

Notice is hereby given that an ordinary meeting of the Horowhenua District Community Wellbeing Committee will be held on:

Date: Wednesday 12 March 2025
Time: 10:00 am
Meeting Room: Council Chambers
Venue: 126-148 Oxford St
Levin

Community Wellbeing Committee

OPEN AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

**Mayor
Members**

His Worship the Mayor Bernie Wanden	Councillor Clint Grimstone
Councillor Nina Hori Te Pa	Mandy Fryer
Di Rump	Patrick Rennell
Renee Regal	Sam Fergusson
Jacqui Moynihan	Tracey White
Joanne Parker	Angela Rainham
Dr Betty-Lou Iwikau	Angelina Tuialii
Grant Congdon	Mr Mike Fletcher
Amarjit Maxwell	Mark Cookson
Reihana Adlam	Sheryll Hoera
Neville Heihei	David Jermey
Patricia Jacobs	Amber Moffitt
Paul McMillan	Yumiko Olliver
Maria McKenzie	Scott Harvey
Beth Purcell	
Tyrone Kemp	

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Full Agendas are available on Council's website
www.horowhenua.govt.nz

Full Agendas are also available to be collected from:
Horowhenua District Council Service Centre, 126 Oxford Street, Levin

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Whakataka te hau ki te tonga	Cease the winds from the south
Kia mākinakina ki uta	Let the breeze blow over the land
Kia mātaratara ki tai	Let the breeze blow over the ocean
E hī ake ana te atakura	Let the red-tipped dawn come with a sharpened air.
He tio, he huka, he hau hū	A touch of frost, a promise of a glorious day.
Tīhei mauri ora!	

PROCEDURAL

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REPORTS

5	Presentations	
	5.1 Vape-Free Initiatives and Challenges in Horowhenua	
	Julie Beckett, Smokefree and Vapefree Health Promoter and Enforcement Officer with Te Whatu Ora, will provide insights into the latest regulatory changes and vaping-related data for Horowhenua.	
	5.2 Sport Manawatū	
	Kylie Turuwhenua-Tapsell from Sport Manawatū will share key achievements from 2024 and updates on Sport Manawatū’s work in the region.	
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KARAKIA TIMATANGA

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1 Apologies

2 Late Items

To consider, and if thought fit, to pass a resolution to permit the Council to consider any further items which do not appear on the Agenda of this meeting and/or the meeting to be held with the public excluded.

Such resolution is required to be made pursuant to Section 46A(7) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, and the Chairperson must advise:

- (i) The reason why the item was not on the Agenda, and
- (ii) The reason why the discussion of this item cannot be delayed until a subsequent meeting.

3 Declarations of Interest

Members are reminded of their obligation to declare any conflicts of interest they might have in respect of the items on this Agenda.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

4.1 Meeting minutes Community Wellbeing Committee, 6 November 2024

Recommendations

That the meeting minutes of Community Wellbeing Committee, 6 November 2024 be accepted as a true and correct record.

File No.: 25/81

6.1 Community Wellbeing Network Report

Author(s)	Kim Stewart Community Development Advisor Kaitohutohu Tautāwhi Hapori
Approved by	Mark Hammond Community Facilities and Services Manager Tumu Hanga Tukuora Hapori, Ratonga Hapori
	Brent Harvey Group Manager - Community Experience & Services Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapori, Ratonga
	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. This report provides an update and overview of the activities and actions undertaken by the current Wellbeing Network Committees.

This matter relates to Community Connections and Better Wellbeing.

Activate the key priorities within the Community Wellbeing Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀTAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/81 Community Wellbeing Network Report be received and noted.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

2. Horowhenua District Council facilitates four Wellbeing Network Committees:
 - Horowhenua Youth Services Network – Chaired by Councilor Alan Young
 - Horowhenua Older Person's Network – Chaired by Mayor Bernie Wanden
 - Horowhenua Access and Inclusion Network – Chaired by Councilor Mike Barker
 - Education Horowhenua Network – Chaired by Grant Congdon and Patrick Rennell
3. All networks meet bi-monthly and have recently had a reset during January and February to update their terms of reference, setting priorities for the year. Within this report, those new priorities are listed, under each Networks.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

4. Horowhenua Youth Services Network

- 4.1. The Horowhenua Youth Services Network has met twice since the last community wellbeing meeting.
- 4.2. Updates from the meeting on 28 November 2024:
 - Teen talks – 'Inspiring the Future', a free TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) programme where young people hear from role models about different jobs and

why people love doing them, the group felt that this is something that should be run by schools.

- Challenges were highlighted such as lack of transport, lack of access to driver licence funding, rangatahi being discharged from care at 18 having nowhere to go, pornography and sex addictions.
- Lael Marshal talked about international day of person with disabilities being celebrated on 3 September with an event planned at Levin Uniting Church.
- Quentin Moeke is running meet ups for young men on Fridays 6.00pm till late, focusing on an individual strength, their friends and building a sense of belonging.

4.3. Updates from meeting on 13 February 2025:

- The group talked about key priority areas for 2025, after a robust discussion we have landed on the following:
- Increased collaboration within the youth sector to share resources, knowledge, leverage strengths, increase visibility and achieve greater impact.
- Active promotion and support of Hauora and healthy relationships for rangatahi.
- Ensure that the young person's voice is centred in all actions.

