deprivation overall.

In the Burwood Ward, around 26 per cent of the population lived in the 'most deprived' areas (i.e. deciles 9 and 10), compared with 16 per cent of all of Christchurch City's population.

Around 25 per cent of this ward's population lived in the 'least deprived' areas (i.e. deciles 1 and 2), compared with 23 per cent of all of Christchurch City's population.

Data obtained from the 2023 Census provides a comprehensive overview of the local labour force and personal income trends for the area. Statistics show that of the population aged 15+, 49.8 per cent are in full-time employment, with 13.4 per cent employed part-time and 3 per cent currently not employed. The remaining 33.9 per cent are categorised as not currently in the labour force.

The median personal income within the Burwood Ward is $39,600 slightly below the citywide median of $40,400 with 12.3 per cent earning $10,000 or less and 8.9 per cent identified as the highest earners with being paid $100,001 or more.

The number of residents in the ward who own or partially own their homes is 7.4 per cent higher than the City wide median with 72.2 per cent of households owning their property in Burwood compared with 64.8 per cent average across Christchurch. Additionally, Burwood sees statistically lower average rental costs than the citywide median with 79 per cent of rentals charging less than $499 per week and 28 per cent of rentals identified as costing less than $200 per week.

The Burwood Ward has 238 social housing units managed by the Ōtautahi Community House Trust and 1,050 properties owned by Kāinga Ora.

Strengthening Communities Together Strategy

This section of the Community Profile provides a narrative of the ward in relation to the four Pillars of the strategy. You can view the full strategy document on the Council's website by clicking here.

Te Pou Tua Tahi: Te Tāngata

Pillar 1: People

The city actively promotes a culture of equity by valuing diversity and fostering inclusion across communities and generations.



Community BBQ at ACTIS, Hampshire St

Ethnicity breakdowns detailed in the 2023 census highlight that the Burwood Ward is becoming more diverse in its composition. Across the ward the percentage of population who are identifying as Māori, Pasifika and Asian has again grown showing a consistent trend since the 2018 census.

This growth in multicultural communities is supported through wide and varied availability of services, agencies, sports groups and groups of faith that offer options across the ward.

These services cover all ages to ensure there are suitable lifelong learning and opportunities for all within the community who wish to access these services.

In the last year the Breezes Road Baptist Church has been taken over by Api Ko Molaea - Siasi 'O Tonga Houeiki which is for the Tongan community.

Ngā Hau E Whā National Marae is located on the southern border of the ward, although it is located within the Linwood Ward Area. The mauri is held by Ngāi Tūāhuriri as mana whenua of the Ōtautahi rohe however, as Ngā Hau E Whā is a national marae, its services and manaakitanga extends to tangata from everywhere, not just the tribes of Aotearoa.

The marae was established to look after the needs of the tangata living in the Eastern suburbs of Ōtautahi. The statement 'All People, all nations' reflects their vision "to be a marae for all people and to share New Zealand's unique cultural richness with the peoples of the four winds."

Providing integrated services on site as well as outreach programs, the Rūnanga of Ngā Maata Waka provides invaluable services to a range of communities.



Ngā Hau E Whā National Marae

Te Pou Tua Rua: Te Whenua

Pillar 2: Place

We support and help build connections between communities and their places and spaces to foster a sense of local identity, shared experience and stewardship.



The Palms Shopping Centre

Key issues in Burwood and Dallington over the last years have been use of and care of the residential Red Zone and how it looks and feels as the future vision for spaces begin to take shape. Dumping of rubbish and antisocial behaviour with motor vehicles is an ongoing concern for local residents who care deeply about this space and want to see the many visions/ideas for the area come to fruition.

Burwood sees its fair share of large events across the calendar year and with the development of the new Sector 7 event space in the Red Zone this will welcome a more diverse range of offerings to complement the community centred events such as the annual 'AFFIRM' event held in Wainoni Park in Aranui. Dallington groups have come together to share resources and hold regular community gatherings and small events.

