

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

Date: Wednesday 25 June 2025
Time: 11:00 am
Meeting Room: Council Chambers
Venue: 126-148 Oxford St
Levin

Council

OPEN AGENDA

MEMBERSHIP

Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Councillors

His Worship The Mayor Bernie Wanden
Councillor David Allan
Councillor Mike Barker
Councillor Rogan Boyle
Councillor Ross Brannigan
Councillor Clint Grimstone
Councillor Nina Hori Te Pa
Councillor Sam Jennings
Councillor Paul Olsen
Councillor Jonathan Procter
Councillor Justin Tamihana
Councillor Alan Young

Contact Telephone: 06 366 0999
Postal Address: Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540
Email: enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz
Website: www.horowhenua.govt.nz

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
Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, Foxton,
Shannon Service Centre/Library, Plimmer Terrace, Shannon
and Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-pō, Bath Street, Levin

ITEM TABLE OF CONTENTS	PAGE
KARAKIA TIMATANGA	

Whakataka te hau ki te uru	Cease the winds from the west
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.
Tihei mauri ora!	

PROCEDURAL

1	Apologies	5
2	Public Participation	5
3	Late Items	5
4	Declarations of Interest	5
5	Confirmation of Minutes	5

REPORTS

6	Presentations	
6.1	NZ Police - Local Policing Update	7
	A local policing update from Sgt Bernie O'Brien, NZ Police	
7	Elected Members Reports	
7.1	Mayoral Report	7
7.2	Chairperson's Update -Te Awahou Foxton Community Board	13
8	Reports for Decision	
8.1	Adoption of Rates Resolution for Year Ending 30 June 2026	17
8.2	Waikawa Pedestrian Bridge	23
8.3	Waikawa Beach Accessway - Council Update	31
8.4	Adoption of Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw	41
8.5	Adoption of Strategic Recreation Investment Framework	93
8.6	Adoption of Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035	125
8.7	Levin Town Centre Transformation Programme Update	163
8.8	Confirmation of Process - Bath Street and Salisbury Street Carpark	175
8.9	Draft Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy - Adoption for Consultation	179
8.10	Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2025 Remits	195
9	Reports for Noting	
9.1	Interim Organisation Performance Report - June 2025	207
9.2	Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report June 2025	235

10	Proceedings of Committees	
10.1	Proceedings of the Community Wellbeing Committee 21 May 2025	243
10.2	Proceedings of the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Meeting 9 June 2025	247
10.3	Proceedings of the Hearings and Regulatory Committee 10 June 2025	253
10.4	Proceedings of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee 11 June 2025	261

PUBLIC EXCLUDED

11	Procedural motion to exclude the public	265
C1	Levin War Memorial Hall and Village Green Redevelopment Update	265
C2	Solid Waste Service Delivery and Agreement Review	265
C3	East West Arterial (EWA) - Property Acquisition Update	265
C4	Levin Camp Ground	266
C5	Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report June 2025	266
C6	Proceedings of Committee - Public Excluded Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee 11 June 2025	266

KARAKIA WHAKAMUTUNGA

Kia whakairia te tapu Kia wātea ai te ara Kia turuki whakataha ai, kia turuki whakataha ai Haumi e, hui e, taiki e!	Restrictions are moved aside so the pathway is clear To return to everyday activities Draw together, affirm!
--	---

Karakia

1 Apologies

2 Public Participation

Notification of a request to speak is required by 12 noon on the day before the meeting by phoning 06 366 0999 or emailing public.participation@horowhenua.govt.nz.

3 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.

4 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.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Meeting minutes Council, 14 May 2025

5.2 Meeting minutes Public Excluded Meeting of Council, 14 May 2025

5.3 Meeting minutes Extraordinary Meeting of Council, 4 June 2025

5.4 Meeting minutes Public Excluded Extraordinary Meeting of Council, 4 June 2025

Recommendations

That the meeting minutes of Council, 14 May 2025 be accepted as a true and correct record.

That the meeting minutes of Public Excluded Meeting of Council, 14 May 2025 be accepted as a true and correct record.

That the meeting minutes of Extraordinary Meeting of Council, 4 June 2025 be accepted as a true and correct record.

That the meeting minutes of Public Excluded Extraordinary Meeting of Council, 4 June 2025 be accepted as a true and correct record.

File No.: 25/355

7.1 Mayoral Report

Author(s)	Bernie Wanden JP Mayor Kahika
Approved by	Bernie Wanden JP Mayor Kahika

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this report is to inform Council and the community about events and functions and Council-related meetings that I attended 1 May – 14 June 2025, and to provide an update on items of interest.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report Mayoral Report be received and noted.

MATTERS OF INTEREST | NGĀ TAKE HIRAHIRA

2. The following meetings, functions and events were attended from 1 May to 14 June 2025.

Meetings, Functions and Events Attended

1 May to 14 June 2025
LGNZ All of Local Government Meeting in Wellington
LGNZ Rural & Provincial Meeting in Wellington
Te Maire Park (Shannon) – pre-work site blessing
Resident meeting
Mayor and Chief Executive weekly hui
Horowhenua DC NZTA Regional Relationship meeting
Visit to HLC Life to the Max
Business visit to Quin Buildings
The State of the NZ Health system meeting
Business visit to Genoese
Guest speaker at Friends of the Horowhenua Libraries gathering
Council workshops / briefings
NZTA briefing for Council
Electra Business & Innovation Awards - Launch Event in Ōtaki
Education Horowhenua meeting
Arohanui Hospice meeting with the Chief Executive
Regional Elected Members' Local Waters Forum
Horowhenua Developers Forum
Thompson House Trust – meeting with the new chair

Local Policing update
Ice Bucket Challenge at Waiopehu College
Horowhenua Lake Domain Board - Extraordinary meeting
Business Visit - Urban Group
Mayor and Chief Executive weekly hui
Local Waters Meeting with PNCC, Ruapehu, Rangitikei and Whanganui
Business After 5 function
Business Visit - Foxton Beach Top 10 Holiday Park Visit
Ō2NL Community Meeting in Manakau
Opiki School visit
Ō2NL Community Meeting in Levin
Mayor and Chief Executive weekly hui
Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs – Horowhenua update meeting
Community Wellbeing Committee meeting
Council workshops / briefings
Business visit – Fresh Pork
Horowhenua Youth Network meeting
Horizons Annual Plan Amendment Hearing – spoke to HDC's submission
St Josephs School visit
Levin North School visit
Levin Waiopehu Lions Club 50th Charter
Waitarere Beach Progressive & Ratepayers Association - AGM
Meeting with Levin Racing Club member
Catch up with Andrew Reid from The Horowhenua Company Limited
Coast access Radio interview
MacArthur Street Works Site Visit – health & safety moment
Council Workshops / Briefings
Standard & Poors annual meeting
Emergency Management Joint Standing Committee Meeting
Regional Transport Committee Meeting
Levin Cossie Club - 125th Jubilee Celebrations
Meeting with the Police Area Commander, Ross Grantham
Horowhenua Transport Services Governance Group
Volunteer Central - Volunteer Recognition Event
Horizons Region Mayoral Forum
Hearing - Hearing of Submissions for Dog Control Policy and Bylaw
Electra Business Breakfast – Minister of Finance – Post Budget Wrap-up

Chief Executive Employment & Performance Committee meeting
Capital Projects Steering Group meeting
Council workshops / briefings
Luncheon – Minister for Local Government, Hon Simon Watts
Business After 5 function
Mayor's Taskforce for Jobs – core group meeting
Manakau Domain Upgrade celebration

ADVOCACY LETTER – Ō2NL – MINISTER FOR TRANSPORT

3. In light of NZTA's proposal to downgrade the Ō2NL design which was announced in early May, a letter was sent to Minister for Transport, Hon Chris Bishop. In the letter we outlined our concerns around the impact of the proposed design changes on our community and the commitments made during the consenting process.
4. While we acknowledged the budget pressures currently influencing infrastructure delivery, the proposed design changes contradict earlier assurances made to our community.

For information purposes, the letter is ***attached***.

ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO

No.	Title	Page
A ↓	Letter to Minister for Transport - Ō2NL Concerns - 7 May 2025	10



7 May 2025

The Hon Chris Bishop
Minister of Transport
Parliament Buildings
Wellington 6160
E: C.Bishop@ministers.govt.nz

Dear Minister Bishop,

We are writing to you with deep concern regarding the Ōtaki to North of Levin (Ō2NL) project, particularly considering the impact of the proposed design changes on our community and the commitments made during the consenting process. While we acknowledge the budget pressures currently influencing infrastructure delivery, the proposed design changes contradict earlier assurances made to our community, and the ongoing lack of genuine consideration for our advocacy efforts is leaving us feeling side-lined.

Horowhenua District Council has been actively involved in planning and advocating for this project since it was first conceived in 2012. Over more than a decade, we have maintained a constructive and solution-focused approach through successive governments and delays. This track record of positive engagement must be recognised in decisions now being made about the project's future.

Our community, particularly in Manakau, has been heavily involved throughout the consenting process and was initially supportive of the Ō2NL project because of the commitments made to ensure their village would remain connected and safe. Manakau, a small rural community, relies on the connection provided by the project to safely access essential services. This was a critical component of the consented design, ensuring that residents would not be forced to risk their lives crossing a busy highway just to carry out everyday tasks.

However, recent changes to the project threaten to unravel that understanding. The removal of a dedicated vehicle overbridge at Manakau would leave residents with no safe option but to make right turns across a high-speed state highway. This risk is further compounded by the recent decision to revert speed limits on SH1 from 80 km/h to 100 km/h, despite significant local opposition. These changes create a situation where the community's safety is knowingly compromised, an outcome that was never contemplated or accepted during the original consenting process. They also reinforce a broader concern that community voices are being ignored in decisions that directly affect their wellbeing.

The Manakau vehicle overbridge is not a 'nice to have,' it is essential and non-negotiable. To proceed without it would represent a departure from the consented design and fail to honour commitments made.

☎ 06 366 0999 📠 06 366 0983 ✉ Private Bag 4002, Levin 5540 📍 126 Oxford St, Levin 5510
🌐 www.horowhenua.govt.nz @ enquiries@horowhenua.govt.nz

We are equally concerned about the proposed changes to the Tararua Road interchange. What was initially designed as a full interchange is now set to become a roundabout, an outcome that fundamentally alters the function and experience of the route. This downgrade significantly reduces network efficiency and safety and erodes the expressway's strategic value. The original design supported both local and regional movement by separating flows. The revised proposal introduces unnecessary delay and risk into what should be a high-speed corridor.

Further, our Council, in good faith, conditionally supported the introduction of tolling, with a proposal for a fair and balanced investment being made back into local roads and that the toll would fund a high-performing expressway. However, this support was given before the full extent of the affordability-driven design changes became clear. The introduction of tolling on the expressway with increased safety risks and lower efficiency benefits was not considered or supported by Council. It is increasingly difficult for our community to reconcile paying a toll for a road designed to be safer and enabling more efficient flow of traffic, into being tolled for a less safe road and one that increasingly feels stop-start in nature. This does not deliver the uninterrupted travel experience an expressway should provide.

Horowhenua has battled years of uncertainty, despite being a consistent partner. While other regions have seen their strategic projects progress and receive additional investment, our district has faced repeated resets, deferrals, and limited recognition of the resilience challenges we endure. We have experienced fatalities, frequent closures on the existing SH1, and a lack of alternative routes that cripple the Lower North Island's connectivity when things go wrong. Despite these realities, we have remained committed to the process. But at this final stage, we are being presented with a downgraded project that strips away critical components. That is not fair, and it is not consistent with the Government's stated commitment to infrastructure that drives economic development and resilience. Minister, you have been closely involved in Ō2NL and understand its significance. We urge you to ensure it receives the level of investment that reflects its strategic importance.

We also wish to highlight that while the Ō2NL project's budget has increased from \$817 million to \$1.5 billion, that increase is primarily a consequence of the lengthy delays in getting the project underway, not due to overdesign or scope creep. Despite this, Ō2NL remains locked within a fixed funding envelope, unlike other strategic projects that have received significant additional investment to maintain design integrity and delivery outcomes.

In Budget 2024, for example, the government allocated an additional \$1 billion to accelerate delivery of Roads of National Significance (RoNS), including projects like Auckland's Mill Road and the Tauriko West transport upgrades. Mill Road, originally costed at \$1.35 billion, was later revised to between \$2 and \$3.5 billion. In response, the government re-scoped the project to focus on targeted safety upgrades and multimodal transport. Tauriko West also received over \$97 million in new funding for route protection. Te Ahu a Turanga, the Manawatū Tararua Highway, saw its cost increase from \$620 million to more than \$824 million, reflecting the need to integrate critical safety and resilience features. These examples show that when projects are considered strategic, additional investment is both possible and justified. That same approach has not been afforded to Ō2NL. The cost of delay is now being used as justification for a downgraded outcome, cutting essential elements, reducing safety, and renegeing on commitments made to our community.

We are not blind to the country's fiscal realities. However, we also know that doing it right the first time is always cheaper in the long run. The current approach to Ō2NL risks not only the effectiveness of the project, but significant reputational damage, particularly if the communities who have been promised one thing are delivered another. These communities did not oppose the consenting process because they were shown a design they believed in, one that balanced growth, safety, and access. To now deliver a version that severs connections and compromises safety is not only unfair, but unacceptable.

Horowhenua has worked constructively and consistently with New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi over many years. But that relationship is being tested. Our experience recently is one of a community that continues to be told what is happening to us, not with us. The decisions around tolling, speed limits, and design changes are not only disconnected from each other, they are disconnected from us. This is not the approach we were promised, and it is not one our community will quietly accept.

We are therefore requesting an urgent review and additional investment to address the worst impacts of the design changes, particularly the reinstatement of the vital Manakau overbridge connection, to restore community confidence and ensure the project delivers on its original promise. We urge both the Government and New Zealand Transport Agency Waka Kotahi to treat this request not as an exception, but as the fulfilment of a safer, more efficient transport route, and what was originally committed to our people.

We welcome the opportunity to discuss this further at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bernie Wanden'.

Bernie Wanden, JP
District Mayor

File No.: 25/369

7.2 Chairperson's Update -Te Awahou Foxton Community Board

Author(s)	John Girling Chair, Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Heamana
Approved by	John Girling Chair, Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Heamana

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

1. This report updates Council on matters of interest from the Chairperson of Te Awahou Foxton Community Board

NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA | RECOMMENDATION

- A. That Report 25/369 Chairperson's Update -Te Awahou Foxton Community Board be received and noted.

MATTERS OF INTEREST | NGĀ TAKE HIRAHIRA

2. This report includes the Chair's report to the Board for the 9 June 2025 Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO

No.	Title	Page
A 1	Chairperson's Report - June 2025	14

Te Awahou Foxton Community Board
09 June 2025

File No.: 25/314

6.1 Chairpersons Report - May 2025

Author(s)	John Girling Chair, Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Heamana
Approved by	John Girling Chair, Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Heamana

TE PŪTAKE | PURPOSE

1. To receive the Chairperson's report highlighting matters of interest to Te Awahou Foxton Community Board.

This matter does not relate to a current Council priority.

NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA | RECOMMENDATION

- A. That Report 25/314 Chairpersons Report - May 2025 be received and noted.

MATTERS OF INTEREST | NGĀ TAKE HIRAHIRA

2. Over the past few weeks we have been quite busy. First, some outcomes for local Government from the Budget:

New Funding

3. The Tourism Strategic Infrastructure and System Capability appropriation will increase by \$8.423m to fund pre-committed projects from the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy. [I'm not sure there is anything here for us]
4. There's an extra \$35.0m per annum of funding for tourism-related infrastructure and systems, including capability, in accordance with an agreed International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Visitor Levy Investment Plan. This is being managed outside Budget allowances as the International Visitor Levy provides the source of funding. [It warrants a look at the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy Investment Plan to see if there are opportunities for Foxton]
5. The Department of Conservation has been allocated an extra \$32m over four years for committed levy-funded projects to boost biodiversity and the tourist economy. [There may be possibilities here for Funding for the Ramsar site etc]

Changes to Funding

6. The Department of Conservation will receive an extra \$20.0m per annum through the International Visitor Conservation and Tourism Levy, resulting from the recent rate increase to \$100. In combination with the existing \$35.0m in funding, this provides the Department of Conservation with a total annual investment envelope of \$55.0 million per annum. This is being managed outside Budget allowances, as the International Visitor Levy provides the source of funding. [There may be possibilities here for Funding for the Ramsar site etc]

Te Awahou Foxton Climate Resilience Governance Group

7. Work on the agreed projects is continuing as planned. There is a small amount of co-funding unused and we are looking at the possibility of projects. It however unlikely that we can find anything that can be completed by June 30th. We sent out a short note asking for

Te Awahou Foxton Community Board
09 June 2025

suggestions and received this from Jon Roygard at Horizons. The final paragraph is important for future cooperation.

Kia ora John and Justin

Thanks for the support and guidance around this. We really appreciate and agree with the direction being provided here. This has been the key purpose for our governance group meetings and we have explored a range of potential projects over that time including some that are about to be delivered within the timeframe (e.g. the sheet piling) and others that have not been able to be completed within this timeframe (e.g. some of the HDC stormwater). We have also identified some that are outside of scope for the government funding e.g. the additional maintenance and this has been advanced.

Some common challenges for projects being looked into have been the ability to consent and deliver within the timeframes and also the eligibility of the projects for funding via the flood resilience projects. An example that was the discussion with Kanoa as to whether the project could fund some on-the-ground resilience kits for Foxton. This request was declined by Kanoa.

With this government co-funding now coming to an end by June 30, there will be a key role for the group to identify potential future projects and to get them to an investment ready state. We look forward to picking up that conversation as a part of the next meeting of the group.

Ngā mihi

Jon

Jon Roygard | Group Manager – Catchment Operations

Piraharakeke Walkway

8. Connections with the Landcare Trust have resulted in funding. Project with two of our Foxton organisation; Wildlife Foxton Trust and Save Our River Trust.

Project Summary

9. The project will be supporting [Save Our River Trust \(Save Our River Trust \(SORT\)\)](#) - Foxton) to enhance the mauri of Piriharakeke (the Manawatū River Loop at Foxton). SORT has worked alongside the Foxton Community Board, Solid Waste Team at Horowhenua District Council and local businesses to create a scenic walkway at Piriharakeke for the local community to exercise and enjoy their local environment. Part of this walkway runs alongside the Foxton Transfer Station, SORT would like to plant large Pohutukawa trees in this area to help screen out the transfer station and provide future shade for walkers and habitat for native birds. A community planting day will be held with local 3 schools and residents from Riverstone Retirement Village (BUPA) in Palmerston North Invited to enjoy a day by the river, followed by a visit to the beach at Foxton.
10. This project will also support nearby organisations Manawatū Estuary Trust and Wildlife Foxton Trust who work to support the ecology of the Manawatū Estuary RAMSAR site of international significance. Wildlife Foxton Trust work with retired people in Foxton as well as school groups, and have a community building they are turning into an education hub for the community. Part of the grant funding will help with education equipment for the centre as well as a few AT220 automatic traps to control predators on the uninhabited southern edge of the estuary, helping to protect nesting wading and shore birds. Volunteers from MET and Wildlife Foxton will support the community planting day at Piriharakeke.

Safety at Kings Canal.

11. Now the Manawatu River loop at Foxton Bank has been developed into a great public area, it has highlighted the risk attached to the unfenced area of Kings Canal from Harbour Street to

Te Awahou Foxton Community Board
09 June 2025

the Loop. The Kings canal is deep and it would not be easy to climb back out should a child or even a teenager fall in.

ATTACHMENTS | NGĀ TĀPIRINGA KŌRERO

There are no appendices for this report

File No.: 25/354

8.1 Adoption of Rates Resolution for Year Ending 30 June 2026

Author(s)	Michelle Valler Financial Services Manager Tumu Ratonga Ahumoni
	Carolyn Dick Strategic Planning Manager Kaihautū Rangapū Hinonga Arawaka
Approved by	Jacinta Straker Group Manager Organisation Performance Tumu Rangapū, Tutukinga Whakahaere
	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this report is for the Horowhenua District Council (Council) to formally adopt the Rates Resolution for the year ending 30 June 2026.
2. Having adopted the Annual Plan 2024/2025 containing the Funding Impact Statement at the Council meeting on 14 May 2025, Council is now required to formally adopt the Rates Resolution.

This matter relates to Delivering the Long-Term Plan 2024-44

Delivering the Long-Term Plan 2024-44

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀTAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/354 Adoption of Rates Resolution for Year Ending 30 June 2026 be received.
- B. That this matter or decision is recognised as not significant in terms of s76 of the Local Government Act 2002.
- C. That Horowhenua District Council sets the following rates under the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, on rating units in the district for the financial year commencing 1 July 2025 and ending on 30 June 2026:

(a) General Rates

A general rate set pursuant to section 13 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 made on every rating unit, assessed on land value and a differential basis as described below:

- A rate of \$0.00304 (GST Inclusive) of land value on every rating unit in the "District wide" category
- A rate of \$0.00152 (GST Inclusive) of land value on every rating unit in the "Farming" category

(b) Land Transport (Roading) Rate

A targeted rate of \$0.00039 (GST Inclusive) set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every rating unit in the district, assessed on capital value to fund the costs of Land Transport.

(c) Stormwater Rate

A targeted rate of \$0.00034 (GST Inclusive) set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on all urban rating units as defined in the Funding Impact Statement, assessed on capital value.

(d) Community Centre/Library Rate

A targeted rate set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$353.00 (GST Inclusive) on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the district to fund the provision of Community Centres and Library Services.

(e) Representation and Community Leadership Rate

A targeted rate set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$223.00 (GST Inclusive) on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the district to fund Representation and Community Leadership costs.

(f) Aquatic Centres (Swimming Pool) Rate

A targeted rate set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$257.00 (GST Inclusive) on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the district to fund the provision of swimming pools.

(g) Solid Waste Disposal Rates

Solid Waste – Districtwide Rate for Managing and Minimising Waste

A targeted rate set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$71.00 (GST Inclusive) on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the district to fund the cost of Waste Transfer Stations, waste minimisation initiatives, and recycling facilities.

Solid Waste – Landfill Legacy Rate

A targeted rate set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$72.00 (GST Inclusive) on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit in the district to fund the remediation of the Hokio landfill.

Solid Waste – Kerbside Recycling Rate

A targeted rate set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$141.00 (GST Inclusive) on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit within the recycling collection area as outlined in the Funding Impact Statement.

(h) Water Supply Rates

A targeted rate set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund the Water Supply activity costs assessed on a differential basis as described below:

- A rate of \$666.00 (GST Inclusive) for any rating unit that is connected to a reticulated drinkable water supply network (except for Foxton Beach)

Liability for the rate will be assessed on whichever is the greater of:

- each rating unit, or
- the number of SUIPs of each rating unit, or
- the number of connections to each rating unit.
- A rate of \$333.00 (GST Inclusive) for any rating unit that is available to be connected to a reticulated drinkable water supply

For the Foxton Beach water supply network:

- A rate of \$501.00 (GST Inclusive) for any rating unit that is connected to the Foxton Beach water supply network.

Targeted rates for water supply set pursuant to section 19 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 where a meter is used to measure consumption on the network during the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026 of:

- \$2.88 (GST Inclusive) per m³ of water consumed in excess of 91m³ per every quarter invoicing period on any rating unit connected to any water supply, except Foxton Beach.
- \$1.44 (GST Inclusive) per m³ of water consumed in excess of 91m³ per every quarter invoicing period on any rating unit connected to the Shannon untreated bore water supply.
- For Foxton Beach Water Supply
 1. **Step 1** - \$1.25 (GST Inclusive) per m³ for the first 50 m³ of water consumed per quarter on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit connected to the Foxton Beach water supply network during the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.
 2. **Step 2** - \$2.50 (GST Inclusive) per m³ for the second 50 m³ of water consumed per quarter in excess of 50 m³ on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit connected to the Foxton Beach water supply network during the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.
 3. **Step 3** - \$3.75 (GST Inclusive) per m³ for the balance of water consumed per quarter in excess of 100 m³ on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit connected to the Foxton Beach water supply network during the period from 1 July 2025 to 30 June 2026.

(i) Wastewater Disposal Rates

A targeted rate for sewage disposal set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 to fund the Wastewater activity costs assessed on a differential basis as described below:

- A rate of \$986.00 (GST Inclusive) for every rating unit that is connected to a reticulated wastewater disposal system.

Liability for the rate will be assessed on whichever is the greater of:

- each rating unit, or
- the number of SUIPs of each rating unit, or
- the number of connections to each rating unit.
- A rate of \$493.00 (GST Inclusive) for any rating unit that is available to be connected to a reticulated wastewater disposal system.

(j) Horowhenua Economic Development Rate

A targeted rate of \$0.00042 (GST Inclusive) set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 on every rating unit identified as Commercial, Industrial, mining or Utilities to fund a portion of the economic development spending across the district, assessed on capital value.

(k) Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Rate

A targeted rate set pursuant to section 16 of the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002 of \$54.00 (GST Inclusive) on every separately used or inhabited part of a rating unit within the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board electorate as outlined in the Funding Impact Statement.

DUE DATES FOR PAYMENT OF RATES

- D. That all rates (except water-by-meter rates) will be payable in four equal instalments due on:

Instalment	Due dates	Penalty dates
Instalment One	15 September 2025	16 September 2025
Instalment Two	15 December 2025	16 December 2025
Instalment Three	15 March 2026	16 March 2026
Instalment Four	15 June 2026	16 June 2026

Water-by-meter rates due dates 2025-2026			
Area	Water meters read during	Due date	Penalty dates
Foxton Beach 6-10, Shannon, Tokomaru	Jul-25	25-Aug-25	26-Aug-25
	Oct-25	25-Nov-25	26-Nov-25
	Jan-26	25-Feb-26	26-Feb-26
	Apr-26	25-May-26	26-May-26
Foxton Beach 1-5, Whirokino	Aug-25	25-Sep-25	26-Sep-25
	Nov-25	25-Dec-25	26-Dec-25
	Feb-26	25-Mar-26	26-Mar-26
	May-26	25-Jun-26	26-Jun-26
Levin, Ohau, Foxton	Sep-25	25-Oct-25	26-Oct-25
	Dec-25	25-Jan-26	26-Jan-26
	Mar-26	25-Apr-26	26-Apr-26
	Jun-26	25-Jul-26	26-Jul-26

PENALTIES

- E. That the Council authorises the following penalties to be added to rates that are not paid by the due date:
- a charge of 10 percent on so much of each instalment that has been assessed after 1st July 2025 and which is unpaid after the due date of each instalment, to be added to the amount of the unpaid rates and water by meter rates on the penalty dates above,
 - a charge of 10 percent on so much of any rates levied before the 1st July 2025 which remain unpaid on 7th July 2025,
 - a further charge of 10 percent on any rates to which a penalty has been added under (ii) above if the rates remain unpaid on 8th January 2026.

PAYMENT OF RATES

- F. That all rates shall be payable by cash and eftpos at any of the following places:

Levin	Public Office 126-148 Oxford Street	Mon-Tue, Thu-Fri Wed	9am to 5pm 9.30am to 5pm
Foxton	Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom	Mon to Fri	9.00 am to 4.00 pm

	92 Main Street	Saturday & Sunday	10:00am - 3:00pm
Shannon	Library/Service Centre Plimmer Terrace	Mon to Fri First Saturday in the month only	1.00 pm to 5.00 pm 10:00am - 12:00pm
Tokomaru	Tokomaru Store Tokomaru Road	During store opening hours	

Alternatively, payment of rates can be made to the Council by direct debit, internet banking, automatic payment, telephone transfer or at NZ Post Shops. Credit card payments can only be made through the Council's website, and are subject to a convenience fee.

Where a payment made by a ratepayer is less than the amount now payable, the Council will apply the payment firstly to any arrears outstanding from previous years and then to current year rates due.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

Process

- At the Council Meeting on 14 May 2025, Council adopted the Annual Plan 2025/26. The Annual Plan is consistent with the strategic and policy direction of the LTP 2024-2044.
- For delivery of the capital programme, some capital project budgets have been to be rephrased to align with the timing now expected after progress in planning and development of a number of projects. This resulted in an overall reduction of \$4.7m in total borrowings over the Long Term Plan period.
- That report did not include setting the rates for 2025/26 because the final growth in the rateable properties will not be confirmed until mid-June. It was signalled that rates would be set at this Council Meeting, on 25 June 2025. This timing has enabled that calculation to be made with the latest possible count of the growth in rateable properties since 1 July 2024.

Rates increase

- Council endorsed a preferred 11% total rates increase (before growth) for 2025/26 year in its meeting on 11 December 2024. Subsequently, officers were able to reduce the total rates increase of 11% down to 10.2%. This was presented in a Council workshop on 9 April 2025. Fixed costs such as interest and Council's direction for us to stick to our financial strategy goal of a balanced budget by 2027/28 make up the majority of the proposed 10.2% total rates increase.
- The increase in employee costs is offset by reduction in Maintenance – this is largely due to the Local Water team being brought in house in November 2024 requiring a re-alignment of future budget requirements.

Total Expenditure	2024/25 (\$000)	2025/26 (\$000)	% Increase/ decrease)
Depreciation	\$23,385	\$23,386	-
Interest	\$7,624	\$9,852	3.6%
Employee costs	\$21,734	\$24,179	3.9%
Maintenance	\$18,245	\$14,829	(5.5%)
Utilities	\$1,762	\$1,869	0.2%
Professional Services	\$7,303	\$6,971	(0.5%)
Insurance	\$1,609	\$1,936	0.5%
Other Expenses	\$7,543	\$9,854	3.7%

Fees and Charges	(\$8,790)	(\$10,150)	(2.2%)
Grants and Subsidies	(\$4,852)	(\$3,344)	2.4%
Debt funded opex	(\$5,848)	(\$5,387)	0.7%
Unfunded Depreciation	(\$7,594)	(\$5,299)	3.7%
Total Rates needed before growth	\$62,121	\$68,695	10.6%
Total Rates forecast for 2024/25	\$62,337		(0.4%)
Proposed total rates increase (before growth) for 2025/26			10.2%

8. The reduction to a 10.2% total rates increase (before growth) from the proposed 11% signalled in 11 December 2024 Council meeting is due to further savings found within Council, and includes the following changes:

Changes	Amount for 2025/26 (\$'000)	Rates impact for 2025/26 (%)
<i>Revised total rates increase (before growth) for 2025/26</i>		11%
Changes to subsidised Roading spend (Net decrease) - due to changes in NZTA Waka Kotahi funding for 2024/25 and 2025/26	-\$554	-0.9%
Software Licence Fees for Local Waters	+\$74	+0.1%
Mahi Space Revenue (new proposed fee)	- \$5	-0.0%
<i>Proposed total rates increase (before growth) for 2025/26</i>		10.2%

9. At the 14 May 2025 Council Meeting officers gave advice, pending decisions on Local Waters Service delivery into the future, and the uncertainty about year-end growth projections, that Council should consider the adoption of resolution *That the Council approve a total rates increase after (before growth) for 2025/26 of 10.2% (between 8.5 – 8.9% after growth)*.
10. Following confirmation of the final growth in the rateable properties in mid-June, officers can confirm that growth is 1.13%. This makes the final after growth number for the Annual Plan 9.1%. The total (before growth) rates increase is 10.2%

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

11. Recommendations adopted on 14 May 2025 enable the Chief Executive to amend the rating examples included in the Annual Plan document to ensure that they are in line with the final rates setting. This will be completed following Council's decision's at this meeting.
12. The online rates calculator, which had the placeholder figure to give ratepayers an indication of the rates they would be charged, will be updated with the final figures to show the actual amount ratepayers will be charged.

Confirmation of statutory compliance

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

- containing sufficient information about the options and their advantages and disadvantages, bearing in mind the significance of the decisions; and,
- 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.: 25/325

8.2 Waikawa Pedestrian Bridge

Author(s)	Lacey Winiata Parks & Property Manager Tumu Rawa, Papa Rēhia
Approved by	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 Council with options to consider regarding the future of the Waikawa Beach pedestrian bridge.

This matter does not relate to a current Council priority.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. The Waikawa Beach pedestrian bridge connects Waikawa Beach Road to private land across the Waikawa Stream. It was strengthened in 2019 and currently supports a 10-person load.
3. Following a 2024 petition with 781 signatures, Council requested a report on the bridge's future. Community feedback to a Council survey showed strong local use.
4. A recent structural assessment recommends replacement as the most cost-effective long-term solution. Council has provisionally allocated funding in the 2025/2026 year.
5. Four options are presented, ranging from doing nothing to replacing the bridge with a suspension design. Key considerations include cost, environmental impact, accessibility, and consenting requirements. Engagement with the adjoining landowners and Ngāti Wehi Wehi is ongoing and will be vital in moving forward.

DELEGATION OR AUTHORITY TO ACT | TE MANA WHAKATAU I NGĀ KAWENGA

6. Council has the authority to make this decision.

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

7. This matter is assessed as not significant according to the significance and engagement policy because the item was included in the Long Term Plan 2024 – 2044.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/325 Waikawa Pedestrian Bridge be received.
- B. That this matter or decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.
- C. That Council replaces the Waikawa Pedestrian Bridge with a like for like replacement, following further conversations with the private landowners with a confirmed long term agreement in place.

OR

- D. That no work is to be done on the Waikawa Pedestrian Bridge and Officers continue with regular inspections, eventually dismantling the bridge when it is no longer safe to use.
OR
- E. That Council replaces the Waikawa Pedestrian Bridge with a 20 load capacity suspension bridge, following further conversations with the private landowners with a confirmed long term agreement in place.
OR
- F. That Council replaces the Waikawa Pedestrian Bridge with an unlimited capacity suspension bridge, following further conversations with the private landowners with a confirmed long term agreement in place.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

8. The Waikawa Beach pedestrian bridge is 57m long and is situated at the end of Waikawa Beach Road and crosses the Waikawa Stream. It leads users to privately owned land.
9. It was built in 1990, using second hand materials after the previous bridge was washed out.
10. The current bridge was strengthened by Council in 2019.
11. It currently has a load capacity of 10 people. There are signs and bollards to reduce the number and ensure only those on foot can use it.
12. At the 27 November 2024 Council meeting, a petition with 781 signatures was received, requesting “an assurance from the Horowhenua District Council that a Waikawa footbridge will be retained into the future for the benefit of the Horowhenua community.” As a result, Councillors requested a report on the matter be brought back to Council within 6 months.
13. Just prior to receiving the petition, Council surveyed the community via Council’s website, how often people used the bridge, where their usual residence was and what they used the bridge for.
- 13.1. Out of the 428 respondents, 66% had their usual address within Horowhenua and 57% of respondents used the bridge more than once a week.
14. Council currently commissions yearly structural reports are undertaken on the bridge, to ensure its safety. The most recent report was undertaken this year by WSP engineering, which found the bridge will require significant maintenance in the next 1-5 years to remain serviceable in the medium term. However, replacement is the more economical option.
15. The private land owners on the other side of the bridge had previously provided support of a replacement. However, very recent correspondence now shows the support may be reliant on a more formal agreement between Council and the land owners and therefore will require further conversations.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

16. According to the 2018 Census, Waikawa Beach has a population of 132. While we are still awaiting the 2023 Census results, estimates from Statistics NZ have the 2024 population at 180.
17. Population forecasting as adopted within Long Term Plan 2024-2044 forecasts Waikawa to see an additional 26 additional dwellings - 12 dwellings years 0-10, 14 dwellings years 11-20. Therefore, when planning for the future Council can consider low growth for Waikawa Beach.
18. As already mentioned, Council have had yearly inspections of the pedestrian bridge to ensure its safety. Council received the most recent report in May 2025, after the bridge was inspected in January 2025. It was provided by WSP Engineering and supplies a Preliminary

Present Value End of Life Analysis. The proposed strategy, following inspection and analysis of ongoing maintenance vs replacement outlines that the bridge replacement should be carried out as early as possible.

19. During the Long Term Plan (LTP) Councillors allowed for a potential bridge replacement within 2025/2026 Financial Year. The current budget for this is \$1.24m but is not only for the bridge replacement, it also includes any potential costs associated with a Waikawa Beach accessway. If Council decides to spend \$500k on replacing the bridge, this will leave \$740k for the Waikawa Beach accessway (dependant on a decision of Council).
20. In May 2025, Officers held a workshop with Councillors outlining the engineers report and seeking feedback on what other information was needed to support decision making. This report outlines that information for Councillors to consider.

Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

Options Ngā Kōwhiringa	Cost	Estimated Lifespan	Risks	Benefits	Consenting pathway
Option A Like for Like replacement.	\$360k + consenting and dismantling of current bridge costs.	With the timber elements of the current bridge, the estimated lifespan is 20 – 40 years. If Council was again to use recycled elements like the current bridge it would have an estimated lifespan of 20 years.	Consenting is a risk, due to the piers in the river. The Department of Conservation have already signaled they would not support elements touching the river.	This is what the community knows.	More difficult and likely to have higher cost, due to piers in the river.
Option B (status quo) No work is done on the bridge and continue with regular inspections, eventually dismantling the bridge when it is no longer safe to use.	Approx. \$5k per inspection and cost of dismantling the bridge including consent, approx. \$100k	1-3 years	Unhappiness in the community. The safety of the bridge remains a concern and Council will need to have increased monitoring.	Likely the cheapest option and does not need permission of anyone else.	Consent required to dismantle the bridge.

Option C Suspension bridge, with 20 person load restriction.	\$450k + dismantling of \$50-\$80k and consenting costs.	Estimated 50 year life span.	The rare occasion where more than the load are on the bridge could be a concern. This could be managed with signage.	Design doesn't touch the river. Ability to have a bridge that is wider to allow for push chairs and wheel chair users.	Easier consenting pathway.
Option D Suspension bridge, with unlimited load.	\$700k + dismantling of \$50-\$80k and consenting costs.	Estimated 50 year life span.	Higher cost option.	Design doesn't touch the river. Ability to have a bridge that is wider to allow for push chairs and wheel chair users. No concerns with load capacity.	Easier consenting pathway.

21. Second-Hand options were requested and advice has been sought from WSP Engineers who provided the following:

The current Waikawa footbridge itself appears to have been second-hand components or spans, as these well pre-date the 1990s construction date at this site.

There are a few challenges or drawbacks:

- It would likely be challenging to identify a structure being removed that fits this site and is not also at the end of its life.
- It would likely have a shorter useful life compared to a new bridge (As you have seen with the current footbridge).
- It limits the councils options compared a new bridge – eg is there a desire for a particular width, load capacity, or to limit piers in the waterway etc

However, if a suitable second-hand structure can be identified, this could come with cost savings and a lower environmental impact, so it is all about trade-offs.

22. While no second-hand options have been revealed at this stage, they can still be considered as part of the procurement process.

Options Commentary | He Tāpiringa Kōrero Mō ngā Kōwhiringa

23. Dependent on what option Council decides on, if Option A, C or D are the direction given Officers would follow an EOI process for a design and construct contract based on the direction of Council. This would mean we could stipulate what requirements we want and a

site description. Through this process we can highlight that Council is open to alternative or non-confirming proposals, which could allow for second hand bridge options that would fit, but may only last say 20 years.

- 23.1. Advice from the Land Transport team is organisations with second hand bridges will likely be bridge companies who have taken one down and kept it if its in good condition when they've been replacing it.
24. Previous conversations with the private land-owners who are on the opposite side of the bridge showed support for a replacement. Recent correspondents have highlighted the family now want further discussions with Council regarding a potential lease or arrangement. Therefore, should Council decide to replace the bridge, before any further steps are taken to procure a bridge, these conversations need to progress to give the community and Council confidence in the future of the bridge.
25. Information from the community suggests the only occasion the bridge has a larger amount on it at one time is during the boat race day. This occurs once a year, however has been cancelled the past two years due to contamination of the river. Therefore an unlimited capacity is thought to be unnecessary.

ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

26. Officers have kept Ngāti Wehi Wehi up to date as we have progressed through the process. There is greater support for options that have the least amount of impact on the environment.
27. There is also an interest to be included in Urban Design of any potential new bridge, to reflect Ngāti Wehi Wehi within the infrastructure.

CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

28. This project is assessed to have low – moderate climate change implications.
29. Geotech reports will ensure the bridge is not at risk of being impacted by flooding or king tides.
30. The options that do not have touch the river have a lower impact on the environment
31. The project as a whole as the ability to consider climate change and the environment in the way it is undertaken. For example, utilising a crane to dismantle the previous bridge and install new sections at a similar time to reduce transport emissions. The project plan will consider all potential mitigation efforts to reduce impact.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

32. This work can be undertaken within the allocated budget was approved in the Long Term Plan.

LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

33. Legal considerations need to be made regarding the land owners on the other side of the bridge. As mentioned, Officers are continuing to have these conversations with the landowners and will work towards an outcome that protects the interests of all parties.

POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

34. There are no known policy impacts.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI

35. Communicating with the Waikawa Beach Community is key with this project. Through the survey we already have a wealth of knowledge on what the community values in regards to the bridge and will utilise that knowledge if Council decides to proceed in going out for an EOI.

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

36. Engaging further with the private land owners to create certainty for the community and Council is they key first step.
37. Once this is confirmed, Officers will communicate with the community the process for the EOI before following the appropriate procurement process should Council decide to proceed with replacing the bridge.
38. If Council does not replace the bridge, Officers will create a management plan for the bridge with a corresponding communication plan.



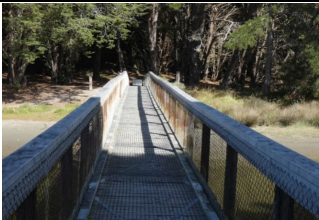




Confirmation of statutory compliance

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
A1	WSP PVEoL Report - Waikawa Beach Footbridge - May 2025	29

		Preliminary Present Value End of Life (PVEOL) Analysis			
Road: Off Waikawa Beach Road	Bridge number: 16	Structure name: Waikawa Beach Footbridge	Owner: Horowhenua DC		
			RCA: Horowhenua DC		
General Structure Data		PVEOL Questions:	Yes/No	Brief explanation of restrictions	
Year constructed:	1990	Is the bridge over 80 year old	No	Waikawa Beach Footbridge is currently limited to 10 people at a time and closure under flood or high winds	
Number of Spans	3	Is there significant maintenance required in the next 3 years	Yes		
Total Length of Bridge	45m	Is the bridge inspected in accordance with NZTA-S6	Yes		
Road width between Kerbs/rails	1m	Is the bridge on special inspections	Yes		
		Has a live load assessment been carried out based on the known condition	Yes		
		Are there any brittle and/or vulnerable details on the bridge	Yes		
		Are there live load or speed restrictions across the bridge	Yes		
Structure description		Photo from Road Level		Photo of Elevation	
Waikawa Beach Footbridge is a 3-span footbridge in Waikawa Beach, close to the sea. The bridge has an overall span of approximately 45m and was constructed circa 1990 with recycled materials. The bridge has steel I beams with a timber deck and substructure. All elements are in deteriorating condition and will require significant maintenance in the next 1-5 years for the structure to remain serviceable in the medium to long term.					
Current Condition	Briefly explain the current defects			Representative photo of condition	
General / Barriers / Surfacing	Structure is under 6-monthly inspections. Handrail infill is corroding and a buildup of algae on the structure				
	Maintenance Interventions Required	Year	Cost (\$k)		
	6-monthly Special Inspections (\$3k p.a)	2025-2035	30		
	Annual Routine Maintenance (cleaning, vegetation control, anti-slip netting) (\$1k p.a)	2025-2035	10		
	Handrail Maintenance (Incl replacement of corroding infill mesh)	2028	5		
Current Condition	Briefly explain the current defects			Representative photo of condition	
Superstructure	Deck: Aging/broken planks. Loose/missing connections Beams: Corrosion with some delamination to the main steel beam, primarily at splices, flanges and at points of connection K Braces: Significant corrosion to bracing				
	Maintenance Interventions Required	Year	Cost (\$k)		
	Deck plank replacements & refastening as required (\$2k every 2nd year)	2025-2035	10		
	Blast and patch coating of all corroding areas of steel work. Replace corroded bolts.	2028	30		
	Blast and paint K-bracing. Replacement of members with significant section loss .	2028	20		
Current Condition	Briefly explain the current defects			Representative photo of condition	
Substructure	Piers: Timber waterway pier in poor condition with significant loss of section to piles and pile cap. The 2nd pier is also deteriorating. Abutments: TL abutment wingwall rotating outwards. Undercutting below TL abutment				
	Maintenance Interventions Required	Year	Cost (\$k)		
	Pier Replacement / underpinning	2026	100		
	Replacement or strengthening of TL abutment wingwall	2028	50		
	Scour protection below TL abutment	2028	10		

		Preliminary Present Value End of Life (PVEOL) Analysis			
Road:	Bridge number:	Structure name:	Owner:	Horowhenua DC	
Off Waikawa Beach Road	16	Waikawa Beach Footbridge	RCA:	Horowhenua DC	
Other general photos to represent current condition					
     					
Hypothetical "like for like" bridge Replacement			Brief discussion		
Total Length of Bridge	45m	For NPV comparison a 'like-for-like' replacement bridge is used. This is of similar width, alignment and provides no significant increase to the load capacity from the existing bridge			
Road width between Kerbs/rails	1m				
Rough order replacement rate	\$8,000				
Replacement cost	360000				
Maintenance Scenarios					
Scenario 1 - Minimal / Routine Maintenance and look to replace the bridge as early as possible (1-3 years)					
Component	Maintenance Interventions Required	Year	Cost (\$k)	NPV (\$k) 4% discount	
All	Minimum Routine Maintenance & Special Inspections (\$3k per year)	2025-26	\$8	\$8	
Superstructure	Deck plank replacements & refastening	2025	\$2	\$2	
All	Replace bridge	2026/27	\$360	\$333	
			Totals	\$368	\$340
Scenario 2 - Maintain the bridge in the medium term (3-10 years) followed by bridge replacement					
Component	Maintenance Interventions Required	Year	Cost (\$k)	NPV (\$k) 4% discount	
All	Minimum Routine Maintenance & Special Inspections (\$3k per year)	2025-2035	\$40	\$32	
General / Barriers / Surfacing	Handrail Maintenance (Incl replacement of corroding infill mesh)	2028	\$5	\$4	
Superstructure	Deck plank replacements & refastening as required (\$2k every 2nd year)	2025-2035	\$10	\$8	
Superstructure	Blast and patch coating of all corroding areas of steel work. Replace corroded bolts.	2028	\$30	\$27	
Superstructure	Blast and paint K-bracing. Replacement of members with significant section loss .	2028	\$20	\$18	
Substructure	Pier Replacement / underpinning	2026	\$100	\$92	
Substructure	Replacement or strengthening of TL abutment wingwall	2028	\$50	\$46	
Substructure	Scour protection below TL abutment	2028	\$10	\$9	
All	Replace bridge	2035	\$360	\$243	
			Totals	\$615	\$472
Proposed Strategy					
Preliminary PVEOL is indicating that bridge replacement should be carried out as early as possible (1-3 years)					
Document preparation					
Prepared by:	J Buckeridge	Title:	Bridge & Civil Structures Engineer	Date:	16/05/2025
Reviewed by:	T Mans	Title:	Principal Structural Asset Manager	Date:	16/05/2025

File No.: 25/350

8.3 Waikawa Beach Accessway - Council Update

Author(s)	Lacey Winiata Parks & Property Manager Tumu Rawa, Papa Rēhia
Approved by	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 Council with an update on the Waikawa Beach vehicle access kaupapa, outlining the work undertaken to date, current status, and key issues influencing future decisions. It reflects the complexities of the matter and the evolving positions of key stakeholders, including iwi, Horizons regional Council and the community.

This matter does not relate to a current Council priority.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. This report provides an overview of Council's work with community representatives, iwi, and Horizons regional Council regarding vehicle access at Waikawa Beach. Since the last update, officers have continued engaging with stakeholders, supported the establishment of a community group, explored potential access options, and received legal and planning advice. Due to the complexity and sensitivity of the matter, officers are not seeking decisions at this stage but are instead providing this update to inform Council and support further discussion on an appropriate pathway forward.

DELEGATION OR AUTHORITY TO ACT | TE MANA WHAKATAU I NGĀ KAWENGA

3. Council has the authority to receive and consider this report.

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

4. This matter is assessed as significant under Council's Significance and Engagement Policy due to the high levels of community interest and the cultural and environmental sensitivities associated with vehicle access to Waikawa Beach. However, as this report is for information only and does not seek a decision at this stage, it does not trigger formal engagement requirements. Any future decision to progress a preferred access option or undertake formal consultation would require further assessment under the Policy

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀTAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/350 Waikawa Beach Accessway - Council Update be received and noted.
- B. That Report 25/350 Waikawa Beach Accessway - Council Update be received.
- C. That this matter or decision is recognised as significant against the Council's Significance and Engagement Policy, primarily because of the high levels of community interest in the matter of vehicle access at Waikawa Beach.
- D. That Council notes:
 - D.1. The collaborative work of the community group and their in-principle support for a controlled access trial.

- D.2. The progress made in terms of community cohesion and the willingness of previously divided groups to collaborate constructively on potential solutions.
- D.3. The legal advice indicating the risks of proceeding without further engagement and the need for clarity around objectives and options.
- D.4. The continued community use of informal accessways despite signage and communication efforts.
- E. That Council request officers continue to support and work alongside the community group and Ngāti Wehi Wehi to explore a potential access option, and report back to Council with updates on progress, including any new developments that may influence the feasibility or direction of any future access arrangement. This includes ongoing assessment of the viability of both controlled access and no access options.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

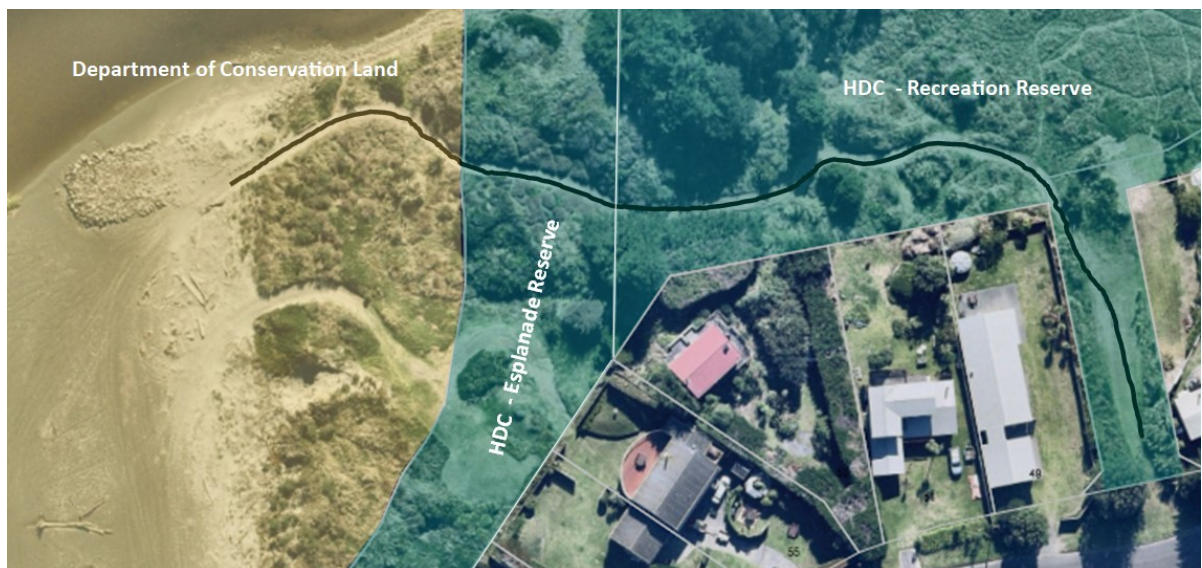
- 5. As previously presented in Council reports on this kaupapa (topic), in the past, vehicle access to Waikawa Beach has historically been provided by way of a single access point crossing privately owned land from the mouth of the Waikawa River, located at the end of Manga Pirau Street. This access had been graciously provided to the community by the landowner as a gesture of goodwill.
- 6. Maintaining that vehicle access point was challenging due to bank erosion from the adjacent Waikawa Stream and more frequent weather-related events. As a result, over the years there had been instances where local residents were unable to access the beach with their vehicles.
- 7. Management of this issue was previously undertaken by Horizons Regional Council, primarily through stream "cuts" to redirect the channel towards the sea. The consent for those remedial actions expired in 2020.
- 8. In November 2021, a petition with 158 signatures was submitted to Council, urging the establishment of a sustainable vehicle and equestrian access to Waikawa Beach, using council-owned land at Reay MacKay Drive. The petition was presented to the Council on 1 December 2021.
- 9. During the 2021-41 Long term Plan process, Council decided to provide budget for officers to identify and evaluate potential options for alternative long-term vehicle access (suitable for 4wd vehicles, ATV's and tractors) to Waikawa Beach, and undertake a community engagement process to seek feedback on the identified options.
- 10. Council officers, in collaboration with external planning and environmental consultants (Boffa Miskell), identified and assessed various options for potential vehicle access to Waikawa Beach and presented five access options to Council at its meeting on 11 October 2023 (along with an option that would see no further action taken) .
- 11. The 11 October 2023 report received by the Council outlined several complex considerations, including financial, geomorphological, environmental, and consenting challenges, as well as the high levels of community interest in several of the options. At that time, the Council decided that it would consult the community on three options, two of which involved the existing access at Manga Pirau Street (but with different maintenance arrangements), with the third being no vehicle access.
- 12. A total of 446 submissions were received and reported to the Council at its 20 March 2024 meeting. Many of those submissions raised other options, and raised related general concerns with the matter of vehicle access.
- 13. At the 20 March meeting, the Council was advised that continuing to use the existing access over private land was no longer available. This led to the Council deciding to leave the

- matter on the table, with a request made for Officers to continue to explore potential alternative options for vehicle access, alongside the option of providing no vehicle access.
14. Following that meeting, Officers updated submitters and asked those who owned land that could potentially be utilised for access, to get in touch. Officers and community members also spoke with some private landowners who may have been able to provide access options on their land. No potential options were presented to Officers in response.
 15. Council Officers also discussed the matter with Horizon's Regional Council consenting team to obtain advice on what a consent process for access to Waikawa Beach may involve, including mitigation options to provide for a vehicle access way on Council owned land between 47-49 Manga Pirau St. The response from Horizons Regional Council requested a "technical report" on the option.
 16. At the end of 2025, Boffa Miskell developed in draft, a schematic design for each of the three Council-owned land locations above, to understand if and how vehicle access could be practically constructed given the site constraints at each.
 17. After updating the Council on progress at a workshop on 11 September 2024, Councillors requested a technical report to clearly outline the options, processes and costs associated.
 18. A report was brought back to Council in December 2024 where advice was prepared and framed based on legal counsel.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

What's Currently Occurring

19. We are aware that members of the community are currently accessing the beach by vehicle via the accessway located off Manga Pirau Road. The access route is outlined in the map below and traverses multiple land parcels, including Horowhenua District Council-owned Recreation Reserve, Esplanade Reserve, and land managed by the Department of Conservation.