5. **Horowhenua Older Person's Network**

5.1. The Horowhenua Older Person's Network has met twice since the last Community Wellbeing meeting.

5.2. Updates from the meeting on 21 November 2024:

- OPAL (Older Persons Assessment and Liaison) and Age Concern continues with the 'Walking Service'. Connecting older people with volunteers to help with walking to keep active.
- Isolation and safety are a big issue with our older people. Many organisations are looking at this, this year.
- Concerns about the Chronicle closing – How will people information be shared if you do not have digital devices. Since then, the Chronicle has continued circulation in addition to a new paper being established.

5.3. Updates from the meeting on 20 February 2025:

- The Network discussed the key priorities for 2025. They confirmed on the following areas of focus:
- Supporting our older people with their hauora, health, and wellbeing.
- Older people being isolated in their living arrangements and limited social connection.
- Ageing in place, planning for life

6. **Horowhenua Access and Inclusion Network**

6.1. The Horowhenua Access and Inclusion has met twice since the last Community Wellbeing meeting.

6.2. Updates from the meeting on 26 November 2024.

- Plans for International Day of Persons with Disabilities

- Hapai Hapori in Shannon is looking at transport options to allow for better connections around Horowhenua which could possibly be a van.
- 6.3. Updates from the meeting on 11 February 2025.
- 6.4. The group discussed the key priorities for 2025. They decided on the following areas:
- The Network will advocate for safe and inclusive access to all Horowhenua District Council amenities, services and community spaces, including recreation facilities and beach access.
 - The Network will amplify the voices of our marginalised communities.
 - The Network will promote an inclusive, diverse, and sustainable workforce.
 - The Network will advocate for mana enhancing digital access. (devices, affordable access, and skills to function in a digital world).
7. **Education Horowhenua Network**
- 7.1. Education Horowhenua has met once since the last Community Wellbeing meeting:
- 7.2. Updates from the meeting on 28 November 2024:
- There is an increase in the number of individuals identifying as a NEET (not in education, employment or training). The Network agreed to support Horowhenua Learning Centre and iwi/hapū partners.
 - A concerning trend has emerged in which parents are bypassing schools and going directly to the Ministry of Education to initiate an ELX (Early Leaving Exemption) for their children.
 - Employer workshops will be explored for employers to help them better prepare for working with young people, with a focus on developing soft skills and understanding the unique challenges faced by rangatahi.
 - There is uncertainty regarding the funding source for the Te Tomokanaga. This community-driven initiative continues to evolve, and ongoing discussions and collaboration will be essential as it moves forward.
- 5.3 The next meeting will be held 27 February 2025, in which they will revise their terms of reference.

Confirmation of statutory compliance

In accordance with sections 76 – 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this report is approved as:

- a. containing sufficient information about the options and their advantages and disadvantages, bearing in mind the significance of the decisions; and,
- b. is based on adequate knowledge about, and adequate consideration of, the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decision.

ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO

There are no appendices for this report

File No.: 25/41

6.2 Community Wellbeing Dashboard Report

Author(s)	Emma Gowan Community Development Adviser Kaitohutohu Tautāwhi Hapori
Approved by	Mark Hammond Community Facilities and Services Manager Tumu Hanga Tukuora Hapori, Ratonga Hapori
	Brent Harvey Group Manager - Community Experience & Services Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapori, Ratonga
	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of the Community Wellbeing Dashboard is to provide the Committee with a draft visual dashboard presenting data, analysis and assist in the tracking of the Community Wellbeing Strategy priority areas.

This matter relates to Community Connections and Better Wellbeing.

Activate the key priorities within the Community Wellbeing Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION NGĀ | TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/41 Community Wellbeing Dashboard Report be received and noted.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

2. For the purposes of this report, the intention of the Community Wellbeing Dashboard Report is to:
 - 2.1. At a high level, from a community wellbeing perspective, get a sense of what the community is currently experiencing.
 - 2.2. Enable the Committee to actively monitor any trends that may require the Committee to pivot, realign its focus, enable action and influence change.
 - 2.3. Provide an opportunity for the Committee to identify future priority discussions and presentations that the Committee may wish to hear and see to allow for further action and work planning.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

3. In January, the Social Investment Agency – Toi Hau Tangata launched a new reporting tool called Regional Data Explorer. This tool brings together a wide range of government data in one place to support decision-makers. There are also other tools such as Older People's Data Explorer and Community Insights Explorer. These tools will be helpful in supporting the development of the Community Wellbeing Dashboard.
4. The dashboard is split into the six priority areas for Community Wellbeing and relate to the priorities outlined within the Community Wellbeing Strategy. The below points, provide some further commentary in addition to what is provided on the dashboard itself.

Housing

5. Horowhenua Housing Register – The data displayed on the dashboard highlights the number of applications on the Housing Register as at December 2024. The housing register contains 177 applicants not currently in public housing who have been assessed as eligible and who are ready to be matched to a suitable property. Since September (last reported numbers), compared to December 2024 this is a decrease of 9 applicants.
6. Horowhenua Emergency Housing Special Needs Grants – the dashboard provides a breakdown of the number of households in emergency housing at the end of December 2024. This grant is available to people who cannot remain in their usual place of residence, if any, and do not have access to other accommodation which is adequate for them or their family's needs. Since September (the last reported figures), the number of grant applicants has significantly decreased from 57 to 15, resulting in a substantial reduction in total funding granted—from \$95,851 down to \$19,475. These changes are largely due to Ministry of Social Development reviewing and updating the Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant policy, including revisions to eligibility criteria and the application process.

