Halswell Ward

Community Profile

September 2026



Halswell Quarry

Christchurch City Council

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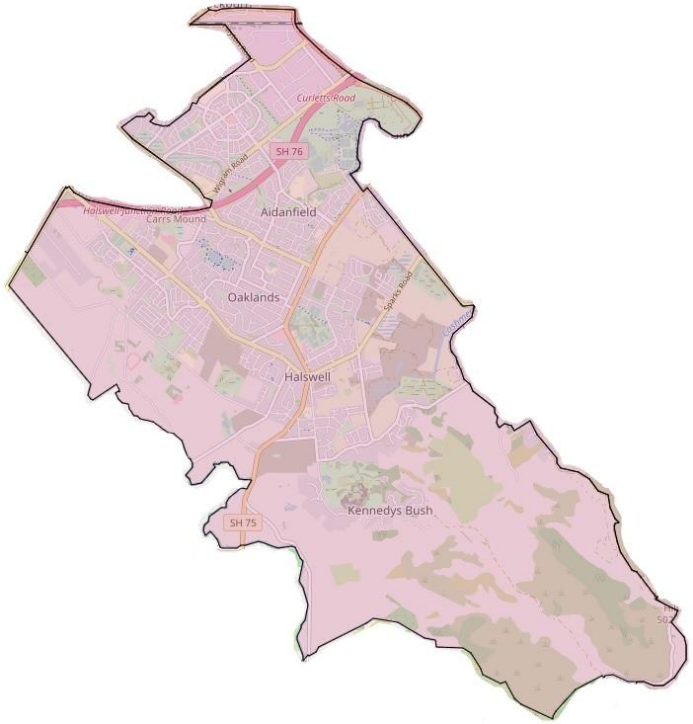
Westlake Reserve, Halswell

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





Te Hāpua Swimming Pool, Halswell

The Halswell Ward includes the suburbs of Halswell, Wigram, Aidanfield, and Kennedys Bush. It is one of the largest urban growth areas in the city, with mostly modern housing and few social housing facilities. New subdivisions have integrated Halswell into the city, with ongoing development in once rural areas like Riverstone, The Fields, Quaifes Park, Quarry Paddocks, Benrogan, Kennedys Green and Cloverdon.

The ward is well-served with greenspaces, including the 60.4-hectare Halswell Quarry and numerous neighbourhood parks. The natural features in parks and greenspaces, like lakes, drainage swales, and creeks, are drawing more interest for their ecological roles. People are increasingly recognising how these areas support biodiversity, manage stormwater, and improve water quality.

Halswell Domain, Ngā Puna Wai and Canterbury Agricultural Park are all popular for sports and recreation, and Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre offers an outdoor pool, library, customer service centre and community spaces available for hire.

The Southern Motorway (State Highway 76) divides the ward into two hubs: the Halswell shopping area and Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre on one side, and the Wigram Skies development area on the other. State Highway 75 crosses the Southern Motorway, tracking through Halswell as a gateway to the Selwyn District and the Peninsula areas.

Facts and Figures

Halswell Ward 2023 Census

28,590
Population

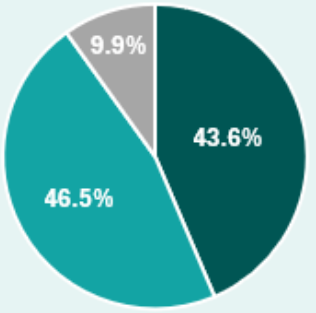
37.2
Median Age

10,044
Dwellings

Cultural Diversity

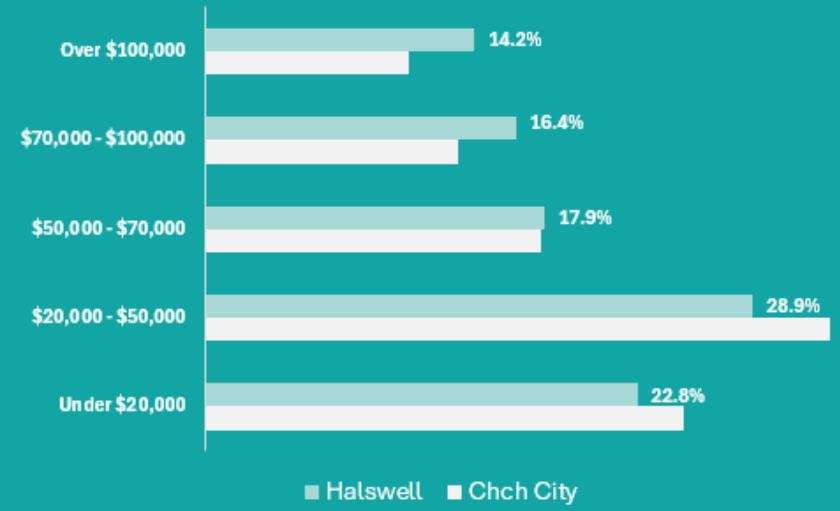
67.1%	European
6.3%	Māori
2.2%	Pacific Peoples
18.3%	Asian
1.9%	MELAA