20. Since the establishment of the community group and the distribution of shared communications outlining that there is no formal vehicle access to the beach, there has been a reported improvement in inter-personal behaviour and a reduction in vehicle use of the track. However, some members of the community continue to use this accessway to drive onto the beach.
21. Council has installed additional signage indicating that this is not a vehicle access point. Despite this, we continue to face pressure from some groups to implement further deterrents to restrict vehicle use of the track.

22. As previously briefed to Councillors, there is a shared concern that installing physical barriers or bollards to prevent all access could escalate tensions within the community and risk undermining the positive progress made to date. There is also a strong likelihood that those determined to access the beach by vehicle would find alternative routes, further complicating the issue.
23. Officers are of the view that while Council could take a more enforcement-driven approach, the broader issue is one that will only be resolved through community buy-in and ownership. Accordingly, this matter is not one that rests solely with Council to resolve.

Community Group Meeting

24. The matter of vehicle access at Waikawa Beach has been one of the most complex and emotionally charged issues Council has dealt with in recent years. The fundamental tension lies between preserving a long-standing tradition of vehicle access — valued by many residents for recreation, fishing, and mobility — and the need to protect the sensitive ecological and cultural values of the coastal environment.
25. As previously reported to Council, the depth of feeling on this issue has led to significant tension within the community. This has included incidents of verbal abuse, social division, intimidation, and a breakdown of relationships between neighbours and community groups. These issues have extended beyond formal consultation, with reports of confrontations on the beach and in online forums or Social Media.
26. In response, and following direction from Council in December 2024, a community working group was formed. This group includes representatives from both those in favour of and those opposed to vehicle access. The group has met monthly and has shown a willingness to move beyond entrenched positions, issuing shared jointly agreed communications through their respective networks, focused on reducing community division and jointly exploring options.
27. Encouragingly, the group has made meaningful progress. While views remain diverse, there is now broad agreement on a set of shared values including the importance of safety, environmental protection, enforcement, and the need for any access to be clearly defined and well-managed. There is in-principle agreement that a vehicle accessway would only be acceptable, if it includes appropriate safeguards and is subject to a robust framework that prevents misuse and protects ecological values. This is a significant milestone in what has otherwise been a polarising issue.

Beach Bylaw

28. One of the strongest areas of agreement from the community working group is the need for a beach bylaw to be developed alongside any vehicle access to the beach. For many, this is a non-negotiable condition of any future access. A bylaw is seen as critical to:
 - Regulate the type and timing of vehicle access;
 - Support enforcement of speed limits and safe behaviour;
 - Define areas of access and exclusion to protect bird nesting and dune restoration zones; and
 - Provide a mechanism to address anti-social or inappropriate use of the beach.
29. Council officers introduced the concept of developing a beach bylaw at a workshop held on 19 March 2025. During this session, it became clear that Councillors hold a range of views on whether such a bylaw is necessary. While some saw it as a critical tool for managing behaviour and protecting the beach environment, others questioned its enforceability and overall value. Councillors requested further information from officers to help determine whether this work should continue. Officers intend to bring this matter back to Council in the coming weeks for further discussion and to respond to the questions raised.

Consenting Pathway

30. The consenting pathway for any new vehicle access is challenging, with all remaining options assessed as non-complying activities under Horizons' One Plan due to the presence of "rare" and "threatened" habitats. This means any proposal must pass a "gateway test" — either that the effects are no more than minor, or the proposal aligns with policy direction.
31. The ecological assessments by Boffa Miskell indicate that all options would involve some level of dune disturbance, vegetation clearance, and construction within sensitive coastal environments. Further cultural assessment, including a potential Cultural Impact Assessment, will also be required. The consenting process is likely to be lengthy, costly, and potentially contested, with appeals anticipated regardless of the option selected.
32. Officers advise that a further consultation process is essential to determine whether there is sufficient community mandate to justify pursuing such a complex and uncertain consent process.

District wide Beach access

33. Council currently provides formal vehicle access to the beach at selected locations across the district, including Foxton Beach, Waitārere Beach, and Hōkio Beach. These access points are supported by appropriate infrastructure and signage and have been established to balance recreational use with environmental and cultural values.
34. However, not all coastal communities in the district have public beach vehicle access. This reflects the varied nature of our coastline and the need to carefully manage each location based on its specific environmental, cultural, and community context.
35. As noted earlier in this report, vehicle access at Waikawa Beach has historically been facilitated through the goodwill of a local whānau, who have allowed use of their privately owned whenua for this purpose.

Legal Advice

36. Ahead of the December 2024 Council meeting, two letters were received from legal representatives acting on behalf of separate Waikawa Beach community groups. Both letters raised concerns regarding the consultation process and signalled the likelihood of legal challenge should Council proceed with decisions on vehicle access without further engagement. In response, Council sought independent legal advice to assess the risks and inform next steps.
37. Legal advice has confirmed that the Council's current approach to identifying and consulting on vehicle access options for Waikawa Beach carries a degree of legal risk if decisions are made without further engagement. The advice highlights that two of the options previously consulted on are no longer viable due to landowner decisions, and that some of the more recent options under consideration (e.g. Manga Pirau Street and Reay Mackay Grove accessways) have not yet been subject to public consultation.
38. Key risks identified include:
 - Inadequate consultation: Proceeding without consulting on all reasonably practicable options may expose Council to judicial review, especially if new options are adopted that the community has not had an opportunity to comment on.
 - Process fairness: The importance of demonstrating open-mindedness, transparency, and compliance with the principles of the Local Government Act 2002 was emphasised.
 - Resource consent risks: Lodging a resource consent application ahead of formal consultation on access options could be interpreted as predetermination and may trigger additional legal challenges and public opposition.

39. The advice recommended that Council re-confirm its objective, identify all reasonably practicable options, and undertake a further consultation process before making any decision on applying for resource consent in relation to providing vehicle access to Waikawa beach.

Ngāti Wehi Wehi Position

40. Officers have maintained ongoing engagement with Ngāti Wehi Wehi throughout this process, providing regular updates on community meetings, joint communications, and the evolving discussion around beach access. Ngāti Wehi Wehi has acknowledged these efforts; however, they have also provided a formal statement outlining their position on the proposed vehicle access to Waikawa Beach. This statement highlights cultural, environmental, and kaitiakitanga considerations that Ngāti Wehi Wehi believe must be central to any decision-making process regarding beach access.
1. **Statement from Ngāti Wehi Wehi on Proposed Vehicle Access to Waikawa Beach**
 2. *Ngāti Wehi Wehi, as mana whenua, respectfully express our current opposition to proposed vehicle access to Waikawa Beach. Our position is grounded in our role as kaitiaki and our enduring responsibility to protect the natural environment, uphold the mauri of the land and sea, and ensure the well-being of our taiao (natural world) for future generations.*
 3. *We hold deep concerns about the impacts of vehicle access on the biodiversity, ecology, and cultural significance of the beach and surrounding environment. The sand dunes, shellfish beds, native species, and wider coastal ecosystem are highly vulnerable to damage caused by vehicles, and such impacts threaten both environmental integrity and cultural values.*
 4. *While we acknowledge and support the aspirations of our wider community, we emphasise that any long-term solution must be inclusive and developed in true partnership. As mana whenua, Ngāti Wehi Wehi must be at the table for meaningful and constructive dialogue to occur. It is only through working collaboratively — with iwi, local whānau, the wider community, and relevant authorities — that a sustainable and respectful pathway forward can be found.*
 5. *Ngāti Wehi Wehi also acknowledges and supports our whānau who have māori freehold land, private land, live at Waikawa and have, for many years, shown generosity in allowing public vehicle access through their private land. This goodwill has often gone unrecognised, and it is important to us that their voices and contributions are honoured in any future decision-making process.*
 6. *We remain committed to engaging in good faith and seek a solution that protects the whenua, respects the rights of mana whenua and local whānau, and upholds the values we collectively share.*
41. Officers met with a representative on behalf of Ngāti Wehi Wehi on 11 June to kōrero further about the current status of the beach access discussion and reaffirm their desire to remain closely involved. Ngāti Wehi Wehi reiterated the significance of this kaupapa to them, particularly in relation to their customary rights, responsibilities as kaitiaki, and the protection of the local environment. They expressed a strong interest in participating in future hui and emphasised the importance of engagement to ensure their perspectives are meaningfully reflected in any future decisions.

Options Considered

42. Officers have engaged with the community to assess whether there was any interest from local landowners in selling land to facilitate formal vehicle access to the beach at Waikawa. This included direct discussions with a property owner at the end of Manga Pirau Street to explore potential options and gauge their willingness to consider use of their land for this purpose.

43. The formation of the community group has marked a turning point in this long-standing issue, with representatives from across the spectrum both for and against vehicle access coming together in good faith. While perspectives remain diverse, there has been a notable shift towards collaboration, and all parties have made some level of concession in pursuit of a shared solution. As a result of this constructive engagement, there is emerging alignment on what a potential vehicle accessway could look like. Based on the discussions and work undertaken to date, the Manga Pirau Street access presents the only feasible option for further exploration, particularly in terms of progressing to the resource consent stage.
44. It is important to acknowledge that, based on the early conversations within the community group, any potential vehicle access is likely to include restrictions to ensure responsible use and minimise impacts. These may include limitations on the types of vehicles permitted, the introduction of a permit system, and controls on access times or seasonal usage. While the specific conditions are yet to be determined, it is critical to make clear that any future access would not be unrestricted and would be subject to appropriate management measures agreed in partnership with the community.
45. Given the context and the work undertaken to date, the range of practicable options available for is limited. In essence, there are two pathways: one is to take no further action and confirm that no vehicle access will be provided at Waikawa Beach, with residents directed to utilise existing access points at other beaches to the north and south of the community. The other is for Council to continue investigating the feasibility of a controlled vehicle access at Manga Pirau Road, acknowledging the progress made by the community group and the emerging consensus around this option.
46. It is important to note, however, that should a property come on the market in future that offers a simpler consenting pathway or improved access arrangement, Council should retain the flexibility to investigate this as part of its ongoing commitment to finding a balanced and durable solution
47. While no decisions are currently sought, officers note that the most viable remaining accessway option is at Manga Pirau, subject to further exploration, legal advice, iwi engagement, and resource consent considerations. Officers will continue monitoring and supporting community-led efforts, such as the proposed trial, and provide further updates as new developments arise.

Controlled Access Trial

48. The community group is exploring the feasibility of trailing a restricted vehicle access to the beach. This trial would serve as a practical test of how controlled access could operate in a real-world setting. The group is exploring options such as time-limited access, designated vehicle types, and a locally managed permit system. While still in the early stages of planning, the intention is to launch the trial as soon as possible, with a strong focus on monitoring, responsible use, and gathering insights to inform any long-term solution. Council officers are supporting the group to ensure the approach aligns with relevant regulatory requirements and risk considerations.
49. There is some further work to do here in respect to the legal and regulatory implications of the proposed trial. Officers have been advised that resource consent may be required, and are working with Horizons Regional Council to determine the thresholds and conditions that would apply. This includes clarifying whether the proposed activity meets permitted activity standards or would trigger a formal consenting process. Officers are also working with the community group to ensure that any proposed trial is appropriately scoped, clearly documented, and does not create undue risk for Council or breach environmental protections. Further updates will be provided to Council as this work progresses.

Walk on Waikawa (WoW) Position

50. Officers have received formal feedback from WoW in relation to the draft Council paper. While WoW acknowledges the comprehensive overview provided, they have raised several areas of concern for Council's consideration. In particular:
- WoW remains cautious about the use of the term collaboration to describe the community group's work to date, suggesting that constructive engagement more accurately reflects the nature of discussions, which have involved difficult and robust debate.
 - WoW has indicated a willingness to explore the feasibility of a highly restricted trial of vehicle access at Manga Pirau Road, having shifted from their original position of opposing vehicle access entirely. This position is conditional upon any trial proceeding only with the appropriate consents and conditions as determined by Horizons Regional Council.
 - WoW does not support community ownership and management of any trial. Their view remains that any trial should be Council-owned, Council-managed, and independently evaluated, including responsibility for navigating any required consent processes.
51. Officers will continue to work with all parties to ensure these perspectives are reflected and appropriately considered as the kaupapa progresses.

ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

52. Ngāti Wehi Wehi have expressed a clear and principled position on the proposed vehicle access to Waikawa Beach. As mana whenua, their opposition is rooted in their role as kaitiaki and the responsibility to protect the mauri of the land, coastal ecosystems, and culturally significant sites. They have raised concerns about the potential impact of vehicles on the natural environment, including dune systems, shellfish beds, and biodiversity.
53. Ngāti Wehi Wehi's written statement affirms their willingness to engage in good faith, noting that any long-term solution must be inclusive and developed in true partnership. They have emphasised that mana whenua must be present at any hui where access options are discussed or decisions formulated, and they have acknowledged the importance of continuing to receive regular updates from Council. Ngāti Wehi Wehi have also expressed support for local whānau who have generously provided beach access via their private whenua in the past, and called for their contributions to be honoured in future decisions.
54. Council has maintained regular dialogue with Ngāti Wehi Wehi representatives throughout this process. Iwi have been invited to attend community group hui and have been encouraged to participate in discussions around the future of beach access at Waikawa. Council has provided consistent updates following each hui and has actively followed up to ensure that iwi remain informed and involved.

CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

55. The proposed vehicle access is located within a dynamic and sensitive coastal environment that is increasingly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, including sea-level rise, intensified storm events, and coastal erosion. The Manga Pirau Street area, like much of the Horowhenua coastline, is already subject to natural coastal processes that are expected to increase in frequency and intensity over time.
56. Any long-term investment in access infrastructure must therefore be assessed through a climate resilience lens. This includes considering the durability of access routes, the potential for infrastructure damage or retreat, and the cumulative environmental impacts of continued access in a changing climate. Council will need to consider adaptive design, risk management strategies, and the potential for future relocation or decommissioning in alignment with its broader climate adaptation and resilience planning. These considerations

will also form part of the consenting process under the Resource Management Act 1991 and Horizons Regional Council's One Plan.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

57. The costs associated with developing a formal vehicle accessway at Waikawa Beach are expected to be significant. These include costs for technical assessments, environmental and cultural reporting, planning and design, consenting processes (including possible appeals), and physical construction. Ongoing operational costs would also include signage, maintenance, monitoring, and enforcement.
58. Costs associated with the upcoming consultation phase, these are expected to be relatively modest in the context of the overall project and are considered a necessary investment to ensure transparent and inclusive decision-making. Should Council confirm a preferred pathway, further reporting will be provided on detailed costings and delivery requirements.

LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

59. There are a range of legal and reputational risks associated with any decision to proceed with a vehicle accessway at Waikawa Beach. These include the potential for judicial review if decisions are made without adequate community consultation or if Council is seen to have pre-determined outcomes ahead of formal engagement. The legal advice received (summarised earlier in this report) confirms the importance of a robust, transparent process that fairly considers all reasonably practicable options.
60. There is also a risk that the consenting process could be unsuccessful due to the environmental sensitivity of the site and the strict requirements under Horizons Regional Council's One Plan. Even if consent is granted, it may be subject to appeal or conditions that impact feasibility or affordability. Council must also manage potential risks to community cohesion, particularly if decisions are perceived to ignore key stakeholder views, including those of mana whenua <Insert text>

POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

61. This matter intersects with a number of existing Council policies, including the Significance and Engagement Policy, the Open Space Strategy, and Council's Climate Action Plan. A future decision to establish vehicle access will also necessitate the development of complementary policy instruments, most notably a beach bylaw to support safe and responsible use.
62. Any long-term commitment to a vehicle accessway will require alignment with strategic planning documents, including reserve management plans, the Long Term Plan (LTP), and Council's broader environmental and infrastructure investment priorities.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI

63. Officers will ensure that any future consultation process is accessible, inclusive, and transparent. This will include written material outlining the options, community drop-in sessions, and opportunities for both online and in-person feedback.
64. Engagement will be designed to support a constructive dialogue between Council, iwi, residents, and other stakeholders. Officers will continue to work closely with Ngāti Wehi Wehi and the community working group to ensure their perspectives are reflected and respected throughout the process.

Communicating with our Community | Te Whakawhiti Pārongo ki te Hapori

65. A comprehensive communication plan will be developed to accompany the consultation process. This will include clear information about the background to the issue, the options being considered, and how people can have their say. Updates will be provided through Council's website, social media channels, and local newspapers, supported by direct correspondence to previous submitters and key stakeholder groups.

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

66. Officers will continue to support the community group and maintain engagement with Ngāti Wehi Wehi. Officers will also monitor informal vehicle use, gather additional technical and legal input as needed, and report back to Council on any new developments that may inform a decision on whether to consult on a preferred pathway.

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.: 25/348

8.4 Adoption of Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw

Author(s)	Vaimoana Miller Compliance Manager Tumu Tūtohu
Approved by	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 this report is to present the final Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy for adoption by Council, incorporating changes recommended by the Hearings and Regulatory Committee, and to seek a resolution of Council to bring the bylaw into effect on 30 September 2025.
2. This report also seeks a limited delegation to the Chief Executive to make minor administrative amendments prior to commencement, specifically to allow for the inclusion of te reo Māori titles and corrections to formatting, grammar, and typographical, provided such amendments do not alter the intent or effect of the bylaw.

This matter relates to Delivering the Long-Term Plan 2024-44

Delivering the Long-Term Plan 2024-44

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

3. The Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw work together to establish reasonable controls for dogs and their owners. Their purpose is to minimise danger, distress, and nuisance caused by dogs while ensuring appropriate recreational opportunities for dogs and their owners. The policy sets out how the Council will meet its regulatory responsibilities under the Dog Control Act 1996 (the DCA).
4. As part of the review process, Council chose to review the Responsible Dog Owner Approval (RDOA) process alongside the Dog Control Bylaw and Policy to ensure alignment across all dog control related documents. While not a requirement by legislation, this approach supports consistency, clarity for dog owners, and allow for more streamlined implementation by Officers.
5. At the 26 March 2025 Council meeting, Council adopted the proposed changes to the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw and draft RDOA for public consultation. Submissions were open from 27 March 2025 and closed on 30 April 2025. Seventy-six submissions were received.
6. Submissions were considered by the Hearings and Regulatory Committee of Council on 10 June 2025, where 8 submitters spoke in support of their written submission.
7. The minutes of the Hearings and Regulatory Committee meeting on 10 June 2025 were presented to Council to be received and noted earlier on today's agenda.

DELEGATION OR AUTHORITY TO ACT | TE MANA WHAKATAU I NGĀ KAWENGA

8. Section 10 of the Dog Control Act 1996 requires every territorial authority to have a Dog Control Policy, and a bylaw made using the bylaw-making powers in the Local Government Act 2002 to enforce it.
9. Unless transferred to another Territorial Authority or our Regional Council, the decision-making authority for bylaws sits with the Council and cannot be delegated to a Committee of Council or other body (section 161 of the Local Government Act 2002).

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

10. This matter is assessed as significant because of the level of community interest, consistent with Council's Significance and Engagement Policy.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/348 Adoption of Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw be received.
- B. That this matter or decision is recognised as significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.
- C. That Council resolve to adopt the Dog Control Policy, attached as Attachment A, and the Dog Control Bylaw, attached as attachment B as effective from 30 September 2025; and in doing so determines that in accordance with section 155 of the Local Government Act that:
 - C.1. A bylaw is still the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problems of regulating Dog Control matters; and
 - C.2. That the Dog Control Bylaw is the most appropriate form of bylaw and does not give rise to any implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990.
- D. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make any necessary corrections or editorial changes that arise in producing the final published versions of the Dog Control Policy 2025 and Dog Control Bylaw 2025.
- E. That Council approve the Responsible Dog Owner Approval Policy, attached as Attachment C, with the policy to become operational from 30 September 2025 and apply to the 2026/27 dog registration period.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

11. Every council is required to have a policy on dogs and a bylaw to enforce it. The policy and bylaw work together to impose regulatory controls on dogs and their owners to minimise the danger, distress or nuisance that may be caused by dogs, and to balance this with enabling appropriate recreational access to public places in the district for dogs and their owners. This is the approach required by the Dog Control Act 1996.
12. All background matters relating to the proposed Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy were presented at the 26 March 2025 meeting of Council, where it was resolved to consult on the matter using the special consultative process. This meeting was open to the public and live-streamed. The recording is available here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=6C7cZNtxvls>
13. Two Council workshops were held on 29 January and 19 March 2025, to discuss the proposed changes and elected member feedback was incorporated into the draft documents. These workshops were open to the public and livestreamed. The most recent workshop held on 19 March 2025 was also included with the consultation information on Council's Lets Kōrero consultation platform. The workshop recordings are available here:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Bf6NjQxYH0>

14. Submissions were open from Thursday 27 March and closed on Wednesday 30 April 2025, and were considered by the Regulatory and Hearings Committee at the Public Hearing of submissions held on 10 June 2025.
15. The Hearings and Regulatory Committee recommended the adoption of the final draft Public Places Bylaw 2024, noting changes the committee recommended, via resolution, be incorporated into the final draft before its adoption. The changes recommended by the HARCC are presented in the report discussion below.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

16. Seventy-six submissions were received during the consultation process and were considered by the Hearings and Regulatory Committee (HARCC) on 10 June 2025. Eight submitters spoke in support of their written submissions, and the HARCC considered all submissions received and subsequent recommendations from Council Officers.
17. After reviewing the written and verbal submissions, the HARCC made the following recommendations that have been incorporated in the final version of the Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy for adoption:
 - 17.1. That amendments be made to the schedule of on- and off-leash dog exercise areas to include on-leash status at the Rose Gardens, War Memorials, Thompson House Gardens, Cousins Avenue, Te Maire Park, and Stafford Street Esplanade; and confirm no changes to Holben Parade, Hudson/Wairarara Stream Park, Ōhau Domain, Argyle Avenue, and Waikawa Beach Reserve (resolution HARCC/2025/12);
 - 17.2. That section 19 of the Dog Control Bylaw be renamed to “Dogs Requiring Temporary Exclusion from Public Places” to better reflect the content of the section (resolution HARCC/2025/15);
 - 17.3. To amend Clause 12(a) to discourage prolonged tethering and promote secure fencing as the preferred means of containment, aligning the bylaw with upcoming national animal welfare regulations (resolution HARCC/2025/16);
 - 17.4. To reinstate the Puppy Registration category in the Dog Control Policy to apply from the 2026-27 registration period (resolution HARCC/2025/17);
18. With all changes to the policy and bylaw included into the final versions attached (attachment A); the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw be recommended for adoption by the Committee, resolution HARCC/2025/21.
19. In addition to adopting the bylaw, officers recommend that Council delegate to the Chief Executive the authority to make minor editorial amendments to the bylaw and policy. This would enable the addition of te reo Māori titles and equivalent headings throughout the documents, as well as minor corrections to grammar, formatting, or typographical errors.
20. This proposed delegation reflects Council’s commitment to building cultural competency, promoting bilingual communication, and enhancing the clarity and professionalism of Council documents. These administrative changes would not alter the intent, meaning, or effect of the bylaw as adopted.
21. While the Local Government Act 2002 prohibits delegation of the power to “make a bylaw”, it does not prevent Council from delegating minor administrative tasks that do not impact the legal effect of the bylaw. This approach is consistent with accepted practice across local government and aligns with Council Officers’ cultural competency aspirations; and to ensure transparency, any amendments made under this delegation would be reported back to Council.
22. The Dog Control Bylaw is made using bylaw-making powers in sections 145 and 146 of the Local Government Act (LGA). Under the LGA, Council is required to review its bylaws within 5 years of it first being made (section 158), and then once every 10 years (section 159) thereafter, referred to as a statutory review.

23. Section 10AA of the Dog Control Act 1996 (DCA) requires a Council to review their Dog Control Policy if the Dog Control Bylaw requires review. Therefore, the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw were reviewed side-by-side and consulted on through a combined review process.
24. Following the statutory review process undertaken for the Bylaw, Council Officers conclude that a bylaw and a stand-alone bylaw continues to be the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problems as they relate to Dog Control matters in the Horowhenua, and that the bylaw as proposed for adoption does not give rise to any implications under the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA).
25. As the statutory review process has introduced new provisions to the Dog Control Bylaw, this means that if the bylaw is adopted, the newly introduced provisions will need to be reviewed in 5 years (as per section 158 of the LGA), with the pre-existing provisions remaining on the 10-year review cycle. With this in mind, it is the view of Officers that it would be administratively prudent and potentially efficient to review the entire bylaw in 5 years' time. Both ensuring the statutory review of the bylaw provisions are carried out on-time as well as enabling a way for all provisions to fall into the same review cycle from then on.

Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

26. There are four (4) options considered to be appropriate and are detailed in the table below. This report recommends that Council proceed with Option A, to adopt the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw incorporating the changes recommended by the Hearings and Regulatory Committee.

Options Ngā Kōwhiringa	Benefits Ngā Whiwhinga	Risks Ngā Mōrearea
Option A (recommended) Council adopts the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Bylaw incorporating the changes recommended by the Hearings and Regulatory Committee at the 10 June 2025 hearing.	Bylaw controls are in place to ensure health and safety, to protect the public from nuisance and to protect the natural environment in the control of dog in public places in the Horowhenua. Public consultation was carried out as defined by the Local Government Act 2002, and due consideration was given to all submissions received through the Hearings and Regulatory Committee process; and therefore, giving rise to the democratic process of decision making entrusted to the HARCC.	The Bylaw may not align with some community views.
Option B (status quo) Status Quo. Do not continue with the adoption of the amended Dog Control Policy and Bylaw.	There would be reduced time and cost associated with implementation of the bylaw.	The changes the Dog Control Bylaw 2016 that were consulted on will not be in effect.

<p>This means the amendments the 2016 version of the bylaw do not proceed.</p> <p>And, that Council refer the matter back to Officers with direction for further work.</p>		<p>There may be confusion by the public about why the proposed rules are now not in place.</p> <p>Further work by Officers is required.</p>
<p>Option C (not recommended)</p> <p>Council adopts the Dog Control Policy, Dog Control Bylaw and Responsible Dog Owner Approval process as originally drafted and consulted on without the recommendations of the Hearings and Regulatory Committee incorporated.</p>	<p>Bylaw controls are in place to ensure health and safety, to protect the public from nuisance and to protect the natural environment in management of dogs in public places in the Horowhenua.</p>	<p>The Bylaw may not align with some community views.</p> <p>Does not give effect to the public consultation process carried out as defined by the Local Government Act 2002, and therefore, due consideration has not been given to all submissions received through the Hearings and Regulatory Committee.</p> <p>Could give rise to legal challenge in the perception that Council failed to adequately account for the feedback received during the consultation process.</p>

Options Commentary | He Tāpiringa Kōrero Mō ngā Kōwhiringa

Option A

27. Council adopts the Dog Control Policy, Dog Control Policy and RDOA process incorporating the changes recommended by the Hearings and Regulatory Committee.
28. This option gives effect to the public consultation process carried out as defined by the Local Government Act 2002, and the authority entrusted on the Hearings and Regulatory Committee in considering all submissions received, and in making recommendation to Council on the final draft version of Dog Control documents for adoption.

Option B

29. Status Quo, and the matter be referred back to Officers for further work.
30. This option would result in the current Dog Control Policy, Dog Control Bylaw, Selected Owner Policy continuing to be operative. Any new proposed changes introduced, including the new RDOA process referred to in the amended Policy do not take effect.

Option C

31. Council adopts the Dog Control Policy and Dog Control Policy as originally drafted and consulted on without the recommendations of the Hearings and Regulatory Committee incorporated.
32. This option does not give effect to the public consultation process carried out as defined by the Local Government Act 2002, and therefore, due consideration has not been given to all submissions received through the Hearings and Regulatory Committee.

33. Could give rise to legal challenge in the perception that Council failed to adequately account for the feedback received during the consultation process.

ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

34. As part of our ordinary consultation process, Officers contacted Te Tumatakahuki, Muaūpoko and Rangitāne o Manawatū to invite feedback during the consultation.

CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

35. The Dog Control Bylaw and Policy have low climate change implications, as their primary focus is on public safety and responsible dog ownership rather than directly addressing climate change. While some provisions, such as restrictions in ecologically sensitive areas (such as the bird sanctuary at the Manawatū estuary), may indirectly support climate adaptation efforts, the overall impact of the bylaw and policy on climate change mitigation or adaptation is minimal.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

36. Council Officers are requesting the Policy, Bylaw and RDOA process be effective from 30 September 2025 to enable kaimahi to set up the systems necessary to implement the new provisions, and to transition those dog owners that currently hold a “selected owner status” or “NZKC status” onto the new RDOA process.
37. Many of these costs are difficult to quantify until the changes to the policy and bylaw are confirmed. While many are business-as-usual costs or anticipated costs, major changes to the areas regulated in the policy will require new signs to be installed. While there are no legally prescribed requirements about dog control signage, Officers acknowledge that signs help people to understand the rules.
38. Dog control activities are funded from dog registration fees, including compliance and enforcement activities. Signs installed in parks and reserves come from the Parks & Property budgets with some contribution from the regulatory Compliance activities.

LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

39. Section 10 of the Dog Control Act 1996 requires every territorial authority to have a Dog Control Policy, and a bylaw made using the bylaw-making powers in the Local Government Act 2002 to enforce it.
40. The Local Government Act 2002 provides that the power to make a bylaw must be exercised by the Council and cannot be delegated. Accordingly, the adoption of the Dog Control Bylaw 2025 and Dog Control Policy 2025 must be made by Council resolution.
41. Council is required under the Local Government Act 2002 to resolve that bylaws are the most appropriate way of addressing particular issues. This process for review required by section 155 of the LGA consists of the following two stages:
- 41.1. Section 155(1) requires Council to determine whether a bylaw is the most appropriate way of addressing the perceived problem;
- 41.2. Section 155(2) and (3) requires Council to consider whether the format of the bylaw is appropriate; and whether any aspect is in conflict with the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA).
42. The New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBORA) protects those freedoms and rights that are fundamental to a free and democratic society. In reviewing the bylaw, the Council is required to consider whether or not it gives rise to any implications under the NZBORA. Section 155(3) of the LGA states that no bylaw may be made which is inconsistent with NZBORA, but section 5 of NZBORA specifically authorises reasonable limits on rights that can be demonstrably justified in a free and democratic society.

43. Freedom of movement is a freedom protected by the NZBORA in the democratic and civil rights section. Freedom of movement protection arguments could be made in relation to restrictions on people being able to enter certain public places when accompanied by their dog, or where there are restrictions on that movement (such as requiring a dog leash to be used). However, the Dog Control Act specifically allows councils to identify any public places where dogs are "prohibited, either generally or at specified times" or "particular public places or parts of the district" where dogs must be "controlled on a leash".
44. The Dog Control Act also expressly allows councils to develop bylaws that restrict access to particular public places for people when accompanied by their dog, as long as the restrictions relate to the purpose of the Dog Control Act (which is largely about reducing the negative impacts of dogs).
45. Given that these restrictions are permitted, a corresponding restriction on freedom of movement (if any) can be understood as a reasonable limit on the right that can be justified in a free and democratic society.
46. The intent of NZBORA considerations in bylaw development is to ensure that bylaws do not unreasonably limit the right to certain freedoms. The intention of dog control bylaws is the prevention of harm (either to people, wildlife, animals or property) and in this sense, limiting the movement of people (when accompanied by their dogs) in some public places and for specified reasons, is a proportionate response and a justified limitation for the prevention of harm. In any case, arguably, people still have the right to move freely through those public places and the restriction is on the dog, not on the dog owner when the dog is not with them.
47. For these reasons, Officers consider the proposed bylaw does not give rise to any implications under the NZBORA.

POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

48. The Bylaw and Policy is intended to be implemented using current operational policies and guiding documents, such as Councils current Compliance Strategy, and Compliance and Enforcement Guidelines.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI

49. If adopted, communication of the adoption of the Policy and Bylaw will need to be advertised through public notice in the local newspaper circulating in the district, as well as publicly notified on Councils website; and
50. If adopted, the Policy, Bylaw and RDOA process will need to be published on Councils website under Bylaws and Policies, and amendments made to Councils publicly available information to reflect the changes.
51. If adopted, the new bylaw communicated to staff for use effective from 30 September 2025.

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

52. If adopted, public notice will need to be given on the Bylaw, as well as Council's website and a schedule put in place to review/update signage in public places reflect the changes; and a copy of the Dog Control Policy, Dog Control Bylaw be communicated to all dog owners.

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	Attachment A - Dog Control Policy 2025	49
B	Attachment B - Dog Control Bylaw 2025	61
C	Attachment C - Responsible Dog Owner Approval (RDOA) process	89



Dog Control Policy 2025

Adopted: 25 June 2025

Commences: 30 September 2025

Review Date: June 2030



Contents

Dog Control Policy 2025.....	0
Review Schedule	1
1. Introduction.....	0
2. Our Objective.....	0
3. Our Policy.....	1
3.1 Access to Public Places	1
3.2 Dog Prohibited Areas	1
3.3 Dog Exercise Areas	1
3.4 Dog On-Leash Areas.....	2
3.5 Exceptions	2
3.6 Disability Assist Dogs	2
4. Menacing and Dangerous Dogs	3
5. Dog Fees and Charges	4
6. Safety & Education.....	5
7. Promoting responsible dog ownership.....	6
8. Classification of Owners and disqualification	6
8.1 Probationary Classification.....	6
8.2 Disqualification	7
8.3 Objection to Decision.....	7
9. Infringements.....	7
10. Bylaws	8
11. Repeal.....	9

Review Schedule

Creation/Review	Date	Date of adoption	Summary of changes
Review March 2025	March 2025		

1. Introduction

Council recognises that the majority of dog owners are responsible and that most interaction between dogs and people is positive. Dogs can play a positive role in the community, bringing companionship, enjoyment and health benefits for individuals and their families.

Each year, around 6,000 dogs are registered in the Horowhenua District. To keep our community safe and enjoyable for everyone, the Council responds to barking, wandering, or nuisance dogs.

Under Section 10 of the Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act), all Councils in New Zealand must have a Dog Control Policy. This policy helps ensure dogs are well cared for while minimising any danger, distress or nuisance that could affect the community. It works alongside the Dog Control Bylaw which sets out the specific rules for dog ownership and management in the Horowhenua.

The Act says that when adopting a policy Council must have regard to:

- a. The need to minimise danger, distress and nuisance to the community generally;
- b. The need to avoid inherent danger in allowing dogs to have unimpeded access to public places that are frequented by children, whether or not the children are accompanied by an adult;
- c. The importance of enabling, to the extent that is practicable, the public (including families) to use streets and public amenities without fear of attack or intimidation of dogs; and
- d. The exercise and recreational needs of dogs and their owners.

This policy seeks to achieve a balance between the control of dogs and recognition of the community benefits associated with responsible dog ownership.

2. Our Objective

The Council aims to promote responsible dog ownership that allows owners to enjoy their dogs while respecting the safety, enjoyment and well-being of others.

Responsible dog owners should:

- a. Register their dogs and make sure they wear a current registration tag;
- b. Keep their dogs under control;
- c. Provide their dogs with care and attention;
- d. Provide their dogs with proper and sufficient food, water, shelter, and exercise;
- e. Not let their dogs be a nuisance to others;
- f. Make sure their dogs do not injure, endanger, intimidate or distress any person or other animal or damage property;
- g. Comply with the Act, any regulations and the Dog Control Bylaw.

3. Our Policy

3.1 Access to Public Places

This Policy identifies public places within the Horowhenua where dogs are prohibited or must be controlled on-leash. It also identifies areas where dogs are free to be exercised at large (off-leash). The enforcement of these controls is carried out through the relevant bylaws that provide for such areas.

The general rule in Horowhenua is that dogs should be on a leash at all times unless otherwise specified.

Criteria for determining levels of access for dogs to public places:

<u>Access should be restricted where:</u>	<u>Access could be less restricted where:</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There is intense public use• Another predominant use exists• Significant wildlife or habitats exist• There is significant risk to other users.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The area is not used extensively by other users• It is of significant size• There are sufficient sight lines• The area is well-bounded from adjacent areas.

Dog exercise areas may undergo modifications or be considered for other uses over time. This intends to allow for continued improvement in the quality of the areas available for dogs and other park users, and to allow for the protection of wildlife. When considering modifications to existing exercise areas, the historical and current utilisation of the area will be evaluated. The conservation of wildlife are also crucial considerations when modifying exercise areas.

3.2 Dog Prohibited Areas

Dogs are prohibited from Dog Prohibited Areas at all times.

Dog Prohibited Areas are:

- Those areas identified as the Dog Prohibited Areas in the attached Schedule and as confirmed in the Bylaw.

3.3 Dog Exercise Areas

Dogs are permitted on-leash or off-leash in Dog Exercise Areas. Owners must keep their dogs under control at all times and must carry a leash and effective means to remove any dog faeces with them. All dog faeces must be removed immediately by the owner of the dog. Failure to do so may result in a \$300 infringement.

Dog Exercise Areas are:

- Those areas identified as Dog Exercise Areas in the attached Schedule and as confirmed in the Bylaw.

3.4 Dog On-Leash Areas

Dogs are permitted in Dog On-Leash Areas but must be controlled on a leash. All dog faeces must be removed immediately by the owner of the dog. Owners must have a practical means for removing their dog's faeces. Failure to do so may result in a \$300 infringement.

Dog On-leash Areas are:

- Those areas identified as Dog On-leash Areas in the attached Schedule and as confirmed in the Bylaw; and
- With the exception of Dog Prohibited Areas and Dog Exercise areas, dogs are permitted in all public places provided the dog is on a leash.

Note: Nothing in this Policy permits dogs to enter public places which are under the control of another organisation without authorisation from the relevant organisation (for example, areas under the control of the Department of Conservation).

3.5 Exceptions

Dogs are permitted in Dog Prohibited Areas and are permitted off-leash in Dog On-Leash Areas in the following situations:

- a. Where the owner has express written permission from the Council for the Dog to be in a Dog Prohibited Area or to be off-leash in a Dog On-leash Area; or
- b. Where the dog is a working dog as defined in the Act carrying out its duty; or
- c. Where the dog is confined completely within a case or vehicle;
- d. Provided that the dog is kept under control at all times.

Note: This does not permit dogs to enter public places that are under the control of another organisation without authorisation from the relevant organisation (for example, lands administered by the Department of Conservation).

3.6 Disability Assist Dogs

Disability assist dogs have a special status in the Act and are exempt from all public place restrictions specified in this Policy. Disability Assist dogs are allowed in all public places even those declared to be prohibited under Council's Bylaws. Disability Assist dogs must be certified by an authorising organisation. The Act specifies what organisations can certify Disability Assist Dogs.

4. Menacing and Dangerous Dogs

- 4.1 The Act enables the Council to require dog owners to take specific control action for dogs classified as menacing or dangerous.
- 4.2 A menacing dog is one which has not been classified as a dangerous dog, but which the Council considers may pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry or domestic animal or protected wildlife because of observed or reported behaviour or any characteristics typically associated with the breed or type.
- 4.3 The Act says the Council must classify a dog as a menacing dog if it believes that the dog belongs wholly or predominantly to a breed or type prohibited under section 30A of the Act.
- 4.4 Section 30A of the Act states that no person may import into New Zealand any dog that belongs wholly or predominantly to one or more breed or type of dog listed in Schedule 4 of the Act (listed below).
- Breed of dog:
- Brazilian Fila
 - Dogo Argentino
 - Japanese Tosa
 - Perro de Presa Canario.
- Type of dog:
- American Pit Bull Terrier.
- 4.5 A dangerous dog is one which the Council has, on sworn evidence attesting to aggressive behaviour by the dog, reasonable grounds to believe it constitutes a threat to the safety of any person, stock, poultry or domestic animal or protected wildlife, or the owner has admitted in writing that the dog constitutes such a threat, or has already been convicted of an offence relating to the dog attacking a person or an animal.
- 4.6 Sections 31 to 33 of the Act outline the reasons why, and the manner in which, a dog may be classified as dangerous, and the obligations which this imposes on an owner which includes having the dog on a lead and muzzled when in public and compulsory neutering of the dog.
- 4.7 Sections 33A to 33EC of the Act contain similar provisions relating to menacing dogs. These dogs are also required to be on a lead and muzzled when in public but neutering of these dogs is at the discretion of the Council. As a matter of policy the Council will require all dogs classified as menacing to be neutered.
- 4.8 Under Sections 33E and 33EB of the Act, when a dog is classified as menacing the Council will require the owner to have the dog neutered, unless the owner provides a certificate from a vet that the dog is not in a fit condition to be neutered.
- Council's policy is that all dogs classified as menacing will be required to be neutered. This applies to:*
- dogs classified as menacing by Council; and
 - dogs classified as menacing by any other local authority and registered with Council.

5. Dog Fees and Charges

- 5.1 Registration fees are due on 1 July each year. There are penalties for late dog registration. Dog registration fees are set by Council resolution in accordance with Council's Revenue and Financing Policy. Consultation on fees is undertaken via Council's Annual Plan and Long-term Plan process.
- 5.2 A full registration fee must be paid for dogs that have not been neutered, unless registered under a discounted registration fee as listed in 5.3 below.
- 5.3 A discounted dog registration fee is available for owners who:
- hold Responsible Dog Owner Approval (RDOA) status
 - have a neutered dog(s)
 - have a working dog(s)
 - SuperGold card holder
 - have a puppy or puppies under 12 months of age

There is no registration fee for approved disability assist dogs.

5.4 Other Fees

Fees are also charged by the Council for:

- dogs who have been impounded (impounding, daily sustenance, afterhours fees)
- permission to keep more than two dogs (with the exception of those living on a property of 5000m² or more)
- collection or delivery of a dog on behalf of an owner
- destruction of a dog
- replacement registration tags
- application fee for Responsible Dog Owner Approval status (this includes site inspection fees and associated costs to assess an application).

Fees are set and advertised before the beginning of each registration year. The registration year runs from 1 July to 30 June the following year.

Working dogs are defined in the Dog Control Act, as follows:

- kept by the Police or any constable, the New Zealand Customs Service, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry, the Ministry of Fisheries, or the Ministry of Defence, or any officer or employee of any such department of State solely or principally for the purposes of carrying out the functions, powers, and duties of the Police or the department of State or that constable, officer, or employee; or
- kept solely or principally for the purposes of herding or driving stock; or
- kept by the Department of Conservation or any officer or employee of that department solely or principally for the purposes of carrying out the functions, duties, and powers of that department; or
- kept solely or principally for the purposes of destroying pests or pests agents under any pest management plan under the Biosecurity Act 1993; or
- kept by the Department of Corrections or any officer or employee of that department solely or principally for the purposes of carrying out the functions, duties, and powers of that department; or
- kept by the Aviation Security Service established under section 72B(2)(ca) of the Civil Aviation Act 1990, or any officer or employee of that service solely or principally for the purposes of carrying out the functions, duties, and powers of that service; or

- (vii) certified for use by the Director of Civil Defence Emergency Management for the purposes of carrying out the functions, duties, and powers conferred by the Civil Defence Emergency Act 2002; or
- (viii) owned by a property guard as defined in section 9 of the Private Security Personnel and Private Investigators Act 2010 or a property guard employee as defined in section 17 of that Act, and kept solely or principally for the purpose of doing the things specified in section 9(1)(a) to (c) of that Act; or
- (ix) declared by resolution of the territorial authority to be a working dog for the purposes of this Act, or any dog of a class so declared by the authority, being a dog owned by any class of persons specified in the resolution and kept solely or principally for the purposes specified in the resolution.

6. Safety & Education

- 6.1 The Council is committed to building a cohesive and harmonious community by promoting responsible dog ownership through education. To support this, the Council will provide a range of educational initiatives, including:
- school presentations to educate students about dog behaviour and safety
 - educational programs for community groups and businesses
 - provision of educational materials for dog owners, covering topics such as dog welfare, prevention of dog-related issues and proper handling of dogs in public
 - use of positive media publicity to raise awareness about responsible dog ownership
 - ensuring dog owners are informed about their responsibilities under the Act. The Council's Dog Policy and related bylaws will be readily accessible on the Council website for all dog owners.

- 6.2 The Council encourages dog owners, particularly new owners, to participate in approved education and obedience courses. Attending puppy or dog training courses can significantly contribute to a dog's understanding of simple commands and help establish a harmonious relationship between dogs and humans. They are particularly beneficial for individuals who may have reservations or fears of dogs.
- As an incentive for participation, the Council provides a discount on the annual registration fee for owners who have successfully completed these courses.

7. Promoting responsible dog ownership

- 7.1 Responsible Dog Owner Approval status (RDOA)
- The Council is committed to promoting responsible dog ownership and provides an annual registration fee discount to dog owners who attain a Responsible Dog Owner Approval (RDOA) (previously known as "Selected Owner Policy" status). Responsible Dog Owner Approval status is awarded to dog owners that have demonstrated responsible dog ownership to the Council. The full criteria and information on how to achieve RDOA can be found on the Council's website. Note: Responsible Dog Owner Approval status dog owners still require permission from the Council to keep more than two dogs.

8. Classification of Owners and disqualification

8.1 Probationary Classification

Council can classify certain persons as probationary owners.

Classification may be considered for any person convicted of an offence under the Act (or other specified offences against the Animal Welfare Act 1999, the Conservation Act 1987 or the National Parks Act 1980) or any person who has received three or more infringement notices in a 24 month period.

Council will consider:

- In all situations classifying such persons as probationary owners.

Probationary classification has the following effects:

- The owner is not allowed to own any dogs other than dogs that were owned at the date of the relevant offence or date of the third infringement offence;
- The owner must dispose of any unregistered dogs; and
- Probation lasts for up to 24 months.

8.2 Disqualification

Council must disqualify certain persons from being a dog owner, but not where Council considers disqualification is not warranted or where Council will instead classify the person as a Probationary Owner.

The Council must disqualify any persons convicted of an offence under the Act (or other specified offences against the Animal Welfare Act 1999, the Conservation Act 1987 or the National Parks Act 1980) or any person who has received three or more infringement notices in a 24 month period.

Council will consider:

- In all situations disqualifying such persons.

Disqualification has the following effects:

- The owner must dispose of all dogs they own;
- The owner cannot own any more dogs; and
- Disqualification lasts for up to five (5) years.

8.3 Objection to Decision

A person can object to a decision to classify that person as a Probationary Owner or to disqualify that person, as the case may be. A Committee of Council will hear and consider the objection. The owner will have the right to be heard by the Committee. In considering any objection, the Committee must have regard to:

- The circumstances and nature of the offence(s);
- The competency of the owner in terms of responsible dog ownership;
- Any steps taken by the owner to prevent further offences;
- The matters advanced in support of the objection; and
- Any other relevant matters.

The Committee may decide to uphold or rescind the decision.

9. Infringements

Dog Control Officers can issue infringement notices which impose an "instant" fine on the recipient. Infringement notices may only be issued for particular offences (listed in the Schedule to the Act). Fines range from \$100.00 to \$750.00.

Council will:

- Use the infringement notice process for minor breaches.
- Consider prosecution for more serious breaches.

10. Bylaws

Council must create bylaws to give effect to this Policy.

Under the Act the Council is required to create bylaws to give effect to this Policy.

The Act lists the matters for which bylaws may be made. The Council's Bylaws that apply to this Policy are in the Horowhenua Dog Bylaw. The Dog Bylaw applies to all dog owners and will be enforced using the range of enforcement mechanisms available to Council such as infringement notices and prosecutions open to Council. Specific enforcement mechanisms are also provided for in the Bylaw.

Further to giving effect to this policy, the Horowhenua Dog Bylaw defines the nature and application of requirements for the following purposes:

- Prohibiting dogs, whether under control or not, from specified public places;
- That all dogs in the urban streets of Levin, Foxton, Foxton Beach, Tokomaru, Shannon, Waitārere, Hokio, Ōhau, Waikawa Beach and Manakau, unless in an unleashed dog exercise area, are required to be on a lead attached to the dog and held by the person in charge of the dog;
- Regulating and controlling dogs in any other public place;
- Designating specified areas as dog exercise areas;
- Prescribing minimum standards for the accommodation of dogs;
- Limiting the number of dogs that may be kept on any land or premises;
- Requiring dogs in the Horowhenua District to be tied up or otherwise confined during a specified period commencing not earlier than half an hour after sunset, and ending not later than half an hour before sunrise. This does not preclude people from walking dogs at night in accordance with leashed requirements of this Policy;
- Requiring the owner of any dog that defecates in a public place or on land or premises other than that occupied by the owner to immediately remove the faeces;
- Restricting dogs to enter or be present in a public place when infected with an infectious disease, or is a female dog in season;
- Providing for the impounding of dogs, whether or not they are wearing a collar having a proper label or disc attached, that are found at large in breach of any bylaw made by the Horowhenua District Council under this or any other Act;
- Requiring the owner of any dog (being a dog that, on a number of occasions, has not been kept under control) to cause that dog to be neutered (whether or not the owner of the dog has been convicted of an offence against section 53 of this Act);
- Any other purposes that from time to time is, in the opinion of the Horowhenua District Council, necessary or desirable to further the control of dogs;
- Placing obligations on dog owners;
- Providing power for Dog Control Officers to remove dogs without access to proper care and attention;
- Provisions for impounding and disposal of dogs;
- Classifying owners as probationary or disqualified owners;
- Provision for dog owners to be required to have dogs attend dog obedience training;
- To allow Council to set fee structures for registration, impound, and other associated matters;
- To allow Council to designate dog owners with "Responsible Dog Owner Approval" status, including those dogs that achieve Canine Good Basics certification, subject to prerequisite criteria;
- To perform any other functions, and maintain records in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996
- Making provision for "Protected Wildlife" areas;

- Making owners responsible for the total wellbeing of their dogs, including proper care and attention, exercise and feeding. Owners found being cruel and abusive, starving their dog or otherwise neglecting their responsibility commit an offence under the Dog Control Act 1996;
- Classifying of “menacing” or “dangerous” dogs, and requiring the neutering of same;
- Fees for infringement;
- Dogs on owner’s property (under direct control of a person, or confinement to the property);
- Microchipping.

11. Repeal

On the adoption of the Horowhenua District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2025, the Horowhenua District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2015 shall be repealed.



Dog Control Bylaw 2025

Adopted: 25 June 2025

Commences: 30 September 2025

Review Date: June 2030



Contents

Dog Control Bylaw 2025	
Review Schedule.....	2
1. Introduction	3
2. Title and Commencement Date	3
3. Repeal	3
4. Purpose.....	3
5. Interpretations	3
6. Obligations of Dog Owners.....	6
7. Animal Control Officers.....	6
8. Warrant of Authority	7
9. Power of Entry.....	7
10. Power to feed & shelter dogs	7
11. Power to request information about owner or dog	8
12. Shelter for dogs.....	9
13. Confinement of dogs at night.....	9
14. Control of dogs	10
15. Requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog	10
16. Objection to requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog	10
17. Effect of requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog	11
18. Fouling in Public Places.....	11
19. Mangy or diseased dogs	Error! Bookmark not defined.
20. Aggravation of dogs	12
21. Urban dogs – Leashed requirements.....	12
22. Limitation of number of dogs on any premises – additional dog licence requirements.....	12
23. Impounding	12
24. Disposal of impounded dogs	13
25. Probationary Owners	13
26. Disqualified Owners.....	13
27. Dangerous Dogs.....	13
28. Menacing Dogs	14
29. Microchipping of dogs.....	14
30. Barking dogs.....	14
31. Removal of barking dog causing distress.....	15
32. Dogs attacking persons or animals.....	15
33. Dogs rushing at persons, animals or vehicles	16
34. Dogs causing serious injury.....	17
35. Dogs causing general nuisance – damage to rubbish bins/bags	18
36. Recognised dog obedience groups	18
37. Registration & Ownership.....	18
38. Offences and Penalties	18
Schedules	0

Review Schedule

Creation/Review	Date	Date of adoption
Previous version	July 2004	July 2004
Previous version	August 2015	August 2015
Review of exercise areas	February 2016	February 2016
Review + Amendments	March 2025	25 June 2025

1. Introduction

This Bylaw is established under powers vested in the Council in the Local Government Act 2002 and the Dog Control Act 1996 (the Act), and any other authority enabling the Council to do so.