The growing Prestons and Marshlands community have their annual Marshlands Community Day organised by the Marshland Hall Trust. The focus of this event is to bring these new and growing communities together, while also raising awareness and funds for the new Marshlands Hall Project.

The Palms shopping precinct is a critical bumping space for locals and nearby residents. The Palms has about 100 tenants including a Woolworths supermarket, Farmers Department Store, Chemist Warehouse and two 24 hour gyms.

In the last two years many new tenants have filled unoccupied shops but with the development of the nearby Homebase Retail site on Marshland Road this will continue to pose as a challenge for the mall in an ever-competitive environment.

The Aranui and Shirley Libraries offer a range of social experiences that support residents throughout their life. They both offer a warm, inclusive and friendly environment. The libraries attract many older adults who enjoy the warmth, the human interactions and the one-to-one support offered by staff. Both libraries also boast a great ability to connect with Rangatahi through various methods such as E-Sports. With the Shirley Library also including the NZ Post services which has brought great footfall into the space and continues to be one of the busiest Post Shop in the city.



Aranui Library / Te Kete Wānanga o Aranui

Te Pou Tua Toru: Te Mahi

Pillar 3: Participation

Residents and groups in the wider community are socially and actively engaged and able to initiate and influence decisions affecting their lives.



Volunteers at the Climate Action Campus, Avonside

Recognised within the 2023 Census data 11.5 per cent of Burwood residents aged 15+ are active volunteers which is a 0.9 per cent decrease from the 2018 data and a 1.3 decrease since 2013.

Burwood ranks below the Christchurch citywide average of 12.6 per cent volunteer participation for residents aged 15+. These stats would align with the knowledge that generally, in more deprived neighbourhoods, engagement with democratic processes and volunteering in general, is not as common as in more affluent communities.

However, within the Burwood Ward strong community leadership is evident with a number of key community organisations having a sound knowledge of Council and Community Board processes. This enables members of the community to access their democratic rights.

This has seen the success of community involvement through a number of projects in the area such as the Streets for People Aranui, where engagement staff worked closely with local organisations such as The Aranui Community Trust to engage with the local community in less traditional ways to ensure their voices were heard within the consultation process.

There are also many services that support the more vulnerable members of this community if they are unable to exercise the same rights.

Following the independent report into the Wastewater Treatment Plant Fire response, Christchurch City Council launched the Raranga te Rawhiti Weaving the East project.

Within the project Christchurch City Council has committed to fostering stronger connections and improving its relationship with Eastern Suburb communities.

Key objectives include identifying practical actions for community development, improving the Councils disaster response, and increasing awareness of Council decision making processes and resources.

To support this mahi, the Waitai Community Board are proactive in sourcing information on upcoming consultations and also for issues that may be of concern, directly to the citizens on which they may have an impact.



Burwood East Residents' Association Red Zone Easter Hunt

Te Pou Tua Rua: Te Whenua

Pillar 4: Preparedness

People feel safe in their communities and neighbourhoods and work together to understand, adapt and thrive in the context of change and disruption.

Climate Change Resilience

Climate change is the biggest challenge of our time. It is already affecting our weather, health and wellbeing, natural environment, taonga species, mahinga kai, food production, biosecurity, infrastructure, and the economy.

The Christchurch City Council is responding to climate change in Ōtautahi Christchurch by working towards targets for reducing emissions, and by helping our communities prepare for and adapt to our changing climate.

Key risks identified include hot weather and drought, strong winds, wildfires, heavy rain and flooding, and rising sea level, coastal and ocean changes.

Much of the City faces key risks from increasing temperatures, drought, and more intense rainfall, which threaten ecosystems and put pressure on built infrastructure through flash flooding. Areas closer to the coast are additionally exposed to sea level rise, storm surge, tsunami, rising groundwater, and river flooding. These impact both natural habitats through coastal squeeze limiting species migration, and the built environment by heightening flood and inundation risks.