Income, Social Welfare and Beneficiary Support

7. Local Beneficiary Numbers – Locally, at the end of December 2024, 4,407 people were receiving a main benefit, an increase of 150 compared to the previous report in September 2024. This represents a 3.5% rise.
8. Nationally, at the end of December 2024, 409,665 people were receiving a main benefit, an increase of 18,441 compared to the September 2024 report. This represents a 4.7% rise.

Education / Youth Employment

9. Government Target Delivery Performance – This data is sourced directly from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and was implemented as a result of the Governments coalition agreement, requiring mandatory reporting from schools, from Term 1 2025. At the time of preparing this report, the most recent data is from Term 2, 2024.
10. Horowhenua Student Attendance - Horowhenua Students finished Term 3 of 2024 with an increased attendance of 124 students, equating to a 0.5% rise.
11. Nationally, 51.3% of students met the criteria for regular attendance (present more than 90% of the term), an increase of 5.3 points from Term 3 2023.
12. Short-term illness and medical absences continued to be the main driver of non-attendance, primarily associated with ongoing incidence of COVID-19 and other seasonal illnesses.
 - 12.1. In Term 3, 2024, 96.8% (2,346) of all schools and kura provided useable attendance data. Note that as of 2025, compulsory attendance reporting is now required.
 - 12.2. Data for Term 4, 2024 is not yet available.
 - 12.3. School attendance has been identified as a key priority for the Horowhenua Former Refugee Support Committee in 2025. The committee will focus on addressing barriers to ensure children attend school regularly.
 - 12.4. Student wellbeing is a key priority for the education system. Ministry of Education insight studies show that attending school and kura regularly is, on average, associated with more positive wellbeing outcomes. Ministry analysis found that 15-year-old students who reported skipping a greater number of school days in the previous fortnight reported worse outcomes on average for a number of wellbeing measures: schoolwork-related anxiety, sense of belonging, exposure to bullying, motivation and experiences of teacher unfairness.
 - 12.5. Youth Unemployment NEET Rate – Horowhenua's NEET rate which represents the percent of 15-24 year olds not in employment, education or training is 21.1% which is a 2.2% upwards trend and worsening.

- 12.6. As can therefore be expected, the number of NEETs within Horowhenua has climbed to 863 which reflects a 14.3% increase and again is an upwards trend and worsening.
- 12.7. These figures are comparative to other areas within New Zealand, however the movement is significant meaning that our NEET rank compared to other areas places us at 61 out of 67 which is downward trend and improving.

Health and Wellbeing

13. Horowhenua ED Presentations by Admission Status - As requested at the last Community Wellbeing Committee meeting, Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora has provided Officers with Palmerston North Hospital Emergency Department (ED) data for the last 12 months. This data will now be provided on a quarterly basis for the dashboard.
 - 13.1. On average, Horowhenua residents accounted for 37% of ED presentations to Palmerston North Hospital during 2024.
 - 13.2. NZ European residents accounted for 2,194 admissions, while Māori accounted for 628 admissions during 2024.
 - 13.3. A total of 557 admissions during 2024 were from Levin East, followed by 383 from the Playford Park area, 323 from Levin North and 312 from Foxton.
 - 13.4. 71% of Horowhenua ED Admissions were for community members aged 55 and over.

Growth and Population

14. Population by Age Disruption - In the last dashboard (November), a breakdown of ethnicities within the district was provided. This quarter, we are focusing on population distribution by age across Horowhenua.
 - 14.1. Levin has the highest population in the 55-64 age group.
 - 14.2. Foxton has the highest population in the 60-69 age group.
 - 14.3. Shannon has the highest population among tamariki aged 5-14 years.
 - 14.4. When looking at Horowhenua as a whole:
 - The 55-59 age group makes up 21.6% of the population.
 - The 60-64 age group follows closely at 21.5%.
 - The 10-14 age group represents 21% of the population.

Community Safety

15. Horowhenua Crime Snapshot - The dashboard data shows a decrease or no change in all crime categories, except for robbery, which saw a small increase of five incidents during the reporting period. The crime snapshot does not record disorderly behaviour, family harm and crashes.
 - 15.1. Number of Police Proceedings – Violent Crime:
 - Q1 2024: Peaked at 20.4, the highest level since Q1 2022.
 - Q2 2024: Dropped to 13.3, the lowest recorded level.
 - Q3 2024: increased again to 17.3.

Confirmation of statutory compliance

In accordance with sections 76 – 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this report is approved as:

- a. containing sufficient information about the options and their advantages and disadvantages, bearing in mind the significance of the decisions; and,
- b. is based on adequate knowledge about, and adequate consideration of, the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decision.

ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO

No.	Title	Page
A	Community Wellbeing Dashboard - March 2025	14

Community Wellbeing Dashboard | March 2025



POINTS OF INTEREST:

- EH SNG Grants have reduced due to changes to eligibility criteria.
- Local beneficiary numbers have increased by 3.5% since September 2024.
- Horowhenua's NEET rate ranking sits among the bottom seven territorial authorities in New Zealand.
- 71% of Horowhenua ED Admissions are our community aged 55 and over.
- Residents aged 55-64 years make up the largest age group in Horowhenua, accounting for a combined 21.6% of the total population.
- All crimes show a decrease or no change, with robbery only slightly up by 5.

HOUSING

Horowhenua Housing Register as at December 2024

	December 2024	September 2024	Change
	177	186	↓ 9

Source: MSD

Horowhenua Emergency Housing Special Needs Grant as end 31 December 2024

	December 2024	September 2024	Change
Number of Grants	15	57	↓ 42
Number of Applicants	6	24	↓ 18
Total Amount Granted	\$19,475	\$95,851	↓ \$76,376
Average Amount Granted	\$1,298	\$1,653	↓ \$355

Source: MSD

Nationwide, the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) has been reviewing and updating the EH SNG policy, including changes to eligibility criteria and application processes. These updates have led to a significant reduction in the number of grants and the amounts awarded.

INCOME, SOCIAL WELFARE AND BENEFICIARY SUPPORT

LOCAL BENEFICIARY NUMBERS AS AT DECEMBER 2024

Category	Count	Percentage
Jobseeker	2,115	48%
Sole Parent	1,275	29%
Supported Living	930	21%
Other Benefit	87	2%

Source: MSD

Local: At the end of December 2024, 4,407 people were receiving a main benefit, which is up by 150 from the last report in September 2024. **This equates to an increase of 3.5%.**

National: At the end of December 2024, 409,665 people were receiving a main benefit, which is up by 18,441 from the last report in September 2024. **This equates to an increase of 4.7%.**

EDUCATION / YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Government Target Delivery Performance – quarter ending September 2024

Target	Baseline Data (Term 2, 2023)	Current (Term 2, 2024)
80%	47.1%	53.2%

Source: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet

Horowhenua Student Attendance

	Total Students (n)	Students Attending Regularly (%)	Students Attending 80-90% (%)	Students Attending 70-80% (%)	Students Attending 70% or less (%)
2024 Term 3	5,128	43.4	27.4	14.5	14.7
2024 Term 2	5,007	42.9	27.1	13.9	16.2
2024 Term 1	5,010	52.7	24.6	10.3	12.5

Source: Education Counts

Youth Unemployment NEET Rate – Percent of 15-24 year-olds not in employment, education or training as at December 2024

NEET Rate	Number of NEETs	NEET Rate Rank
21.1%	863	61 / 67
↑ 2.2%	↑ 14.3%	↓ -2
Trending up / worsening	Trending up / worsening	Trending down / improving

Source: MTFJ Youth Employment Dashboard

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Horowhenua ED Presentations by Admission Status: Year 2024

	Yes	No	Total	% Admitted
January	259	417	676	38%
February	214	386	600	36%
March	240	440	680	35%
April	265	450	715	37%
May	310	458	768	40%
June	274	476	750	37%
July	271	511	782	35%
August	290	434	724	40%
September	272	436	708	38%
October	286	472	758	38%
November	257	427	684	38%
December	275	474	749	37%
Total 2024	3,214	5,381	8,594	37%
January 2025	260	438	698	37%

2024 Horowhenua ED Presentations by Admission Status: by Age Group

	0-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75-84	>84	Total
	251	147	173	125	228	415	580	828	467	3,214

Source: Health New Zealand Te Whatu Ora

GROWTH AND POPULATION

POPULATION BY AGE DISTRIBUTION

Source: Social Wellbeing Agency Community Insights Explorer

- Levin has the highest population in the 55-64 age group.
- Foxton has the highest population in the 60-69 age group.
- Shannon has the highest population among tamariki aged 5-14 years.
- When looking at Horowhenua as a whole the 55-59 age group makes up 21.6% of the population.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Horowhenua Crime Snapshot as at January 2025

Crime Type	January 2025	October 2024 (previous period)	Change
Assault	69	91	↓
Sexual Assault	1	16	↓
Abduction	1	1	→
Robbery	12	7	↑
Burglary	172	172	→
Theft	385	507	↓
Total	640	794	↓

Source: NZ Police

Number of Police proceedings (rate per 10,000 people): Violent Crime

Source: Social Wellbeing Agency Regional Data Explorer

File No.: 25/42

6.3 Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report

Author(s)	Emma Gowan Community Development Adviser Kaitohutohu Tautāwhi Hapori
Approved by	Mark Hammond Community Facilities and Services Manager Tumu Hanga Tukuora Hapori, Ratonga Hapori
	Brent Harvey Group Manager - Community Experience & Services Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapori, Ratonga
	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of the Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report is to highlight progress made against the Community Wellbeing Strategy (the Strategy) and Action Plan. The report also presents an opportunity for the Committee to discuss and raise any concerns or need to reprioritise the focus of the work programme of the Committee.

This matter relates to Community Connections and Better Wellbeing.

Activate the key priorities within the Community Wellbeing Strategy.