This Bylaw applies to the whole of the District of Horowhenua.

2. Title and Commencement Date

The title of this Bylaw is the Horowhenua Dog Bylaw 2025.

This Bylaw shall come into effect on 30 September 2025.

3. Repeal

As from the date on which this Bylaw comes into force, the Horowhenua District Council Dog Control Bylaw 2015 shall be repealed.

In respect of such repeal the provision of Section 19 & 20 of the Interpretation Act 1999 shall apply providing that the repeal of any bylaw shall not prevent any such bylaw from being put into force for the collection or recovery of any such charges, fees, fines, penalties, or otherwise in relation thereto.

4. Purpose

The purpose of this Bylaw is to give effect to the Horowhenua Dog Policy 2025 by specifying the requirements for dog owners in the Horowhenua District. It aims to:

- (a) Make better provision for the care and control of dogs by:
 - (i) requiring the registration of dogs; and
 - (ii) making special provision in relation to menacing and dangerous dogs; and
 - (iii) imposing on the owners, obligations designed to ensure that dogs do not cause a nuisance to any person and do not injure, endanger, or cause distress to any person; and
 - (iv) imposing on owners of dogs, obligations designed to ensure that dogs do not injure, endanger, or cause distress to any stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife; and
- (b) Make provision in relation to damage caused by dogs.

5. Interpretations

- 5.1 The Animal Welfare Act 1999 and the Horowhenua Dog Policy 2025 should be read in conjunction with this Bylaw.
- 5.2 Text in *italics (italics)* is not part of the Bylaw but is explanatory in nature.
- 5.3 In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires:

“disability assist dog” has the meaning given to it under Section 2 of the Dog Control Act 1996, being a dog certified by one of the following organisations as being a dog trained to assist (or as being a dog in training to assist) a person with a disability:

- (a) Hearing Dogs for Deaf People New Zealand;
- (b) Mobility Assistance Dogs Trust;

- (c) New Zealand Epilepsy Assist Dogs Trust:
- (d) Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind:
- (e) Top Dog Companion Trust:
- (f) an organisation specified in an Order in Council made under [section 79D](#)

"district" means the district of a territorial authority.

"dog control fee" means any fee prescribed under [section 37](#).

"Animal Control Officer" means An Animal Control Officer appointed under [section 11](#); and includes a warranted officer exercising powers under [section 17](#):

"Dog Ranger" means a Dog Ranger appointed under [section 12](#); and includes an honorary Dog Ranger.

"domestic animal" includes –

- (a) any animal (including a bird or reptile) kept as a domestic pet:
- (b) any working dog:
- (c) any other animal kept by any person for recreational purposes or for the purposes of that person's occupation or employment.

"infringement offence" has the meaning given to it in [section 65\(1\)](#).

"Leash" means a physical strap or chain attached to a collar or harness on the dog, sturdy enough to ensure that the dog is restrained and controlled by the person using the leash.

"Minister" means the Minister of the Crown who, under the authority of any warrant or with the authority of the Prime Minister, is for the time being responsible for the administration of this Act.

"neutered dog" means a dog that has been spayed or castrated; and does not include a dog that has been vasectomised

"owner", in relation to any dog, means every person who –

- (a) owns the dog; or
- (b) has the dog in his or her possession, whether the dog is at large or in confinement, otherwise than for a period not exceeding 72 hours for the purpose of preventing the dog causing injury, damage, or distress, or for the sole purpose of restoring a lost dog to its owner; or
- (c) the parent or guardian of a person under the age of 16 years who –
 - (i) is the owner of the dog pursuant to paragraph (a) or paragraph (b); and
 - (ii) is a member of the parent or guardian's household living with and dependent on the parent or guardian:-

but does not include any person who has seized or taken custody of the dog under this Act or the [Animal Welfare Act 1999](#) or the [National Parks Act 1980](#) or the [Te Urewera Act 2014](#) or the [Conservation Act 1987](#) or any order made under this Act or the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

"poultry" means any live bird (including a domestic fowl, a duck, a goose, a turkey, a guinea-fowl, a pheasant, an emu, an ostrich, a quail, or a pigeon) that is kept or raised for the purpose of sale or of producing eggs, hatching eggs, or poultry products or for the purpose of rearing on behalf of another person.

"private way" has the meaning given to it by [section 315\(1\)](#) of the Local Government Act 1974.

“protected wildlife” means –

- (a) any animal for the time being absolutely protected pursuant to section 3 of the Wildlife Act 1953; and
- (b) any animal for the time being partially protected pursuant to section 5 of the Wildlife Act 1953, other than an animal in such circumstances that it may be hunted or killed under the authority of subsection (2) of that section; and
- (c) any animal that is a marine mammal within the meaning of the Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978.

“public place”

- (a) means a place that, at any material time, is open to or is being used by the public, whether free or on payment of a charge, and whether any owner or occupier of the place is lawfully entitled to exclude or eject any person from that place; and
- (b) includes any aircraft, hovercraft, ship or ferry or other vessel, train, or vehicle carrying or available to carry passengers for reward.

“register”, as a noun, means a dogs register kept by a territorial authority under section 34.

“registration year” has the same meaning as that given to the term financial year in section 5(1) of the Local Government Act 2002.

“specified agency” –

- (a) means –
 - (i) the Aviation Security Service established under section 72B(2)(ca) of the Civil Aviation Act 1990;
 - (ii) the Department of Conservation;
 - (iii) the Department of Corrections;
 - (iv) the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry;
 - (v) the Ministry of Fisheries;
 - (vi) the New Zealand Customs Service;
 - (vii) the New Zealand Defence Force;
 - (viii) the New Zealand Police; and
 - (ix) the New Zealand Police; and
- (b) includes the Director of Civil Defence and Emergency Management.

“stock” means –

- (a) any live horse, cattle, sheep, swine, alpaca, llama, bison, donkey, hinny, mule, or water buffalo that is not in a wild state;
- (b) any deer, goat, tahr, rabbit, possum, or other animal that is kept within a fence or enclosure for domestic or farming purposes.

“territorial authority” has the same meaning as in the Local Government Act 2002; but, except for the purposes of section 7 of this Act, does not include any territorial authority that has united with any other territorial authority under clause 30(1)(b) of Schedule 7 of the Local Government Act 2002.

“the Act” means the Dog Control Act 1996.

“urban area” in the context of this bylaw includes properties zoned Residential, Greenbelt Residential, Commercial or Industrial under the District Plan and which are less than 5000 square metres in area.

“veterinarian” has the meaning given to it in section 4 of the Veterinarians Act 2005.

“warranted officer” means any person who is for the time being a warranted officer within the

meaning of the Conservation Act 1987.

“**working dog**” has the meaning given to it under Section 2 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

6. Obligations of Dog Owners

- 6.1 The obligations imposed on dog owners by this Bylaw require every owner of a dog -
- (a) To ensure that the dog is registered in accordance with this Bylaw, and that all relevant territorial authorities are promptly notified of any change of address or ownership of the dog
 - (b) To ensure that the dog is kept under control at all times.
 - (c) To ensure that the dog receives proper care and attention and is supplied with proper and sufficient food, water and shelter.
 - (d) To ensure that the dog receives adequate exercise.
 - (e) To take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not cause a nuisance to any other person, whether by persistent and loud barking or howling or by any other means.
 - (f) To take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not injure, endanger, intimidate, or otherwise cause distress to any person.
 - (g) To take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not injure, endanger, or cause distress to any stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife.
 - (h) To take all reasonable steps to ensure that the dog does not damage or endanger any property belonging to any other person.
 - (i) To pick up, remove, and dispose of any dog droppings.
 - (j) To comply with the requirements of the Dog Control Act 1996 and of all regulations and bylaws made under that Act.
- 6.2 Dog owners are responsible for the total well-being of their dogs, including proper care and attention, exercise and feeding. Owners found being cruel and abusive, starving their dog(s) or otherwise neglecting their responsibility commit an offence under both the Dog Control Act 1996 and this Bylaw.
- 6.3 Nothing in this Bylaw limits the obligations of any owner of a dog to comply with the requirements of any other Act or of any regulations or bylaws regulating the control, keeping, and treatment of dogs.

7. Animal Control Officers

- 7.1 The Council shall appoint any person or persons as an Animal Control Officer to administer the provisions of:
- (a) This Bylaw;
 - (b) The Dog Control Act 1996;
 - (c) the Impounding Act 1955.
- 7.2 The Council may also appoint such other staff as it considers necessary for the purpose of the Dog Control Act 1996.

8. Warrant of Authority

- 8.1 The Council shall supply Animal Control Officers with a Warrant of Appointment.
- 8.2 Animal Control Officers and Dog Rangers shall carry, and shall produce if required to do so, their Warrant of Appointment and evidence of their identity.

9. Power of Entry

- 9.1 Where any Animal Control Officer has good cause to suspect that an offence against the Dog Control Act 1996 or against this Bylaw made under the Act is being committed on any land or premises, the animal control officer, and all persons he or she calls to his or her assistance, may enter at any reasonable time onto the land or premises -
- (a) To inspect any dog for the time being appearing to be kept on that land or premises or to inspect the conditions in which any such dog is kept; and
 - (b) If authorised under any other provision of the Dog Control Act 1996, to seize or take custody of any dog on the land or premises.
- 9.2 Where any Animal Control Officer has good cause to suspect that an offence against the Act or against this bylaw made under this Act has, at any time in the preceding 6 months, been committed in respect of any dog for the time being appearing to be kept on any land or premises, the Animal Control Officer, and all persons he or she calls to his or her assistance, may enter at any reasonable time onto the land or premises -
- (a) To inspect any dog or premises; and
 - (b) If authorised under any other provision of the Dog Control Act 1996, to seize or take custody of any dog on the land or premises.
- 9.3 Nothing in this section shall authorise any Animal Control Officer to enter any dwelling house unless -
- (a) He or she is authorised in writing to do so by a Justice, or Community Magistrate who shall not grant such an authority unless the Justice or Community Magistrate is satisfied that the requirements of subsection 9.1 or subsection 9.2 have been met; and
 - (b) He or she is accompanied by a constable.

10. Power to feed & shelter dogs

- 10.1 An Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger who has reasonable grounds to suspect that a dog is without access to proper and sufficient food, water, or shelter may enter on any land or premises where the dog is present and do one or more of the following things:
- (a) supply the dog with food, water, or shelter.
 - (b) enter onto the land or premises from time to time to continue to supply the dog with food, water, or shelter;
 - (c) seize the dog and remove it from the land or premises.
- 10.2 A dog may be seized and removed under subsection 10.1(c) only if the Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger -

- (a) is satisfied that the dog is without access to proper and sufficient food, water, or shelter; and
 - (b) has reasonable cause to suspect that (but for the food, water, or shelter supplied by the Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger) the dog will not be given access to proper and sufficient food, water, or shelter within the next 24 hours.
- 10.3 If a dog is seized under subsection 10.1(c), the Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger—
 - (a) must give written notice in the prescribed form to the owner of the dog or, if the owner is not present, to the person for the time being appearing to be in charge of the property; and
 - (b) may retain custody of the dog until such time as the Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger is satisfied that the dog will receive proper and sufficient food, water, or shelter from its owner.
- 10.4 For the purposes of subsection 10.3, if no person is present on the property, the Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger must leave the notice in a conspicuous place on the property.
- 10.5 All reasonable costs incurred in the seizure, custody, sustenance, and transport of a dog under this section may be recovered as a debt from the owner of the dog.
- 10.6 Section 70 of the Dog Control Act 1996 applies to a dog removed under subsection 10.1(c) as if the dog had been removed under section 56 of the Act; and accordingly, section 70 of the Act applies with all necessary modifications.

11. Power to request information about owner or dog

- 11.1 A Constable, Animal Control Officer, or Dog Ranger may, for the purposes of this Bylaw, request the following persons to state his or her full name, date of birth, address, telephone contact number, and place of work (if applicable):
 - (a) any person appearing to be in charge of a dog; or
 - (b) any person appearing to be the occupier of any land or premises on which a dog for the time being is being kept.
- 11.2 If a person referred to in subsection 11.1(a) or (b) claims not to be the owner of the dog, the person must state the name, address, and place of work of the owner of the dog (if known).
- 11.3 Every person commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3,000 who, without reasonable excuse, fails or refuses to comply with a lawful request under subsection 11.1, or wilfully provides false information in response to a request to provide the information.
- 11.4 Any Constable, Animal Control Officer, or Dog Ranger who—
 - (a) Has reasonable grounds to believe that an offence against subsection 11.2 of this section has been committed by any person; and
 - (b) Has warned that person of the provisions of this subsection; and
 - (c) Has reasonable grounds to believe that a further offence against subsection 11.2 of this section has been committed by that person subsequent to the warning; and
 - (d) Has reasonable grounds for believing that an offence against any other section of this Act, or against any bylaw authorised by this Act, has been committed by the owner of the dog referred to in subsection 11.1 of this section,—

may seize and impound the dog and, in the case of a constable, may arrest that person without a warrant.

11.5 Power of constable, Animal Control Officer, or Dog Ranger to request information about dog—

- (a) A constable, Animal Control Officer, or Dog Ranger may, for the purposes of this Act, request the owner of a dog to state the name, gender, and a description of the dog.
- (b) Every person commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3,000 who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with a lawful request under subsection 11.1, or wilfully provides false information in response to a request to provide the information.

12. Shelter for dogs

- a. The owner of any dog must ensure it is provided with a weatherproof place of shelter that is appropriate for the size and needs of the dog. Where a dog is not kept in a house or outbuilding at night, it must be provided with a weatherproof kennel constructed on dry ground, with a floor area suitable for the dog's size. Dogs must have continuous access to clean water, and their place of shelter or confinement must be maintained in a clean and sanitary condition.
- b. Tethering must not be used as the primary means of confinement. Where fencing is not available, any temporary tethering must allow the dog free movement around its shelter and must comply with animal welfare requirements.
- c. No owner of any dog shall keep it beneath the floor of any residential building or in the case of a residential building which has more than one floor beneath the bottom or ground floor of that residential building.
- d. No owner of any dog shall keep it on any premises in any kennel any part of which shall be or stand nearer than three metres to any boundary of those premises.
- e. That the provisions of subclause 12(c) herein shall not apply where the owner of any dog has obtained express consent in writing of the occupiers of adjoining properties to allow the kennels to be situated less than three metres but not closer than one metre from the intervening boundaries.

13. Confinement of dogs at night

- (a) During the hours of darkness, any dog kept in an urban area of the district must be securely confined to the owner's property. This may include being kept indoors, within a securely fenced area, or otherwise safely contained. Dogs must not be allowed to roam freely during this period, and if outside, must be on a lead or confined within the property boundary.
- (b) Where any dog is found in the district at large in breach of this clause, the Animal Control Officer, Dog Ranger or any person authorised in writing by the Council (either generally or in any particular case or any constable) may impound the dog pursuant to Clause 23 of this Bylaw.
- (c) Clause 13(a) does not preclude people from walking dogs at night in accordance with the leashed requirements of this Bylaw (Clause 21).

14. Control of dogs

- (a) The owner or person for the time being in charge of any dog shall not cause or permit or allow it to enter or remain in or on part of any public place unless it is kept under continuous effective control.

Dogs travelling in or on open decked vehicles are to be so restrained by a short lead, container or contrivance so as to effectively restrict its movements to the actual confines of the vehicle.
- (b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subclause (a) of this clause the Council may by resolution prohibit the entry of dogs onto any public place listed in the Second schedule.
- (c) Notwithstanding the provisions of subclause (a) of this clause the council may by resolution permit the exercising of dogs in or on any reserve listed in the First Schedule and specified in that resolution provided such dogs are kept under continual control whilst thereon.
- (d) No person shall take any dog in a public swimming pool, or splashpad.
- (e) The owner or person for the time being in charge of any dog shall not cause or permit or allow such dog to enter or remain in or on any part of any camping ground operated under the jurisdiction of the Council, unless such dog is owned by the appointed Caretaker, or tenants of the Camp.
- (f) The provision of subclauses 14(a) and 14(b) shall not apply to a working dog carrying out the work in respect of which the dog has been registered.
- (g) Dog owners must at all times ensure dogs on their owner's land or property, are under the direct control of a person, or are confined within the property so that it cannot freely leave of its own free will.

15. Requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog

15.1 The council may require the owner of a dog to have that dog neutered if:

- (a) the dog has not been kept under control on more than one occasion within a 12-month period, the council may require the owner of the dog to have the dog neutered; and
- (b) dog owner has received an infringement relating to clause 15.1(a).

16. Objection to requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog

16.1 If a dog is required to be neutered under clause 14, the owner of that dog –

- (a) may, within 14 days of receiving the notice, object to the requirement by way of writing to the council; and
- (b) has the right to be heard in support of their objection under clause 16.1(a).

- 16.2 The council when considering an objection under subclause (1) may uphold or rescind the requirement. In making its determination, the council must have regard to—
- (a) the evidence which formed the basis for the requirement;
 - (b) the matters relied upon in support of the objection; and
 - (c) any other relevant matters.
- 16.3 Following its consideration of an objection under clause 16.2, the council must, as soon as practicable, give written notice to the owner of—
- (a) its determination of the objection; and
 - (b) the reasons for its determination.

17. Effect of requirement to neuter uncontrolled dog

- 17.1 If a dog is required to be neutered under clause 15, the owner of that dog must, within 1 month of receiving the notice of the requirement, produce to the council a certificate issued by a veterinarian certifying –
- (a) that the dog is or has been neutered; or
 - (b) that for reasons that are specified in the certificate, the dog will not be in a fit condition to be neutered before a date specified in the certificate.
- 17.2 If a certificate under subclause (1)(b) is produced to the council, the owner must produce to the council, within 1 month after the date specified in that certificate, a further certificate under subclause (1)(a).

18. Fouling in Public Places

No person being the owner or having the control of any dog shall permit the dog to foul any public place with droppings provided that no offence shall be deemed to have been committed against this bylaw where the person having control of the dog removes the droppings immediately. Where a public litter bin or similar receptacle is used to dispose of the droppings they must be suitably wrapped or contained to prevent fouling of such receptacle.

19. Dogs requiring temporary exclusion from public places

- 19.1 No person owning or having control or charge of any mangy or diseased dog shall take the same into any public place or permit or suffer such dog to enter or remain thereon unless being taken to a veterinary clinic.
- 19.2 No person owning or having control or charge of any female dog in season shall take the same dog into any public place or permit or suffer such dog to enter a public place or remain in a public place unless it is being taken to a veterinary clinic.

20. Aggravation of dogs

Any person shall be guilty of an offence against this Bylaw who behaves or acts in such a way so as to cause any dog in any public place and reserve to become restive or unmanageable.

21. Urban dogs – Leashed requirements

All dogs in the urban streets of Levin, Foxton, Foxton Beach, Tokomaru, Shannon, Waitāreke, Hokio, Ōhau, Waikawa Beach and Manakau, unless in an unleashed dog exercise area, are required to be on a lead attached to the dog and held by the person in charge of the dog.

22. Limitation of number of dogs on any premises – additional dog licence requirements

- (a) No person within the district shall without the consent in writing of the Council, keep or allow to be kept more than two dogs on any holding of less than 5000m² where such holding of less than 5000m² is situated in an area zoned urban as defined in clause 5 of this bylaw.
- (b) The preceding subclause shall not apply to any dogs under the age of three months.
- (c) The consent of the Council referred to in subclause (a) above may be issued as a licence upon or subject to any terms, conditions or restrictions as the Council may impose in any particular case.
- (d) Every application or such consent referred to in subclause (a) above shall be in writing addressed to the Council and signed by the applicant who shall give to the Council such further information as it may require. Every application shall be accompanied by the written consent of all adjoining owners and if granted shall be at the pleasure of the Council, and such approval is renewable annually.
- (e) Every person who commits any breach of the term conditions or restrictions imposed by the Council under subclause (c) above shall be deemed to have committed an offence against this Bylaw.

23. Impounding

- 23.1 An Animal Control Officer or any Police Constable, or any other person authorised by Council, may impound a dog not wearing a collar having the proper registration label or disc thereon or attached thereto found at large in any public place or a dog whether or not it is wearing a collar having the proper label or disc thereon or attached thereto found at large in breach of any of the other provisions of this Bylaw.
- 23.2 The Council may from time to time by resolution fix the amount of payment to be made by the owner of any dog impounded pursuant to the provisions of this Bylaw of reasonable fees for sustenance of the dog while so impounded, for giving notice to the owner of the impounding and of a poundage fee.
- 23.3 If any dog is impounded pursuant to the provisions of this Bylaw the Animal Control Officer shall as soon as practicable thereafter give notice of the impounding to the owner at the address given by the owner when it was registered. A dog that has been impounded shall be released to its owner upon payment by the owner of all fees and costs incurred by the Council.

24. Disposal of impounded dogs

- 24.1 If any dog impounded pursuant to this Bylaw is not claimed and all fees are not paid by the owner -
- (a) within seven (7) days after the owner has been personally notified of the impounding; or
 - (b) in any case where the owner is unknown to the Council and cannot be found within such period of time as laid down by the Dog Control Act 1996, as amended from time to time, (the dog may be destroyed or sold to any person by or on behalf of the Council and that person shall thereupon become the owner of the dog) provided that the person who was the owner of the dog before it was destroyed or sold shall not thereby be relieved of liability for any penalty or for payment of any fees payable under this Bylaw.

25. Probationary Owners

- 25.1 In accordance with the provisions of Section 21 of the Dog Control Act 1996, Council may cause any person to be classified as a Probationary Owner.
- 25.2 Any person classified as a probationary owner, and having been given written notice of that decision, may object to that classification, in writing, in accordance with section 22 of the Dog Control Act 1996.
- 25.3 The effect of a Probationary Owner classification is in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996 -
- (a) Section 23(1) for up to 24 months duration;
 - (b) Section 23(2) effect on owner's registered dogs;
 - (c) Section 23A dog owner education programme requirement;
 - (d) Section 24 Disposal requirements of unregistered dogs;
 - (e) Section 29 Every classification is in force throughout New Zealand.

26. Disqualified Owners

- 26.3 In accordance with Section 25 of the Dog Control Act 1996, Council will disqualify a person from being the owner of a dog, unless satisfied disqualification is not warranted, and will instead classify the person as a probationary owner.
- 26.4 Any person disqualified from owning a dog, and having been given written notice of that decision, may object to that classification in writing in accordance with Section 26 of the Dog Control Act 1996.
- 26.5 The effect of disqualification is in accordance with the Dog Control Act 1996 -
- (a) Section 25(3) For up to 5 years' duration;
 - (b) Section 28(1)(a) Disposal of dogs by owner;
 - (c) Section 29 Every classification is in force throughout New Zealand.

27. Dangerous Dogs

- 27.3 The Horowhenua District Council shall classify as a Dangerous Dog -
- (a) any dog in respect of which the owner has been convicted of an offence under Section 57A(2)

- of the Dog Control Act 1996; and
- (b) any dog which Council has, on the basis of sworn evidence attesting to aggressive behaviour by the dog on one or more occasions, reasonable grounds to believe constitutes a threat to the safety of any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife; and
- (c) Any dog that the owner admits in writing constitutes a threat to the safety of any person, stock, poultry, domestic animals, or protected wildlife.

27.4 Where any dog is classified as a dangerous dog under this Bylaw and the Dog Control Act 1996, Council shall give notice in the prescribed form of that classification to the owner.

28. Menacing Dogs

28.3 The Horowhenua District Council may classify as a Menacing Dog any dog that has not been classified as a Dangerous Dog, but is considered to pose a threat to any person, stock, poultry, domestic animal, or protected wildlife because of -

- (a) any observed or reported behaviour of the dog, or
- (b) any characteristics typically associated with the dog's breed or type.

28.2 The Horowhenua District Council will classify as a Menacing Dog any dog belonging to the breed or type detailed in Schedule 4 of the Dog Control Act 1996.

28.3 Where any dog is classified as a Menacing Dog under this Bylaw and the Dog Control Act 1996, Council shall give notice in the prescribed form of that classification to the owner.

28.4 Where a dog has been classified as a menacing dog by Council, on or after the date this Bylaw takes effect, by either breed or type, or by incident, the dog is required to be neutered at the owner's expense.

28.5 Any dog classified as menacing by another territorial authority that comes into the Horowhenua to reside, on or after the date this Bylaw takes effect, will be required to be neutered.

29. Microchipping of dogs

29.1 Dogs are required to be microchipped as follows:

- (a) All dogs first registered on or after 1 July 2006, except stock working farm dogs which are exempt (Dog Control Microchip Transponder Regulations 2005).
- (b) All dogs released from Council's Pound.

30. Barking dogs

30.1 Where an Animal Control Officer has received a complaint and has reasonable grounds for believing that a nuisance is being created by the persistent and loud barking or howling of any dog, the Animal Control Officer may:

- (a) Enter at any reasonable time upon the land or premises, other than a dwelling house, on which the dog is kept, to inspect the conditions under which the dog is kept; and
- (b) Whether or not the Animal Control Officer makes such entry, give the owner of the dog a written notice requiring that person to make such reasonable provision on the property to abate the

nuisance as shall be specified in the notice or, if considered necessary, to remove the dog from the land or premises.

- 30.2 Any person on whom notice is served under Clause 30.1(b) of this Bylaw may, within seven days of the receipt of the notice, object in writing to the Horowhenua District Council against the requirements of that notice, and the Council shall consider the objection and may confirm, modify, or cancel the notice.
- 30.3 No objection under this section shall be considered unless seven days' notice of the date and time when and the place of which it is to be considered have been given to the objector, who shall be entitled to be represented and to be heard and may submit evidence and call witnesses in support of his or her objection. Upon the determination of the objection, the Council shall give to the objector a further notice stating the decision, and, if the effect of the decision is to modify the requirements of the Animal Control Officer, shall set out those requirements as so modified.
- 30.4 As from the lodging of an objection with the Council and pending the receipt of a further notice upon the determination of the objection, the notice setting out the requirements that are the subject of the objection shall be deemed to be suspended.

31. Removal of barking dog causing distress

- 31.1 This section shall apply in any case, where at any time after a notice under S55 of the Dog Control Act 1996 (Section 30.1(b) of this Bylaw) has been issued:
- (a) The notice has not been cancelled, and
 - (b) The notice has not been complied with, and
 - (c) An Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger has received a further complaint and has reasonable grounds for believing that the nuisance in respect of which the noise is issued is continuing and is causing distress to any person.
- 31.2 In any case, the Animal Control Officer may enter upon the land or premises on which the dog is kept and remove the dog and the dog shall be kept in custody under Section 70 of the Dog Control Act 1996. Note: Nothing in this section shall authorise any Animal Control Officer to enter any dwelling house unless:
- (a) He or she is authorised in writing to do so by a Justice, who shall not grant such an authority unless the Justice is satisfied that the requirements of section 31.1 of this Bylaw have been met; and
 - (b) He or she is accompanied by a constable.
- 31.3 Where a dog is removed pursuant of this section, the Animal Control Officer shall give written notice in the prescribed form to the owner of the dog or, if the owner is not present, the person for the time being appearing to be in charge of the land or premises and, if no person is present on the property, shall leave such notice in some conspicuous place on the land or premises.

32. Dogs attacking persons or animals

- 32.1 A person may, for the purpose of stopping an attack, seize or destroy a dog if—
- (a) the person is attacked by the dog; or
 - (b) the person witnesses the dog attacking any other person, or any stock, poultry, domestic

animal, or protected wildlife.

- 32.2 The owner of a dog that makes an attack described in subsection 32.1 above commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3,000 in addition to any liability that he or she may incur for any damage caused by the attack.
- 32.3 If, in any proceedings under subsection 32.2, the Court is satisfied that the dog has committed an attack described in subsection 32.1 and that the dog has not been destroyed, the Court must make an order for the destruction of the dog unless it is satisfied that the circumstances of the offence were exceptional and do not warrant destruction of the dog.
- 32.4 If a person seizes a dog under subsection 32.1, he or she must, as soon as practicable, deliver the dog into the custody of a Dog Ranger or Animal Control Officer.
- 32.5 If an Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger has reasonable grounds to believe that an offence has been committed under subsection 32.2, he or she may—
- (a) seize and take custody of the dog; or
 - (b) if seizure of the dog is not practicable, destroy the dog.
- 32.6 An Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger may enter land or premises for the purposes of subsection 32.5, but may enter any dwelling house on the land or premises only if—
- (a) he or she is in fresh pursuit of a dog that—
 - i. he or she has reasonable grounds to believe has committed an attack described in subsection 32.1; and
 - ii. has been identified by a witness to the attack; or
 - (b) he or she is authorised in writing to do so by a Justice, who must not grant an authority unless the Justice is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds to believe that an offence has been committed under subsection 32.2, and, in the case of an Animal Control Officer, he or she is accompanied by a constable.
- 32.7 To avoid doubt, a member of the police may exercise the powers conferred on An Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger by this section.
- 32.8 This section does not apply in respect of a dog that—
- (a) is kept, or is being used, or is certified for use by a specified agency; and
 - (b) is being used for the purpose of carrying out in a lawful manner any function, duty, or power of that agency.

33. Dogs rushing at persons, animals or vehicles

- 33.1 This section applies to a dog in a public place that—
- (a) rushes at, or startles, any person or animal in a manner that causes—

- i. any person to be killed, injured, or endangered; or
 - ii. any property to be damaged or endangered; or
- (b) rushes at any vehicle in a manner that causes, or is likely to cause, an accident.

33.2 If this section applies,—

- (a) the owner of the dog commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$3,000 in addition to any liability that he or she may incur for any damage caused by the dog; and
- (b) the court may make an order for the destruction of the dog.

33.3 An Animal Control Officer or Dog Ranger who has reasonable grounds to believe that an offence has been committed under subsection 33.2(a) may, at any time before a decision of the court under that subsection, seize or take custody of the dog and may enter any land or premises (except a dwelling house) to do so.

This Section does not apply in respect of a dog that -

- (a) is kept, or is being used, or is certified for use by a specified agency; and
- (b) is being used for the purpose of carrying out in a lawful manner any function, duty, or power of that agency.

34. Dogs causing serious injury

(a) The owner of any dog that attacks any person or any protected wildlife and causes -

- (i) Serious injury to any person; or
- (ii) The death of any protected wildlife; or
- (iii) Such injury to any protected wildlife that it becomes necessary to destroy the animal to terminate its suffering, -

commits an offence and is liable on conviction to imprisonment for a term not exceeding 3 years or a fine not exceeding \$20,000, or both, and the Court shall, on convicting the owner, make an order for the destruction of the dog unless satisfied that the circumstances of the attack were exceptional and do not justify destruction.

(b) This section does not apply in respect of a dog that -

- (i) is kept, or is being used, or is certified for use by a specified agency; and
- (ii) is being used for the purpose of carrying out in a lawful manner any function, duty, or power of that agency.

35. Dogs causing general nuisance – damage to rubbish bins/bags

Dogs causing a general nuisance by scavenging in rubbish bags commit an offence against this Bylaw, and owners of the dog(s) are liable to an infringement fine.

36. Recognised dog obedience groups

Dogs are allowed unleashed on grounds used by recognised dog obedience groups or similar clubs and organisations when conducting training, display, or similar type activities, including dog trials and public awareness activities.

As a consequence, no offence is committed against this Bylaw in respect of any 'leashed' requirements outlined in this Bylaw, when these activities are being conducted.

37. Registration & Ownership

- 37.1 The Horowhenua District Council shall from time to time set fees for the Registration and Control of Dogs, and publicly notify these fees in accordance with Section 37(6) of the Dog Control Act 1996.
- 37.2 Where any person applies for any new dog to be registered after the 1st day of the second month of any registration year, the fee payable shall be calculated on the basis of the number of complete months remaining in the registration year, as if the fee were payable in equal monthly instalments. All dogs must be registered on attaining the age of 3 months.
- 37.3 Where a dog dies during the registration year, the appropriate part of the fee shall be refunded, upon the written request of the owner.
- 37.4 Any dog not wearing a collar having a current registration label or disc attached shall, until the contrary is proved, be deemed to be unregistered.
- 37.5 In any proceedings under this bylaw or the Dog Control Act 1996, the proof that a dog was duly registered, or is not over the age of 3 months, shall be on the defendant.
- 37.6 Where the ownership of a registered dog is changed the registration shall continue in force, however, both the previous and the new owner shall, within 14 days of such change, inform the District Council in writing of:
- (a) The change details of ownership; and
 - (b) The residential address of the new owner; and
 - (c) The address at which the dog will ordinarily be kept.
- 37.7 Where the owner of any dog changes his or her address within the District or to any other District, they shall within 14 days, give notice in writing of their change of address.

38. Offences and Penalties

- 38.1 Every person who allows anything whatsoever contrary to or otherwise than as provided by this

Bylaw commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding \$20,000.00 as set out in Section 242(4) of the Local Government Act 2002.

- 38.2 An injunction preventing a person from committing a breach of this Bylaw may also be granted in accordance with Section 162 of the Local Government Act 2002.

Schedules

Schedule 1 : Areas where dogs are prohibited

Schedule 2: Areas where dogs are allowed – Leashed and Un-Leashed

Schedule 3: Schedule of Infringement Fees and Offences

SCHEDULE 1

DOG PROHIBITED AREAS

Description of Public Place

All land administered by the Department of Conservation (unless the dog owner has a permit from the Department of Conservation or there is Department of Conservation signage that identifies where a dog may be taken without a permit).

The area within three (3) metres of any children's playground whether or not the balance of the area is designated as a Dog Exercise Area or a Dog On-leash Area.

All playing fields (including bowling greens) within Council reserves and sportsgrounds and their car parks.

(Note: Most current sports grounds are listed in the Schedule below. In some cases, dogs are allowed on parts of the grounds but only in the areas not including the playing fields, for the purposes and under the conditions specified in relation to a particular sports ground).

All public place areas when being used exclusively for a sporting event or other community use.

LEVIN TOWN (during shop trading hours)

The owner of any dog shall keep and prevent the same from being in that area of Levin Town defined as being the Oxford Street shopping area being all that public area including road, footpath, access way, reserve, and shopping mall entrance between the Durham Street intersection with Oxford Street and Stanley Street intersection with Oxford Street, being more particularly known as Oxford Street, Levin.

PROVIDED HOWEVER that exception to this provision is given to:

- (a) Police dogs present in the area in connection with Police work, or Dog Search Team work.
- (b) Dogs present in the area in connection with their function as Disability Assist Dogs.
- (c) Dogs otherwise authorised for specified purposes.

SHANNON URBAN AREA (during shop trading hours)

- i. Plimmer Terrace - Ballance Street to Grey Street.
- ii. Ballance Street - Plimmer Terrace to Venn Street.

PROVIDED HOWEVER that exception to this provision is given to:

- (a) Police dogs present in the area in connection with Police work or Dog Search Team work.
- (b) Dogs present in the area in connection with their function as Disability Assist Dogs.
- (c) Dogs otherwise authorised for specified purposes.

FOXTON TOWN (during shop trading hours)

"Town" defined as being the Main Street.

"SHOPPING AREA" being all that public area including road, footpath, access way, reserve shopping mall between the Ravensworth Street intersection with Main Street and the Union Street intersection with Main Street (including Flaxmill Reserve), being more particularly known as Main Street, Foxton, **PROVIDED HOWEVER that exception to this provision is given to:**

- (a) Police dogs present in the area in connection with Police work or Dog Search Team work.
- (b) Dogs present in the area in connection with their function as Disability Assist Dogs.
- (c) Dogs otherwise authorised for specified purposes.

SCHEDULE 1

DOG PROHIBITED AREAS

RESERVES PARKS AND OTHER AREAS (AT ALL TIMES)

SHANNON

Shannon Domain
Hyde Park

FOXTON

Easton Park, including rugby grounds, swimming pool, and outdoor play area
Victoria Park
Stuart Donnelly Park

FOXTON BEACH

Foxton Surf Beach (ramp to ramp) - during the period of Daylight Saving times
Holben Parade Reserve (that area generally contained within Seabury Avenue, Nash Parade and Holben Parade)
Bird Sanctuary area of Manawatu Estuary

WAITARERE

Waitarere Domain
Waitarere Beach (between flagged/patrolled area) - during the period of Daylight Saving times.
Rua Avenue Play Area
Waitarere Beach Motor Camp (except for Caretaker and Camp tenants but restrained on a leash at all times)
Holmwood Park

LEVIN

Parsons Avenue Reserve
Weraroa Reserve
Donnelly Park Sportsgrounds
Solway Park
Playford Park
Jubilee Park Play area
Levin Domain
Waiopahu Reserve
Muaupoko Park

Manakau

Manakau Domain

SCHEDULE 2

AREAS WHERE DOGS ARE ALLOWED (LEASHED AND/OR UNLEASHED)

Area	Leashed	Unleashed
Tokomaru	Residential streets (unless prohibited)	Tokomaru Domain when not being used for sporting or other community uses
Shannon	Residential streets (unless prohibited) Shannon Urban prohibited area (after shop trading hours) Shannon Cemetery Te Maire Park Stafford Street Esplanade	Moynihan Park when not being used for sporting or other community uses
Foxton	Residential streets (unless prohibited) Foxton Town prohibited area (after shop trading hours) Foxton Cemetery Riverloop Reserve	Victoria Park
Foxton Beach	Residential streets (unless prohibited) Hennessey Street/Lowe Avenue grounds Hartley Street Esplanade Dawick Reserve Cousins Avenue Plantation Reserve	Foxton Beach outside of ramp areas
Waitāre	Residential streets (unless prohibited) Esplanade Reserve Waitare Beach Motor Camp (Caretaker and Camp tenants only) Hudson/Wairarawa Reserve	Waitare Beach outside of patrolled area
Hokio	Residential streets (unless prohibited)	Hokio Beach

SCHEDULE 2

AREAS WHERE DOGS ARE ALLOWED (LEASHED AND/OR UNLEASHED)

Manakau	Manakau Cemetery Driscoll Reserve Residential streets (unless prohibited)	Kuku Beach
Levin	Residential streets (unless prohibited) Levin Town prohibited area (after shop trading hours) Tiro Tiro Road Cemetery Lincoln Place Reserve Avenue Cemetery Maire Park Railway Reserve Levin North (Kiosk) Railway Reserve (Liverpool Street to Tararua Road) Playford Park Motor Camp (Caretaker and Camp tenants only) Morgan Crescent Reserve Prouse Bush Western Park (all areas) Public Gardens, Remembrance Garden Public Gardens, Thompson House Memorial Gardens Public Gardens, Rose Gardens	Kowhai Park Argyle Avenue Reserve Kimberley Reserve (excluding Camping area) Gladstone Reserve Kennedy Reserve Iona Park Levin Adventure Park dog exercise area only
Mangaore	Residential streets (unless prohibited)	Mangaore Village Reserve
Ōhau	Residential streets (unless prohibited)	Parikawau Reserve Ōhau Domain (defined areas)

SCHEDULE 2

AREAS WHERE DOGS ARE ALLOWED (LEASHED AND/OR UNLEASHED)

Waikawa	Residential streets (unless prohibited) Waikawa Reserve Hank Edwards Reserve	Waikawa Beach
----------------	--	---------------

Protected Wildlife in Public Places

Public Place	Protected Wildlife Present	Control
Manawatu Estuary Foreshore	Wrybill Turnstone Sharp-tailed Sandpiper Lesser Knot Curlew Sandpiper Red-necked Stint Banded Dotterel Variable Oystercatcher Bar Tailed Godwit Asiatic Whimbrel Least Golden Plover Greenshank Marsh Sandpiper Little Blue Penguins New Zealand Fur Seals	On a leash
Waikawa River mouth and Beach from Waikawa to Ohau and Ohau Estuary	Variable Oystercatcher Little Blue Penguins New Zealand Fur Seals	On a leash

Schedule 3

Infringement fees for offences against the Dog Control Act 1996 &

Horowhenua Dog Control Bylaw

Section	Brief description of offence	Infringement fee (\$)
18	Wilful obstruction of Animal Control Officer or Ranger	750
19(2)	Failure or refusal to supply information or willfully providing false particulars	750
19A(2)	Failure to supply information or willfully providing false particulars about dog	750
20(5)	Failure to comply with any bylaw authorized by the section	300
23A(2)	Failure to undertake dog owner education programme or dog obedience course (or both)	300
24	Failure to comply with obligations of probationary owner	750
28(5)	Failure to comply with effects of disqualification	750
32(2)	Failure to comply with effects of classification of dog as dangerous dog	300
32(4)	Fraudulent sale or transfer of dangerous dog	500
33EC(1)	Failure to comply with effects of classification of dog as menacing dog	300
33F(3)	Failure to advise person of muzzle and leashing requirements	100
36A(6)	Failure to implant microchip transponder in dog	300
41	False statement relating to dog registration	750
41A	Falsely notifying death of dog	750
42	Failure to register dog	300
46(4)	Fraudulent procurement or attempt to procure replacement dog registration label or disc	500
48(3)	Failure to advise change of dog ownership	100
49(4)	Failure to advise change of address	100
51(1)	Removal, swapping, or counterfeiting of registration label or disc	500
52A	Failure to keep dog controlled or confined	200
53(1)	Failure to keep dog under control	200
54(2)	Failure to provide proper care and attention, to supply proper and sufficient sufficient food, water, and shelter, and to provide adequate exercise	300
54A	Failure to carry leash in public	100
55(7)	Failure to comply with barking dog abatement notice	200
62(4)	Allowing dog known to be dangerous to be at large unmuzzled or unleashed	300
62(5)	Failure to advise of muzzle and leashing requirements	100
72(2)	Releasing dog from custody	750



Responsible Dog Owner Approval (RDOA)



1. Introduction

The Responsible Dog Owner Approval status has replaced the previous Selected Owner Policy (SOP) status. This change reflects feedback received during the 2024-2044 Long Term Plan process where dog owners told us they were unaware of what our 'Selected Owner Policy' status meant.

While the Council has renamed the scheme to 'Responsible Dog Owner Approval' it is important to recognise that all dog owners are expected to be responsible, regardless of their status in the Council scheme.

2. How to qualify

You can apply for Responsible Dog Owner Approval status if you meet the following criteria:

- The outdoor area your dog(s) has access to is fully fenced. The fence must be well-built and high enough to prevent your dog from jumping over; and
- The housing arrangements for your dog(s) is suitable, ensuring kennels are weatherproof and hygienic; and
- You have been a registered dog owner within the Horowhenua District for at least 12 months, and the Council has received no justified complaints about your dog(s) or your dog ownership behaviour in the previous 12 months (a complaint reviewed and found to have merit by the Council); and
- You have not received any warnings, infringements, impoundments, seizures or abatements under the Dog Control Act 1996 in the previous 12 months; and
- Dog(s) have attended and passed dog obedience training to level 2 (Canine Good Basics) or above, and a copy of the certificate provided; or you have attended and received the Council's Responsible Dog Owner Approval Ready certificate; and
- You comply with the Horowhenua Dog Control Bylaw regarding dogs.

Note: The fencing does not need to cover the entire property. A portion of the yard is acceptable if it securely contains your dog. If you live in a property without direct outdoor access (such as an apartment), fencing requirements may not apply. If you are renting and are unable to install permanent fixtures, please contact the Council to discuss acceptable alternatives.

Why does the Council require dog obedience training, or a RDOA Ready certificate?

Requiring an obedience certificate provides a standardised way to confirm all RDOA owners are committed to responsible dog ownership and public safety. This benefits not only individual dog owners but also the wider community, creating safer and more enjoyable shared public spaces.

A well-trained dog looks to its owner for direction, making it easier to manage them in public spaces and around others. If a dog struggles with recall or control, training helps both the owner and the dog develop effective communication skills.

The training includes a standardised test to confirm both the dog and owner meet the necessary criteria, promoting consistency across all RDOA owners.

3. Reasons for ineligibility for RDOA status:

Any application for RDOA status will be declined if you:

- have been convicted of an offence under the Dog Control Act 1996 or related offences under the Animal Welfare Act 1999, Conservation Act 1987, or National Parks Act 1980;
- received a late payment penalty for your dog registration in the last year;
- been classified as a probationary or disqualified dog owner;
- received an infringement notice or written warning from a warranted Animal Control Officer in the last year;
- received a substantiated complaint about your dogs' behaviour in the last year.

4. RDOA application cost

There is a one-off application fee required in addition to your annual registration fee. This fee is used to recover the cost associated with the processing of, assessing of, and

The RDOA application cost is set as per Councils fees and charges annually.

5. How to apply

Before you apply, please check that you meet the RDOA criteria set out above, as there is no refund if we decline your RDOA application.

Applications for RDOA must be submitted to the Council before 1 May each year to be eligible for any approved status to be applied in the upcoming registration year, from 1 July. Applications received after this date will be applied to the following registration year.

6. Application results

The Council will notify you of your application results. If you are successful, and your application was made prior to 1 May, we will have the status and discount automatically applied to your next annual registration fee due later in the year. Approved applications made after 1 May will have the discount applied to the registration period in the following July.

7. Keeping your RDOA status

You could lose your RDOA status or have it temporarily deactivated in certain circumstances.

Temporary deactivation of RDOA status

Your RDOA status will be deactivated under either of the following circumstances:

- If your residential address is no longer in the Horowhenua, either temporarily or permanently.
- If you no longer have any dogs registered with Horowhenua District Council (for example, if your dog passes away).

8. Cancellation of RDOA status

There are circumstances where your RDOA will be cancelled, either permanently or for a stand-down period of 12 months (from the time it is cancelled).

Your RDOA status will be permanently cancelled if you:

- are convicted of an offence under the Dog Control Act 1996, or a dog-related offence under the Animal Welfare Act 1999, Conservation Act 1987 or National Parks Act 1980;
- are classified as a probationary or disqualified dog owner;
- have your dog impounded.

Your RDOA status will be cancelled, and you must wait one year before reapplying if you:

- fail to pay dog registration fees by the prescribed penalty deadline;
- receive an infringement notice or written warning from a warranted Animal Control Officer;
- have received at least one substantiated complaint (a complaint reviewed and found to have merit by the Council);
- fail to notify the Council of a change in residential address within 30 calendar days of moving.

9. Change of address

If you move within the Horowhenua District you will need to let us know, because we will likely need to inspect your new home to maintain your RDOA status. There is a one-off fee for an Animal Control Officer to complete this inspection.

More information about the RDOA Ready Certificate

This is a theory-based course that is for Horowhenua District Council registered dog owners only. It is offered twice a year and covers:

- what you need to know about our Dog Control Bylaw, Dog Control Policy and the Dog Control Act;
- unique wildlife challenges in the Horowhenua
- your key responsibilities as a dog owner.

A test will be given out at the end of the course. You'll receive a copy of your score and, if you pass, a certificate will be emailed to you to attach to your RDOA application.

Note: If you have difficulty with reading or writing, please let us know in advance so appropriate support can be arranged. This may include the option to complete the test verbally or with assistance.

File No.: 25/370

8.5 Adoption of Strategic Recreation Investment Framework

Author(s)	Mark Hammond Community Facilities and Services Manager Tumu Hanga Tukuora Hapori, Ratonga Hapori
	Lacey Winiata Parks & Property Manager Tumu Rawa, Papa Rēhia
Approved by	Brent Harvey Group Manager - Community Experience & Services Tumu Rangapū, Wheako Hapori, Ratonga
	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. This report seeks Council adoption of the final Strategic Recreation Investment Framework (the Framework), following a series of Councillor workshops and community engagement.

This matter relates to Enabling balanced growth with fit for purpose infrastructure.

Conduct appropriate investigations in key strategic focus areas-including aquatics, parks, property, and sports-preparing for informed decision making ahead of the next Long Term Plan.

Continue integrated growth planning to inform future capital investments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. This report presents the final Strategic Recreation Investment Framework (the Framework) for Council adoption. Developed in collaboration with *Visitor Solutions* and shaped by a series of Councillor workshops, the Framework provides a transparent and consistent approach to prioritising recreation investments across the Horowhenua District.
3. The Framework responds to Council's desire for greater strategic clarity following previous Long Term Plan discussions, particularly around large-scale projects such as Levin Aquatic Centre and Donnelly Park. It establishes key evaluation criteria, investment principles, and alignment with growth and wellbeing strategies.
4. Councillor feedback during the development process has been supportive and constructive. The Framework also reflects national and regional best practice, drawing on documents such as Sport NZ's Spaces and Places Framework and He rā ki tua – Horizons Region Spaces and Places Plan.
5. Once adopted, the Framework will be implemented through a live dashboard tool to support decision-making and visibility across the project pipeline. While there are no immediate financial implications, the Framework will be used to inform future Long Term Plan, Annual Plan, and significant investment decisions relating to sport and recreation.
6. Adopting the Framework now enables Council officers to proceed with the development of an Action Plan (Key Moves) and the completion of the network needs analysis, which will be reported back to Council in August 2025.

DELEGATION OR AUTHORITY TO ACT | TE MANA WHAKATAU I NGĀ KAWENGA

7. Council has the delegation and authority to adopt the Framework.

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

8. This matter is assessed as not significant in terms of Council's Significance and Engagement Policy because it does not involve changes to levels of service or financial decisions at this stage. However, the Framework will guide future decisions which may individually be significant and subject to separate assessments and engagement.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/370 Adoption of Strategic Recreation Investment Framework be received.
- B. That this matter or decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.
- C. That Council adopts the Strategic Recreation Investment Framework as set out in Attachment one of this report.
- D. That Council instructs the Chief Executive to implement the Framework and use it to support the development of advice for Council to inform future Long Term Plan, Annual Plan, or other significant investment decisions relating to sport and recreation
- E. That Council approve the Chief Executive to make any future editorial changes to the Framework.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

9. Horowhenua District Council manages an extensive network of parks, pools, open spaces, and recreational facilities. Investment in these assets must be balanced, strategic, and responsive to changing community needs.
10. During Long Term Plan deliberations, Councillors discussed how significant recreation investments, particularly for Levin Aquatic Centre and Donnelly Park, should be prioritised. The Chief Executive suggested that a strategic framework could support more consistent and informed decision-making across the recreation network.
11. Following a procurement process, Council officers engaged *Visitor Solutions* who are a consulting firm who specialise in recreation policy and strategy. Additionally, they have a proven track record of completing similar pieces of work for other Local Government authorities.
12. Since January 2025, Council officers have been working alongside Visitor Solutions to develop the Framework.
13. A Steering Group was formed from the conception of this project. Members of the Steering Group include Council's Parks and Property Manager, Community Facilities and Services Manager, Aquatic Facilities Manager, Integrated Growth and Planning Manager, Green by Nature's Operations Manager and a representative from Sport Manawatu. The Steering Group's role was to assist *Visitor Solutions* with their planning, sense check any of their findings and to provide direction on operational matters.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

14. Councillors were engaged at key stages of the Framework's development through a series of workshops. These sessions ensured elected members had oversight of the process and provided opportunities to shape the content. The workshops were held as follows:
 - 14.1. **March Workshop** – Confirmed the scope of the project and gathered Councillors' expectations of the Framework.

- 14.2. **April Workshop** – Presented the initial draft, discussed investment principles and high-level evaluation criteria, and introduced the proposed process.
- 14.3. **May Workshop** – Reviewed the refined draft and confirmed any final changes ahead of adoption.
15. Feedback from Councillors was positive and constructive, providing clear direction to both *Visitor Solutions* and officers. This affirmed that the Framework was on track and aligned with expectations.
16. The final Framework (Attachment 1) reflects that feedback. It is designed to be practical, user-friendly, and easy for officers to apply when preparing advice on recreation investment.
17. In developing the Framework, the focus was on building upon existing strategies and processes rather than creating new ones. This approach strengthens alignment with Council's wider strategic work and intended to give Councillors confidence in the Framework's relevance. Key connections include:
 - 17.1. The Community Wellbeing Committee has been identified as a well-established Committee that can support the Framework process in an informing way as they can provide community views on potential projects, represent a wide cross section of the community and could identify potential enhancements to projects. In addition, the Committee's role is to ensure the delivery of Council's Community Wellbeing Strategy which also has strong wellbeing linkages to what the Framework is trying to achieve.
 - 17.2. From the outset of the planning of this Framework, growth has taken centre stage and has been carefully considered ensuring that the Horowhenua Growth Strategy and Integrated Growth Programme is aligned with the Framework. The Framework promotes enabling growth, responding to growth and delivering on growth.
 - 17.3. External partners play an important role in the success of the Framework which is why consideration has been given to *Sport NZ's Spaces and Places Framework* and at a regional level *He rā ki tua – Horizons Region Spaces and Places Plan* for Sport and Recreation which in turn allows us to consider neighbouring Council's as well.
18. On page 8 of Attachment 1, an overview is illustrated which demonstrates the magnitude of Framework and the different layers that are to be considered. Of particular note and a significant part of the Framework is project evaluation. The Framework has different components for project evaluation when considering strategic recreation investment.
 - 18.1. **Impact assessment** - The assessed level of impact the project (and investment) will have on Horowhenua residents and the District. This involves using the righted criteria that was workshopped with Councillors.
 - 18.2. **Network assessment** - Understanding how critical it is or will the facility be within the facility network and when is it required.
 - 18.3. **Council's role and investment required or sought** - Understanding the role that Council plays in regards to that particular facility or project – whether that be own, develop, deliver or operate.
19. As a result of the Framework and considering those different components, Council officers will prepare a live dashboard that creates a list of projects that are within Council's Long Term Plan but also provides the ability for new or re-assessed projects to be considered which may fall outside of a Long Term Plan or Annual Plan. Initial thoughts by Council officers is that this dashboard be included in each Full OPR (Organisation Performance

Report) to ensure that elected members and the community have full visibility of upcoming projects and how they have been assessed against the Framework.