Family Type



- Couple without Children
- Couple with Child(ren)
- One Parent with Child(ren)

$ Personal Income



Businesses

Approximately
2,904 businesses
employing
10,551 people
(Feb 2024)

Community Infrastructure



9 Community development/support organisations	**70** Sport/recreation groups	**16** Faith-based organisations	**7** Schools
7 Community-owned facilities	**3** Council-owned facilities	**1** Residents' Association	**1** Council library

Facilities and Amenities

- 1 Council library and service centre: Halswell (Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre)
- 5 shopping precincts: Halswell, Halswell Junction, The Landing, Ensign Street and Longhurst
- 7 Schools: 4 primary, 1 composite year 1-10, 2 special needs
- 24 early learning centres, including one kōhanga reo
- 3 medical centres and 4 aged care facilities
- Multiple major Sport and Recreation amenities: Halswell Domain, Te Hāpua Halswell Summer Pool, Ngā Puna Wai Sports Hub.
- 190 greenspace reserves including, Halswell Quarry, Te Kahu Wetlands, Canterbury Agricultural Park and Carrs Road Reserve.

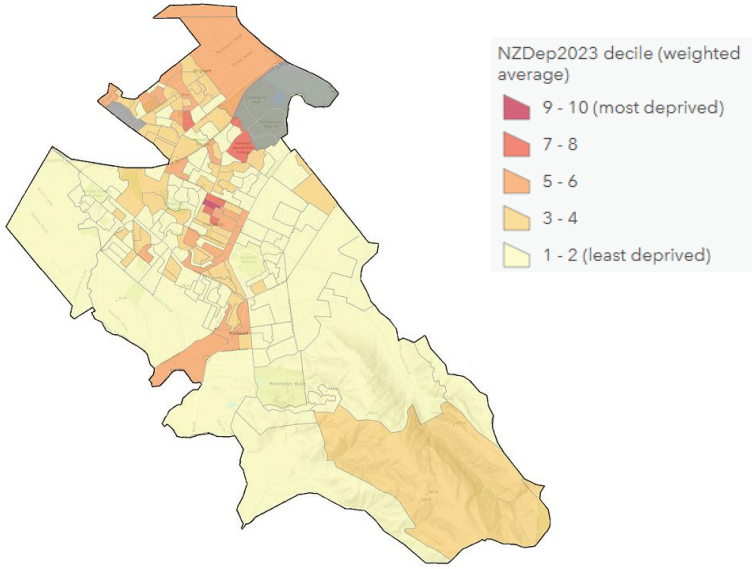
Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre is a major community facility managed by the Council, featuring a library, outdoor swimming pool, customer service centre, and various community amenities. Other Council-owned or managed facilities include Ngā Puna Wai and Canterbury Agricultural Park. Among the seven community-owned and managed facilities, Halswell Hall stands out as a unique community-run facility.

The Halswell Community Project operates the Halswell Hub from the former Halswell Library, offering a vibrant, community-run space that hosts several programmes and community development initiatives. Halswell Quarry Park, one of the city's regional parks, also houses botanical collections representing six of Christchurch's sister cities.

In 2026, Te Kōhanga Reo O Te Whanau Tahi moved to the Seven Oaks School site. Te Kura Kaupapa Māori O Te Whanau Tahi will be moving into the site in 202. Te Mātaitihi School, a new bilingual kura being developed on Milns Road, is set to open in 2027. Additionally, Halswell Residential School provides time-limited intervention for rangatahi with behavioural needs, while Waitaha Special Education School runs a satellite school at Knights Stream School.

The Halswell area is home to a number of waterways which along with the swales created by the city's stormwater retention system are beginning to be adjoined by walking and cycling trails, connecting the wider Halswell area. This includes the Ōpāwaho-Heathcote and Halswell Rivers along with Knights, Longhurst and Nottingham Streams.

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, Halswell Ward had lower levels of deprivation overall.

Halswell ward did not have any areas classed as 'most deprived' (i.e. deciles 9 and 10). For Christchurch City, 16 per cent of the population lived in areas classed as 'most deprived'.

Around 56 per cent of this ward's population lived in the 'least deprived' areas (i.e. deciles 1 and 2), compared with 22 per cent of all of Christchurch City's population.

30.6 per cent of residents over 15 years old have a personal income exceeding $70,000, compared to 24 per cent citywide and 20.6 per cent within the Community Board area. Employment rates are high, with 68.5 per cent of the ward's population engaged in part-time or full-time work.