RECOMMENDATION NGĀ | TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/42 Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report be received and noted.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

2. The purpose of the Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring report is to:
 - Highlight the progress being made on the Community Wellbeing Strategy Action Plan. Alternatively, identify any areas of concern or reductions in progress on the Action Plan.
 - Keep both the Council and the Committee accountable for the role that they play in community wellbeing.
 - Highlight work happening across all of Council business that is contributing to the success of the Strategy and overall community wellbeing.
 - Identify community-led initiatives that are also contributing to the delivery of the Action Plan.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

3. The way in which the monitoring report has been designed is two-fold.
4. The first part, highlights the current actions that are underway and provides further details on where they fit into the Strategy, timeframe, funding, who's taking the lead and current status.
5. For the purpose of this report and for the benefit of the members of the Committee, at each meeting where an item is flagged as 'completed', we will report on that and then, any future meetings those items will be removed and placed back into the work plan if required.

6. The second part is the work programme that lays out the actions and work streams for the next three years, noting that when necessary these can change.

Community Wellbeing Strategy Action Plan Progress

7. The following progress has been made against the Community Wellbeing Strategy Action Plan and listed under each strategy priority:

Culture I Te Ahurea

8. Horowhenua held a series of vibrant events and activities during the last four months, including:
 - Diwali Festival, 23 November 2024
 - Beatz of Nation Multicultural Festival, 30 November 2024
 - Christmas Parade and Carnival, 7 December 2024
 - Chinese New Year 2025 – the Year of the Snake, 30 January. Celebrations included Kung Fu demonstrations, traditional Chinese music and food, Mandarin storytelling, Chinese dragon and lion dances and Chinese calligraphy workshop.
 - Waitangi Day, 6 February 2025 – celebrations were marked across the district in Hanana Shannon with a free community evening organised by Te Roopu Taiao o Ngāti Whakare Trust, Te Awahou Foxton with Kapa haka, live music and a free sausage sizzle and Taitoko Levin with stalls and health check-ups are put on by Muaūpoko iwi.
9. The contestable portion of the Urupā funding pool opened for applications on 1 February and close 3 March.

Connected Community I He Hapori Tūhonohono

10. Since the last meeting, two community capacity-building courses have been held in Governance training, with 39 community members being upskilled. The Community-capacity-building programme has been planned for the next six months and includes workshops and training in first aid, neurodiversity, citizenship, mana taiohi (youth work) and fund making.
11. The Community Development and Communications team is well underway with progressing the centralised directory of services and activities, meeting fortnightly to keep this project on track.
12. The Community Wellbeing Dashboard from the 6 November meeting has been published on the Horowhenua District Council website.
13. We are pleased to report that the Libraries Team have been successful in obtaining \$20,000 in external funding that will go towards its digital literacy mahi – reducing barriers for members of the community to access the digital world. Planning is now underway no how we will make the most of this funding.
14. The Community Development Team attended a meeting with Volunteer Central who is interested in leading the review of all community-led initiatives and programmes that are currently being offered within the district with the view of streamlining and or having them collaborating more in order to remove the doubling up of services. This initiative requires external funding to go ahead, which Volunteer Central are in the process of applying for.
15. Neighbours Day will take place on 22 March, from 10.00am at the Levin Adventure Park. This event is hosted by Horowhenua Neighbourhood Support with support from Horowhenua District Council. There will be lots to enjoy at this whanau event, including live

and, giant slide, target shoot out game, BBQ, face painting plus local community groups offering support and information about their services.

Health and Wellbeing | Te Hauora Me te Oranga Tonutanga

16. The first Kai Provider Hui was held on 30 January bringing all local kai providers together in an effort to create better access to healthy kai for our community. This Hui received positive feedback from participants who were keen to continue progress and momentum. The next Kai Provider Hui is being hosted by Muaūpoko at the end of March. Some early actions are underway such as developing a central base of contacts and what services they deliver.
17. The companion card scheme continues to grow with an increase of 10 cards issued since the last meeting, bringing the total to 30 cards issued. The companion card is an initiative aimed at providing equitable ticketing expenses for individuals with life-long impairments who may require additional attendant companion support to engage in everyday activities at our partnering venues and activities.
18. Health care providers and professionals will soon have access to four courses planned (one per quarter) to improve access to and understanding of Easy Read/Easy Write training. These courses will be managed by Horowhenua District Council under the externally funded Takiwā contract.
19. An exciting new initiative was launched before Christmas, providing free virtual GP appointments to whānua unable to secure a same-day appointment with their GP. Brought to you by Practice Plus, Muaūpoko Tribal Authority and Piri'anga Alofa, this initiative aims to reduce wait times and improve access to essential hauora care services for everyone in our community. The first Hōkio Beach Hauora Clinic was held 29 January by Muaūpoko Tribal Authority. The promotion of both of these initiatives is managed by Horowhenua District Council under the Takiwā contract.
20. On 22 February, the Shannon Hauora Day was held at the Shannon Domain, welcoming whānau of all ages. The event featured health checks, informational health stalls, and opportunities for attendees to update their breast and bowel screening, smear tests, and immunisations.

Sense of Place and Belonging | Te Noho Pūmau | Horowhenua

21. The Youth Space team is currently planning an exciting activity programme for Youth Week, which will take place from May 19-25, 2025.
22. Pop-up Eats continues to run weekly at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō carpark, providing access to a variety of great food-truck cuisine. Over the summer, the event has also expanded to Tokomaru, Foxton, Shannon, and Manakau, bringing diverse food options to more communities.