20. As a result of a project being gone through the Framework, any recommendations and proposed actions continue to sit with Council and their ability to making informed Council decisions in accordance with the Local Government Act.

Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

21. Council has three options to consider in relation to the adoption of the Framework.

Options Ngā Kōwhiringa	Benefits Ngā Whiwhinga	Risks Ngā Mōrearea
Option A (recommended) Council adopt the Strategic Recreation Investment Framework	Establishes a transparent, consistent, and robust framework for recreation investment. Supports strategic alignment with the Long Term Plan, Growth Strategy, and Wellbeing Strategy. Provides clear evaluation criteria, helping elected members make evidence-based decisions. Builds community confidence in Council's decision-making processes. Enables better prioritisation of projects across the network. Allows for integration with regional and national planning frameworks	Community and stakeholders may have increased expectations regarding delivery. The dashboard and process will require ongoing maintenance and updates.
Option B (status quo) Do not adopt the Framework and continue with the current approach.	No change required to existing processes or reporting structures. Retains flexibility for Councillors to consider projects on a case-by-case basis.	Greater risk of inconsistent or reactive investment decisions. Difficulty in justifying prioritisation of projects in the absence of a clear framework. Reduced transparency for community and stakeholders. May lead to inefficient allocation of resources or duplication of efforts.

		Missed opportunity to align with strategic documents and national/regional frameworks.
Option C (not recommended) Delay adoption to allow further refinement and workshoping.	Provides additional time for stakeholder engagement or refinement. Allows Council to incorporate any last-minute insights or changes.	May cause confusion or uncertainty about how recreation projects should be prioritised in the interim. Could result in decision-making occurring without the guidance of a structured approach. May lead to stakeholder frustration if progress appears stalled

ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

22. Engagement with iwi and mana whenua has been welcomed throughout the development of the Framework, with kōrero held with various iwi and hapū partners as part of the process.
23. The Framework recognises the importance of cultural values and ensures Māori perspectives are considered, particularly where projects involve land, taonga, or have implications for community wellbeing.
24. As outlined on page 17 of Attachment 1, iwi and hapū are identified as strategic partners in the Framework, reflecting their integral role in shaping recreation outcomes.
25. It is important to note that applying the Framework does not replace Council's existing obligations to engage with iwi and hapū. When a project is identified and assessed through the Framework, Council officers will continue to initiate or maintain engagement as part of the standard reporting process

CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

26. The Framework includes 'Enriched Environment' as assessment criteria for recreation investment projects. This ensures that future facilities and projects will try to align with Council's climate objectives and contribute to adaptive, low-emission infrastructure.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

27. There are no immediate financial implications of adopting the Framework.
28. Future resourcing and investment decisions influenced by the Framework will be subject to separate reports and budget approvals mostly through Long Term and Annual Plans.

LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

29. There are no identified legal risks associated with adopting the Framework.
30. The Framework strengthens Council's compliance with sections 76–82 of the Local Government Act by ensuring investment decisions are well-informed and aligned with community outcomes.

POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

31. The Framework will become a foundational working document which will help guide future policy development and updates to existing recreation, growth, and wellbeing strategies.
32. It may inform amendments to related Council policies over time, including the Parks and Open Spaces Strategy and associated asset management plans.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI

33. Councillors, partners, and parts of the recreation community have been engaged during the Framework's development through workshops and targeted stakeholder input. Throughout that engagement, feedback has been positive and the objectives of the Framework has been well received. In particular, sports clubs and codes that officers have met with, have in general expressed their support for the Framework and can see the benefits that it will have for the wider sport and recreation network.
34. No further consultation is required for adoption.

Communicating with our Community | Te Whakawhiti Pārongo ki te Hapori

35. Given that the Framework is an internal tool for Council to use when assessing projects and facilities, there is no intention to carry out any future communication to the community other than informal dialogue with our partners and stakeholders.

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

36. Two key pieces of work will follow adoption of the Framework: the continuation of the network needs analysis and the development of an Action Plan, also referred to as the Key Moves. Identifying and assessing these Key Moves relies on the Framework being in place, as it provides the structure and criteria for evaluation. Adoption at this stage enables that next phase of work to proceed.
37. Once the network needs analysis and Action Plan are complete, Council officers will report back to Council in August, seeking endorsement or adoption of the identified Key Moves.

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	Horowhenua Strategic Recreation Investment Framework	99



HOROWHENUA

STRATEGIC RECREATION
INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK
2025



INFORMATION

DOCUMENT REFERENCE	Horowhenua Strategic Recreation Investment Framework
AUTHORS	Andy Adams and Anita Coy-Macken (Visitor Solutions)
VERSION	Final
DATE	June 2025

© Visitor Solutions 2025.

CONTENTS

ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK	2
PART A: CONTEXT	3
OUR SETTING	4
WHERE DOES THE FRAMEWORK SIT?	5
PART B: THE FRAMEWORK	7
FRAMEWORK OVERVIEW	8
WHY COUNCIL INVESTS	9
IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	10
HOW COUNCIL CAN INVEST	11
PROJECT EVALUATION	12
PART C: THE FRAMEWORK IN ACTION	13
PROJECT EVALUATION PROCESS	14
ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	17
HOW THE FRAMEWORK WILL BE APPLIED	18
APPENDIX	19
IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA SCORING	

ABOUT THE FRAMEWORK

INTRODUCTION

Horowhenua District Council developed this Strategic Recreation Investment Framework to guide our investment decisions and shape the future sport and recreation infrastructure across the District.

With a growing population, ageing facilities and evolving needs, investment in sport and recreation infrastructure will be required. However, the funding environment is increasingly constrained and there is not enough money to do everything we would like. Therefore, the Council needs to carefully decide where to place its resources to deliver the greatest value for Horowhenua's people and the district.

The Framework was developed to provide a consistent and transparent tool to prioritise sport and recreation infrastructure projects and inform the Council's investment decisions. Through the application of the Framework the Council wants to create, enhance and sustain high quality sport and recreation infrastructure to meet the needs of the community and provide value for ratepayers.

This Framework is outlined through:

PART A: CONTEXT

- The current context and pressures on sport and recreation infrastructure across the District.

PART B: THE FRAMEWORK

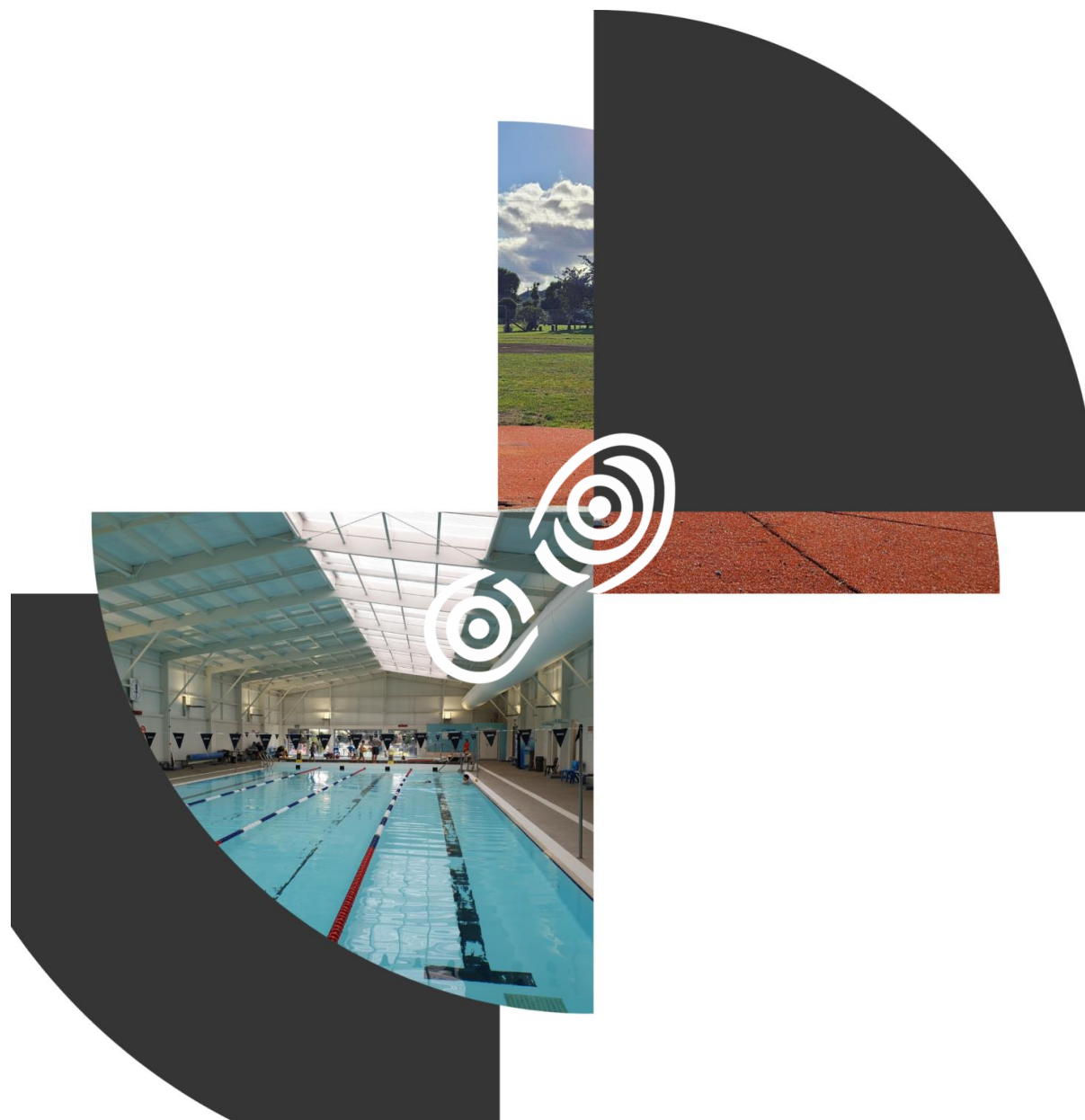
- Why the Council invests in sport and recreation infrastructure,
- How the Council invests in sport and recreation infrastructure.
- Impact Assessment Criteria and scoring considerations,
- Project evaluation process.

PART C: THE FRAMEWORK IN ACTION

- How and when the framework is used,
- Key roles and responsibilities for its delivery,
- Alignment of the Framework with Council's processes.

HOW THE FRAMEWORK WAS DEVELOPED?





PART A:

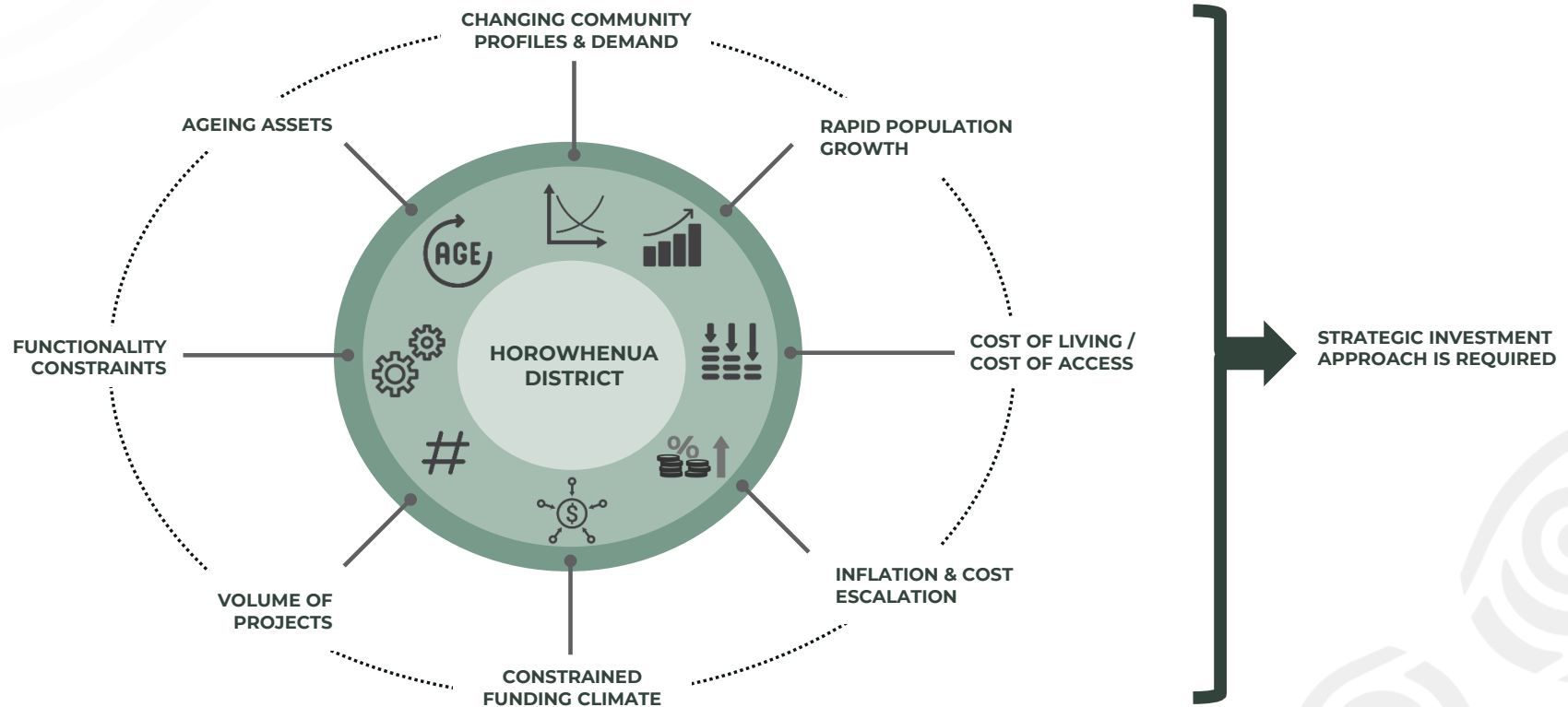
CONTEXT

OUR SETTING

Sport and recreation infrastructure across the District is experiencing a myriad of largely interconnected challenges – shown in the diagram below. Many of these challenges will be further heightened with large and rapid population growth forecast over the next 20-30 years.

While there is increased demand for infrastructure investment (upgrade, repurpose or new), this is against a backdrop of constrained funding and competing demands. This is the catalyst for needing a strategic investment approach to ensure rate-payer investment is best directed where it is needed the most.

▼ CHALLENGES BEING EXPERIENCED BY SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE ACROSS THE DISTRICT



STRATEGIC RECREATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK | 2025

4

WHERE DOES THE FRAMEWORK SIT?

The Framework sits alongside a range of complementary Council strategies, frameworks and processes, while playing a critical role in informing the Long-Term Plan and other existing community plans (i.e. annual plan, activity management plans, asset management plans and economic development action plan).

The position of the Framework within Council's strategic portfolio recognises the important role that sport and recreation has on our District and our communities. The value and impact from sport and recreation extends into supporting community wellbeing, social, economic, environmental and cultural outcomes.

How the Framework is used within this context is outlined in Part 3: The Framework in Action.

▼ COUNCIL'S WIDER STRATEGIC CONTEXT



STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The Strategic Recreation Investment Framework draws directly from the Council's existing strategic context. This creates alignment and showcases the important role sport and recreation has on delivering wider District outcomes.

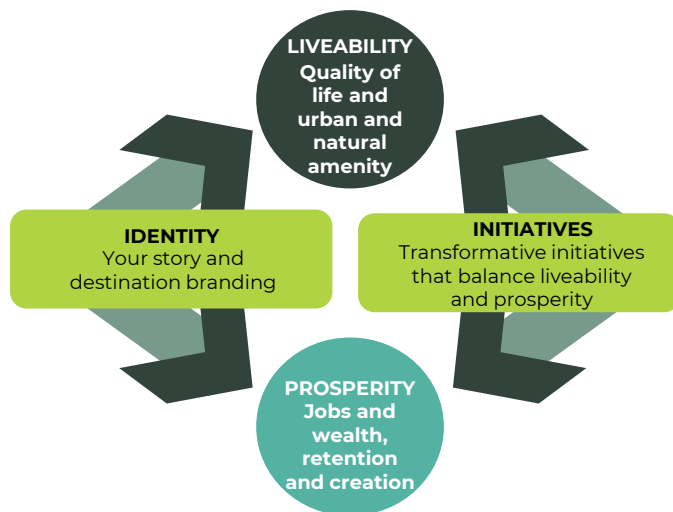
This approach ensures the Framework remains uniquely Horowhenua by reflecting and supporting the District, its communities and its people. The following diagram outlines the key strategic documents that underpin the Framework.

▼ STRATEGIC DOCUMENTS UNDERPINNING THE STRATEGIC RECREATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

HOROWHENUA STRATEGIC OUTCOMES



HOROWHENUA 2040 BLUEPRINT



STRATEGIC RECREATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK

Wellbeing Focus Areas
(relevant to sport and recreation)

COMMUNITY WELLBEING FRAMEWORK

Culture
Connected Community
Health and Wellbeing
Sense of Place & Belonging
Community Safety

Enabling Growth
Responding to Growth
Delivering on Growth

HOROWHENUA GROWTH STRATEGY 2040 INTEGRATED GROWTH PROGRAMME

Principles for Provision
Facility Planning Approach

(SPORT NZ) NEW ZEALAND SPACES & PLACES FRAMEWORK HE RĀ KI TUA – HORIZONS REGION SPACES & SPACES PLAN FOR SPORT AND RECREATION OTHER COUNCILS

STRATEGIC RECREATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK | 2025

6



PART B:

THE FRAMEWORK

FRAMEWORK OVERVIEW

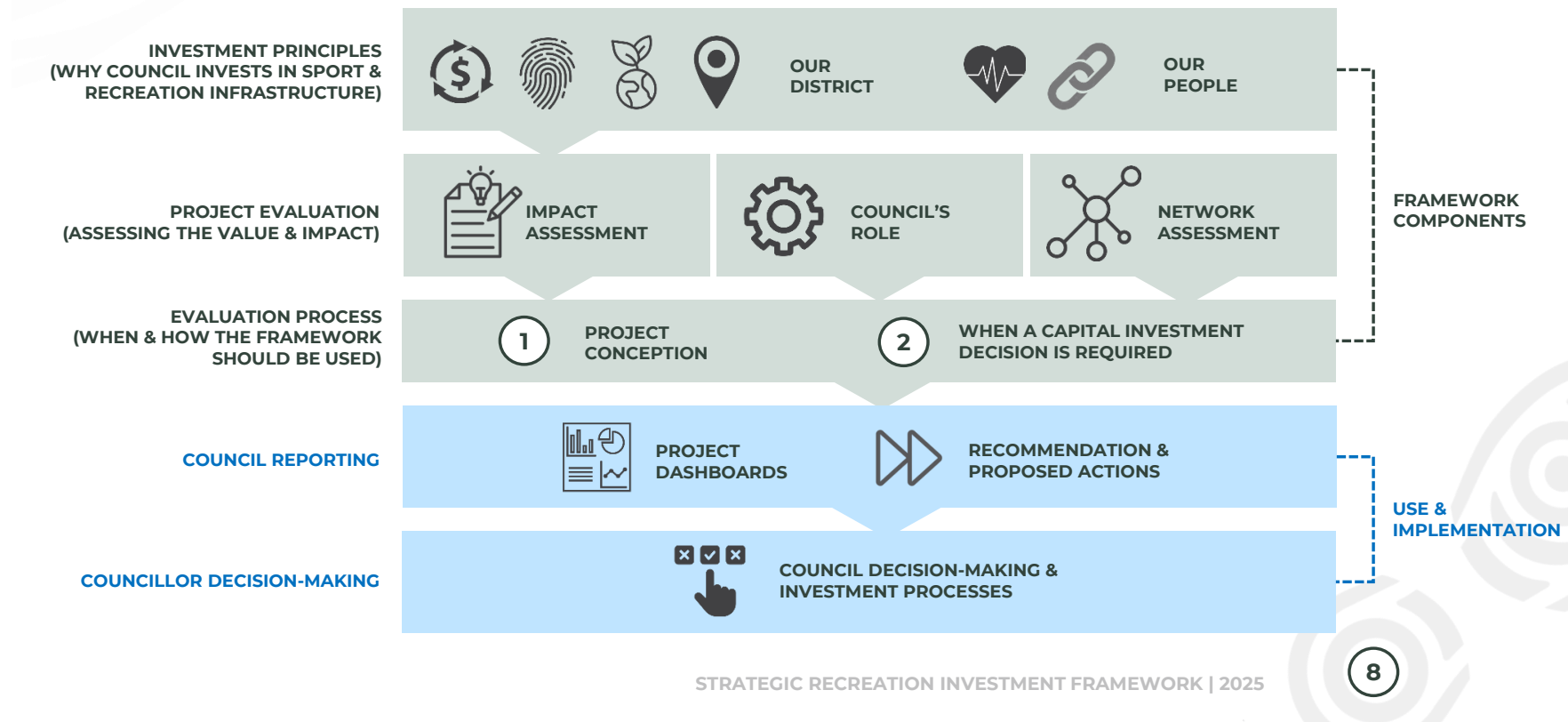
The Framework establishes a clear and transparent process to prioritise all sport and recreation infrastructure projects where Council's resource is being sought. This will apply to all projects regardless of whether they are initiated by Council or from the community. The Framework outlines why the Council invests, what outcomes are important, how the Council invests, and the assessment and decision-making process that will be applied.

There are three key components to prioritisation:

1. Impact Assessment (impact on Our District and Our People)
2. Council's Role and Level of Investment (what is needed of Council)
3. Network Assessment (criticality in the facility network)

The Framework is detailed on the following pages and sections.

▼ OVERVIEW OF HOROWHENUA STRATEGIC RECREATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK



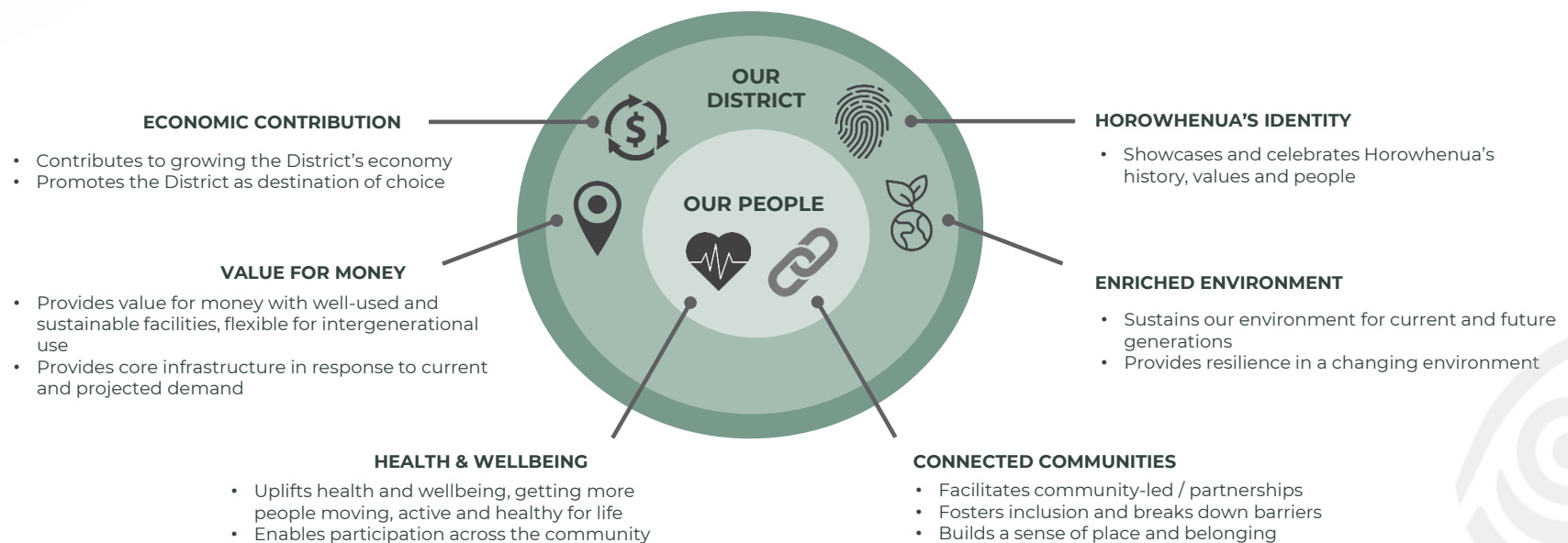
WHY COUNCIL INVESTS

The following investment principles and attributes outline what the Council is seeking from any investment in sport and recreation infrastructure.

The principles are grounded in the District's strategic context along with relevant regional and national strategies. The investment principles also incorporate feedback from Councillors, Council staff, mana whenua and Sport Manawatū.

▼ WHY COUNCIL INVESTS IN SPORT AND RECREATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Investing in sport and recreation infrastructure to:
Improve **LIVEABILITY** for **OUR PEOPLE** and grow the **PROSPERITY** of **OUR DISTRICT**









IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

To assess the impact a sport and recreation project may have on Our District and Our People, the investment principles (why Council invests in sport and recreation infrastructure) have been extrapolated into impact assessment criteria – see below.

To provide more context and understanding of what each criterion comprises, consideration points are outlined in the scoring scale included in the Appendix.

▼ HOROWHENUA STRATEGIC RECREATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK - IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

INVESTMENT PRINCIPLE	IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA	WEIGHTING
 ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION (8%)	1 The degree to which the project/facility promotes and showcases the Horowhenua District, while contributing to the District's economy.	
 HOROWHENUA'S IDENTITY (5%)	2 The project/facility celebrates the District's history, stories and values and showcases the diversity of Horowhenua's people.	
 VALUE FOR MONEY (42%)	3 UTILISATION: The extent to which the facility will be well-used and can be optimised to accommodate intergenerational use.	
	4 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY: How financially sustainable the project or facility is projected to be.	
	5 SUITABILITY: The suitability of the project/facility in response to current and projected demand for core infrastructure.	
 ENRICHED ENVIRONMENT (4%)	6 The degree to which the facility or space sustains the District's environment and responds to resilience challenges.	
 HEALTH & WELLBEING (29%)	7 VOLUME OF PARTICIPATION: The projected impact of the project/facility on the level of participation.	
	8 RANGE OF PARTICIPANTS: The projected impact of the project/facility to enable participation or involvement across the community.	
 CONNECTED COMMUNITIES (12%)	9 The degree to which the project/facility partners with, and is supported by, the community.	

STRATEGIC RECREATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK | 2025

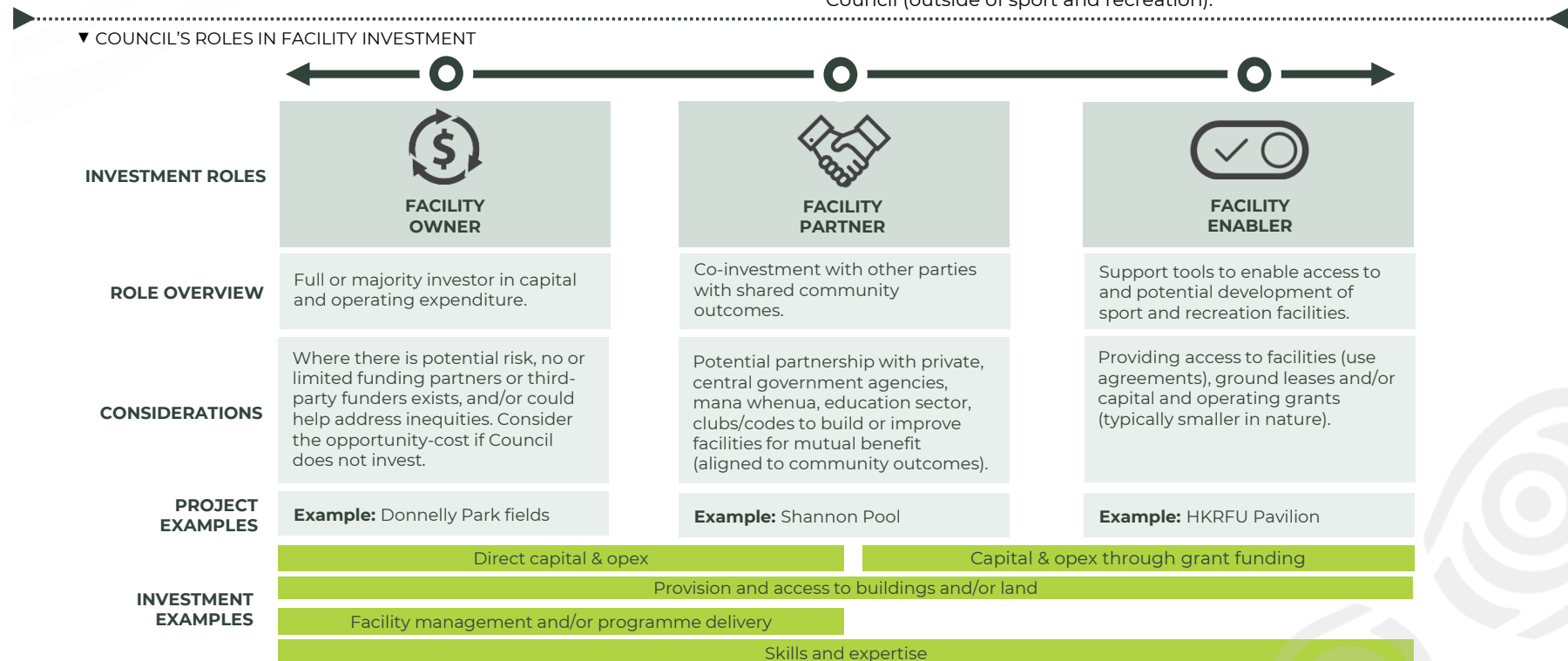
HOW COUNCIL CAN INVEST

The Council plays various roles to invest in sport and recreation infrastructure across the District. The role(s) are determined on a project-by-project basis and largely depend on the purpose, nature and type of investment required or being sought from the Council.

The roles sit on a broad, and at times, interconnected continuum (where multiple roles are needed). Council's primary investment roles are outlined in the continuum below.

At one end, the Council may decide and be required to develop, own, operate and maintain a facility, while at the other end, the Council may be an enabler by investing in others to provide sport and recreation facilities. And in some cases, the Council may play multiple roles in a facility development.

Determining the most suitable role(s) for Council includes assessing many variables including the scale and nature of investment, who else can or is likely to invest, project criticality and impact (impact assessment), when it is needed and wider investment demands on the Council (outside of sport and recreation).



PROJECT EVALUATION

Evaluating each project requires a multifaceted approach using various components. In isolation these components do not provide the full picture which may inhibit effective investment decisions.

Collectively, the project evaluation components shown below will provide a consistent tool for evaluating the value and impact of a project relative to other projects. It will also provide clarity on the status of each project and what investment is being sought from Council.

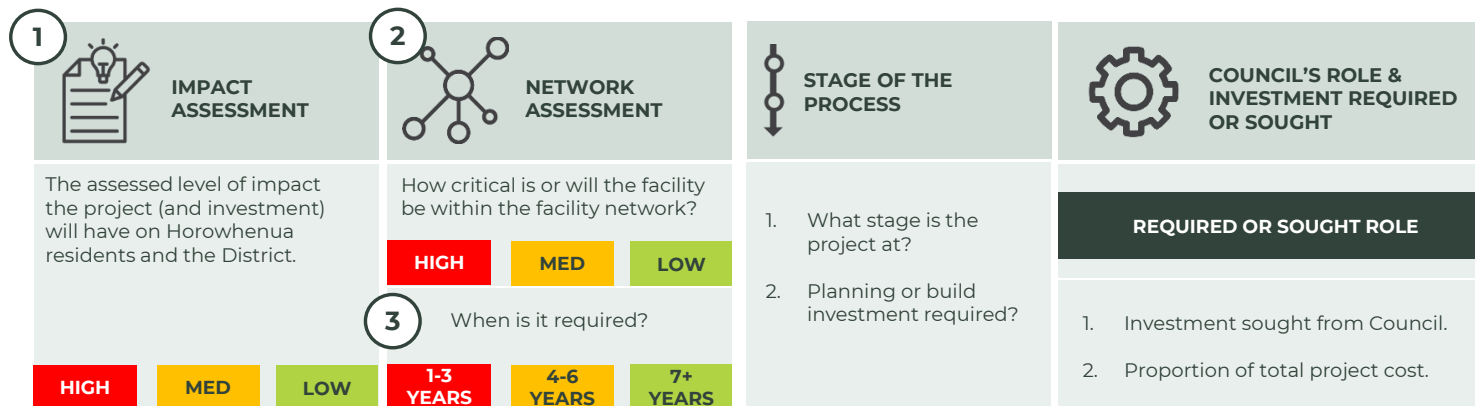
Projects will initially be prioritised based on:

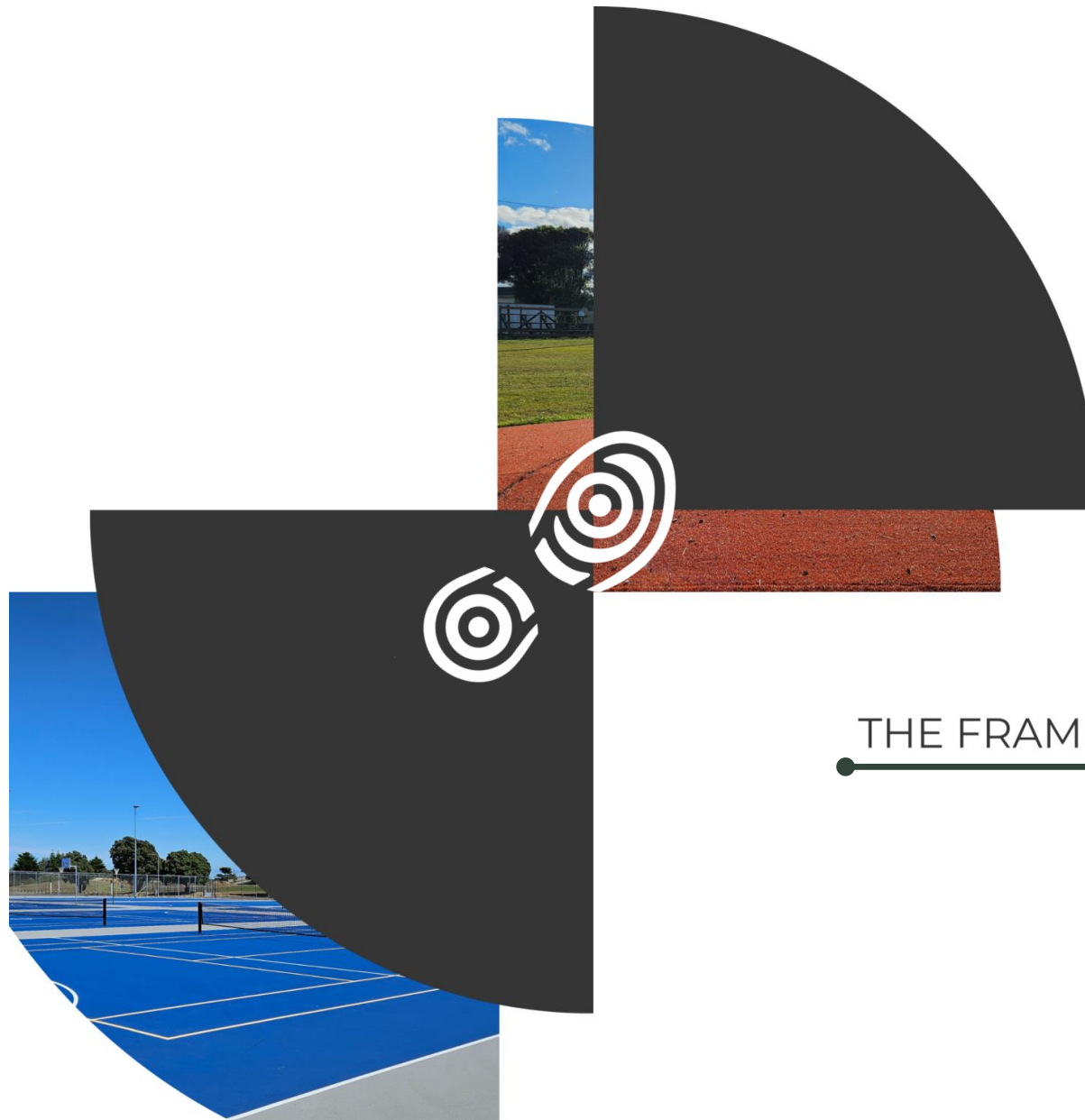
1. Impact assessment,
2. How critical the facility is or will be within the network,
3. When the development is required.

Other factors which may influence investment decision-making include:

- a. What stage is the project? Level of information available for informing decision-making:
 - i. Conceptualisation or preliminary planning stage when limited information is currently available, or
 - ii. Post-planning when all necessary information should be available.
- a. What role is being asked of Council?
- b. The scale of investment being sought.

▼ PROJECT EVALUATION COMPONENTS





PART C:

THE FRAMEWORK IN ACTION

PROJECT EVALUATION PROCESS – WHEN IS IT USED?

Sport New Zealand's Spaces and Places Framework identifies seven stages in the lifecycle of facilities. There are two key stages in this lifecycle when we will use our Strategic Recreation Investment Framework to assess sport and recreation infrastructure projects:

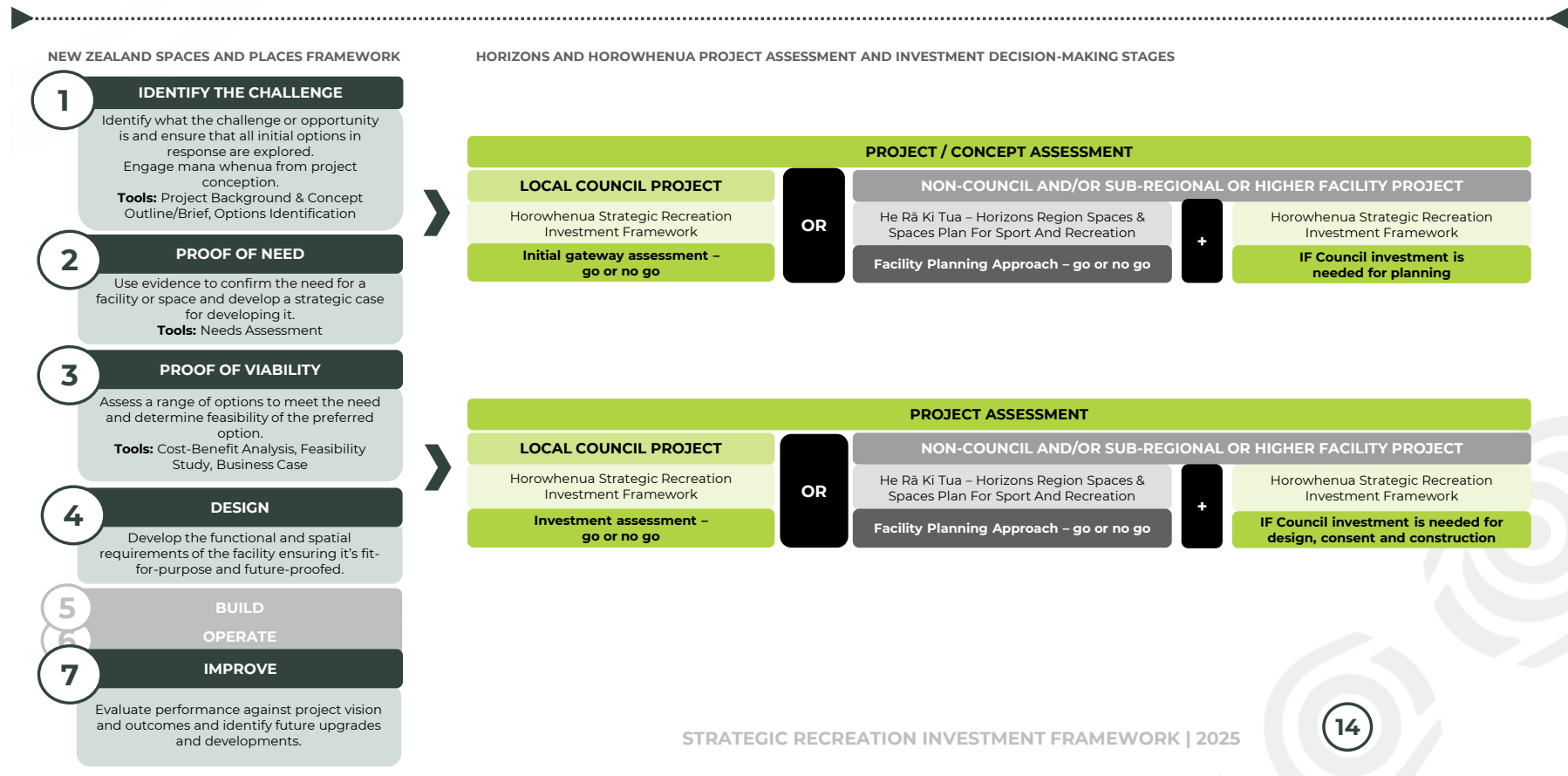
a. Identify the Challenge/Project Conceptualisation

Our Framework will be used as an initial gateway to determine whether Council investment is required for planning and progressing the project (based on available information).

b. After Proof of Viability

Once planning is completed, our Framework will be used to assess the overall priority and therefore inform Council's investment decision-making (with recommendations and next steps/actions) – investment may support design, consent and/or construction.

Where projects are non-Council and/or are sub-regional or regional in scale, the Framework will be complemented by He Rā Ki Tua assessment.

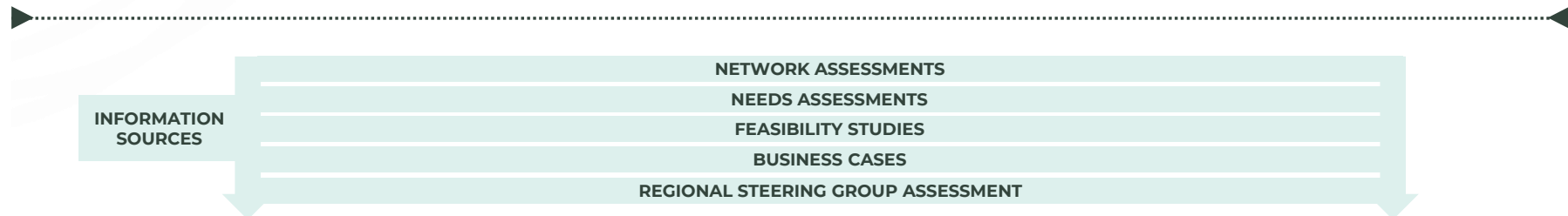


PROJECT EVALUATION PROCESS – HOW IS IT USED?

All projects seeking Council investment will have its own 'project dashboard' and the assessment from conceptualisation will be updated as the project advances. This will ensure the overall project dashboard remains 'live' and relevant. This is critical for ensuring the Council's investment decisions are reflective of all available and current information.

Note: it is critical all projects collate the required information outlined in the impact assessment criteria and network assessment to enable the project evaluation to be applied. Lack of information will mean the project cannot be fully evaluated.

Project investment decisions by Council **will not happen in isolation**. Projects need to be **considered and evaluated in the context of all sport and recreation projects** – see the following page.



▼ PROJECT EVALUATION DASHBOARD (EXAMPLE)

PROJECT DASHBOARD	IMPACT ASSESSMENT	NETWORK ASSESSMENT	COUNCIL'S ROLE	RECOMMENDATION & ACTIONS
Project A Stage: Information Input(s):	The assessed level of impact the project (and investment) will have on Horowhenua residents and the District.	How critical is or will the facility be within the facility network? When is it required?	COUNCIL'S ROLE Financial investment needed or being sought from Council: \$xxx,xxx (total project cost of \$xxx,xxx)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investment recommendation Next steps/actions
	HIGH MED LOW	HIGH MED LOW 1-3 YEARS 4-6 YEARS 7+ YEARS		

PROJECT EVALUATION PROCESS – HOW IS IT USED?

Full oversight of sport and recreation infrastructure projects will be provided via an overall project dashboard – as shown below. Key features include:

- Projects are prioritised by impact assessment, followed by network criticality and when investment is required.
- The dashboard is 'live' with projects moving up and down as new projects emerge and existing projects are re-assessed as they advance (through the facility lifecycle).
- Status on what level of investment is required or being sought from Council and what has already been committed.

Note: the dashboard should not be interpreted as a funding plan or an indication of financial support on behalf of Council. The dashboard is used as a tool to inform future investment decision-making.

This detail and overview will be used as a critical tool to inform investment decisions.

▼ OVERALL PROJECT DASHBOARD (EXAMPLE)

PROJECT	STAGE OF THE PROCESS	IMPACT ASSESSMENT	NETWORK CRITICALITY	COUNCIL'S ROLE & INVESTMENT	COUNCIL'S ROLE & INVESTMENT		WHEN?
					SOUGHT (\$)	COMMITTED (\$)	
Project A	Proof of Viability	HIGH	HIGH	OWN & OPERATE	\$350,000	\$350,000	1-3 YEARS
Project X	Improve	HIGH	HIGH	PARTNER	\$80,000	\$30,000	4-6 YEARS
Project Y	Proof of Need	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	PARTNER	\$125,000	\$0	4-6 YEARS
NEW OR RE-ASSESSED PROJECT							
Project Z	Design	LOW	HIGH	ENABLER	GROUND LEASE	\$0	1-3 YEARS

INVESTMENT DECISION(S)

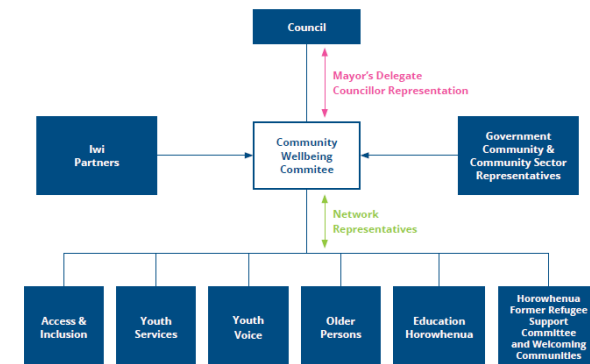
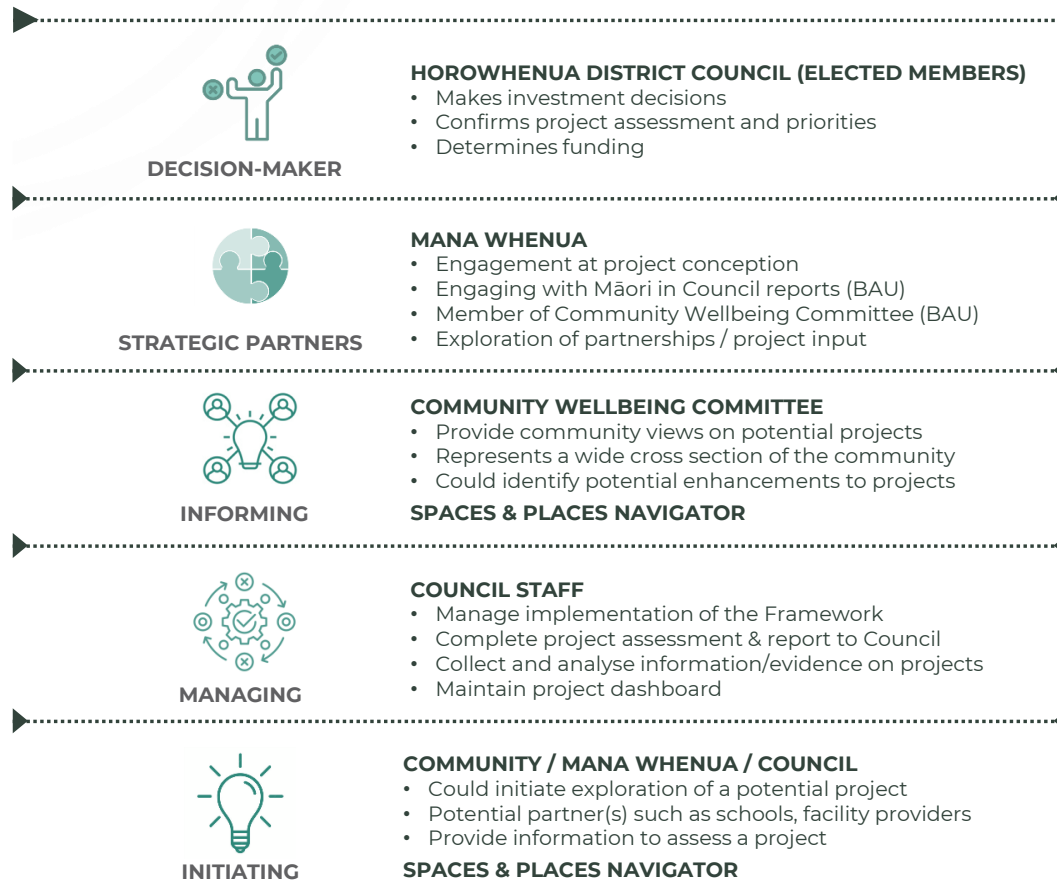
STRATEGIC RECREATION INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK | 2025

16

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES – WHO IS INVOLVED?

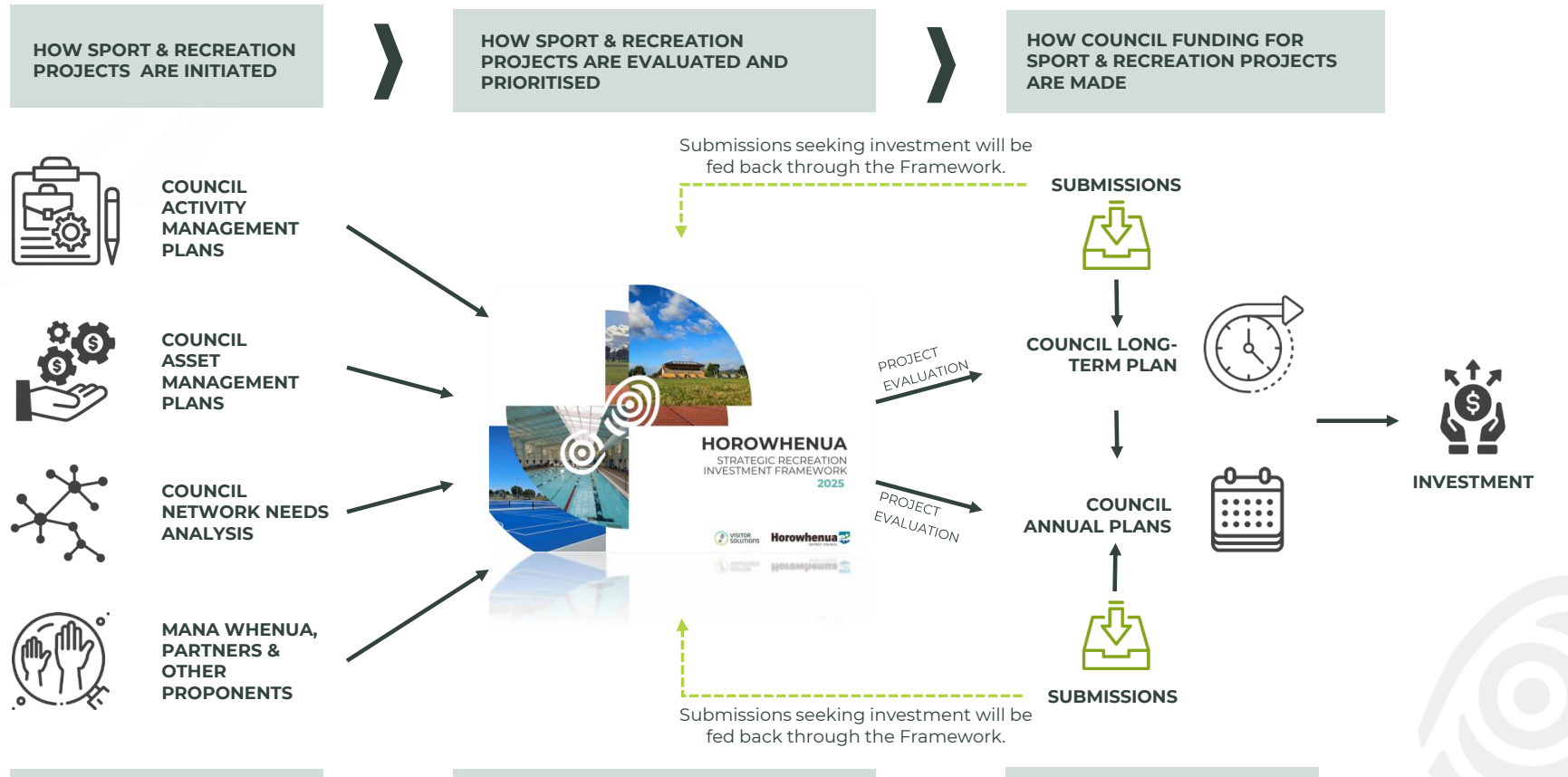
There are interconnected roles and responsibilities in the application of the Framework and throughout the project evaluation process. Ultimately, investment decisions are made by the elected members of Horowhenua District Council. Supporting this decision-making involves a wide range of input and insights, as outlined below.