The Burwood Ward faces a verity of challenges in relation to emergency preparedness. Much of the southern portion of the ward is identified as an orange evacuation zone due to its close proximity to the Avon River. Although this area is less likely to be affected by a tsunami it does include areas of land that could be flooded in a large tsunami.

Although much land marked as orange falls within the existing Red Zone it presents a challenge for neighbouring residential areas as this will likely reduce the number of evacuation routes available for residents. Communities such as Dallington, Avondale and Aranui sit within the Yellow evacuation Zones and although these areas are least likely to be affected by tsunami, they can still be impacted or become isolated in a very large tsunami.

With the neighbouring ward of Coastal presenting one of the highest risks due to its large shoreline, the Burwood Ward is still in preliminary conversations with a number of community organisations have been held to determine interest and capacity in developing community response plans or establishing community hubs.

Although these initial discussions have been very positive, it will take some time to have these plans developed and operating within these communities. While these are being developed support opportunities exist for communities to access CDEM resources and presentations to provide information on any topic that may be of value for their residents.



CIVIL DEFENCE

Key Community Issues

Issue	Actions being taken
Anti-social behaviour	The priority was made to update the Wainoni Park plan developed in 2005. A community advisory group was established to guide the development and community engagement for the new landscape plan. The plan received positive feedback from the community and was approved by the Community Board in March 2026. The construction of the perimeter fitness equipment is scheduled for October 2026. The new Board Plan 2026-28 priority addressing Wainoni Parks pathway lighting and sports field lighting came about from community feedback received during the Wainoni Park Landscape Plan.
Cost of living	ACTIS confirmed new government contracts late 2025, they now have additional staff and contracts within the Aranui area and expanding into other suburbs of the Waitai Coastal ward ie Whanau Ora Navigator kaimahi and truancy kaimahi. Food security is still a key issue with cost of livingcost-of-living pressures continuing through 2026 due to the oil crisis. The Aranui Community Trust and other social service providers in Aranui are continuing to provide initiatives like Brekie on the go. Two new initiatives to address food security in the Aranui community are Whāngai ngā tāngata / Feed the people a fortnightly programme held at the Aranui Wainoni Community Centre and a new community garden was established by Te Manawa Ora Trust in partnership with Pā Whakaoranga, a kaupapa Māori, faith-based community hub based in Aranui.
Availability/Access to community spaces in Dallington and Marshland/Preston	Work continues with the Marshland Hall trust as they work towards establishing a new facility for the area. The trust has completed a feasibility study with further work underway on a business case. Capacity in community spaces has increased with the All Saints Community Facility now online and showing positive usage numbers. Burwood Park Tennis Club continues to provide a valuable community meeting space for the Dallington Community. Shirley Sports on the north side of Burwood Park is the home of Shirley Rugby and East Shirley Cricket Clubs. The Club is in the early stages of planning to consider future uses of their space to cater for wider community needs.

Issue	Actions being taken
Red Zone Development	Several major projects continue towards completion, notably the 11km City to Sea- East pathway with construction of the pathway to Wainoni Road. The crossing at Avondale Road is complete and the crossing point at Wainoni Road has been approved by the Board for construction in the last quarter of 2026. Avon Park was completed in May 2026 providing a valuable recreation asset to the local community. The Burwood Red Zone continues in transition following the removal of the EastxEast cycling assets to Istana Place with the long term/future use stormwater and stopbanksstop banks projects impact on transitional users/projects ie community gardens and community bumping spaces continue to be present for users.
Access to public transport	Environment Canterbury approved a 1 year bus trial through Aranui after strong community advocacy for a bus service to return to the community since its cancellation after the 2011 earthquakes. The community was asked to give feedback on their preferred route e.g. New Brighton to the Palms or New Brighton to Eastgate. The community asked for the trial to go to the Palms. The trial started in September 2026 with strong early support from the community.