Housing | Ngā Whare

23. The completion of 18 one and two bedroom Kāinga Ora homes was celebrated with a community viewing day on February 14 before whānau moved in. Built on McKenzie Street, these homes will provide residents with a warm, dry and a safe place to live in for years to come.
24. A resource outlining what social support services are available for those members of our community who are displaced is in draft form.
25. The first Homelessness Hui was held on 18 February bringing Horowhenua District Council and local service providers together in an effort to create a safe space for displaced or homeless members of our community.

Environment, Community Resilience and Preparedness | Te Taiao, Te Hapori Te Manawaroa me te Takatūnga

26. Since the last meeting in November, two community training sessions have been held to educate residents on emergency preparedness. The Shannon Community Civil Defence

Emergency Response Group participated in an emergency management exercise on 9 November. Additionally, students from Manakau School visited the Council to learn about "people who help us in our community", kaitiakitanga, and emergency response. They also took part in an exercise where they brainstormed essential items for an emergency kit.

27. The Read for Trees holiday reading programme, launched in December, has already turned a new page with great success. We are only at the half-way mark and already have unlocked 22 trees.

Community Safety | Te Haumarutanga o te Hapori

28. On 16 February, a beach safety lesson as well as a fun day at the beach was organised for our former refugee community as part of the Tū Manawa funding. It was great to see our contracted services, Waitārere Beach Surf Lifesaving Club and Waitārere Beach Wardens work together to deliver information about beach safety, vehicles on the beach and fishing guidelines. The Community Development team aims to connect with contracted services and share their contributions to community safety and wellbeing.

Highlights contributing to the Community Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan

29. The following highlights from across all of Horowhenua District Council business units have also contributed to the strategies overall community wellbeing priorities during the last quarter, but not precisely prescribed for in the Action Plan:
- 29.1. In December, we were thrilled to see 45 businesses and schools take part in Pack the Bus alongside Council. A generous \$1,700 monetary donation was used to purchase toys for the bus, ensuring tamariki had something special to enjoy at Christmas. While the bus wasn't as full as last year—reflecting the challenges many are currently facing—the contributions will still have a meaningful impact on our chosen charities.
- 29.2. On 3 December, we celebrated the International Day for People with Disabilities with an event hosted by Council and local agencies, bringing together around 200 people. Attendees enjoyed sports, karaoke, and afternoon tea in a fun and inclusive atmosphere. The day was a wonderful celebration of diversity and community spirit.
- 29.3. The Horowhenua Former Refugee Support Committee brought festive cheer to Jubilee Park with a Christmas Fiesta and picnic for our former refugee community, Red Cross volunteers, and ESOL teachers. It was a heartwarming day filled with shared kai, friendship and laughter, and the joyful smiles of tamariki made the celebration even more special. Adding to the holiday spirit, December also saw the purchase of fishing gear through the Sport Manawatū Te Manawa funding. The gear, now stored at the Red Cross, will be available for refugee families to use, encouraging healthy recreation and providing opportunities to catch their own food—a thoughtful way to support wellbeing and connection.
- 29.4. Shannon Junior Athletics is back up and running, with the community coming together to offer the opportunity for whānau. Our Open Spaces Maintenance team line marked the field and the club reports a good number of children and young people getting involved.
- 29.5. Prime Minister Christopher Luxon was in Levin on 12 December, along with local MP Tim Costley, to open the second stage of the Hinemoa Street social housing development. The second stage opened up a further 26 homes for those in need. This development was put together by Wayne Bishop Group and The Salvation Army.
- 29.6. Horowhenua VibeZ is back for another year and kicked off on February 12 at Solway Park with food, games, music and the play trailer in action for Horowhenua young people. Four more events will take place from February to April.
- 29.7. The Let's Move Together Triathlon series is back again for another year, taking place in Shannon, Levin and Foxton. Tamariki aged between 3 to 11+ will run, cycle and swim their way to the finish cheered on by their Whānau from the sidelines. This

kaupapa could not be achieved without the \$14k received from Sport Manawatū's Tū Manawa fund.

- 29.8. The Farm Track shared pathway was officially opened on 1 February. The 4 km return pathway, which takes approximately one hour to complete, was created through the dedication of volunteers in partnership with Horowhenua District Council and provides a space for everyone to enjoy. The pathway is part of a three-stage project that will eventually extend the walking track over the Arawhata Stream to the Levin Golf Course.

Confirmation of statutory compliance

In accordance with sections 76 – 79 of the Local Government Act 2002, this report is approved as:

- a. containing sufficient information about the options and their advantages and disadvantages, bearing in mind the significance of the decisions; and,
- b. is based on adequate knowledge about, and adequate consideration of, the views and preferences of affected and interested parties bearing in mind the significance of the decision.

ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO

No.	Title	Page
A	Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report - March 2025	23

Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report – as at March 2025

This report highlights the progress made against the Community Wellbeing Action Plan and keeps Council accountable for the role that it plays when it comes to community wellbeing. Additionally, this report will highlight work happening across all of council business that is contributing to the success of this strategy and overall community wellbeing. This is by no means an exhaustive list of all the actions Council is undertaking.