Sport Manawatu's Spaces & Places Navigator provides alignment to the He Rā Ki Tua assessment of any sub-regional and regional sport and recreation infrastructure projects, and used as an independent informant where required.



▲ STRUCTURE OF THE WELLBEING COMMITTEE

HOW THE FRAMEWORK WILL BE APPLIED





APPENDIX

IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA



ECONOMIC CONTRIBUTION

WEIGHTING



1 The degree to which the project/facility promotes and showcases the Horowhenua District, while contributing to the District's economy.

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to have limited promotion of the District Small number or no visitors outside of the District will be attracted Likely to have low economic impact for the District (i.e. low or no events, short duration) | <p>A horizontal line with five circles numbered 1 to 5. The first circle (1) is filled, and the rest are empty.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Likely to significantly enhance the promotion of the District Forecast a high number of visitors to the District Demonstrates ability to have substantial economic impact for the District (i.e. number of events, length of stay) |
|--|---|--|



HOROWHENUA'S IDENTITY

WEIGHTING



2 The project celebrates the District's history, stories, values and showcases the diversity of Horowhenua's people.

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited or no cultural narrative is evident. Does not showcase our history or reflect diverse communities. Does not provide a unique emotional connection for Horowhenua's people or grow local pride. No evidence of supporting te ao Māori outcomes. | <p>A horizontal line with five circles numbered 1 to 5. The first circle (1) is filled, and the rest are empty.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural narrative is captured to shape our understanding of the past, present and future. Showcases relevant history and our diverse communities. Fosters a unique emotional connection and builds local pride for our people (such as representing Horowhenua on the national or global stage or making people feel proud to live in Horowhenua). Supports te ao Māori outcomes grounded in tikanga (customs), mātauranga (knowledge) and whanaungatanga (relationships). |
|---|---|--|

IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA



VALUE FOR MONEY



3

UTILISATION: The extent to which the project/facility will be well-used and can be optimised to accommodate intergenerational use



- Low weekly hours of use
- Use is restricted to seasons or limited periods of the year
- Limited ability of the space or place to be flexible and adapt to future possible uses.
- Likely to result in operational inefficiencies across the network.



- High weekly hours of use is projected. Year-round use and/or all-weather use.
- The space or place provides flexibility and adaptability to respond and/or repurpose for other future uses.
- The space or place improves operational efficiencies for the network.

4

FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY: How financially sustainable the project or facility is projected to be.



- Unlikely to meet Revenue and Finance Policy revenue thresholds (where applicable).
- No evidence of the project's ability to meet future large renewals and whole-of-life costs.
- Revenue potential is not assessed or maximised in line with facility benchmarks and/or prospective opportunities.



- Revenue is within Revenue and Finance Policy public good / private benefit thresholds (where applicable).
- Operating modelling and investment plans address future large renewals and whole-of-life costs.
- Demonstrates ability to maximise revenue (less reliance on grant or rate payer funding) of the space or place (i.e. multiuse, food & beverage).

5

SUITABILITY: The suitability of the project/facility in response to current and projected demand for core infrastructure



- Location is likely to impact accessibility to the space or place.
- The project is over specified for what is required and/or focused on non-core infrastructure
- The project likely overlaps or duplicates existing provision and services



- Well located (i.e. proximity to population centres including schools, residential or workplaces).
- The site is easily accessible via multi modes of transport (active modes, passenger vehicles and/or any future public transport routes).
- Scale of the project is commensurate with the current and projected demand focusing on core infrastructure.
- Avoids duplication of facilities and/or services

IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA



ENRICHED ENVIRONMENT



6

The degree to which the facility or space sustains the District's environment and responds to resilience challenges.

Little or no evidence of environmental measures associated with the project.

Site resilience risks are present.

No planning or design mitigations are evident for identified risks (where applicable).



- Includes measures for energy efficiency, water and flood management, waste reduction, biodiversity, utilising existing buildings and/or reducing fossil fuel emissions.
- The site has strong resilience and not located in high-risk areas (i.e. floodprone, liquefaction, coastal inundation, stable soils).
- Planning and design mitigations have been clearly identified where risks exist.



HEALTH & WELLBEING



7

VOLUME OF PARTICIPATION: The projected impact of the project/facility on participation.

Low number of participants are projected to be impacted by the project/facility.

No evidence of attracting new and/or former participants.

Frequency of use is likely to remain consistent with current levels.



- A high number of participants will be positively impacted by the project.
- Attracts a high number of new or former participants.
- Increases the frequency of use by current participants.

8

RANGE OF PARTICIPANTS: The project/facility enables participation or involvement across the community.

The project/facility has a narrow focus on specific segments of the population (i.e. certain age cohorts and ability).



- Clear evidence the project/facility promotes and enables participation for a wide cross-section of the community (all ages and abilities).



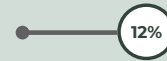
22

IMPACT ASSESSMENT CRITERIA



CONNECTED COMMUNITIES

WEIGHTING



9

The degree to which the project/facility partners with, and is supported by, the community.

- No community partnerships, co-location or multiuse are evident.
- Little consideration given to initiatives to build a sense of place and belonging.
- Low engagement outside of participants.
- Intergenerational engagement is unlikely.
- No evidence of community support and/or strong opposition.



- Community-led partnerships are evident.
- Design and operational initiatives build a sense of place and belonging.
- Co-location and multiuse facilitate community connectivity.
- High social engagement extending beyond participants (i.e. large number of spectators).
- Intergenerational engagement is likely to be evident.
- Evidence of strong community support



File No.: 25/328

8.6 Adoption of Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035

Author(s)	David McCorkindale Group Manager - Vision & Delivery Tumu Rangapū, Matawhānui Hapori, Whakarite
Approved by	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki
	David McCorkindale Group Manager - Vision & Delivery Tumu Rangapū, Matawhānui Hapori, Whakarite

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. This report presents the Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035 to Council for adoption.

This matter relates to Delivering the Long-Term Plan 2024-44

Delivering the Long-Term Plan 2024-44

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. In 2024 Council and The Horowhenua Company Limited (THCL) jointly commissioned Sage Bush to prepare a report and provide advice on Council's existing economic development strategy.
3. Council considered the findings of the Sage Bush Report in October 2024 and made the decision that the Economic Development Strategy be updated to reflect the findings of the Sage Bush Report.
4. The Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035 (Strategy) has been prepared by THCL, Council officers and has had input from local iwi, hapu and community and business leaders.
5. The Strategy is intended to guide the investment of energy, effort and resources in economic development over the next 10 years. The order of priorities will come from the Implementation Plan to be finalised once the Strategy has been adopted. The Strategy will be used to inform work programmes and the work to be delivered through the new economic development services contract with THCL.

DELEGATION OR AUTHORITY TO ACT | TE MANA WHAKATAU I NGĀ KAWENGA

6. The authority to act with regards to this report is based on the Council's terms of reference, specifically 1.1(n): *"The Council's terms of reference include the following powers which cannot be delegated to committees, officers or any other subordinate decision-making body. In addition, Council can: (n) approve Council policy and strategy"*.

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

7. This matter is assessed as not significant because receiving the report and any associated resolutions do not; involve a strategic asset, or have a direct financial or rates impact, or impact on levels of service specified in the Long Term Plan 2024-44, and is not a matter of high public, community or cultural interest or have an environmental impact.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/328 Adoption of Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035 be received.
- B. That this matter or decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.
- C. That Council adopt the Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035.
- D. That the Chief Executive be authorised to make any necessary corrections or editorial changes that arise in producing the final published version of the Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

- 8. Council in adopting the Community Outcomes as part of the Long Term Plan 2024-44, adopted the Vibrant Economy Community Outcome, which reads *"We are business friendly, supporting diversity and resilience in our local economy and work with others to make our economy grow. We aspire for economic security for all of our people and seize growth opportunities for our district"*. This report specifically relates to Council's strategic approach to economic development in Horowhenua.
- 9. At the 30 October 2024 Council meeting, Council agreed to updating the existing Economic Development Strategy to reflect the findings of the Sage Bush report and take a 10 year view out to 2035.
- 10. Through the interviews and preparation of the Sage Bush report, six opportunities arose as the highest priority for the next 10 years. These include;
 - 10.1. Realise Ō2NL opportunities – ensure a high focus on Ō2NL so that potential opportunities are not missed.
 - 10.2. Increase land supply – make more commercial/industrial zoned land available for manufacturing, warehousing and distribution activity.
 - 10.3. Improve land affordability – increase the supply of commercial/industrial zoned land to put downward pressure on the price of existing land.
 - 10.4. Promote Horowhenua – establish a unique identity for Horowhenua and market the district to attract visitors and attract and retain workers.
 - 10.5. Support a diverse community – form a holistic view of the type of residents desired and develop appropriate growth targets.
 - 10.6. Foster an active and vibrant community – develop options to improve social, cultural, recreational, sporting and educational opportunities to attract visitors and attract and retain workers.
- 11. The Sage Bush report recommended that Council modify the Strategy for the next 10 years to focus on achieving the above six high priorities.
- 12. It is acknowledged that several of these priorities are already current workstreams of Council or those associated with Council. The work of the Integrated Growth workstream, will support the increased land supply and contribute to improving land affordability through District Plan changes to rezone land and ensuring the availability of infrastructure to support growth. Work undertaken as part of the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee has included identifying land suitable for future industrial development. The Destination Management workstream will continue to actively promote Horowhenua and the opportunities the district offers. Workstreams across the Parks function and Community Development function continue to support and provide a range of social, cultural, recreational, sporting and educational opportunities. There is confidence that these current workstreams will continue to be prioritised to ensure they positively contribute to the economic development for the district.

13. Of the six opportunities identified it is the opportunities associated with Ō2NL that Council has not yet actively sought to realise in a way that benefits the economic development of the district. The certainty of Ō2NL progressing and the associated opportunities being more tangible now the project has progressed to the design phase, are elements that previously did not have enough certainty to be included in the component parts of the Economic Development Strategy when it was previously prepared.
14. The Sage Bush report identifies a suite of actions that Council can consider implementing to help achieve Council's high-level economic goals for Horowhenua. These include Council adopting the following three high-level economic development goals for the next 10 years;
 - 14.1. Dynamic, productive and resilient local economy.
 - 14.2. Wider economic benefits of Ō2NL are maximised.
 - 14.3. Horowhenua is regarded as a great place to live, work and play.
15. The Sage Bush report recommended a series of next steps. These included:
 - 15.1. Bring together a group of Horowhenua business and community leaders to agree the detailed actions needed to realise the wider economic benefits of Ō2NL;
 - 15.2. Review the updated economic development strategy following the consultation with business and community leaders;
 - 15.3. Review and develop measures and targets which support economic development goals
 - 15.4. Develop timelines and milestones for the key targets.
16. Officers have closely followed this direction using the findings and recommendations in the Sage Bush report to prepare the Strategy.
17. It is acknowledged that the Strategy has been prepared based on the best information at the time of writing. There are several moving pieces (projects or workstreams) that are currently already underway and therefore have potential to date quickly in terms of how they are referenced in the Strategy given the speed of progress.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

18. The Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035 sits within a strategic context and has been carefully crafted to ensure that the connections between this Strategy, and the other strategic documents such as Growth Strategy, Horowhenua Blueprint and Community Wellbeing Strategy.
19. In working with the direction from the Sage Bush Report, the key focus has been maintained however there have been some phrasing or wording changes that have made during the preparation to make it a better fit to our Horowhenua context.
20. A further change has been to combine some of the key priorities where overlaps were identified, which had the effect of reducing these from six to four.
21. As a result the Economic Development Strategy identifies the following goals and key opportunities. The three goals are: A thriving and resilient local economy; Seizing the opportunities from Ō2NL; and A place people choose.
22. The four priorities identified are framed in the following way:
 - 22.1. Realise the opportunities available to us with the construction of Ō2NL.
 - 22.2. Create and deliver a clear land supply and development strategy to enable the right investment at the right time.
 - 22.3. Promote Horowhenua as a place to live and invest, encouraging residents and businesses to invest in the region.

- 22.4. Foster a diverse and vibrant community, one that comes together regularly to celebrate its diversity.
23. Within the Strategy there is the acknowledgement that Horowhenua is a pre-treaty settlement district with both Muaūpoko and Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga yet to complete their respective treaty settlement processes. With the Strategy having a 10 year horizon to 2035, it is anticipated that midway through that horizon, the treaty settlements for Muaūpoko and Raukawa will be completed and local iwi and hapu will stand to become some of the most significant economic players in the district context. It will be important to consider the two environments (pre and post settlement) and ensure that Māori economic development is set up for success in a way that benefits not only local Māori but also the broader district.
24. While the Draft Economic Development Strategy was shared with both Te Tumatakahuki and Muaūpoko Tribal Authority in the preparation phase and their support and feedback from the respective engagement has been incorporated within the Strategy, it is acknowledged that the engagement undertaken to date should only be seen as a starting point on the kaupapa. A key action that has been identified in the Strategy is the development of a Maori Economic Development Plan. This is seen as a key piece of work that should be an early priority following adoption of the Strategy. This Plan would be developed collaboratively with local iwi/hapu through further engagement and working together to capture the actions and outcomes that will make a tangible difference for Māori in Horowhenua.
25. A range of indicators have been included in the Strategy. These indicators will help identify if the economic development work being undertaken is making a difference or not to economic growth in the district. It is acknowledged that some of the indicators (GDP for example) will be more heavily influenced by larger macro factors than the actions and implementation of this Strategy. Nonetheless it is helpful to have a benchmark and be able to track progress.

Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

26. Option A – Adopt the Horowhenua Economic Strategy 2025-2035.
27. Option B – Delay adopting the Horowhenua Economic Strategy 2025-2035 and direct officers to undertake specific additional work to enable the Strategy to be adopted at a future date.

Options Ngā Kōwhiringa	Benefits Ngā Whiwhinga	Risks Ngā Mōrearea
Option A (recommended) Adopt the Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035, this will result in Council confirming at a high level the direction for energy, effort and investment in economic development over the next 10 years.	Adoption of the Strategy would confirm the direction for economic development. It would provide without delay the mandate and direction for officers to act on. Adoption would also support the process of confirming the new service delivery contract between Council and THCL for the delivery of economic development services from 1 July 2025.	It is acknowledged that the Strategy has been prepared with the best information available at the time. There will be gaps or additional opportunities identified as time passes. A risk lies in that more engagement could lead to the Strategy being further refined. The Strategy is intended to provide the high-level vision and direction, with the actions to be implemented providing opportunities for detailed engagement and will be an appropriate way to ensure

		strong alignment as the future work advances.
Option B (status quo) Delay adopting the Horowhenua Economic Strategy 2025-2035 and direct officers to undertake specific additional work to enable the Strategy to be adopted at a future date.	Delaying adoption would allow more time to pass which would allow more up to date information to be reflected in the Strategy and could also enable time for additional engagement to be undertaken.	The risk with delaying the adoption is that it would introduce uncertainty about mandate and hold back the progress that officers can make advancing economic development actions. Delaying would potentially limit what could be included in the new service delivery contract between Council and THCL for the delivery of economic development services from 1 July 2025. The delay would potentially result in missed economic opportunities especially those associated with the early phases of O2NL construction.

Options Commentary | He Tāpiringa Kōrero Mō ngā Kōwhiringa

29. Officers recommend Option A of adopting the Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035. This option would confirm the direction of Council and provide officers with the mandate to implement the Strategy and provide sufficient clarity of the focus for economic development to support the preparation and confirmation of the new service delivery contract between Council and THCL for the delivery of economic development services from 1 July 2025. Adoption would enable the focus to turn towards the implementation of the Strategy and not result in lost time or opportunities. With the O2NL project anticipated to start construction by October 2025, there will be a range of economic opportunities associated with this phase of the project that could be lost if the economic development strategic direction has not been confirmed through the adoption of the Strategy.
30. While Option B is an option available to Council it is not recommended by officers. If Council were wanting specific changes to be made to the Strategy, officers would be eager to test if the Strategy could still be endorsed in principle so that officers were able to keep progressing economic development activities with a level of mandate so as not to miss out any time sensitive economic development opportunities.

ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

31. A working draft of the Economic Development Strategy was shared with Te Tumatakahuki and Muaūpoko Tribal Authority. Officers met with representatives of Te Tumatakahuki and Muaūpoko Tribal Authority to discuss the draft Strategy and capture their feedback. THCL also met with representatives of Te Tumatakahuki. While supportive of the Strategy in principle and what it seeks to focus on and deliver, both Te Tumatakahuki and Muaūpoko Tribal Authority are eager for this to be the start of ongoing engagement.
32. It is acknowledged through the engagement that the role of local iwi and hapu in economic development is likely to go through a period of significant change during the life of this Strategy. With both Muaūpoko and Raukawa pre-settlement, when settlement occurs it is

anticipated that it will position local iwi and hapu to be major economic players in the district's economic development. The Strategy highlights the pre and post settlement context as being a significant change but one that is anticipated to occur during the timeframe of this Strategy. The development of a Maori Economic Development Plan is seen as a piece of work that should be prioritised following the Strategy being adopted. This would be the optimal opportunity to continue the engagement and enable the collaborative approach Iwi and hapu are seeking as well as take positive steps towards prosperity across the district.

33. It is acknowledged that Council has relationships and partnerships with other iwi in the district (including those that are post-settlement) and would actively engage with these iwi as part of the Maori Economic Development Plan following adoption of the Strategy by Council.

CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

34. Climate change considerations are not a relevant consideration to receiving this report and the recommendations result in changes to any current climate change initiatives. The climate change implications relating to this report are considered to be low being considered. The report does not specifically relate to Climate change matters or propose to.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

35. The decision to adopt the Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035 does not have a direct financial impact. The Strategy has been prepared within existing budgets. The implementation of the Strategy would also be covered by existing or future approved budgets. Council has committed funding for economic development through the Long Term Plan 2024-44. The three year contract for THCL to deliver economic services on behalf of Council is where Council makes its largest direct investment in economic development. The new contract with THCL (to start 1 July 2025) would capture deliverables and outcomes from the Strategy to be the Council funded responsibility of THCL.
36. It is also acknowledged that there are several Council workstreams that are already underway and funded through the Long Term Plan 2024-2044, where Council makes an indirect investment in economic development. One example is funding the District Plan Changes to rezone land to secure future land supply for development opportunities.

LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

37. There are no legal implications or risks associated with adopting the Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035. There is no statutory requirement to publicly consult on an Economic Development Strategy.

POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

38. The preparation of the Economic Development Strategy has been cognisant of the existing strategic framework of other strategies and plans that have overlaps to Economic Development. The Strategy has intentionally tried to highlight some of the linkages by referencing these within the Strategy. In its simplest form it can be read as an acknowledgement this Strategy has been developed after the other strategic documents (Growth Strategy, Horowhenua Blueprint and Community Wellbeing Strategy) and therefore draws from these documents to ensure alignment.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI

39. Council and THCL staff have been very grateful for those local Iwi/hapu, business and community leaders who have given their time to the process so far to support the development of the Economic Development Strategy. Given their involvement to date and

the journey they have been part of to develop the Strategy, it will be important to keep them informed of the Council decision regardless of the option Council chooses.

40. The Council decision has potential to influence whether that communication and follow-up engagement is more of an update that the Strategy was adopted and to cover off next steps, or potentially a further workshop if any additional work is identified by Council as being necessary prior to adopting.

Communicating with our Community | Te Whakawhiti Pārongo ki te Hapori

41. While not identified as one of Council's Top priorities, completing the Strategy has been a direct response to the Council decision made 30 October 2024. It will be important to acknowledge the completion of this work and to signal the focus of the Strategy. The communication to the community on this matter will be tailored to reflect where this work sits in the wider context of Council's top priorities and the many other important matters that are requiring the community's attention at this time.

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

42. If Council agree to adopt the Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035, then a finalised version of the Strategy would be prepared with the appropriate Council livery. A key next step after adoption would be to then to prepare the Implementation Plan that will confirm the roles, responsibilities and timing of the actions identified in the Strategy.
43. The final Strategy would be made available on the Council website and given the appropriate level of media to make the community aware of the new Strategy.
44. The adopted Strategy will enable the details of the new contract with THCL to be confirmed with the relevant deliverables from the Strategy reflected in the contract.
45. Once the administrative matters have been undertaken the focus and energy will shift to the implementation of the Strategy, through the roll out of the Implementation Plan.

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 ↓	Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035	132

Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025-2035

Introduction

As Horowhenua continues in a phase of population growth, housing, and infrastructure development, the district's economic outlook has also continued to improve. Economic forecasts for Horowhenua are more strong population and housing growth, largely driven by the upcoming construction of the Ōtaki to North of Levin highway (Ō2NL), set to begin in October 2025. Additionally, the increased accessibility to Wellington, facilitated by the Kapiti and Ōtaki to Peka Peka (PP2Ō) Expressways and Transmission Gully, coupled with anticipated improvements in public transport services, add to the district's growth prospects.

With these exciting opportunities on the horizon, it is an ideal time to refresh and refocus the district's economic development strategy.

The successful economic development of Horowhenua will depend on the collaborative and coordinated efforts of four key stakeholders:

- the Horowhenua District Council (Council), responsible for creating the right environment and setting the conditions for growth
- The Horowhenua Company Limited (THCL), tasked with engaging businesses and attracting inward investment
- local iwi and hapū, working in partnership to enable economic development for all, and
- the local business community, both established and new, who will seize these opportunities and invest in the future of Horowhenua.

Economic growth in Horowhenua must be seen not just as a measure of population or development, but as a powerful opportunity to lift the wellbeing of our people and turn around some of the long-standing social and economic challenges our community faces. As the district grows, we have the chance to address areas where we currently lag behind national averages – such as income levels, employment outcomes, education achievement, and health equity. By intentionally connecting economic growth in the district to inclusive outcomes – like quality jobs, affordable housing, access to training, and support for local enterprise – we can ensure that the benefits of economic development are shared widely. This strategy recognises that economic growth is most valuable when it uplifts our communities and lays the foundation for long-term social and economic resilience.

This commitment is clear in Council's Long Term Plan 2024-44 through the Council's Community Outcomes (Vibrant Economy) and the level of economic development services and investment that were consulted on as part of preparing and adopting Council's Long Term Plan 2024-44. While all councils are

working within the Government's direction to remove the four wellbeings, the Government of the day continues to encourage councils to maintain their investment in economic development.

In late 2024, Council and THCL commissioned research from two independent organisations, Sage Bush and Infometrics, to identify areas where economic growth could be maximized in the district and to inform the development of an updated economic strategy. Council voted to endorse the findings of the Sage Bush report, committing to the revision of the economic development strategy in 2025 based on its recommendations.

Building on the insights from these reports, a working group was established to distil the key focus areas and prioritise actions.

The outcome of this collaboration is the Horowhenua Economic Development Strategy 2025–2035, which outlines the district's path forward for sustainable growth and prosperity. An Implementation Plan will be developed following adoption of this Strategy.

What is economic development?

Economic development is about growing local businesses, attracting investment, and creating good jobs – so that our community is more prosperous, resilient, and enables opportunities for everyone.

What economic development is:	What economic development is <u>not</u> :
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A deliberate effort to create the conditions for businesses and people to succeed• Focused on lifting wellbeing, incomes, and opportunity across the district• Driven by partnerships – between Council, business, iwi/hapū, and community• Grounded in long-term thinking and timely action	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• It's not just about GDP growth• It's not Council picking winners or controlling the market• It's not limited to business attraction – it includes retaining and growing what we already have• It's not a silo – it connects directly with housing, skills, tourism, infrastructure, and liveability

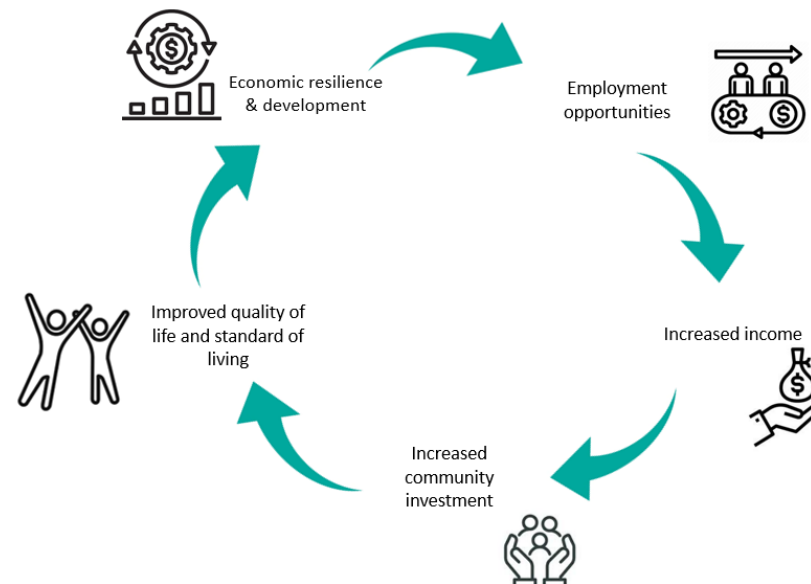
In Horowhenua our economic development actions:

- Promote Horowhenua as a great place for business, bringing new businesses to the region

- Help our local businesses to solve problems, grow, and expand – keeping them in Horowhenua
- Prepare our people for careers, connect businesses to skilled workers, and build the pipeline of future workers in the community
- Help entrepreneurs and new firms start up and access the resources they need to succeed
- Improve our community's quality of life

Council has made a strong commitment to economic development so we can help realise these benefits from economic growth, for all our people.

How Economic development works



Why Horowhenua needs a strategy and a plan

We have seen significant achievements in economic development in Horowhenua over the last five years and Horowhenua has improved on almost all economic indicators by more than the New Zealand average. With construction of Ō2NL soon to start, the investment by central government into our district will be significant, supporting the district as a high-growth area. Other significant ‘one-off’ investment opportunities are rare.

Both Muaūpoko and Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga in Horowhenua are currently pre-settlement but anticipate completing their respective treaty settlements in the next five years. Treaty settlements present a transformational opportunity for iwi and hapū in Horowhenua. Before settlement, approximately the first half of the period this Strategy covers, Council has an important role in partnering with iwi and hapū early to lay the groundwork for inclusive, intergenerational growth and development that can lift prosperity of Māori and all those living in the district. A plan becomes important so the benefits of this significant moment are optimised, this plan will ensure an intentional focus on positioning iwi and hapū, plus key partners, in shaping the district’s economy.

In high-growth areas¹, similar to Horowhenua, transport investment has been a game changer, particularly when the transport investments connect the district with main centres. In Horowhenua we will benefit not only from Ō2NL, but also from the increased passenger rail services, expected by 2030, enabling better connections with both the Wellington and Manawatū/Whanganui regions, and the provision of a public bus service.

For Ō2NL, depending on the share of the activity carried out by our businesses, the expected net positive GDP impact on our economy from just the construction phase is between \$59 million and \$139 million. This would represent an uplift in the local economy of between 0.5% and 1.1% over the next 10 years. In addition to GDP, construction will support employment and return income to households.

Continued projected strong population growth will drive growth in employment, particularly in services, which will in turn provide local employment opportunities for residents. Horowhenua has the opportunity to exceed forecast employment and GDP growth by actively developing and attracting businesses, particularly in industries that are under-developed, relative to comparable high-growth areas, such as industrial and professional industries.

Infrastructure-enabled growth experienced across other high-growth areas has supported these economies to develop and evolve. The high-growth areas have embraced and attracted new opportunities, beyond simply scaling up as their populations have grown.

¹ In their Future Outlook for Horowhenua District Report, Sept 2024, Infometrics compared Horowhenua with Kapiti Coast, Waipa (Cambridge), Franklin (Pukekohe), and Selwyn (Rolleston) districts as similar high-growth areas with corresponding infrastructure (particularly road) investments.

High-growth areas have also benefited as growth in nearby primary urban areas has spilled over, especially as housing has become increasingly unaffordable generally across New Zealand, and specifically within key urban areas, therefore making longer commutes more economic.

With all this potential we must ensure there is a clear and well-thought-out plan to ensure we maximise the opportunities and are ready to attract inward investment.

Partnerships

Council cannot achieve economic development alone; it has multiple roles in leading, enabling, and supporting businesses and communities, such as:

- leadership and coordination,
- support for local people and businesses,
- ensuring a responsive, affordable supply of land,
- influencing investment decisions and broader wellbeing outcomes,
- supporting and investing in local infrastructure, and
- ownership of land, key infrastructure assets and other investments.

However, partnerships and wider relationships between Council, iwi/hapū, other organisations and businesses are key to the economic growth of Horowhenua. Many of those work in the delivery of economic development with infrastructure providers, developers, inward investment partners, and the community. In particular, Council recognises that Māori will emerge as increasingly significant economic development partners over the life of this strategy, particularly following the full realisation of Treaty settlements. We will work proactively with iwi and hapū to explore and support their economic aspirations, unlock the potential of Māori land, develop Māori enterprise, and strengthen Māori participation in the district's future prosperity.

This strategy provides a clear focus for our collective efforts – ensuring that both current initiatives and future plans contribute meaningfully to Horowhenua's economic development. Active partnerships and commitment from all coordination, will be needed to bring the economic development plan to life and deliver it with purpose and urgency.

Current snapshot – 2024

GDP

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a fundamental economic indicator that measures the value added from the production of goods and services.

Horowhenua	NZ	% of NZ
\$1420.4m	\$418,823.8	0.3%

GDP per filled job

Labour productivity using GDP per filled job is a proxy for productivity.

Horowhenua	NZ	% of NZ
\$115,152	\$149,163	77%

Business unit growth

The number of businesses in an area is an indicator of the health of the economy. Annual average % change.

Horowhenua	NZ	% of NZ
0.1%	0.9%	11%

Filled jobs

Positive employment growth shows that businesses in a region are confident in their activity and outlook to expand their workforce.

Horowhenua	NZ	% of NZ
12,335	2,807,834	0.44%

Mean annual earnings

Earnings are typically an important source of household income; they contribute to well-being and provide choices to individuals.

Horowhenua	NZ	% of NZ
\$63,059	\$78,731	80%

Mean household income

Household income is a fundamental measure of living standards and reflects the economic health of an area.

Horowhenua	NZ	% of NZ
\$100,956	\$132,873	76%

Median annual income

Median household income is a better measure of typical income – measures only available for Manawātū-Whanganui 2023.

Mean	Median	% difference
\$70,080	\$63,600	91%

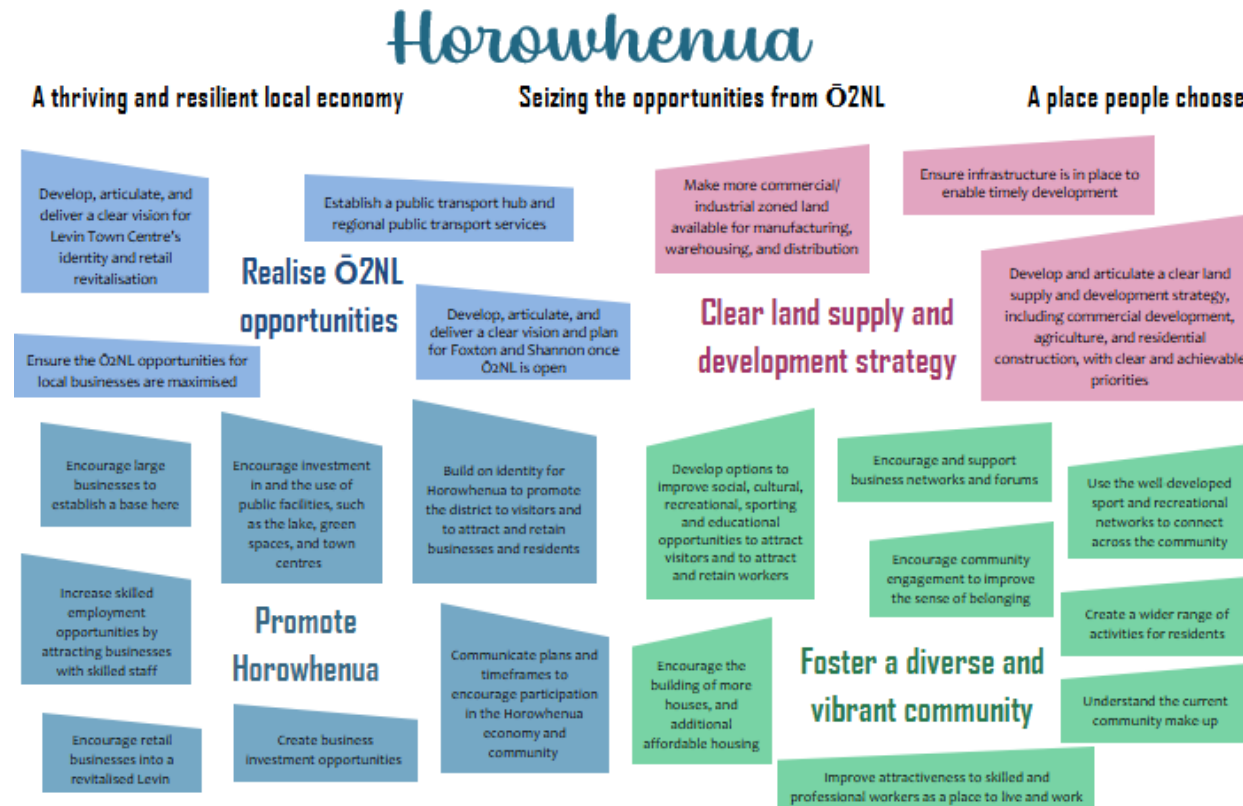
Employment by broad skill level

Areas that can offer higher skilled jobs can generally offer a higher standard of living to its residents. These areas also have a better chance of retaining residents and attracting new skilled workers.

Highly skilled	Skilled
33.7%	11.5%
Semi-skilled	Low-skilled
14.9%	39.9%

Source: Infometrics 2024

Strategy map



Our vision

Business-friendly. Growth-focused. Opportunity-driven.

We champion enterprise, embrace diversity, and work with others to grow a resilient local economy. We seize opportunities to lift wellbeing and build economic security for all.

Our goals

A thriving and resilient local economy

Horowhenua is a magnet for businesses and talent. Our economy is dynamic and productive – built on strong local skills, growing investment, and rising productivity.

Seizing the opportunities from Ō2NL

Ō2NL is a once-in-a-generation opportunity. With significant benefits, we must act now to unlock jobs, boost productivity, and positively shape our district's future.

A place people choose

We don't just grow businesses – we grow lifestyles. Horowhenua is known as a great place to live, work, and play. That's how we keep and attract the skilled people needed for our economy to thrive and prosper.

Our priorities

For Horowhenua there are four priorities to be brought together to ensure the high-level economic development goals are achieved.

1. Realise the opportunities available to us with the construction of Ō2NL.
2. Create and deliver a clear land supply and development strategy to enable the right investment at the right time.
3. Promote Horowhenua as a place to live, visit, and invest, encouraging residents, businesses and visitors to invest in the district.
4. Foster a diverse and vibrant community, one that comes together regularly to celebrate its diversity.

Priority One: Realise Ō2NL opportunities

With the confirmation that Ō2NL will be built in our district, we need to harness the growth that will follow. Ō2NL is a major factor in the expected population growth and a critical opportunity we must capitalise on.

Our district will change. Levin and Shannon will change once State Highway 1 no longer passes through the centre of these towns. Foxton will change being the first (or last) town off (or before) the expressway starts. We must ensure the Ō2NL opportunities for local businesses are maximised. Establish a public transport hub, with regional public transport services to ensure our growing population can move around the region, to work and to play.

We must meet these challenges and changes by developing, articulating, and delivering, a clear vision for Levin Town Centre's identity and retail revitalisation.

We must also develop, articulate, and deliver, a clear vision and plans for Foxton and Shannon.

This will clearly signal to investors what our towns and district will look like and how they can be part of the district's growth.

Strategic alignment

We are already working on many initiatives that contribute to greater economic prosperity for all in our region, as can be seen in the Blueprint actions, the Growth Strategy Principles, and the Community Wellbeing Strategy.

Blueprint actions	Growth Strategy Settlement Principles	Community Wellbeing Strategy
<p>Keep the district moving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue advocating and planning for the upgrade of the Levin passenger train station and improved rail station access with KiwiRail and regional transport committees. Work with the Wellington Regional Growth Partners on the Levin Structure Plan to guide longer term development and improvement of the station catchment. Consider housing pilot projects to ensure affordable housing outcomes are included with the transformation of the station precinct. <p>Support our communities and centres</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue implementing the Levin Town Centre Strategy and activating the Levin Town Centre, as prioritised through the LTP. Develop a Master Plan to conceptually visualise the implementation of the Levin Town Centre Strategy. Continue supporting the implementation of the Foxton Futures Community Plan 	<p>Settlement Principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan for settlement growth at key nodes (such as existing settlements) on transport routes including public transport networks. <p>Street and Movement Principles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the transport system to provide adequately for the community's long-term transport needs. Recognise the influence of State Highways economically to the settlements and of the railway for movement of people and goods for the future. Encourage, through urban development areas, increased viability for public transport 	<p>Connected Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverage and advocate for greater community outcomes from the construction of Ō2NL (Ōtaki to North Levin). Ō2NL construction to begin 2025. We will continue to partner with Waka Kotahi to keep our community and affected residents up to date during this significant project and our communication channels will remain open. As members of the Horowhenua Transport Services Governance Group, we will continue to be involved in the planning of public transportation options, with Horizons Regional Council taking a lead role. <p>Environment, Community Resilience & Preparedness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By working with regional partners advocate for the establishment of public transport within urban environments. <p>Sense of Place and Belonging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that our community facilities offer services and programmes which build on the skills of our community and increases their capability.

Our opportunity

The economic forecasts for Horowhenua are good, largely driven by the upcoming construction of the Ōtaki to North of Levin highway (Ō2NL). The increased accessibility to Wellington from connecting Ō2NL with the PP2Ō Expressway, Kapiti Expressway and Transmission Gully makes our district much more accessible from the South, opening the district up to opportunities and investment.

Added to this is the anticipated improvements in public transport services between Wellington and Palmerston North, further improving the Horowhenua's growth prospects.

When we can capitalise on this increased growth and investment, this strategy, and the work it enables, will allow us to make sure we maximise the wider economic benefits of the Ō2NL construction and strive to keep these benefits in the district beyond the road opening and the project being completed. As our population increases, we must ensure we maximise the increased construction economic impacts and realise the benefits of increased economic activity and higher employment. In turn, more residents will benefit from, and be attracted to a vibrant, re-imagined Levin town centre. One that has a variety of transport options and enables easier access to the retail centre – giving greater opportunity for residents to spend their money locally.

Our priority actions to support realising Ō2NL opportunities include:

- Reimagining and revitalising the Levin Town Centre, in preparation for revocation when State Highway 1 no longer passes through the town centre.
- Establishing a transport hub for Levin.
- Advocating and planning for new and enhanced public transport services (passenger rail and bus services) servicing the district.

Priority Two: Clear land supply and development strategy

So development can occur there must be appropriately zoned, affordable, and available serviced land. Council will signal where it can support development and enable the infrastructure to encourage the type of development they want to see in each area. We will develop and articulate a clear land supply and development strategy, including commercial, industrial, and residential development, with clear and achievable priorities. We will ensure more commercial/industrial zoned land is available for manufacturing, warehousing, and distribution activities (especially those attracted by the proximity of land to Ō2NL), encouraging those industries to our area and enabling a hub to be created.

We will ensure the right infrastructure is in place to enable timely development in response to demand and that the costs are met by those that benefit from development. We will continue to optimise our development systems and processes to make Horowhenua a place where people find it easy to do business.

Strategic alignment

This priority already has links with our Blueprint actions, the Growth Strategy, and the Community Wellbeing Strategy. The additional actions in this strategy build on and complement these.

Blueprint actions	Growth Strategy Settlement Principles	Community Wellbeing Strategy
Enable more affordable housing choices <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage proactively with Kāinga Ora to secure more social housing. Provide guidance on strategic or optimal locations for larger footprint retirement villages or centres. Unlock land supply for development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progress District Plan Changes, combined with ongoing land supply monitoring and analysis on housing costs and infrastructure needs. 	Settlement Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide housing choice - range of lot sizes / densities. Higher densities around centres (e.g. 25-50dw/ha) and larger lots at edges. Recognise and provide affordable housing choices for people with a low income. Address in any new growth areas the potentially disconnecting influence of main roads / highways, either current or future-planned. Infrastructure Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide water, sewer, stormwater to an adequate standard to reflect Council strategies. 	Housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise and enable affordable housing choices for people, through the controls of the District Plan and direction of the Housing Action Plan. Through the Horowhenua Operative District Plan, enable opportunities for housing that are accessible to essential services. For example, mixed-use development within the Urban Centre.

Our opportunity

When this priority is enabled, and by 2035, Horowhenua will be a centre for warehousing and distribution. Horowhenua will also have a highly skilled and productive manufacturing, infrastructure, and construction cluster, with the right land available at the right time, and the best connections to the state highway corridor. We will explore a collaborative approach with the development sector to contribute to the timely development of land.

These centres of industry will cement Horowhenua as a centre of commercial development in the lower North Island.

Our growing population will need housing. We will enable that development while ensuring there is sufficient social housing for those who need it.

Māori land within the district is largely undeveloped and presents future opportunities. Government initiatives are progressing to smooth the pathway for papakainga development, which could see this become a more viable option.

Priority projects that support a clear land supply and development strategy include:

- Tararua Road Phase 1 development – the subdivision and development of approximately 70+ industrial and retail lots and open/green space (private development).
- Ō2NL gateways – with the entrances to Levin from Ō2NL coming online it will be important to make sure the gateways are welcoming and interesting to encourage travellers to visit Horowhenua. Further work needs to include the transition from gateway road to old state highway to ensure the drive into Levin is attractive and easy to navigate.
- Tararua Rd / SH1/ Railway crossing – Tararua Road is proposed to provide the main access to Levin from the Ō2NL expressway. Ensuring that there is a fit for purpose road and entrance to Levin and to the expressway will be important for the community, businesses, and visitors.
- Integrated Growth Strategy – A workstream was established at Council late 2024, to ensure that Council align and integrate land use planning and infrastructure planning to enable the right development, in the right place at the right time. This workstream will create a way of working that helps achieve this, based on a sound understanding of current state and future demand. Work will continue in the consenting space to develop an end to end solution for the delivery of Resource Consenting, Building Consenting and Development Engineering outcomes through a ‘one system’ approach, where the customer experience from a time and value perspective is a key determinant of success.
- Māori land development opportunities – explore barriers, within the control of the Council, to developing Māori Land and create guidance that outlines the development processes for Māori Land.

Priority Three: Promote Horowhenua

While the environment will be set to allow and enable businesses to invest here, it's important to have a clear vision for Horowhenua so that those businesses can see the potential here. Key to this is making land available, having a diverse and vibrant community, affordable housing, and a great lifestyle for workers.

Council will continue to build the identity for Horowhenua and market the district to visitors, businesses, and residents – both existing and new. We will encourage large businesses to establish a base here, as well encourage small and medium businesses to our towns, including retail.

More businesses will result in higher employment and additional employees, particularly skilled workers, will be drawn here. To cement the gains from growth we want to encourage a wider and broader range of professional services in our town. Experience in other high- growth areas has shown that these businesses are key to revitalising town centres.

We will continue to sing the praises of this amazing district, investing in our special and unique features; Punahau (Lake Horowhenua), the Tararua ranges, our beaches, our fertile land, and the amazing facilities here.

A specific focus on destination management and development will be key to Horowhenua's success in growing its output as a visitor destination. Horowhenua is still in its infancy as a destination, but with increasing connectivity and infrastructure investment, the visitor sector presents a significant and distinct opportunity for growth. When deliberately developed, destination management becomes a targeted economic development level – tailored experience and product development, enhancing market awareness and ultimately driving increased visitor spend, the expansion of tourism and related businesses, and broader opportunities.

Strategic alignment

Promoting Horowhenua is already a focus of our Blueprint actions and the Growth Strategy and we will continue to add to these actions.

Blueprint actions	Growth Strategy Settlement Principles	Community Wellbeing Strategy
Communicate a clearly defined identity for the district <ul style="list-style-type: none">Create a website presenting the district's potential with planned 'strategic moves' and ongoing significant investments.	Open Space Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none">Provide for the formal and informal recreational needs of people in towns – sports and casual use.	Sense of Place <ul style="list-style-type: none">Maintain Green Flag status for our green spaces to ensure that our green spaces continue to be well-maintained, clean, safe,

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create an interactive map showing the spatial distribution of key planned and ongoing developments in the district. • Produce a prospectus highlighting the district's positive, regionally significant attributes and presenting its opportunities for the public, private and not-for-profit sectors. <p>Support and enable lwi aspirations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocate for and support plans and initiatives to restore Punahau/Lake Horowhenua • Support lwi economic development aspirations. <p>Secure jobs in key sectors and attract more visitors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitor Industry: Work with stakeholders within the community to identify and stimulate the implementation of ideas to attract visitors, e.g. improved cycling infrastructure, wider tourism offering, more and higher-quality visitor accommodation and food-related attractions, supported by an expanded communication strategy. <p>Keep the district moving</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake planning and design work regarding Ō2NL, based on the strategic objectives for the district related to connectivity, logistics related employment and presentation to travelers from the south. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a linked network of open space for alternative movement network for walkers, recreational use, and ecological corridors. 	<p>secure and welcoming, thus inviting and drawing people to enjoy them.</p>
--	--	--

Our opportunity

When we have these setting and actions in-train, we will see an increase in construction and manufacturing here, enticed by our connections to SH1 and the vibrant community.

When we deliver on this strategy our residents, and future residents, will agree that Horowhenua is a good place to visit and stay, as well as a good place to live, work, and play. They will find that Levin has many of the amenities they need and that Horowhenua is seen to be investing in its local resources and facilities, and this investment benefits the community.

Horowhenua's natural environment offers untapped opportunities to leverage the uniqueness of the mountains to the sea, the rivers, lakes and highly productive soils. Opportunities to consider connecting this with education and training opportunities and to promote our unique offering as a destination.

Projects prioritised in this area include:

- Horowhenua identity – Extending the Horowhenua 'identity', which currently focuses on visitors, to include businesses and residents to encourage people to bring their businesses and lives to Horowhenua.
- Implementation of the Horowhenua Destination Management Plan.
- Explore the opportunities associated with Horowhenua's key propositions, including adventure, nature, food and cultural tourism ventures that provide authentic place-based experiences drawing from the rich local history and natural environment.
- Explore training and development opportunities that are based on the unique natural environment within the district.

Priority Four: Foster a diverse and vibrant community

Economic growth does not occur in isolation; there needs to be an active and vibrant community to attract and retain workers and their wider families. It's important to provide social, cultural, recreational, sporting and educational opportunities.

We will work to keep understanding the changing make-up of our community and its needs as it grows. Ensuring that the district offers a wider range of activities for residents, for example, events, entertainment, facilities, and recreational offerings.

We will encourage and support business networks and forums and improve the attractiveness of Horowhenua to skilled and professional workers as a place to live and work. We will encourage the building of more houses, as well as additional affordable housing, and we'll develop options to improve social, cultural, recreational, sporting and educational opportunities to attract visitors and to attract and retain workers

We can use our well-developed sport and recreational networks to connect across the community and to encourage community engagement to improve the sense of belonging.

Education and training opportunities provides avenues to both attract people to the district and to provide options for people in the district to learn valuable skills that enable them to benefit themselves and in turn the district.

The treaty settlements for Muaūpoko and Ngāti Raukawa ki te Tonga are anticipated to be resolved mid-way through the life of this Strategy, and have potential to be the biggest economic boost the district will see. The nature of the settlements provides opportunities for Māori and Iwi economic development and investment in the district in ways that have not been previously possible in the pre-settlement context.

Strategic alignment

This priority links closely with our Blueprint actions, the Growth Strategy, and the Community Wellbeing Strategy, with many of the actions outlined in the implementation phase already planned.

Blueprint actions	Growth Strategy Settlement Principles	Community Wellbeing Strategy
Support and enable Iwi aspirations <ul style="list-style-type: none">Advocate for and support plans and initiatives to restore Punahau / Lake Horowhenua.Support the development of Māori housing.Support Iwi economic development aspirations.	Street and Movement Principles <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ensure streets are interconnected to assist with efficient movements, walkability and way finding.	Culture <ul style="list-style-type: none">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.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the use of street trees to provide scale, shade, visual amenity and definition of street hierarchy. 	<p>Sense of Place and Belonging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaborate with communities to develop community-led placemaking projects and identify areas where placemaking initiatives will have a positive impact <p>Connected Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop new ways to keep our community informed and up to date about any roading changes such as road works or road closures with the intention of ensuring that we deliver the message and the related impacts in an accessible way.
--	---	--

Our opportunity

Strengthening and expanding our community, celebrating its diversity and encouraging more vibrancy is a key part of the strategy and our vision for future Horowhenua.

As the district continues to grow, the make-up of the local community is anticipated to become more diverse. The recent population growth has seen growth spread across the age categories. Ensuring that our offerings reflect the make-up of our community, including in age and ethnicity, will be important in making Horowhenua a place people choose.

When we prioritise a more diverse and vibrant community we would expect to see more community-led events, more events overall, and more entertainment offerings here. Residents will feel a sense of community in their neighbourhood, will consider Horowhenua as an inclusive, diverse, and vibrant place, and as well as that, an affordable and enjoyable place to live.

We will invest in showcasing our heritage, ensuring Te Reo is visible and celebrated, and there are opportunities to learn it. Matariki celebrations will be one of the key highlights of the year, and all communities are encouraged to celebrate and share their culture with the community.

As seen throughout this Strategy for the district's economic growth, the Treaty settlements provide the opportunity for local iwi/hapū to become a major influence in the district's economy. Ensuring that these opportunities are identified ahead of time, and steps taken to plan and prepare ahead of the settlements, will be important to helping optimise the progress and prosperity of Māori and Iwi in the district.

Projects prioritised in this area include:

- Develop a Māori Economic Development Plan to support Māori and Iwi economic development from a pre-treaty settlement environment through to thriving and maximising opportunities in a post-treaty settlement environment.
- Support the development of Iwi /hapū Development Plans that help set up local iwi/hapū for future economic opportunities.

What else Council does that is ‘economic development’

Council plays a vital role in fostering economic development across the district, often in ways that extend well beyond direct investment in economic development services. One of the most fundamental contributions the Council makes is through the provision and maintenance of core infrastructure. By investing in roads, water and wastewater networks, and stormwater management, the Council ensures that the district remains functional, accessible, and attractive for both residents and businesses. These investments are essential in reducing the cost of doing business and creating the conditions needed for economic activity to flourish, particularly in a district experiencing steady population growth and development pressure.

Strategic land use planning is another area where the Council has significant influence. Through its District Plan and consenting processes, Council guides where and how growth occurs. Whether it's enabling residential subdivisions, promoting industrial and commercial zones, protecting highly productive land, Council decisions shape the economic landscape and help support local employment opportunities. Proactive planning also ensures adequate land supply for future business development, which is critical in attracting investment and supporting long-term economic resilience.

In addition to physical infrastructure and planning, the Council plays a key role in enabling workforce readiness and community wellbeing. Through services such as libraries, community centres, youth programmes, and partnerships with local education providers, the Council supports skill development and lifelong learning opportunities. These investments in people – especially in a district with a young and diverse population – help build a capable workforce that can meet the needs of local employers and adapt to changing economic conditions.

Finally, Council acts as a connector and advocate, working closely with iwi, business associations, social service providers, and regional economic development agencies like Kānoa and the Manawatū-Whanganui Regional Council. By engaging with these partners, the Council helps align local priorities with broader regional and national strategies, securing funding and support for projects that benefit the district. This collaborative and place-based approach ensures that economic development efforts are grounded in the unique strengths and needs of Horowhenua.

Assumptions for the indicators

These assumptions are based on the projections and forecasts made in the September 2024 Infometrics report, Future Outlook for Horowhenua District, Council's Long Term Plan 2024-44 and also informed by what has occurred previously. These assumptions have been used as the context and basis for setting the indicators that the Strategy will monitor to understand the impact of actioning on the Strategy through the Implementation Plan.

Environmental

- Ō2NL proceeds as planned
- Capital Connection proceeds as planned
- Public transport service for Levin is operational by 2027
- Levin Town Centre transformation proceeds as planned
- The priority actions are completed on schedule

Economic activity

2014 – 2023

- Horowhenua's economic activity, measured in terms of GDP, rose strongly from 2013 onwards, from \$982m in 2013 to \$1,301m in 2023. This equates to an increase of 2.9%pa on average.
- This was led by construction, manufacturing, and retail, however, little further growth is expected for manufacturing and construction.