Around 81 per cent of homes in the Halswell Ward are either owned or held in a Family Trust, compared to 64.8 per cent citywide.

Social housing is less prevalent, with only 21 Ōtautahi Community Housing Trust units and 44 Kāinga Ora properties in the ward.

The table below shows the median weekly market rent for suburbs in the Halswell Ward area, according to realestate.co.nz along with median house sale prices over the past 12 months. (Note, rent figures are not available for all suburbs due to limited data.)

Suburb	Median weekly rent	Median house sale price over the past 12 months
Aidanfield	$750	$1,000,000
Halswell	$694	$818,605
Kennedy's Bush	n/a	$1,050,000
Wigram	$680	$871,000

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.



Halswell MenzShed

Within the Halswell suburban area of the Halswell Ward, there is a wide range of community programmes and activities available to local communities. However, the Wigram part of the ward has considerably fewer such programmes.

The Halswell Community Project is a key leader in providing community services and programmes, either by facilitating or supporting other organisations. It manages the Halswell website, newsletter, and Facebook pages, which are crucial for community connection. The organisation also facilitates monthly network meetings and workshops, providing a platform for local community organisations to share ideas and discuss current issues.

The Halswell MenzShed operates six days a week, collaborating with various organisations, including St John of God on Nash Road, where the 'shed' is based, and other disability support organisations. Participants in the Menzshed gain a sense of belonging and satisfaction from creating meaningful projects.

The Halswell Community Church has recently started working in the youth sector, hiring a Youth Worker to engage with local schools and understand the needs of young people in Halswell. In contrast, the Wigram part of the ward lacks a residents' group or a key organisation offering core community development and support functions.

Within the ward, key organisations provide services for people with disabilities. Kilmarnock Enterprises, based in the Wigram industrial area, employs over 65 people with disabilities using a social enterprise model. St John of God Halswell, operated by the St John of God Hauora Trust, offers residential and respite support to people aged 16 to 65 with physical or neurological disabilities.

In late 2022, community representatives started working together to create a Vision for Halswell.

During this process the following objectives were identified to be of importance that meet the objectives of the People Pillar:

- Halswell is a diverse community where everyone is welcome and holds a sense of belonging. It celebrates all in the community regardless of age, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or disability.
- Halswell's diverse community is well connected.
- Halswell has a thriving events calendar.
- Halswell Youth are well connected and involved in decisions that affect the Halswell community.
- Older adults are well connected to the Halswell community.

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.



Athletics track at Ngā Puna Wai

Te Hāpua: Halswell Centre, the Halswell Hub and the Halswell Community Hall are key locations within the Halswell Ward that provide opportunities for people to connect with the wider community.

While there are nine schools located in the ward, there is no state secondary school. Rangatahi living in the ward attend a number of secondary schools within the city and in the Selwyn area. The lack of a commonly attended school base affords additional challenges for those working within the youth sector to achieve connectivity and identity amongst young people. Three of the city's newest schools are located in the ward - Wigram, Knights Stream and Te Mātaitihi School (due to open in 2027).

The Halswell Ward is well provided for in terms of greenspace. Of the 180 greenspaces, the ward is well served with playground equipment, basketball half courts, tennis courts, skate parks, pétanque courts and fitness equipment.

Notable reserves in the ward include Ngā Puna Wai, Halswell Domain and Halswell Quarry. Halswell Domain is well used by the local community with several sporting and recreational organisations based there. The Canterbury Society of Model and Experimental Engineers Inc are also based at Halswell Domain with a purpose-built model railway track.

In addition to providing sporting facilities for several different codes, Ngā Puna Wai Sports complex also offers passive recreation opportunities and is a host to many major sporting events.

The new Netsal Centre has opened on the site offering an indoor sports venue. Artificial turf sports fields are set to be constructed across the motorway off Wigram Road.

Along with five shopping precincts, there are several boutique businesses run from private homes. However, it is notable that many of the new developments are bereft of commercial and community spaces. Exceptions to this are Wigram Skies and Longhurst where development has taken place with community in mind.

In terms of housing, Halswell Ward has a higher proportion of modern homes reflecting the recent and ongoing property developments.

In late 2022, community representatives started working together to create a Vision for Halswell.

During this process the following objectives were identified to be of importance that meet the objectives of the Place Pillar:

- Halswell has good access to community facilities that are well serviced and maintained.
- There is a strong connection to local heritage and history for all communities in Halswell.
- Halswell suburbs are well connected by safe and accessible walkways and cycle lanes.
- Halswell is an easily accessible community with an active bus/public transport network.

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.