Actions Currently Underway

Priority Area	Activity/Action	Timeframe	Funding Source	Activity/Action Leader	Due Date	Story/notes	Status
Culture	Establish and deliver an Urupā Fund to support the maintenance of burial grounds.	Year 1	HDC Community Grants & Funding	Council	1 February 2025	Non-contestable fund letters to marae issued 15 October – 4 marae have drawn down on funds. Contestable fund opened 1 February 2025 and closes 3 March 2025.	Completed
Culture	Continue to offer a variety of events and activities that appeal to different age groups and cultural backgrounds and incorporate elements from various cultures into events to celebrate diversity and promote understanding.	On-going	Existing HDC Budget	Council	On-going	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Waitangi Day Celebrations, 6 February – Celebrations held in Levin, Foxton and Shannon. Chinese New Year 2025, 30 January. Christmas Parade and Carnival, 7 December Beatz of Nation Multicultural Festival, 30 November Diwali Festival, 23 November 	Underway
Connected Community	Continue to provide support that helps build the community's capacity and capability by delivering a training programme.	On-going	Existing HDC Budget	Council	On-going	Two community-capacity-building courses held in governance, upskilling 39 community members. Community-capacity building programme planned and set for next 6 months.	Underway
Connected Community	Develop a centralised directory of services and activities, ensuring regular updates to maintain accuracy.	Bi-annual	Existing HDC Budget	Council	End May 2025	This project is well underway with fortnightly meetings being held to keep project momentum and on track.	Underway
Connected Community	Actively promote Neighbours Day and facilitate small community initiatives and events such as 'over the fence cuppa' events.	Annually	Existing HDC Budget	Council	22 March 2025	Neighbours Day will be celebrated with a free community event being held at the Levin Adventure Park.	Underway
Connected Community	Continue to provide opportunities for our older demographic to upskill in their ability to access the digital world.	On-going	External Grant	Council	On-going	HDC Libraries team received \$20k in external funding to go towards its digital literacy programme. Planning underway to develop digital literacy programme.	Underway
Connected Community	Undertake a review of all community-led initiatives and programmes that are currently being offered with a view of streamlining those opportunities and therefore removes and doubling up of services.	Year 1 & 2	External Grant	Community-Led by Volunteer Central with support from HDC	On-going	Initial meeting held with Volunteer Central. Volunteer Central underway with applying for external funding to undertake this work.	Underway
Health & Wellbeing	Continue to implement and grow the companion card initiative.	Year 1 & on-going	Existing HDC Budget	Council / Access and Inclusion Community Network	On-going	Launched 29 May 2024. 30 Companion cards issued to date, an increase of 10 since last the last update. Continue to promote and get more business on-board.	Underway
Health & Wellbeing	Investigate what options are available to both the Council and our partners in creating better access to healthy kai for our community.	Year 1 & 2	Existing HDC Budget / External Grant	Council	On-going	First Kai Providers Hui held in January. Second meeting planned for March. Some early actions underway.	Underway
Health & Wellbeing	Health care providers and professionals will have access to participate in Easy Read/Easy Write programme.	Year 1	Existing HDC Budget	Council	31 December 2025	Four courses planned (one per quarter).	Underway
Sense of place and belonging	Implement the Welcoming Communities Strategy.	Year 1	External Grant	Council / Welcoming Communities Committee	31 May 2025	Welcoming Communities Strategy in draft form. Requires input from Welcoming Communities Committee. Welcoming Communities Committee to be re-established.	Underway
Housing	Create a resource that outlines what social support services are available for those members of our community who are displaced.	On-going	Existing HDC Budget	Council	On-going	Resource in draft form, awaiting approval and design.	Underway
Housing	Investigate what options Council has to create a safe space for displaced or homeless members of our community, working alongside our community partners.	Year 1	Existing HDC Budget	Council / Community – Led	On-going	First homeless hui scheduled to take place February 18.	Underway
Environment, Community Resilience & Preparedness	Host two community training sessions to educate on emergency preparedness and resilience-building.	On-going	Existing HDC Budget	Council	On-going	An Emergency Management Exercise took place with the Shannon Community Civil Defence Emergency Response Group on November 9. Students from Manakau School visited Council to learn about 'people who help us in our community, kitiakitanga' and emergencies.	Underway
Environment, Community Resilience & Preparedness	Promote well insulated homes, green energy and sustainable water use.	On-going	Existing HDC Budget	Council	On-going	Meeting with Energise Ōtaki (who plan to expand into Horowhenua) scheduled for February 21.	Underway