2024 - 2034

- GDP in Horowhenua is forecast to grow 2.2%. This equates to a GDP of \$1,648m
- This is forecast to be led by retail (adding \$5m per year on average), health (\$4m), and rental and hiring (\$3m) activity.
- Overall, most industries in Horowhenua are forecast to expand.
- It is estimated that the Ō2NL project will push up Horowhenua's GDP growth in 2027 and down in 2031.

Population

2014 - 2023

- Horowhenua's 65-years-and-older population has grown substantially, up 2.4%pa, however, this is the same as the average growth rate across Wellington-Horowhenua.
- Horowhenua's 15–39-year-old population grew 2.6%pa, faster than the 65-years-and-older population.
- Horowhenua's under-15-year-old population grew 1.3%pa, against a regional decline of 0.1%pa.
- The Census March 2023 – confirmed the Horowhenua population was 36,693.

2024 - 2034

- Horowhenua's population is projected to grow 1.5%pa until 2030 and then 2.1%pa on until 2044. In 2034 the population of Horowhenua is forecast to be 45,159

Employment

2014 - 2023

- Employment in Horowhenua grew at 2.0%pa on average

2024 - 2034

- Employment is forecast to grow 1.4%pa
- This will be driven by a growing population increasing demand for local services such as health, retail, other services, and education.
- Health is forecast to lead growth, adding 43 jobs per year, followed by retail (30), other services (24), and education (21).
- Manufacturing employment is forecast to grow by a modest 6 jobs per year.
- Growth is forecast for nearly every industry.
- Construction employment is forecast to ease by 20 jobs per year on average, easing back from a recent record high, yet maintaining a level of employment well above historical levels.
- Based on analysis of the Kapiti Expressway construction, Ō2NL will push up districtwide employment growth in 2027 and push down growth in 2031.
- Construction and professional services employment is forecast to rise and fall with the construction of Ō2NL.

High-growth areas

- Across comparable high-growth areas, urban form has a significant effect on local services. Areas with their population spread across many towns often lack a critical mass for local services such as retail, hospitality, and health. Horowhenua shares many similarities with Kapiti Coast, as both have a clear primary centre and face at least a 30-minute driving time to the nearest main centre, a recipe that requires and supports strong local services.
- Given these strong similarities, we expect growth in local services in Horowhenua to track the experience of Kapiti Coast, as Horowhenua's population grows and builds further critical mass for retail in Levin.

Indicators of Success

We must measure our progress regularly to ensure the actions we are enacting are having a positive and real effect. Many of our goals will need to be of a longer-term nature, and may be somewhat out of our control, however, more specific output measures will be assigned to the activities in the plan.

Overall, it is important to see the gains we could expect from enacting this strategy.

The following measures are proposed as robust ways to measure the improving economic landscape in Horowhenua.

Economic growth

Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is a fundamental economic indicator that measures the value added from the production of goods and services. While it will be heavily dependent on national GDP figures, it is expected that Horowhenua will be slightly insulated by the construction of Ō2NL during its construction, however, after completion, growth is expected to slow.

GDP grows on average by 2% each year until 2030, then by 1.5% to 2035	2024	2030	2035
	\$1420.4	\$1568.2	\$1689.4

Increased exports

With the government's focus on doubling exports by 2034, Horowhenua is in a great place to contribute to this. Our top three export industries are meat and meat products, horticulture and fruit growing, and fruit, oil, cereal and other food product manufacturing.

Our top three exports increase in value by 10%	2024	2035
	\$170.1m	\$187.1m

Increased productivity

Labour productivity uses GDP per filled job as a proxy for productivity. Overall productivity is influenced by a number of factors such as labour and production inputs (eg, machinery, technology, and land). Growth in labour productivity over time can imply an increase in the efficiency and competitiveness of the economy.

GDP per filled job has increased to 85% of the NZ GDP per filled job	2024	2035
	77%	85%

More businesses

The number of businesses in an area is an indicator of the health of the economy. For example, growth in the number of businesses in an area reflects increased entrepreneurial activity and economic activity as entrepreneurs are prepared to take risks and start new ventures.

Over time we would expect the number of vacant premises to decrease and the number of new commercial rate payers to increase.

We are expecting the following types of businesses to increase:

- Retail
- Warehousing and distribution
- Service industries
- Agri-businesses

The number of new businesses has grown at a rate equal to or greater than the number of new businesses across NZ	2024			2035		
	Horowhenua	Provinces	New Zealand	Horowhenua	Provinces	New Zealand
	0.1%	0.9%	0.9%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%

More employment

Employment growth is an economic and social wellbeing indicator. As an economic indicator, positive employment growth shows that businesses in a region are confident in their activity and outlook to expand their workforce. Job creation provides new opportunities for the population in Horowhenua District to earn an income, contribute to the local economy, and choose how they live their lives.

Number of jobs has grown on average by 1.4% each year	2024	2035
	12,335	14,200

Reduction in NEET rate

The NEET rate measures the proportion of people aged 15–24 years who are not employed or engaged in education or training. This is an indicator of young people’s engagement with either learning or working, it is not necessarily a reflection on personal choice and is also greatly affected by job growth overall. In 2024 New Zealand’s NEET was 12.1% and Horowhenua’s was 18.1%.

NEET rate is within 3% of New Zealand’s NEET rate	2024	2035
	6.1%	3.0%

Increased mean annual earnings

Earnings are income earned through employment. This chart measures average annual earnings per filled job. Earnings are typically an important source of household income as they contribute to well-being and provide choices to individuals.

Mean annual earnings are 85% of the NZ mean annual earnings	2024	2035
	80%	85%

Increased median earnings compared to mean annual earnings

Currently Manawātū-Whanganui median earnings (the middle point between highest and lowest income) are at 91% of mean (average) earnings. We are currently unable to measure this for Horowhenua specifically but can access data from the regional level. This is a better measure of typical income, however, this data will typically feel out of date as Stats NZ releases annual data 18-months after the reference period.

**The gap between median
earnings and mean earnings
reduces to 6%**

2023	2035
91%	94%

Increased mean household income

Household income is a fundamental measure of living standards and reflects the economic health of an area. Household income is derived from multiples sources including earnings from employment (wages and salaries), earnings from self-employment, allowances, benefits and superannuation. By including incomes of all household members from a range of sources, it provides a more holistic measure of living standard and housing affordability than individual earnings.

**Mean household income is 85%
of the NZ mean household
income**

2024	2035
76%	85%

Increased skill levels of locals

Areas that can offer higher skilled jobs can generally offer a higher standard of living to its residents. These areas also have a better chance of retaining residents and attracting new skilled workers.

Greater proportion of skilled and semi-skilled workers in Horowhenua and slightly lower proportion of unskilled workers.

2024

2035

Highly skilled	Skilled	Semi-skilled	Low-skilled
33.7%	11.5%	14.9%	39.9%
34.5%	14.8%	15.5%	35.2%

Vibrant and attractive Levin

A lot of work is already underway to redesign Levin town centre to align with the state highway moving to the expressway. It will be important to have the settings ready for investment well before the new road opens.

- Extend and deepen the retail and services offered in Levin
 - A greater variety of retail stores are present in Levin. We have less 'dollar shops' and more businesses offering a wider range of services. The mall is considered a great central retail location and there are more restaurants and activities providing evening opportunities.
- New retail businesses established in the Levin town centre
- Public transport services the district from a centralised hub, buses and train.
 - Bus service is established in Levin by 2027
 - Capital Connection services increase with new rolling stock by 2030
- Levin town centre better serves the future Horowhenua community

Ō2NL-specific impacts

It is important for Horowhenua that local businesses gain income from working for the Ō2NL Alliances. There should be direct contracts as well as the general upskilling of people in the region.

- Local companies are contracted for at least \$91 million of the Ō2NL project budget
- Local Māori Businesses are contracted for at least \$23 million of Ō2NL project budget
- Local Iwi Businesses are contracted for a least \$4.58 million of the Ō2NL project budget
- Local companies leverage revenue and skills gained from Ō2NL to position themselves for construction and infrastructure contracts post Ō2NL
 - Local businesses are in a position to bid for bigger projects in construction and infrastructure

Training and employment improvements

- NEETs (Not in employment, Education or Training) or local youth gain permanent employment in Ō2NL – Target 65 over the life of the project
- Unemployed people gain employment in Ō2NL – Target 65 over the life of the project
- Industry related qualifications (Level 4-7) awarded to employees across the project – 250 across the life of the Ō2NL project

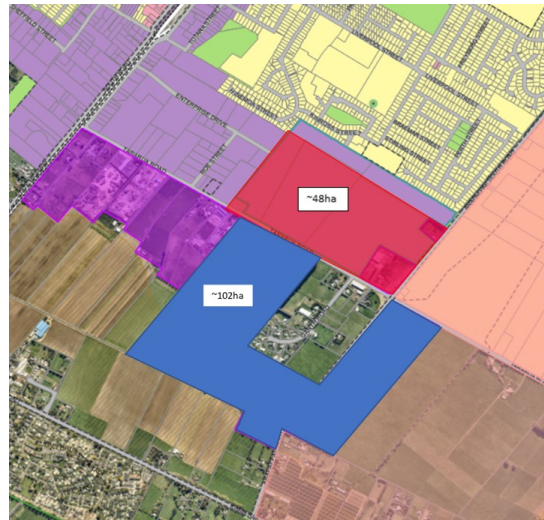
Foxton and Shannon benefit from a change in traffic patterns and driver behaviour once the Ō2NL expressway opens.

- Increased visitor spend on retail and hospitality in Foxton and Shannon after Ō2NL expressway opens. (will require benchmarking ahead of Ō2NL opening).
- Increased foot-traffic counts in the commercial areas of Foxton and Shannon after Ō2NL expressway opens. (will require benchmarking ahead of Ō2NL opening)

Commercial development

The new expressway will bring a multitude of opportunities, in particular inward investment as businesses take advantage of the region's better connections, increased population, and significant interchanges along the new road.

- Monitor the ratio of zoned, serviced business land (commercial and industrial) to projected demand for business land over a 10-year period for the Levin-Foxton-Shannon urban area. Aiming for a 1:1.2 ratio (i.e., supply outpacing demand by 20% - *aligning with the NPS Urban Development*)
- Development of 70% of commercial land purchased after January 2025 begins within 5 years of purchase
- Commercial development around the interchanges is established and expands beyond 2035
 - By 2035 we expect 95% of land area surrounding the Tararua interchange (that is live zoned spatially defined as the red area below) to be developed for commercial or industrial activities, and 20% of the future growth land (spatially defined as blue area below) to be developed for commercial or industrial activities.



Service industry growth

Growth in construction and manufacturing is set to ease over 2023-2034, with service industries taking the driving seat, as strong population growth drives strong demand for local services.

- Service industries increase their GDP contributions and the number of jobs they provide on average over the next 10 years

Warehousing and distribution hub

With the new expressway interchanges and commercial land becoming available near them, Horowhenua has the opportunity to increase its warehousing and distribution capabilities and businesses, to complement other hubs in the lower North Island.

- Levin is a complementary SH1 warehousing and distribution hub for the lower North Island
 - The number of businesses and the number of employees in these businesses increases

Businesses support the work

Every year THCL surveys business owners seeking to understand and gain an outside perspective on the economic development work it undertakes. This survey will be used to measure satisfaction.

80% of the district's businesses are satisfied or more than satisfied with Council's support to local businesses and overall performance in the economic development activity*

**wording direct from the SSP report.*

July 2024	July 2035
73%	80%

Every year through the resident satisfaction survey Council provides the opportunity for the community to provide feedback and rate how satisfied they are with the work and services delivered by Council and its contractors. The survey produces Customer Satisfaction Scores (CSAT) for each function.

The CSAT score for economic development in Horowhenua increases to 65%.

July 2025	July 2035
47.6%	65%

File No.: 25/332

8.7 Levin Town Centre Transformation Programme Update

Author(s)	Robyn Ryder Strategic Projects Coordinator Kaikotuitui Kaupapa Rautaki
Approved by	Susan Philp Strategic Projects Manager Kaihautū Hinonga Rautaki
	David McCorkindale Group Manager - Vision & Delivery Tumu Rangapū, Matawhānui Hapori, Whakarite
	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. This report is to provide an update to Council on the Levin Town Centre Transformation Programme including seeking approval of the changes proposed to the programme governance structure to enable a more effective and efficient process to deliver on the Levin Town Centre Transformation Strategy.
2. Council will also be asked to agree the appointment of a Māori Ward Councillor to the Community Steering Group.

This matter relates to Activating the Levin Town Centre.

Implement agreed Strategy initiatives.

Pursue connections and relationships to build momentum outside of Council led-initiatives.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

3. At the Council meeting 26 March 2025 during the Public Excluded part of the of the meeting, Council directed the Chief Executive to review the project management and governance arrangements for the Levin Town Centre project and provide a report to Council as soon as practicable.
4. A Levin Town Centre Transformation Steering Group Workshop was held on 23 May 2025 with all members in attendance, i.e. two Elected Members, Chief Executive, Group Manager Community Vision and Delivery, two independent representatives and the programme delivery team. During this workshop, the current governance and programme leadership structure was reviewed with changes to the proposed structure recommended. Included in those changes is for a Māori Ward Councillor to join the two Levin Ward Councillors on the Community Steering Group. A decision is sought from Council to confirm the Māori Ward Councillor to be appointed.
5. The project prioritisation included within the implementation plan adopted on 13 December 2023 was also reviewed and updated at the Steering Group Workshop.

DELEGATION OR AUTHORITY TO ACT | TE MANA WHAKATAU I NGĀ KAWENGA

6. Council holds the authority, as set out in its Terms of Reference at 1.1 j), to appoint and discharge members of committees.

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

7. This matter is assessed as not significant. Despite potential high community interest, the matter is assessed against the Significance and Engagement Policy and does not trigger any other assessment matters and therefore is deemed to be not significant.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀTAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/332 Levin Town Centre Transformation Programme Update be received.
- B. That this matter or decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.
- C. That Council approve the Levin Town Centre Transformation programme governance structure.
- D. That Council agree to Māori Ward Councillor _____ being appointed to join the Levin Town Centre Transformation Community Steering Group.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

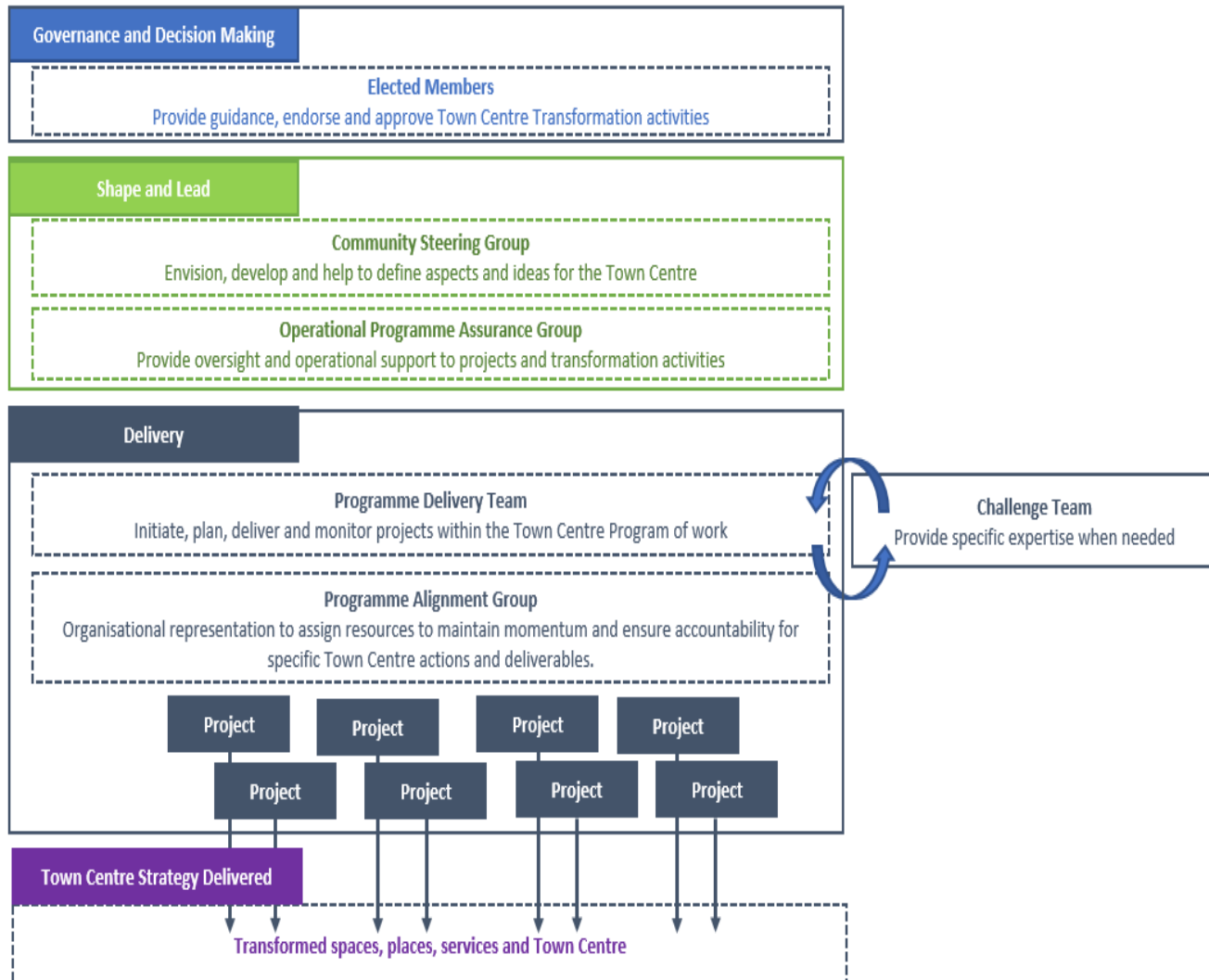
- 8. Council adopted the Levin Town Centre Transformation Implementation Plan to deliver on the Levin Town Centre Transformation Strategy during a public excluded part of the Council Meeting held on 13 December 2023. The adoption of the Levin Town Centre Transformation Implementation Plan has enabled Officers to manage progression of property acquisition, new development opportunities and the upgrading of existing town centre assets that align with the Town Centre Transformation Strategy.
- 9. The adoption of the Implementation Plan approach was for the period 2023-2025. This gave the ability for officers to commence wider community engagement and consultation on the town centre programme and aspirations and to establish the Steering Group and Reference Group to support the ongoing progress. This approach was implemented from both a programme management and leadership, and delivery framework perspective.
- 10. The project delivery framework was to ensure a consistent approach is applied to the scope, cost, time, dependency and risk management of the projects within the programme of work. This would see that approvals are sought from the Steering Group before projects are progressed to the next stage.
- 11. The Levin Town Centre programme of work consists of a range of projects and will see Council play a variety of different roles. The programme of work at this stage does not have a definitive end and will continue to evolve over time and as development occurs. The project delivery framework has been set up to reflect the level of flexibility that will be needed to deliver a programme of this scale and complexity.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

Governance and Programme Leadership Structure

- 12. In response to the resolution of Council in the public excluded part of the Council meeting on 26 March 2025, the program delivery team conducted a comprehensive review of our governance and operational structures, drawing on lessons from the previous period including the highlights and frustrations expressed to enhance its approach. Strengths were identified, including effective communication channels and clear decision-making processes which fostered collaboration and progress. However, areas of improvement were also recognised; in particular, to encourage broader participation. While tensions between iwi partners have to date prevented them from sharing the same space on this work, the revised structure adapts to this challenge by continuing to incorporate flexible engagement methods, such as separate consultation sessions and virtual platforms to ensure all voices are heard and valued. Moving forward, it is proposed to maintain these inclusive adaptations while continuing to refine processes to better support meaningful participation and collective outcomes.
- 13. The revised programme governance and operational management structure to be introduced as the programme moves forward is as outlined as follows:

Levin Town Centre Programme Governance and Operational Management



14. The Levin Town Centre programme will be delivered using the above programme governance and operational management structure, with the following functions and groups:

Governance and Decision making

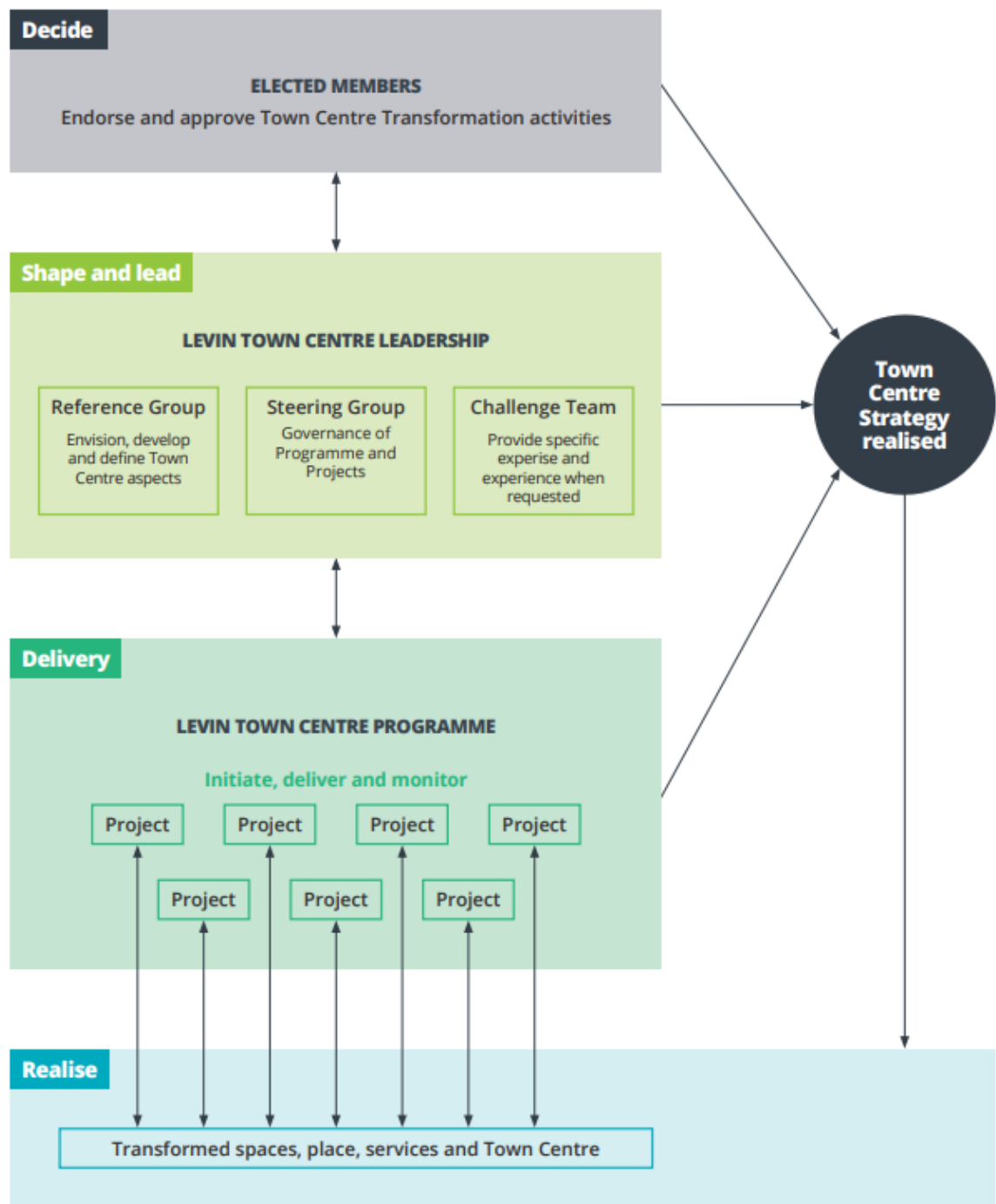
- **Elected Members** provide governance to advise and steer the Levin Town Centre programme. The Elected members support the programme to make decisions by providing oversight, guidance and direction to Levin Town Centre Transformation programme.

Shaping and Leading

- **Community Steering Group:** Contribute and inform details of the Levin Town Centre projects. They represent the interests of people, places and businesses that will use, visit, live and play in the town centre. The Community Steering Group will include representation from local youth, community groups, iwi and business, as well as two appointed Elected Members and one Māori Ward Councillor.
- **Operational Programme Assurance Group:** This group consists of the Chief Executive, Group Manager Community Vision and Delivery and the Programme Delivery Team who will provide management oversight, and two independent specialists who will provide independent commercial advice and oversight.

Delivery

- **Programme Delivery Team:** Programme delivery refers to the organising and sequencing of multiple projects that will be required to transform the Levin Town Centre, and seeks to manage the interdependencies and interconnectedness of each. Programme management includes the identification of projects, planning and sequencing as well as monitoring and managing project delivery where appropriate.
 - **Challenge Team:** Offers expertise and experience of key minds and previous contributors. They will incorporate new and existing expertise and ideas to bring a refreshed approach and thinking to the Levin Town Centre Transformation. The Challenge Team include members who bring external technical and specialist expertise not currently held within Council. These members bring ideas and experience that compliments the needs of the Levin Town Centre programme.
 - **Programme Alignment Group:** Ensures internal organisational alignment and representation across the Council to assign resources, maintain momentum and ensure accountability for specific Levin Town Centre actions and deliverables. The structure of this group may change slightly depending on what projects are in flight and the relevant parts of the organisation involved. There is the opportunity to also include external partners if there is the desire to be involved in the regular operations of delivering the programme.
15. The transition to the new structure is proposed to occur in July 2025 subject to Council's support. As part of this the membership particularly of the Community Steering Group will be considered to ensure that there is appropriate representation of the business and development sector to complement the existing members. Council has appointed Councillors Grimstone and Jennings to the Levin Town Centre Steering Group. The change in structure will see the two appointed elected members joined by a Māori Ward Councillor, become members of the Community Steering Group. While all elected members would be welcome to attend the meetings, the three appointed elected members would be the Town Centre champions that officers work closely with when preparing and holding the Community Steering Group Meetings. This report is seeking Council approval of the new programme governance structure and the appointment one of the current Māori Ward Councillors to join the Community Steering Group alongside the two currently appointed elected members.
 16. The operational management part of the proposed structure sits with the Chief Executive to determine and execute.
 17. Officers are seeking approval of the programme governance structure. If Council is not comfortable approving the proposed structure as recommended then officers ask that Council provide clear direction on the further changes needed for the structure to be approved by Council.
 18. For reference, the governance structure that is currently in operation is outlined below to identify the differences between the current version and the new structure that is being transitioned to in July.



Programme Delivery Approach

19. As the programme progresses and as further information, dependencies and restrictions are understood, we propose a project framework is used specifically for the Levin Town Centre Transformation. The framework is outlined below and will allow the flexibility to adapt and change the project mix, as required, while the programme leadership structure will provide guidance and direction to determine what projects should be included, withdrawn or delayed during the delivery of the Levin Town Centre Transformation.

Project Management Delivery Framework

20. The Levin Town Centre Transformation is a complex programme that requires the delivery of multiple projects. The Project Management Delivery Framework will work to manage the interdependencies and interconnectedness of each.
21. We propose to use a project delivery framework to ensure a consistent approach is applied to the scope, cost, time, dependency and risk management of the projects within the programme. This will also see that approvals are sought from the Operational Programme Assurance Group before projects are progressed to the next stage.



Constraints and Assumptions

22. Assumptions and constraints will be developed at a project level, and reported to the programme to enable monitoring and reporting that projects are operating within the constraints and assumptions they have set. Where a project is impacted by a change in constraint or assumption it will be escalated to the Operational Programme Assurance Group.

Programme Tolerances

Cost Tolerance

23. Due to the variable nature of the projects we propose that financial tolerances are set at project level specific to the level of complexity. The amount of contingency allocated within the budget of a project is calculated on the risks or unknowns. This will be included as contingency in the projects budget. The contingency will only be made available after a change request is submitted to, and approved by, the Operational Programme Assurance Group.

Time Tolerance

24. We are proposing a time tolerance of four weeks for most projects, unless stated otherwise in the project plan. Where a project is requesting an extension on key milestones, a change request will be submitted outlining the impacts of the extension, with options and recommendations for the Operational Programme Assurance Group to consider and approve.

Scope and Quality Tolerance

25. Each project will set a clear scope and description that will define what is in the scope, and expected level of quality. Any changes to the scope or quality will be managed as part of a change process, seeking approval from the Operational Programme Assurance Group if they are to be altered.

Benefits

26. Where a project is able to deliver measurable benefits, these will be presented as part of the project plan or business case, including when and how they will be measured and the benefit tolerance.

Risk Management

27. All projects will be required to undertake risk and issue assessments. Risk will be managed in line with HDC's Risk Policy and Framework. The most significant risks that might prevent, degrade or delay the achievement of the programme vision will be raised to the Operational Programme Assurance Group.

Programme Funding

28. It is recognised that the Levin Town Centre Transformation is identified as a programme, so as it progresses, it will inevitably create specific projects within this main programme of work. On that basis and until specific and individual projects have been identified and approved by Council, a pool of money would be required enabling officers to apportion and assign funds to identified projects to continue to deliver on the Levin Town Centre Strategy. This is consistent with the approach taken through the Long Term Plan 2024-44 where an activation fund was established.
29. Financial delegations would be in accordance with the Delegations Register and the Chief Executive's Delegations Register.
30. Current funding will contribute towards property acquisition, place making initiatives, commercial and legal expertise, as well as specialist experts who may need to be engaged where skills and expertise are not provided within Council. However, future secure funding is required to ensure the project continues to deliver on the Council's Community Outcomes of being a vibrant economy and adhere to strong communities.

Project Prioritisation

31. The current project prioritisation and budget associated to each project that is currently identified within the implementation plan was also reviewed during the Steering Group workshop (23 May 2025) to reflect the current and future status of the projects identified within the programme of work. As the Levin Town Centre work has progressed, greater clarity around timeframes, costs and scopes have emerged. The updated Levin Town Centre Transformation Implementation Plan 2023-2025 is attached to this report to provide Council an update on the projects. It provides commentary on the projects and progress of these.

Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

32. Option 1: Council approve the proposed changes to the programme governance structure to enable a more effective and efficient process to deliver on the Levin Town Centre Transformation Strategy.
33. Option 2: Council do not approve the proposed changes to the programme governance structure, but will provide direction and recommendations to officers on what changes Council would like to see adapted to the future governance structure.
34. Option 3: Council approve the appointment of a Māori Ward Councillor to the Levin Town Centre Transformation Community Steering Group.

35. Option 4: Council do not approve to the appointment of a Māori Ward Councillor to the Levin Town Centre Transformation Community Steering Group, but will provide direction to officers on this process.
36. Officers recommend that Council support Option 1 and Option 3.

ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

37. To date, iwi/hapū have been invited to attend all Levin Town Centre Transformation Reference Group meetings and workshops. Under the new governance and programme leadership structure, and pending Council approval, it is proposed for iwi/hapū to be part of the Community Steering Group.

CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

38. There are no Climate Change considerations directly associated with any decisions sought from this report.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

39. There are no financial and resourcing considerations directly associated with any decisions sought from this report. The work associated with the matters raised in this report are covered through the Levin Town Centre budgets in the Long Term Plan 2024-44.

LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

40. There are no legal and risk considerations directly associated with any decisions sought from this report.

POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

41. There is no policy impact directly associated with any of the decisions sought from this report. The proposed changes to the programme governance structure are to support the efficient and effective delivery of the Levin Town Centre Transformation Strategy and Implementation Plan.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI

42. There has not been a need for wider communication to date on any of the topics relating to this report, however pending Council approval, all relevant parties involved with the existing programme governance structure will be provided with the appropriate communication to inform them of the newly formed governance and programme leadership structure.

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

43. If the new programme governance structure is approved by Council, the transition to the new revised structure would take place in July 2025. Existing members in the new structure would be advised of the changes.
44. If Council appoint a Māori Ward Councillor to the new Levin Town Centre Community Steering Group, then that Councillor would be invited along with the two currently appointed Councillors to attend the next Steering Group meeting.

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 ↓	Levin Town Centre Transformation Programme, Implementation Plan 2023 – 2025 - Updated June 2025	172

Levin Town Centre Transformation Programme, Implementation Plan 2023 – 2025 – Updated June 2025

Below is a snapshot update of the projects identified in the Implementation Plan 2023 – 2025. As the Town Centre work has progressed greater clarity around timeframes, costs and scopes have emerged. – below is an update on all the projects in the Levin Town Centre Transformation Programme, Implementation Plan 2023 – 2025.

On track	Minor issue but resolvable	Off track: Major issue needs assistance to resolve
----------	----------------------------	--

Town Centre Consideration	Project	Project Vision	Status	Commentary
Programme Management		Program Management provides oversight and a consistent level of governance and standards across the multiple projects required to deliver the Town Centre Transformation. It includes communication and engagement activities as well as Community engagement and change management.	On track	Costs for administrative expenses, external consultants including legal and services as required by the Program and Statutory requirements. We have used external consultants to help us with the development of carparking strategy, transport work and property/lease management of Oxford Street Properties.
	Activation Plan	Levin Town Centre activation will explore and develop new events and activities that will attract residents and visitors to the town centre.	On hold	Proposing immediate focus on increasing the events to attract people and bring vibrancy to the Town Centre. Instead of this being a project that Town Centre is delivering we are working with the Events team to identify ways to attract events to Levin Town Centre.
Activity	Domain Enhancements	Domain enhancements will identify ways that to enhance and integrate the Levin Domain into the town centre, allowing residents and visitors to enjoy this significant greenspace.	On hold	Requirements for designs have been gathered, and engagement and communication with the Domain User Group is underway to enable the Domain to opened up during the day for public access. Development of the Domain Entrance is likely to fall into the next Levin Town Centre Planning cycle (2027 – 2030).
	Levin War Memorial Hall	Develop the Levin War Memorial Hall and surrounding spaces to improve aesthetics, vibrancy and offerings of the town centre.	On track	Waiting for the terms to be finalised with the developer. It is envisaged that Council will monitor the delivery of the project. Project costs increased due to the need for unexpected additional legal advice after iwi submission.
	Old Court House	Develop the Old Court House to encourage visitors and residents to enjoy the Court House and Nola Simpson-Rose Garden.	Completed	Opened September 2024.
	Bath/Salisbury Street Carpark Development	Develop the Bath/Salisbury Street Carpark to improve the vibrancy and offerings of the town centre.	On Hold	EOI developed, carparking data analysis completed. Waiting for LWMH to be confirmed and also direction on when market improves to release EOI.
Spatial Orientation	Property Acquisition	Develop a strategy for identifying and acquiring properties that will support the development of the town centre.	On track	Six properties have been purchased with the Better Off Funding, project has been kept open as there may be opportunities to secure other strategically important properties.
	Oxford Street Lane Connections	Developing east/west lane connections.	On track	Investigation underway as to the timing, costs and sequencing of demolition. As properties have tenancies until 2028, we are looking to prepare plans that will be delivered in 2027-2028. Recommend this project is identified in the next LTC implementation planning cycle.
	Levin Town Centre Pathways and Connections	Developing lane connections within the town centre to enable visitors and residents to access aspects of the town centre in a connected way.	Incorporated into BAU (Infrastructure)	The outcome of this will be achieved by reviewing projects within the Town Centre for access and connection, but this will be delivered by Infrastructure team as part of HITS.

	Central Lane Development	Development of the central service lane to be more accessible and visually appealing.	On hold	This project is recommended to be linked with the Oxford Street Property demolition/development and is recommended to go into the 2026-2029 LTC Implementation Plan
	Thompson House Gardens	Develop former Women's Bowling Club and Arts Society Carpark in an events space.	On hold	This has been separated out from Central Lane Development to be its own project, as it can be delivered 2026/27.
Earthquake Prone Buildings	Town Centre Earthquake Prone Building Plan	Develop a plan to work with earthquake prone building owners that enables them to understand options for developing, transitioning and/or demolishing buildings in line with expiry dates	On track	Work continues to understand EPB plans. Extension to 2032 has been granted, and we need to determine if any additional levers or settings could be used to encourage investment in these buildings.
Ö2NL	Revocation Planning	Develop a plan and design for Oxford Street and the Levin Town Centre to ensure that when Ö2NL opens in 2029, accessing the town centre remains easy and the visual appeal of Oxford Street is enhanced.	On hold	Waiting information from NZTA.
Transport Options	Accessibility	Review town centre accessibility and ensure all modes of access are catered for and can freely and conveniently access all aspects of the town centre.	On track	Review of carparking, bus and rail services and how this will impact Town Centre access. Further work is required to understand road layout and design post Ö2NL. This work has been incorporated into the Carparking work.
	Carparking	Review carparking locations, quantities and locations to ensure car parking is fit for community needs now and in the future.	On track	Carparking data has been captured, a draft strategy and implementation plan has been created. This work will be implemented as BAU by the Compliance team.
	Transport Hub	Review transport options and location for transport hub.	On track	Options analysis completed. New location for transport hub identified, strategy and business case progression planned for 2025/2026. A new station (at existing site) will be funded by GWRC. There may be an opportunity to relocate the Train Platform and create a Transport Orientated Development, closer to our Town Centre however, funding would need to be secured to deliver this.
Identity	Placemaking	Develop a plan for placemaking that will attract people to the Levin Town Centre and help to enhance the identity of the town centre.	On hold	This project is awaiting prioritisation (also could attract NZTA revocation funding?)

File No.: 25/375

8.8 Confirmation of Process - Bath Street and Salisbury Street Carpark

Author(s)	Robyn Ryder Strategic Projects Coordinator Kaikotuitui Kaupapa Rautaki
Approved by	Susan Philp Strategic Projects Manager Kaihautū Hinonga Rautaki
	David McCorkindale Group Manager - Vision & Delivery Tumu Rangapū, Matawhānui Hapori, Whakarite
	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. This report seeks a decision from Council on whether there is a desire for the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy to be applied to the process of selling the Bath Street and Salisbury Street Carpark, despite the earlier decision of Council on 20 March 2024, which delegated the authority to the Chief Executive to finalise the documentation associated with the Levin Town Centre Transformation Request for Expressions of Interest for the Redevelopment of the Bath Street/Salisbury Carpark, and to release it to market at a strategically appropriate and opportune time.

This matter relates to Activating the Levin Town Centre.

Implement agreed Strategy initiatives.

Pursue connections and relationships to build momentum outside of Council led-initiatives.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. Officers seek a decision from Council on whether the recently adopted First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy is to be applied to the sale of the Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark or whether the existing Council resolution on 20 March 2024 to proceed to the Expression of Interest is the preferred path.

DELEGATION OR AUTHORITY TO ACT | TE MANA WHAKATAU I NGĀ KAWENGA

3. The authority to dispose of assets is contained in Council's term of reference 1.1 c); "borrow money, or purchase or dispose of assets, other than in accordance with the Long Term Plan".
4. Council has delegated the authority to the Chief Executive to finalise the documentation associated with the Levin Town Centre Transformation Request for Expressions of Interest for the Redevelopment of Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark and commence the process at an appropriate time to strategically align with other key moves in the Levin Town Centre.
5. If Council were to support applying the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy further delegation would need to be considered to give the authority to the Chief Executive to proceed with the sale and purchase through that process.

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

6. This matter is assessed as not significant. The Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark is not identified as a strategic asset. Despite potential high community interest, the matter is assessed against the Significance and Engagement Policy and does not trigger any other assessment matters and therefore is deemed to be not significant.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/375 Confirmation of Process - Bath Street and Salisbury Street Carpark be received.
- B. That this matter or decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.
- C. That Council agree to the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy being applied to the sale of the Bath Street / Salisbury Street Carpark and if the property is not sold through that process then Officers are to continue with the Expression Interest process to the open market.

OR

That Council agree that the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy is not applied to the sale of the Bath Street / Salisbury Street Carpark and that officers continue with the Expression of Interest process to the open market as per the Council resolution CO/2024/68 20 March 2024.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

7. Council adopted the Levin Town Centre Transformation Implementation Plan to deliver on the Levin Town Centre Transformation Strategy during a public excluded part of the Council Meeting held on 13 December 2023. The adoption of the Levin Town Centre Transformation Implementation Plan has enabled Officers to manage progression of property acquisition, new development opportunities and the upgrading of existing town centre assets that align with the Town Centre Transformation Strategy.
8. During the public excluded part of the Council meeting held on 20 March 2024, Council approved an Expressions of Interest (EOI) process to redevelop the Bath Street/Salisbury Street carpark. This approval gave the mandate for officers to be in a position ready to commence to seek expressions of interest at a time that strategically aligned with other projects associated to delivering on the Levin Town Centre Strategy. This mandate of Council is what officers are currently acting on as they prepare to commence the EOI process.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

9. To keep momentum on delivery of the Levin Town Centre Strategy, it is envisaged that the most opportune timeframe to go out with the EOI opportunity to redevelop the Bath Street/Salisbury Street carpark is immediately after the sale and purchase of the Levin War Memorial Hall and Village Green has been completed. The existing resolution of Council provides for this.
10. The approval was given by Council on 20 March 2024 for an EOI process to take place occurred prior to Council's recent decision on 14 May 2025 to provide the First Right of Refusal to Iwi to purchase Council owned property. Therefore, officers considered it appropriate to check with Council in relation to the Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark.
11. Officers are seeking direction from Council, on whether there is a desire to continue with the existing mandate and commence the EOI process or whether Council want to apply the First Right of Refusal Policy to this redevelopment opportunity.

Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

12. Option 1: Do not apply the First Right of Refusal Policy and continue under the current mandate provided by Council to progress the Expression of Interest Process.
13. Option 2: Apply the First Right of Refusal Policy to the Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark site and proceed to the Expression of Interest Process if the site is not sold to Iwi.
14. In weighing up the two options Council's considerations should include matters such as timing, commercial tension and the range of opportunities. The impact on timing for this process if the First Right of Refusal Policy was to be applied, would add potentially two months to the process. This would allow the necessary timeframe for the steps within the Policy to be undertaken. It is conceivable that Iwi may choose not to pursue this option meaning that the opportunity would be delayed from being presented to the market by two months. Officers are confident (subject to the Council decision on the Levin War Memorial Hall and Village Green resulting in the sale and purchase being completed during July 2025), that it would still be possible to have presented the opportunity to the market before December 2025.
15. The Expression of Interest process is intended to seek proposals from the open market, in the hope that there are a range of different proposals presented that Council can then consider the merits of to determine which proposal is the one to advance, as well as have an element of commercial tension where multiple proposals meet the brief. By contrast, if following the First Right of Refusal Policy, and Iwi were interested in purchasing the site, then Council would not be deciding between a range of proposals. The land and proposed development would be sold to the Iwi that was able to meet the requirements of the Policy. Noting that there could still be particular outcomes from the development of the site that Council could make conditional on the sale to ensure specific outcomes are delivered that contribute to the transformation of the town centre.
16. It is noted that if the Expression of Interest process was followed for this site, this would not prevent Iwi from putting forward a proposal for consideration as part of that process. This would see any proposal put forward by Iwi considered alongside any other proposals submitted and assessed against the objectives and requirements set out in the Expressions of Interest.

ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

17. If Council made the decision to apply the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy then engagement with local iwi/hapū would occur through that process.
18. If Council made the decision not to apply the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy then engagement with local iwi/hapū would occur when the timeframe to seek Expressions of Interest for the redevelopment of the Bath Street and Salisbury Street Carpark has been confirmed to ensure that iwi/hapū were aware of the opportunity.

CLIMATE CHANGE | NGĀ ĀHUARANGI HURIHURI

19. There are no climate change considerations directly associated with the decision to apply the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

20. There are no financial and resourcing considerations directly associated with the decision to apply the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy.

LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

21. There is some inherent risk associated with the fact that if Council made the decision to apply the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy then the Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark could be the first Council property to go through the process. By virtue of being the first to

go through the process, it carries some risk given the newness of the process, and any challenge to the Policy or process would likely occur at this point.

POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

22. The application of the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy adopted by Council 14 May 2025, forms part of the consideration in this report. Although not technically necessary, officers are providing Council with the opportunity to confirm whether they would like the policy applied to the Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI

23. There has not been a need for wider communication to date on this topic, however communication via Council's media channels will be undertaken once officers have been provided with a timeframe to release the Expressions of Interest to redevelop the Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark, either directly to the open market or applying the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy.

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

24. Following a decision by Council whether to apply the First Right of Refusal to Iwi Policy to the Bath Street/Salisbury Street Carpark, the appropriate communication and engagement with local iwi/hapū and the development sector will be programmed.

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.: 25/372

8.9 Draft Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy - Adoption for Consultation

Author(s)	Ashley Huria Business Performance Manager Tumu Tutukinga Pakihi
Approved by	Jacinta Straker Group Manager Organisation Performance Tumu Rangapū, Tutukinga Whakahaere
	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To seek Council's approval to release the draft Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy for public consultation and to outline the proposed approach to engaging with the Foxton Beach community. The purpose of this policy is to provide a clear, fit-for-purpose framework for managing and distributing the Endowment Fund in accordance with its legislative obligations and community expectations.

This matter does not relate to a current Council priority.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY | TE WHAKARĀPOPOTOTANGA MATUA

2. In September 2023, work commenced on reviewing the current approach to ensure the fund continues to meet its legislative intent and delivers meaningful and enduring outcomes.
3. The review process has been collaborative, involving representation from the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board, Kere Kere Ward Councillors, the Mayor, Māori Ward Councillors, and a hapū representative of the Papangaio J Block descendants. Throughout 2024 and 2025, several workshops, hui, and community discussions were held to shape the direction of the policy. The policy is now in draft form and ready for broader community consultation.
4. Consultation is proposed to run from 30 June to 27 July 2025, with engagement to include online and hard copy materials, submission forms, drop-in sessions, and a community meeting. Feedback from this process will inform the final version of the policy, which is expected to be presented to Council for adoption in early September.

DELEGATION OR AUTHORITY TO ACT | TE MANA WHAKATAU I NGĀ KAWENGA

5. Council holds the authority to adopt the draft policy for public consultation and as the legal "Corporation" under the Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Act 1956, is responsible for administering and making decisions on matters relating to the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund.

SIGNIFICANCE ASSESSMENT | HE AROMATAWAI MATUA

7. This matter is assessed as medium significance according to the Significance and Engagement Policy because it affects the Foxton Beach community.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/372 Draft Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy - Adoption for Consultation be received.
- B. That this matter or decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.
- C. That Council adopt the draft Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy for consultation with the community over the period of 30 June to 27 July 2025

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

- 7. The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund, also previously known as “Foxton Beach Freeholding Account”, originated in 1989 following local government amalgamation when Horowhenua District Council inherited assets from the former Manawatu Borough Council. This fund was established to hold and manage the proceeds from endowment land at Foxton Beach, with a clear principle that all income generated whether from lease payments, property sales, or other asset returns be ring fenced exclusively for the benefit of the Foxton Beach community.
- 8. Over the years, the fund has supported a range of local projects including infrastructure upgrades, recreational amenities, and community facilities, all within the boundaries of Foxton Beach. Notably, from 2007 to 2023, approximately \$5.7 million was invested into community assets, including significant projects like the Forbes Road subdivision, stormwater improvements, footpaths, and contributions to the Foxton Pools and Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom.
- 9. In 2022–2023, during the preparation of the amended Long Term Plan, the Council approved the use of \$500,000 from the fund to contribute toward the Foxton Pool redevelopment. This decision projected the fund balance to dip below the \$5 million minimum reserve level established in policy - a move that, while not illegal, breached existing policy settings. As a result, the need to review the policy and re-establish clear, future focused guidance for the use of the fund became apparent again.
- 10. The last Foxton Beach Freeholding Account Strategy and Policy was adopted on 07 October 2009. Since that date, the document is yet to have a review that results in an adoption of a new strategy and policy.
- 11. The policy review formally commenced in mid 2023. The commencement of this work began with an open invitation for all iwi to participate. An outcome of this process, the working group was established with membership comprising representatives from the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board, Kere Kere Ward Councillors, the Mayor, Māori Ward Councillors, and a hapū representative of the descendants of the original Papangaio J Block owners.
- 12. In September 2023, work began on the development of the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Review Paper. Many hui were in the development of the paper which set out the proposed review process, including the purpose and aims of the review, its fundamental principles, desired outcomes, key focus areas, and the proposed composition of the working group. The review paper was endorsed by the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board on 4 March 2024 and formally adopted by Council on 20 March 2024.
- 13. A hui with the working group was held on 11 June 2024 to determine the next steps in the review process, during which a draft timeline was outlined.
- 14. At that time, the review had entered the visit and information gathering phase. As part of this stage, it was agreed that both officers and the working group would research alternative governance and funding models particularly those used in Whanganui and Auckland and share their findings to inform the next phase of the policy development.

15. On Thursday, 29 August 2024, a visit to Whanganui was undertaken to gather information and gain insights into the structure and learnings of Te Pūwaha, the Whanganui Port revitalisation project. The purpose of the visit was to explore potential options to inform the review process and to better understand opportunities for the fund.
16. In November 2024, the working group workshoped a preferred outline for the shape of the policy.
17. In May 2025, the policy drafting process commenced, supported by a series of hui held. These gatherings provided valuable input and ensured that all views were incorporated into the evolving policy.
18. On 11 June 2025, a workshop was held with Council to socialise the draft policy, allowing elected members to engage with the content, ask questions, and provide initial feedback. This session helped prepare the Council for the next formal step, which involved presenting the policy for adoption to proceed to public consultation.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

19. The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund plays a significant role in supporting local projects and infrastructure in Foxton Beach, and as such, the development of a refreshed policy is both timely and necessary. It ensures alignment with current legislative requirements and reaffirms Council's commitment to delivering community benefit through a transparent and robust decision making process.
20. The collaborative review process has ensured diverse perspectives have been incorporated, with meaningful input from the working group. The policy recognises the significance of the Endowment Fund, reinforces its legislative intent, and provides a framework for future decision making that ensures sustainable and equitable benefit for the Foxton Beach community.
21. Given the importance of community voice in shaping the future use of the fund, a four-week public consultation period is recommended. This will ensure residents have an opportunity to provide feedback on the draft policy before it is finalised and adopted in September 2025.

Options | Ngā Kōwhiringa

Options Ngā Kōwhiringa	Benefits Ngā Whiwhinga	Risks Ngā Mōrearea
Option A (recommended) Adoption of the draft policy for consultation	Progresses the work programme in line with Te Awahou Community Board direction. Enables formal community consultation on the draft policy. Meet the timeline for adoption in September	No risks
Option B (status quo) Request officers to do further work on the policy and bring it back to Council.	No benefits however provides more time for refinement.	Potentially needing to condense consultation. Delayed timeline and adoption will either be 8

		October or in the new triennium C. D.
Option C (not recommended) Discontinue work on the policy review.	No benefits	Leaves Council with an outdated framework that lacks alignment with current legislative and financial context

ENGAGING WITH MĀORI | TE MAHI TAHI KI TE MĀORI

22. At the initiation of the policy review, a formal invitation was extended to Muaūpoko Tribal Authority, Rangitāne, and Ngāti Raukawa, including descendants of the original Papangaio J Block owners, to participate in the process. This invitation acknowledged the historical and cultural significance of the land and the importance of involving iwi in shaping the future direction of the fund. As a result of this outreach, a representative of the Papangaio J Block descendants accepted the invitation and committed to being actively involved.
23. The policy review process has been highly collaborative, with the representative contributing meaningfully at every stage, from early discussions and strategic workshops to drafting and reviewing the policy framework. Their ongoing involvement has ensured that former owners of the lands perspectives were embedded throughout the development of a policy intended to serve both current and future generations of the Foxton Beach community.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCING | TE TAHUA PŪTEA ME NGĀ RAUEMI

Financial Strategy Context

24. Under Council's current Financial Strategy and debt management approach, the cash balance of the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund is utilised to offset overall Council debt. In return, the fund receives a return equivalent to Council's average borrowing interest rate. This effectively means that, without the Endowment Fund, Council's borrowings would be higher.
25. In the 2021–2041 Long Term Plan (LTP), a significant level of property sales was projected in the budget. However, as part of the development of the 2024–2044 LTP, these projections were revised downward, with only \$1.1 million in property sales now budgeted for the 2025/26 year.
26. Provided Council continues to apply a consistent approach to the disposal of properties as it has with other non-endowment assets there should be no conflict in relation to the Financial Strategy and this policy.

Legislative Context and Use of Funds

28. The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund was established to meet Council's obligations under section 13(14) of the *Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Act 1968*.
29. This section requires that any net proceeds from the sale or lease of endowment land be used specifically for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Foxton Beach Township.
30. This includes funding the provision, improvement, maintenance, or repair of public services and amenities such as roads, lighting, water supply, drainage, sewerage, and other public works.
31. The fund also encompasses any additional income generated through the investment of those proceeds.
32. Accordingly, any future sale of endowment land or returns from investment must be returned to the Endowment Fund and used exclusively for initiatives that support and enhance the Foxton Beach community.

33. This legal framework ensures that the fund remains focused on its original purpose and continues to deliver intergenerational benefit to the local community.

LEGAL AND RISK | TE TURE ME NGĀ MŌREAREATANGA

34. There is minimal legal risk associated with the policy, as the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund is governed under the Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Act and the policy has been developed in alignment with the provisions and intent of that legislation.