Huritini Student Council



Long Term Plan community engagement

Within the Halswell Ward, there is now only one active residents' grouping, the Halswell Residents' Association. The Kennedys Bush Road Neighbourhood Association along with the Awatea Residents' Association and Wigram Park Residents' Associations are no longer functioning. There is no residents' grouping in the wider Wigram area.

Despite the lack of representative organisations, a number of local residents in the ward will take the opportunity to come and speak to the Community Board if they have issues that affect their lives.

In 2023, there were 19 presentations to the Community Board's meetings on Halswell issues by way of the Public Forum, Deputations by Appointment and Petitions. In 2024 this number was 11. Many of the issues that people spoke about were transport related.

There were 200 submitters to the 2024-34 Long Term Plan who identified themselves as living in the Halswell Ward. (Note there were 4,300 submitters who did not identify the ward they lived in.)

In 2022, community representatives met together to put together a Vision for Halswell.

In this regard, the following objectives were identified to be of importance:

- Organisations and residents have meaningful opportunities for engagement and a strong connection to regional and local decision makers.
- Volunteering is accessible for Halswell residents.
- Halswell Youth are well connected and involved in decisions that effect the Halswell community.
- Halswell uses the strengths of its community members to effect change.
- In the 2023 census statistics 11.4 per cent of the Halswell population stated that they undertook voluntary work for an organisation, group or marae.

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.

This area faces key risks from increasing temperatures, drought, and more intense rainfall, which threaten ecosystems and put pressure on built infrastructure through flash flooding. In additional areas closer to the hills are at higher risk from wildfire, landslides, erosion, and gullying, which impact both natural habitats and built assets, with sedimentation further degrading waterways.

The Halswell Hub is currently in the initial stages of developing a joint community response plan for Halswell and Wigram. Residents living on and adjacent to the Port Hills are very mindful of fire risk following recent fires in the Port Hills. Groups of interested residents are keen to advocate for low-risk planting. Individual homes in the area tend to have fire evacuation plans in place.

Bushland Park on the outskirts of Halswell is being developed as a passive home neighbourhood. Certified passive homes are verified to international standards of energy efficient and healthy homes, saving up to 90 percent of energy costs compared to standard new builds.

In 2022, community representatives met together to put together a Vision for Halswell.

In this regard, the following objectives were identified to be of importance:

- Halswell uses the strengths of its community members to effect change.
- Halswell residents feel safe and understand how to connect with the appropriate organisations.
- Halswell is a well-connected community where information is actively exchanged and easy to find.

Key Community Issues

Issue	Actions being taken
Local road network improvements in Halswell • Road network trouble spots within the Halswell Ward	• State Highway 75 Halswell Road project underway. • Transport programmes for footpath renewals identified key spots in Halswell. • Widening of Halswell Junction Road to improve traffic flow and safety. This includes the addition of new lanes, improved intersections, and enhanced pedestrian and cycling facilities. • Implementation of bus priority measures on key routes within the Halswell ward to improve the reliability and efficiency of public transport services. This includes dedicated bus lanes and priority signals at intersections.
Recreational space development and improvement in Halswell • Investment sought in the provision of recreational spaces in the Halswell area	• Provision for a fenced dog park was included in the 2024-34 Long Term Plan. • Te Kahu and Sparks Wetlands completed. • Development of cycle tracks in the Port Hills on private land behind Halswell Quarry Park and Kennedys Bush as a part of the CrocX Mountain biking trails. • Bollards erected around the perimeter of Nash Reserve to prevent vehicular access. • Pathway renewals in Westlake Reserve. • Grant to Halswell Residents' Association to upgrade the Halswell War Memorial. • The Board approved a Better Off Fund project grant to create a basketball court on Halswell Domain. • New park furniture and additional signage installed in Quaifes Road Springlands in collaboration with Seven Oaks Primary School. • Enhancements to access roads and parking facilities at Halswell Domain to accommodate increased usage and improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists. • The Board approved a Discretionary Response Fund grant to Halswell Tennis to realign their courts at Halswell Domain.

Issue	Actions being taken
Community connectedness and perceptions of safety • Perceptions of community safety impacts on the community • Safe and accessible pedestrian connections required	• Transport programmes for footpath renewals identified key spots in Halswell. • Pedestrian safety improvements installed on approaches to pedestrian crossing points on Halswell Junction Road. • Development of new cycleways and pedestrian paths to promote active transport and connect key areas within the Halswell Ward. This includes links to schools, parks, and commercial areas.
Youth • Need for youth connection initiatives	• Halswell Community Church established the Halswell Youth Connections group with Community Board funding. • CDN Trust ran a Big Night Out in Halswell. • The Board approved a Better Off Fund project grant to create a basketball court on Halswell Domain. • Supporting Hurutini Youth Council to plan and deliver events and initiatives for young people. • Halswell Community Church will run three youth events in September and October 2026.