Community Wellbeing Strategy and Action Plan Work Programme

Priority Area	Q3 (Jan – March 25)	Q4 (April – June 25)	Q1 (July – Sept 25)	Q2 (October – Dec 25)	On-going	Year 2	Year 3
Culture			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incorporate te reo Māori when delivering our Aquatics swim school programme. Continue celebrating Te Wiki o te Reo Māori by planning and successfully delivering events, activities, and programs. Continue the Matariki Programme to celebrate Matariki. 	Hold an annual multicultural event			
Connected Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively promote Neighbours Day and facilitate small community initiatives like 'Over the Fence Cuppa' events – month of March. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote equity and fairness by removing participation barriers and offering training opportunities to our community organisations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate a campaign highlighting our people and their connection to our rohe, showcasing their pride in coming from Horowhenua. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We aim to create inclusive communication materials that represent our community's diversity and ensure accessibility for all residents, including those facing digital exclusion. Continue providing opportunities for our older demographic to enhance their digital skills. Develop new methods to keep our community informed about roading changes, ensuring accessibility and clarity regarding impacts such as road works or closures. We'll partner with Waka Kotahi to keep our community and residents updated during the Ō2NL project, with open communication channels. As members of the Horowhenua Transport Services Governance Group, we will continue planning public transportation with Horizons District Council in a leading role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a review of all community-led initiatives and programs to streamline opportunities and eliminate duplicate services. Advocate for enhanced community outcomes from the Ō2NL construction. Explore funding opportunities for a community bus to enhance educational access for children and young people across the region. 	
Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish Community Wellbeing Dashboard on the HDC website following CWC meeting. Healthcare providers and professionals will have access to participate in an easy read/easy write program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Healthcare providers and professionals will have access to participate in an easy read/easy write program. Work with community partners to provide a Health and Wellbeing Expo before winter to promote physical and mental health. Publish Community Wellbeing Dashboard on the HDC website following CWC meeting. Review Wellbeing Section on the website to keep current. Establish a hui for NGOs to convene, collaborate, and share learning openly (bi-annual). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a hui for NGOs to convene, collaborate, and share learning openly (bi-annual). Publish Community Wellbeing Dashboard on the HDC website following CWC meeting. Healthcare providers and professionals will have access to participate in an easy read/easy write program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deliver the Age on the Go Expo Publish Community Wellbeing Dashboard on the HDC website following CWC meeting. Review Wellbeing Section on the website to keep current. Healthcare providers and professionals will have access to participate in an easy read/easy write program. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise awareness of health-related policies and community and national initiatives to increase equitable access to health services. Continue to implement and grow the companion card initiative. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate options with the Council and partners to improve access to healthy kai for our community. Implement a strategy for active recreation and sports to promote community health and wellness. 	
Sense of Place and Belonging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate four (1 per quarter) new regular programmes that operate out in the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate four (1 per quarter) new regular programmes that operate out in the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate four (1 per quarter) new regular programmes that operate out in the community. Complete Welcoming Communities Strategy. Ensure that Council events are accessible to people of all ages and abilities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate four (1 per quarter) new regular programmes that operate out in the community. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain Green Flag status. Collaborate with communities on placemaking projects for positive impact. Ensure Youth Space programming reflects rangatahi feedback, meeting their interests and needs. Ensure community facilities offer programs that build community skills and increase capability. 		

Priority Area	Q3 (Jan – March 25)	Q4 (April – June 25)	Q1 (July – Sept 24)	Q2 (October – Dec 25)	On-going	Year 2	Year 3
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor Kāinga Ora developments and advocate for community benefits through the Community Wellbeing Committee. Investigate what options Council has to create a safe space for displaced or homeless members of our community, working alongside our community partners. Create a resource that outlines what social support services are available for those members of our community who are displaced. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor Kāinga Ora developments and advocate for community benefits through the Community Wellbeing Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor Kāinga Ora developments and advocate for community benefits through the Community Wellbeing Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor Kāinga Ora developments and advocate for community benefits through the Community Wellbeing Committee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and enable affordable housing choices through the District Plan and Housing Action Plan. Through the Horowhenua Operative District Plan, enable accessible housing opportunities with essential services, such as mixed-use development in urban centres. Continue exploring affordable housing options, including family flat development, through the Affordable Housing Framework. 		
Environment, Community Resilience and Preparedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote well insulated homes, green energy and sustainable water use. Partnering with community stakeholders and our Parks and Property Team, host at least four events (1 per quarter) enhancing the ecology of our open spaces, such as community planting and rubbish collection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate community training sessions on emergency preparedness and resilience building. Partnering with community stakeholders and our Parks and Property Team, host at least four events (1 per quarter) enhancing the ecology of our open spaces, such as community planting and rubbish collection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote well insulated homes, green energy and sustainable water use. Partnering with community stakeholders and our Parks and Property Team, host at least four events (1 per quarter) enhancing the ecology of our open spaces, such as community planting and rubbish collection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Facilitate community training sessions on emergency preparedness and resilience building. Partnering with community stakeholders and our Parks and Property Team, host at least four events (1 per quarter) enhancing the ecology of our open spaces, such as community planting and rubbish collection. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work in partnership with Horizons Regional Council on the Joint Climate Action Plan and the Wellington Leadership Committee to understand environmental vulnerability and coordination of response. Incorporate nature-based solutions through green and blue infrastructure to mitigate climate impacts, and monitor sustainable nature presence in Horowhenua. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Give effect to Horowhenua's Climate Action Plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with regional partners advocate for the establishment of public transport within urban environments.
Community Safety		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand our Kaitiaki program within Community Facilities to increase community presence and engagement. Re-establish the Road Safety Group to advocate for improvements in road safety for the community. Maintain and strengthen relationships with key safety agencies through bi-annual community safety forums with the Mayor and Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support and enable the delivery of community safety initiatives through Horowhenua District Council's contracted services – year 1 reporting due and year 2 payments for services to be made. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain and strengthen relationships with key safety agencies through bi-annual community safety forums with the Mayor and Council 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Expand our Kaitiaki program within Community Facilities to increase community presence and engagement. 	