POLICY IMPACT | NGĀ PĀTANGA I NGĀ KAUPAPA HERE

Impact on previous resolutions and Property Strategy 2021

35. The 2021 Property Strategy provides Council with an overarching framework for managing its property portfolio. This document sets out the strategic intent for property related decisions, under which more tailored policies and approaches have been developed to address specific geographic areas or property types. Examples include the Iwi First Right of Refusal Policy and the Levin Town Centre Strategy.
36. These targeted approaches are designed to align with the core principles of the Property Strategy while allowing flexibility to respond to distinct local contexts and community priorities.
37. The draft policy outlines the intention to develop a Foxton Beach Property Utilisation Strategy as a next step following final policy adoption. While there is potential for friction in relation to previous Council decisions on individual properties within the Foxton Beach Endowment area, these prior decisions have not yet been actioned or progressed. As such, there is currently no direct conflict with the proposed policy.
38. Resolutions made under the 2021 Property Strategy could be reviewed, amended, or revoked by Council, with new resolutions adopted as needed. This flexibility ensures that Council's property decisions remain responsive to changing strategic priorities and evolving community aspirations.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT | TE WHAKAWHITI PĀRONGO ME TE MAHI

39. A four-week consultation period is proposed to run from 30 June to 27 July 2025, during which the draft Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy will be made available for community feedback.
40. Engagement will be carried out through a combination of online and hard copy materials, including a submission form hosted on Council's website and available at key community locations. To support meaningful participation, drop in sessions and a community meeting will also be held to enable residents and ratepayers to ask questions, provide input, and share views in an accessible setting.
41. The consultation outcomes will be summarised and reported back to the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board (TAFCB) in August 2025, with the following timeline proposed;

Date	Item
30 June to 27 July	Consultation period (4 weeks)
11 August	TAFCB Agenda release
18 August	TAFCB endorsement of Final Policy
27 August	Council agenda release
3 September	Adoption

NEXT STEPS | HEI MAHI

42. Upon adoption for consultation, the consultation period will begin 30 June 2025.

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	DRAFT - Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy v4 17 June 2025	185



DRAFT - Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy v4

Date adopted



Contents

Contents.....	2
Purpose	3
Commencement	3
Governance Statement	3
Values.....	4
Scope.....	6
Investment	7
Property Utilisation Strategy	7
Legislation Provisions.....	7
Investment Objectives	8
Preservation and Risk Management	8
Operational Management	8
Annual Funding Capacity and Prioritisation.....	8
Funding Rounds and Application Process.....	9
Assessment and Review Process	9
Definitions.....	10
References	10
Review.....	10

Creation/Review	Date	Date of adoption	Summary of changes
Review xxx 2025	March 2025		

Purpose

This policy provides an overview of the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund's intent, ensuring clarity and certainty around its purpose, use, and ongoing development.

This policy is to guide the management, distribution, and retention of the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund in a manner that ensures long term sustainability, transparency, and alignment with the values and priorities of the Foxton Beach community.

It outlines the criteria for funding, the application process, and the decision-making framework, including provisions for retaining funds, imposing moratoriums, and setting a clear risk appetite. This policy supports responsible stewardship of the fund to achieve both present and future community benefit.

Commencement

The policy was adopted on xxx and came into effect that day.

Governance Statement

The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Policy sets out a clear and transparent framework for decision making. The objective of the policy is to protect and grow the value of the fund, while guiding investment and expenditure decisions in a way that reflects the aspirations, values, and priorities of the Foxton Beach community - including alignment to key pou within the Foxton/Foxton Beach Community Plan (Foxton Futures).

All decisions made under this policy must contribute to sustainable outcomes and uphold the principles of kaitiakitanga (*guardianship and protection of land, water and natural resources for future generations*), maanakitanga (*uplifting the community through generosity, care and social cohesion*), and rangatiratanga (*the right of the community, including local iwi and hapū, to influence decisions affecting its assets and future*). This ensures the fund is utilised in a way that is sustainable, responsible, fair, and future-focused.

The Foxton Endowment Fund is more than a financial resource; it is a legacy tool for community-led stewardship of land and assets - supporting sustainable economic growth, environmental restoration, and the protection of our shared heritage. This policy is anchored in the history and aspirations of the original owners of the Papangaio J Block (referred to from this point as Hapū¹), whose connection to the land forms the very foundation of the fund.

While the descendants of Papangaio are hapū members, they are also an integral part of the broader Foxton community. This policy has been strengthened to have a more collaborative, hapū-led approach built on shared values and mutual respect will strengthen outcomes for all. Considering our collective histories and the impacts they have had on our people and whenua means we need to embed a genuinely interwoven approach to governance, where diverse worldviews, lived experiences, and cultural relationships to the land are valued and reflected.

Decision making under this policy will occur most effectively through partnership, not just engagement, ensuring that all voices are heard, valued, and actively included. This approach affirms

¹ Throughout this document, the term *Hapū* refers specifically to the descendants of the Papangaio J Block.

that lasting, equitable outcomes are best achieved when governance, development, and investment decisions are shaped with the community, by the community, and for the community.

This will allow the Foxton Endowment Fund to be understood not only as a mechanism for financial management, but as a platform for intergenerational restoration, shared responsibility, and enduring community wellbeing.

The Principle

The fundamental driver for the values that follow are “by us for us”.

This principle affirms the right of the Foxton Beach community, including the descendants of the Papangaio J Block, to lead and benefit from decisions about the land, the fund, and its future in line with its original intent. Governance, development, and funding decisions will be co-designed and co-determined by the community, inclusive of the descendants of the original owners of Papangaio J, with formal mechanisms that ensure inclusive, respectful, and equitable participation. A collaboration and partnered approach will be the foundation of all decisions, not only to distribute resources, but to guide the active stewardship of whenua, investments, and long-term benefit.

Key Commitments:

- A joint collaborative approach with hapū and community board working together to make recommendations to Council.
- All land use and funding decisions will align with the priorities determined by community and Papangaio J Block descendants, protect whakapapa relationships to whenua, and advance intergenerational wellbeing.
- Separately managing the endowment assets from general Council assets through The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Property Utilisation Strategy.

This approach supports intergenerational stewardship and ensures that the fund’s administration is aligned with principles of equity, inclusion, and partnership, thereby protecting the integrity and legacy of the endowment fund for the future.

Values

There are four core values guiding and the distribution of funds. These are:

1. Our Heritage and Culture

This acknowledges the fund’s historical origins and impacts and recognises the importance of cultural development. This includes review and consideration of where protection of sites like Te Wharangi, Papangaio need to be considered in The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Property Utilisation Strategy, and honouring the collective historical connection our community has to these areas.

- Identify and protect wāhi tapu, mahinga kai, and culturally significant sites across all endowment lands.
- Prioritise heritage restoration, cultural development opportunities, and storytelling projects.
- Recognise and embed historical accounts as a foundation principle in all policy decisions.
- Prioritise funding for marae infrastructure, housing, and cultural revitalisation projects connected to the original owners.
- Monitor and report annually on how the fund is advancing justice and equity for hapū.

2. Recreation & Conservation

Our coastline, dunes, and waterways will be preserved as taonga tuku iho (treasures passed down). The wellbeing of the land, wildlife, and water is directly tied to the wellbeing of our people. The fund will invest in projects that enhance ecological resilience, promote access to natural spaces, and ensure Foxton Beach remains a place of renewal for all generations.

Key Commitments:

- Fund dune restoration, wetland enhancement, and water quality improvement projects.
- Support eco-education, sustainable recreation, and habitat protection initiatives.
- Recognise conservation as a shared and public amenity.

3. Economic Development with Intergenerational Integrity

The fund should grow through wise use of its assets. We will generate income in a way that strengthens the fund, while ensuring we retain ownership of the land in perpetuity when designated as per The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Property Utilisation Strategy. Development must occur under models that uphold our rangatiratanga, protect the whenua, and guarantee long term community benefit.

Key Commitments:

- Agreed areas of land are never to be sold, only developed under leasehold, Joint venture, or other mechanisms that retain ownership².
- All commercial development will align with community values, be environmentally responsible.
- Sustainable development – projects and investments must balance growth with environmental responsibility, ensuring intergenerational benefit without compromising core values.

4. Wellbeing and Community

Community wellbeing is at the heart of the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund. Investment decisions must uplift and strengthen the social, cultural, environmental, and economic fabric of Foxton Beach, creating tangible and lasting benefit for all. This includes ensuring access to spaces, services, and opportunities that promote resilience, equity, inclusion, and connectedness now and for future generations.

The fund will actively support initiatives that enhance quality of life, address local needs, and nurture a thriving, empowered community. This value acknowledges that true wellbeing is interwoven across all areas of life from healthy environments and safe recreation spaces to cultural belonging, social support, and economic security.

Key Commitments:

- Prioritise funding for initiatives that promote hauora (holistic wellbeing), including health, community safety, and social connection.
- Support projects that build local capacity, celebrate diversity, and empower rangatahi, kaumātua, whānau, and all residents.

² As identified in The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Property Utilisation Strategy

- Enable access to high quality community amenities, recreational opportunities, and inclusive public spaces.

Scope

This policy applies exclusively to the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund. It governs the use, investment, management and oversight of the fund and outlines how it is to be used to benefit the long term wellbeing, sustainability and prosperity of the community of Foxton Beach.

Applicability

The fund is intended to benefit the community of Foxton Beach. In some cases, funding may be applied to projects located outside the Foxton beach township but within the Kere Kere Ward, provided that the service or amenity benefits Foxton Beach residents.

Activities

The policy applies to the use of the proceeds from the lease, endowment land sale, or investment of Foxton Beach endowment land. It also covers the governance and oversight of fund related decisions, investment or surplus funds, and evaluation of project eligibility and prioritisation.

People/Groups

Horowhenua District Council acts as the custodian of the fund and is responsible for all investment and expenditure decisions, with the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board and the Foxton Beach Community, including Iwi, playing an advisory, recommendation and advocacy role.

Exclusions

The policy does not apply to:

- General Council funds or properties outside the endowment framework,
- Services or amenities outside the Kere Kere Ward unless directly benefiting Foxton Beach community such as the connection to local marae (Paranui/Motuiti).

Limitations

The Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Act 1968 specified conditions on the use of funds, which still apply:

*The council shall from time to time spend the net proceeds from the sale or lease of any of the endowment land on the provision of **services and public amenities for the benefit of the inhabitants** of Foxton Beach Township, **or on the improvement, maintenance, or repair of any such services and amenities, or on the improvement, maintenance, or repair of any existing services or public amenities.** For the purposes of this subsection, the term "services" includes roads, road lighting, water supply, drainage, sewerage, and other public works.*

Council has added to this purpose of the Freeholding Account as:

- Providing an alternative source of funding.
- Advancing capital works.
- Facilitating amenities and services of Foxton Beach that may not be provided by Council.

Investment

The investment approach is to intentionally grow the fund through sustainable asset stewardship. This ensures the long-term viability and impact of the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund, prioritises growing and sustaining our heritage, environmental, commercial, and cultural asset portfolios - not just drawing from the fund. This means actively investing resources into enhancing the value and utility of current endowment assets, while also seeking opportunities to acquire new land or assets that align with the community's vision.

Rather than spending the fund's financial reserves, there is a commitment to limiting grants and allocations from the fund to investment earnings from the fund. There is also opportunity to redirect investment earnings and assets into property-based portfolios in line with the principles of the policy. This approach not only sustains the fund's capital but creates enduring community, cultural, and environmental returns.

Key to the management of the fund is a commitment to long-term preservation, financial security, and self-sustainability ensuring that the fund is not only protected, but continues to grow. This approach reflects a deliberate shift from a mindset of consumption to one of investment, regeneration, and active stewardship, strengthening the fund's role as a secure and enduring legacy for Foxton Beach and future generations.

The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Property Utilisation Strategy

To support a more strategic and considered approach to managing the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund assets, the Council, Te Awahou Foxton Community Board and hapū are signalling an intent to develop a dedicated Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Property Utilisation Strategy. This would represent the next step in ensuring the land and assets associated with the fund are managed in a way that reflects both long-term community benefit and alignment with local values, aspirations, and cultural context.

The development of this strategy would involve engagement with hapū partners and the Foxton Beach community to help shape a clear, forward looking framework. It is intended to sit alongside, but remain distinct from, the broader Horowhenua District Council Property Strategy, with a specific focus on the purpose and potential of the endowment lands.

Legislation Provisions

The Local Government Act 2002 requires:

- investments to be managed prudently and in a manner that promotes the current and future interests of the community (s.101 (1)).
- an Investment Policy to be adopted by Council (s.102 (4)(c)).
- specific content of such a policy (s.105).
- the overall impact of any allocation of liability for revenue needs on the current and future social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of the community (s.101 3(b)).

The Council must also make its investments in accordance with the provisions of the Trustees Act 1956 as they apply to the investment of trust funds. In exercising its powers of investment, the Council is required to exercise the care, diligence and skill that a prudent person of business would exercise in managing the affairs of others.

Investment Objectives

In making investments, Council may consider and aim for:

- Achieve a long-term return net of fees and costs that exceeds the Council's cost of borrowing.
- Invest responsibly and avoid prejudice to the Council's reputation as a responsible steward of ratepayers' assets.
- Maintain an overall risk level that is sufficient to achieve the investment objective while having regard to the soundness of the broader Council balance sheet.
- Where Strategic Investments are made that may not pay their way in purely financial terms – for example, because they have partly social or community objectives – then the return objectives for those investments will be clearly defined.

Investment advice will be sought through both independent advisors and through Council mechanisms to ensure responsible and informed decision making.

Preservation and Risk Management

The fund has been built up to a total of \$5 million in cash. The mix between cash funds and assets may change through the consideration of The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Property Utilisation Strategy. There is no obligation under this policy to distribute funds on an annual basis. The Council and the Board may decide to retain all or part of the funds above the threshold amount in any given year to ensure the fund's long-term sustainability.

The Council or the Board may impose a moratorium on fund distributions for a defined period to safeguard the fund's longevity and to maximise its future earning potential.

Within six months after a Local Government Election and the appointment of a new Board, the Council and Board will adopt a Risk Appetite Statement. This statement will reflect a considered approach (prudent, medium, or high risk) balancing investment returns with cultural, environmental, and financial safeguards.

Operational Management

Annual Funding Capacity and Prioritisation

At the start of each financial year, Council Officers, working in partnership with the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board and hapū representatives will assess the fund's financial capacity to support grant distribution. This assessment will guide whether a contestable funding round will proceed for that year.

To ensure the long term sustainability of the fund, if funding has been distributed for two consecutive years, the default position in the third year will be to pause community distributions. Instead, focus will shift toward strategic development projects aligned with the policy's values and goals. This ensures a balance between immediate benefit and future growth.

Any proposed deviation from this policy framework must be undertaken transparently, and only following consideration of The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Property Utilisation Strategy and meaningful engagement with the Foxton Beach community and hapū. This ensures shared decision making remains central to the fund's operation.

Funding Rounds and Application Process

The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund will operate under a structured funding model to balance responsiveness and transparency:

Funding Rounds

Two competitive funding rounds will be held each year (unless a moratorium is in place or a decision has been made to withhold distributions for that year). These rounds will be publicly advertised and follow a formal application and assessment process.

Funding Limits

A maximum grant of up to 100% of the total project cost may be awarded to any single project.

Funding Categories

Applications will be considered under the following categories:

- Heritage and Culture.
- Recreation and Conservation.
- Economic Development with Intergenerational Integrity.
- Wellbeing and Community.

Assessment and Review Process

The assessment process is designed to uphold transparency, cultural input, and community led governance.

- Council Officers – Initial administration duties to collate, verify applications against assessment criteria and request any further information.
- A Working Group of the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board, with equal representation from hapū - will receive officer assessments and applications. Through collaborative workshops, the group will review and discuss the applications in detail. The Working Group may request additional information as needed.
- Final decision – Applications will be included on the agenda for resolution at a formal Te Awahou Community Board meeting. The Board's recommendations will then be submitted to Council for final approval.
- Council – Approve or refer back to the board for further consideration. If clarification or further work is required, the matter is referred back to the Board once only for response, before Council makes its final decision.

Sensitive information and privacy will be maintained during this process.

Definitions

The Foxton Beach Endowment Fund was previously known as:

- Foxton Beach Freeholding Account;
- Foxton Beach Freeholding Fund;
- Freeholding Account;
- Endowment Fund;
- Endowment Land;
- The Fund; and
- Any combination of the above.

Throughout this document, the term *Hapū* refers specifically to the descendants of the Papangaio J Block.

References

Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Act – 1956

Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Act – 1965

Reserves and Other Lands Disposal Act - 1968

Review

Initial review within three years and there after every 10 years unless required earlier, on an as needed basis.

File No.: 25/353

8.10 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2025 Remits

Author(s)	Grayson Rowse Principal Advisor - Democracy Kaitohutohu Mātāmua - Manapori
Approved by	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To seek direction from Council on which votes are to be cast for the remits at the Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2025.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀTAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/353 Local Government New Zealand Annual General Meeting 2025 Remits be received and noted.
- B. That Council authorises the Mayor to vote as the Presiding Delegate in accordance with the votes agreed in this resolution and appoints Crs Olsen and Jennings as alternative delegates.
- C. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 1, which is:
That LGNZ advocates for security system payments to be included as an allowance under the Local Government Members Determination, in line with those afforded to Members of Parliament.
- D. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 2, which is:
That LGNZ advocate to Government for: a) legislative change to make the Joint Management Agreement (JMA) mechanism more accessible for councils to use with iwi/hapū, b) for the provision of technical, legal and financial support to facilitate the use of JMAs for joint council and iwi/hapū environmental governance, and c) for a mechanism such as JMAs to be included in the Government's new resource management legislation.
- E. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 3, which is:
That LGNZ advocates for the government to update the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 18 December 2013 to account for inflation and include a mechanism for automatic annual inflation adjustments.
- F. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 4, which is:
That LGNZ advocate for the reform of the Ministry of Education funded school bus services to provide an improved service for families and to better integrate the services with council provided public transport services, including the option of Public Transport Authorities (e.g. regional and unitary councils) managing such services (with appropriate government funding), noting that:
 - a. *councils better know their local communities; and*
 - b. *the potential to reduce congestion from better bus services for schools; and*
 - c. *the efficiency gains realised from integrating these two publicly funded bus services*
 - d. *the outdated and inflexible rules of the current centralised school bus system*

- G. That Council votes IN FAVOUR/AGAINST/ABSTAIN (select one) Remit 5, which is:

That LGNZ works with the Government and Councils to review current local government arrangements, including the functions and structure of local government, to achieve a better balance between the need to efficiently and effectively deliver services and infrastructure, while enabling democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of communities.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

2. Each year, LGNZ member local authorities submit remits for consideration at the LGNZ AGM. Proposed remits are intended to have a national focus articulating a major interest or concern at the political level.
3. Remits must have formal support from at least one zone or sector group meeting, or five councils prior to being submitted.
4. Attending the AGM this year will be His Worship the Mayor, and Councillors Jennings and Olsen. The Chief Executive will also be attending

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

5. Eight remits are presented at this year's AGM for consideration. These remits and rationale for them are contained in attachment 1.
6. This year's AGM is being held in person on Wednesday 16 July 2025.
7. The Council may appoint up to three delegates to represent the Council at the AGM. One of the delegates must be appointed as the Presiding Delegate and a further two delegates can be appointed as alternate delegates. The Presiding Delegate is responsible for casting the Council's votes at the AGM, with the alternates empowered to cast the vote should the Presiding Delegate be absent when the vote is called.
8. The delegates may be elected members or Council officers.
9. The Council must advise the Chief Executive of LGNZ of the names and official positions of the Presiding Delegate and the alternate delegates.

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
A1	LGNZ AGM Remits - 2025	197



2025 Remits



// 01 Security System Payments

Proposed by:	Far North District Council and Central Otago District Council
Supported by:	Zone 6 and Zone 1
Remit:	<i>That LGNZ advocates for security system payments to be included as an allowance under the Local Government Members Determination, in line with those afforded to Members of Parliament.</i>

Why is this remit important?

The importance of safety for elected members has become more apparent in recent times. With an increase in animosity towards “government figures,” both online and in person, the time has come to address this. Recent examples of elected members being threatened, harassed and abused, including incidents occurring at or near their home address, highlights the need for changes to the Local Government Act to be updated. The ability for security system payments to be made as an allowance would go some way towards encouraging actual and perceived safety for existing elected members, as well as ensuring future candidates can feel safer while representing their communities.

Background and Context

Democracy worldwide is currently considered a “tinderbox” according to multiple news sites. In 2024, 37 candidates for election were murdered in Mexico. While this may seem extreme – our own Electoral Commission in NZ has a page dedicated to “security advice” for potential candidates. The rise of fringe groups, anonymity of online forums, general mistrust of government figures and polarising coverage of worldwide democratic outcomes has been creating a platform for those with singular or disaffected viewpoints. While we recognise that some of the sentiment is online, there have been instances of this spilling over into daily life for our elected members. Much of “being safe” is about “feeling safe.”

The Members of Parliament Determination 2023 (Section 48) allows for up to \$4500 to install a security system at a member’s primary place of residence, along with up to \$1000 per year to monitor this.

LGNZ’s own research carried out last year identified three quarters of elected members had suffered abuse or harassment at public meetings, a third at the supermarket or school pick up, and that half of EM’s felt it was worse than a year ago. Supporting new anti-stalking and harassment Legislation is a good start, but this is something that could immediately help our elected members to feel safer at home.

Some councils are already supporting elected members in personal safety. Central Otago District has paid for a member to install a camera at their home address where they live with young kids following an obnoxious campaign including items being left in their letterbox. There will be multiple other examples where councils are promoting personal safety, wellbeing initiatives and also installing or providing additional security measures at homes and council offices.

Far North and Central Otago Districts are just two examples of our huge, remote areas. Overnight Central Otago, all 9,968 square kilometres of it, is covered by two on-call Police officers, based 30km



apart. Feeling safe plays a big role in actual safety. Expectations of safety will be different for an older female to a young dad with kids, a large family or a person living alone, and they are also different between rural and urban areas.

This election, we want to ensure worry about how safe someone is in their own home is not a barrier to putting their hand up to fulfil a wonderful role for our communities.

How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

Ties into the research on safety that LGNZ carried out last year, and also the support of the Crimes Legislation (Stalking and Harassment) Amendment Bill.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

Connect with Minister Mark Patterson (Minister for Rural Communities) for support

Investigate the possibility for a partnership with a national retailer/supplier of home security systems and/or trail cams

Timeframe - depends how quickly things could progress before the election?



// 02 Improving Joint Management Agreements

Proposed by:	Northland Regional Council
Supported by:	LGNZ Zone 1
Remit:	<i>That LGNZ advocate to Government for: a) legislative change to make the Joint Management Agreement (JMA) mechanism more accessible for councils to use with iwi/hapū, b) for the provision of technical, legal and financial support to facilitate the use of JMAs for joint council and iwi/hapū environmental governance, and c) for a mechanism such as JMAs to be included in the Government's new resource management legislation.</i>

Why is this remit important?

JMAs are a valuable tool for councils and iwi / hapū to work together on environmental governance. Many councils support stronger partnerships with tangata whenua, but the statutory and practical barriers to formalising JMAs have severely limited their uptake by councils and iwi/hapū. There is thus a need to address the limitations of the current mechanism under the RMA, to make it more accessible to councils and tangata whenua, as well as to ensure a mechanism such as JMAs is included in the Government's new resource management legislation.

Recommended improvements include a) simplification or modification of the JMA statutory requirements and criteria; b) provision of a customisable JMA template and detailed guidance on when JMAs might be appropriate and how to establish them; c) explanation of the legal implications for the parties, and the Health & Safety obligations; d) making JMAs mandatory in appropriate circumstances in addition to Treaty settlements; and e) provision of funding to support iwi/hapū capacity to develop and implement JMAs.

Background and Context

JMAs under the Resource Management Act 1991 (RMA) provide for agreement between a local authority and an iwi authority and/or groups representing hapū to jointly perform or exercise any local authority functions, powers or duties under the RMA relating to a natural or physical resource.

Since inclusion as a mechanism under sections 36B-E of the RMA in 2005, only two JMAs have been established, apart from their mandatory use in some Treaty settlements.

For a JMA to be developed, the local authority must be satisfied that the agreement is an "efficient" method of exercising the function, power or duty. However, if a JMA were to require more funds and resources to support administrative costs and extra person-hours than what council would itself expend, the "efficiency" criterion might not be satisfied. Thus, "efficiency" could compel an iwi/hapū to contribute its own resources to the collaborative management process if it wished to conclude a JMA. A lack of financial resources is repeatedly identified by iwi/hapū as being the most significant barrier to their full participation under the RMA.

Another requirement of s36B is that the local authority must be satisfied that the other party to the JMA has the "technical or special capability or expertise to perform or exercise the function, power,



or duty jointly with the local authority". Many (especially unsettled) iwi/hapū are under-resourced, often having to rely on voluntary contributions of resources and expertise; thus funding and technical support may be needed to facilitate iwi/hapū participation in JMAs.

Another deterrent to JMA uptake is that the agreement can be cancelled by either party at any time. If conflict arises, the local authority will always have the "upper hand" because the function(s) shared under the JMA will revert exclusively to local authority control. More stringent cancellation requirements could be introduced that give JMA parties greater assurance of continuation.

Only those JMAs created as part of Treaty Settlements are currently mandatory for local authorities. A similar mandatory requirement under the RMA for councils to enter into JMAs in appropriate circumstances would facilitate uptake.

Currently there is very little information available on the legal implications of JMAs, and on the process and considerations for developing and implementing such an agreement. There is also no template provided for such agreements. Technical guidance from central government would further facilitate uptake.

In summary, very low uptake of JMAs reflects the high barriers to their uptake by councils and iwi/hapū. They remain a potentially useful tool if sufficient guidance, resourcing and technical support is provided, and if criteria for developing them are made more enabling.

How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

This remit aligns with LGNZ's strategy, in particular the long-term goal that Te Tiriti partnerships between local government and Māori are authentic, strong and respected. We are not aware of any existing or planned work to advocate for improved legislative mechanisms and implementation support for Joint Management Agreements.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

We can provide some technical expertise to support analysis of specific options to improve how JMAs function and some advocacy support.



// 03 Alcohol Licensing Fees

Proposed by:	Far North District Council
Supported by:	LGNZ Zone 1
Remit:	<i>That LGNZ advocates for the government to update the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 18 December 2013 to account for inflation and include a mechanism for automatic annual inflation adjustments.</i>

Why is this remit important?

If a local council does not have a bylaw that sets alcohol licensing fees and charges it must default to the schedule of fees in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013. These default fees were set 12 years ago and, with the impact of inflation over this period, no longer enable local councils to reasonably recover the costs to administer the alcohol licensing system. This has led to increasing ratepayer subsidisation of these costs. Currently the only way that councils can increase these fees and charges is to make an Alcohol Fees Bylaw under an Order in Council associated with the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act 2012. This is an inefficient and expensive way for councils to raise their alcohol licensing fees and charges, when this issue could be simply resolved by the government updating the schedule of fees in the Regulations.

Background and Context

Objectives relating to the setting of alcohol licensing fees were listed in the review of the Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 conducted by the Ministry of Justice in 2017. These objectives include: - recovering the total reasonable costs incurred by local councils and ARLA in administering the alcohol licensing system - ensuring that those who create the greatest need for regulatory effort bear the commensurate costs.

Alcohol licensing fees and charges are intended to cover the reasonable costs of administering the alcohol licensing system via a 'user pays' approach. The fees and charges set in the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fees) Regulations 2013 are now 12 years out of date and have not been updated since 2013, despite two reviews of these fees conducted in 2018 and 2022 as required by section 404 of the Sale and Supply of Alcohol Act. With inflation since 2013, costs to manage alcohol licenses cannot be recovered through the fees prescribed in these Regulations. This means that every time Council processes an alcohol licence it costs more than the fee paid by the licensee and the difference must be covered by general rates.

To increase these fees and charges in their districts, local councils can make Alcohol Fees Bylaws under the Sale and Supply of Alcohol (Fee-setting Bylaws) Order 2013. However, making a bylaw is a relatively costly and inefficient way to address this issue as it involves: - time and effort to research and draft the bylaw - costs for public consultation - the need to regularly review the fees and charges set in the bylaw. A better solution would be for the government to update the fees and charges listed in the 2013 Regulations to reflect current costs. The schedule of fees in the revised Regulations should also allow for an annual CPI increase and allow cost recovery for hearings objections to District Licensing Committee decisions.



How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

This remit sits within the Funding and Financing advocacy area within LGNZ's Advocacy Work Programme. Specifically, this relates to: - Advocating for changes to local government funding and financing - Building and working with a coalition of the willing to support LGNZ's advocacy for changes to local government funding and financing. Fees and charges are also specifically mentioned in LGNZ's funding and finance toolbox. We understand that the regulation of alcohol fees is not currently part of this Work Programme.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

We can provide detailed evidence of the current income received by FNDC from licensing fees based on applying the outdated fee schedule in the 2013 Regulations, compared with the costs to administer the alcohol licensing system. In summary, in the 2023/24 financial year FNDC received \$410,000 in income from licence application fees compared with costs of \$581,000. This means there was a shortfall of \$171,000 which has to be recovered from general rates. In 2023/24 licence application fees covered 71% of costs for the Council. By contrast, the 2017 Review of the 2013 Regulations reported that cost recovery across all local councils was 108%.



// 04 Aligning public and school bus services

Proposed by: Nelson City Council

Supported by: LGNZ Regional Sector

Remit: *That LGNZ advocate for the reform of the Ministry of Education funded school bus services to provide an improved service for families and to better integrate the services with council provided public transport services, including the option of Public Transport Authorities (e.g. regional and unitary councils) managing such services (with appropriate government funding), noting that:*

- a. councils better know their local communities; and*
- b. the potential to reduce congestion from better bus services for schools; and*
- c. the efficiency gains realised from integrating these two publicly funded bus services*
- d. the outdated and inflexible rules of the current centralised school bus system*

Why is this remit important?

The quality and efficiency of school and public bus services is compromised by school and public bus services being funded through two different arms of Government. Some services are funded through the New Zealand Transport Agency and councils, and others are through the Ministry of Education School Bus Transport Service. This remit proposes to align those functions by transferring the funding and management to Regional Public Transport authorities which are better placed to understand and respond to local transport needs. By improving our bus services for students, we can also reduce congestion which is noticeably less during the school holidays in towns and cities around New Zealand.

Background and Context

There are essentially two drivers for this reform. The first is that it makes no sense to have two different arms of Government separately planning and contracting publicly funded bus services. The second is that decisions about bus services are best made locally.

The co-ordination and contracting of public bus services, whether for getting students to school or for other passengers, is a complex job. Decisions about the routes, frequency, bus size and convenient bus stops are difficult, requiring the juggling the objectives of making the service as convenient as possible, maximising usage, managing costs and ensuring safety. These decisions are inherently local.

The centralised school bus transport system is a huge source of frustration to communities and councils all over New Zealand. It is governed centrally by archaic, rigid rules that date back nearly 100 years, and are unchanged to this day.



The Ministry of Education officials do the best they can within the current policy, but the system is fundamentally outdated and broken. It makes no sense for education officials to be running transport services, and it is impossible to run a community focused, flexible school transport system over thousands of schools and communities from Wellington.

One of the big opportunities of this reform is to reduce congestion by improving our bus service for students. The potential is highlighted in towns and cities all over New Zealand during school holidays when there is much less congestion. An improved bus service with timetables and routes tailored to students' needs would be a wise investment for the overall transport network.

Regional councils, unitary authorities and Auckland Transport are all public transport authorities with delegated responsibility for the development, planning and delivery of public transport services in New Zealand.

The current system has perverse incentives in that if a public transport authority uses rates to improve public transport service to an area, the Ministry of Education withdraws its service. The current system discourages councils to provide public transport services on routes and times that work for students.

Nelson/Tasman are exploring trialling the integration of the management of public and school transport services. We believe there is the opportunity to provide a more responsive service to families of school aged children, to expand our public transport network and to get efficiency gains from contracting for both types of services. If successful, the trial may result in wider reforms.

This is a significant proposal currently involving more than \$125 million of annual public expenditure on school bus services that would need to be transferred to public transport authorities. It would be a complex reform that requires careful attention to detail and consultation with parents, schools, bus service providers and councils. The prize is a better bus services in places like Nelson, less congestion on our roads and more efficient use of public money.

How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

Transport is a critical issue facing all councils and we need to be proactively looking for way to better deliver services. This remit goes to the heart of LGNZ's vision of localism in that it proposes to localise the delivery of school bus services. This remit also compliments LGNZ's strategic relationship with Government in that it proposes reforms that improve efficiency, and is not just asking for more funding in fiscally constrained times. It also supports LGNZ's sustainability goals by providing opportunities for expansion of public transport services.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

Nelson City Council is keen to help advance the case for this reform. We have already engaged with the Ministry of Education, the Minister of Education and the Minister of Transport who are interested in the reforms and keen to trial this alternative approach for the delivery of school bus services. We also commit to sharing our experiences should Nelson Tasman proceed to trialling this reform.



// 05 Review of local government arrangements to achieve better balance

Proposed by:	Tauranga City Council
Supported by:	LGNZ Metro Sector
Remit:	<i>That LGNZ works with the Government and Councils to review current local government arrangements, including the functions and structure of local government, to achieve a better balance between the need to efficiently and effectively deliver services and infrastructure, while enabling democratic local decision-making and action by, and on behalf of communities.</i>

Why is this remit important?

Efficient and effective local democracy and associated decision making is paramount.

Background and Context

A number of local government reviews undertaken previously, have concluded that the current structure and arrangement of the local government sector, is not conducive to ensuring that infrastructure and services delivered to communities, are always done so in a cost effective and efficient manner.

Current sector arrangements are a legacy, and do not always reflect how our communities have expanded, nor how modern services are delivered.

Central government is underway with key policy and legislations changes that both directly and indirectly significantly impact the local government sector. This will require an agile and well planned response by the sector.

How does this remit relate to LGNZ's current work programme?

This is an important issue for local government as the sector responds to the current central government policy and legislation changes and reforms underway. Seeks advocacy for a work programme between central government, local government and LGNZ, to undertake this review, and ensuring local communities are well considered.

This remit sits within the principles of the Local Government Act 2002 in that it would give local government a tool to provide services more efficiently. While this is not currently part of LGNZ's work programme, engaging with central government will be essential to making progress in this area.

How will the proposing council help LGNZ to make progress on this remit?

Metro sector councils will provide support and resource to participate and work on the programme established.

File No.: 25/356

9.1 Interim Organisation Performance Report - June 2025

Author(s)	Sue Fifita-Tovo Executive Officer Āpiha Mātāmua
Approved by	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. This report presents the Interim Organisation Performance Report for June 2025.

This matter relates to Pursuing Organisation Excellence

Continuing the journey of organisational transformation by enabling a culture of service, excellence and continuous improvement.

RECOMMENDATION NGĀ | TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report Interim Organisation Performance Report - June 2025 be received and noted.

BACKGROUND | HE KŌRERO TŪĀPAPA

2. This Interim Organisation Performance Report is prepared for every second Council meeting and aims to provide a brief overview of the activities of Council, a Performance Dashboard including summaries for Statement of Service Performance (SSPs) and Organisation Performance Measures (OPMs).
3. The report aligns with the 1 July 2024 – 31 December 2025 Plan on a Page and reports on the status of each of the Top Priorities identified by Council.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

4. The intent of the report is to prompt open, transparent and constructive discussion both around the Council table and within the community. It is a record of work undertaken by the organisational arm of Council and outlines progress against actions which align with the Council's vision and the community's expectations.

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 ↓	Horowhenua District Council Interim Organisation Performance Report - 25 June 2025	208



Horowhenua District Council Interim Organisation Performance Report

25 June 2025



Nā te Kaiwhakahaere Matua Chief Executive Introduction and Executive Summary

Executive Summary

I am pleased to present the Interim Organisational Performance Report (OPR) for the June Council meeting.

The purpose of this report is to foster open, constructive dialogue between Council and within our community, ensuring our work continues to align with Council's vision and the expectations of our district.



Eleven months into the 2024/25 Council Plan on a Page, we have made substantial progress across our key priorities. This is clearly reflected in our update on the Top Priorities which evidences strong momentum and delivery from across the organisation.

As we approach the end of the financial year, we are on track to report a healthy surplus. Financial discipline has remained a key focus, with savings achieved wherever possible—positioning us well for a strong year-end result.

A major area of activity over the past month has been the Ōtaki to North Levin (O2NL) project. Following NZTA's announcement of proposed design changes, we have consistently advocated for the current design to remain unchanged, reinforcing our commitment to the long-term benefits of this critical infrastructure project.

We are proud to celebrate the national recognition of two of our outstanding officers at the recent 2025 Taituarā Local Government Excellence Awards. Ashley Huria was named Emerging Leader of the Year—a prestigious honour that acknowledges her exceptional leadership and passion for local government. Ashley will represent Aotearoa New Zealand at the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Conference in Tampa, Florida later this year.

In addition, Brent Harvey, Group Manager Community Experience and Services, was awarded an International Exchange to Australia. This award recognises Brent's significant contributions to the sector and provides a unique opportunity for trans-Tasman learning and collaboration, with Horowhenua hosting the Australian recipient in return.

Together, these achievements reflect a strong year of delivery, advocacy, and recognition for the people driving our district forward.

Monique Davidson
Chief Executive

Ngā Ihirangi

Contents

Chief Executive Introduction and Executive Summary	2
Organisation Performance Dashboard	4
Council Plan on a Page - Top Priorities	6
Organisation Values Highlight	23





Organisation Performance Dashboard

Organisation Performance Dashboard



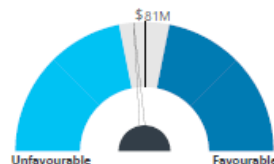
Organisation Performance Dashboard YTD Ending 31 May 2025

Organisational Performance

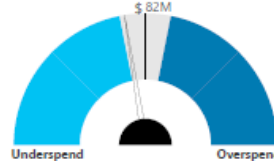
YTD Ending 31 May 2025

This dashboard shows a snapshot of how we are tracking against our performance measure targets, our financial performance overall and activity financial information.

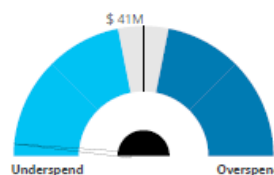
Financial Performance



INCOME	
YTD Actual:	\$79.37M
YTD Budget:	\$81.12M
Full Year Forecast:	\$86.81M
Full Year Budget:	\$87.97M
YTD Variance:	-\$1.75M (2.2%)
	on target



OPERATING EXPENDITURE	
YTD Actual:	\$78.74M
YTD Budget:	\$82.10M
Full Year Forecast:	\$89.30M
Full Year Budget:	\$89.09M
YTD Variance:	\$3.34M, 4.1%
	on target



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	
YTD Actual:	\$25.44M
YTD Budget:	\$40.76M
Full Year Forecast:	\$34.60M
Full Year Budget:	\$44.48M
Variance:	\$15.32M, 37.6%
	below target
below target	< -5%
on target	>= -5% to <= +5%
above target	> +5%

Our operating Income is tracking lower than planned. This is mainly due to lower funding from Waka Kotahi, which is offset by lower spending agreed by Council. It is also due to delayed CIP funding with the changes in the timing of associated capital projects. The position is forecast to continue for the year. While Grants and Subsidies are lower, we are tracking well in our Regulatory area with income for consenting higher than planned and additional waste rebate received.

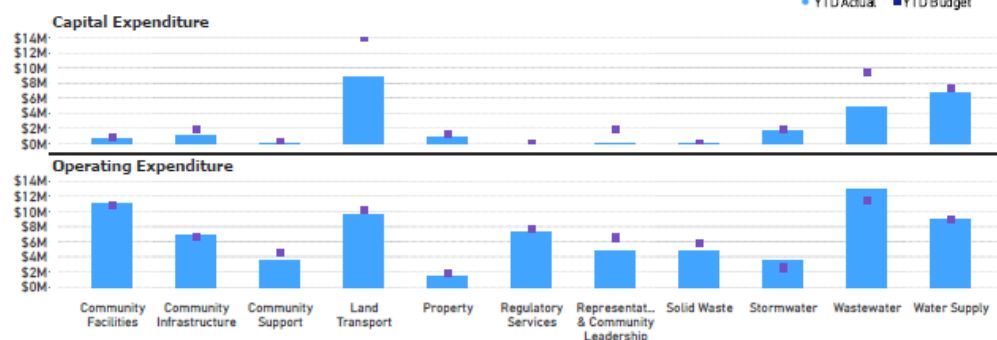
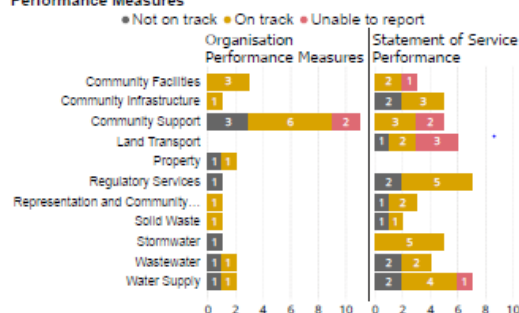
Our operating expenditure (excluding Loss on Derivatives*) is tracking favourable to budget, which is largely due to lower professional services and other operating costs. The position is forecast to be on budget due to the offset between favourable Maintenance and unfavourable Employee costs and interest costs. The reason for the offset is that our adopted full year budget reflects the outsourced model for local water with costs in Maintenance, whereas the full year forecast reflects the current in-house delivery model of local water services with costs mainly in Employee costs and other operating costs. The additional interest cost is expected to offset fully by the interest revenue generated from term deposits.

We are tracking well to meet the underlying savings of \$300k (excluding capital items). This is mostly due to additional net income in Regulatory. Potential risks within the three waters budget are being monitored closely.

We have completed \$25.4m for the capital programme, with around \$9m planned to be spent in June 2025, some of these may relate to projects committed but won't be spent by the end of 2024/25 financial year. As we approach the end of the current financial year, this position may change following capital carry forwards requests for projects committed but not yet spent for 2024/25 with Council decision in early September 2025.

* A loss on Derivatives is a result of loss on interest rate swaps - this occurs when the value of the swap decreases due to unfavourable changes in interest rates. Swaps are used to manage interest rate risk and potentially lower borrowing costs. Loss on Derivatives is not cash item.

Performance Measures





Ngā Whāinga Matua

Council Plan on a Page - Top Priorities



Ngā Whainga Matua Top Priorities



Pursuing Organisation Excellence

Continuing the journey of organisational transformation by enabling a culture of service, excellence and continuous improvement.

Review the Organisation Roadmap and implement identified action

A key focus remains on empowering our people leaders through the rollout of the Development Framework. The Senior Leadership Cohort (SLC) has completed one-on-one coaching with our organisational coach, Sally Duxfield, reflecting on their leadership, strengths, areas for growth, and engagement survey results. Together SLC have developed a collective leadership plan focused on building capability across the organisation.

A 12-month professional development plan has been developed covering 12 key leadership topics. This plan starts with the SLC delivered through monthly sessions and will cascade through our people leaders, with topics refined to suit each leadership level. Key themes will also be shared with all staff through quarterly all-staff meetings, ensuring organisation-wide relevance and impact.

Further progress on getting the basics right and enhancing the customer experience through implementation of the Customer and Digital Action Plans.

In the Customer Service Excellence kaupapa, customer journey maps have been developed for key regulatory licensing interactions to identify pain points and opportunities for improvement in our service delivery. A new internal process for how new business enquiries and applications are received and processed has been implemented to create a single point of contact for licensing matters.

The team successfully launched the improved Kbase FAQ site to all staff. The improvements include template email responses, and a space for temporary notices. Stage two of the Messages Matter – Part 2 mahi has been published and is about written communication which focus on letter writing guidance for staff to support clear and professional customer correspondence.

New staff intranet pages and announcements have been drafted and a release schedule developed for delivery. These weekly customer service announcements kicked off in May and will have service tips for kaimahi that range from where to find Kbase, how to set your out of office auto-reply to how to use the visitor sign-in system in the Civic building, to name a few.

Data analysis of the annual resident satisfaction survey, Voice of the Customer, was completed this month by the Capability and Transformation team; with results to presented to Council in June.

In this reporting period we have engaged with our mail house to set up templates for Water Billing and Debtor statements. Transitioning this process to our mail house improves

our delivery timeframes to customers, allows us to scale as required and aligns us to the same standards we have on our Rates correspondence.

The 2025/2026 online dog registration forms have been set up, with this comes many internal optimisations that improve the flow of data and positively impact our processing time.

In addition, we have taken the initiative to work through our Customer Request Management (CRM) categories, which are used for managing both internal and external enquiries. This month's focus was on the CRM categories for our Roothing, Strategic Projects, and Integrated Growth and Planning team. Optimising these alongside their information in our knowledge base will greatly benefit customer response time and accuracy.

Preparation for the 2025 elections and referendum.

Officers recently attended a regional Kapa Haka event in Palmerston North Te Pōtitini. The focus of this event was to enrol and update voter details, and raise awareness about the elections this year.

The pre-election report is nearing completion and is expected to be delivered well before the legislative deadline. A pre-candidate session is planned for Tuesday 24 June where potential candidates are able to receive important ahead of making the decision to stand. The nomination period opens 4 July, and closes 12pm Friday 1 August.



Supporting Lake Punahau / Horowhenua Aspirations

Giving focus to advancing actions that speak to community and owners of Lake Punahau / Horowhenua aspirations specific to the role of Horowhenua District Council.

Complete the Lake Domain development plan using 'Better off Funding'.

The Lake Domain development plan is still in draft, as the May Board meeting did not have a quorum. This will now go to the June meeting for endorsement.

However, an extraordinary Board meeting was held in early May where the Board signed off on what activities the Better-Off funding should be spent on. Officers are now implementing this and are confident this will be complete 30 June.

Continue to be an active partner with the Arawhata Wetland Project led by Horizons.

The outstanding appeal on the Arawhata Wetland consent has been resolved, therefore the consent can now be given effect.

Support community led planting and clean up initiatives.

The top priority for spending of the Better-Off funding is to clean up the Domain area. The bulk of the work is being undertaken by Green by Nature and Officers are linking with Lake Domain and Trust whānau to support this mahi.



Enhancing Māori Relationships

Ensuring a concerted focus on developing a partnership framework, to advance our relationships and set up both Council and our partners for shared success through well-defined partnership arrangements and clear engagement expectations.

Progress development of Māori relationships and the Engagement Framework.

The latest draft of the Iwi/hapū Engagement Framework was presented to Council on 4 June. Feedback from Elected Members has been grouped into themes and is being reviewed. The draft was also provided to the Iwi representatives in the Project Advisory Group for feedback. Feedback has been received from Rangitāne and will be incorporated into the review. Awaiting further responses from Iwi. Officers are now reflecting on Elected Member feedback to bring back an updated draft for feedback.



Enabling balanced growth with fit for purpose infrastructure

Continuing with our integrated growth planning and strategic delivery approach to enable smart and sustainable development that delivers balanced growth and fit for purpose infrastructure.

Progress an initial omnibus District Plan change to effect quick wins and address immediate issues.

The omnibus plan change is progressing, particularly in the definitions space. We are currently exploring adding a topic in response to a recent flurry of implementation challenges (being 'accessways'). We are reviewing the National Direction package (released end of May 2025) to determine if this has any impacts or warrants any change in approach.

Continue integrated growth planning to inform future capital investments.

The Integrated Growth Programme was launched internally to SLC, who provided feedback which is being analysed to inform key priorities. Work on a 'growth narrative' is underway – and is timely, given the recent online community interest in the district's growth. Work is commencing with the Wellington Regional Leadership Committee Housing and Business Capacity Assessments, as are early conversations with Horizons Regional Council on spatial planning.

Development of Vested Assets Policy.

Intent: The Vested Assets Policy is under development at present and once completed aims to address the financial burden on ratepayers arising from long-term maintenance of infrastructure assets vested from new developments. Preliminary research into comparable policies across New Zealand revealed no clear precedents, making this a pioneering initiative

– although Manawātū District Council have recently completed a draft of a similar document and we are collaborating with them to take what we can from their experience and share our own learnings at the appropriate time.

The policy proposes that third parties provide financial contributions (commuted sums) to offset future maintenance costs (consequential opex) for assets vested to Council but not necessarily required by it. A draft concept was introduced to Council in November 2024 for initial feedback, receiving positive support to proceed with further refinement and to carefully assess potential implications.

Current State: Collaboration between HBAD, Integrated Growth and Planning, Finance and Infrastructure teams continues to develop clear guidelines and parameters for delivery.

There is some complexity involved in that the development of such a mechanism may have flow on effects to other considerations such as the Development Contributions Policy, in time. We are on track to bring a draft policy for feedback by the end of August.

Deliver the Capital Programme.

The Levin Wastewater Treatment Plant downstream inlet pipe and bulk main council report was presented to Elected Members on May 14th. Council approved the proposed works outlined in the report, allowing the team to proceed with the tender and contract processes. An independent engineer has reviewed all designs and related documents to ensure the project aligns with best practices and standards. The Headworks design is progressing well with technology selection underway. Council Officers are now preparing to draft the Procurement for the Headworks, for this to be presented to PRG in July. Lutra will be providing assistance and guidance throughout the procurement and tender stages for the Headworks project

MacArthur Street, Levin renewals are progressing as planned, with the section from Cambridge to Queenwood along MacArthur now live. In Shannon, Tatana Contractors commenced construction on Bryce Street and are pressure testing on Margaret Street.

Investigations and designs are underway for the extension of the North East Levin Stormwater main, running from Okarito Avenue through to the main installed on Magnolia Place and into Coley Pond.

Officers have been reviewing all expenses over the past 11 months in preparation for the end of the financial year. Additionally, they are assessing the budgets approved through the Annual Plan and are actively planning and preparing for projects scheduled to commence in the new financial year.

Conduct appropriate investigations in key strategic focus areas—including aquatics, parks, property, and sports—preparing for informed decision making ahead of the next Long Term Plan.

The Strategic Recreation Investment Framework draft was workshopped with Councillors in May, with feedback provided. The framework will be presented to Council in June seeking adoption.

Officers and Visitor Solutions are still gathering and collating data to complete the needs assessment, which will create a key moves list with key strategic focus areas based off the framework. This is expected in August.



Local Water Services Done Well

Navigating change towards inhouse provision of reliable three water services while strategically positioning ourselves to embrace and benefit from sector change.

Navigate in housing of three water services.

This action has been completed.

Position Council for future changes to Local Waters Done Well waters arrangements.

HDC voted unanimously to form a Joint Water Services Organisation with Palmerston North City Council and Rangitikei District Council to deliver water services and recognises Whanganui and Ruapehu District Councils as potential willing partners.



Strategically Positioning Horowhenua

Ensuring targeted advocacy and proactive pursuit of third-party funding opportunities and strengthening of national and regional connections, to ensure our community's needs are clearly understood and prioritised, keeping us relevant and well-positioned to pursue or react to opportunities.

Pursue new look funding arrangements with CIP or others to advance growth infrastructure.

Nothing further this period.

Pursue funding opportunities to speed up plans or advance unfunded or under resourced priorities.

An external funding stocktake has been undertaken and a document created which will enable officers to prioritise projects and initiatives, depending on eligibility against available funding streams.

Respond to regional deal opportunities.

Nothing new to update for this period. We are still awaiting to hear the outcome of the Greater Manawatu City and Regional deal that was submitted at the end of February.



Ensuring Financial Discipline and Management

Ensuring targeted advocacy and proactive pursuit of third-party funding opportunities and strengthening of national and regional connections, to ensure our community's needs are clearly understood and prioritised, keeping us relevant and well-positioned to pursue or react to opportunities.

Ensure financial discipline and compliance with our financial strategy and benchmarks.

Council continues to operate within the parameters of our adopted Financial Strategy and 2024-44 Long Term Plan, with regular internal reviews to ensure ongoing compliance with debt and rates benchmarks. The 2025 pre-election report presents these benchmarks information and shows how we are tracking.

Departmental budget holders are being supported through enhanced financial guidance and training to ensure prudent use of allocated resources and early identification of cost pressure. Monthly discussion and forward communication from the Finance team is also happening to support the budget holders.

Implement organisation-wide stringent budget monitoring to ensure all departments adhere to allocated budgets, promoting a culture of financial accountability and transparency across all levels.

Council implemented monthly budget variance analysis and forecasting across all activity areas. This enables timely identification of risks and reallocation opportunities, ensuring we remain within our operating and capital budgets. For 2024/25 financial year, we are tracking to achieve a \$300,000 operating savings. This follows the zero-based budgeting approach taken in the 2024-44 Long Term Plan setting.

Early work is also starting to identify any potential capital carryovers that are committed or will be delivered early next financial year. Council approval will be sought on these requests in September.

A renewed focus on financial accountability is being embedded at all levels of the organisation through improved communication channels, reporting tools and leadership engagement.

Council adopted the 2025/26 Annual Plan, and Fees and Charges in May following a comprehensive budget impact assessment by budget holders, and regular engagement with elected members. A workshop was held in late May with elected members to review the impacts of rates increases for different types of properties. Total rates increase for 2025/26 financial year is projected to be 10.2% with 1.13% growth expected. This means the average rates increase after growth is 9.1%.

Procure wisely and strategically, to prioritise spending on essential services and projects that deliver the highest value to the community.

An analysis is currently underway into Supplier Panels – much like the recently implemented Legal and Trade Services panels – for other areas of the organisation. This is in its final stages and due to be completed and provided in a report to the Executive Leadership Team next month. This report will include the analysis as well as recommendations on where additional

panels are appropriate and where better efficiencies can be introduced. The aim of this work is to enable HDC to procure commonly used products and services in a streamlined and consistent manner while also being time and cost effective.

Monitor Treasury opportunities to take advantage of favourable interest rates, reduce debt servicing costs, and maintain the Council's credit rating.

Council's treasury management practices are under continuous review to identify and capitalise on favourable interest rate movements. In May, the Mayor, Chief Executive and Senior Finance officers met with Standard and Poor's representatives to discuss Council's performance and position including debt liquidity and budgetary performance. This is part of the annual review of Council's credit rating with the outcome to be announced later in June.

Treasury policy compliance is regularly monitored and reported to the Risk and Assurance Committee.

Provide transparent financial reporting and regular updates to the community on the Council's financial performance and initiatives.

The pre-final audit for the financial year ending 30 June 2025 commenced on 16 June. Officers have been in regular communication with Audit New Zealand to plan for the early adoption of Council's 2024/25 annual report which is scheduled for 8 October. End of financial year preparation is also underway.

Open recommendations from our annual audits and tax compliance evaluations are being regularly worked on and reported to the Risk and Assurance Committee through the monitoring report. Since 1 July 2024, we have closed off 50 of the 71 open recommendations with 20 outstanding recommendations being worked through.

PwC was engaged to undertake the PAYE compliance evaluation and this will be reported back to the Risk and Assurance Committee in August.



Enriching Our Environment

Focusing on targeted initiatives to enrich, preserve and enhance Horowhenua's natural environment through promoting sustainability, waste management practices and resilience to climate change for the benefit of current and future generations.

Establish the emission monitoring portal.

The initial assessment report for the Moata Carbon Portal has been completed, focusing on the carbon emissions of selected water and wastewater projects, as well as the roof upgrade of Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom. This report provides a high-level analysis using the portal to better identify project hotspots.

We are currently in phase three and are working with SLC to implement the Moata Carbon Portal across Council projects. This phase will continue until April 2026, when the subscription ends.

Implement the Climate Action Plan within budget allocations.

The Climate Action Fund (\$500–\$2,500) website information is ready to be uploaded to Smarty Grants. Integrated Growth & Planning (IG&P) has been working closely with Community Development to ensure it is ready for the next grants period.

IG&P has supported the establishment phase of the kai resilience project, including financial assistance to enable it to continue until government grants or funding can be secured (Action 5.6, Action 1.3 of the Climate Action Plan).

Following feedback from the monitoring survey exploring progress towards the Climate Action Plan, it was demonstrated that direct progress has been made on 84% of the actions. No further monitoring has been completed since, but another survey will be recirculated for response in August.

Continue workstreams to enable decision making on Council's role and focus on waste management and minimisation, including potential future uses of the Levin Landfill site.

A Waste Review paper will go to Council on 25 June for decisions on bag collection and transfer station contracted services.

Support the protection and restoration of natural habitats, including wetlands, forests, and coastal areas.

In May Officers worked with both the Waitārere Beach and Waikawa Beach communities on their coastal resilient planting days. Plants were supplied by Horizons and Officers provided tools and information on what plants were pest species and should be removed and where to plant the new species.



Continue partnerships with schools, local organisations, and community groups to promote environmental stewardship.

In May, Officers and the Open Spaces Maintenance team supported Waikawa Beach residents with their community planting. This included providing mulch and working with the community on best practice.

The Open Spaces Maintenance team further supported community efforts by taking away the rubbish collected by the Foxton, Waitārere and Hōkio communities.

Community Preparedness



Focusing on strengthened Council and community preparedness and resilience to enable our ability to plan for, respond to, adapt and recover from emergencies and district changes.

Emergency management planning and preparation.

During the reporting period, Emergency Management advisors attended the Coordinating Executive Group meeting (Palmerston North) – items included the new Emergency Management Bill and the draft Manawatū-Whanganui CDEM Group Plan. They also attended the Manawatū-Whanganui CDEM Regional Welfare Forum (Palmerston North) where there was a presentation from GNS Volcanologist Brad Scott was part of the day.

Staff training was facilitated for the ITF Foundation Course – there were 15 attendees, and assistance given for Toa Consulting to conduct an audit of the EOC as part of our SSP commitments.

Met with project team including Electra and HDC Iwi Advisors to further discussions and identify next steps for the Whakamana Marae / Marae Emergency Management Resilience project. Good progress is being made. Within the next month the project team will meet with potential funding agencies.

Progress priority business continuity and resilience initiatives.

The draft Business Continuity Plan has been completed with the inclusion of the high-risk processes. This document is out for review, with the aim to have it adopted internally by 30 June 2025.

Continue tackling stormwater hotspots across our district.

The stormwater works on Waitārere Beach Road have been completed which fixes a longstanding flooding issue on the Waitarere Beach Road / Waitarere Rise Avenue roundabout.

Community Connections and Better Wellbeing



Focusing on priority wellbeing initiatives driven by the Horowhenua Blueprint, Wellbeing framework and the Housing Action Plan while strengthening place-based

community relationships and engagement to foster authentic relationships and enhanced community connections.

Continue progressive implementation of Blueprint priorities.

The Horowhenua Blueprint continues to be progressed with a range of the actions and workstreams being currently undertaken, a number of these are addressed specifically under other Council Priorities.

Among the highlights for Destination Management during this period have been the connections we are making across the sector – officers attended TRENZ, New Zealand's biggest tourism industry event. Off the back of that conference, we've had really productive meetings with the CE of the Te Araroa Trail, the CE of Regional Tourism Organisation and made connections with Destination Management leaders from Queenstown, Rotorua, Wellington, Manawatū and Gisborne (who are keen to go halves in developing sector resources to reduce costs for both of us).

We're in discussions with tourism content creators/promoters Neat Places to pilot an influencer campaign in the summer.

The Destination Management team presented alongside Brad Rowe and Dave Hockly at May's BA5 event and held a tourism business capability and proposition workshop with local tourism businesses, which led to a well informed and aspirational list of actions, including the desire for better collaboration from the industry, the establishment of famils and the need for additional sector resources.

We've reviewed the Destination Management and Development Plans for our neighbours in Wellington and Manawatū to understand where there might be shared goals/opportunities and we held a workshop with key stakeholders to inform the refresh of our own Destination Management and Development Plan. We aim to have this completed by the end of July.

We saw 8,379 new users to our destination management website www.horowhenuanz.co.nz for the month of May, up 10% month on month. This resulted in 5,597 engaged sessions, which led to 1,563 member referrals (clicks on local tourism experiences/business listings). 73% of traffic to site are females. 83% of this traffic came from a combination of paid social media and paid google search. Our content strategy is driving the majority of page views, with 'accommodation that inspires' and 'kiwi camping' as the pages viewers are looking at most. Our foodie's day trip ranks 5th most viewed page, with 'live work and learn' job vacancies page views ranking 6th. Pop Up Eats and Tatum are also in the top 10.

Levin Town Centre Strategy (Blueprint Action 11) has been actively advanced and well supported by the Levin Town Centre Steering Group. A digital video tool to show how Levin and the town centre is envisioned to be developed, is currently being developed which is expected to help be used in a way that promotes the vision, encourages inward investment and showcases opportunity while also be a tool that can be used for community engagement when it comes to processes such as revocation planning for

Oxford Street. More specific detail on the Levin Town Centre programme and progress is detailed under Priority 11 below.

Work undertaken by officers to advance the Foxton Futures Community Plan and Shannon Community Plan (Blueprint Action 12) are detailed further and have both been processes that the local communities have stepped up and got behind. The forward focus will be on maintaining that community drive and involvement as these plans shift to implementation.

The District Plan programme as part of the new Integrated Growth and Planning workstream has continued to explore changes to the District Plan both to keep up with current reform but also to unlock land supply and development (Blueprint Action 3). Plan Change 6A has been notified and is tracking through the statutory plan change process with the potential to unlock between 400 and 500 new lots for housing in the north-west of Levin. Submissions on Plan Change 6A closed 14 May with 71 submissions received. The next phase of the process is to notify the Summary of Submissions which is on track to occur in June.

The Integrated Growth and Planning workstream is a direct response to Blueprint Action 4 and looks to take a comprehensive approach to planning for and managing growth in our district. The workstream brings together the different growth-related functions within Council and will ensure alignment and integration across in a way that has previously occurred within our Council.

Our advocacy and involvement in the public transport space (Blueprint Action 10) has increased as opportunities for new and enhanced public transport (bus and rail) services are on the cusp of being committed to for our district. This has seen officers attend meetings, make submissions and presentations to both Horizons and Greater Wellington Regional Councils to ensure that the perspectives of our district are included in the early planning.

Recent engagement on the Draft Economic Development Strategy with Muaūpoko Tribal Authority and Te Tūmatakahuki representatives has helped ensure that the strategy will have a specific focus on support Māori economic development aspirations (Blueprint Action 5). Council has further supported these aspirations through its support and leadership in the Ō2NL Legacy Outcomes Investment Framework space.

Implement the Housing Action Plan priorities.

The Housing Action Plan has been refocused on pivoting away from reliance on state-led development, turning toward Community Housing Providers (CHPs) and other alternative channels for affordable and emergency housing delivery. This change has had a stalling effect as we shift direction and work to bed in the new CHP delivery methodology. A recent focus on 'Community-Led Initiatives';

- A successful Family Flat Pilot event was held in Shannon, providing guidance for residents interested in adding flats to their properties. The event had an unexpectedly high turnout, and more sessions are planned.

- Recent government changes to Family Flat rules are being reviewed and will be presented to Council to inform future initiatives.
- The Community Development Team are working in partnership with the Housing & Business Development Team to run a series of workshops.
 - a) 'Creative ways to get onto the property ladder' – a talk about new ways to achieve home ownership, including rent to own, shared ownership, Kiwibuy, progressive home ownership, tips and tricks to accelerate deposit savings.
 - b) 'How to be a good landlord' - for practitioners and whānau. Being a landlord in New Zealand comes with a set of responsibilities and legal obligations. Learn more about key legislation, health and safety standards, effective property management, selecting tenants carefully, tenancy agreements and financial management.
 - c) 'Smart Renting' - If you are working with young people or families, or you are a family member helping younger members find a safe and affordable rental property. Learn about what renters need to know before they sign a tenancy agreement.

Activate the key priorities within the Community Wellbeing Strategy.

We continue to make strong progress on the Community Wellbeing Action Plan and remain on track to complete all Year One actions by the end of the financial year.

Key actions during this reporting period include:

- The launch of the updated centralised Community Directory, which now lists contact details for local groups, clubs, organisations, and services – grouped into categories to make it easier for the community to directly find the support they need.
- Development of a new resource outlining available social support services for displaced members of our community.
- The establishment of the Horowhenua Kai Resilience Collective – a community-led, Council-supported initiative focused on improving connectivity between existing kai initiatives across the district.

In addition to our Community Networks, Council Officers have established the following Community Wellbeing Collectives to help drive key deliverables within the Community Wellbeing Strategy:

- Housing Vulnerability Collective
- Youth Driving Licence Collective
- Horowhenua Kai Resilience Collective.

The Community Wellbeing Committee met on 21 May, and it was fantastic to have all Community Network Representatives in attendance, along with representatives from each of the Collectives who provided updates to the Committee.

Maintain a sustained focus on improving our communication and engagement across communities.

We continue to roll out strategic communication campaigns that align with Council's Top Priorities, with the next concept centred on providing clarity and insights on common myths as part of helping people better understand Council and local government ahead of the 2025 elections. Our always on media approach, provides a valuable multi-channel mix, with priority campaigns featured consistently across radio, print, digital billboards and social media.

The refreshed Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-po website has progressed and is expected to live by the end of June.

The refreshed Community & Business directory went live, with emails sent to current listing holders, asking them to update their listings. The next part of the project will be getting the Sports and Recreation listings live.

<https://www.horowhenua.govt.nz/CommunityPlaces/Our-District/Business-Directory>

During May we saw 18,459 users to the horowhenua.govt.nz website, down 13% from the previous month. 59% were mobile users. 67% were female. Among the top 5 ranked pages were rubbish and recycling collection days, rating information, online maps and cemetery searches. Interestingly we saw a 128% increase from the previous month on agenda and meeting minute link clicks and a 255% increase in Council Meeting livestream views.

Initiate community plans in Foxton and Shannon and continue with place-based relationships.

Foxton and Foxton Beach Community Plan:

Officers facilitated a Foxton Futures Group Workshop on Tuesday 6 May where invitations were extended to current members of Foxton Futures Group, and the community members who had expressed an interest to be involved in the Foxton Futures Group going forward. The objective of the workshop was an introductory session to provide an opportunity for those who had expressed an interest, to come together to meet each other, align roles, expectations and confirm their theme preference/s, and set a foundation for collaborative community planning. Attendance comprised an even representation of both existing and new community members with a total of 27 people attending. This was a positive workshop where there was a collective enthusiasm and passion from all members to move forward together to contribute to the community.

The next steps have been for Officers to schedule four planning workshops in June to introduce the framework and provide members with direction and advice to start to prepare action plans with their thoughts and ideas on priorities, tasks, actions and roles of responsibility for each theme to be included in the final version of the Community Plan. These workshops will be facilitated by Council officers. Members will then be responsible for gathering their groups together to identify a theme lead and complete their action plan in time for the theme leads to bring to the first Foxton Futures Group meeting - yet to be scheduled for late July 2025. Horowhenua District Council and Horizons Regional Council will lead the respective Infrastructure and Transport and Nature and Environment themes.

Shannon/Ōtauru Community Plan:

Since the last update in May, the Shannon Community Working Group has met several times to finalise the draft Community Plan. The Group has worked together to ensure the plan accurately reflects the aspirations of their community. In May the Working Group presented the draft plan to the Shannon Community emphasising the collaborative effort. The following week, Councillor Olsen, Officers and the Working Group presented the draft plan at a Council Workshop, seeking feedback ahead of the Community Plan adoption in Shannon on 18 June.

The Working Group is working towards this and for the Council meeting to take place in Shannon.



Activating the Levin Town Centre



Activating key strategic initiatives to act as a catalyst for change, stimulating collaborative and transformational revitalisation of Levin's hub.

Implement agreed Strategy initiatives.

Officers presented HDC's submission to Greater Wellington Regional Council at the Regional Public Transport Plan 2025 hearings. Some relevant questions and positive comments were provided during the question-and-answer part of the submission process. A video clip from Waiopahu College formed part of HDC's submission and was well received.

Work continues with Arterra Interactive to provide digital/spatial map services to support the LTC Transformation. This will provide a visualisation of what the Town Centre could look like in the future.

Carparking data collection is now complete and has been collated and compiled into a report. The report identifies interesting trends and insights that will be beneficial to support the Carparking and Accessibility Strategy.

Work has been initiated to create a Retail Transformation Strategy and action plan with a brief created and shared with The Horowhenua Company Ltd, who will be working with Council on this piece of work. A key focus will be on how we can ensure the retail

environment supports the town centre's strategic objectives, and how we can create an environment that sees our retailers thrive.

A Levin Town Centre Steering Group Workshop was held in May. The purpose of this workshop was to review and provide direction on the LTC implementation plan, including the project framework, mix of projects, sequencing, proposed budgets, project governance and community engagement, ensuring alignment with strategic goals. All members of the Steering Group were in attendance, and it was beneficial to have a site visit around the town centre.

Pursue connections and relationships to build momentum outside of Council led initiatives.

In line with Council's 26 March resolution, which required further engagement with Muaūpoko Tribal Authority and Raukawa ki te Tonga before finalising the sale of the Levin War Memorial Hall and Village Green to the Wellington Company Ltd, officers engaged with eight Te Tumatakahuki representatives to assess the proposal's alignment with iwi relationships, culture, traditions and ancestral connections.

The hui took place at Ngātokowaru Marae where officers and Ian Cassels from The Wellington Company were welcomed onto the marae. This was a positive hui where questions and concerns were able to be responded to.

Officers have offered to engage with Muaūpoko Tribal Authority, however Muaūpoko Tribal Authority have not confirmed that they will take up that opportunity.



Ōtaki to North Levin Readiness

Leveraging the Ōtaki to North of Levin Expressway Project to seize opportunities and ensure alignment with strategic council priorities for long-term community benefit

Continued advocacy on Ō2NL revocation.

The NZTA revocation team presented to Council on revocation on 7 May. Following this, meetings have been scheduled with the respective councils that are undertaking, or have been through, a revocation process. A meeting between the NZTA revocation team and operational staff has also taken place, and a workshop is planned for July to help shape the revocation vision. Council officers continue to advocate for greater clarity regarding the Ō2NL revocation. Preparations for the next steps in the planning process are underway, including an initial meeting scheduled with NZTA.

Championing legacy outcomes.

Council officers have been actively participating in Legacy Outcomes Rōpū meetings, continuing to advocate for positive outcomes for the community and to ensure local infrastructure needs are reflected in the Ō2NL project. As part of this work, Council has written to the Minister of Transport and the Chair of the NZTA Board to express strong opposition to proposed design changes — specifically, the removal of the Manakau Heights connection and the downgrading of the planned Tararua Road interchange from a full

interchange to a roundabout. Council's view is that legacy outcomes refer to the long-term impacts left behind once the highway is completed, and every effort must be made to ensure those outcomes are positive for Horowhenua.

Exploring opportunities and planning for consequential Ō2NL impacts with a specific focus on revocation.

Officers have been regularly attending Internal Alignment Team meetings to maintain internal coordination across Council activities. Officers have continued to meet with NZTA, the project Alliances, attend NZTA Owner Team meetings, Ō2NL Owner Interface Manager meetings, North Alliance Working Group meetings, Project Steering Group meetings, and communications meetings to provide input on design elements and ensure tie-in with existing HDC infrastructure, and that communication is consistent. Officers have been assessing the wider impacts of Ō2NL on the local transport network, including implications from the proposed design changes which have an impact on the community and have received significant community attention. Work with NZTA and the Alliances is progressing to finalise the East West Arterial consent application, targeting lodgement of the Notice of Requirement by mid-June.

A strong focus during this period has been communication, with NZTA sharing news with communities about the proposed design changes. The Mayor and Chief Executive attended the first two sessions to support the community. Throughout these meetings, officers have actively advocated for positive community outcomes and continue to work on establishing impacts on the wider network.

In the regulatory space, officers have been preparing for receipt of the draft and final Outline Plan of Works as part of the Ō2NL consent process. This has involved attending workshops and briefings and engaging technical experts in traffic management, environmental impact, and urban design to support the review and response process.



Ngā Uara

Organisation Values Highlight



Living Our Values

Mahi Tahi

#Arohatōmahi

Tiakitanga

Manaakitanga

From within the organisation, our aspiration is to build a high-performing team defined by a lasting culture of service excellence, supported by a community that aligns with the Council's vision and recognises the value in the services we provide.

One of the organisation goals that sits within our Organisation Roadmap is: to empower our people to achieve success, and lift leadership capability. To evidence this goal, this month we would like to spotlight two officers who have been recognised as leaders on NZ's local government stage.

Taituarā Emerging Leader of the Year Award

Ashley Huria, Business Performance Manager, was named the Emerging Leader of the Year at the 2025 Taituarā Local Government Excellence Awards, held on 13 June.



This prestigious award recognises individuals who demonstrate outstanding leadership, unwavering commitment, and a passion for local government—both today and into the future. As part of this award, Ashley will represent Aotearoa New Zealand at the International City/County Management Association (ICMA) Conference in Tampa, Florida later this year.

Ashley's local government journey began in 2010 when she joined the Council in a junior role. Over the past 15 years, she has shown exceptional dedication to her professional growth and has been a strong advocate for nurturing talent within the organisation.

Her leadership style is marked by positivity, collaboration and a deep connection to her hometown. Ashley sets a powerful example for her team and colleagues, demonstrating how a fulfilling and impactful career can be built in the local government sector.

Her career has spanned key areas including Finance, Corporate Projects, Governance and Business Support. A natural leader, Ashley consistently works across teams, shares her knowledge generously and contributes to building a culture of continuous improvement.

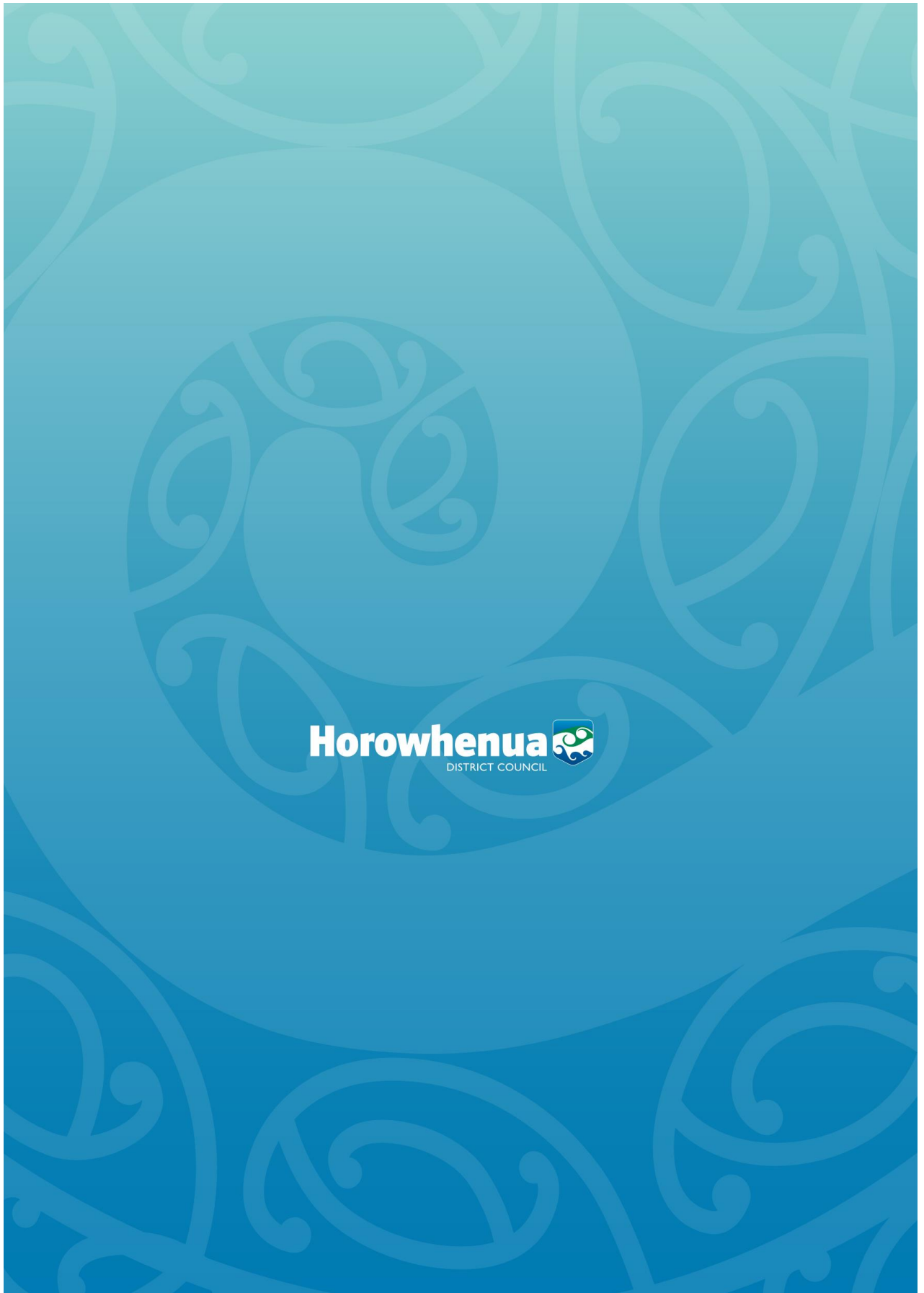
Ashley's contribution to Horowhenua and the wider local government sector is outstanding and this award is a testament to her capability and bright future ahead.

Taituarā Overseas Manager Exchange

At the same awards function, Brent Harvey, Group Manager Community Experience and Services, was awarded an International Exchange to Australia. This award recognises the significant impact Brent has made and the mana he holds across the local government sector. The exchange provides a valuable opportunity for Brent to explore the Australian local government landscape, followed by hosting the Australian recipient here in Horowhenua.

Brent is a strategic leader dedicated to building resilient, connected communities. As Group Manager, he consistently champions innovation, operational excellence and meaningful community engagement. Passionate about shaping the future of local government, Brent is eager to explore international best practice and bring back transformative insights that will benefit both Horowhenua and the wider local government sector across Aotearoa.





File No.: 25/377

9.2 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report June 2025

Author(s)	Alice Petersen Support Officer - Democracy Āpiha Tautoko - Manapori
Approved by	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this report is to present to Council the updated monitoring report covering resolutions and requested actions from previous meetings of Council.

This matter relates to Pursuing Organisation Excellence

Continuing the journey of organisational transformation by enabling a culture of service, excellence and continuous improvement.

RECOMMENDATIONS | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/377 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report June 2025 be received and noted.

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 ↓	Actions Monitoring Report - June 2025	236

Council Actions Monitoring Report 2025 As at XX June 2025

	Completed
	In progress
	Transfer
	Off track

Reference	Resolution/Action	Officer	Due date	Status	Officer Update
CO/2022/168 <i>In reference to the closed Levin Landfill</i>	That Council agrees to: b. Approve a programme of work to firstly assess targeted restoration areas of the Tatana Drain and Hokio Stream by working alongside Iwi and willing landowners, develop a restoration programme, secure additional funding and then proceed with appropriate restoration projects. The initial cost of this action is \$300,000.	D Haigh	16/10/2024		Elected members to be provided an update on this and the wider landfill leachate project investigations at briefing planned for 23 July.
CO/2023/146	That Council direct the Chief Executive to meet with executive leaders of Horizons and other parties including the Manawatu Marine Boating Club, Department of Conservation and Iwi/Hapū within the next three months to progress commitment to undertaking a structural assessment of the Foxton Wharf.	B Harvey	21/09/2023		There have been no further updates on this kaupapa. The next step in the process is to initiate the formal process to vest the land to Council. Officers will progress this in collaboration with iwi and hapū who have signalled an interest in the land.
CO/2023/219	That the Council ask the Chief Executive to review the Property Disposal Strategy to include a Right of First Refusal for Mana Whenua clause for any further property disposals. As part of that review	B Harvey	19/10/2023		Council adopted the amendment to the Property Disposal Strategy at its meeting on the 14 May 2025.

	a process be developed for this clause, in collaboration with Māori ward councillors and Iwi partners, to be appended to the strategy after subsequent approval from council. The Right of First Refusal Clause should give Mana Whenua the first opportunity to purchase any surplus property council resolves to dispose of at market value prior to the property being offered for sale on the open market.				
CO/2023/251	That the Council review the Road Naming Policy, and in the interim Council delegates to the Chief Executive authority to make all decisions on road naming in accordance with the current policy.	D McCorkindale	30/12/2024		The first cut of potential road names was received from the Historical Society in mid-May. Some initial work has been done to collate the proposals ahead of consultation with iwi and other groups, but progress has been limited due to other priorities.
9	That Council continue working collaboratively with Horizons to deliver the improvements to the Foxton East Drainage Scheme to ensure that best outcome is achieved for the community.	D Haigh	On-going		<p>Te Awahou Foxton Climate Resilience Project – Key Project Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress on sheet piling along Kings Canal Drain continues successfully. Sections at Cook Street and Coley Street have been completed. Final works (including cutting sheet piles to length, backfilling, and site tidy-up) are scheduled for completion by end of June 2025. • Maintenance activities on Purcell Street are progressing well. HDC has confirmed its contribution to stabilisation works on the bend in front of the stay and power pole, covering the stretch from the road crossing at Purcell Street to Rye Street. • Installation of a new stormwater flow meter (to be done by HDC) on one of Foxton's key stormwater pipes is planned for around 25th

					<p>June 2025, enhancing monitoring and data accuracy for system performance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A contractor has been engaged to undertake CCTV inspections of critical stormwater infrastructure along State Highway 1. Data collection has been completed, and inspection reports are expected at the HDC office by end of this month.
8	That Council continue with the feasibility study for the diversion of green waste and food waste from landfills.	D McMillan	On-going		<p>A food scraps trial has been implemented for some 400 households in Levin. The trial was over 3 months. At least 30% of the residents who received a bin participated in the trial. This is an industry standard level of participation. A full report will be produced once trial is completed in July 2025</p>
5	That Officers develop a 'Walking and Cycling Strategy', with input from key stakeholder groups.	J Wallace	Jun 2021		<p>This work is being progressed through the Horowhenua Local Road Improvements Programme Business Case.</p>
8	That officers continue to advocate on behalf of the district for the construction of Ō2NL.	D McCorkindale	On-going		<p>Officers continue to advocate on behalf of the district for the construction of Ō2NL. This includes active participation in Legacy Outcomes Rōpū hui, project design meetings, and ongoing engagement with NZTA and Alliance teams to ensure local outcomes are reflected. Officers are focused on long-term transport impacts, particularly around Tararua Road, SH1, and the NIMT rail line, and are advocating for integration with existing HDC infrastructure. Officers have supported elected members through briefings and iwi engagement, and continue to represent Council in key forums, including the Project Steering Group and Gateway Review. Construction on</p>

					the Tararua Road Roundabout is progressing, and work is advancing on the East West Arterial consent.
20	Council to continue to lobby Central Government in relation to the River Loop as it was not a Council decision initially that gave rise to this issue.	D McCorkindale	On-going		An initial proposal for the Foxton River Loop project was submitted to assess eligibility under the Regional Infrastructure Fund. While initial feedback from Kānoa was encouraging, further engagement suggested a more suitable funding pathway may be through the Māori Economic Development fund. The Horowhenua Company Limited, in partnership with SORT and other stakeholders, continues to lead efforts to secure Central Government funding. An application has been submitted to the Ministers for consideration (Minister Jones & Minister Potaka).
	THAT the Horowhenua District Council supports officers to discuss with local iwi, a potential Te Reo name for the River Loop Reserve, with a view to undertaking wider consultation with the community concerning the proposed name.	S Hester	Jan 2023		Council has created a Short Form Agreement (SFA) with Ngati Raukawa which is for district wide projects which includes this mahi. This is currently with them for signing before progressing.
CO/2023/111 LTPA	That Council requests that Officers investigate options for providing a safe cycling connection between Ōhau and	J Wallace	30/06/2024		This work is planned to be investigated as part of the State Highway 1 revocation process.

	Levin and present a report to Council for consideration.				
CO/2023/114 LTPA	That Council request that Officers continue the ongoing consultation process between the involved parties, including Manakau United Football Club, the Manakau District Community Association, Ngāti Wehi Wehi and Council, regarding the capital funding obtained from the 'Better Off' fund. This funding should be utilised as the initial phase of works to improve the site.	B Harvey	30/06/2024		A celebration to mark the completion of the Manakau Domain improvements was held on 14 June, signifying the successful delivery of the project through the Better Off funding.
CO/2024/344	That Council request the Chief Executive bring a report back on matters raised within the next 6 months. (Response to the petition received by Council 27 November 2024 requesting "an assurance from the Horowhenua District Council that a Waikawa footbridge will be retained into the future for the benefit of the Horowhenua community.")	B Harvey	30/06/2025		A report presenting replacement options for the Waikawa Pedestrian Bridge is scheduled for consideration at the Council meeting on 25 June 2025.
CO/2024/387	That Council notes the outcomes of the earlier consultation, which was reported to Council on 20 March 2024, and the Technical Report prepared by Boffa Miskell, which outlines the feasibility, costs, and potential impacts of constructing a vehicle accessway at the three identified locations on Council-owned land. That Council acknowledges the strong community interest in the matter of vehicle access at Waikawa Beach and the diversity of opinions regarding whether vehicle access should be provided, as well as other aspects, including environmental, technical, and community considerations.	B Harvey	30/06/2025		Council will receive an update as to the progress made and the challenges associated with Waikawa Beach Vehicle access at the Council meeting on the 25 June 2025.

	That Council: Support continued investigations into the matter of vehicle access at Waikawa Beach; direct officers to complete further work to identify and evaluate the options available to provide access to Waikawa Beach; and instruct officers to prepare a further report and recommendations as to the way forward for this process, noting that further consultation with the community may be required based on the options identified by officers.				
CO/2024/409	Adoption of Policy for Responding to External Consultations; That the matter lay on the table until a later meeting in 2025.	C Dick	30/05/2025		Council adopted the <i>Policy on Approach to External Consultation</i> at the 14 May 2025 Council Meeting. It provides a clear approach to guide officers about when and how to engage with Council to prepare Council submissions for external consultations, and to provide more certainty to Elected Members about how their views and how Council endorsement of a submission will be sought. It does not supersede Council's Standing Orders.
CO/2025/35	That Council agrees to consult using the special consultative procedure as set out in section 83 of the Local Government Act 2002 be used for consultation purposes, and Council adopts the Statement of Proposal attached as Attachment B be used to carry out the special consultative procedure. That the hearing of any submissions on this matter be heard by the Hearings Committee of Council acting under delegated authority, and a subsequent recommendation be made by the Committee to Council on this matter.	V Miller	10/10/2025		Public consultation process happened from 27 March 2025 to 30 April 2025. Seventy-six submissions were received and considered by the Hearings and Regulatory Committee in a public hearing held on 10 June 2025. The subsequent recommendations of the Hearings Committee are scheduled to be confirmed by Council at the 25 June 2025 meeting.

--	--	--	--	--	--

File No.: 25/357

10.1 Proceedings of the Community Wellbeing Committee 21 May 2025

Author(s)	Grayson Rowse Principal Advisor - Democracy Kaitohutohu Mātāmua - Manapori
Approved by	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To present to the Council the minutes of the Community Wellbeing Committee meeting held on 21 May 2025.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/357 Proceedings of the Community Wellbeing Committee 21 May 2025 and the minutes be received and noted.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

2. There are no items that require further consideration.

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

Community Wellbeing Committee

OPEN MINUTES

UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of a meeting of Community Wellbeing Committee held in the Council Chambers, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin on Wednesday 21 May 2025 at 10:04 am.

PRESENT

Mayor Members

His Worship the Mayor Bernie Wanden
Councillor Nina Hori Te Pa
Councillor Clint Grimstone (Apology)
Maggie Ryan
Patrick Rennell
Jacqui Moynihan
Sam Ferguson (Apology)
Angela Rainham
Kylie Turuwhenua-Tapsell
Mike Fletcher
Reihana Adlam (Apology)
Patricia Jacobs (Apology)
Neville Heihei
Paul McMillan
Yumiko Olliver (Apology)
Mandy Fryer (Apology)
Rebecca Kinloch
Sharon Williams
Lynette Jones
Rakesh Raman
Leigh McMeeken
Matt Roberts
Catherine McAuliffe

Horowhenua Māori Ward Councillor
Horowhenua Levin Ward Councillor
Department of Internal Affairs
Horowhenua Learning Centre
Oranga Tamariki Horowhenua
Horizons Regional Councillor
Health NZ Mid Central
Sport Manawātū
Regional Public Service
Te Tūmatakahuki
Ngāti Wehiwehi
Te Tūmatakahuki
Ministry of Social Development
THINK Hauora
Ministry of Social Development
Kāinga Ora
Hāpai Te Hapori
Older Persons Network
Raukawa Housing Charitable Trust
Corrections NZ
Kai Collective
Age Concern Horowhenua

IN ATTENDANCE

Reporting Officer

Mark Hammond
Anna Johnson
Laura Fisher
Alice Petersen

Community Facilities and Services Manager
Community Development Lead
Community Development Coordinator
Democracy Support Officer
Principal Democracy Advisor

Meeting Secretary

Grayson Rowse

1 Apologies

The committee noted apologies from Councillor Clint Grimstone, Sam Ferguson, Reihana Adlam, Patricia Jacobs, Yumiko Olliver and Mandy Fryer.

2 Late Items

There were no late items.

3 Declaration of Interest

There were no conflicts of interest declared.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution Number CWCCC/2025/6

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Paul McMillan:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Community Wellbeing Committee held on Wednesday, 12 March 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record

CARRIED

5 Reports for Noting

5.1 Community Wellbeing Network Report

Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of the Community Wellbeing Network Report is to discuss and highlight any grassroots issues, ideas or concerns that are present within the community.

This matter relates to Community Connections and Better Wellbeing.

Activate the key priorities within the Community Wellbeing Strategy.

The Mayor introduced the report noting that there was representatives of each of the networks present and invited them to speak to the report and highlight details of note. Updates were provided by representatives of Horowhenua Access and Inclusion Network, Horowhenua Youth Services Network, Youth Voice, Horowhenua Older Person's Network, Education Horowhenua Network, Horowhenua Refugee Support, Kai Collective and Raukawa Housing Charitable Trust.

Resolution Number CWCCC/2025/7

MOVED by Mayor Wanden: second: Leigh McMeekan

- A. That Report 25/254 Community Wellbeing Network Report be received and noted.

CARRIED

5.2 Community Wellbeing Dashboard Report

Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of the Community Wellbeing Dashboard is to provide the Community with a 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.

Resolution Number CWCCC/2025/8

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, second: Leigh McMeekan:

- A. That Report 25/255 Community Wellbeing Dashboard Report be received and noted.

CARRIED

5.3 Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report

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.

Resolution Number CWCCC/2025/9

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Hori Te Pa:

- A. That Report 25/228 Community Wellbeing Strategy Monitoring Report be received and noted.

CARRIED

10.59 am

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF COMMUNITY WELLBEING
COMMITTEE HELD ON

DATE:

CHAIRPERSON:

File No.: 25/359

10.2 Proceedings of the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Meeting 9 June 2025

Author(s)	Grayson Rowse Principal Advisor - Democracy Kaitohutohu Mātāmua - Manapori
Approved by	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To present to the Council the minutes of the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board meeting held on 09 June 2025.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/359 Proceedings of the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Meeting 9 June 2025 and the minutes be received and noted.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

2. There are no items that require further consideration.

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

Te Awahou Foxton Community Board

OPEN MINUTES

UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of a meeting of the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board held in the Te Awahou Nieuwe Stroom, 92 Main Street, Foxton on Monday 9 June 2025 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Mr John Girling
Deputy Chairperson	Mr Trevor Chambers
Members	Mrs Nola Fox
	Mr Brett Russell
	Mr David Roache
	Deputy Mayor David Allan

IN ATTENDANCE

Reporting Officer	Ashley Huria	Business Performance Manager
Meeting Secretary	Grayson Rowse	Principal Democracy Advisor

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

3 Late Items

There were no late items.

4 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution Number TAFCB/2025/17

MOVED by Cr Allan, seconded Mr Roache:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Te Awahou Foxton Community Board held on Monday, 5 May 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record

CARRIED

6 Elected Members Reports

6.1 Chairpersons Report - May 2025

This report presented the Chairperson's report highlighting matters of interest to Te Awahou Foxton Community Board.

Resolution Number TAFCB/2025/18

MOVED by Mr Girling, seconded Mr Roache:

A. That Report 25/314 Chairpersons Report - May 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED

The Chairperson spoke to the report and highlighted concerns with fencing at King Canal, and requested the Parks and Property team investigate further, suggesting that if funding was not available through Council, that Save Our River Trust could be asked to look at remedies.

Resolution Number TAFCB/2025/19

MOVED by Mr Girling, seconded Mr Roache:

That the Horowhenua District Council Parks and Property Team be asked to attend to this matter (Kings Canal fencing) urgently. If, however, there is no funding available, the Board ask Save Our River Trust to apply for funding and remedy the need with a post and rail fence on the northern side and replace the rope on the southern side of the King's Canal and entrance the Piraharakeke Walkway.

CARRIED

Officers advised the Parks and Property team have been alerted to the issue, and contractors were already assessing a solution.

6.2 Community Board Member Report - Nola Fox

This report presented to matters of interest relating to Te Awahou Foxton Community Board area.

Resolution Number TAFCB/2025/20

MOVED by Mr Girling, seconded Mr Roache:

A. That Report 25/313 Community Board Member Report - Nola Fox be received and noted.

CARRIED

7 Reports

7.1 Update on Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Priorities

This report updated progress of the Board's priorities.

Resolution Number TAFCB/2025/21

MOVED by Mr Girling, seconded Mrs Fox:

- A. That Report 25/308 Update on Te Awahou Foxton Community Board Priorities be received and noted.

CARRIED

7.2 Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Update

This report updated the board on financial movements in the Foxton Beach Endowment Fund..

Resolution Number TAFCB/2025/22

MOVED by Mr Girling, seconded Mrs Fox:

- A. That Report 25/309 Foxton Beach Endowment Fund Update be received and noted.

CARRIED

7.3 Te Awahou Foxton Community Board - Actions Monitoring Report - June 2025

This report presented Te Awahou Foxton Community Board the updated monitoring report covering requested actions from previous meetings of the Board.

Resolution Number TAFCB/2025/23

MOVED by Mr Girling, seconded Mrs Fox:

- A. That Report 25/307 Te Awahou Foxton Community Board - Actions Monitoring Report - June 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED

In response to questions from members, officers advised the lease renewal process for Pinewood Motor Camp was ongoing.

7.4 Horowhenua District Council Organisation Performance Report May 2025

This report presented the Organisation Performance Report for October 2024 highlighting areas of interest to the Foxton Community.

Resolution Number TAFCB/2025/24

MOVED by Mr Girling, seconded Mr Roache:

- A. That Report 25/327 Horowhenua District Council Organisation Performance Report May 2025 be received and noted.

CARRIED

Members noted the extensive information contained in the Organisation Performance Report and thanked officers for highlighting the Foxton and Foxton Beach specific activities within the report.

The Board noted with pleasure the installation of new training lights at Easton Park which were delivered under budget and ahead of time, and greatly enhanced the user experience of the community using that facility after dark.

Concerns were noted however, of lack of lighting outside the Te Awahou Niuewe Stroom complex, and officers were asked to investigate possible remedies and report back.

The upcoming Child Safe programme was noted, and Board members wondered whether there was any opportunity to community groups to access this training alongside Council officers. Officer will look into the possibility and report back.

Noting the usefulness of the report in looking back at what has been done, through Board asked whether it was possible to get a forward programme of works being completed in the Board area, so they could respond to questions from the community. Officers will look to prepare a forward work programme.

6.33 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF TE AWAHOU FOXTON
COMMUNITY BOARD HELD ON

DATE:

CHAIRPERSON:

File No.: 25/358

10.3 Proceedings of the Hearings and Regulatory Committee 10 June 2025

Author(s)	Grayson Rowse Principal Advisor - Democracy Kaitohutohu Mātāmua - Manapori
Approved by	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To present to the Council the minutes of the Hearings and Regulatory Committee meeting held on 10 June 2025.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/358 Proceedings of the Hearings and Regulatory Committee 10 June 2025 and the minutes be received and noted.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

2. The following items considered by the Hearings and Regulatory Committee meeting held on the 10 June 2025 will require further consideration by the Horowhenua District Council and are included in this Council agenda:

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/20

MOVED by Cr Allan, seconded Cr Jennings:

The Committee recommend that Council liaise with relevant agencies and landowners with the goal of addressing the need for dog control measures in the Manawatū Estuary.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/21

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

That the Committee recommends Council adopt a final version of the Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy, as amended by the Committee .

CARRIED

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



Hearings and Regulatory Committee

OPEN MINUTES

UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of a meeting of Hearings and Regulatory Committee held in the Council Chambers, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin on Tuesday 10 June 2025 at 10:00 am.

PRESENT

Chairperson	Deputy Mayor David Allan	
Councillors	Councillor Justin Tamihana	Apology
	Councillor Sam Jennings	
	His Worship The Mayor Bernie Wanden	

IN ATTENDANCE

Reporting Officer	Vaimoana Miller	Customer & Compliance Manager
	Carolyn Dick	Strategic Planning Manager
Meeting Secretary	Grayson Rowse	Principal Advisor – Democracy

1 Apologies

Apology

Resolution number HARCC/2025/9

MOVED by Cr Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

That the apology from Councillor Tamihana be accepted.

CARRIED

Cr Tamihana advised the committee, through the Chair, that he approved of the general nature of the policy and bylaw, and thanked officers for their work in the development of this piece of work.

2 Late Items

There were no late items.

3 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

4 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/10

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Hearings and Regulatory Committee held on Tuesday, 15 April 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

5 Reports for Decision

5.1 Draft Dog Control Bylaw and Policy - Hearing of Submissions

Purpose | TE PŪTAKE

1. The purpose of this report is to summarise the submissions received during consultation on the Draft Dog Control Bylaw and Draft Dog Control Policy, and to provide the platform for the Hearings and Regulatory Committee (the Committee) in its deliberations on those submissions; and subsequent recommendation to Council on the final forms of the Bylaw and the Policy.

This matter relates to Delivering the Long-Term Plan 2024-44

Delivering the Long-Term Plan 2024-44

Eleven individuals and organisations request to speak to their submissions. The following individuals and organisation attended the meeting and spoke to their submissions:

- Rosemary Cleator
- Melissa Steedman

- Des Richards
- Diane Means
- Jane O’Callaghan
- Judy Webby
- Dr Alison Vaughan – RNZPSA
- Kathryn Lane – Manawatū Estuary Trust

The committee thanked all submitters who had spoken, and took particular note of the concerns around recognised dog training for Responsible Dog Owner Approval, and the inclusion of a puppy registration fee.

The committee canvassed options for identifying other forms of training to be recognised under the Responsible Dog Owner Approval process, and recommended widening the scope for Officers to determine appropriate training evidence.

The committee also discussed the reinstatement of a Puppy Registration Fee. This was generally supported by the committee, and it recommended the reinstatement of the fee from 2026-27.

The committee also noted concerns raised by the Manawatū Estuary Trust over the control of dogs at the Manawatū Estuary. Officers advised that Manawatū Estuary was outside the jurisdiction of the Council but nevertheless were supportive of appropriate measures to control dogs at that site. The committee recommended that officers liaise with relevant agencies and landowners to effect an appropriate dog control regime within that area.

The committee noted its thanks for the extensive work of officers in developing this bylaw and policy.

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/11

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

That Report 25/295 Draft Dog Control Bylaw and Policy - Hearing of Submissions be received.

That this matter or decision is recognised as not significant in terms of S76 of the Local Government Act.

That the Committee considers the feedback from submitters and officers on the draft changes to the Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/12

MOVED by Cr Allan, seconded Cr Jennings:

The Committee approve changes to the schedule of on- and off-leash dog exercise areas as proposed in response to submissions, including the addition of on-leash status at Rose Gardens, War Memorials, Thompson House Gardens, Cousins Avenue, Te Maire Park, and Stafford Street Esplanade; and confirm no changes to Holben Parade, Rua Park, Ōhau Domain, Argyle Avenue, or Waikawa Beach Reserve

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/13

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

The Committee endorse the revised framework for Responsible Dog Owner Approval (RDOA) as outlined in the draft policy, and direct officers to implement it with flexibility to accommodate alternative pathways to demonstrate responsible ownership, such as equivalent Council recognised training to ensure the process is practical and fair while maintaining standards.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/14

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

The Committee retain the provision requiring neutering of dogs found roaming, uncontrolled, or unregistered, and support enforcement being managed through officer discretion, alongside public education.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/15

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

The Committee retain the clause restricting female dogs in season from public places, and amend the heading of the relevant section to “Dogs Requiring Temporary Exclusion from Public Places” to better reflect the content.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/16

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

The Committee amend Clause 12(a) to discourage prolonged tethering and promote secure fencing as the preferred means of containment, aligning the bylaw with upcoming national animal welfare regulations.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/17

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

The Committee recommend the reinstatement of a Puppy Registration category in the Dog Control Policy to apply from the 2026-27 registration period.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/18

MOVED by Cr Jennings, seconded Mayor Wanden:

The Committee acknowledge the submissions from MET and Ririki Haumarū Trust, which emphasise the importance of culturally responsive engagement and community-led education in supporting responsible dog ownership. Noting the request for Officers to explore opportunities to work in partnership with kaupapa Māori and community organisations to deliver outreach and education, consider supportive and non-regulatory approaches alongside enforcement where

appropriate, and refer these matters to officers for further development as part of implementation planning.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/19

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

The Committee refer operational matters raised in submissions including signage improvements, fenced exercise areas, website clarity on fee categories, and public education initiatives, to Council officers as operational matters.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/20

MOVED by Cr Allan, seconded Cr Jennings:

The Committee recommend that Council liaise with relevant agencies and landowners with the goal of addressing the need for dog control measures in the Manawatū Estuary.

CARRIED

Resolution Number HARCC/2025/21

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

That the Committee recommends Council adopt a final version of the Dog Control Bylaw and Dog Control Policy, as amended by the Committee .

CARRIED

11.40 am

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF HEARINGS AND REGULATORY
COMMITTEE HELD ON

DATE:

CHAIRPERSON:

File No.: 25/365

10.4 Proceedings of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee 11 June 2025

Author(s)	Grayson Rowse Principal Advisor - Democracy Kaitohutohu Mātāmua - Manapori
Approved by	Monique Davidson Chief Executive Officer Tumuaki

PURPOSE | TE PŪTAKE

1. To present to the Council the minutes of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee meeting held on 11 June 2025.

This matter does not relate to a current Council priority.

RECOMMENDATION | NGĀ TAUNAKITANGA

- A. That Report 25/365 Proceedings of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee 11 June 2025 and the minutes be received and noted.

DISCUSSION | HE MATAPAKINGA

2. There are no items that require further consideration as part of public excluded.

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

Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee

OPEN MINUTES UNCONFIRMED

Minutes of a meeting of Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee held in the Tararua Room, 126-148 Oxford St, Levin on Wednesday 11 June 2025 at 10:00 am.

PRESENT

Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Councillors

His Worship The Mayor Bernie Wanden
Councillor David Allan
Councillor Sam Jennings
Councillor Paul Olsen
Cr Nina Hori Te Pa

IN ATTENDANCE

Meeting Secretary

Monique Davidson
Sue Fifita-Tovo

Chief Executive
Executive Officer

1 Apologies

There were no apologies.

2 Public Participation

There was no public participation.

3 Late Items

There were no late items

4 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5 Confirmation of Minutes

Resolution Number CEEAP/2025/4

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee held on Wednesday, 30 April 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

That the minutes of the Public Excluded meeting of the Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee held on Wednesday, 30 April 2025, be confirmed as a true and correct record.

CARRIED

6 Procedural motion to exclude the public

Resolution Number CEEAP/2025/5

MOVED by Mayor Wanden, seconded Cr Jennings:

That the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

C1 Chief Executive - End of Year Performance Review 2024-25

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a)

	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	This report contains private employment details of the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive's expectation of privacy in relation to her employment outweighs the public interest in having this information released to the public.

C2 Chief Executive Performance Review Information

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	This report contains private employment details of the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive's expectation of privacy in relation to her employment outweighs the public interest in having this information released to the public..

The text of these resolutions is made available to the public who are present at the meeting and form part of the minutes of the meeting.

CARRIED

10.15 am The public were excluded.

Resolutions in relation to the confidential items are recorded in the confidential section of these minutes and are not publicly available.

12.00 pm

There being no further business, the Chairperson declared the meeting closed.

CONFIRMED AS A TRUE AND CORRECT RECORD
AT A MEETING OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE
EMPLOYMENT AND PERFORMANCE COMMITTEE
HELD ON

DATE:

CHAIRPERSON:

Exclusion of the Public : Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987

The following motion is submitted for consideration:

That the public be excluded from the following part(s) of the proceedings of this meeting.

The general subject of each matter to be considered while the public is excluded, the reason for passing this resolution in relation to each matter, and the specific grounds under section 48(1) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 for the passing of this resolution follows.

This resolution is made in reliance on section 48(1)(a) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987 and the particular interest or interests protected by section 6 or section 7 of that Act which would be prejudiced by the holding of the whole or relevant part of the proceedings of the meeting in public, as follows:

C1 Levin War Memorial Hall and Village Green Redevelopment Update

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	This report contains commercially sensitive details around the Levin War Memorial Hall redevelopment.

C2 Solid Waste Service Delivery and Agreement Review

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	This report includes commercially sensitive information.

C3 East West Arterial (EWA) - Property Acquisition Update

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.

Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	This report includes commercially sensitive information..

C4 Levin Camp Ground

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	This report includes details about lease prices and commercial arrangements. Sharing this information publicly could disadvantage the Council in ongoing or future negotiations. For that reason, the public is excluded under Section 7(2)(b)(ii) of the Local Government Official Information and Meetings Act 1987, to protect the Council's commercial position.

C5 Council Resolution and Actions Monitoring Report June 2025

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(b)(ii) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect information where the making available of the information would be likely unreasonably to prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied or who is the subject of the information. s7(2)(h) - The withholding of the information is necessary to enable the local authority to carry out, without prejudice or disadvantage, commercial activities.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Plain English Reason:	These actions relate to potential or actual sales of property, and contract negotiations. The public release of these actions at this time may affect sales prices or disclose negotiation points.

C6 Proceedings of Committee - Public Excluded Chief Executive Employment and Performance Committee 11 June 2025

Reason:	The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.
Interests:	s7(2)(a) - The withholding of the information is necessary to protect the privacy of natural persons, including that of a deceased person.
Grounds:	s48(1)(a) The public conduct of the part of the meeting would be likely to result in the disclosure of information for which good reason for withholding exists under section 7.

Plain English Reason:	This report contains private employment details of the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive's expectation of privacy in relation to her employment outweighs the public interest in having this information released to the public.
-----------------------	---